



January  
2010  
Issue I

# GRAND AVENEWS

## Staff

George E. Rook  
Pastor

Chuck Law  
Director of  
Music Ministries

Austin Hayes  
Director of Children,  
Tweens & Youth Ministries

Wanda Mayfield  
Organist

Heather Sanders  
Secretary

## Sunday Schedule

9:00am  
Sunday School\*

9:45am  
Fellowship

10:00am  
Worship

\*Child Care Provided

**Phone Number**  
870-673-6317

**Fax Number**  
870-673-3697

**Email**  
gaumc@centurytel.  
net

**Website**  
[www.gaumc.com](http://www.gaumc.com)



Sympathy is extended to the family of Emily Shirkey. Emily died January 2 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Cards may be addressed to her son: Dr. Wayne Lee, 2856 N.E. 36 Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308



Sunday, January 17 is Human Relations Day. Your Human Relations Day offering will support the work of more than 30 church-based community developers in low-income, racial and ethnic minority communities, an interracial network of grassroots social justice organizations, and local church Youth Offenders Rehabilitation projects.

The Age Level Coordinators will have their annual orientation meeting in the Church Library after Morning Worship on Sunday, January 17.



The Youth Council will meet in the Fellowship Hall after Morning Worship on Sunday, January 17 to review and make plans for the next several months. All youth, parents and others interested in the youth program are invited to attend. Austin Hayes, Director of Children's, Tweens and Youth Ministry at Grand Avenue, will be attending The Perkins School of Theology Youth Training Workshop in Dallas from Monday, January 11 through Thursday, January 14.

The Singles will meet for lunch in Stuttgart on Sunday, January 17 and will include a planning meeting. Please bring your ideas and suggestions for future activities.

The Year End Contributions reports will be available for pick up this Sunday, January 17 in the Narthex.

Third Wednesday Supper, the program is entitled "Tanako Tunes". Cater Rita's will be treating us to dinner. Join us January 20. The cost is 3 dollars for adults, 2 dollars for children, and 2 dollars for senior citizens (\$10 maximum for immediate families). We will start around 5:30pm. Please come join the fellowship even if you are going to be late. We will serve until 6:45 and take outs will be available until the food runs out for the same prices.

**The Church Office will be closed Monday, Jan. 18 for the Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday observance.**

January Meetings: Trustees (Monday, Jan. 18 at 7pm in the Office w Officers for 2010 being elected at this meeting); Finance (Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 7pm in the Library); Administrative Council (Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall).



UMW Sunday is Jan. 31. Ann Ashcraft from Malvern will be our guest speaker while various UMW members will participate in the service as worship leaders. You are invited to attend.

Confirmation Class 2010: A Confirmation Class is being organized for youth in or above the sixth grade. You are encouraged to pre-register before Tuesday, January 19 by calling the Church Office (673-6317). An organizational meeting for the class will take place in the Church Library after Morning Worship on Sunday, Jan. 24.

The 2010 Flower Calendar is posted on the wall across from the literature rack at the side entrance of the sanctuary.

The January/February issue of "The Upper Room," regular and large print, is available free of charge in the narthex and from the literature racks at the back of the sanctuary and at the side entrance to the sanctuary.

*Together with their parents*

*Miss Bethany Jackson*

*and*

*Mr. Darren Smith*

*Request the honour of your presence  
at their marriage*

*Saturday, the twenty-third of January  
Two Thousand ten  
Three o'clock in the afternoon*

*Lakewood First United Methodist Church  
19222 Teff Road  
North Little Rock, Arkansas*

*Reception immediately following ceremony*

*North Hills Park  
7400 Highway 107  
Sherwood, Arkansas*



Scout News

### Upcoming Scout Events:

Scout Sunday will be February 7. The Scouts will be taking part in the worship service. Our annual Blue & Gold Banquet will be held following the service. We will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of BSA (Boy Scouts of America).

A Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, February 25. Carry outs only from 5-7pm. Plates are \$8. Please come show your support!

**BIBLE STUDY "INVITATION TO GENESIS" - A ten session short-term Disciple Bible Study entitled "Invitation to Genesis" will be taught by the Pastor in the Fellowship Hall beginning Wednesday, February 17 at 10:30am. Each Wednesday Session will last 1.5 hours. The class will not meet Wednesday, March 31 (Holy Week). The suggested donation for student books is \$10 (not required). PLEASE REGISTER by calling the Church Office (673-6317). The deadline to register is Monday, February 8. REMEMBER: YOU WILL NEED TO BEGIN YOUR PREPARATION FROM THE STUDENT BOOK ONE WEEK BEFORE THE FIRST CLASS SESSION as there are important daily assignments leading up to this first session. Student books are available from the Church Office.**

## **MISSION NEWS**

During the month of January, the Grand Ave. Mission Team will be collecting bulk items or monetary donations to take with us to the UMCOR depot in Baldwin, La. As part of our mission, we are asked to bring \$400.00 worth of goods or a monetary donation. We are collecting toothbrushes (individually wrapped), washcloths, bath-size bars of soap, hand towels (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27"), blunt scissors, small hand held pencil sharpeners, and 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers. There is a box in the Fellowship Hall and a box by the old office for collecting items. If you wish to make a monetary donation, place your check in the offering plate made out to GAUMC and designate "Mission Team" for the memo line. Thank you for helping your Grand Ave. Mission Team.



The United Methodist Men will be sponsoring a Valentine Banquet in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, February 18 at 7pm. Make plans now to join the UMM in honoring those who enrich our lives so much. There is no cost for the catered dinner, but reservations are required for the dinner and also for child care, which will be provided. Please call the Church Office (673-6317) before noon on Friday, February 12 OR YOU MAY MAKE YOUR RESERVATION in the Fellowship Hall during Coffee Time (9:45am) on Sunday, January 31 and February 7. A registration pad will be placed next to the coffee carafes. PLEASE NOTE: If you need to cancel your reservations, please do so by noon on Friday, February 12.

## Christian Education - Every Sunday at 9am

Start the new year off by attending a Sunday School class at Grand Avenue. Take this opportunity to join friends or make new friends and connect in a group bible study.

### ADULT CLASSES

Young Adults	"Genesis"
Challengers Class	"Faith Is The Answer, But What Are the Questions"
Pathfinders Class	"Troublesome Bible Passages"
Crusaders Class	"Irresistible Invitation"

### CHILDREN'S CLASSES

#### PRE-K3- 4th GRADE

Rock Solid – Building A Heart of Faith  
 January 17 The Woman at the Well  
 January 24 The Rich Young Man  
 January 31 St. Peter's Declaration

### BIBLE BOOT CAMP

Be a part of God's Army  
 Saturday, January 23 from 10:00 – 12:00  
 Wear your fatigues and camo  
**BE ALL YOU CAN BE**

Recruits in 3rd – 6th grade will have training exercises in learning the books of the bible, chapters, verse and specific bible verses through games and activities. Drill Sergeants are needed. Please contact Shelley if you can help.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"  
 Psalm 119:105



### FREE – FREE - FREE

2009 Grand Avenue Vacation Bible School T-Shirts are available in the fellowship hall. They are lime green with CAMP EDGE on the back. There are a variety of children and adult sizes. So please shop this table and wear your GAUMC t-shirt for all to see.



# Thank You's

Dear GAUMC Carolers,  
Once again this year, in spite of the rain, you came and brought joy to my heart with your beautiful singing. Thank you for remembering me and stopping by our home.  
With much love to all!  
Sincerely,  
Hazel & Chris Smith

REMEMBER: If you serve in any office at Grand Avenue (check the 2010 officer sheet available from the literature rack at the side of the sanctuary or from the Church Office), you are probably a member of the Council. You are encouraged to attend the meetings and give regular reports so that we, as a church family, can be well organized for mission and aware of what plans are being implemented in different work areas. (Council members often provide useful guidance and volunteer help with programs that are presented).

Special thanks to Mary Alice Acklin, Rita Cress, Barbara Erstine and Tom Roth and to everyone else who helped contribute to the College Care Packages.  
Jane Ferguson

Thank you to our GAUMC "Fisher Folks"!!! They are Jim & Peggy Gingerich, Mary Alice Acklin, Eunice Montgomery, Dora Lou Hoskyn, Susanne Braithwaite, Trent & Kristian Dabbs, Bill & Martha Brothers, Jack & Judy Jacobs, Ronnie & Lee Ann Krisell, and Tom & Joyce Roth. The Fisher Folk make sure visitors to our church are called upon and extended a special welcome. They are our evangelists. WE ARE IN NEED OF MORE FISHER FOLK! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Carolyn Moore at 830-2936.

Dear friends,  
Again, we are late in thanking you for your encouragement and prayerful support when Paul was in the hospital last October. There really are no adequate words to express our deep gratitude for your visits, cards and calls. We love you all and pray for your good health and God's special blessings during this

## FROM THE PASTOR

With a new year comes a new set of officers in leadership positions at Grand Avenue. The willingness of these officers to serve is deeply appreciated by their Pastor and church family! In fact, we are filled with anticipation regarding the contributions that will be made by these officers in building up our church life. What are the possibilities? What new ideas will be developed? What new programs will be introduced? What existing programs will be continued or modified?

Our new leaders have been given job description booklets published by The United Methodist Church to help them in their ministry. In addition, the Age Level Coordinators have received a packet of helpful materials from the Church Office and will have a special organizational meeting on January 17 after Morning Worship.

I would like to share with you a list of "expectations" from St. James Episcopal Church in Texarkana, Texas of those being nominated to serve on their Vestry, which is the governing body of local congregations in The Episcopal Church. We might be able to incorporate some of these "expectations" as our "expectations" of officers at Grand Avenue.

1. To live a life reflecting the Christian faith and to strive to grow spiritually through worship, prayer and educational opportunities such as Adult Christian education.
2. To regularly attend the public worship of the Church. That is, absences from worship will be the exception, rather than the rule.
3. To attend meetings of the Vestry and any commission or board to which assigned.
4. To participate in the annual Vestry retreat.
5. To work for openness and unity amongst the clergy, Vestry and congregation.
6. To contribute generously to the financial support of the parish and to make an annual written pledge of such support.

- "Expectations for those Nominated for Vestry"  
St. James Episcopal Church  
Texarkana, Texas

Looking to Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit and faithful in discipleship, may Grand Avenue be blessed in 2010 as a vital congregation in Christ's Church!

- George E. Rook

## PRAYER LIST

John Jackson; Norma Mattison; Jessie Cheek; Ruby Self; Billy Self; Clarence South; Louie McKissack; Vivian Howie; Hazel Riley; Ray Holsted; Harriet Boyd; Janita Hoskyn; Melvin Tipton; Michael Acklin; Cletus Carlock; Floyd Brothers; Lauren Lisko; The family of Emily Shirkey (especially for Wayne); All our sick and shut-in; President Barack Obama; Congress and our Leaders; The Leaders of our Allies; Members of the US, UK and Coalition Armed Forces and their Families; The families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Grand Avenue United Methodist Church  
803 S. Grand Ave.  
Stuttgart, AR 72160

Non-Profit Org.  
Standard Rate Paid  
Stuttgart, AR 72160  
Address Service  
requested  
Permit No. 42

### GROUPS & GATHERINGS

- YOUTH:** The United Methodist Junior High Youth (grades 7-8) meets each Sunday at 6pm to 7:30pm in the second floor Youth Wing, the Senior High Youth (grades 9-12) meets each Sunday at 6:45pm to 8:15pm. (contact Austin Hayes 673-6317).
- TWEENS:** The "Tweens" group (grades 5-6) meets in the Fellowship Hall, every Wednesday at 6pm. (contact Lainie Hoskyn at 659-0089).
- CHILDREN'S HANDBELLS:** Grades 5-7 meet in the choir room every Sunday at 5pm. (Chuck Law 673-6317)
- HANDS FOR HIM:** Wednesday Music Program for Children: Grades PreK-5 meet at 3:30pm. Contact Chuck Law (673-6317) or Elizabeth Hoskyn (673-0079).
- THE 3rd WEDNESDAY:** Adults \$3 - Children \$2 - Seniors \$2 - Fun, food & fellowship every third *Seasonal Meeting Times* Wednesday. Program starts at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. RSVP - 673-6317
- HANDBELL CHOIR:** Meets every Wednesday at 6pm. (Chuck Law 673-6317).
- ADULT CHOIR:** Meets every Wednesday at 7pm. (Chuck Law 673-6317).
- EXERSICE:** Meets every Tuesday at 10am in the FH; and every Thursday at 10am in the FH.

**Other groups meet weekly and/or monthly. Please check the calendar for meeting times and dates.**