

September 17, 2008

GRAND AVENEWS

Staff

George E. Rook
Pastor

Chuck Law
Director of
Music Ministries

Austin Hayes
Director of Children,
Twins & Youth 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



Sympathy is extended to Michael Brady on the recent death of his mother, Margaret Barker.

Sympathy is also extended to Nancy Thomason on the recent death of her brother, Jimmy Thomason.

It is a pleasure to welcome Austin Hayes as our newest member. Austin united with Grand Avenue on 9/8/08 by transfer from Lodges Corner UMC.

The Singles will leave for lunch in Stuttgart this Sunday, September 21 immediately after worship. All singles are invited to attend!

The Lay Leadership Committee (Nominations and Personnel) will meet Monday, September 22 at 6:30pm in the Church Office. PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW BEFORE SEPTEMBER 17TH IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR OR REMOVED FROM A POSITION (673-6317).

Autumn Bible Study: "Invitation To Romans," which is a short-term Disciple Bible Study of eight sessions (approximately one hour each), will be led by the Pastor in two separate classes beginning Wednesday, October 1 at 10:30am (continuing Oct. 12, 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23). Both Wednesday and Sunday Classes will be held in the Fellowship Hall and YOU WILL NEED TO BEGIN CLASS PREPARATION one week before Session 1. You may register at the Church Office and pick up a copy of the Participant Book. The suggested donation for the booklet (not required) is \$9. The registration deadline is September 24.



NEW PROGRAM—"THE 3RD WEDNESDAY"

Don't miss the fun, food and fellowship....Starting September 17; Grand Avenue United Methodist Church will introduce a new program called "The 3rd Wednesday". The program will begin at 5:30 and the cost is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children and senior citizens (with a maximum of \$10 per immediate family).

Please RSVP during morning fellowship in the fellowship hall, call the church office, or email at gaumc@centurytel.net so we will know about how many to plan for each month. The program will continue to run every 3rd Wednesday of the month. Please mark your calendars for October 15th, November 19th, December 17th, and January 21st.

Do you have a specialty that you would like to cook for a group or do you have 10 minutes to spare to help set up, serve or clean up? We need you to volunteer to help make "The 3rd Wednesday" successful. Please let Elizabeth Hoskyn, CeCe Blackwell, Abby Cress or Mikah Eagle know of your special talent. We would love to have your help. (We already have some men that have volunteered to make a special meal in January! YEAH!)

The Arts Council will have their annual Fish Fry on Sept. 26 from 5-7pm in the High School Cafeteria. Tickets are \$12.

The Annual Traditional Turkey & Dressing Lunch will be on Sept. 29 from 11-1pm in the JR High Gym. Tickets are \$10 adults and \$6 for children 8 and under.

Senior Expo

Arkansas County Partners in Health invites you to attend our 2nd annual Senior Expo. This educational event focuses on the needs of Senior Citizens and their caregivers. We will have informational booths on how to stay healthy, financially stable and independent. The Senior Expo is a free event that provides access to resources, public health information, and health screenings.

Friday September 19, 2008
11:00am-1:00pm
Stuttgart Regional Medical Center
Conference Room A

A complimentary lunch will be provided to those who pre-register. To pre-register please contact Stephanie Maier at 870.673.4201 x 1804 or smaier@pccua.edu



CAMP ALDERSGATE'S 25th Annual Fish Fry

Saturday, September 27, 4-7p.m.
at Camp Aldersgate

Activities include live entertainment,
by Elvis, Bob Hayes, and Jubilation Jazz,
children's area, bake sale, silent auction, and more.

All proceeds go to benefit programs at Camp Aldersgate.

Adults	\$15
Children ages 4-11	\$10
Seniors (65+)	\$10
Children under 4	Free

For more information, call (501) 225-1444. *Must present ticket at event.

CAMPALDERSGATE
COMMON GROUND FOR EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE

HOW TO IMPROVE A STUDENT'S GRADES

Did you know taking your children to church will help raise their grade point average? The winter 2008 issue of "Sociological Quarterly" reports that researchers have found church attendance has as much effect on a teen's GPA as their parents having earned college degrees. Weekly church going students in grades 7 to 12 were also less likely to dropout. Jennifer Glanville, who is a sociologist at the University of Iowa, reports the GPA as .144 higher for churchgoing students. Other studies have discovered various benefits of attending church from breathing easier and living longer to being better behaved and more well-adjusted children. These benefits were the same across all major denominations.

Summarized from an article in "Our Sunday Visitor," September 7, 2008—page 29

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

A THOUGHT FROM ELSEWHERE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

"If you are a parent, I encourage you to see that our children are in Sunday School. EYC (*THEIR EQUIVALENT TO OUR UMY*), and to set the example for them by your own class attendance. Our Christian Education program is designed to help you keep the solemn vow you made at your child's baptism to ensure that your child 'is brought up in the Christian faith and life' (BCP, p. 302), and to help them become moral and spiritual beings. I am convinced that if we were to be as committed to Christian Education for our children and youth as we are to weekday schooling, our youth would be more fully equipped mentally, physically and spiritually to truly make a difference in the adult world they will one day lead."

-The Rev. Douglas Anderson
St. James Episcopal Church, Texarkana, Texas

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.



Potato Bar LUNCHEON

The adults of Grand Avenue will host the rescheduled Potato Bar luncheon to benefit ICCM (Food Bank), after worship on Sunday, October 19, in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited!



AUSTIN HAYES NAMED DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S, TWEENS AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Austin Hayes has been named Director of Children's, Tweens and Youth Ministry, which is a new part-time staff position adopted by the Administrative Council on May 20.

Austin is a native of Stuttgart and a graduate of the local Grand Prairie Evangelical Methodist School. He has an Associate of Arts Degree in Law and Social Science from Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas, and has served as a volunteer coach for Minor League baseball (9 & 10 year olds) and for Pee-Wee football (3rd & 4th graders). He is a member of the Arkansas Cattlemen's Association and is an official with the Registered Arkansas Officials Association, Division 3 basketball. His employment experience has included positions with Seeman Insulation, the Stuttgart Country Club, the University of Arkansas Rice Research and Extension Center, Stedman's Ace Hardware, Inc., Stuttgart Farm Supply, City of Stuttgart Parks Department and A&J Cattle Company. His hobbies include sports, fishing and hunting.



Austin looks forward to working with the children, tweens, youth and parents at Grand Avenue in building a program satisfying their expectations.

If you have not had an opportunity to welcome Austin, please greet him at your earliest convenience.

EXERCISE CLASS



The Grand Avenue Exercise Class meets in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays at 9:30am and on Thursdays at 10:00am. The class is approximately 45 minutes and is free for all who participates.

We use music to keep our pace consistent and help with counting repetition. The class emphasis is on flexibility, strength and balance. We use free-weights (1/2 to 5 pounds provided) and resistance bands (provided)

Everyone is encouraged to work at their own level in a group setting. Staying strong enough to live independently is our goal.

Come and join us. Everyone in the community is invited, so bring a friend!

INGATHERING—UMCOR MISSION OPPORTUNITY

The United Methodist Committee On Relief is in need of supplies. Relief items in bulk quantities are at the top of the needs list. The annual Arkansas Area Ingathering is November 15, 2008.

You are encouraged to contribute items in bulk quantities that are listed in the UMCOR kits. The supplies may be placed in the old church office or in the box in the fellowship hall.

Also, monetary gifts may be donated to help purchase items that are included in the kits. Checks may be written to GAUMC with a memo for UMCOR supplies.

UMCOR KITS

All items in the kits must be NEW.

School Kit

Value \$11 per kit

1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip)
3 pads (or loose-leaf) or 8.5"x 11" ruled paper
1 30cm ruler
1 hand-held pencil sharpener
6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
1 eraser, 2.5"
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). Patterns available from UMCOR Sager Brown or on our website www.sagerbrown.org or local UMW members.

Health Kit

Value \$12 per kit

1 hand towel (15"x25" up to 17"x 27")
1 washcloth
1 comb (large & sturdy, not pocket-sized)
1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
1 bath-size bar of soap (3oz & up)
1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, No child-sized)
\$.00 to purchase toothpaste (UMCOR Sager Brown is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to health kits before shipping to ensure the product does not expire).
6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
1 gallon-sized plastic zip lock bag

Flood Bucket

Value \$45 per bucket

5-gallon bucket with resealable lid
Bleach—two 1 quart or one 82oz 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 25oz or one 50oz bottle
1 household cleaner, 12-16oz bottle
Disinfectant dish soap, 12-28oz bottle
50 clothes pins
Clothes line—two 50ft or one 100ft
5 dust masks
2 pair latex gloves
1 park work gloves
24-bag roll of heavy-duty trash bags (33-45 gallon—remove roll from box before placing in bucket)
Insect repellent spray, 6-14oz can (Aerosol cans must have protective caps)
Air freshener, 8 or 9oz can (Aerosol cans must have protective caps)

Bedding Pack

Value \$50 per pack

2 flat double-bed sheets
2 pillowcases
2 pillow

Sewing Kit

Value \$18 per 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
1 gallon-sized plastic zip lock bag

Layette Kit

Value \$35 per 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

VBS

BEACH PARTY: SURFIN' THE SCRIPTURES VBS 2008

Vacation Bible School was a success! We had 66 children registered and 37 lifeguards assisting. The children enjoyed three days of Beach Be-attitudes. The scriptures and Be-attitudes were emphasized in the different stations. These stations were the Surf n' Sand Science Lab, Beachcomber Crafts, Music and Rockin' Rec station.

The first night the children were paid a visit by Gideon (Robbie Tipton) and the voice of God (Chuck Law). The children became part of Gideon's army that made so much noise they made the Midianites run away. Following Gideon's example of listening to God, they learned to "Be Obedient". The Surfin' Scripture Treasure was a clownfish. The clownfish has the entire ocean to live in and yet it chooses to remain close to the sea anemone. This reminds us to stay close to God and to obey Him.

The second night combined the two Be-attitudes of "Be Kind" and "Be Forgiving". Robbie presented the parable of the unforgiving servant. The story began with Peter's question and Jesus' answer that we should always forgive. When we show kindness by forgiving others, we are showing kindness to God. The treasures placed in their bottles were starfish and an oyster shell. The story of the boy that threw the starfish back into the ocean in order to save them was told. This act of kindness would help some of the starfish survive. The children learned how a pearl is formed from the coating an oyster puts over a piece of sandy grit that gets inside its shell. The oyster layers this coating over the grit so it will be less of a bother in the shell; thus, a pearl is formed. This constant coating is how we should continue to forgive.

The third night's story was the woman who was healed by brushing against Jesus' clothing. Children learn they can "Be Bold" in their faith and ask Jesus for help. A sea turtle was the treasure. The story of the baby sea turtles' constant struggle from hatching from eggs in the sand and boldly crossing the beach to find their way into the ocean was presented.

The final story was incorporated in this night. The importance of believing in Jesus and how blessed by Jesus we are because we have not seen and yet we have come to "Believe" was the last of the Be-Attitudes. A treasure of a sand dollar was given to the children so they could see how the indentations on a sand dollar remind them of Jesus' life.

We were joined by Flame' the Flamingo each night. She had conversations with those surfer dudes and dudettes that worked at the surfin' shack. We had a few visits from Sandy Castle who showed us how to "hang ten".

Each night we were served a great meal provided by the United Methodist Women. The last night culminated with a luau after the program presented by the children for members of the church as well as the children's parents. They presented their parts and sang wonderfully.

The whole team did a great job and it would not have gone so well if it weren't for them. Thank you to all that assisted with Vacation Bible School in any way! It couldn't have happened without you.

"Be-ing grateful",
Cindy Crum



FROM THE PASTOR

Did you attend the UMW “Fifties Musical Extravaganza” and Luncheon on August 23? Even though your Pastor was on vacation, he chose to attend this special event and it was indeed a special event! As I sat among an overflowing crowd in the Fellowship Hall, I thought to myself what a splendid occasion this is and how lovely it is to be with everyone. We had fun together! We enjoyed being together! This is how church should be.

As I left the Fellowship Hall, I continued to feel warm and good inside about what had just taken place. I hope our guests from other churches caught the spirit of how much we enjoy being together and playing together as the Grand Avenue Church family. We not only worship, study and serve together at Grand Avenue, we also make our own fun together and are left with beautiful memories lasting a lifetime.

Than you to the UMW and to everyone who made this luncheon a memorable occasion for all in attendance!

-George E. Rook

PRAYER LIST

Gene Fletcher; Karen Vinson; Harry Beck; Ralph Patterson; Charlotte Scales; Betty Oliphant; Claudia Roebbecke; Louie McKissack; Vivian Howie; Stan Wilson; Hazel Riley; John Jackson; 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; Leslie Thomas Britten; Stacey Fink; Harriet Boyd; Brian Reynolds; Daniel White; Cathie Jones; Sylvia Mills; Pete Shirkey; Clio Clary; The family of Margaret Barker, especially for Michael Brady; The family of Jimmy Thomason, especially for Nancy Thomason; 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.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, TWEENS & YOUTH MINISTRIES

“For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8: 38-39 KJV.

This is my favorite verse in the Bible. It gives so much hope and security in knowing that no matter what or where we are God is always with us. Those who have not experienced what it is like to have the comfort of God when the times are tough cannot understand the comfort those words can give a believer.

Sometimes I think God’s comfort gets lost on us when times are good. But like the recent tornado showed us, the only thing in this world we can be sure of is the love of God. No matter where we go or what happens when we get there, God is there for us.

There is a story of a man walking alongside Jesus watching the journey through his life in a path of sand. The man asked Jesus, “Lord, why do I see both of our footprints through most of my life but at the times that were my most difficult, I see only one pair?” Jesus answered, “My child it is at those moments when I picked you up and carried you. I never left; it was when you needed me the most that I carried you and your burden for you.”

-Austin Hayes

MEMORIALS

*In memory of Catherine Linton
given by*

*Mrs. Claudia Roebbeke
Mrs. Eunice Montgomery
Mildred Beverly
Sherry Tuminello
Pat Howey
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Gingerich
Mrs. Vernon Simpson
Judy B. Brittenum
The Crusader's Sunday School Class
Joyce Shockley
Powell Anderson Shockley
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Scafdel
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Burkett*

*In memory of Loretta Cox
given by
Mrs. Eunice Montgomery*

*In memory of Marilyn Simpson
given by
Mrs. Vernon Simpson*

*In memory of Margaret Barker
given by
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Roth
Mrs. Eunice Montgomery
Mrs. & Mrs. Jim Gingerich
Patricia Jane Ferguson
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sampson
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Jacobs*

*In honor of Margaret Ann Beck
given by
Her family*

*In memory of Audrey Helms
given by
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sampson*

*In memory of Lila Bormann
given by
Mrs. Eunice Montgomery
Patricia Jane Ferguson*

*In memory of Catherine Linton
as a gift to the Sanctuary Remodeling Fund
given by
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Jacobs
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Clark Roth*

*In memory of Mrs. Sissy Kocourek
as a gift to the Sanctuary Remodeling Fund
given by
Mrs. Freda Voumard*

*In memory of Catherine Linton
as a gift to the Music Ministries Fund
given by
Constance R. Knott
Judy D. Baser*

*In memory of Margaret Barker
as a gift to the Sanctuary Remodeling Fund
given by
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Clark Roth
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Jacobs*

*In memory of Lila Bormann
as a gift to the Sanctuary Remodeling Fund
given by
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Clark Roth*

*In memory of Margaret Barker
as a gift to the Children's Library Fund
given by
Mrs. Eugene Acklin*

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).
- 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 4:30pm 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 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 10am in the FH.

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