



November 18, 2009

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



Sympathy is extended to the family of Anna Dilday. Anna died Thursday, November 5.

Thank you to everyone who attended our 2009 Charge Conference or who helped in the process of preparing for Charge Conference!

UMW Bake Sale

Saturday, November 21, 2009

9am to 10:30am

Goods can be brought by the Fellowship Hall on Friday, November 20, from 4-6pm or at 8am on Saturday Morning. Please come and support Grand Avenue!

Copies of the 2010 Officer List is available from the literature rack at the side entrance of the Sanctuary.



The Annual Community Thanksgiving Service is at 6:00pm on Sunday, Nov. 22 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.



The Church Office will be closed November 26 and 27 (Thursday and Friday) in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

United Methodist Student Day

is November 29. A special offering will be received to help provide scholarships for United Methodist and other accredited colleges. Please designate the memo corner of your check "Student."



GAUMC YOUTH TURKEY FUNDRAISER

One of the many things Grand Avenue is known for is its amazing UMM Hamburger Supper and the UMW Bake Sales. The UMY would like to add their own fundraiser to this legacy by having our 1st Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Fry.

The Youth will sell turkeys for \$35.00. There will only be 150 turkeys sold this year so buy them early. After morning worship, the youth will be stationed outside the church taking orders for turkeys that will be fried on Wednesday November 25th. There will be a noon and a five o'clock pick up for the birds. We hope that everyone can enjoy one of these delicious turkeys for Thanksgiving dinner.

As with most fundraisers there are of course several expenses and needs that the youth could use help with. Donations toward turkeys, rice bran oil, foil, propane are appreciated and turkey fryers and volunteers are also needed that day. If anyone can help in any way please contact Austin at 870-672-3119 or through the church office.

Thank you Grand Avenue for all of the support we receive throughout the year!!!



LOYALTY SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 22

God has richly blessed Grand Avenue and our church family. How delighted we are to have so many new members in 2009! Families continue to visit Grand Avenue and people continue to join. Grand Avenue is living and growing into new and greater possibilities.

Faithful stewardship begins when you recognize all that you are and all that you have are gifts from God. The way you live and the way you manage these gifts are your stewardship - your way of saying thanks to God. PROPORTIONAL GIVING is giving back a large enough percentage of your income to remind you of the gratefulness you feel for the gifts God has given you. The biblical practice is the tithe - ten percent minimum. Your "thank offering to God" also reflects joy and gratitude for Grand Avenue as it pays for our common life together in worship and ministry.

While some of our families are unable to give as much as they would like, prayerfully consider increasing your giving estimate to Grand Avenue by at least 1% of your household income. Then complete your estimate of giving card and return it to Grand Avenue on or before November 22, which is Loyalty Sunday. Cards returned on Loyalty Sunday may be placed in the collection plates. Thank you for your generosity!

Avg. Household	1%	3%	5%	7%	10%
\$20,000	\$200	\$600	\$1,000	\$1,400	\$2,000
\$40,000	\$400	\$1,200	\$2,000	\$2,800	\$4,000
\$80,000	\$800	\$2,400	\$4,000	\$5,600	\$8,000
\$120,000	\$1,200	\$3,600	\$6,000	\$8,400	\$12,000
\$160,000	\$1,600	\$4,800	\$8,000	\$11,200	\$16,000

EXAMPLE - Your household income is \$80,000 and your current gift to GAUMC is \$800 (or 1%). To increase your giving in 1% increments:

2% - \$1,600 3% - \$2,400
4% - \$3,200 5% - \$4,000



Care Packages for College Students: Non-perishable items such as cookies, fudge, candy, crackers, popcorn balls, etc. are fine and may be left at the Church Office or on the top level of the kitchen island. All items must be received no later than November 30. Please mark your packages "College Students." If you would like to give a cash contribution, please mark the

memo corner of your check "Care Packages" and then place your gift in the offering plate. Thank you!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Second Sunday of Advent, Dec 6, 2009
- Third Sunday of Advent, Dec 13, 2009
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec 20, 2009
- First day of winter, Dec 21, 2009
- Christmas Eve, Dec 24, 2009
- Christmas Day, Dec 25, 2009
- New Year's Eve/Watch Night, Dec 31, 2009

Advent Devotional Booklet

"Advent: A Calendar of Devotions 2009" in both regular and large print size will be available from the narthex and the literature rack at the side entrance of the sanctuary.

Advent Calendars and Christmas Books

will be distributed to the children after the Children's Sermon on Sunday, November 29, which is the First Sunday of Advent. December 1 marks the first day to begin opening the doors of the calendars.

The November-December Issue of "The Upper Room" is available from the narthex and the literature racks at the back of the sanctuary and the side entrance to the sanctuary. This issue includes a home Advent Wreath Service on pages 40-42. The First Sunday of Advent is November 29.

AFRICAN TEAM MINISTRIES - DECEMBER 6 & 13

The African Team Ministries exhibit will be in The Grand Avenue Fellowship Hall on December 6 through 13. This year's exhibit supporting Methodist programs in East Africa is something of "an apology exhibit" because of the lack of quality in last year's exhibit. The organizers, in setting the date for this year's exhibit, said this up front and also said this year's exhibit will be filled with surprises to make up for last year's offerings. There should even be lapis and sterling jewelry. Sounds interesting!

You will once again be on the honor system. Please make your check to "African Team Ministries" (no tax) and place the check or cash in the receiving envelope found on the table.

Bishop Wilke introduced African Team Ministries to Arkansas during his tenure as our Bishop all because of his friendship with the Bishop of Kenya and his recognition of the tremendous financial needs of our Methodist programs in East Africa. A special emphasis this year will be given to better address the needs of orphans because of the high death rate among the orphans during the past year.

Thank you for your support!



A big thank you to all the children that participate in our Hands for Him and Sunday music programs. Thank you for your service to your church. Our programs are growing and are vital parts of our worship services. Our children are getting a solid Christian education.

Please encourage your child to participate if they are not already. Please contact Mr. Chuck and or Mrs. Elizabeth for details.

Christmas Christmas Christmas

Grand Avenue will be presenting the children's Christmas program Sunday December 20th. Everyone is invited to participate and their will be dates announced very soon concerning rehearsals outside the normal music schedule for youth.

Volunteers are needed for costumes and to help with the children. Please contact Mr. Chuck if you can participate.

Adult Handbells and Choir...

It is never to late to join the Chancel Handbells and or Choir. We meet on Wednesdays starting at 6:00 with bells and 7:00 with Chancel Choir. We have started to work on the Adult Cantata and if your interested in participating in that please contact the church office and let us know.

2009 HENDRIX COLLEGE CHOIR

Green Chapel, Hendrix College
December 3, 4 and 5 at 7:30pm
December 6 at 4pm

For reservations call 501-450-1495 beginning on November 23 from 10am to 3pm and November 30 through December 4 from 12pm to 2pm.

Touring to

St. Andrew's UMC, Plano TX,
12/17/09 - 7:30pm
Pulaski Heights UMC, Little Rock,
12/18/09 - 6pm

No reservations needed for tour performances.

The 53rd Annual Stuttgart Christmas Parade sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce is Monday, December 7 at 7pm. The 2009 theme is "Christmas at the Movies" with the entry deadline being Tuesday, December 1. Entry forms are available from the Church Office.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

ADULT CLASSES

Young Adults	“Genesis”
Challengers Class	“Faith Is The Answer, But What Are the Questions”
Pathfinders Class	“When You’re A Christian The Whole World Is From Missouri”
Crusaders Class	“Irresistible Invitation”

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

CHILDREN’S CLASSES

PreK3- 4 th Grade	20	Jacob Persons
November 22 Joshua at Jericho	21	Will Garrison
November 29 Isaiah’s Prophecy	26	Scout Griffin
	29	Molly Bohanan

If you would like to add a birthday, please contact Shelley Bardwell or the Church Office.

PRAYER PARTNERS

Adult and Children Sunday School classes have been paired up as Prayer Partners to pray for each other throughout the week. They have been assigned as follows:

Prek 3 – K & Jr. High	Crusaders
1 st – 2 nd Grade & Sr. High	Pathfinders
3 rd – 4 th Grade	Challengers
5 th – 6 th Grade	Young Adults



Hanging of The Greens “The Twelve Days of Christmas”

Sunday, November 29, 2009

- 4:30 – Decorate
- 5:30 – Tour the classrooms
- 5:45 – Supper
- 6:15 – Program in Sanctuary



Children will decorate their classrooms at 4:30pm while the Adult classes will each decorate three tables in the Fellowship Hall. A tour of the classrooms will begin at 5:30pm with a Chili Supper being furnished in the Fellowship Hall at 5:45pm followed by the program at 6:15pm in the Sanctuary. Everyone is invited to attend any or all of the evening's activities!

Grand Avenue is hosting a Wedding Shower honoring Bethany Jackson, Sunday, December 13. If you would like to be a hostesses please contact Rita Cress 673-4038 or Kandy Gray 674-7201. More information will follow.



2009

December Ushers:
 Jerry Burkett - Cpt.
 Clark Roth
 Dale Tull
 Bob Crum

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 Exercise 10am	2 Handbells & Choir 6 / 7pm	3 Exercise 10am UMM 7pm FH	4	5 Breakfast With Santa FH
6 African Team Ministries Showcase FH Singles- Bus Reserved	7 UMW Sack Luncheon 11:30 FH Christmas Parade 7pm newsletter deadline	8 Exercise 10am	9 Handbells & Choir 6 / 7pm Circle 1—5:30p FH	10 Exercise 10am	11	12
13 African Team Ministries Showcase FH Jackson Shower FH 1-2:30pm	14 Circle 2 10:30am FH Circle 3 7:30pm	15 Exercise 10am	16 Handbells & Choir 6 / 7pm	17 Exercise 10am	18 Youth shopping trip in Little Rock Bus Reserved	19 Singles Christmas Party 6-10pm FH
20 Christmas Cantata Singles Luncheon Youth Cantata 6pm Youth Christmas Party	21	22 Exercise 10am	23 Handbells & Choir 6 / 7pm	24 OFFICE CLOSED Candlelight Communion 6:30pm Sanctuary	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26
27 ICCM	28 newsletter deadline	29 Exercise 10am	30 Handbells & Choir 6 / 7pm	31 OFFICE CLOSED		

FROM THE PASTOR

“CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN”

Grand Avenue was filled with children this past Sunday! On this glorious autumn morning with the splendor of autumn colors radiating everywhere, the sound of music was offered in divine worship by our children. How beautiful! And how blessed we are at Grand Avenue to have these children! Also, how blessed we are to have their committed Christian families wanting their children to know and love the Lord! I left worship with joy in my heart over what we had just experienced as a church family.

You do realize these children look up to us as adults. I am grateful that we have many dedicated Christians in our congregation who model the Christian life very well. In other words, you are a visual aid for these children! They see in you what a Christian character looks like - what it means to be a person of faith and a disciple of Christ. Your speech and your actions speak very loudly to them!

Grand Avenue is blessed to have these children. It is up to us as a church family to give them the best start we can possibly provide in nurturing a strong Christian faith and character in their lives. May we be a blessing to them just as they are a blessing to us!

- George E. Rook

A PROTESTANT ANGELUS

Roman Catholic devotional life incorporates the Angelus, which is a devotion in honor of the Incarnation observed three times each day (early morning, noon and evening). “The Christian doctrine of the Incarnation affirms that the eternal Son of God took human flesh from his human mother and that the historical Christ is at once fully God and fully man” (The Oxford Dictionary Of The Christian Church). Perhaps you would like to observe a Protestant version each day at noon during the season of Advent, which begins Sunday, November 30. You may do so by praying with heart and soul the following prayer: “Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.” (The Book of Common Prayer, 1971, page 240).



A Stewardship Prayer

O God, our bountiful creator,
all of who we are,
and all of what we have,
come from You.
Inspire our hearts with love for You and
one another,
that we may give abundantly,
not out of a sense of burden,
but in joyful gratitude for the grace You
give in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

-The Episcopal Cathedral of St. Andrew
Honolulu, Hawaii

PRAYER LIST

Paul Blackwell; Ruby Self; Clarence South; Dot Renner; Louie McKissack; Vivian Howie; Hazel Riley; John Jackson; Ray Holsted; Harriet Boyd; Janita Hoskyn; Ralph Ligon; Terry Newton; Carolyn Larkin; Charles King; Jim Kyne; Suzanne Stroh; Melvin Tipton; Brenda Shaw; Michael Acklin; Cletus Carlock; Megan Mannis; Floyd Brothers; Juanita Pierce; Maurine Smith; Jay Bagwell; The family of Ann Dilday especially Bob; The family of Joe Taylor; For the injured and the families of the deceased at Fort Hood; 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.



Advent I - November 29

- Morning Worship 10am
- Children receive Advent Calendars & Christmas Books
- Hanging of the Greens Program "The 12 Days of Christmas"

4:30pm - Children decorate classrooms
 4:30pm - Adult classes decorate 3 tables each in FH
 5:30pm - Tour of Classrooms
 5:45pm - Chili Supper in FH (Chili will be furnished)
 6:15pm - Program in the Sanctuary



Advent IV - December 20

- Morning Worship 10am
- Christmas Cantata
- Children's Christmas Cantata 6pm in the Sanctuary with a reception following in the FH.



Christmas Eve - December 24

- Candlelight Communion 6:30pm



Advent II - December 6

- Morning Worship 10am
- Holy Communion



Advent III - December 13

- Morning Worship 10am
- Grand Prairie Christmas Candle-light Musicale
3pm - First Baptist Church

The Stuttgart Christmas Parade will be Monday, December 7 at 7pm.

The Church Office will be closed December 23-25, 31 and January 1.

IT'S POINSETTIA TIME AGAIN!

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the Sanctuary in memory or in honor of someone, please complete the following form and return it to:



Church Office
 803 S. Grand Ave.
 Stuttgart, AR 72160



or place the form in the collection plate on Sunday.

MAKE YOUR CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18.00 PER POINSETTIA PAYABLE TO -
GRAND AVENUE UMC. THE DEADLINE IS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30.
 Poinsettias may be taken home after Morning Worship on December 27.

I WOULD LIKE _____ POINSETTIA(S).

IN MEMORY OF _____ - IN HONOR OF (circle one or indicate multiples on lines below)

GIVEN BY: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

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 K-5 meet at 3:30pm and Pre-K will meet at 5pm. Contact Chuck Law (673-6317) or Lainie Hoskyn (659-0089).
- 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.