



The United Methodist News

VOLUME 16 NUMBER 5

MAY, 2008

Serving God Our Second 100 Years

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

**Pentecost
Sunday is
May 11.
Remember to
wear Red
in celebration!**



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PASTOR TO PEOPLE

There are many things that United Methodists do well. One of them is gathering together for conversation and dialogue. As I write this note, delegates from around the globe are gathering in Ft. Worth to prayerfully make decisions about the ministry of the Church. The United Methodist Church is one of only two denominations that are worldwide, the other being the Roman Catholic Church. We take seriously John Wesley's statement that the world is our parish and so understand that there is an interdependence and connection among us all. General Conference meets until May 3rd, so please keep the delegates in your prayers.

Oklahoma's own Annual Conference will begin on May 25th. The Bishop has asked all Oklahoma United Methodists to be in prayer for this session as a strategic plan for ministry will be discussed, voted on, and begun. Also, the tradition of receiving special offerings to support global missions will be continued. The two selected for this year are first, clergy support for the Methodist Church of Bolivia and secondly, Anathoth, an Upper Room ministry in South Africa for persons impacted by HIV/AIDS. This ministry includes care for AIDS orphans, hospice care, education and skills training.

On Sunday, May 11th, the Church celebrates Pentecost and what is sometimes referred to as the birthday of the Church. We celebrate the fulfillment of all of God's promises that are depicted in Christ's resurrection and ascension, and the sending of the Holy Spirit. The church has used the color flame red (or crimson) to help depict the tongues of flame. Other images depicting Pentecost are the descending dove of the Holy Spirit and the ship, representing the Church. To help us celebrate Pentecost, please wear red.

As we prepare to celebrate Pentecost, I offer this ancient prayer of the Church, which the author is unknown:

"Holy Spirit of God, great gift of our exalted Lord, on the day of Pentecost you came to the Church as he promised, to abide with us for ever. Come to us in your grace and power today, to make Jesus real to us, to teach us more about him, and to deepen our trust in him; that we be changed into his likeness and be his witnesses in the world, to the glory of God the Father. Amen."

Grace & peace, *Greg*

REV. GREGORY J. TENER

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
Custodian and Door Opener	Ted Kilgore
District web page address: www.gbgm-umc.org/mc-dist/	

May 18 Wade and Shirley Rodgers
May 25 Jean Gaylor and Jan Thompson

MORNING WORSHIP ACOLYTES

May 4 Maci McMillin
May 11 Taylor Darneal
May 18 Sam Shore
May 25 Josie Garrett



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



Card of Thanks



Thank you to all who helped during the preparation and presentation of our recent First Annual Religious Art Show. With 20 artists from throughout the region exhibiting, we felt it was a successful show. None of this could have been accomplished without the help of the members and friends of the church. You were great and we thank you.

The Religious Art Show Committee

Welcome New Members!

We welcome our newest members into our church family. Robert and Louise Reynolds joined April 6. Todd and Randee Halmark joined on April 20, and their children, Mary-Catherine and Nathaniel were baptized.

Also baptized on April 20 were Caleb Bridges and Cole Bridges.

The Confirmation Class joined on March 30. They were Haven Perry, Heather Robinson, Kelsey Robinson, Kody Whitehead and Kendrick Hardaway. They were baptized and confirmed; then accepted into membership into the church as the place they will nurture their faith and continue to grow spiritually.

The class had met weekly since January and had done an intensive study called "Claim the Name." Its focus was on what it means to accept Christianity as a way of life and to say yes to Jesus' offer of salvation.

Their parents had homework to do with them, discussing major issues of life both in spiritual and emotional matters.

After completing the study, the students decided if they were ready for baptism and confirmation.

Senior Brunch

There will be a brunch for the graduating seniors on May 18 at 9:15 a.m. in the Christian Family Life Center.

The seniors are gathering pictures and mementos to display at the brunch.

During the morning worship service, a gift will be presented and they will share their future plans.



Helping the Christian Free Clinic

Our church is providing volunteer receptionists for the Christian Free Clinic this month.

The Men's Pancake Breakfast was a great success with proceeds going to the clinic.

Thanks to everyone who bought tickets.

United Methodist Women

President Jane Kilgore and Vice-President Dorothy James attended the UMW District Meeting on Saturday, April 5, in Holdenville. More than 70 women from the McAlester District attended.

The visiting speaker was Chesley Stiggers of Neighborhood Services Organization. Chesley provided us with paper bags to be filled with needed items for NSO's many busy programs. This United Methodist organization serves homeless people, mentally disabled people, pregnant women, and many others.

Anyone who would like to donate items for the bags may bring them to the church office. The list includes: towels, sheets (full or twin), any non-perishable food items, dishes/silverware, pots/pans, cleaning supplies, diapers, hygiene items for men or women, laundry soap, crib sheets, and pillows.

United Methodist Church
PRESCHOOL



By
Tracey Gilliam,
Preschool
Director

The preschool has had another great year. A big thank you to Pastor Greg and Kim Hardaway for visiting with the children weekly. We also want to thank Ms. Brenda for everything she does for the preschool.

The preschool children will be learning the Fruits of the Spirit this month.

The last day of school will be May 22. The children and their families will be celebrating the end of school on Monday, May 19, Tuesday, May 20, and Thursday, May 22 at 11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

It Was a Wonderful Day in the Life of our Church

What an honor and a privilege it was on our 115th birthday celebration day to have Bishop Hayes speak to us during morning worship.

Following the service everyone enjoyed an abundance of good Methodist cooking in the Christian Family Life Center, with time for visiting with the bishop and his wife.

Our church celebrated 115 years as a congregation and have been located on the corner of Rogers and South Harper for 100 years.

A souvenir section of our church's history was published in the Poteau Daily News for the occasion and extra copies were provided for members and their families. They can be picked up at the church.



Youth and Children's News

Kim Hardaway, Youth and Children's Director

VBS

Vacation Bible School is June 2 - 6 from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. At this BEACH PARTY, your children will become surfers riding the wave of God's love! Pre-registration is now available in the chapel room located just off the main sanctuary.

There will be a "Surf's Up!" donation center located in the chapel room, also. The donation center is a supplies needed board. If you would like to help with Bible School by donating supplies, go to the board and take a surfboard card with a needed supply listed on it. Please bring the donated supplies by May 25th to church on Sunday or to the church office during the week with the surfboard card attached to the items.

Thank you for your generosity in helping the children.

UMYF

The schedule is as follows:

May 4: Regular UMYF

May 11: No UMYF (Mother's Day)

May 18: Senior Brunch honoring the class of 2008 in the CFLC at 9:15 a.m.

Youth Council Meeting and Luncheon, 11:45 a.m.

Regular UMYF - Meal provided by Terri Martin

May 25: End of school celebration

June 1: VBS Mission Night (we will be decorating and training for VBS)

June 9-13: District Camp at Camp Egan in Tahlequah for grades 7 to 12

Middle School Midweek

Until May 21st, middle school students are meeting from 3 to 6 p.m. on Wednesdays. It's a time of study, service, snacking, and socializing! The service portion takes us many places and helps others in various ways.

Students that want to come need to have a permission form filled out for allowing travel in the van.

LOGOS

Logos came to a close on the joyful note of our Spring Program. Our magical music machine was designed and created by Cindy Darneal. Katie (Rolens) Rust and Tracey Gilliam directed the preschool to first grade choir. Matthew Houston and Kim Hardaway directed the middle school and elementary choir. Rozelle Hardaway was accompanist.

Thank you to all the parents for sharing the gift of our children with the congregation in this uplifting worship of song and fun.

Mother's Day Out

Mother's Day Out takes place on Fridays from 10 to 1 in the nursery rooms of the education building for ages 1 to 3. Cost is \$10 for the entire time. Parents should bring a snack sack of food with child's name on it and a diaper bag with diapers and wipes.

May Birthdays

- 1 Warren Moore and Cindy Stoughton
- 2 Kendrick Hardaway
- 3 Jessica Bridgman
- 4 Sarah Mixon
- 5 Steve Clark and Shirley Blackshare
- 6 Ryan Neurohr, Nicole Preston and Mikali Kemp
- 7 Jeff Mixon and Jerry Kemp
- 8 Mandy Wilson
- 11 Bobby Reed and Libby Bridgman
- 13 Gianna Reed
- 14 Nicholas Roberts
- 15 Tucker Garrett and Austin James
- 17 Jim Morrison
- 20 Haley Redhage
- 21 Emily Norgeot
- 22 Rhett Garner
- 25 Cash Balentine, Burke Perry, and Brady Perry
- 26 Kade McMillin and Katie Rust
- 27 Freda Ogle and Kawika Santos
- 28 Joey Hall
- 30 Charley Clark, Daz DeCamp, Cora Rolens, Ben Sumerford and Warrick Quarry



May Anniversaries

- 4 Will and Kela Miller
- 14 Jim and Ruth Ann DeCamp
- 14 Pete and Susan Norgeot
- 15 Jerry and Mary Ford
- 19 David and Lisa Barnes
- 20 Chad and Jennifer Cravens
- 22 Greg and Judy Tener
- 24 Scott and Jennifer Miller
- 28 Jerry and Jan Thompson
- 29 Bob and Deanna Reed
- 31 Jarrod and Alison Garrett

