

August 15, 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@ceturytel.net

Website
www.gaumc.com



Welcome new members!

It is a pleasure to welcome Emma Hyatt as a member of the universal Christian Church through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and as a baptized member of the Grand Avenue congregation. It is also a pleasure to welcome Julie Hyatt, who is Emma's mother, into membership at Grand Avenue by transfer from another denomination. Both were received on Wednesday, August 8.

We also welcome Eli and Martha James and their son, Jonathon, into membership at Grand Avenue! Eli was received by transfer from another United Methodist congregation while Martha and Jonathon were received by transfer from another denomination. The James family was received into membership on August 12. Eli and Martha are employed by Drummond Printing while Jonathon is a tenth grade student in the Stuttgart Public Schools.



YOUTH MINISTRY AT GRAND AVENUE

Are You Called To Youth Ministry? An energetic, inspiring individual who will serve as a Christian role model and be the director of our youth program beginning this September is invited to visit with the Pastor to share his or her vision of youth ministry. Please call the Church Office to schedule an appointment: 673-6317. Perhaps you know someone you might encourage to enter this important ministry!

SPECIAL SERVICES DURING THE PASTOR'S VACATION

The Pastor is on vacation through August 28 (he is on call for emergencies). Bob Crum is planning the Gideon Service for August 19 (Grand Avenue has two members of the Gideons) and Lainie Hoskyn is planning our service for August 26 when she will be guest preacher. Mark your calendars and plan to attend these special services conducted by our own members.

UMW NOTES

The next general meeting is Monday, Sept. 10, beginning at 11:30am with a salad potluck and **book reviews**/meeting at 12:00pm.

A Fall Luncheon will be held on August 25 from 11:00 – 1:00 in the fellowship hall. The lunch menu will feature recipes from the Grand Heritage Cookbook. Many of our Grand Avenue members (men, women and children) will be modeling fashions from Belk. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased from any UMW member or the church office. A limited number of tickets are available. **SELL SELL SELL**

Everyone needs to have their prepared, cooked, ready to serve dishes at the church by 9am Saturday, Aug. 25. Please label your serving dishes.

Grand Avenue College Students:

Please remember to provide the Church Office with your mailing addresses (also your e-mail) when your autumn enrollment has been completed. This will allow us to send you care packages and to place you on the newsletter mailing list. Thank you!

GRAND AVENUE TRIVIA

Did you know?

At one time commercial advertisements were sold and printed in the Sunday Bulletin.

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY

Friendship Sunday is September 9 and will include a potluck luncheon in the Fellowship Hall immediately after worship. Please return your FRAN cards. You are encouraged to invite friends, relatives, associates, and neighbors to join us on this special Sunday. They will, of course, be our guests at the luncheon. You can find additional FRAN cards in the classrooms and outside the old Church Office.

The 2008 budget is being planned. If your work area requires funding in 2008, please file your request with the Church Office by Tuesday, September 11.



THE PASSION PLAY - OCTOBER 6-7

We have a youth trip scheduled to see the Passion Play in Eureka Springs for October 6 & 7. If your child plans to attend, please let Shelley Bardwell know asap at 673-6911 or 673-4184. Parents are also welcome on this trip. We must book hotel rooms immediately. All youth are encouraged to attend!

NEWS FROM THE WEBELO SCOUT GOD AND FAMILY SUMMER CLASS:

The Webelos scouts are working on their religious emblem as the second part of the God & Country series Bible studies this summer. Last summer they recycled soda tabs for Arkansas Children's Hospital (which is still an ongoing process) and this summer they are going to be making care packages for patients at Stuttgart Regional Medical Center. The scouts are making greeting cards for the patient's food trays to help brighten their day while in the hospital. The care packages they will put together will consist of all travel size items: baby lotion, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste and a bar of soap. If you would like to help the scouts out in donating any of these items you may drop them off at the church office or in a box that will soon be in the fellowship hall. These Scouts are working very hard this summer on this Bible Study. They are devoting an hour and a half each week to learning the bible stories and how they can grow as a family from these stories. The big thing they have to learn this summer is all Ten Commandments. Coming soon in the fellowship hall will be a display of what they are learning. Thanks for supporting the scouts!

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

It is time for a new member directory and we need your help! There are several options in which to provide us your current information: Call us at 673-6317 or email us at gaumc@centurytel.net or turn the provided form into the Church Office. We appreciate your help!

MEMBER DIRECTORY UPDATE FORM

NAME _____

CHILDREN _____

ADDRESS _____

PH# _____

EMAIL _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

LAY SPEAKER TRAINING - STUTTGART FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Saturday, September 8, 2007 and Saturday, September 15, 2007
Registration begins at 9:30am - Stuttgart FUMC

All Certified Lay Speakers must be Re-Certified (10 hours) at least every three years!
Also Minimum 4 hrs. training for "Local Church Lay Speakers Only" Every 3 years.
Basic Class before Advanced Class required
Classes Begin - 10:00am & Classes End - 3:00pm.....Meal each day at 12:00pm
Enrollment Fee - \$20.00 for Cost of Materials/Meals
Please Register by August 31, 2007 (more info and forms located in Church Office)

*****COURSE SCHEDULES*****

THE BASIC COURSE

Attending this 10 hour class will prepare you to be a "Local Lay Speaker"
Course Time: 5 hours on 9/8/07 and 5 hours on 9/15/07
Instructor - Thomas "Ab" Pevey / Mt. Pleasant "Campground" UMC

NEW COURSES

Youth Basic Class: 5 hours on 9/8/07 and 5 hours on 9/15/07
Rev. Larry Kelso, Dewitt/St. Charles, assisted by Jennifer White, CLS

Local Lay Speaker: 4 hours on 9/8/07 by Bro. Jim Bacon, Wesley UMC, Pine Bluff

2 ADVANCED COURSES (For those who are Certified or have only had previous Basic Course)

Course 1: Sermon Preparation Class
Course Time: 5 hours on 9/8/07 and 5 hours on 9/15/07
Instructor: Southeast District Superintendent - Rev. Dennis Spence

Course 2: Restoring Methodism
Course Time: 5 hours on 9/8/07 and 5 hours on 9/15/07
Instructor: Nan Nelson, Stuttgart FUMC and Donna Hamilton, Redfield UMC

FROM ANOTHER NEWSLETTER - MRD

If you are age 70 and 1/2 and must take a mandatory retirement distribution (MRD), a new federal law enacted in August 2006 allows you to gift up to \$100,000 to a qualified charity and not pay income tax on the withdrawal from your IRA. The way this works out is to make the gift to your qualified charity directly from the trustee of your IRA. You will then not incur any income tax on the amount of your distribution you take. The only hitch is that the new law allowed this to be done only in 2006 and 2007! Since 2006 has passed, you have only one more chance to take advantage of this opportunity to help your favorite charity without incurring taxable income. Please check with your CPA and the trustee of your IRA about this. This would be beneficial to you and your church.

-Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Little Rock, Arkansas

UMCOR KITS

Church members are encouraged to prepare one or more of the following kits to be sent to UMCOR this fall during the Ingathering. UMCOR requests that no religious, political or patriotic notes or emblems be on any items in the kits.

It is important that the items included in the kits are the same as specified on the lists. Donated kits may be placed in the old church office.

Health Kits

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27")
 - 1 washcloth
 - 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
 - 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
 - 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
 - 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, No child-sized brushes)
 - 1 large tube of toothpaste (4.5 oz. or larger, expiration date must be 6 months or longer in advance of the date of shipment to UMCOR Sager Brown)
 - 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- Place these items inside a sealed one-gallon plastic bag. *Value: \$12 per kit*

School Kit

- 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip)
 - 2 pads (or loose leaf) or 8 ½ " x 11" ruled paper
 - 1 30-centimeter ruler
 - 1 hand held pencil sharpener
 - 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
 - 1 eraser, 2 ½"
 - 12 sheets construction paper (varied colors)
 - 1 box of 24 crayons (only 24)
- Prepare a 14" x 16" (finished size) cloth bag with handles and a closure (Velcro®, snap or button) and place items in the bag. Patterns are available from UMCOR Sager Brown or on our website: <http://www.sagerbrown.org>. *Value: \$11 per kit.*

Layette Kit

- 6 cloth diapers
 - 2 shirts or 2 one-piece body suits
 - 2 gowns or sleepers
 - 2 diaper pins
 - 1 sweater open in the front
 - 2 receiving blankets
- Bundle the items inside on of the receiving blankets and secure with the diaper pins. *Value \$35 per kit.*

Sewing Kit

- 3 yards of cotton or cotton-blend, solid color or print fabric (must be 3 yards of uncut fabric)
 - 1 pair sewing scissors
 - 1 package of needles
 - 1 spool of thread
 - 5-8 matching buttons
- Wrap sewing notions in the fabric and place in a sealed one-gallon plastic bag. *Value: \$18 per kit.*

UMCOR KITS (cont.)

Flood Bucket

5-gallon bucket with reasealable lid

Bleach-two 1 quart or one 82 oz. bottle (Do not include bleach if you are shipping the bucket through the US Postal Service, UPS or FedEx)

5 scouring pads

Sponges, 7 pack, assorted sizes

1 Scrub brush

18 cleaning towels (reusable wipes)

Liquid laundry detergent - two 25 oz. or one 50 oz. bottle

1 household cleaner, 12-16 oz. bottle

Disinfectant dish soap, 12-28 oz. bottle

50 clothes pins

Clothes line - two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.

5 dust masks

2 pair latex gloves

1 pair work gloves

24-bag roll of heavy-duty trash bags (33-45 gallon - remove roll from box before placing in bucket)

Insect repellent spray, 6-14 oz. can (if aerosol, cans must have protective caps. See special requirements below.*)

Air freshener, 8 or 9 oz. can (if aerosol, cans must have protective caps. See special requirements below.*)

—*Special requirements: Put all items in the plastic bucket and seal lid. Please ensure that all cleansing agents are liquids (not powder) and in plastic bottles. **All aerosols or flammables:** if aerosols are included, do not send the bucket by US mail or DHL/Airborne freight. Ship via UPS ground or FedEx ground or by truck. Pack inside the bucket or strong outer boxes. Put the ORM-D mark on the outside of any buckets or boxes containing aerosols. Download the ORM-D mark at <http://gbgm-umc.org/umcor/print/kits/orm-d.cfm>. Copy and tape on each bucket or box. Boxes cannot exceed 66 lbs. *Value: \$45 per bucket.*

Bedding Pak

2 flat double-bed sheets

2 pillowcases

2 pillows

Value: \$50 per pack.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM REV. MAXINE ALLEN:

(Top Ten Bulk Items Needed)

1. Terry Cloth Hand Towels
2. Toothpaste
3. Metal Nail Files or clippers
4. Children's Blunt Scissors
5. Pencil Sharpeners
6. Baby Sweaters
7. Cloth Baby Diapers
8. Ruled Paper
9. Baby Gowns or Sleepers
10. School Bags

TAKEN FROM AN EMAIL 8/14/07



2007

USHERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Ronnie Krisell*
Alan Bardwell
Paul Blackwell
Sloan Houston

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|--|---|--|---|--|--------------------------------|--|
| 2 | 3 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED | 4 Exercise 9:30am | 5 Handbell Choir 6pm Chancel Choir 7pm | 6 Exercise 10am UMM 7pm | 7 | 1 UMW Bus Reserved 8 |
| 9 FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY | 10 Circle 2 10:30am FH Circle 3 7:30pm | 11 Exercise 9:30am | 12 Circle 1 FH 5:30pm Handbells - 6pm Choir - 7pm | 13 Exercise 10am Grand Needlers 6pm FH | 14 OFFICE CLOSED | 15 |
| 16 Singles Luncheon | 17 Trustees 7pm Church Office | 18 Exercise 9:30am Finance - 7pm Library Admin Council 7:30pm - FH | 19 Pastor's Bible Study Orientation 10:30am - FH Handbells - 6pm Choir - 7pm | 20 Exercise 10am | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Pastor's Bible Study Orientation 9am - FH Singles Luncheon | 24 | 25 Exercise 9:30am | 26 Pastor's Bible Study 9am - FH Handbells - 6pm Choir - 7pm | 27 Exercise 10am | 28 | 29 |
| 30 Pastor's Bible Study 9am - FH ICCM | | | | | | |

Heroes. The scripture for this past Sunday was Hebrews 11:1-19 where the author gives a sweeping overview of great heroes of faith. I always think about my own personal heroes whenever I read this text awing me with its power. This text literally does send chills down my spine - always has and I suppose always will!

My heroes do not include celebrities and never has. There are no television, movie, sports or popular music stars numbered among my heroes. In fact, I am amazed these are the heroes of so many people when an unusually large number of celebrities exercise such poor judgment in managing their lives. They seem to lack discernment! I suppose celebrities do point out the care one should take in developing friendships and the need for a careful - careful - selection of a life partner in a committed relationship. They also point out how easily great wealth can corrupt an individual into an arrogant, cruel, degenerate, uncompassionate lifestyle. The fact that many of these individuals dabble in exotic religious experiences also points out there is a spiritual thirst needing to be satisfied. As St. Augustine wrote, "For Thou (God) madest us for Thyself, and our heart is restless until it repose in Thee." Too bad many of these celebrities will continue with "restless hearts" in their rejection of our Lord all because they do not want to hand over their lives to the purity of his lifestyle or to the control of anyone other than themselves. It seems most celebrities we hear about do not make good role models unless, of course, you want role models on how life should not be lived.

My heroes, as in people I look up to and who have encouraged me to strive higher, include one special pastor I knew when I was a teenager and another pastor I knew when I was working as a youth director. My heroes include Sunday School teachers, public school teachers and church organists. My heroes also include other ordinary people who exercised positive influences in shaping who I am.

Like the heroes of Hebrews 11, I have my own personal heroes from The Christian Hall of Fame, which obviously includes Jesus. In fact, my whole life has been shaped by the life and teachings of Jesus. The many parables Jesus shared, the Summary of the Law he gave, the Beatitudes he spoke and the Lord's Prayer he taught have all enriched my life and shaped my character. All I can say is I have a Christian perspective and a Christian character because Jesus is my greatest hero. Beyond the New Testament and the many heroes we find there, St. Francis of Assisi has been the greatest hero in The Christian Hall of Fame shaping my life. The prayer attributed to St. Francis is itself a summary of Jesus' teachings and has played a significant role in my spiritual formation. Even when I must stand firm or speak the truth, I hope I remain true to the words of this prayer.

Who are your heroes? I hope you select your heroes carefully because it is possible you may become just like them.

-George E. Rook

PRAYER LIST

Claudia Roebbke; Elmer Grant; Roland Endres; Holdyn Hoskyn; Carl Madsen; Carolyn Moore; Rita Cress; Rollie Rich; Sherry Tuminello; Phaedra Farar; Brayden Black; Tammy Wilson; Willa Lambert; Ray Holsted; Beth Ragan Adams; Clarence Thomason; Tim Walton; Fred McCuistion; Brenda Crum; John Robert Graves; Linda Fisher; Joni Thomas; Clifford Burdett; Steve Tranna; Susan Blake; Loma Essex; Kelly Williams; Karen Aureli; Regina Earlywine; Bailey Simpson; Bethany Jackson; The Family of Robert Lisko; Cathie Jones; Casey 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.