

# The United Methodist News

VOLUME 20 NO. 7

JULY, 2012

SERVING GOD 119 YEARS

**Sunday School**  
**9:30 A.M.**

**Morning Worship**  
**10:30 A.M.**

*God Bless America*



**What's Inside**

Church Calendar.....2  
Finance Report .....3  
Children and Youth .....3  
Correspondence.....3  
Sympathy Note .....3  
Missions Projects.....4  
Welcome New Members.....4  
Birthdays, Anniversaries .....4

## **PASTOR TO PEOPLE**

### **The More Things Change...**

In an age of scientific and technological progress, the explosion and rapid expansion of knowledge led to the development of new and large-scale industries. People searching for jobs with higher wages discovered that these same jobs demanded long grueling hours. For many of those at the lower end of the socio-economic scale housing, healthcare and other services failed to meet their needs. While the opportunities to achieve great success and acquire wealth were opened to an increasing number of people, many were left behind as well. A large gap separated the rich and poor and continued to grow deeper and wider.

Many people, educated by the striking scientific, philosophical, intellectual and social principles dominating society, believed that faith had become a futile pursuit. God had become relegated to the margins of the culture. Fewer and fewer people were attending church; fewer still were receiving the sacraments of Holy Communion whenever it was offered. Church had lost its place of relevance in people's lives and was increasingly viewed as nothing more than a hollow institution by many.

Sound familiar? Perhaps it will surprise you to learn that this description was not written about the world as we know it today. This was the world some 300 years ago, the world in which John and Charles Wesley lived, the world in which the movement that came to be known as Methodism grew and spread across Britain and the Americas. The mission of the Methodist movement, as John Wesley saw it, was, "to reform the nation, particularly the church; and to spread scriptural holiness over the land" (Accountable Discipleship, by Steven Manskar). As Wesley watched, the church became less and less relevant in people's lives because the church failed to recognize and respond to the changing conditions working to shape the culture, and his heart ached.

John Wesley truly had a pastor's heart. He refused to be limited by convention or tradition if convention and tradition were limiting the gospel message. He was willing to try new ideas or reclaim certain practices of the primitive church that had been abandoned. Wesley's goal was to bring as many people to faith in Jesus Christ as he could and then to help form them as faithful disciples. His theology helped countless people understand that they were children of God, each with a place at God's table in God's household and then, as disciples, that meant living a life that reflected the head of that household. Wesley's message and method had a profound impact on many, many people in his day; so profound that this movement called Methodism

*(Continued on page 2)*

**REV. KYLE CLARK**



# JULY CHURCH CALENDAR

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
<b>JULY</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
	29	30	31					
	<b>2012</b>							

**WORSHIP BULLETIN DEADLINE:**  
**10 a.m. each Thursday**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**  
**Third Friday of each month**

spread all across England, then to the Americas and finally around the globe.

Fast-forward 300+ years and surprisingly we see that the more things change, the more they stay the same. People once again are struggling with many of the same issues facing society in Wesley's day; issues like rapid technological development, job security, adequate housing, quality healthcare, etc. For many, church has ceased to be an institution of any real significance yet the search for meaning is an endless pursuit for a generation of people hungering for truth. In light of the cultural environment we find ourselves living in today, it seems to me that Wesley continues to be relevant. We, as Methodists and more importantly as Christians, are all called to live lives of scriptural holiness, to daily spend time in prayer, study and service, and to be accountable in our discipleship. As Wesley responded to the need for revival he perceived in his day, I believe we are called to a renewed mission to creatively bring the Gospel message to the world in which we live. I believe it is important that we honor our heritage but it is just as important that we not be limited by the way we used to do things.

I am excited to be here in Poteau. I am excited about the things that you have already begun and accomplished here. I am even more excited about the possibilities that remain for ministry in our community. I am looking forward with great anticipation to discussing with you over the coming weeks and months new ideas for our worship, education, and ministry as well as ways we can reclaim our identity passed down from the earliest followers of Christ. Let us never change the Gospel, but let us always be willing to consider new and exciting ways to tell that old, old story.

Shalom,  
Kyle

- 1 UMYF, 5 p.m.
- 4 Office Closed for Independence Day
- 5 Senior Cafe, 10 a.m., CFLC
- 8 UMYF, 5 p.m.
- 12 Senior Cafe, 10 a.m., CFLC
- 14 UMM Breakfast and Meeting, 8 a.m., CFLC
- 15 UMYF, 5 p.m.
- 18 Membership Care Committee, 1 p.m., CFLC
- 19 Senior Cafe, 10 a.m., CFLC
- 21 Free Neighborhood Breakfast, 8 to 10, CFLC
- 22 UMYF, 5 p.m.
- 26 Senior Cafe, 10 a.m., CFLC
- 29 UMYF, 5 p.m.

**The Choir is on break during July.**  
**The Church Office will be closed each Friday afternoon during the month of July.**

## MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- 1 Henry and Rozelle Hardaway
- 8 Susan Mixon and Liz Perry
- 15 Ken and Susan Hammond
- 22 Marvin and Janet DeSpain
- 29 Mary and Jerry Ford



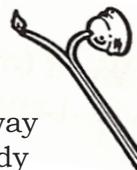
## LITURGISTS

- 8 Adult Reader
- 15 Justin Barnes
- 22 Adult Reader
- 29 Haven Perry



## ACOLYTES

- 1 Tabi Zabala and Demi Gilliam
- 8 Luke Wheat and Jessa Craig
- 15 Angela Price and Baleigh Quarry
- 22 Katie Redhage and Kyson Hardaway
- 29 Aiden Alexander and Jaydon Bandy



### THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS

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Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Weekly Communion 9:10 a.m. except first Sunday

Bishop	Robert E. Hayes
District Superintendent	Darrell Cates
<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Rev. Kyle Clark</b>
Youth & Children's Director	Kimberly Hardaway
Music Director	Steve Clark
Church Secretary	Brenda Ferguson
Lead Nursery Attendant	Jayla Craig
Organist	Wendy Kelly
Custodian and Door Opener	Joe Powers

District web page: [www.gbqm-umc.org/mc-dist/](http://www.gbqm-umc.org/mc-dist/)

# News of Children and Youth

By Kimberly Hardaway



# Correspondence



UMYF (CHAOS) meets Sunday evenings and is for all youth 6th through 12th grade. The schedule is as follows:

**JULY**

- 1 CHAOS 5 to 7 p.m.
- 8 CHAOS 5 to 7 p.m.
- 15 No CHAOS
- 22 YOUTH FORCE BEGINS in Okmulgee
- 27 YOUTH FORCE ENDS
- 29 CHAOS 5 to 7 p.m.

**AUGUST**

- 1 CHAOS 5 to 7 p.m.
- 5 Promotion Sunday
- 5 CHAOS 5 to 7 p.m.

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**PRAYER VIGIL FOR YOUTH FORCE  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 25**

For the entire time of Youth Force, the different churches participating hold a prayer vigil for the safety and witness of the youth working, and for the people who are receiving this mission work.

Our church is asked to be in prayer on **Wednesday, July 25, from Midnight to Noon.**

Please consider signing up for a thirty-minute prayer session. Your time of prayer can be at your home or wherever you are. You are also welcome to come to the church sanctuary.

To sign up, prayer vigil sign-up sheets will be available July 15th and 22nd during the worship hour or come by the church office during the week of July 15th.

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**SUMMER MUSIC CAMP  
JULY 9 - 13**

The week of July 9 - 13 a summer music camp will be offered from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. This is open to first - 12th grade students.

During the camp, the students will put together a light-hearted musical for presentation on the evening of July 13 at 6:30 p.m. The students will be involved in all aspects of the production: sets, costumes, drama and song.

Please contact Matthew Houston for more information at 405-706-1016 or the church office at 918-647-2217.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the Brunch for the graduates, Bible and Words of Wisdom.

Sincerely,  
Austin James

Dear Church Family,

We would like to say thank you to everyone who brought us food and refreshments during our first days in Poteau. Your kindness helped to make a hectic time easier to endure. We are excited to be in Poteau and look forward to getting to know you all.

In Christ,  
Kyle, Debbie, Haley and Nathan Clark

*(Note: Those who brought food to the parsonage may pick up their dishes at the church.)*



## Our Sympathy

Our love and sincere sympathy is extended to the family on the death of Mason Cravens, infant grandson of Wayne and Joanne Neuharth.

## Thinking Ahead

Genny Dorsey is requesting that everyone start saving their jelly glasses so that she can make jelly to be sold at the UMW Fall Festival in November. Please leave them at the church. Thank you.

*Check out the photos and links to information at [www.poteaufumc.com](http://www.poteaufumc.com)*

<p><b>Poteau F.U.M.C. Report for May 2012</b>                  2012 Average Attendance Figures for May: 178                  2012 Budget Requirements: \$397,000.00                  Needed for Budget Each Week: \$7,634.62                  Needed through May: \$160,327.02                  May Receipts: \$13,486.134                  May Expenditures: \$41,082.15</p> <p><b>New Building Fund Figures:</b>                  Deposits: \$1,222,041.66                  Expenditures: \$2,573,116.80</p>
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## Missions Report

By Terri Martin, Missions Committee

Once again the generosity of Poteau FUMC is overwhelming. The response to the collection of toiletry items for LeFlore County Youth Services (LCYS) has been great.

This is a list of items being collected as these will be ongoing missions.

FOR LCYS: (Travel sizes) toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, combs, deodorant (non-aerosol)

FOR WOMEN'S CRISIS CENTER, GRACE COTTAGE: diapers, wipes

Following is a list of some wonderful ideas for getting everyone in the mindset of missions.

Some simple acts of kindness:

1. Leave a bouquet at the hospital; the nurses will know who needs it the most.
2. If you are in a long line, invite the person behind you to go first.
3. Shower the pediatric wing of hospital with \$1 coloring books and \$2 boxes of new crayons.
4. Bring courtesy back in an instant: hold the door open with a flourish.
5. Curb road rage: let other cars merge onto the highway.
6. Leave your neighbors a note (or tell them) how much joy you find in admiring their garden.
7. Send a thank-you note to the brave officers at your local police station.
8. Share the wealth: Ask the grocery clerk to apply your unused coupons to another customer's items.
9. Arrange to pay anonymously for a soldier's meal when you see him or her dining alone.
10. Pick up trash at a park or a playground.
11. Carry someone's groceries.
12. Be the bigger person: Cede the parking space.
13. Sing an employee's praises to a manager or on a comment card - a little recognition goes a long way.
14. Share happy memories. Stick an old photo in the mail to a friend and write a note about the day it was taken on the back.
15. On trash day, wheel your neighbor's can out to the curb.
16. You don't have to send every disadvantaged child to college but you can buy one of them a life-changing book; Try [booksforkids.org](http://booksforkids.org).
17. Volunteer to read to kids at an after school program.
18. Slow way down when you drive past a pedestrian - 35 mph can seem like the Indy 500 to a woman walking her dog.
19. Forgive someone. Repeat as necessary.
20. Ask others- sincerely - what you can do to help.

(Taken from Good Housekeeping magazine)

Thanks again for your generosity.



## Welcome New Members!

We are happy to welcome Terry Hall into membership. She joined in June. Be sure and let her know how happy we are to have her as part of our church family.

New members during the month of June also include Rev. Clark's family, Debbie, Haley and Nathan.

## July Birthdays

- 1 Dartha Garner and Patty Redhage
- 3 Chad Yandell
- 5 Randy Bridgman, Bea Cooper and Taryn Shelton
- 7 Nina Ritchie
- 9 Randy Cox, James Ford and Ernie Owens
- 11 Maci McMillin and Frank Dehart
- 12 Kim Slater
- 13 Arch Glover
- 14 Jennifer Thompson
- 18 Lena Morehead
- 19 Joanne Neuharth
- 21 Kevin Morrison
- 22 Robert Allen and Ashley Green
- 23 Alicia Gilliam
- 24 Susan Hammond and Gary Hageman
- 25 Haley Durant
- 26 Luke Best and Missy Alexander
- 27 Nancy Clark and Jim Craig
- 29 Andi Burton, Zach Harreld and Jaime Pickle
- 20 Kelsey Sconyers



## July Anniversaries

- 2 Frank and Grace Dehart
- 3 Bill and Linda Lancaster
- 5 Randy and Tami Matos
- 7 Josh and Melissa Reyes  
Wayne and Joanne Neuharth
- 8 Dustin and Ashley Green
- 14 Arch and Janell Glover
- 28 Chad and Kendra Yandell



We would like to make our Birthday and Anniversary calendar complete. If we do not have your family members' birthdays and anniversaries, please give the office that information by calling 647-2217.