

July 16, 2008

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



A warm welcome is extended to Marty and Martha Jones as our newest members! Marty and Martha were united with Grand Avenue on Sunday, July 13 by transfer from Reynolds Presbyterian Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Welcome!

The best wishes of Grand Avenue are extended to David and Wendy Hungarland of Danville, Virginia on the birth of Thomas Peet Hungarland, who was born Wednesday, July 9. Thomas is the grandson of our own Chuck and Linda Sampson.



The next Singles Luncheon will be this coming Sunday, July 20th immediately after worship. The group will leave from the side door of the sanctuary for lunch in Stuttgart. All Singles are invited to attend.

Trustees (Monday, July 21 at 7pm in the Church Office.

Finance (Tuesday, July 22 at 7pm in the Library.

Administrative Council (Tuesday, July 22 at 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

****These are the last regularly scheduled meetings before September. Please bring your late summer and early autumn business to these meetings.****



The Pastor will be on vacation July 23—August 5 and August 20—September 3. Clara Dobson will be our guest speaker and worship leader on July 27 while David Relyea of Almyra will be our guest speaker and worship leader on August 3 (no Holy Communion on August 3). Gideon Sunday will be August 24 with Bob Crum serving as worship leader. Agnes Jackson will be our guest speaker and worship leader on August 31.

Sunday, July 27 is ICCM (food bank) Sunday. Gifts of non-perishable food may be left in the box at the side entrance of the Sanctuary. To make a financial gift, please make your check to GAUMC and designate the memo corner "ICCM."

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS
SUNDAY, JULY 27—Meeting after worship for leaders, parents, volunteers and anyone interested in helping.

Starts Mon 7/28—Thurs 7/31; 5:30-8:15pm

****If you have not already turned in your registration form, please bring them with you.****

NURSERY ATTENDANTS NEEDED

We are in need of substitute nursery attendants. Applications may be made through the Church Office. A background check is required. If a former nursery attendant cannot return on a regular basis, we will also need an additional full time attendant.

Sunday School News

Please join us this year for our back to school kick off on September 7. We are planning something special for Promotion Sunday. All of our church kids are invited to attend. We will have more details coming soon.

This year we will be learning about Bible heroes. We will be learning about Daniel & the Lion, David the Boy, Esther, Jonah, Paul, as well as Signs of Faith, Christmas and Easter.

We would like to thank all of those who helped with Rotation Sunday School last year. The rotation is three Sundays out of the month. We would encourage everyone to participate. We have a great group of kids and this is a fun way to get to know them.

We also offer a Junior/Senior High Class. All students in grades 7-12 are invited to join us.

Music News



A **BIG THANK YOU** to Joyce Roth and David Gealy for sharing their wonderful musical talents with us the past two weeks.

Wednesday Youth Handbell Group

The new group that was just recently started is doing great! Grand Avenue youth are learning how to ring bells and are being introduced to the wonderful world of handbells. Handbell choirs are a rich tradition for any church to have and we are fortunate to already have a magnificent adult group and now a new youth group. Thank you very much for your attendance and effort that everyone is putting out. Plans are being made to perform in a few weeks in church and your continued attendance at rehearsals is greatly appreciated.

Vacation Bible School

VBS is quickly coming and I want to encourage everyone to participate. The music this year is very fun to sing and we will have a lot of fellowship and fun putting it together.

Hands for Him

New and exciting plans have been made for the 2008/09 children's music program at Grand Avenue including a name change for our weekly Wednesday program. After this spring, our program will be officially renamed "Hands for Him" and will include a new class that will be led by Charlotte Eagle for Pre-K 3 and 4 year olds that will be started as well as changing the actual times that the program meets on Wednesdays. **Classes for children in grades K through 2nd will meet at 4:30pm and students in 3rd through 6th will meet at 5:00pm.** Our new class will start at 5:00pm to allow parents to bring their children to the church. Elizabeth Hoskyn will work with the children providing them with Christian activities and lesson plans that will coordinate with the music. Our program is a success because of the volunteers, parents and participants! **All programs will start the week after Labor Day, September 10th.** Please contact Mr. Chuck at the church office (673-6317) if you have any questions.

The Administrative Council meeting on Tuesday, May 20 approved a new part-time staff position for Children, Tweens and Youth with an annual salary of \$19,500 (no benefits). A copy of the job description may be obtained from the Church Office. Resumes may be submitted to: Staff Parish, Grand Avenue United Methodist Church, 803 S. Grand Avenue, Stuttgart, AR 72160

Update on the part-time position for Children, Tweens and Youth:

There has been only one applicant and that applicant withdrew after further consideration.

By The Way:
A rocker is available in the usher area at the side of the narthex for use by adults with infants.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Adavene Ward
given by
Mrs. Eunice Montgomery

In memory of Audrey Helms
as a gift to the Grand Avenue Music Ministry Program
given by
Mr. & Mrs. William Erstine

In memory of Bernice Jackson
given by
Dr. & Mrs. Randy Cress
Mrs. Eugene Acklin

In memory of Elbert Houston
given by
Mrs. Eugene Acklin

In memory of Dick Cooley
given by
Mrs. Eugene Acklin

In honor of Ronny Hoskyn
given by
Mr. & Mrs. Rhett Oliphant



In honor of Tommy Hoskyn
given by
Mr. & Mrs. Rhett Oliphant
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Gray

A PRAYER FOR GRAND AVENUE

O God, who has brought us into the fellowship of your dear Son, lead us all at Grand Avenue ever closer day by day to you and to one another, that we may become of one heart and mind in love toward you; and grant that our common life and work in sacrificial service may help to extend your kingdom here where we are, and in all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

To the Grand Avenue UMC Family:

Rolfe, my family and I are grateful for your support. We have been blessed with prayers, cards, gifts, and other expressions of your concern. I greatly appreciate your encouragement and am humbled by our loving God's goodness in binding "our hearts together in Christian love."

I have moved to be close to my daughter here in Austin, Texas. I ask for your continued support as I adjust to my new life here in this city.

Please keep me in your thoughts and prayers, as I will you. May God's choicest blessings surround you now and always.

In Christ and Love,

Hazel Bryant

!THANK YOU!

A special thank you to UMW and the UMW Lunch Bunch, we appreciate all you do!

Rhett & Betty Oliphant

TO SEND CARDS OF SYMPATHY to the family of Cagle E. Fair, former Pastor of GAUMC, you can mail them to: **Mrs. Cagle E. Fair & Family, 121 Independence Drive, Apt. 702, Perryville, MO 63775**

DONATIONS FOR STORM VICTIMS:

Please make your check to GAUMC and designate the memo corner "Storms" (designate the memo corner "Stuttgart" if your gift is restricted to tornado relief work in our community) or contributions may be made over the phone by contacting the American Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS.

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POSITION AVAILABLE: Grand Avenue United Methodist Church in Stuttgart is seeking a part-time (25 hours per week) Director of Children's, Tweens and Youth Ministry. Responsibilities include developing and programming ministries for these areas of church life, coordinating activities, recruiting and training volunteers, and being supportive of the children, youth, parents and volunteers. This person should be committed to personal spiritual growth, be willing to commit to the United Methodist Church's outreach and mission, have excellent organizational skills and be dedicated to working with other staff as a member of a ministry team. A background in education and previous work with volunteers is a plus. A background check with a drug test is required. A copy of the ministry description may be obtained by contacting the church office at 870-673-6317 or email at gaumc@centurytel.net. The salary is \$19,500 (no benefits). Resumes may be submitted to: Staff-Parish, Grand Avenue United Methodist Church, 803 S. Grand Avenue, Stuttgart, AR 72160.
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PRAYER LIST

Ralph Patterson; Eli James; Bruce Yeager; Charlotte Scales; Betty Oliphant; Claudia Roebbeke; Louie McKissack; Hazel Bryant; John Jackson; Spencer Ruff; Kelsey Hoffman; Roland Endres; Lucille Holbert; Gertie Sanders; Mary Gene Smith; Ray Holsted; Beth Ragan Adams; Tim Walton; Steve Tranna; Kelly Williams; Randy Smith; Becki Wilson; Janice Henderson; Brian Reynolds; Daniel White; The family of Sergeant First Class Anthony Woodham; Those suffering from storms in Stuttgart, in Arkansas and elsewhere; Cathie Jones; Sylvia Mills; Pete Shirkey; 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. Thanksgiving for the birth of Thomas Peet Hungarland, son of David and Wendy Hungarland, grandson of Chuck and Linda Sampson.



Vacation Bible School

Join us and ride the wave of God's love!

Where? Grand Ave. UMC

When? July 28 - 31

What time? 5³⁰_p - 8¹⁵_p

For more information, call

673-6317

FROM THE PASTOR

Grand Avenue is a remarkably gifted church and we are populated with wonderful people (members and non-members) who generously give of themselves to build up our congregation. I cannot say enough good things about our Grand Avenue people! Modesty, however, seems to keep us from publicly celebrating what we have at Grand Avenue; nevertheless, I believe we can celebrate our church life while still maintaining our humility. In fact, if we do not celebrate and acknowledge what we have, it may be taken for granted, go unappreciated and be lost through neglect. There is a need to continually nurture and build our church life; therefore, let us celebrate what we have and thank God for richly blessing us as a church family!

The Apostle Paul challenged members of the Corinthian church to acknowledge and use their gifts: "...there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activated all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good...If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it...you are the body of Christ and individually members of it" (I Corinthians 12:4-7, 26-27). Paul likewise challenged the Christians at Rome: "For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another" (Romans 12:4-5).

The members of Grand Avenue do acknowledge and use their gifts for building up the body of Christ, which is his church. Polite deeds and thoughtful words of encouragement are the hallmark of who we are. In fact, the Holy Spirit has filled Grand Avenue with the fruit of the Spirit and it is this fruit of the Spirit which has created the environment where our gifts are flourishing: "...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited competing against one another, envying one another" (Galatians 5:22-26).

Yes, let us celebrate the life we enjoy at Grand Avenue! I shared with you these words of Bob Hyatt in our last newsletter: "...you are the ones who will drive ministry here...This is your community...You are here for the church, your community, and your community, the church is here for the world. Jesus did not die to make you into a sanctified consumer. He died to bring you alive to God and to a desperately needy world" ("Escape From Consumer Church"). Because we are blessed with the fruit of the Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit, there is a continuing desire at Grand Avenue to care for one another, to enjoy the company of one another and to willingly volunteer and contribute what we have to strengthen our shared ministry in accordance with the mind of Christ and his perfect will for our Grand Avenue congregation!

-George E. Rook

FRAN CARD

Friend, Relative, Associate, and Neighbor
I was a stranger and you invited me in. *Matthew 25:35*

Name _____ Approx. Age _____

Address (if available) _____

Telephone (if available) _____

Children Living at Home _____ Approx. Age _____

Submitted by:

_____ Neighbor

_____ Friend

_____ Relative

_____ Co-worker

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY- SEPTEMBER 7

Friendship Sunday is September 7. This is a great day for attracting first time visitors to our congregation and long lost members back to church. It's as simple as inviting others to come join us in our discipleship with Christ.

In the next few days, please complete the FRAN Cards (as many as you like) with the names and limited information of those individuals (neighbors, co-workers, friends, classmates, and relatives) you would like our congregation to extend special invitations to for the activities planned on September 7. You will need to return these cards to the Church Office or place them in the collection plate by August 31.

Finally, we will need volunteer "FRANs" from different groups in our church to make personal visits or phone calls to invite persons to our church on Sept. 7th for Worship, Sunday School, and a Friendship Meal. Won't you volunteer to be a "FRAN" when your group is contacted?

- Remember:
- (1) Friendship Sunday is September 7.
 - (2) FRAN Cards will be distributed in July.
 - (3) Return the FRAN Cards by August 31.
 - (4) Volunteer "FRANs" are needed from classes and groups.

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

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

Church Softball Schedule 2008



The team listed 1st will be the home team
 and use the 3rd base dugout.

- 1 First Baptist Stuttgart Red
- 2 First Baptist Stuttgart White
- 3 First Baptist Stuttgart Blue
- 4 St. Johns Lutheran
- 5 First United Methodist
- 6 First Baptist Almyra
- 7 **Grand Avenue UMC**
- 8 Harmony Baptist

DATE	TIME	FIELD 1	FIELD 2
Tuesday 7/15	6:00	3 vs 8	
	7:00	4 vs 7	
	8:00	2 vs 1	
Thursday 7/17	6:00	1 vs 7	
	7:00	8 vs 6	
	8:00	5 vs 6	
Tuesday 7/22	6:00	2 vs 5	
	7:00	5 vs 3	
	8:00	4 vs 1	
Thursday 7/24	6:00	7 vs 8	2 vs 1
	7:00	6 vs 2	7 vs 4
	8:00	6 vs 1	3 vs 4
Tuesday 7/29	6:00	3 vs 5	
	7:00	6 vs 7	
	8:00	6 vs 4	
Thursday 7/31	6:00	8 vs 1	
	7:00	3 vs 6	
	8:00	2 vs 6	
Monday 8/4	6:00	7 vs 5	8 vs 3
	7:00	2 vs 3	4 vs 5
	8:00	8 vs 4	2 vs 7
Tuesday 8/5	6:00	7 vs 1	
	7:00	6 vs 5	
	8:00	6 vs 8	
Thursday 8/7	6:00	1 vs 3	
	7:00	4 vs 2	
	8:00	5 vs 8	
Monday 8/11	6:00	8 vs 2	
	7:00	7 vs 3	
	8:00	1 vs 5	
Tuesday 8/12	6:00	1 vs 4	8 vs 7
	7:00	5 vs 2	
	8:00	4 vs 3	