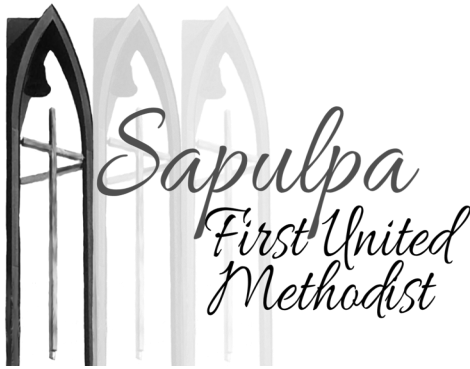


First United Methodist Church
1401 E. Taft
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Crossbeams

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August 2023

God's Got This!



Dr. Allen Schneider

So many things are happening in the life of our church and the life of my family. I'll confess: my anxiety level has been higher than usual. Part of the problem is that I am not a detailed person; I am a big-picture person. I'm pretty good at getting an "overall" view of things and discerning a path forward, but I'm not so good at dealing with all of the details involved in actually moving forward. So I can get overwhelmed. Last week a therapist friend said, "Allen, God's got this." Theologically I know what she said is true, however as a "matter of the heart" it is sometimes difficult for faith and truth to settle in. But in the end, I do believe that if God's "got the whole world in His hands" then He has our church, my family, and you and me (brother and sister) in His hands. These next 30 days are going to be important days of decision for both the church and my family. But I pray you will join me in affirming that God's got this and that we will all be ok.

Back To School

Summer is not over with but most school districts will launch their fall semester on August 17th. In conjunction with this there are a number of "back to school" activities that our church will be engaged with:

Back to School Bash - August 5 (8am-noon)

Held at Sapulpa High School. School supplies will be distributed. Volunteers are needed.



Aloha Lunch - August 11 (@noon)



Held in Fellowship Hall. A "welcome back" lunch for teachers, administrators and workers at the Allen Bowden School.

Prayer and Teacher Recognition - August 13

We will have a special time of prayer during our morning service of worship.

Back to School Swim Party - August 20



Kids & Youth: Swimming and food at the Graham's house after worship.

Church Conference

To Consider A Motion To Disaffiliate From The UMC

An official Church Conference is scheduled for August 13 at 3:00 p.m. The purpose of the Conference is to consider a motion for First UMC Sapulpa to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. A letter, from our District Superintendent, Rev. Connie Gibson, was mailed to each of our Professing Members on July 20. If you have questions regarding the process or how you can participate, please feel free to call the church office. We will address your questions as best we can. We do ask all of our members and Constituents to be in prayer for Church Conference of August 13.

Morning Messages

Aug 6 - Guest Speaker

Aug 13 - The Life Everlasting

Aug 20 - Guest Speaker

Aug 27 - Why Creeds Are Important

Office: 918-224-3006

Web: www.sapulpafumc.org

Welcome Newest Members

We want to welcome our newest members; Jess and Diana Hummel. They unite with us by transfer of membership from the Owasso United Methodist Church. Diana enjoys teaching piano lessons to children. Jess works in Owasso for a tracker supply company. They have been worshipping with us for some time and we are delighted to have them as a part of our congregation!



Missions Update

With this summer's storms, the Chainsaw Gang has been quite busy! We still have work to do, but we are waiting for cooler weather! If you have a couple hours to help either some weekday morning or on a Saturday, please let Ken Henderson or Heather Graham know and you can get in on the fun! We plan to partner with Shoulder2Shoulder this coming fall to provide an evening meal once a month for a night of outreach, fellowship, and worship. Please let us know if you would like to help with meal preparation &/or serving. We continue to partner with our Backpack Program, Children's and Youth Programs with their various activities. Be sure to read about them here in the Crossbeams! And as always, we ask for your support of the Blessing Box, either with donations of nonperishable foods &/or monetary donations. Blessings to all!!

A Blessing for Teachers

We are praying for blessings of good health, strength, and energy as you pour into your students. May the Lord bless you with creativity, peace, and grace as you teach. We pray that blessings would surround you as you walk into your classroom each day. Blessings to you as you nurture young minds and help them grow in knowledge. May you find blessings in the simple moments and joy in everyday things. We pray that God would give you wisdom, knowledge, and understanding as you teach. May your students experience God's love and grace as you teach. May your students see Jesus in you. Amen.

Financial Update

It is not uncommon for us to experience a "slow down" in giving during the summer months. This has been true for us this summer as well. Unfortunately, payroll, utilities, and other operating expenses still need to be paid. We are now significantly down in our General (Operating) Fund. We ask all of our member to do what they can to help us catch up. If you are behind in your regular giving, please let the month of August be a time when you catch up. Further, if you are able to make a special gift to help us through this season, that would indeed be a great blessing.

Thank you for your financial faithfulness. As He has done in the past, we are trusting that God will see us through.

August BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Amanda Simpson
- 02 Gunner Streater, Mendy Mayberry
- 03 Ashlyn Short, Burk Ozbirn, Pete Egan
- 04 Ivan Taylor
- 05 Dave Martin
- 06 Donovan Lawson, Stella Dobson, Steve McCormick Jr.
- 07 Isla Land
- 08 Darrel Brown
- 09 Jagger Thompson, Payton Mayhew
- 10 Gwen Bartleson, Kimberly Drymon
- 11 Debbie Griffin, Jana Housley, Jennye Bock
- 12 Justin Spradlin
- 14 Anna Cluck, Deborah O'Brien, Harold Helton, Lloyd Skinner, Sam Kirk
- 15 Becca McCormick, Brandee Peacock, Mandy Simpson
- 16 Jo Patterson
- 17 Judith Michaels, Morgan Barnett
- 18 Barry Million, Deanna Thompson, E.C. Gabehart, Elizabeth Johnson
- 19 Sarah Gabehart
- 20 Cindy Brody, Jacob Herring, Randy Ogletree
- 21 Monte Czumaj
- 25 Marty Robertson
- 27 Alex Land
- 28 Mary Ann Faulkner
- 30 Melody Watson
- 31 Whitney Denton

Prayer REQUESTS

- Larry Fry (health)
- Diane Gloden (health)
- Sue Coonce (recovery from fall)
- Christy Cole (health)
- Jess Hummel (Surgery 7/27)
- Cheryl Cox (disability money needed)
- Freddie (Carla Lewis's brother—health)
- Jack Callen (friend of Sherry Sherwood—hear attack)
- Celia Rasmussen (Christy Cole's sister—heart issues)

Please inform us of prayer requests:

Phone: (918)224-3006

Email: admin@sapulpafumc.org

Names on this list will be removed after 2 weeks.

First Annual Craft Show

Our Missions team is sponsoring our first annual Craft Sale, on Oct. 14, 2023, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The money raised will help fund the Blessing Box for the winter months. Our first annual craft show is open to church family and friends who are craftsmen, seamsters, painters, or have any hobbies they want to sell. The Missions have two booths, and they are looking for crafters who are willing to donate any items to help support the Missions. Contact Cheryl Cox (918-409-7997), Kathleen Rasco (918-232-1016), or the church office if you rent booth space for this event. Applications are on the church website.



BACKPACK MINISTRY

The beginning of a new school year is just around the corner and we can feel the excitement of the students and staff in the air. The first day of school for Allen Bowden Public School is August 15th. We will make our first delivery of 75 backpacks the week of August 28th. We need your help! Please see Laurie Kirk if you can help with the Backpack program this year. We need Volunteers to:

1. Set up the food once every two weeks.
2. Assemble the bags of food way 2 weeks
3. Pick up food from the food banks 3-4 times per year.
4. Take 75 bags of food to the school once a week.

Prayerfully consider being a part of this important ministry.

Shoe Drive

Our shoe drive is coming to an end, and we thank you all who have donated! The last day to bring shoes is August 10th. So far we have collected 30 pairs, but we are shooting for 50! Help us reach our goal so all children needing shoes will have a pair when school starts. God bless you for your generosity! Our church is the best!



For The Record

Participation in Worship

7/02 Service: 110 Online: 9
 7/11 Service: 91 Online: 3
 7/16 Service: 118 Online: 46
 7/23 Service: 112 Online: n/a

Summer is here and we are behind in General Fund giving. Help us if you can!

June Financial Update

Income:
 Unrestricted: \$ 24,000.96
 Revenues: \$ 0
 Restricted: \$ 0
Total Income: \$ 24,000.96
Expense: \$ 34,513.41
Fund Balance (\$ 9,228.94)



United Women in Faith

What a confusing time our congregation is going through. But we are a strong family and will get through this month and move forward.

We are collecting school supplies for Allen Bowden! The table is set up in the Narthex. There is a jar for donations that will go toward copy paper for the school. The teachers and staff really appreciate everything we collect for them.

Just a reminder..... The Fall RUMMAGE sale is coming! Time to gather up those Christmas decorations you want to get rid of and clean out your closets and kitchen drawers and cabinets!

Upcoming Events:

Aug 22	Executive Meeting	Library	3:00 PM
Sept 7	Joy Circle	Parlor	6:30 PM
Sept 14	Esther Circle	Parlor	9:30 AM
Sept 18 – 21	Rummage Sale set up!!		
Sept 22 – 23	FALL RUMMAGE SALE		

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and NOT to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future."



Aloha Luncheon



Our Church will be providing lunch for 50 staff members of Allen Bowden in our Fellowship Hall at Noon on August 11th. We need help setting up on August 10th from 1-4. Also, we would like to have 1-2 of our members sitting at each table to visit with our guests to build relationships and to make them feel special and loved. On August 11th, you will need to be there at 10:30. Please see Sheri, Laurie, or Trish if you can help. Thank you church family!

Café Chocolat is a relaxing chocolate-themed women's retreat our church is doing together. It includes worship, Bible study, and time for laughter as well as time for quiet reflection. And while the name of our gathering sounds indulgent, we'll be using chocolate as a metaphor for God's extravagant grace. We'll begin with dinner on the evening of September 29th and will finish by 5 pm on Saturday. Our retreat will be held at the church. Call the church office for more information, or stop by our table in the Narthex to learn more and register.





Hey everyone!

As summer winds down and fall is just around the corner, I find myself reflecting on changing seasons. Sure, the calendar reminds us summer is ending (if not that, certainly the school supply displays at Walmart do!) but the changes that come in the seasons of life are not always marked by a specific date. We all experience seasons of life, but on a different "calendar". Some of us may be thriving in a "spring" season while others may be huddled up in a dark "winter" season, waiting for it to pass. Seasons are never as long or as short as we want them to be, but they do serve a purpose. When a season comes to an end, we may find ourselves grieving. Feelings of grief are not only associated with death. I recently read that grief is "the conflicting feelings caused by the end of or change in a familiar pattern or behavior." I remember being so excited and relieved when my son got his driver's license. This kid was involved in every activity under the sun, and I was thrilled when I realized I did not have to be in a parking lot at 2am waiting for the activity bus to return to the high school. Then I realized how much I enjoyed those car rides home- and I found myself grieving the one-on-one time I had with him. Change can be positive and still need room for grieving. No matter what season you may be entering (or leaving), remember that "the Lord gives strength to His people, and He blesses them with peace." (Psalms 29:11) That is my prayer for you this season.

You are loved.
Ms. Sheri

Events:

- Aug 5th- city wide Back to School Bash @ Sapulpa High School 8-12 am. Supplies, resources and fun for PreK-12th grade
- Aug 13th- Backpack/Teacher blessing during worship service
- Aug 20th Back to School SPLASH at the Graham's following worship service

Stay Tuned:

- Bible Blast is coming! 1st and 3rd Sundays 12pm-230pm lunch provided (More details to come)
- MOPS/MOMS group coming Wednesday evenings this fall (more details to come)



Please look for updates in your emails, our website, church activities and worship services.



Hey Sapulpa FUMC!

Here is a quick look into what is going on in the Youth for August...

Wednesday Nights: We'll continue bible study on Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:00 pm unless otherwise notified. Come for the food, games, and the bible!

Sunday Mornings: Every Sunday at 9:30 am, join us in the upstairs Youth classrooms for more engaging bible study and fun games!

Activities: We have a busy month as school is starting back, so here are some highlights. August 5th from 8:00 am -12:00 pm is the Back 2 School Bash at Sapulpa High School. August 11th from 12:00-1:00 pm is the Allen Bowden Aloha Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. August 27th is our Back 2 School Splash at the Graham's House from 12:30-3:00 pm after church. Be on the lookout for more announcements about upcoming events!

I hope all of you are keeping cool in this heat and feeling thrilled about school being just around the corner! Know that you are constantly being prayed for at this church by staff, leadership, and your fellow congregation.

God bless,
Youth Pastor Cabe Killingsworth



Women's Retreat

September 29th-30th
Article on page 3!

Ministry Team

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Dr. Allen Schneider (Senior Pastor) | allen@sapulpafumc.org |
| Trish Prine (Office Administrator) | admin@sapulpafumc.org |
| Nancy Green (Financial Administrator) | finance@sapulpafumc.org |
| Sheri Osborne (Family/Children Dir.) | kids@sapulpafumc.org |
| Gina Blansett (Nursery Director) | gina.blansett@gmail.com |
| Cabe Killingsworth (Youth Director) | youth@sapulpafumc.org |
| Jim Gregory (Organist/Director of Music) | jim@sapulpafumc.org |
| Terri Wadley (Music Associate) | dtlwadley1975@gmail.com |
| Leslie Schmidt (Praise Team Director) | leslieschmidt@yahoo.com |
| Sarah Jones (A/V Director) | sjones@sapulpafumc.org |
| Paul Tucker (Building/Maintenance) | |