

July 1, 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



The Office will be closed this Friday, July 3 in observance of the Fourth of July holiday.

**We're Having a
Hamburger Supper!**



The UMM Hamburger Supper is Thursday July 9, from 5 to 7pm. Tickets are only \$8.00 each. Proceeds go to fund Tanako Camp Scholarships, The Valentine Banquet, The Mothers Day Breakfast and other projects with special emphasis on the Youth. Keep selling those tickets! With your help, we will have a successful Supper. Thank you.



Are you interested in playing on the Grand Avenue Softball Team in the Church League? Please contact David Jacobs at 673-2555. The team will be coed, which means everyone is invited to participate. The schedule will be posted 7/8/09 and games are scheduled to begin on 7/13/09. We need participants in order to play!



CLARA DOBSON AND STEPHEN HOSKYN TO PREACH AT GRAND AVENUE

Clara Dobson will be our guest preacher and worship leader on Sunday, July 19 while Stephen Hoskyn will be our guest preacher on Sunday, July 26 with Derek Bohanan serving as worship leader. All three of these individuals are faithful members of Grand Avenue and have agreed to serve in these capacities while our Pastor is on vacation. Welcome!



PHONE SYSTEM REPAIRED AFTER LIGHTNING STRIKE

An electrical storm on Sunday, June 14 damaged the church phone system. Repairs were not complete until Wednesday, June 17.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

FRIDAY, JULY 31 ~ 5:30 to 8:00PM and SATURDAY, AUGUST 1 ~ 9:00am-3:00pm

Grand Avenue United Methodist Youth Flamingo Migration 2009

This is a fundraiser for the youth of Grand Avenue to generate funds for their 2009 Buffalo River Float Trip and for a fund to go toward improvements to the Youth room.

Attention Grand Avenue UMC members:

There has been a Flamingo migration to Stuttgart this year and it seems that the flock has targeted homes and businesses of those associated with the Grand Avenue United Methodist Church. There are two types of flamingos in the flock and they tend to go in groups of three's.

The first is a pink variety and seems to be composed of females. The second is an unusual blue and is all males. Both of these groups can easily be removed by calling 870-672-3119. There is a removal fee of \$10.00 per bird. After removal suggestions may be given as to where the birds might end up next.

Insurance is available to make certain that the birds do not show up in yards where they are not wanted. Insurance is \$20.00 per yard and the Grand Avenue youth will personally guard your yard from the Flamingos. Insurance may be purchased at the church office or by calling Austin Hayes at 870-672-3119.

Reports suggest that the migration has begun and will stay in Stuttgart until July the 10th.

This has been a public service message from the Grand Avenue United Methodist Youth.

Grand Avenue Youth -- Buffalo River Float Trip 09 July 17th-19th

Theme: Relationships, with God, with Peers, with Family

Schedule:

Friday

9:00: Meet at Chapel for devotional and prayer
9:30: Load bus and other vehicles and leave
3:00: Arrive at River, unpack
4:00-6:00: Free Time
7:00: Supper
8:30: Evening Devotional

Saturday

8:00: Breakfast
8:45: Morning Devotional
9:00-12:00: Free Time
12:00: Lunch
1:00-6:00: Free Time
7:00: Supper
8:30: Evening Devotional
11:30 Miracle at Midnight
(weather permitting)

Sunday

8:00: Breakfast
8:45: Morning Devotional
9:00-12:00: Church
12:00: Lunch
1:00: Departing Devotional
2:00: Leave Buffalo River
7:00: Get back to GAUMC

Over the weekend there will be opportunities for hikes, shopping, and other activities as they become available. Please bring your Bible, plenty of clean clothes, and a good attitude.

Dress code will follow Camp Tanako. There will be NO boys in the girl's quarters or visa versa.
Anyone caught breaking this rule will be sent home immediately!



“The Burning Bush and other Images of God” will be the subject for Pre-K through 4th grade Sunday School program in July. Who is God and what is God like? Children will explore some of the many images of God in the Bible and discover how those images can help us know God.

God created humankind in his image...God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. (Genesis 1:27, 31a)

Don't forget about the GAUMC Summer Reading Program. Books may be checked out during Sunday morning or anytime the church is open. For more information check the bulletin boards in the fellowship hall and 2nd floor or the Children's Library.

Notes from the Music Department

Grand Avenue
United Methodist



Summer is here! It has been a wonderful spring with church services and programs. Getting to work with everyone in the music ministry is a joy to me personally and very rewarding in many ways. The Chancel Choir will be taking a break during the month of July, and will resume back with rehearsals starting at 7:00 August 19th. The next few weeks will feature soloists and youth from our own church as well as guests.

Please make plans this year to come and sing in the choir. You do not need to read music perfectly to participate. Your willingness and participation is all that is called on and the ability to trust Jesus to do the rest. The choir is a diverse mix of voices that come together to worship and praise Jesus Christ. The choir meets every Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:30 and rehearses in the sanctuary.

Up-Coming Dates to Put on your Schedule...

Vacation Bible School July 31st / August 1st
Adult Bells – rehearsals August 26th 6:00
Youth Bells – **August 23rd** 4:00 Music Room
Hands for Him – **September 9th** Meets every Wednesday 4:30

Other Important Dates to Mark Your Calendar

Adult Christmas Cantata – December 20th
Children's Christmas Concert – December 20th

Mr. Chuck

MEMORIALS

In memory of Donna Cress

given by

Mr. & Mrs. William Erstine

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Patterson

Richard & Marilyn Roth

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Currie

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Gray

Mrs. Fredda Voumard

Mr. & Mrs. John Jackson

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Painter

Mr. & Mrs. Pat Mayfield

Mr. & Mrs. Donald McCauley

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Roth

Mary Helen Black

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Holsted

Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Krisell

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Clark Roth

In memory of Mildred Steed

given by

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Roth

In memory of Stan Wilson

given by

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Roth

In memory of Donald Beverly

given by

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Beck Jr.

In memory of Betty Oliphant

given by

Mr. & Mrs. James Bethea

Onita B. Kimes

Mr. & Mrs. Joey Hopson

Barbara Layher

Dot Renner

Dr. & Mrs. Jerry Sparrow

Patricia Davis

C. Hope Hartz

Mr. & Mrs. Dale Tull

Debbie Newkirk & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Billy Self

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ashcraft

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Wood

The Farmers & Merchants Bank

Mr. & Mrs. Carl Raabe

Mr. & Mrs. Ricky Barron

Mr. & Mrs. Gale Brewer

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lucke

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Carnahan

Mildred Beverly

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Beck Jr.

In honor of Harry Beck Jr.

given by

His family

In honor of Linda Sampson

given by

Mr. & Mrs. Marion Hartz

Thank You Notes

Thank you for the Bible and the Senior Recognition lunch. I've really enjoyed attending GAUMC and having a wonderful Church Family.

Sincerely,
Whitney Melson

Dear Members of Grand Avenue,
Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to attend Girls State. Your sponsorship meant a lot to me. The week was very educational and enjoyable. I made many new friends who I will continue to keep in touch with. It was an experience I will never forget. Thank you for making it possible. With love,
Laura Burkett

THANK YOU!

Thank you for making your financial contributions to Grand Avenue throughout these summer months! Hiring a lawn service to maintain our grounds, creating a new staff position and paying several deductibles on insurance claims have added to our financial disbursements over this time last year. As of May 31, contributions through Envelopes and Pledges/Loose Offerings/Church School are \$5,439.91 less than last year. Your loyal support of our church budget is genuinely appreciated!

FROM THE PASTOR

“...we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work.”
I Thessalonians 5:12, 13a

The Apostle Paul would be so pleased with Grand Avenue because you have treated your Pastor with respect and esteem! You have fulfilled Paul's expectations! Personally, I held Grand Avenue in high esteem long before I became your Pastor and, now that I have been your Pastor for fifteen years, I cannot say enough good things about you! Yes, Bishop Crutchfield recently reappointed me to Grand Avenue so that we are now beginning our sixteenth year together - sixteen years! This is remarkable for a United Methodist congregation outside a metropolitan area.

Let me share with you some statistical information of these fifteen years. During these fifteen years, your Pastor has officiated at thirty-one weddings, fifty-nine baptisms and one-hundred and twenty-two funerals (most of these funerals were of Grand Avenue members). In this same period of time, one-hundred and eighty-eight people were added to our Professing Membership Roll in one way or another, including those who were restored to membership and then transferred to another congregation. Your Pastor has also taught fifteen Confirmation Classes and numerous Bible Studies, and has guided a variety of programs.

I am not a celebrity pastor nor am I a charismatic pastor. I recognize this, which means I also recognize I am not a good fit for those congregations placing what I think is too great an emphasis on the pastor. In fact, I believe the focus in worship should be on God and not on the pastor or an emotional high. As an aside, my preaching style is known as expository preaching, which means taking a biblical text, exposing the message and providing (I pray) a relevant application for contemporary worshippers.

Quite often I have told you how important you are to me. These have been wonderful years at Grand Avenue! With that said, I never want to outstay my relevance for this congregation by becoming a liability for you instead of an asset. I care enough about you to step aside should that ever become necessary for your well-being. At the same time, I care enough about you to stay and help you become all that God would have you be, and to even defend you if necessary.

What should I expect from you? I hope you realize pastors can become disappointed when the performance level of members fail to match their pledges of faithfulness; therefore, what should I expect from you in attendance at worship, Sunday School, planning sessions and service projects? I think you know and I invite you to help me revitalize Grand Avenue as we become a more youthful congregation, all the time seeking to become the kind of congregation God would have us be in this time and place. May God bless Grand Avenue and may God bless each of you!

- George E. Rook

PRAYER LIST

Onita Kimes; Clarence South; Ruth Simpson; Amanda Cress; Ruby Self; Madeline Lucke; Donald Painter; Johnny Ruff; Dot Renner; Velma Patterson; Louie McKissack; Vivian Howie; Hazel Riley; John Jackson; Ray Holsted; Harriet Boyd; Janita Hoskyn; Sherley Black; Hollie Blake; Ralph Ligon; Terry Newton; Carolyn Larkin; Charles King; Jim Kyne; Lisa Holcombe; Suzanne Stroh; Melvin Tipton; Kim Cook; Scarlett-Marie Acklin; Rick Bednar; The family of Glen Vo (especially for Raeann and Paul Braithwaite); 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 Youth (grades 7-12) meets each Sunday at 6pm to 7pm in the second floor Youth Wing. (contact Austin Hayes 673-6317).

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).

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-6 meet at 4:30pm and Pre-K will meet at 5pm. Contact Chuck Law (673-6317) or Elizabeth Hoskyn (673-0079).

THE 3rd WEDNESDAY: Adults \$3 - Children \$2 - Seniors \$2 - Fun, food & fellowship every third 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 9:30am in the FH; and every Thursday at 10:30am in the FH.

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