



The United Methodist News

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER, 2006

Serving God Our Second 100 Years

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

AND WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU TO ACT JUSTLY AND TO LOVE MERCY AND TO WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD. MICAH 6:8

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PASTOR TO PEOPLE

Discernment has been defined as seeking the deepest yearnings of God's heart for us as individuals and for our communities. It is the gift of the Spirit. It must be noticed, accepted, treasured, and surrendered to if it is to be received. Communal discernment is an experience of group prayer and reflection on God's word.

Communal discernment emphasizes wholeness because God has gifted us with both intellect and emotions. We are capable of gathering data, analyzing, synthesizing, making choices and evaluating. We are also capable of intuitive feelings that allow subjective feelings to merge with objective truth. No one person has more than a piece of the wisdom. The piece each person has comes out of who he or she is and their lived experience. Community members must see this as a journey to be taken together and with the Holy Spirit who lives and speaks in all of human reality.

I would like to invite and encourage you to participate in a season of discernment when we gather for a meal and conversation. The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee will be hosting a Pot-luck Dinner on Sunday, September 24, immediately after morning worship. Much of the dialogue will take place around the dinner table, with some further sharing with the larger group. Some of what we will prayerfully discuss includes: What are our core values as a congregation? What hindrances are there to living out our core values? What are some possible options to explore in living out our core values?

My hope is that this is just the beginning of a consistent and clarifying conversation that will help us more effectively be in ministry in our community. As a means of preparation for this process, I would invite you to pray the following prayer, during the coming weeks. It was written by Dr. Laurence Hull Stookey of Wesley Seminary in Washington, DC.

God of multitudes, ruler of the universe:
Look with favor upon Christ's flock in this place.
Cause our congregation to be an effective witness to your love and
(continued on page 2)

REV. GREGORY J. TENER



SEPTEMBER



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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

power.

To this end, banish from us pettiness and rivalry, speaking ill of one another, seeking to serve ourselves rather than you.

Guide the leaders of the congregation, both lay and ordained, that in turn they may guide us also into your ways.

Bind us together by your love and cause us to know ourselves to be a people called out of darkness into your marvelous light.

This we ask through Christ who himself is head of the church. Amen.

Greg

All Church Fish Fry

There will be an All Church Fish Fry Sunday, August 27 at 7 p.m. on the church lawn. Everything for the fish dinner will be provided, but you may bring a dessert if you wish.



Our Sympathy Extended

We extend our love and sympathy to the Neurohr family on the death of George's mother, Ruth McCurdy. Sympathy is also extended to Aimee Baker and Alison Garrett on the death of their grandfather. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Welcome New Member!

Youth Director Sara Fuchs transferred her membership to our church on Sunday, August 20. We're very happy to have Sara as part of our church.

THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS

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 Carol Baker, Communications Coordinator/Editor
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 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 | Sara Fuchs |
| Music Director | Steve Clark |
| Church Secretary | Brenda Ferguson |
| Lead Nursery Attendant | Jayla Craig |
| Organist | Lynn Roberts |
| Custodian and Door Opener | Robin Morrison |

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

WORSHIP BULLETIN DEADLINE:

Sunday Worship Bulletin, 10 a.m. each Thursday

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Every effort is made to provide an informative newsletter to keep everyone up to date and prepared for upcoming events. It is important that information is turned in to the church office by the **third Friday of every month**. This will ensure that the newsletter can be prepared and delivered by the first of the month. Thank you for being sensitive to this need.

• SUNDAY •

Methodist Youth Fellowship, (6th-8th) 5:00 p.m.
 Methodist Youth Fellowship, (9th-12th) 6:00 p.m.

• MONDAY - FRIDAY •

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

• MONDAY •

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

• WEDNESDAY •

Adult Handbell Practice, 5:15 p.m., Bell Room
 Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

- 3 Church Service at The Oaks, 2 p.m.
- 4 Church office closed for Labor Day
- 6 Logos Parents' Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 10 Pastor's Study, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- 13 Logos begins
- 16 UMW Fall District Meeting at Seminole; leave at 6:45 a.m.
- 17 Pastor's Study, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- 24 Youth leading in worship, 10:30 a.m.
 Pot Luck Lunch Listening Session, CFLC, following morning worship
 Pastor's Study, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- 27 See You at the Pole

MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- Sept. 3 Dula Baker and Alexandria Baker
- Sept. 10 Ben and Judy Curtis
- Sept. 17 Marvin and Janet DeSpain
- Sept. 24 Chad and Julie Bridges



MORNING WORSHIP ACOLYTES

- Sept. 3 Michael Preston
- Sept. 10 Connor Wheat
- Sept. 17 Haven Perry
- Sept. 24 Kade McMillin



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



Correspondence



Youth and Children's News

Sara Fuchs, Youth and Children's Director

Dear Church Family,

When Troy and I moved to Poteau 6-1/2 years ago, we moved back to be with family. Now on the eve of us moving to the Austin area, we find ourselves leaving my folks once again, yet this time with two additional Saidlemans and leaving behind a most generous and kind church family. I consider myself blessed to have grown up in Poteau FUMC and in full circle, been able to give back to the youth and work alongside childhood mentors. Troy and I are also grateful that our girls not only were baptized in this church, but also will have their first memories of church from the loving and caring people that surrounded them here. Thank you for the treasured picture of our church and for the warm and gracious send-off of our last Sunday! But mostly thank you for your prayers and love and for being our church family!

In His Grip,

Troy and AnnaBeth, Gabriella and Annika
1878 Darden Hill Road,
Driftwood, Texas 78619

Genesis 31:49 – May the Lord keep watch between you and me when we are away from each other.



A Word From Helen Lynn

The President's press conference August 21st was filled with questions touching many concerns. We are all interested.

From Mississippi, Louisiana, Baghdad, Isreal, terrorism, revolutions, billions, cash, counterfeit money, taxes, our borders, space stations, China, Crawford, Texas, deaths of our military – on and on. Mind-boggling.

What can one individual do to stem the tide of humanity at war with humanity? A faceless enemy. Can we trust our neighbor? Do we have the manpower and money to feed those starving children in the world that I see on TV? Are we (U.S.A.) by bullets (ammo) the Keepers of the Peace?

My Prayer:

When I do not know what I should pray for, the Holy Spirit intercedes, with divine intensity the groanings which I cannot utter and expresses them perfectly to God, who hears and understands. In Jesus' name we ask you to lead us in the fight for righteousness, take away our confusion and thank you for the wonderful watermelon given to me from neighbors living in Poteau, OK. You know who they are. Distance and time are in your hands! Teach us to: Romans 12:21 Be not overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Reverse Evil and Live.

September Schedule

- 3 Labor Day - No UMYF
- 10 Regular UMYF, FLC, 6:00 p.m., Meal - Matos
- 17 Regular UMYF, FLC, 6:00 p.m., Meal - Barnes
- 24 Regular UMYF, FLC, 6:00 p.m., Meal - Slater

FAMILY SKI TRIP 2006 – DECEMBER 26-30

We are very excited to announce our 2006 Family Ski Trip. This year we will be traveling to Winfer Park, Colorado. We will be staying at the Crestview Condos and traveling via a charter bus if we get enough people. We have slots for 42 people on a first come first served basis. Cost per person is \$500. This cost covers transportation, lodging for four nights, three days of lift tickets, and food while gone.

While at the resort we will have access to hot tubs, swimming pools and a full fitness center. Each evening we will meet on the property for a devotional and a time of fellowship and snacks. Additional information and registration forms are available on line at <http://www.skidad-dy.com/poteaufumc>. Registration and a non refundable deposit of \$125 per person is due ASAP.

This will be a great trip!

STUDENT LIFE BIBLE STUDY

We strongly believe that what Student Life Bible Study has to offer makes it unique among other programs.

For starters, our goal is to help students get "the big picture" when they look into God's Word. That means creating a complete curriculum that covers the entire Bible. This plan will accomplish two purposes in the life of a teenager. The first is that they'll receive real guidance for living like Christ during their formative years. The second is that when they graduate high school, they'll do so with a greater, more confident knowledge of God's amazing message. Our plan can make that happen. It's a long-term six-volume strategy designed for a student's journey from junior high through graduation.

FALL 2006 YOUTH SCHEDULE CHANGE

Starting September 10th we will be making a change in the Sunday night schedule by splitting the group. Jr. High students (6th-8th grade) will meet for a time of games, Bible study, and group-building from 5 - 6 p.m. The Sr. High students (9th-12th grade) will join us at 6 p.m. for a group meal. At 6:30 the Senior High will meet for worship, Bible study, and fellowship. This change will allow all students to feel more comfortable and at ease with each other and their friends.

LOGOS TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER 13TH

We hope you will schedule the activities of your youth and children so that they can participate in our mid-week LOGOS program.

With all kinds of pressure working to shape the hearts and lives of our youth and children, the challenge of the church to influence and shape their lives with Christian consistency is immense. The format of LOGOS is one in which Christian relationships are formed and strengthened through both discipleship and loving Christian nurture.

A parent meeting has been set for September 6th at 7 p.m. The themes for LOGOS this year will revolve not only around decor that we already have, but movies as well. The schedule and themes for September are:

- 13 Opening Celebration - "Cars" - We're off to the Races!
- 20 Backwards Night - Freaky Friday
- 27 Neon Night - Friday Night Lights



SERVICE OUTING TO COOKSON HILLS

On September 15th and 16th, we will be partaking in our first service outing of the Fall semester. This trip will be to Cookson Hills which has been a very significant part of the mission work of the United Methodist Women in Oklahoma since 1948. The presence of the United Methodist Church among rural low-income people in Northern Oklahoma has shown an important aspect of the way we care for others as concerned Christian people. The primary target group of the Center's service is Native American people, most being of the Cherokee Tribe. This will be a time of giving back to a ministry within our conference that has given so much to others. Cookson Hills Center is located 20 miles southeast of Tahlequah, on Highway 82 and 3 miles from Tenkiller Lake.

All students 6th-12th grade can go. We will leave at 5 p.m. Friday, Sept 15th and return at 5 p.m. Saturday. Cost is \$10 per person to be turned in by Sept. 10th. We will be helping serve the center with yard work and other outdoor needs.

Deadline to sign up is Sept. 10. A sign up sheet will be going around during youth from now until the deadline. You won't want to miss this wonderful time of fellowship and service!

YOUTH SUNDAY - SEPT. 24TH

On Sept. 24th, the youth will be leading the Sunday morning worship service. This is an important day for all involved. Each student will have a piece of the service and responsibility therein. We will be practicing and assigning parts through the next few weeks. Please mark this date on your calendar now and plan on attending.

See You at the Pole 2006: Be Still and Know God

In a world full of chaos and endless activity, God is calling for us to slow down and listen to Him. Intent on making their lives count, millions of teenagers will pause to do that at See You at the Pole in September.

"Be STILL and KNOW that I am GOD" is the theme for See You at the Pole this year, with the event scheduled for Wednesday, September 27.

The "Be Still" theme is taken from Psalm 46:10, where God says, "Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations." Many are familiar with this Old Testament verse. But fewer would be aware that in context, the admonition was God's recommended response to the chaos of natural disaster and wartime conflict, two conditions that are as familiar to modern man as to the ancients.

See You at the Pole is a student-initiated and student-led movement that started in Texas in 1990 with just one youth group at their school flagpoles asking God to bring moral and spiritual awakening to their campuses and countries.

In 2005 more than 2 million teenagers met for See You at the Pole in all 50 states.

Paul Fleischmann, president of the National Network of Youth Ministries, observed: "Every year, we have seen this day serve as a springboard for unity among teenagers on their campuses. See You at the Pole unites students in prayer at the beginning of the semester. Young people have taken unprecedented leadership through this to have a positive impact at their schools."

Church congregations nationwide will show support for See You at the Pole by sponsoring special "Campus Challenge Sunday" commissioning services September 23-24, the weekend before See You at the Pole. Participants will recognize and pray for Christian students and educators in their congregations.

See You at the Pole!

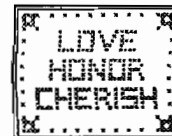
September Birthdays

- 2 Ken Hammond
- 4 Charlotte Greenwood and Selma Keup
- 5 Aimee Baker
- 8 Kelli Atchley
- 10 Kyle Cofer and Matt Wright
- 13 Jane Kilgore
- 14 Tommy Wright
- 15 Rachel Sumerford
- 16 Kyson Hardaway and Keely Redhage
- 17 Justin Burton and Ellis Whigham
- 19 Jennifer Roberts, Jack Oehlschlager, and Lois Baswell
- 20 Phil Dorsey and Susan Mixon
- 23 Troy Talley
- 24 Christine Harris
- 25 Kale Kemp, Don Baetz, Grace Dehart, and Sue Stottsberry
- 26 Lucille Sokolosky and Joe Renfro
- 27 Peggy Talley and Kyle Reid
- 28 Daniel Ware, Gary Mason, Cary Baetz, Jane Ann Inge, and Tami Matos
- 29 James M. Britton



September Anniversaries

- 1 Jeff and Susan Mixon
- 7 Ernie and Barbara Owens
- 12 Jim and Nancy Shore
- 27 Jim and Martha Kidd



United Methodist Women

By Jane Kilgore, UMW President

Time flies! Hard to believe, but it's almost time for UMW Fall District meeting! The McAlester District Meeting will be at Seminole FUMC on Saturday, Sept. 16, beginning at 9:30 a.m. We will have to leave Poteau early, about 6:45 a.m., as the trip takes almost three hours. We will be making arrangements for traveling together.

Hopefully, by then we will have cooler weather! Maybe even cheaper gasoline?

All ladies who attend our church are invited to attend every meeting of the United Methodist Women. For more information, call Jane Kilgore, 647-9571.

Grace and peace to all.

REMEMBER TO RECYCLE!

If you usually throw your aluminum cans away, please start saving them. When you bring your aluminum cans to the church, Phil and Genny Dorsey sell them and match the amount they get with their own money. That makes the cans worth twice as much to buy food for the needy.