

THE FLAME

Volume 52, Issue 01

October 2022

Children's Sabbath



Sunday, October 16th, 10:00 AM

Join us as the our children lead us in worship and song!



All Treats No Tricks

Monday, October 31st, 5:30-7:00 PM

The church is hosting an *All Treats No Tricks Event*.

We need people to bring and decorate a card table, and hand out candy to the children. There is a signup sheet in the Welcome Center.

Please indicate if you are willing to participate or provide candy.

The event will be canceled if the weather is bad.

Costumes welcome, but not necessary!

There will be prizes for tables that are best decorated, funniest and most original.



Pastor
Leon Veazey

"O Lord, I am calling to you. Please hurry! ... Take control of what I say, O Lord, and guard my lips." These are the words written in Psalm 141:1, 3. It's almost like the psalmist is saying, "Lord, cover my mouth with your hand when I'm about to say something I shouldn't say." Can you relate? I surely can!

I remember a song from the days of my childhood which said, "Oh be careful little mouth what you say... for the Father up above is looking down in love, so be careful little mouth what you say." Do you remember that song? Or perhaps your mother, like mine, used to say: "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all." I'm afraid that the saying on a T-Shirt I remember may be more indicative of our human nature: "If you can't say something nice, then come sit by me."

It seems to me that in our culture, we don't take seriously the damage that our words can do to others, the reproach our words can bring upon our Creator! James, probably the one

who was the half-brother of our Lord Jesus, wrote in his letter in the New Testament, that guarding what we say is of urgent importance! He gives us at least two great reasons to exercise discipline in our words. One reason (James 3:1-3), is because God will hold us accountable for what we say. Jesus, said it even more clearly in Matthew 12:36, we *"must give an account on judgment day for every idle (careless) word"* that we speak. That is a very sobering thought to me!

Another reason we must be careful about how we speak to and about other people is because of the enormous damage our words can cause! James goes on to talk about how a little spark sets an entire forest on fire and a small rudder controls the direction of a huge ship. These are metaphors for how much control our tongue has over our lives, because our words have enormous power! Words can steal someone's joy, peace, hope, and confidence. Words can kill a part of a person emotionally, and destroy the reputation of a person. Words are powerful!

The good news is that our words also have the power to heal, encourage, and build faith, hope, and love. Do you realize how powerful a smile and a "word fitly spoken" (Prov. 25:11) are to a person's day, or even their life? Mother Teresa said, "Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."

Allow me to offer you a simple

test I intend to use to determine if what I'm thinking should be said.

1.) Is it True? Not just according to my opinion or the opinions of those who think most like me.

2. Is it Necessary? Does it really need to be said? Would God be pleased that I said it? Will it serve any honorable and beneficial purpose if I say it? AND

3. Is it Kind? Even when I need to say something that may not be pleasant, if I get any kind of thrill or positive vibe from saying it, then I'm NOT in a good place to be the one to say it! Is what I'm about to say coming out of kindness? OR is it self-serving, coming from pride, or with intention to bring pain?

I pray that I can be more successful at guarding my words, and I invite you to join me in this challenge! I would love to hear from you. My doors are open to you.

Blessings,



September 25, 2022



Members gather for the dedication of the Pavilion made possible by the memorial endowment from Dwight & Virginia Huth. Their daughter, Pam Huth Lowry, attended the ribbon cutting and unveiling of the memorial marker.



Kids' M&Ms



Kids' M&Ms is back in full swing. Larry Davidson has done an amazing job organizing the schedule and recruiting help. The children are preparing to sing October 16th for Children's Sabbath. We hope you will attend and invite your friends. It's always wonderful to hear the children. They will also take part in different aspects of the service. Your encouragement is appreciated.



Happy Halloween, 40 shopping days
until Beethoven's Birthday!

SpookTACULAR Youth Group



October Youth Bible Study



October Youth Activities

- Oct 2nd– Game Night
- Oct 5th- “Exchange” Week 1
- Oct 9th– Movie Night
- Oct 12th- “Exchange” Week 2
- Oct 16th– Mission Night
- Oct 19th- “Exchange” Week 3
- Oct 23rd– Hayride
- Oct 26th- “Exchange” Week 4
- Oct 30th– Mystery Dinner

BOO!



The Halloween Party

We're having a Halloween party at school.
I'm dressed up like Dracula. Man, I look cool.
I dyed my hair black and cut off my bangs.
I'm wearing a cape and fake plastic fangs.
I put on some makeup to paint my face white,
Like creatures that only come out at night.
My fingernails, too, are all pointed and red.
I look like I'm recently back from the dead.
My mom drops me off and I run into school,
And suddenly feel like the world's biggest fool.
The other kids stare like I'm some kind of freak-
The Halloween party in not till next week!
~Kenn Nesbitt, 2005

Friendship Feast

*Blessed is everyone who shall eat
bread in the Kingdom of God.*



Potato Bar Fundraiser

October 21, 2022

4:30 – 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$8 in advance or

\$10 at the door

Children (4-12) \$3

(Tickets may be purchased from
a Friendship Feast Board Member or at the
First Christian Church office)



Eat in or carry out is available

First Christian Church,

210 North 5th Street

See Arleen Jacobson for tickets

OCTOBER HAIKU

Leaves falling to ground;

God's presence is viewed all 'round.

Glory to His name.



New Address:

Carol Bouldin
5206 S Harvard
Tulsa, OK 74135



Wednesday Night Live October Schedule

October 5th, Psalm 100, "Make a joyful
noise unto the Lord, all ye lands."

Rev. Jimmy White (speaker)

Ponca Indian Methodist Church

Dinner - Indian Tacos

October 12th, "Can I Get a Volunteer?"

Dolley Roland

Dinner—Taco Soup (FUMC Staff)

October 19th, "How to Have God's Love
Flow Thru You." (video by Dr. Gary

Smalley) Kim & Leon

Dinner - Chicken Noodle Soup (UWF)

October 26th, "The 4 Gs': Grief and God's
Grace to Get us Through It" Sue Lunsford

Dinner - Meatloaf (Lori Slater)





PRAYER CORNER

Heavenly and Blessed Father,
We welcome the month of
October with great
expectation and hope.

Lord it is difficult to find the
words to express my gratitude
for all the ways You have
blessed my life.

As I prepare for this new
month, I know that I cannot
do it with out You. But Your
love and strength empower
me.

Thank You for Your
unconditional love. I embrace
Your love and peace.

I will keep my eyes focused
on You. In Jesus name I pray,
Amen!

Pareon.com/ChristiansTT



CARING FUND

The food pantry we established
at the church is nicely stocked
at this time.

We have a Caring Fund that is
used to give utility and rent as-
sistance to those in need. On
Communion Sunday you are
welcome to put a check or enve-
lope in the plate marked
"Caring Fund". There will also
be offering plates at the exits for
cash. You would be amazed at
the amount that can be raised by
just putting in the change from
your purse or pocket.

This Sunday is World Com-
munion Sunday. We hope you
will join us as we join other
Christians around the world to
observe this holy sacrament.



Mother's Day Out

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF PONCA CITY

It has been a great month at
Mother's Day Out. While the
babies and toddlers are being
loved on, sang to, and rocked,
the older classes are taking
advantage of the warm weath-
er at the playground. They are
also making trips each
Wednesday to the Ponca City
Library for their story time
program, *Mother Goose On
the Loose*.

Our classrooms are full of ba-
by giggles, singing, and wild
imagination, and we LOVE
it!! If you are looking for part-
time childcare, we have lim-
ited availability in our three
and four-year-old classroom.
Contact Jordan Meador
through the church office at
(580) 762-1681.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Ernest Jantz	10/01	Barbara Bridwell	10/25
Valerie Huffer	10/03	Sue Kistler	10/25
Darla Church	10/06	Lynn Varner	10/25
Chris Humble	10/06	Brett Hightower	10/26
Bill Elliott	10/08	Stan Long	10/27
Rod Kutz	10/17	Suzy Hron	10/29
Diane Pendleton	10/22	Gineta Swanson	10/29
Dan Flewelling	10/23	Gene Rodgers	10/30
Stacy McGee	10/24	Johnny Caudle	10/31
Vicki Stokke	10/24		





October

2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship World Communion Caring Fund 6:00 TYT	3 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 MDO 10:00 Bill's Bible Study	4 8:30 Men's Coffee Group 9:00 Intercessory Prayer 6:00 Mark Doyle's Group	5 10:00 MDO 3:30 Kids M&Ms 4:00 WOW 5:30 WNL 7:00 Chancel Choir	6 6:00 Knitgiving 6:00 UWF Meeting	7 1:00 UWF Sandwiches for the Mid-High	8
9 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 6:00 TYT	10 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 MDO 10:00 Bill's Bible Study 5:30 SPRC	11 8:30 Men's Coffee Group 9:00 Intercessory Prayer 6:00 Mark Doyle's Group 6:00 Board of Trustees	12 10:00 MDO 3:30 Kids M&Ms 4:00 WOW 5:30 WNL 7:00 Chancel Choir	13	14	15
16 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Children's Sabbath 6:00 TYT	17 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 MDO 10:00 Bill's Bible Study 5:30 Friendship Feast 6:00 Admin Council	18 8:30 Men's Coffee Group 9:00 Intercessory Prayer 6:00 Mark Doyle's Group	19 10:00 MDO 3:30 Kids M&Ms 4:00 WOW 5:30 WNL 7:00 Chancel Choir	20 5:30 Goblins on Grand 6:00 Knitgiving	21 1:00 UWF Sandwiches for the Mid-High	22
23 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 6:00 TYT	24 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 MDO 10:00 Bill's Bible Study 10:00 Quilters	25 8:30 Men's Coffee Group 9:00 Intercessory Prayer 6:00 Mark Doyle's Group	26 10:00 MDO 3:30 Kids M&Ms 4:00 WOW 5:30 WNL 7:00 Chancel Choir	27	28	29
30 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship All Saints' Banner in Welcome Center 6:00 TYT	31 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 MDO 10:00 Bill's Bible Study 5:30 Treats no Tricks		Some people are born for Halloween and some are just counting the days until Christmas. ~Stephen Graham Jones			

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PoncaCityFirstUnitedMethodistChurch or
instagram: fumc_pc



United Women in Faith October Activities

October 6th, 6:00 PM will be the monthly meeting of UWF

October 7th and 21st, 1:00 PM
Prepare sandwiches for the East Middle School youth.

If you are willing to provide cookies for the sack meals, please contact Becky Hightower.



UWF FUNDRAISER

United Women in Faith (formerly UMW) is selling pear honey again this year as a minor money making project for missions. At this time no apple butter is available - unless someone has an abundance of apples that they would like to share with UWF. Pear honey will be available each Sunday in the Welcome Center and the price will be \$6. for 1/2 pint and \$8 for pint. Pear honey is made with pears, pineapple and sugar. This is NOT recommended for those that are diabetic!. Plan to support this project. Many thanks to Trish and Suzie for their help in providing pears and sugar.

Blessings,

Mary Lou



October Quote

October, baptize me with leaves!
Swaddle me in corduroy and nurse me
with split pea soup. October, tuck tiny
candy bars in my pockets and carve
my smile into a thousand pumpkins.
O autumn! O teakettle! O grace!

~Rainbow Rowell
Attachments



OUR STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR

Pastor Leon Veazey
okchapleon@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR

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Larry Davidson
ldlarrydavidson@yahoo.com

Anti-Bullying month

October 2022 - Daily



Prayers for YOUTH

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

1

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. ~ 2 Timothy 1:7

Eternal Father,

Today, I lift up the school administrators, teachers and coaches at (name)'s school. Please grant them wisdom and courage to properly respond to incidents of bullying and other destructive behaviors. Amen!

2

Do not be deceived, "Bad company corrupts good moral." ~ 1 Corinthians 15:33

Awesome Lord,
May (name) not be drawn to be friends with anyone who bullies others.
Amen!

3

"Am I my brother's keeper?"
~ Genesis 4:9

Gracious God,
May (name) understand, he is his brother's keeper, and step up to care for the weak, the afflicted, and the victimized in his orbit. Amen!

4

He reveals the deep things of darkness and brings deep shadows into light. ~ Job 12:22

Savior Father,

Please shine Your light and reveal any deep things of darkness in (name)'s life. If she is a bully, direct us to the resources to counsel and guide her. Amen!

5

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people ... ~ Galatians 6:10

God Hope,
Please infuse (name) with courage to speak up whenever he sees someone being unfairly targeted. May he take every opportunity to do good. Amen!

6

A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of birth. ~ Ecclesiastes 7:1

Blessed God, may (name) stay aware of her reputation. May she choose to be known as a person of character and have the courage to be righteous.
Amen!

7

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you: he will never leave you nor forsake you." ~ Deuteronomy 31:6

Glorious Father,

When (name) feels powerless or terrified due to the people he has to stand up to, and does not know how to proceed, please remind him, he is not alone as You have promised to never leave him nor forsake him. Amen!

8

"Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. ~ Revelation 2:5

Dear God,
Please sensitize (name) to recognize her moments of meanness and injustice. Stir her to repent. May pride and peer pressure not prevent her from changing her ways. Amen!

9

The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and good news refreshes the bones. ~ Proverbs 15:30

Heavenly Father,
May (name) be an encourager, who offers a smile to refresh those who may have lost theirs. Amen!

10

I thank you for answering my prayer and giving me victory!
~ Psalm 118:21

Lord God,

We give you thanks for granting us victory, turning our mourning into dancing, and answering our prayers for this beloved child. Amen!

11

You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor... ~ Leviticus 19:18

All-Powerful God,
No matter how justified, please give (name) the self-control to resist retaliating when wounded, knowing the strong forgive and elevate others, not put them down. Amen!

12

Walk with the wise and become wise: associate with fools and get in trouble. ~ Proverbs 13:20

Righteous Father,
Please protect (name) from associating with fools and bullies. May she only be drawn to wise and thoughtful young men and women. Amen!

13

Hate evil, love good: Establish justice in the gate.
~ Amos 5:15

Holy Lord,

May (name) hate evil in all its forms and love good. May he not follow the masses to do evil but develop a moral compass that stands for justice, even if he must do so alone. Amen!

14

"So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ~ 1 Peter 2:1

Lord Jesus,
May (name) be careful of her words. May she put aside all deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander. Please give her a distaste for gossip. Amen!

15

Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. ~ Ezekiel 18:31

Eternal King,
should (name) be indulging in questionable behaviors, including bullying, please turn his heart around. Put a new spirit in him, a heart of repentance that desires to please You.
Amen!

16

Help him to defend the poor, to rescue the...needy,
and to crush their oppressors. ~ Psalm 72:4

All powerful Lord,
Please strengthen (name)'s hands
and steady her knees so she has
the courage to help those being
bullied and standup against the
bullies. Amen!

17

You are my refuge and my shield; your word is my
source of hope. ~ Psalm 119:114

Savior Jesus, please protect (name) from
being drawn to drinking, drug use and
other deviant behaviors to mask his
feelings of uncertainty and insecurity.
Stir him to turn to You as his shield and
refuge, his source of hope. Amen!

18

What a help you are to the weak!
~ Job 26:2

Awesome God,
May (name) be a help to the weak
who are around her. Stir her to speak
up in the face of injustice and support
those marginalized in her orbit.
Amen!

19

The eyes of the LORD watch over those who do right; his ears are
open to their cries for help. ~ Psalm 34:15

Dear Father,
Though life has become so unsettling,
we know You are in control. Please hear
(name) when he calls out to You for
wisdom and help. Amen!

20

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. ~ Psalm
147:3

Eternal Lord,
You heal the broken-hearted and bind
up their wounds. Please heal the
wounds that may have been inflicted on
(name) due to angry or careless words
or actions. Amen!

21

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
God in Christ forgave you. ~ Ephesians 4:32

Jehovah God,
Each time (name) has the choice to
be kind or mean, in obedience to
Your Word, may he always choose
kindness. Amen!

22

Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in
God! ~ Psalm 42:11

Sovereign Father,
When life is not going according to plan,
please protect (name) from being
downcast and discouraged. Stir her to
place her hope in You, not on people,
popularity, position or possessions. Amen!

23

Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. ~
Matthew 7:12

Everlasting Lord,
as (name) interacts with his peers,
may he live by Your command to do
unto others as he would like them to
do to him. Amen!

24

He reveals deep and mysterious things and knows what lies hidden in
darkness, though he is surrounded by light. ~ Daniel 2:22

Father God,
Please shine Your light to reveal the deep
and mysterious things in (name)'s heart.
Give all who love her the knowledge,
wisdom, and resources necessary to
correct her. Amen!

25

I bless the LORD who gives me counsel:
~ Psalm 16:7

Abba Father,
If (name) is being abused or bullied,
please give him counsel to know how
to respond and bring people alongside
to help him navigate the situation
appropriately. Amen!

26

... Please do not let me be humiliated; do not let my enemies
triumphantly rejoice over me!
~ Psalm 25:2

Gracious Lord,
whether young or old, may (name)'s
enemies not rejoice triumphantly over
her. In Your miraculous way, please
give her victory over all who wish her
ill. Amen!

27

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around
... looking for someone to devour. ~ 1 Peter 5:8

Savior God,
May (name) stay alert as Satan is on a 24/
prowl, seeking to turn the inattentive from
good to bad. May (name) have the self-
control to resist all temptations, including
the temptation to bully others. Amen!

28

Let us not become weary in doing good. ~ Galatians 6:9

Almighty Father,
Meanness and other cruelties are so
prevalent in our society including at
school. Please strengthen (name) so she
does not grow weary of doing good, and
courageously speaks up against abuse.
Amen!

29

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit...
~ 1 Corinthians 6:19

Precious Lord,
Please protect (name) from any
destructive behaviors. May he honor
You with his body, not ingest any
harmful substances or inflict harm on
himself. Amen!

30

Then the LORD said, "Why have you done this terrible thing? ~
Genesis 4:10

Loving God, I pray that if (name)
bullies anyone, she will hear Your
voice admonishing her and holding
her to account. Please convict her
heart to quickly repent. Amen!

31

And we urge you ... warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak... ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:14

Holy Father,
Please sensitize (name) so he does not ignore episodes of bullying around him. Grant him the courage to admonish the
unrulv. speak words to encourage the disheartened, and be of assistance to the weak. Amen!