

# The United Methodist News

VOLUME 16 NO. 11

NOVEMBER, 2008

Serving God 115 Years

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



Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you. You have fellowship with the Spirit, and you have kindness and compassion for one another.

Phil. 2:1  
 GNT



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## PASTOR TO PEOPLE

The psalmist writes, "Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed ..." (Psalm 65:1). The ancient poet then interweaves the theme of God's forgiveness with the blessings of an abundant harvest. The act of praising God for countless blessings spans the centuries. Today, Thanksgiving is a time for family reunions, televised football games, and the beginning of Christmas sales. But even with these additional activities, the holiday remains the main religious celebration in the American civil religion. Various congregations and religious organizations worship together while others serve dinners to those who might be lacking. However Thanksgiving is observed, the core foundation is the graciousness and care of God.

As a congregation, we will have the opportunity to share in a citywide Thanksgiving service being planned by the Poteau Ministerial Alliance. The service will be held in our own sanctuary on Sunday, November 23 at 6 p.m. The Rev. David Gordon of the Church of the Nazarene will be the preacher for the evening. I am looking forward to that evening.

And so, as we enter this season, I offer this prayer from West Africa for your use:

Lord of lords, Creator of all things, God of all things, God over all gods, God of sun and rain, you created the earth with a thought and us with your breath.

Lord, we brought in the harvest. The rain watered the earth, the sun drew cassava and corn out of the clay. Your mercy showered blessing after blessing over our country. Creeks grew into rivers, swamps became lakes. Healthy cows graze on the green sea of the savanna. The rain smoothed out the clay walls. The mosquitoes perished in the high waters.

Lord, the yam is fat like meat, the cassava melts on the tongue, oranges burst in their peels, dazzling and bright.

Lord, nature gives thanks, your creatures give thanks. Your praise rises in us like the great river.

Lord of lords, Creator, Provider, we thank you in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Grace and peace,

**REV. GREGORY J. TENER**



## Welcome New Members!

Mike and Linzy Murray joined the church on October 19. They have two sons, Nathan and Waylon. Be sure and let them know how happy we are to have them as part of our church family.



## Sympathy Extended

The congregation extends their love and sympathy to Steve Clark on the recent death of his uncle.

## Second Annual Art Show

The Second Annual Religious Art Show has been set for the last weekend in March, 2009. So start preparing your artwork entries and join the fun in March.

**NEW SERIES:** The Innominate Sunday School Class will be starting a new Beth Moore Series Nov. 2 at 9:15 a.m. in the CFLC. All are invited.

*The good news is God has all the money he needs to fund ministry through his church. The bad news is it's in your pocket!*

### Poteau F.U.M.C. Report for September, 2008

2008 Average Attendance Figures for Sept.: 155  
 2008 Budget Requirements: \$336,245.22  
 Needed for Budget Each Week: \$6,466.26  
 Needed through September: \$252,184.14  
 September Receipts: \$28,829.05  
 September Expenditures: \$32,446.37

### THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS

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 FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Sunday School 9:30 – Morning Worship 10:30

Bishop	Robert E. Hayes
District Superintendent	Sandford (Sandy) Wylie
Pastor	Gregory J. Tener
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	Ted Kilgore

District web page: 222.gbgn-umc.org/mc-dist/

## • CHURCH CALENDAR •

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

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

### • SUNDAY •

Church Chat, 9:35 a.m., CFLC  
 Living the Questions, 5:00 p.m., F.H.  
 United Methodist Youth Fellowship  
 (C.H.A.O.S.), 5:00 p.m.

### • MONDAY – THURSDAY •

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

### • TUESDAY •

Cub Scouts, 6:00 p.m., CFLC

### • WEDNESDAY •

LOGOS, 3:30 p.m.  
 Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m.,  
 Sanctuary

### • FRIDAY •

Mother's Day Out, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- 3 Church Conference, 7 p.m., CLFC
- 7 Fall Festival Luncheon and Bake Sale
- 8 United Methodist Men, 8 a.m.
- 14-15 Picture Sessions
- 15 Finance Committee Training, 10 to 2
- 19 Youth Council meeting following church
- 23 Community Thanksgiving Service, 6 p.m.
- 24-28 No Preschool

## MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- 2 Frank and Grace Dehart
- 9 Jerry and Phyllis Kemp
- 16 Charles and Marilyn Meek
- 23 Marvin and Janet DeSpain
- 30 Jerry and Mary Ford



## LITURGISTS

- 9 Kawika Santos
- 16 Cynthia Stoughton
- 23 Hayley Redhage
- 30 Haven Perry



## MORNING WORSHIP ACOLYTES

- 2 Maci McMillin
- 9 Josie Garrett
- 16 Connor Matos
- 23 Kade McMillin
- 30 Emily Harreld



## News of Children and Youth

By Kimberly Hardaway

### UMYF (C.H.A.O.S.)

*The schedule is as follows:*

#### November

- 2 Youth Council Lunch Meeting immediately following church  
Hayride at Gilliams, 5 to 8 p.m. Meet at the church or meet at the Gilliams
- 9 Middle School Handbells lead in worship.  
C.H.A.O.S. meets from 5 to 7 p.m. (Meal provided by Katie and Nancy Shore)
- 16 Youth led worship, 10:30 a.m.  
2nd and 3rd Grade Handbells perform  
C.H.A.O.S. meets from 5 to 7 p.m. (Meal provided by Liz and Nikki Perry)
- 23 NO C.H.A.O.S.
- 30 C.H.A.O.S. meets from 5 to 7 p.m. (Meal provided by Laurie Bandy)

#### December

- 7 C.H.A.O.S. caroling and visit to Oaks

### LOGOS

LOGOS is from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. for K thru 8th grade. Preschool meets from 3:30 until 5:00. Dinner is option for preschool if a parent or family member stays and eats with them. There is an option for snack at 3:15 p.m.

*LOGOS themes for November:*

- 5 "Crazy Hat Night". Wear your craziest hat.
- 12 "Thanksgiving".
- 19 "F.R.O.G. Night". Wear something green or that has a frog on it.
- 26 No LOGOS: Thanksgiving break

#### December

- 3 "Pajama Party". Wear your pajamas.

### PICTURES FOR A GOOD CAUSE

An opportunity to have your holiday pictures made is coming to our church! On November 14th and 15th there will be time slots available to come to the church and have a professional photography session. The pictures will be mailed to you within 5 days of your session. For every page of pictures sold, the church receives a commission. The money raised will go toward the renovation of the education building upstairs.

### MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

Locally there are children who do not get enough to eat when they are not in school. In response to this need, a clearinghouse in Ft. Smith coordinates with local schools in making

"sacks" of food to be sent home each week with children who need food. We have an opportunity to help supply the food that goes into the sacks. Each month different items are collected so a steady supply of the necessary foods is maintained.

Boxes for collecting the food are placed in the Chapel room adjacent to the sanctuary, and inside the gym door of the CFLC.

**November's food items are Vienna Sausages and Pudding Cups.** Thank you for your donations.

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### GARAGE SALE OCTOBER 4

Thank you to all who donated to the Garage Sale. We netted just over \$800! Items not sold were donated to the Buckley Library and Salvation Army.

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### NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY

In conjunction with backdoor ministries and family ministries, we sponsored a chili supper and fall carnival. We had a great turnout from our neighborhood families and generous attendance and donations by our congregation. Thank you for the special outreach ministry provided. A marvelous time was had by all through the games and contests held.

Winners of our contests were:

Chili Cook-Off: Spiciest - Patty Redhage's "Five Alarm Chili"; Most Original - Peggy Werline's "Peggy's Recipe"; Crowd Favorites - Terry Martin's "Terri's Hot Chili" and Greg Tener's "Just Chili".

The chili recipes were all delicious and thank you to the cooks who shared them. Thank you to Andi Burton and Jean Gaylor for making two huge roasters full to feed everyone!

Jack-O-Lantern Carving: Scariest - Allison Matos; Funniest - Randee Hallmark; Most Creative - The Gilliam Family. The jack-o-lanterns lent a festive feel to the evening. Thank you to our talented carvers!

Costume Contest: Scariest - Jesse Nichols; Prettiest - Khia Brookfield; Funniest - Haven Perry; Most Creative - Morgan Bandy; Best Overall - Allison Matos. All the costumes were terrific and the costume parade was fun to watch!

Candy Estimation Winner: Charlee Gilliam.

Pumpkin Weight Estimation: Linda Lee

Several local businesses donated prizes for Bingo. We appreciate Wal-Mart, Price Cutter, Dollar General, Hibbet's, Stage and Finish Line for the generosity shown.

### Mother's Day Out

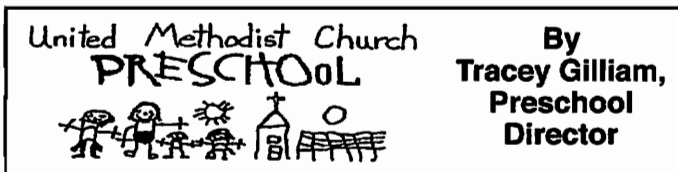
Mother's Day Out is for 1 to 3 year olds on Friday mornings from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the nursery rooms. Cost: \$10 per visit or \$35 per month. No snack or lunch will be provided. Participants will need to provide a snack sack with child's name on it, diapers and wipes.

### Card of Thanks

Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank everyone for their many expressions of love and encouragement. The cards, phone calls, flowers, food, visits, and contributions in Warren's memory have been the greatest comfort. Your many prayers and kindnesses will long be remembered by our family. We have found strength in the love and support of our church family and in the warm embrace of its members.

Roxie Moore and family



November Preschool themes include 1) Our addresses; 2) Thanksgiving; and 3) God wants me to love and care for others. The memory verse is "Let us love one another."

This month the colors are yellow and brown, the letters are G and H, the numbers are 5 and 6, and shape is a Square.

There will be no school Nov. 24 through 28.

A big thank you to Lloyd Lee for building the preschool more storage space. The space was much needed and we are very thankful for it.

The preschool also appreciates all the time Louise Reynolds is volunteering to the Preschool.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE TRAINING

Saturday, November 15

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Led by Rev. Brian Bakeman,  
Oklahoma Conference Treasurer of  
The United Methodist Church.

Lunch will be provided.

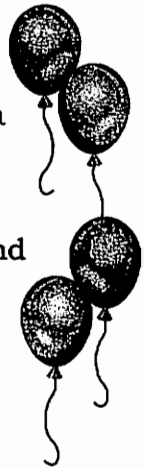
### Adult Sunday School Class

If you are interested in joining or starting a new Young Adult or Adult Sunday School Class, please call either Susan Mixon at 647-7301, or Pastor Greg Tener at 647-2217.

**CONGRATULATIONS ANDREA TRAYWICK -  
2008 TEACHER OF THE YEAR  
FOR PANSY KIDD MIDDLE SCHOOL!**

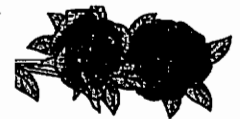
## November Birthdays

- 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, Bessie Moreland, and Allison Matos
- 13 Brad DeSpain, Justin Barnes, and Jenny Harreld
- 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 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

### By Jane Kilgore, President

The Fall Festival will take place on November 7 with the bake sale starting at 9:00 a.m. and luncheon from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Bake sale donations may be taken to the CFLC on Thursday, or be dropped off before 9 on Friday morning.

Your luncheon food and baked goods are needed and we thank you for your donations. Call Jane if you need more information.

### Piano Lessons

Weekly piano lessons are now available at the church. Each lesson is 30 minutes and the cost is \$10 a lesson. Contact Matthew Houston, 405-706-1016.

