

# The United Methodist News

VOLUME 22 NO. 8

AUGUST, 2014

SERVING GOD 121 YEARS

**Sunday School**  
**9:30 A.M.**  
**Morning Worship**  
**10:30 A.M.**

*Back To  
 School  
 Bash  
 and  
 Barbecue*  
 August 3  
 5 to 7 p.m.

See Story  
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## **PASTOR TO PEOPLE**

### **Thank You**

One of the on-line news services to which I subscribe is United Methodist News. A few days ago I read a story about a 92-year old retired plumber who has become a million dollar donor in Wisconsin. A member of the New London United Methodist Church, Stanley Cottrill gave \$1 million to the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation for their seminary scholarship fund. He has also given in excess of \$1 million to other local charities (Parks & Recreation, Library, Boy & Girl Scouts) that are transforming lives in his community. Stanley is, "giving while he's living," his pastor says.

What I find interesting about this story is not the wealth, or even the generosity, of a retired plumber. If you took notice of your last plumbing bill, it is not difficult to fathom how a frugal plumber could become a millionaire, albeit the old-fashioned way. Nor is it unique for a person in the final chapter of his or her life to start thinking about how to invest in this world those things that won't accompany them to the next world. That is one of the most rational and sane things a person could do, and I am always curious about why more people don't do it.

What caught my eye in this story was his simple answer to a simple question. When asked what he wanted to say to the United Methodist Conference, he said, "Tell them thank you...thank you for being the Church...thank you for being good pastors." I found myself sitting for quite a while trying to remember the last time I read in the newspaper an unqualified comment in praise of the church or of pastors.

At the risk of sounding self-serving, I'd like to add my amen. During the last 20 odd years the Church, in all of its denominational expressions, has been pounded by scandals and rocked by bad news. Hardly a week goes by without some headline that reflects poorly on the church or its leaders. I have often piled on with my own critique of the church (especially, at times, clergy), and I frankly don't think that we can or should overlook our shortcomings. But sometimes we (I) get caught up in focusing on the shortcomings. Mr. Cottrill has done something refreshing. He has reminded us (me) that there is a significant and profound other side of the story: every day, every week, there are laypeople and even some pastors, who work quietly and simply to make the world a better place. Having been transformed by the presence of Christ in their lives, they are committed to loving God and serving others.

*(Continued on page 2)*

**REV. KYLE CLARK**



By some combination of fortune, circumstance and a good deal of God's grace, I have been blessed at times with more recognition than I deserve. I have been fortunate enough to serve some wonderful congregations (especially this congregation) and observe with my own eyes the amazing ways people (especially some of you) quietly and faithfully live out their calling to be the Church. There are lots of Stanley Cottrills out there who have been on the receiving end of these ministries, who in their own ways and with grateful hearts, pay tribute to congregations, often beleaguered and under siege by an increasingly secular culture, that are faithfully moving the Kingdom forward every single day. This is the Church at her best - people serving quietly, with little reward and sparse recognition, doing this in spite of the bad press that is sometimes heaped upon the institutional church.

Sometimes we all need to be reminded to simply say thanks. So, I want to echo the many voices of United Methodist sisters and brothers from across our connection in saying, "Thank You." Thank you, Stanley Cottrill, retired plumber, for reminding us in such a joyful and generous way, that the Church still is a means through which God works to transform lives. Thank you, people of God called United Methodist in Poteau, Okla. for making a real difference in the lives of so many - some you have met will come to know personally, many more whom you will never know or ever see - through your faithfulness, your generosity, and your commitment. Thank you, for being the Church.

*Ko*

## Welcome New Members!

Dwight and Sharon Mikkelson and Kelly and Lori Carroll joined the church on July 20.

Please be sure and let them know how happy we are to have them in our church family.

## AUGUST CHURCH CALENDAR

**Worship Bulletin Deadline: 10 a.m. Thursday**  
**Newsletter Deadline: Third Friday of month**

• SUNDAY •

**UMYF (CHAOS), 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.**

• MONDAY •

**Christian Preschool Monday - Thursday**  
**8:30 - 11:30 a.m., Education Building**

• TUESDAY •

**Boy Scouts, 7 p.m., CFLC**

• WEDNESDAY •

**Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m.**

• THURSDAY •

**Senior Café, 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., CFLC**

• FRIDAY •

**Church office closes at noon**

- 3 Promotion Sunday
- Back to School Bash, 5 to 7 p.m.
- 6 United Methodist Study, 6 p.m.
- 7 Preschool Orientation
- First Day of Poteau School
- 9 St. Yootz Day for youth at Frontier City
- 12 Preschool begins
- 16 Neighborhood Free Breakfast, 8 to 10:30
- 17 Youth Council Meeting following worship
- 20 Membership Care, 1 p.m., CFLC
- 24 Parent/Youth Volleyball Night

## MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- 3 Jean Gaylor and Andi Burton
- 10 Susan Mixon and Sarah Mixon
- 17 Don Baetz and David McNair
- 24 Paul and Amanda Wilson
- 31 Jerry and Mary Ford



## ACOLYTES

- 3 Kyson Hardaway and Luke Wheat
- 10 Nathan Murray and Wyatt Holt
- 17 Demi Gilliam and Maryanne Attee
- 24 Aiden Alexander and Nathan Clark
- 31 Tabitha Zabala and Baleigh Quarry



**THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS**  
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 website: www.poteaufumc.com  
 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
Senior Pastor	Rev. Kyle Clark
Associate Pastor	Rev. Tracy Hoskins
Director of Youth Ministries	Kimberly Hardaway
Director of Children and Family Ministries	Rev. Tracy Hoskins
Director of Music Ministries	Steve Clark
Administrative Assistant	Reenea Thompson
Lead Nursery Attendant	Jayla Craig
Organist	Wendy Kelly
Custodian and Door Opener	

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

**Poteau F.U.M.C. Report for June, 2014**

Average Attendance Figures for June: 121  
 2014 Budget Requirements: \$402,000.00  
 Needed for Budget Each Week: \$7,730.77  
 Needed through June: \$193,269.25  
 June Receipts: \$43,019.39  
 June Expenditures: \$29,971.38

**New Building Fund Figures:**  
 Deposits: \$1,672,638.94; Expenditures: \$2,578,918.48

## From Tracy's Desk

By Rev. Tracy Hoskins, Associate Pastor and  
Director of Children and Family Ministries  
thoskins@poteaufumc.com

### ★ KID'S KORNER ★

Achievements – I would like to recognize Jenci Quarry, Warrick Quarry, Burke Perry, Brady Perry and Caden Mitchell for attendance and bringing their Bibles to Sunday School. Congratulate these children when you see them!

The summer activities are winding down and I want to thank all of the volunteers that helped make the Kid Kamps so special and enjoyable! I will be recognizing the children's volunteers in a special way soon.

### Cooking Camp

We had such a wonderful turnout for our Cooking Camp; almost 30 kids! The kids really enjoyed making pretzels, pizza pockets, smoothies, cookies and other yummy concoctions while learning about prayer. The children were able to visit Cakes 'n' More and Dee showed them how they make donuts and other delectable treats. The older kids even got to decorate their own cupcakes!

### Music Camp

We had a fun time presenting L.O.S.T for the Music Camp. The kids learned their lines, some songs and some lessons about Jesus, our Savior. The musical was about a tour boat that gets shipwrecked on a deserted island. (Sound familiar? Maybe like Gilligan's Island?) The passengers learn from the island natives how Jesus is our Firm Foundation, our Living Water, and the Bread of Life. What a wonderful message for the youth to take out into the world!

### Science and Technology Camp

We expect about 30 children for the camp. There should be some exciting reactions as the kids combine some pretty interesting ingredients. Some of the activities include: Elephant toothpaste; making fossils; and cloud jars. They will get a chance to interact with nature while visiting the Janet Huckabee Nature Reserve.

### LOGOS

Logos will start September 3rd. We will continue to provide a wonderful Christian nurturing experience for our kids. We will go from 3:30



to 5:00 again this year. I will be sending out letters of intent to see who I can count on for help. If you have not helped with LOGOS before and would like to, please let me know.

## News of Youth

By Kimberly Hardaway

UMYF (CHAOS) meets Sunday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. and is for all youth 6th through 12th grade. The schedule is as follows:

### AUGUST

- 3 Back-to-School Event for Neighborhood (Helping Missions Committee)
- 9 St. Yootz Day at Frontier City; Concert by Newsboys - Cost: \$25. Leave at 8 a.m. and return TBA
- 10 No meeting - St. Yootz recovery
- 17 Youth Council following church Regular Meeting, 5 to 7
- 24 5 to 7 Parent Volleyball Night at youth Potluck: everyone bring a favorite food. We play volleyball, have a parent meeting and sign liability papers for the year.
- 31 No Meeting -- Labor Day

United Methodist Church

**PRESCHOOL**



By  
**Tracey Gilliam,**  
**Preschool Director**

Preschool orientation for the upcoming school year will be Thursday, Aug. 7th.

The Monday/Wednesday class will be from 5 to 6 p.m., the Tuesday/Thursday class will be from 6 to 7 p.m., and the Monday through Thursday class will be from 7 to 8 p.m.

We look forward to a fun and exciting year.

## Back to School Bash and Barbecue

The church will be hosting a "Back to School Bash" and barbeque on Sunday, August 3rd. Free haircuts as well as free eye and dental screenings will be offered as an outreach to school-age children from our neighborhood and community.

We will also have school supplies and personal hygiene items available for these children to help them get ready for school.

## Cards of Thanks

We are blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring church. So many of you have prayed, brought food, sent cards, and visited me during my illness. Your support has made a difference in my life. You are truly a church that takes care of each other. Thank you so much and may God continue His blessing on you and yours.

Dana and Lloyd Lee

We would like to say thank to Janet Despain, Henry and Rozelle Hardaway, and Judy Pearson for cleaning our sanctuary each week. I would like to personally say thank you to Sharon Mikkelson for volunteering to answer phones so that I am able to clean other parts of the church. Thank you for all you do.

Reenea' and your Church Family

Dearest Friends,

Thank you for the lovely Brunch you gave for me before I moved to Oklahoma City. The food, cards, gifts and personal thoughts you shared with me were just perfect. What a wonderful day in my life in our church.

The woven tapestry with our church photo and with 'Love, Your Poteau First United Methodist Church' was so special. I have it displayed in my apartment.

Thank you Kyle for the sending forth blessing at the conclusion of the worship service. It was a precious day.

Thank you,  
Virginia Stanley

## Women's Fall Bible Study

Women who are interested in being part of our Bible study group this fall are invited to meet with us at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday evenings beginning September 3rd.

Our study will be on the Book of Ruth. We will be using *The Girl's Still Got It* by Liz Curtis Higgs. We used one of her books (*Bad Girls of the Bible*) in the past, and you will find her easy to read, witty, and insightful.

The Kindle edition is \$9.99 from Amazon, or you can purchase the paperback for \$12.16. If you want us to order a book for you, please contact the church office by August 18th, or call Kay Thomas at 918-647-3491.

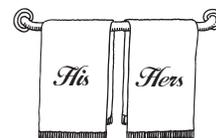
## August Birthdays

- 1 Allison Stone
- 2 Vernon Roberts, Jack Hammond and Bryce Holt
- 4 Josie Garrett
- 5 Tanya Brown and Terry Hall
- 8 Gary Brown, Sr.
- 10 Keith Wright
- 12 Patty Wright and William Slater
- 14 Lloyd Lee
- 15 Genny Dorsey and Clint Lawrence
- 16 Shirley James
- 17 Frances Thompson, Christie Williams and Emery Kay McDaniel
- 18 Nancy Shore, Derby Whitefield and Waylon Murray
- 19 Jake Thompson
- 20 Matt Stoughton, Kyle Hardaway and Wendy Kelly
- 21 Mallory Mixon, Haven Perry and Robert Holt
- 25 Lexe Pickle
- 26 Gary Blackshare and Taylor Darneal
- 27 Ryan Clayburn, Virginia Kidd and Janet DeSpain
- 28 Kimberly Hardaway, Peggy Gartner
- 29 Gerry Roberts, Lillian Green and Debbie Clark
- 30 Tami Holt
- 31 Luke Wheat



## August Anniversaries

- 3 Kyle and Debbie Clark
- 4 Steve and Nancy Clark
- 4 Lloyd and Dana Lee
- 5 Orville and Linda McDonald
- 8 Jim and Jayla Craig
- 12 David and Patty Redhage
- 19 Shannon and Amy Stubbs
- 27 Ken and Susan Hammond
- 30 Blake and Tori White



## United Methodist Study

Beginning Wednesday, August 6, Rev. Kyle Clark will be leading a course based upon F. Belton Joyner's book *United Methodist Questions, United Methodist Answers*. If you are interested an informal introduction will be held Wednesday, July 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Books are \$13.00 each - please call the church office to order your copy now.