

November 7, 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

Fax Number
870-673-3697

Email
gaumc@centurytel.net

Website
www.gaumc.com



WELCOME!

It is a pleasure to welcome Raeann Refeld as our newest member. Raeann was received into membership on Sunday, November 4, by transfer from another denomination.

THANKS!

A big thank you to everyone who helped with the Fall Carnival, it was a tremendous success!

A An autumn exhibit from African Team Ministry supporting Methodist programs in east Africa is in the Fellowship Hall through November 11. You are once again 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.

T

M Thank you!

CHILDREN'S COUNCIL TO BE ORGANIZED - The first meeting of the Grand Avenue Children's Council, which was approved by the Administrative Council during their September and October meetings, will gather in the Chapel after Morning Worship on Sunday, November 11. The Church nursery will remain open during the session so participants may attend. The purpose of the Children's Council will be to coordinate existing programs and develop new ones. Areas to be represented include: Christian Education (Rotation Sunday School), the Tweens, Vacation Church School, the Christmas Pageant, the Easter Egg Hunt, the music program from kindergarten through upper elementary, worship bags, children's sermons, scouts and programs of the Children's Age Level Coordinator (field trips and special activities). The \$1,000 budget of the United Methodist Kids will be reviewed. **MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN** to parents, Christian education teachers and others interested in the children's program. Membership is by interest and not by election (other than specific area representatives mentioned). **SEE YOU ON NOVEMBER 11!**

SINGLES

Sunday, November 11 - Vienna Choir Boys at the Warfield Concert in Helena-7:30pm. **FREE!** Bus leaves the parking lot at 5:15pm. Lunch after worship on Nov. 18.

BRIDAL SHOWER - You are invited to a bridal shower honoring Raeann Refeld, bride-elect of Paul Braithwaite on Sunday, November 11, 2007 from 1:00pm to 2:30pm at the Grand Avenue Fellowship Hall.

FINAL CALL - If you wish to make a report from your work area to Charge Conference, please submit your report to the Church Office by Thursday, Nov. 13.

United Methodist Women

The Executive Meeting will be held Nov. 13 at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. All officers are encouraged to attend, this includes circle chairman.

The next general meeting is Monday, Dec. 3 at 11:30am in the fellowship hall.

The UMW Annual Conference Meeting is in Jacksonville on Nov. 10.

UMW FALL BAKE SALE

The fall bake sale sponsored by the Grand Avenue UMW will be held Saturday, November 17 from 9am until 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

All church members are invited to bake your best cookies, pies, cakes, rolls, candy, casseroles, jellies, jams, etc. You may bring your goodies between 4pm and 6pm on Friday, November 16 for pricing or 8am Saturday morning.

Stock up for the holidays on cakes, pies, rolls & casseroles!

The remaining items will be available the morning of Sunday, Nov. 18.



LOYALTY SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 18

God has richly blessed Grand Avenue and our church family. How delighted we are there has been one profession of faith in 2007! 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.

Special stewardship packets, which you are encouraged to carefully examine, will be distributed on the Church lawn after worship on November 11. 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 18, which is Loyalty Sunday. Cards returned on Loyalty Sunday may be placed in the collection plates.

Thank you for your generosity!

Avg. Household Income	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

SANCTUARY REMODELING PROJECT

The called Charge Conference that met after worship on November 4 unanimously approved the \$120,000 Sanctuary Remodeling Project. This project will replace the sanctuary ceiling and wiring. It will also address lighting concerns, which includes refurbishing the existing light fixtures and adding additional light. The sanctuary will be closed for approximately eight weeks when the project begins around the second week of January. This time frame will allow our congregation to return to the sanctuary in time for Palm Sunday, which is March 16. During the renovations, worship will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

WILL YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE SANCTUARY REMODELING PROJECT?

Contributions are now being encouraged and received for the Sanctuary Remodeling Project. The more funds we have up front will lessen the amount of money we will need to borrow. Please make your check out to Grand Avenue UMC and designate the memo corner "Sanctuary Project." Your generosity is truly appreciated!



"Touch of an Angel" will be this year's Christmas program, and will be presented Sunday, December 16th. Separate rehearsals will be held in order to involve children of Grand Avenue that can not attend our Wednesday Music Program. Please call Mr. Chuck if you have any questions. Children currently in Pre-K through 5th Grade are encouraged to participate. Music and recording are now available and can be picked up at the Church Office.

The rehearsal schedule will be as follows:
November 18th (after lunch)
November 25th
December 2nd
December 9th

All rehearsals will be from 4:00pm to 5:00pm in the Music Room. The Dress rehearsal will be December 15th at 10:00am with the performance Sunday, December 16th.

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND NOVEMBER 18th.
We will be making part assignments and working on plans for the service.



Reminder - The K - 2nd graders Wednesday program is from 3:20-4:15pm and includes snack time and a small craft/story time. Children need to be picked up by 4:15pm that participate in this age group. The older group consisting of grades 3 - 5 meet from 3:45-5pm following the younger class. Volunteers are needed for both groups and individuals that would like to provide snacks are also needed. Please refrain from soda products at snack time. If you can help out, please contact Mr. Chuck at the church office (673-6317) or by cell phone at 672-2019. Thanks!

Don't miss the K thru 5th graders sing during worship Sunday, Oct. 28!

YOUTH NEWS -

The youth will continue to meet on Sunday nights at 6:00. Parents of the youth will rotate teaching until a youth director is hired.

The youth will not meet on Sunday, Nov. 25.

A Progressive Dinner/Christmas Party is planned for the youth on Sunday, Dec. 9. If you would like to host a "course" at your home, please contact Shelley at 673-4567 or 673-4184.



POTATO BAR LUNCHEON
NOVEMBER 18

THE YOUTH WILL HOST A POTATO BAR LUNCH AFTER MORNING WORSHIP. A LOVE OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED FOR THE LUNCH TO SUPPORT THE YOUTH GROUP AND THEIR PROGRAMS.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18



Malaria — What a Buzzkill!

Nothing But Nets is a global grassroots campaign to save lives by preventing malaria, a leading killer of children in Africa. Malaria claims more than a million lives every year, mostly children. The good news is that malaria can be prevented by sleeping under an insecticide-treated bed net. Bed nets are an important tool in fighting malaria because they create a barrier against mosquitoes at night, when most transmission occurs. Just one bed net can keep an entire family safe from malaria transmission for up to four years!

Did you know...

- Every 30 seconds, a child dies in sub-Saharan Africa because of malaria.
- 9 out of 10 deaths caused by malaria occur in Africa.
- You can do something about it!

A \$10 donation goes directly toward the purchase, distribution, and education about the proper use of an insecticide-treated bed net. That doesn't sound like much, right? And what's more, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will match each donation, net for net. Most people in sub-Saharan Africa live on less than \$1 a day and cannot afford a life-saving bed net. The next time you have \$10 in your pocket, how will you use it?

By answering Jesus' call to "minister to the least of these who are members of our family," you can be a part of the solution to beat this awful disease and save future generations.

For more information visit this site: www.NothingButNets.net or www.umc.org

Please make your check out to GAUMC and mark the memo corner "nets".



CARE PACKAGES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Non-perishable items such as cookies, fudge, candy, crackers, etc. are fine and may be left at the Church Office. 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 place your gift in the offering plate. Thank you!

HOME ADVENT WREATH SERVICE

The Nov/Dec issue of "The Upper Room" contains an order of worship for home advent wreaths. The service is printed on pages 40-42. Copies of this publication are free of charge and are currently available in the sanctuary narthex, in "The Upper Room" rack on the back wall of the sanctuary and in the publication rack across from the old office at the side entrance of the sanctuary.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

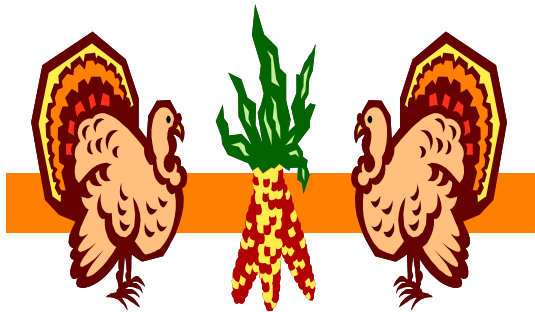
will be at 6pm on Sunday, Nov. 18 at The First United Methodist Church.
The community choir will be performing.



United Methodist Student Day is November 25. 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."

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON THURSDAY 11/22 AND FRIDAY 11/23 FOR THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!



November Meetings: Trustees (Monday, Nov. 19 at 7pm in the Office); Finance (Tuesday, Nov. 20 at 7pm in the Library); Administrative Council (Tuesday, Nov. 20 at 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall). These are the last regularly scheduled meetings of the year. Please bring year end business with you.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Are you searching for something beautiful, unique and Christian? Check out www.shop.cathedral.org for a large assortment of Christian based gifts. This is the Museum Store of Washington National Cathedral.

PRINCIPLES OF STEWARDSHIP

Everything we have is a gift. Our life, our talents and abilities, the opportunities we've received, and the material comforts of living in the world's most prosperous nation.

We are stewards; we do not own anything. Everything we have is on loan to us, entrusted by God.

Money is a major factor in the quality of our lives. Money can get in the way of our becoming peaceful and joyful human beings by cutting us off from others and from God.

We live in a consumerist society. We need help to be generous. We are held hostage by our fears and anxieties and must help one another to trust in God and recognize the abundance in our lives.

People will give when they believe there is a great mission. They will gladly give their time, talent, and treasure to missions that are making a difference in the world around them and spreading the reality of God's love.

The traditional Christian response to God's abundance is the 10% tithe. This calls for us to give proportionally from our gross income in gratitude for our lives.

Let us go forth as glad-hearted stewards of God's many gifts!

Dean Samuel T. Lloyd, III
Washington National Cathedral
Washington, D.C.

FROM THE PASTOR

All Saints Sunday was celebrated on November 4 with a lovely service of remembrance and thanksgiving. At several points during the service we remembered our six members who died during the past year: Frances McCauley, Jim Rogers, Essie Thompson, Vernon Simpson, Elmer Grant and Rollie Rich. There was also a moment during The Great Thanksgiving when worshipers could silently lift up the names of those they wished to include in the service.

Many people have enriched my life and have shaped me into the person I have become. I hope I am a positive influence on the lives of others like these individuals have been on me! We affect others for better or for worse by our actions and speech. On All Saints Sunday we remember the names of those we cherish and are grateful for the way their lives have shaped us into who we are as people of integrity and good conscience. The question then becomes whether we are exercising a positive or negative influence on the lives of others. Will others find us to be a blessing or a curse?

I am hopeful we will remember who we are as Christians so others can see Christ in us and be blessed by the time we spend together on our earthly pilgrimage; therefore, be good Christian parents, children, grandchildren, friends, co-workers, students, etc. One day our names will be read aloud on All Saints Sunday. May good memories come to mind as our names are prayerfully remembered!

-George E. Rook



PRAYER LIST

John Jackson; Nomie Fraser; Rita Cress; Joyce Roth; Claudia Roebbeke; Roland Endres; Holdyn Hoskyn; Heather Ruff; Gertie Sanders; Charlie Acklin; Sherry Tuminello; Susan Freeze; Phaedra Farar; Brayden Black; Tammy Wilson; 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; Rick Bednar; Bailey Simpson; 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.



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 \$11.00 PER POINSETTIA PAYABLE TO - GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. THE DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25.

Poinsettias may be taken home after Morning Worship on December 30.

I WOULD LIKE _____ POINSETTIA(S).

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

GIVEN BY: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____



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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 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:

3:20-4:15pm — Music K through 2nd Grade

3:45pm — Snacks and Activities K through 2nd Grade

3:50-5:00pm — Music 3rd through 5th Grade

4:45 — Snacks and Activities 3rd through 5th Grade