



The United Methodist News

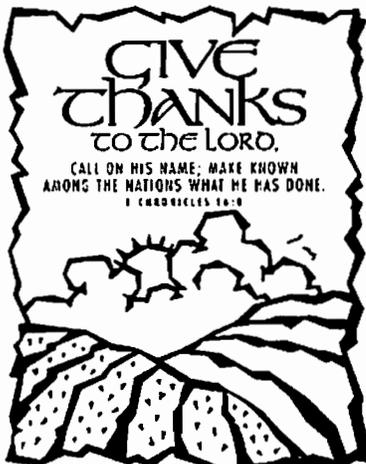
VOLUME 14 NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER, 2006

Serving God Our Second 100 Years

Sunday School
9:30 A.M.

Morning Worship
10:30 A.M.



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PASTOR TO PEOPLE

Each month, when I turn the calendar page, I get amazed at how quickly the time has passed since Judy and I moved to Poteau. And now we are entering into the season when church activities become even more prevalent. Before we know it there will be a Living Nativity scene outside the church doors, a choir cantata in the sanctuary, and the greens will have been hung. But before I get ahead of myself, it is also the season of giving thanks. Oh wait, should that season ever really end?

The psalms are filled with words of gratitude and thanks to the God who is Creator of life and the Redeemer of the exiles. We are reminded to give thanks to God, for God's nature is one of goodness and faithfulness. The New Testament writers continued that theme of thanksgiving, especially centered upon the action of Christ at the Last Supper. Even today, the communion service is designated as the Great Thanksgiving, as the Church is reminded of all that God has done through Christ and the Holy Spirit. As a community, the Poteau Ministerial Alliance will lead a Thanksgiving service on Sunday, November 19 at 6:00 p.m. It will be held at the First Christian Church.

On the last Sunday of September, there was the first of many conversations regarding the future of this church and congregation. One area that was mentioned several times as an area for improvement was Sunday School and Christian education. You will read of some changes elsewhere in this newsletter. In the area of adult classes, you will begin to see more topical series being offered. Currently, I am leading a class on Christianity and World Religions in the Discovery class. Then in December I will be offering a four week Advent study. But I want to hear from you any suggestions for topics or themes that you believe would be helpful for the church.

Finally, the United Methodist Men's group will regroup and reenergize over breakfast on Saturday, November 18th. I'm going to be cooking breakfast, with the help of one or two other men. There will be an opportunity to share ideas and possibilities for future events. I want to

(continued on page 2)

REV. GREGORY J. TENER

invite and encourage the men of the church to meet in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30 a.m. to resurrect a vital ministry in the church.

Thank you for all that you do as a congregation and may we grow closer to God and one another, through the grace that God provides.

Grace and peace,

Greg



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		

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 •

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 •

New Testament Study, 6:30 p.m., F.H.
Boy Scouts, 7:00 p.m., CFLC

• TUESDAY •

Wesleyan College Ministry, Noon, F.H.

• WEDNESDAY •

New Testament Study, 10:00 a.m., F.H.
Logos Program, 3:15
Adult Handbell Practice, 5:15 p.m., Bell Room
Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

• SATURDAY •

Cub Scouts, 10:00 a.m., CFLC

- 2 OSU Healthy Holiday Nutrition Class, Noon, F.H.
 - 3 UMW Fall Festival Bake Sale, 9 a.m., and UMW Luncheon 11 to 1, CFLC
 - 4 Red Cross CPR and First Aid Training, CFLC (Call church office to register, 647-2217)
 - 5 Pink Basket Day for the Wheats, 11:30 a.m., F.H. Youth Parents Meeting, immediately following, CFLC
 - 9 OSU Healthy Holiday Nutrition Class, Noon, F.H.
 - 16 Church Council, 5:15 p.m., Aldersgate Room
 - 18 United Methodist Men's Breakfast, 8:30, F.H.
 - 19 Community Thanksgiving Service, 6 p.m., First Christian Church
- 23, 24 Church office closed for Thanksgiving

MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- Nov. 5 Marvin and Janet DeSpain
- Nov. 12 Charles and Marilyn Meek
- Nov. 19 Bob and Vera Bullock
- Nov. 26 Bill and Linda Lancaster



MORNING WORSHIP ACOLYTES

- Nov. 5 Connor Wheat
- Nov. 12 Kade McMillin
- Nov. 19 Haven Perry
- Nov. 26 Michael Preston



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



Our Sympathy Extended

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of Toni Allen who passed away October 16. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Welcome New Members

We welcomed two new members of our congregation recently. Levi Brumfield and Jane Hall both joined on different Sundays in October by transfer from other denominations. Let both of them know how happy we are to have them as part of our church family.

Poteau F.U.M.C. Report For September, 2006

2006 Average Attendance Figures for September: 137

2006 Budget Requirements: \$305,794.00

Needed for Budget Each Week: \$5,880.00

Needed thru September: \$211,703.76

September Receipts: \$26,194.84

Year To Date Receipts thru September: \$280,513.41

September Expenditures: \$38,281.95

Year To Date Expenditures thru September: \$294,850.25

THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS

Published by the Communications Committee
Carol Baker, Communications Coordinator/Editor
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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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 | Wendy Kelly |
| Custodian and Door Opener | Robin Morrison |

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

Youth and Children's News

Sara Fuchs, Youth and Children's Director

November UMYF Schedule

- 5 Regular UMYF, CFLC (Meal: Hardaways)
- 12 Jones Center
- 19 Regular UMYF, CFLC (Meal: Oehlschlagers)
- 26 No UMYF - Thanksgiving

SR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY

A new Sr. High Bible Study/Sr. High UMYF Curriculum will begin in November. Students today as Christians are faced every day with daunting choices between difficult alternatives. Confronting the Controversies, by Adam Hamilton offers clear, concise information with scripture and compassionate guidance on what is at stake in many controversial issues. This is a seven session series that youth will not want to miss.

CALLING ALL YOUTH PARENTS

The holidays are fast approaching and we have some wonderful opportunities for the students. However, for these activities to take place we need your help. On Sunday, November 5th right after the Pink Basket Day for the Wheat family immediately following morning worship, I would like to meet with you in the CFLC to look at the calendar for the rest of this year, the upcoming spring events, and to show you the wonderful Sunday School curriculum that your students will be using and learning from, and give you the opportunity to sign up for the various meals, activities and outings that we have planned. As parents you are vital to the success of this ministry to your students. It can not be done without you. So please mark your calendars and plan on attending on November 5th after church.

YOUTH TO FELLOWSHIP AT JONES CENTER

On Sunday, Nov. 12, the youth group will take time to gather together and enjoy a time of fellowship at the Jones Center in Springdale. We will leave right after church and return around 8 p.m. To make sure we have an accurate count for chaperone and vehicle purposes, all students planning to attend, along with any friends they are bringing, will need to sign up on the sign-up sheet which will be going around. Cost for this event is \$20. If you have questions, please call Sara.

LET THE SHOPPING BEGIN

The holidays are fast approaching and if you are like me you have yet to begin your shopping. On Saturday, December 9th, as a youth group we will be heading to Fayetteville to the Pinnacle Hills Promenade. This will be an opportunity for the students to shop for family and friends and fellowship with one another over dinner. We will leave the church at 10 a.m. and return by 10 p.m. In order for



us to have an accurate count for travel and restaurant reservation purposes we will need all students and guests to sign up on the sign-up sheet no later than December 3rd. Cost of the trip is dependent upon what kind of shopping the students are doing and the cost of two meals approximately \$30.

CONFIRMATION 2006-2007

Beginning in January, Greg and I will be team teaching a fifteen week session confirmation class for those students in 6-9th grades. I know that this has not been offered in a while so if you are in the above mentioned grades or older and have not taken a confirmation class please call me and let me know. There will be more information about this class in upcoming newsletters but begin to mark your calendars now.

United Methodist Women

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S



Friday, November 3, 2006

Poteau First United Methodist Church
Christian Family Life Center

• Luncheon •

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

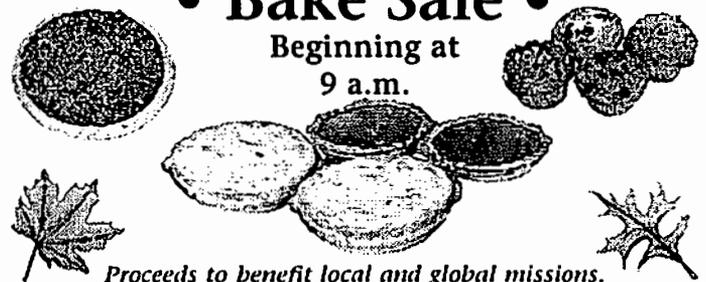
Adults \$5.00; Children 12 & Under \$2.00

Menu:

Chicken and Dressing Casserole, Cranberry Salad, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Tossed Salad, Pumpkin Upside Down Pie or Assorted Cakes, Coffee or Tea
(Carry-outs Available)

• Bake Sale •

Beginning at
9 a.m.



Proceeds to benefit local and global missions.

The Luncheon is a very popular event for the community each year. Members of the congregation are needed to help prepare the food for the luncheon. Also needed are items for the equally popular Bake Sale. Please say yes when you are called upon. The women say that pies are especially needed for the sale. Then buy your ticket and we'll see you there!



It's A Girl

Randall and Melanie Wheat announce the birth of a daughter, Maggie Jane, on October 3, 2006. She weighed 6 lbs., 5 ozs. and was 18" long. Maggie has two big brothers, Connor and Luke.

There will be a Pink Basket Day on Nov. 5 in the Fellowship Hall immediately following morning worship to visit with the Wheats and have refreshments. There will be a basket and table there where you can place cards or gifts, if you wish.

United Methodist Church
PRESCHOOL



By
Tracey Gilliam,
Preschool
Director

November themes this month are God wants me to love and care for others, Thanksgiving, and where we live.

We will be working with the letters G and H, the numbers 3, 4, 5, the shape square and the colors yellow and brown.

The November memory verse is "Let us love one another." (John 4:7)



A Word From Helen Benn

"I want to join the Laity Club!"

Mike Lee stared at me . . . you are Laity, he gently reminded me.

But – I do not teach, I do not belong to the choir, I am not a hard working kitchen committee person, I am ushered, but never lead, I am not a charge in charge conference, too old to meet with youth council, that Pastor-Parish Relations group does not hold me as a relative!

Where do I serve?

Please let me be a representative wherever God leads me. Put a guard on my lips so that I utter no dishonor to God or man, empty my hands of stuff-n-things so that I can hold and feed a hurting, hungry laity, maybe sit in the room of an ill laity – be a listening ear, a baby sitter to a weary mother, a mentor to a teen – there's so many of us.

Laity: described as people outside a stated profession . . . a working club. We fill the pews, open the doors, welcome new members, we sing (make the choir look good) pass the plate! We fill the plate, we praise the Lord.

We, me, they, them, and us – a union called Laity.

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
- 15 Randy Matos
- 16 Opal Middlebrooks and Christy Oehlschlager
- 17 Lance Owen
- 19 Elissa Bridgman, Cynthia Stoughton, Jamie Gilliam, and Annika Saidleman
- 21 Henry Hardaway and Jennifer Cravens
- 23 Mary Ford
- 24 Vida Wright
- 25 Ed Brody
- 26 Sara Fuchs
- 27 Kela Thompson, Stephen Fruen, and Samantha Fruen
- 28 Charlee Gilliam
- 29 Artheia Hageman



November Anniversaries

- 20 Randy and Libby Bridgman
- 20 R.L. and Janet Sockey
- 28 Ted and Christie Williams



Evelyn's Inspiration

By Evelyn White

Dear Friends,

A Happy New Day to You!

Is this day one of those times, when there is so many "To Do's"? A very busy day?

God says "Be ye fishers of men." This could be just the day. Some of those to do's could take me to the Best Fishing Hole ever.

What kind of "bait" will be needed? A lot of Patience, Love, Faith, Kindness, and Hope!

Remember, Love Bait attracts. Do I always have a good supply of "bait" with me? Is it real, is it true, is it lasting?

May we, as God asks us to be – Fishers of Men – to be mindful, every day, every place – of all the "Fishing Holes" in our life.

Good Fishin'

Love you, Evelyn

Happy Thanksgiving