

The United Methodist News

VOLUME 22 NO. 9

SEPTEMBER, 2014

SERVING GOD 121 YEARS

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

*Potluck
 Appreciation
 Lunch
 for
 Choir
 and
 Sunday School
 Teachers
 following worship
 on
 September 14*

**What's
 Inside**

Baptisms 2
 Church Calendar..... 2
 Finance Report 2
 From Tracy's Desk 3
 Preschool Report..... 3
 Sympathy Note 3
 Belize Mission Report 4
 Birthdays, Anniversaries 4
 News of Youth..... 5
 Birth Announcement..... 5
 Lifeline Screening..... 6

PASTOR TO PEOPLE

The Gift of Failure

Helping people to fail boldly is one of the greatest tasks of the church when it comes to helping people grow as disciples. Do I sound crazy? Maybe, but if we really think about it, failure is one of the most essential life skills we develop as human beings. Without experiencing failure we would never have learned how to walk, or ride a bike, or read, or play a musical instrument, or cook, or play a sport, or love, or almost anything else we do in life. Yet, in the church, we have made it very difficult for someone to try something new, fail, learn from the error and ultimately become more skilled. Many of us are more likely to recognize this all too familiar scenario when some new idea is proposed – a well meaning (but short sighted, or fearful, or stuck-in-a-comfortable-rut,) person says, “We’ve never done it that way before,” or worse, “We tried that once and it didn’t work. We’ll never do anything like that again!”

Maybe you remember hearing someone say something like that before. I’m not saying that happens here at Poteau UMC, (I’m not saying it doesn’t) but, unfortunately, it does happen in many churches. Attitudes like this generally are based in fear and they stifle the creative energy of the congregation.

I remember learning this the hard way (through failure). One of the churches we served before coming to Poteau was a little “neighborhood church”, literally right in the middle of a neighborhood, surrounded by houses and just across the street from an elementary school. We were preparing for VBS and we began a program of going door-to-door to every house in a 6-block radius around the church inviting kids to VBS. You see even though it was “neighborhood church” no one really from the neighborhood attended that church. So, we decided to get back in touch with the neighborhood we had lost. We didn’t really know what to expect – we had no idea if our efforts would amount to much, in fact there were some who felt it was all a big waste of time, and even though I never admitted it to those folks there, I wasn’t too sure that we were doing much more than just walking the streets around the church.

But then something strange happened! It worked! People came! Kids, lots of kids showed up! So many we didn’t quite know what

(Continued on page 6)

REV. KYLE CLARK



Baptisms!

AnnaClaire Yandell, infant daughter of Chad and Kendra Yandell and Riley Ann Sampson, infant daughter of Mitch and Sondra Sampson were both baptized on August 10, 2014.

Prayer Concerns

Nursing Home/Homebound:

Eloine Crews, Jim DeCamp, Slim Durham, Marilyn Johnston, Wayne Moore

Health:

Maria Burnett, Linda Burton, Bill Cartwright, Jim Craig, Christl Coyle, Robert Craig, Colton, Alicia and Hunter Castillo, Grace Dehart, Brylee Denton, Mildred Easton, Peggy Gartner, Bobbi Gilham, Jeremy and Jeff Foiles, Mary Ford, Mary Folsom, Joyce Hicks, Darlene House, Alan and Jane Anne Inge, Walter and Lorene Johnson, Ted Kilgore, Tammy Harvey, Colton Knight, Marion Lancaster, Dana Lee, Arlene LeMaster, Barry and Marsha Moore, Kay Murry, Eddie Nyberg III, Maxine Nyberg, Ernie Phelps, Jean Potts, Merion Reynolds, Heather Russell, Keely Redhage, Joe Sabatucci, Charles Saviers, Jim Shore, Paul Stottsberry, Kay Sullivan, Kenneth Stephenson, Vince and Jackie Tosto.

Bereavement:

The Frank Dehart Family
The Amanda Cole Family

Military:

Jared Baughn, Kyle Kinman, Taylor Baughn, Victor Murray, and all our military service men and women

SEPTEMBER CHURCH CALENDAR

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

• SUNDAY •

UMYF (CHAOS), 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Women’s Bible Study, 5 p.m.

• MONDAY •

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

• TUESDAY •

Cub Scouts, 6 p.m., CFLC
Boy Scouts, 7 p.m., CFLC

• WEDNESDAY •

Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
United Methodist Study, 6:30 p.m.

• THURSDAY •

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

• FRIDAY •

Church office closes at noon

- 3 LOGOS begins, 3:30 p.m.
- 7 Youth Swim and Grill, 7 p.m.
- 14 Potluck Appreciation Lunch for choir and Sunday School teachers following worship
- 15 Women of Faith Meeting, 10:30 a.m.
- 17 Membership Care, 1 p.m., CFLC
- 20 Neighborhood Free Breakfast, 8 to 10:30
- 26 Life Line Health Screening (see page 6)

WORSHIP GREETERS

- 7 David and Lisa Barnes
- 14 Keith and Patty Wright
- 21 Kip and Suzanne Klutts
- 28 Curtis and Dorothy James



ACOLYTES

- 7 Aiden Alexander and Luke Wheat
- 14 Nathan Murray and Wyatt Holt
- 21 Demi Gilliam and Maryanne Attee
- 28 Tabitha Zabala and Baleigh Quarry



THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS

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Carol Baker, Editor

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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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
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	Phil Smith

District web page: www.gbgn-umc.org/mc-dist/

Poteau F.U.M.C. Report for July, 2014

Average Attendance Figures for July: 107

2014 Budget Requirements: \$402,000.00

Needed for Budget Each Week: \$7,730.77

Needed through July: \$224,192.33

July Receipts: \$20,890.43

July Expenditures: \$34,481.05

New Building Fund Figures:

Deposits: \$1,696,950.94; Expenditures: \$2,578,984.18



From Tracy's Desk

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

Fellowship Family Meal

We are opening up our LOGOS meal to all of our LOGOS families and we are inviting our entire congregation to join us every Wednesday at 5:15 in the Christian Family Life Center. We will be providing a LOGOS-type meal for everyone. We are asking for \$2 per person or \$8 per family to cover the cost of food. Come enjoy a good meal and some wonderful fellowship and then stay for WOW (Worship On Wednesday.)

WOW (Worship On Wednesday)

Come worship on Wednesday at a youth planned worship that will give our youth a way to use their worship skills and hone their church leadership skills while providing a creative worship for all.

WOW begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Christian Family Life Center.

★ KIDS KORNER ★

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Achievements – I would like to recognize Jenci Quarry and Warrick Quarry, for attendance and bringing their Bibles to Sunday school. Congratulate them when you see them!

We're Moving! - The children's programs that is. The children's programs will be moving downstairs to share space with the Preschool. The Youth will be taking over the upstairs space of the Education wing. This is going to be an exciting time for our youth to have a space that fits and suits them.

The Sunday school classes (Prek – 1st and 2nd - 5th) will be meeting downstairs now.

LOGOS

Logos will start September 3rd. We will continue to provide a wonderful Christian nurturing experience for our kids and youth. We will go from 3:30 to 5:15 this year. The meal is opened up for all to enjoy. Register your children and youth so they don't miss out on the fun!

If you have not helped with LOGOS before and would like to, please let me know.

Kids Kamps

We had a total of 47 different children attend

the camps this summer. Each camp received positive feedback from volunteers and parents. The camps had their challenges, but the awesome volunteers were able to overcome them and provide quality activities that made these camps a success.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped with Vacation Bible School and the summer camps. Without your help, we would not be able to show the love of Christ to the children of our community in such a successful way.

Thank you: Daniel Ambriz, Bailey Baker, Morgan Bandy, Ed Brody, Laurie Carroll, Debbie Clark, Nathan Clark, Haley Clark, Jayla Craig, Jessa Craig, Taylor Darneal, Janet Despain, Haley Durant, Jeremiah Eaton, Kim Eaton, Zoie Eaton, Andrew Ellis, Micah Ellis, Elizabeth Emberton, Josie Garrett, Charlee Gilliam, Demi Gilliam, Tracey Gilliam, Terry Hall, Kim Hardaway, Kylanna Hardaway, Bryce Holt, Kyle Holt, Tami Holt, Matthew Houston, Suzanne Klutts, Linda Lee, Krissy Manning, Juan Martinez, Allison Matos, Tami Matos, Mandy Mitchell, Susan Mixon, Judy Peerson, Liz Perry, Kaycee Quarry, Katie Redhage, Triston Riley, Jameson Shackelford, Lily Shore, Sam Shore, Luke Wheat, Ann Young, Sheri Zabala, Tabitha Zabala

United Methodist Church

PRESCHOOL



By
Tracey Gilliam,
 Preschool Director

Preschool has gotten off to a great start for this school year.

We will be learning the letters A, B, C, and D this month. We will focus on the circle as our shape and our color will be red. We will introduce the numbers 1, 2, and 3.

Our memory verse this month is, "I will sing of the Lord's great love forever."

Themes this month will be Growing with God, Friends Share, Jobs People Do, Apples, and Knowing God Loves You.



Our Sympathy

Our love and sympathy is extended to the family of Frank Dehart and to the family of Lois Floyd, Krissy Manning's aunt who passed away recently.

Belize 2014 Mission

By Mallory Mixon

The Belize 2014 mission worked on the second phase in a 3-part plan to build the Belmopan Methodist High School, in connection with Belmopan First United Methodist Church.

We mainly worked to build concrete forms for the ceiling to be poured and ready on the second floor. There are currently around 90 students and another 90 will be entering in September.

In Belize, school is compulsory until high school, but families are made to pay tuition and fees, normally in the \$300 range. That's why Belmopan Methodist will be so important, as the church will help to pay some of these fees for the students who will be able to attend and receive a quality education.

Recently, we've received word that the project is around \$40,000 short and construction has come to a halt.

If you're interested in blessing the community, the Missions Committee has information on how to do that.

In the evenings, we volunteered at King's Children's Home outside of Belmopan. We helped children with homework, played with them and told Bible stories, complete with puppets. These are children who have been removed from their homes for various reasons such as neglect and abuse.

There are around 90 children in the beautiful new facilities recently completed through private donations and volunteer labor. It is a private home and receives no government funding. The caretakers and staff are wonderful people who show these children the love and mercy of our Father God. It is truly an amazing place.

Lastly, I'd like to thank everyone who contributed not only monetarily but who also sent me notes and prayers during the mission. Truly great work is being done and without your love and faithfulness, the work could not be completed.

The Belizians we have met over the last two years continue to shower love and gratefulness on our team and we tell them that we are not the only members of our team, all of you are with us through your gifts and prayers.

Thank you for your continued support!!

Mallory Mixon

September Birthdays

- 2 Ken Hammond
- 3 Dorothy Gail James
- 5 Aimee Baker and Mattison Dodson
- 10 Kyle Cofer and Matt Wright
- 11 Jett Thompson
- 13 Jane Kilgore
- 14 Averie White
- 16 Kyson Hardaway, Keely Redhage and Daniel Best
- 17 Justin Burton
- 18 David McNair
- 19 Jennifer Roberts, Jack Oehlschlager and Wrigley Sampson
- 20 Susan Mixon
- 22 Diane Daigle and Lexi Key
- 23 Troy Talley, Todd Hallmark and J. Sommers
- 24 Christine Harris
- 25 Kale Kemp, Don Baetz, Grace Dehart and Caden Warren
- 26 Joe Renfro
- 27 Peggy Talley and Kyle Reid
- 28 Daniel Ware, Gary Mason, Cary Baetz, Jane Ann Inge, Jenny Allen, and Tami Matos
- 30 Buddy Shelton and Dennis Alexander



September Anniversaries

- 3 Dale and Wendy Kelly
- 7 Robert and Tami Holt
- 12 Jim and Nancy Shore
- 22 Colton and Alicia Castillo
- 24 Mitch and Sondra Sampson



Church Family:

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 918-647-2217.

Thank you for taking the time for this.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Anyone who knows of someone who would benefit from a prayer shawl, whether a church member or not, should call Cindy Brody at 918-385-1542 or the church office at 647-2217.



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:

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Swim and Grill, 5 to 7 at the Holt residence
- 14 Regular Meeting. Start taking t-shirt orders today at church
- 21 Regular Meeting
- 24 See You At The Pole activities at your schools
- 28 Regular Meeting

OCTOBER

- 7 Regular meeting
- 12 Regular meeting. Distribute T-shirt orders.
- 18-19 Heifer Ranch Global Gateway Experience. 9 a.m. Saturday to 2 p.m. Sunday. Cost is \$20 to attend.
- 26 Halloween Carnival for the church, 5 to 7 p.m.

See You At The Pole

Never stop praying. Especially for others.

– Ephesians 6:18a CEV

The 2014 theme verse follows Paul’s famous passage on the armor of God, challenging and encouraging Christ’s followers to stand strong in the Lord and be His representatives to share the Good News of the Gospel.

From that very first year in 1990, See You at the Pole has been about one simple act—prayer. Today, SYATP is still about students humbling themselves, turning to God, and interceding for their generation.

SEE YOU AT THE POLE day is on Wednesday, September 24, at 7:00 a.m. All around the globe, in every time zone, students will be gathering at their flagpoles, praying for their school, friends, families, churches, and communities. SEE YOU AT THE POLE is a day committed to global unity in Christ and prayer for your generation.

• • •

Heifer Ranch Experience October 18-19

Sign up for the Heifer Ranch Global Gateway Experience by Sunday, September 14. Payment of \$20 is due at sign-up.

Heifer Ranch, located outside Perryville, Ark.

offers the 24-hour Global Gateway Experience to allow adults and youth 12 years and older to “walk in the shoes of another.” Given only a sleeping bag and an item to barter (water, wood, rice, etc.), participants live for 24 hours with little to no shelter and some sort of handicap (illness, broken limb, even pregnancy). Bartering and wits becomes the only means to obtain a bit of food, water, and/or source of warmth.

Before entering the experience, participants educate themselves on ways to live a “greener life and ways to create a more just global environment.

The experience builds empathy and awareness of the plight of others in this world.



It's a Boy!

Colton and Alicia (Gilliam) Castillo announce the birth of their son, Adrian Hunter Castillo. He was born August 15, 2014. He weighed 6 lbs. 9 ozs. and was 21 inches long.

Hunter arrived 3-1/2 weeks early and has had to stay in the hospital. He has now gotten to go home.

Colton, Alicia, and their families thank everyone for their prayers and support.

Also, Colton and Alicia would like to thank the church youth group for the basket of snacks and goodies at the hospital. It was a blessing and they appreciate it so much.

O God – when I have food,
 Help me to remember the hungry;
 When I have work,
 Help me to remember the jobless;
 When I have a warm home,
 Help me to remember the homeless;
 When I am without pain,
 Help me to remember those who suffer;
 And remembering,
 Help me to destroy my complacency;
 And bestir my compassion.
 Make me concerned enough to help,
 By word and deed, those who cry out –
 For what we take for granted.

– Anonymous



(Pastor to People, cont.)

to do with them all. Unfortunately, they were the wrong people. We had invited kids from families that had all kinds of problems, families that were mixed, families that were poor, families who had never taken their kids to church, families who had, evidently never even taught those poor children proper manners (have you ever tried to clean pb&j off carpet and red punch stains off white walls?) All sorts of folks with kids showed up and none of them were like us.

The church wanted to grow you see, even admitted that it needed to grow. But that experience had convinced that small congregation that they just didn't want to grow like that. They wanted to grow their way, in the direction they chose, not God's way or in God's direction. That church is now on the verge of closing its doors.

What were they doing before they had been invited by Jesus? They all had jobs and families and other obligations, you know, normal things. Yet, when they accepted his invitation to come and see, they witnessed and took part of something dramatically new. After the emotion and confusion of Jesus' death and resurrection that didn't stop. They received the gift of the Holy Spirit and they continued doing new things! They were propelled into the world to herald the most unlikely of messages that God has come to and redeemed the world through an itinerant preacher from the backwaters of Palestine who was executed for treason and blasphemy. You see, once the Holy Spirit comes, the return to normalcy is no longer an option. The Holy Spirit then doesn't solve the disciples' problems it creates them. The Holy Spirit invites failure. The Holy Spirit invites failure or to find fulfillment in and through our setbacks and failures. Thinking that "failure is not an option" is paralyzing. Failure is inevitable. Our task is to make a mistake daily, just don't make the same mistake all the time.

We are beginning a new year of LOGOS and we are doing some new things – "family" meals, Worship On Wednesday, and more. And you are invited to tell others, to meet others, to reach others in our community, in our neighborhood, folk not like us, but God's people just the same. You see the gift of the Holy Spirit grants us the free-

dom to throw ourselves into lost causes, to take great risks and dare great adventures because we trust that regardless the immediate results of our efforts, our hopes and our future are secured not by our abilities but by God's promise. Resurrection, you see, can only and always follow crucifixion. But the good news is that resurrection happens, God's promise holds true, and we are invited to participate with God in all that God is doing. So, remember God's gift of the Holy Spirit, the gift of problems and failures through which God's grace abounds.

Shalom,
Kyle

LIFE LINE SCREENING OPPORTUNITY

Poteau First United Methodist Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event.

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on September 26.

Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis.

Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete.

In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.

Membership Care Committee

The Membership Care Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Christian Family Life Center. They reach out to those who are homebound or are dealing with health issues or bereavement.

If you know someone in need of our care, or would like more information, call Kay Thomas (647-3491).