

THE FLAME



September 18, 2023

QUILT SHOW. The "Stitches Through Time - 1893-2023" quilt show was quite a Challenge for me. I had NEVER done an event like what we planned. There are so many that helped me: Jane Thomason, Carole Rodgers as committee members that pushed, shoved and suggested many ideas that I appreciated. To name a few others that made sure that we had advertisements, Shelia Foxworthy, Trish Goodman, Marlys Cervantes. A special thank you to all the workers, men and women, and especially those in our church and community that provided over 180 special and unique quilts for us to enjoy as we celebrate 130 years of Methodism in Ponca City.

Thank you again and blessings to each of you. *Mary Lou Loret*



Thank you Mary Lou! What a beautiful way to celebrate 130 years!
Thank you to all the volunteers that made the quilt show such a success!

Stitches Through Time

First United Methodist Church 200 S 6th Ponca City



VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED: Do you have approximately one hour each week you could *primp the pews* and get them ready for the next Sunday? If so, we could use your help! Please call the church office if you think this sounds like something you could fit into your schedule. You decide the day and time.

FINANCIAL GIVING: Thanks to the 35 people who turned in their pledge cards!!! The 2024 Church budget will be based on the pledge cards received. If you are planning on turning in a card, please do so this week, budgeting will begin next week.

We have several options to financially contribute:

By Text: Just text the donation amount to 1-580-324-3101 (no need to include the "\$" sign – just text the numerical amount). You'll receive a text back from Vanco requesting your payment info. The funds will be transferred to the FUMC bank account and you'll receive a confirmation text back from Vanco. Easy as 1-2-3.

Online: Visit our website, www.fumcpc.org, click on the DONATE tab, enter the amount and follow the prompts. You can donate by PayPal, credit or debit card.

By Monthly Auto draft: Call Sheila and I'll get you set up for a monthly draft from your checking or savings account. We draft the 5th and/or 20th, you choose the date that fits your schedule the best

By Stock Transfer: We have an account with TD Ameritrade for easy transfer of stock to the FUMC account.

"Get Fit" with Kera Kester
(dress comfortably)

Baked potato bar with all the fixings and homemade UWF desserts (UWF will make taco soup next month)

To ensure the success of the opportunity for us to enjoy our time together and listen to relevant topics and speakers, we're adjusting our donation amounts to \$7 per person for adults and \$3 per person for children.



KIDS' JAM Wednesday after school program started September 6. We can pick the children up from school if you let the church office know. The van and the bus are both working and we are ready to pick up kids at their respective grade schools. Kids' JAM ends at 5:15 p.m. just in time to drop down to the Fellowship Hall and have dinner!

WE STILL NEED HELP!!! We need two route drivers to help pick up kids after school. One of these will replace Pastor Leon on route two and the other be a substitute for the two routes when either regular driver is not available on a particular Wednesday. We also need **VOLUNTEERS** to help with the program on Wednesdays! If you need more information contact Dawn Spaulding or ask one of the volunteers who help. It's a blast!



Betsy's Women's Bible Study will begin September 28 in the Fellowship Hall. **The Names of God** will be a six-week Bible study. Melissa Spoelstra leads women on an exploration of the many names of our triune God. Books are in the office @ \$15 each, please see Mary on W-T-W 9-12 or 1-4. This study will be in the Fellowship Hall.

KEEP UP-TO-DATE. Access our online calendar with current dates and times @ www.fumcpc.org under the heading of **calendar**.

IN-HOUSE DIRECTORY. Picture days are coming soon! Reply to this email to schedule your photo for the in-house directory. The dates our wonderful photographer (Dee Kutz) has selected are October 1, 8, and 15 after church or you can come in on Tuesday afternoon, October 3. Other dates will be added as necessary. Smile you'll be on camera. 😊😊😊😊😊

Does your child enjoy stuff like...

slime paint mud

and other messy things? Bring them to

Messy Play Day

A Free Family activity by The Family Resource Program

Perfect for ages 3-5 years!

Saturday, September 23rd

9 AM - 11 AM

The Pavilion at Ponca City First United Methodist Church
The corner at South 7th St + E. Oklahoma St.
Call Jeremy at 580-309-8292 for more info.

parents teachers

Let's Help

THOSE IN NEED

United Women in Faith are sponsoring a clothing closet drive!

What We Need
New Socks & Under-ware for East Middle School clothing closet.
They also need kleenex, back packs and 1" binders.

Please bring your items to the mission barrel or you can make a monetary gift and we'll do the shopping.

Betsy Carter's famous Wednesday Night Live Soup. . .

Chicken Enchilada Soup

- 2 cans black beans
- 2 cans pinto beans
- 2 cans diced tomatoes
- 1 can white chicken meat
- 1-2 cans sweet corn
- 2 cans cream of chicken soup
- 1 can green enchilada sauce
- 1 pkg taco seasoning

Heat on stove top until warm or in crockpot 3 hours on low.

Serve with corn chips, salsa, chopped onions, and grated cheese.

- September 20, 9 a.m. Good Sam's breakfast at Frazier's Osage Restaurant
- September 20, 5:15 Finance, bring your plate to the Conference Room for the meeting
- September 22, 2:30 Feed the High School Football Team
- September 22, Sandwiches for West Middle School Students

September 23, Messy Day for 3-5-year old's in Pavillion

September 28, 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

Thursday, October 26 Lunch and Learn with Alan Herndon, Director of Gift Planning, Oklahoma Methodist Foundation

If you receive this email, and would prefer to be taken of the list, please reply to the email with your **request and we will honor it. If you have a church friend who would like to receive the weekly communication, please have** them email info@fumcpc.org and we will gladly put them on the list!

OUR STAFF

Senior Pastor

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580.304.5183

Pastor@fumcpc.org

Business Manager

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Nursery Director

Cassie Steiner

Music Director

Marta Sullivan

Organist

Debra Rue

THE FLAME



September 25, 2023

VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED: Do you have approximately one hour each week you could *primp the pews* and get them ready for the next Sunday? If so, we could use your help! Please call the church office if you think this sounds like something you could fit into your schedule. You decide the day and time.

Everyone Needs a Champion

And

The Power of a Teacher

Shepherd's Pie and dessert compliments of Lori Slater

To ensure the success of the opportunity for us to enjoy our time together and listen to relevant topics and speakers, we're adjusting our donation amounts to \$7 per person for adults and \$3 per person for children.



SOCIAL MEDIA. On online Social Media presence plays an important role in today's society and FUMC has a social media presence. Our FaceBook page, PoncaCityFirstUnitedMethodistChurch, last week reached 1.1 thousand people! In the last 28 days our posts have reached 3,607 people with 1,323 engagements! We currently have 659 followers.

We also have an Instagram page, fumc_pc, with 83 followers.

You can also find us on Google where we have had 746 people view our profile in the last 6 months. Most of our posts are posted on our Google page so if you're not on social media, just google us and you can keep up with our posts!

Our Sunday worship services can be viewed on our YouTube channel, too!

How can you help??? Take pictures of our church members doing good and send it me or the office and I'll try to prepare a post. See something you like that is posted, like it and share it!
Trish Goodman



Betsy's Women's Bible Study will begin **THIS THURSDAY AT 10 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. **The Names of God** will be a six-week Bible study. Melissa Spoelstra leads women on an exploration of the many names of our triune God. Books are in the office @ \$15 each.

KEEP UP-TO-DATE. Access our online calendar with current dates and times @ www.fumcpc.org under the heading of **calendar**.



The First United Methodist Youth is our ministry aimed at our youth in the community between the ages of 6th-12th grade. We are slowly growing our youth group. We recently joined with the youth at First Presbyterian Church and played capture the flag at Maryland Mansion on Wednesday, September 20, 2023. We have slowly begun merging the two youth groups together. The First United Methodist Youth (FUMY) currently has 4 youth from 6th grade-9th grade and The First Presbyterian Youth Group (PYG) has 5 youth from 6th-10th grade resulting in a combined 9 youth. The youth enjoy a time of eating and talking with one another, a Bible study on the Gospels and reflection questions, games centered around our Bible study, and an arts and craft centered around our Bible study lesson.

IN-HOUSE DIRECTORY. Picture days are starting Sunday! Reply to this email to schedule your photo for the in-house directory. The dates our wonderful photographer (Dee Kutz) has selected are October 1, 8, and 15 after church or you can come in on Tuesday afternoon, October 3. Other dates will be added as necessary. Smile you'll be on camera. 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 Sign up today, we want everyone in the directory!

Living Waters Women's Group

BINGO NIGHT!

Saturday, October 7th

6:00pm in the PCFC Fellowship Hall
701 W Chestnut Ave

\$5 for your first card

\$2 per extra card

\$5 for three extra cards

Win prizes from businesses around Ponca City!

This fundraiser is to
benefit our annual
Morning Conference for all
women in and around
Ponca City.



After several of you made Betsy's Wednesday Night Live soup, you discovered it was a little too thick, so here's a corrected version. Enjoy. . .

Betsy Carter's famous Wednesday Night Live Soup. . .

Chicken Enchilada Soup

2 cans black beans
2 cans pinto beans
2 cans diced tomatoes
1 can white chicken meat (crumbled)
1-2 cans sweet corn
2 cans cream of chicken soup
1 can green enchilada sauce
1 pkg taco seasoning

DO NOT DRAIN ANY of the cans. If the soup is too thick add chicken broth. Heat on stove top until warm or in crockpot 3 hours on low.

Serve with corn chips, salsa, chopped onions, and grated cheese.

The church staff traveled to PoHi's Robson fieldhouse to feed the Ponca City football team before their homecoming game. They were treated to pizza and homemade chocolate chip cookies.

They were all very appreciative and the staff had fun interacting with the team and coaches. Thanks to Bonnie Otto for inviting us.

Go Cats!





Tuesday, September 26, Bills Bible Study, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, September 28, 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 1, Caring Fund Sunday

Sunday, October 1, Communion Sunday

Thursday, October 26 Lunch and Learn with Alan Herndon, Director of Gift Planning, Oklahoma Methodist Foundation

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EVERY SUNDAY	EVERY MONDAY	EVERY TUESDAY	EVERY WEDNESDAY			
Sunday School 9a Worship 10a UMY 6-8	AGA 8:30a Staff Mtg 9a Bells 6:30p Scouts 6:30p	Men's Coffee 8:30a Intercessory Prayer 9a Bible Study 6p	AGA 8:30a KIDS' JAM 3:30p WNL 5:30p Choir 7p			
	C					
Caring Fund Communion Ernie Jantz	1	2	3	4	Ladies Bible Study 10a Young Adult Gathering 6p	Sack Lunches Darla Church
Bill Elliott Carol Cook Moore	8	Columbus Day	9 Trustees 6p	10 Lyric Cervantes	11	Ladies Bible Study 10a Called Conference
	15	16	17	18	19	20
Finance 5:15 Friendship Feast 5:30		Rod Kutz				130 th Celebration
Charge Conference 3p Wedding Shower for Lyric Cervantes Diane Pendleton	22	23	24	25	26	27
Stacy McGee Vicki Stokke	Quilters 10a			Ladies Bible Study 10a Lunch & Learn 11 am Barbara Bridwell Lynn Varner Brett Hightower	Youth Ministry Board 6p Dave & Gineta Swanson Anniversary Stan Long	28
Suzy Hron Gineta Swanson	29	30	31			
Gene Rodgers						

OCTOBER 2023

	1	2		1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

SEPTEMBER 2023

NOVEMBER 2023



October 2023

Daily



Prayers for YOUTH

- Our Sons/Daughters, Grandsons/Granddaughters
& all the ones we love.

1

I prayed to the LORD, and he answered me.
He freed me from all my fears. - Psalm 34:4

Everlasting Lord, I pray that (name) will seek You LORD, and that You will answer her. Please free her from all her fears. Amen!

2

People who accept discipline are on the pathway to life, but those who ignore correction will go astray. - Proverbs 10:17

Father God, I pray that (name) will not reject, resent or ignore correction. Amen!

3

"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." - Luke 22:42

Savior Father, may (name) have a heart that yields to You, so she is able to say, "not my will, but Yours be done". Amen!

4

But if you are careful to obey him, following all my instructions, then I will be an enemy to your enemies, and I will oppose those who oppose you. - Exodus 23:22

Dear God, please stir (name) to be careful to obey You, following all Your instructions, so You will be an enemy to his enemies, and oppose all those who oppose him. Amen!

5

O LORD, do not stay far away! You are my strength; come quickly to my aid! - Psalm 22:19

Abba Father, please do not be far from (name). You are her strength. Please be quick to help her when in trouble. Amen!

6

What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? - Mark 8:36

Lord Jesus, as I pray for (name)'s success, and he strives to achieve his goals, keep us mindful that there is no profit to gaining the whole world if he should lose his soul. Amen!

7

Fire goes out without wood, and quarrels disappear when gossip stops. - Proverbs 26:20

Contention is kept ablaze by gossip and backbiters. Savior God, may (name)'s words be of peace, joy and love, dousing the flames of contention around her. Amen!

8

May God give you more and more mercy, peace, and love. - Jude 1:2

Gracious Lord, may mercy, peace and love be multiplied in (name)'s heart. May he exude it wherever he goes. Amen!

9

God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. - Ephesians 1:5

Heavenly Father, please open (name)'s eyes to see the life You intend for her. Remind her of the gifts You have granted her. Guide her to use them for Your divine purpose and glory. Amen!

10

If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. - Daniel 3:17

Precious Lord, please grant (name) faith like Daniel's; an unwavering belief that You Lord, will save him from the blazing furnace of any difficulties in his life. Amen!

11

But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. - 1 John 4:8

Everlasting God, may (name) cultivate a cheerful heart so he is a joy to those he interacts with. Amen!

12

Yet you made them only a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor. - Psalm 8:5

Loving God, please preserve (name)'s self-esteem so he is not dependent on the fickle approval of men. Remind him You made him and have crowned him with glory and honor. Amen!

13

Whoever loves a pure heart and gracious speech will have the king as a friend. - Proverbs 22:11

Dear Lord, please teach (name) to listen more and speak less. May her words be seasoned with wisdom and exude grace; each of her words is a gift to the hearer and it draws people to her. Amen!

14

God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. - Psalm 46:1

Almighty God, please remind (name) that under no circumstances is he to be afraid; as You are his refuge, his strength, an everpresent help, no matter the troubles. Amen!

15

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. - 2 Timothy 4:7

Everlasting Father, may success not inflate (name)'s sense of self-worth, may she be mindful that success she celebrates is a gift from You; the credit, therefore, belongs to You Father. Amen!

16

Let me know joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. - Psalm 51:8
Loving Lord, please prompt (name) to face each day with joy and gladness so he may lift the spirits of those he meets. Please give him the courage to unashamedly identify You as his source of joy and share the Good news with them. Amen!

17

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts... And be thankful. - Colossians 3:15

Sovereign God, may Your perfect peace reign in (name)'s heart and mind, not anxiety or fear. Amen!

18

Therefore prepare your minds for action. Be sober-minded. Set your hope fully on the grace to be given you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. - 1 Peter 1:13

Gracious Father, as (name) learns more about You each day, may he set his hope fully on You. Please prepare him, keeping him on guard against all spiritual pitfalls. May his conduct be holy and pleasing to You. Amen!

19

Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance? - Romans 2:4

Blessed Lord, purge all forms of rebellion from (name)'s heart. May she not presume on the riches of Your kindness, forbearance or patience, which are to lead her to repentance. Amen!

20

The LORD detests lying lips... - Proverbs 12:22

Everlasting God, lying lips seem to be the norm nowadays, yet You clearly detest lies. Please strengthen (name)'s resolve to resist all temptations to compromise his integrity by knowingly speaking untruths. Amen!

21

Some people make cutting remarks, but the words of the wise bring healing. - Proverbs 12:18

Jehovah Father, please give (name) a yearning for wisdom like Solomon. Grant her a wise mind and tongue, so all her thoughts and actions glorify You. May every word she utters bring healing and bless others. Amen!

22

Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ. - Colossians 2:8

Eternal Lord, please protect (name)'s mind from hollow and deceptive philosophies which attempt to negate the infallibility of Your Word; may he reject unequivocally any such information. Amen!

23

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. - Psalm 119:11

Savior Lord, stir (name) to refresh and imprint Your Word on her heart every day. Not only as armor to protect her, but also to use as a guide so she does not sin against You. Amen!

24

For we know how dearly God loves us... - Romans 5:5

Loving Father, may (name) comprehend how immeasurable the depth and breadth of Your love for him is. Infuse his heart with Your all-encompassing love that overflows from him, multiplying freely onto other people. Amen!

25

... go and celebrate because of all the good things the LORD your God has given to you and your household. - Deuteronomy 26:11

Mighty God, may (name) have a joyful heart. May she celebrate in the world because of all the good things You have blessed her with. Amen!

26

Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish. - Isaiah 46:10

Sovereign Lord, when (name) feels discouraged or fearful due to these unsettling times, remind him that You remain in control; You will accomplish Your purposes, and evil is ultimately destined to fall. Amen!

27

The LORD will keep you from all harm-- the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. - Psalm 121:7-8

King of Kings, please keep (name) from all harm. Watch over all aspects of her life, both physical and spiritual. Please bless her going out and coming in, now and forevermore. Amen!

28

... I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. - Philippians 4:11

Almighty Lord, when disgruntled thoughts arise because others seem to possess so effortlessly what (name) desires, please teach him how to be content with his own blessings, instead of envying what others have. Amen!

29

...not dependent on wine, not violent but gentle, peaceable, and free of the love of money. - 1 Timothy 3:3

Awesome Father, may (name) not be a drunkard, violent, quarrelsome or a lover of possessions or money. Please infuse her with a peaceful, gentle heart. Amen!

30

Why, my soul, are you downcast?... Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. - Psalm 42:5

Adonai, when adversity has (name) downcast, please give him words to praise You. Assure him that even in the midst of turmoil You are his hope. Amen!

31

In God we make our boast all day long, and we will praise your name forever. - Psalm 44:8

My God, my Lord, please give (name) a distaste for pointless talk. When she speaks may it be to tell of Your righteousness and of Your praise all day long. Amen!