

October 11, 2007

GRAND AVENEWS

Staff

George E. Rook
Pastor

Chuck Law
Director of
Music Ministries

Wanda Mayfield
Organist

Heather Sanders
Secretary

Sunday Schedule

9:00am
Sunday School*

9:45am
Fellowship

10:00am
Worship

*Child Care Provided

Contact Us

Phone Number
870-673-6317

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870-673-3697

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HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATED OCTOBER 7

The historical marker given by Brad and LeeAndra Smith was dedicated during Morning Worship on Sunday, October 7. The marker installed on the front lawn is "Donated with love and appreciation by Brad and LeeAndra Smith in honor of Nelson and Kay White and their family."

Brad and LeeAndra now live in Marietta, Ohio where Brad works in management with the Sewah Studios, Inc. that produced the marker and which has been featured on the Travel Channel.

The text of the marker is based on histories about the Grand Avenue Church written by the late Bennie Frownfelter Burkett, former Grand Avenue Archivist and noted local historian.

We are truly grateful to Brad and LeeAndra for this beautiful gift celebrating the rich history of our congregation. We are also grateful to Jim and Peggy Gingerich, current Grand Avenue Archivists, and to Mauzel Beal, Arkansas United Methodist Archivist at Hendrix College, for valuable assistance in preparing the marker's text.

TEXT ON THE MARKER

The Grand Avenue United Methodist Church was organized in 1887 with seventy-four members as a congregation of the Methodist Episcopal Church and became the first Methodist congregation organized in Stuttgart. This new congregation worshiped in a store building located at 526 South Main Street. The Rev. George Noble was the congregation's first pastor. A small frame church was constructed in 1889 at the present location and hosted the Arkansas Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1905 with Bishop William Fraser McDowell presiding and again in 1915 with Bishop Frank Milton Bristol presiding. The original frame building was replaced in 1941 by the present church, which was designed by the church's pastor, Roland E. Darrow, and was constructed by the men of the church, along with help from community friends, while the women of the church prepared their meals. The sanctuary and educational unit were debt free and dedicated by the Rev. Neil Hart, District Superintendent, on September 14, 1941. Building materials, some of the furnishings and the bell of the original church are included in the present building. The sanctuary light fixtures are from the First State Bank building once located at Third and Main in Stuttgart. A larger Fellowship Hall was added in 1958. The Grand Avenue Church has a rich history of worship, Christian education and programs for all groups, and for addressing human need both locally and internationally. It has been the church for various city mayors, school superintendents and community leaders, as well as for many ordinary Christians who have made extraordinary contributions for the Kingdom of God.

Donated with love and appreciation by Brad and LeeAndra Smith in honor of Nelson and Kay White and their family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A DEDICATORY STATEMENT FOR THE HISTORICAL MARKER

~PASTOR GEORGE E. ROOK~

On behalf of our congregation, let me take a moment to thank Brad and LeeAndra Smith for this beautiful and generous gift celebrating the life of Grand Avenue.

The dedication of this historical marker reminds us of those faithful ones who established this congregation, along with those who served Christ through Grand Avenue in the years since its founding.

We are now part of that rich heritage in a continuing history of this church; therefore, "let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us" conscious of being surrounded by that "great cloud of witnesses," which includes past generations of Grand Avenue members.

MEETINGS THIS MONTH

SE District UMW Meeting in the Fellowship Hall on October 13. Registration begins at 9:00am and the opening program begins at 9:30am.

The Youth Council will meet after Morning Worship Sunday, Oct. 14 in the Fellowship Hall.

Trustees will meet Monday, Oct. 15 at 7:00pm in the Church Office; Finance Committee will meet Tuesday, Oct. 16 at 7:00pm in the Library; Administrative Council will meet Tuesday, Oct. 16 at 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.



Nelson White will be our speaker for the 10:00am Worship Service on Laity Sunday, October 21.

Laity Sunday

Various Grand Avenue members will assist with this service celebrating the ministry of all Christians — men and women, old and young, youth and children, single and married — as we live out our faith in daily life.



YOU ARE INVITED

to a bridal shower for Lauren Reynolds, bride of Brian Reynolds. The shower will be in the Fellowship Hall on October 21 from 1-2:30pm.

October 21st 2007 - 7:00PM

Grand Avenue Chancel Choir celebrates Charles Wesley

The combined choirs of First United Methodist and Grand Avenue will join with other choirs and full orchestra to present "Testament of Praise". This evening service starting at 7:00 will celebrate 300 years of Methodist tradition and music. Please mark your calendars to attend this special service.

SINGLES NEWS



Mrs. Clio Clary will celebrate her 103rd birthday on October 24. Cards may be mailed to her at the following address:

Pleasant Valley Living Center, Room 203
12111 Hinson Road
Little Rock, Arkansas 72212

Singles will take a trip to go on the fall color cruise on Saturday, October 27, on the Arkansas Queen. Cost is \$35.00 Lunch, live music and games! The bus will leave the parking lot at 8:00am.

Sunday, November 11 - Vienna Choir Boys at the Warfield Concert in Helena- 7:30pm. FREE! Bus leaves the parking lot at 5:15pm.



**Sunday
November 4**

*Remember to
set your clocks
back an hour
Saturday night.*



**Hamburger Supper
to benefit Scout Pack 84
Thursday, November 8
4:30pm to 7:00pm
GAUMC Fellowship Hall
Carry-out Only
Tickets \$6.00 each**

The Scouts wish to thank all who donated shoe boxes. Thanks to you, we have enough to complete our service project! Thank you!



Best wishes to Evan Jacobs, who serves as Youth Service Fund Co-Chair on the District Youth Council and was recognized in the youth report during the recent District Conference at First Church of Star City. Congratulations!



**A Thank You from Rev. Victor and Mary Green on the recent death of their daughter,
Kimberly Leigh McNabb:**

Dear George,

Our deepest gratitude to you and the church for praying so faithfully for Kim and for us. Because of the support she felt, she was able to express her faith to others on her blog. She had over 60,000 responses to her messages. Thanks for continuing to send the newsletter. It helps us to stay connected.

God Bless,
Victor and Mary



**FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
ARKANSAS COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE**

PINE BLUFF - HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

OCTOBER 22 & 23

**Wanted! Awesome Father and Parents - And you can help!
Announcing the Arkansas Fathers Count Project**

The University of Arkansas Coop Extension Services Marriage, Parenting and Family Life team has received a grant to provide fatherhood/parent education training to faith and community leaders statewide. A series of 2-day trainings will be held in Pine Bluff, October 22-23 and they are FREE OF CHARGE.

After attending the training, leaders will receive free parenting resources and have the opportunity to apply for one of twenty-five \$10,000 contracts to receive state funds to move your work forward.

An agenda of the training and more information on how to register is located at the Church Office or you may visit the Arkansas Extension Service website at www.arfamilies.org and click on the Arkansas Fathers Count Project link.

Donna Hoskyn, local County Extension Agent has personally attended this training and highly recommends the training and materials. The staff of the Arkansas County Extension office will be available to assist attendees with planning and implementing a local program.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Donna Hoskyn at 870-946-3231 or 673-2346.

In memory of Vernon R. Simpson

given by:

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Bardwell

Mr. & Mrs. Norris Ragan

In memory of Rollie Rich

given by:

Mr. & Mrs. Norris Ragan

In memory of Elmer Lewis Grant

given by:

Mr. & Mrs. Norris Ragan

In memory of Kimberly Leigh McNabb

given by:

Patricia Jane Ferguson

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Jacobs

Eunice Montgomery

Memorials as gifts to the Grand Avenue Music Ministry Fund

In memory of Elmer Lewis Grant

given by:

Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Krisell

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Coker

Mrs. Vernon Simpson

In memory of Rollie Rich

given by:

Mrs. Vernon Simpson

In memory of Jo Pinkley

given by:

Patricia Jane Ferguson

FROM THE PASTOR / PRAYER LIST

DEVOTIONAL FOR THE GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST MEN - AUGUST 2, 2007

The current issue of “The Upper Room” contains two July entries based on Jesus calling his disciples. The first one is from July 7 where the author tells about presenting a children’s sermon based on the theme of following Jesus. Jessie Schut of Alberta, Canada opted to have the disciples represented by members of the congregation. Unfortunately, when the disciples’ names were called to follow Jesus the actors showed more stage fright than enthusiasm until the person representing Peter enthusiastically “exploded from the pew, his face radiating joy and excitement. ‘Yes, yes!’ he shouted...I will! I will follow you.” This individual was a member of their church’s ministry to people with mental impairments, “but that day he became God’s messenger” showing “how to express the joy of following Christ.” The writer closed by asking, “Would you want to be a Christian if all believers were like you?”

Let me ask you a few questions for personal consideration: If all believers were just like you, what kind of approach would Grand Avenue take in sharing Christ with members of our community and in inviting people to membership at Grand Avenue?

If all believers were just like you, what kind of emphasis would be placed on the Grand Avenue Christian Education program as to its importance and its content for instructing believers in all that is associated with our faith?

If all believers were just like you, what kind of social ministry would we support following the desire of Jesus that we care about others both within and beyond our church, which includes supporting the ministry of our mission team?

If all believers were like you, what would our worship be like in reverence of God and in the mutual upbuilding of one another in our time together? Also, would our congregation be large or small, and would worship have a priority on our weekend calendars?

If all believers were just like you, what would our United Methodist Men program be like? Would it be enthusiastic and well attended, and would it also be a priority on our calendars?

A Lay Speaker (also the County Sheriff) at the United Methodist Church in Lewisville used to ask his listeners: “What kind of church would my church be if all the members were just like me?” Well, what kind of church would Grand Avenue be if all the members were just like you? Are you radiating joy and excitement? Are you saying, “Yes, Jesus, I will! I will follow you.”?

-Pastor George E. Rook

PRAYER LIST

John Jackson; Frances Earhart; Ann Dilday; Joyce Roth; Claudia Roebbek; Nomie Fraser; Roland Endres; Holdyn Hoskyn; Heather Ruff; Charlie Acklin; Sherry Tuminello; Susan Freeze; Phaedra Farar; Brayden Black; Tammy Wilson; Willa Lambert; Ray Holsted; Beth Ragan Adams; Clarence Thomason; Tim Walton; Fred McCuistion; Caroline Bull Galloway; Brenda Crum; Joni Thomas; Steve Tranna; Loma Essex; Kelly Williams; Karen Aureli; Regina Earlywine; Bailey Simpson; Bethany Jackson; Cathie Jones; Ellen Southall; Sylvia Mills; Clio Clary; All our sick and shut-in; President George Bush; 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 Youth (grades 7-12) meets each Sunday at 6pm to 7pm in the second floor Youth Wing.

TWEENS: The “Tweens” group (grades 5-6) meets in their room on the 3rd floor, every Sunday at 6pm .(contact Lainie Hoskyn at 659-0089).

WEDNESDAY CHILDREN’S MUSIC PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

3:20-3:45pm — Music K through 2nd Grade
3:45pm — Snacks and activities K through 2nd Grade
3:50-4:45pm — Music 3rd through 5th Grade