



The United Methodist News

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER, 2007

Serving God Our Second 100 Years

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



God will always give what is right to his people who cry to him night and day, and he will not be slow to answer them.

Luke 18:7

What's Inside

Church Calendar	2
Silver Bullets	2
Youth and Children	3
Preschool Report	3
Evelyn's Inspiration	4
Year End Giving	4
United Methodist Men	4
United Methodist Women	4
Birthdays, Anniversaries	4

PASTOR TO PEOPLE

"We gather with thankful hearts" is what the reminder dropped off at the church office said. I was reminded that the season of harvest, sharing, and gratitude is at hand when a church member stopped by last week with a new centerpiece for the church foyer. This is the time of year that families gather, large meals are shared, and football games are watched – all with an attitude of thanksgiving. But the message for the gathered church is even greater; we gather to thank God for all of God's good gifts. We gather to praise God for the gift of grace through Jesus Christ. We gather as more than a collection of individuals, but as the Body of Christ offering to God our worship, our lives, and our love. "We gather with thankful hearts."

Beyond our weekly worship, there will be other opportunities to gather in gratitude for God's graciousness. On Tuesday, November 6, we will have our annual Charge Conference. This is the business meeting for the coming year, electing officers and naming visions. Charge Conference will be held at 7:30 in the Fellowship Hall. I want to encourage your attendance and participation.

One of our primary gifts to share with others is the gift of hospitality. When we gather for worship, the greeters and ushers have the first opportunity to welcome new persons and help them feel comfortable here. On Sunday, November 11 I am inviting those persons who serve as ushers or greeters or those who would like to serve in that capacity to a "training" session. It will be at 4 p.m. and will look at the ways that these important ministries might be strengthened.

On Sunday, November 18 the community churches will gather for our annual Community Thanksgiving worship service. It will be held at the Bob Kidd Civic Center at 7:00 pm. This will be an important service for several reasons – the opportunity to gather with friends from other churches, the offering will support the work of the ministerial alliance, and food will be shared with those who might need it. Since the Salvation Army has moved their ministries to Heavener, the offering and food donations are especially important as the Ministerial Alliance begins to discern how social ministries can continue to take place in Poteau. In regards to food donations, we will be accepting non-perishable items through that Sunday morning and then baskets will be put together that afternoon at the Civic Center.

(continued on page 2)

REV. GREGORY J. TENER



NOVEMBER



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				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	

Finally, I want to remind the congregation and especially those in leadership positions to set aside Dec. 1 and 2 for a Strategic Planning retreat that will be held here at the church. Rev. Craig Stinson, the Annual Conference Director for Congregational Development will be with us to help us name our five priorities for the future. More information will be mailed out shortly.

As we prepare for Thanksgiving, I would offer us this prayer:

Lord our God, love began with you and has filled our cup to overflowing. In the abundance of your countless gifts, give us your grace to fill others' lives with love, that we may more nearly be worthy of all you have given us. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Grace and peace,

Greg

Silver Bullets Travel Club

The Travel Club is planning a trip up Talimena Drive, with lunch at Queen Wilhelmina Lodge soon. The date will be decided and announced in church.

If you want to go on the next trip, be sure to call Jane Kilgore, Virginia Stanley or Reedy Gothard and let them know. Any change in the date will be noted in the church bulletin.

Poteau F.U.M.C. Report For September 2007

- 2007 Average Attendance Figures for September: 155
- 2007 Budget Requirements: \$317,292.00
- Needed for Budget Each Week: \$6,294.00
- Needed through September: \$245,466.00
- September Receipts: \$68,268.10
- 2007 Receipts through September: \$344,201.96
- September Expenditures: \$37,996.82

THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS

Published by the Communications Committee
 Carol Baker, Communications Coordinator/Editor
 FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 109 S. Harper, Poteau, OK 74953
 Telephone 918-647-2217
 e-mail address: rogers2006@alltel.net
 website address: www.poteaufumc.com
 Sunday School 9:30 — Morning Worship 10:30

Bishop	Robert E. Hayes
District Superintendent	Sanford (Sandy) Wylie
Pastor	Gregory J. Tener
Youth & Children's Director	Kim Hardaway
Music Director	Steve Clark
Church Secretary	Brenda Ferguson
Lead Nursery Attendant	Jayla Craig
Organist	Wendy Kelly

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

WORSHIP BULLETIN DEADLINE:

Sunday Worship Bulletin, 10 a.m. each Thursday

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

In order to provide an informative newsletter, information must be turned in by the **third Friday of every month** so the newsletter can be prepared and delivered by the first of the month. Thank you.

• SUNDAY •

Youth Bell Choir, 4:00 p.m.
 Methodist Youth Fellowship, 5:00 p.m.

• MONDAY – FRIDAY •

Christian Preschool, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., Ed. Bldg.

• MONDAY •

Boy Scouts, 7:00 p.m., CFLC

• TUESDAY •

Cub Scouts, 6:30 p.m., CFLC

• WEDNESDAY •

LOGOS, 3:00 p.m., CFLC

Handbell Rehearsal, 5:15 p.m., Bell Room
 Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

- 2 UWM Fall Festival and Bake Sale, 9 a.m., CFLC
- 4 Time Change - Fall back one hour
 Middle School youth will lead in worship, 10:30 a.m.
 Youth Hayride at Gilliams, 6 p.m.
- 6 Annual Charge Conference, 7:30, F.H.
- 10 UMM Breakfast Meeting, 8 a.m., F.H.
- 11 Training Session for Greeters, 4 p.m.
- 18 Community Thanksgiving Service, 7 p.m., Civic Center
- 22 Community Thanksgiving Dinner

MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

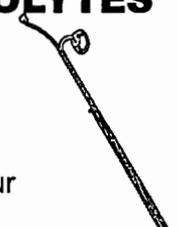
- Nov. 4 Kay Sullivan and Artie Stivers
- Nov. 11 Lloyd and Dana Lee
- Nov. 18 Curtis and Dorothy James
- Nov. 25 Vernon and Phyllis Roberts



MORNING WORSHIP ACOLYTES

- Nov. 4 Connor Matos
- Nov. 11 Maci McMillin
- Nov. 18 Josie Garrett
- Nov. 25 Sam Shore

Thank you boys and girls for your important part in our worship service.





Youth and Children's News

Kim Hardaway, Youth and Children's Director

For more information, call Kim at 647-2217

This Sunday, Nov. 4th our Middle School youth will lead in worship by ringing bells. Youth should be at church by 9:30 a.m. to prepare.

UMYF

No one can do everything, we depend upon one another. Our children and youth are learning that lesson well as we strive to do service projects, fundraising, and spiritual study and planning. In our efforts, the congregation has been exceptionally giving and supportive.

Thank you for your generous outpouring of donations for the youth yard sale. We made a net profit of \$1,465! That means each youth was able to have \$66 added to his/her personal youth account for use in church activities.

Thank you for purchasing pecans for your fall baking. We had a net profit of \$343 from our pecan sales.

Thank you to all who came and enjoyed the chili supper and carnival. It was a light-hearted, fun-filled evening made possible by a lot of hard work and time put in by our youth, their parents, and some special extra helpers. This was a gift of service by the youth. No profit was made.

For those attending the family cruise, a reminder that \$100 per person is due at the end of each of the months of October, November, December, and January. At this time, we have reserved a charter bus for the group's travel to and from Mobile, AL. Passport applications can be picked up from the USPS or online by googling "US Passports".

Upcoming Schedule:

Nov. 4 – Fall Hayride at the Gilliams. Meet there or meet at church to go together at 6:00 p.m. It will be over at 9:00 p.m. Dress warmly. Supper will be served.

Nov. 11 – Youth-led morning worship service

Nov. 11 – Youth council meeting and luncheon following morning worship

Nov. 11 – Regular UMYF, 5-7 p.m.

Nov. 18 – No UMYF

Nov. 22 – Help with Community Thanksgiving Meal at Civic Center, 11 to 3 (Youth will choose a two-hour shift - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1 to 3 p.m.)

Nov. 25 – Regular UMYF

Dec. 2 – Regular UMYF

LOGOS

LOGOS call: an opportunity to use **your** gifts!

At LOGOS, it is all about spiritual nurture through relationships with one another in Christian love. There are many children and youth who come each week (we have an average attendance of 65) we are nurturing. This is an increase of numbers which increases the need for adult leadership. In response, we are putting forth a call for one additional table parent, and five new clean up crew members. The call to table parent means a commitment of dining and fellowship with kids from 5 to 6 p.m. each week. The call to clean up crew members means a commitment of washing dishes and tables once a month on either the 3rd or 4th Wednesday.

For parents who are seeking to fulfill their parental commitment to the program, we most need that commitment for our clean up on the 3rd or 4th Wednesdays of the month. Please speak with Kim on which Wednesday you would be available. If you feel unable to keep your parental commitment, please let Kim know so we can arrange a spiritual sponsor. We want every child to know that there is at least one adult who is giving their time specifically for him or her.

LOGOS upcoming themes:

Nov. 7 - Camp-out Night

Nov. 15 - Thanksgiving

Nov. 22 - No LOGOS

Nov. 28 - Air Logos

Sunday School

The second floor of the education building is going to be redecorated for our children's Sunday School. If you are interested in being a part of this process (painting, designing, etc.), please contact Rande Hallmark at 649-1031 or 413-2757 or Kim at 647-2217. Rande has graciously answered the call to start the process of giving the second floor a fresh look.



In November the Preschool will be working with the colors yellow and brown, the shape is a square, numbers are 5 and 6, and the letters will be G and H.

Our memory verse for November is "Let us love one another."

Evelyn's Inspiration

By Evelyn White

Philippians 4th Chapter – Who or what controls our mind? The Bible guides us into:

Whatever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of good report; and if any virtue and praise – think on these things. And God's peace, which is far beyond human understanding will keep your hearts and minds in union with Christ Jesus.

God's love, compassion and forgiveness is all around us. Why do we see only the hurtful things that man has done? God is still the King of His Creation. Grant us the wisdom and the desire to count our many blessings to know what God has done.

Our Father, teach us how to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Thank you for your love and every blessing.

Love to all, Evelyn

Happy Fall!

Being a Christian is a lot like being a pumpkin. God lifts you up, takes you in, washes all the dirt off you. He opens you up, touches you deep inside and scoops out all of the yucky stuff . . . including the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. Then he carves you a new smiling face and puts his light inside you for all the world to see.

Submitted by Bob Bullock

The Time Is Right

Year-end is a time to take stock and reflect on our many blessings, and it seems only natural to express our gratitude with a gift.

- Cash Gifts - A cash gift qualifies for a 2007 charitable income tax deduction - up to 50% of your adjusted gross income. Make certain check is dated 2007 and received by Dec. 31, 2007.

- Giving Appreciated Property - If you own investments that have increased in value you can donate them to a church or charity and take a charitable income tax deduction for the full fair market value and avoid declaring the capital gain of the assets as income.

- Giving Unneeded Life Insurance – You can give an old policy you no longer need and receive a tax deduction for the replacement value.

- Memorial Gifts – A memorial tribute can be a way to salute those whose memories enrich our lives.

- Wise Tax Planning – Accelerating future gifts into the 2007 tax year can enable an itemized income tax deduction.

November Birthdays

- 1 Keely Hambrick and Fredrick Ritchie
- 3 Jacob Reid
- 5 Kaycee Quarry
- 7 Ronna Bell and Demi Kay Gilliam
- 9 Elizabeth Perry, Linda Lee, Martha Renfro and Roxanna Moore
- 10 Sterling Kemp and Kay Sullivan
- 11 Jean Gaylor and Nikki Perry
- 12 Deanna Reed, Allison Matos, and Bessie Moreland
- 13 Brad DeSpain and Justin Barnes
- 15 Randy Matos
- 16 Opal Middlebrooks and Christy Oehlschlager
- 17 Lance Owen
- 19 Elissa Bridgman, Cynthia Stoughton and Jamie Gilliam
- 21 Henry Hardaway, Jennifer Cravens, and Nina Sizemore
- 23 Mary Ford
- 24 Vida Wright
- 25 Ed Brody
- 27 Kela Thompson Miller, Stephen Fruen, and Samantha Fruen
- 28 Charlee Gilliam
- 29 Artheia Hageman



November Anniversaries

- 20 Randy and Libby Bridgman
- 20 R.L. and Janet Sockey
- 22 Mark and Sheri Zabala
- 28 Ted and Christie Williams



United Methodist Women

The UMW Fall Festival is Nov. 2. The bake sale starts at 9 a.m. and the luncheon is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under.

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men meet the second Saturday of each month at 8 a.m. for breakfast and a program in the CFLC. All men of the church are invited to attend this enjoyable activity.

THE UPPER ROOM
DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Your Upper Room Devotional Guide for November-December is now available in the church office. They are provided for you free of charge. We want you to use and enjoy them. Please pick yours up.