

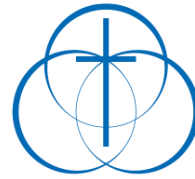
First Methodist Church of Sapulpa
1401 E. Taft
Sapulpa, OK 74066

Crossbeams



February 2024

Thoughts on Lent



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

It is heartening to open this letter acknowledging our blessings as we have begun the new year on an upbeat note compared to this same time last year. A year ago, we were deeply involved in the discernment process regarding the UMC's disaffiliation. We were also faced with the imminent retirement of our long-term pastor, Allen Schneider. We completed the disaffiliation from the UMC and Pastor Allen's retirement in October.

The Lenten Season is fast upon us. Though Methodism takes the season of the Christian church seriously, we are not bound to them. I do hope that you will consider Ash Wednesday as a time to "get on track" with God's Calendar.

Lent is a time of reflection on our lives and preparation for Easter. I have found that Ash Wednesday is an opportunity to re-calibrate my thoughts, my need for forgiveness, and my desire for change in my life on a perspective I need to rethink.

Churchgoers don't automatically make us more "holy" - only God can do that work—but they can remind us of the changes we want to make and the love of God we need to intensify. May we all take the steps God has called us to with obedience and joy.

Bill Clark

The next challenge for which we were in discernment was the future affiliation of our church, if any. Additionally, we began the search for a new permanent pastor. Fortunately, our interim pastor, Bill Clark, agreed to continue with us and offer his guidance and experience while we continue into this year. I am pleased to share that on January 14th of this year, during the worst weather we could possibly have, we held a church conference to vote to join the Global Methodist Church. The vote was approved with 64 votes in favor and one dissenting vote. As a follow-up to the favorable vote, we completed our application to join the GMC and sent it in for their acceptance. **On January 29th, we were accepted as members of the GMC.**

We continue to pursue the search for a senior pastor to lead our church forward. I trust and appreciate your continued prayers during this process and that we will find the best person most suitable for our church and its future.

Steve Collins
Chair - Church Council

Morning Messages

February 4	Mark 1: 29-39	"A Time for Healing"
February 11	Mark 9: 2-9	"A Time for Change"
February 18	Mark 1: 9-15	"A Time for Deliverance"
February 25	Mark 8: 31-38	"A Time for Repentance"

Office: 918-224-3006

Web: www.sapulpafumc.org

Prayer Shawl

We'd love for you to join us on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month, starting in March, for a crafting and fellowship session. You can bring your knitting, crocheting, quilting, or hand-tying skills and make any type of blanket for our prayer shawl ministry. We're hoping to find a sewing machine to use as well, so if you have one to donate or know of someone who does, please reach out to our coordinator Cheryl Cox for more information. We can't wait to see you there!



Don't forget to swing by the Narthex on the last Sunday of every month for some tasty donuts, delicious coffee, and great fellowship. It's the perfect way to kick off your Sunday morning. Can't wait to see you there!

Make a difference in someone's life by donating blood on March 3, 2024, from 8:30 AM to Noon at the FLC. Your donation can help save a life. Mark your calendars, and stay tuned for more details about this life-saving event. The blood drive is on March 3, 2024, from 8:30 AM to noon at the FLC—more information to follow.



**Our
Blood
Institute**



As we prepare for the season of Lent, let us come together on Wednesday, February 14, for a special service of The Imposition of the Ashes. All our members are invited to participate in this meaningful event, which marks the beginning of a time of reflection and spiritual renewal. We have arranged for two services, each lasting around 30 minutes, at 12:00 PM and 5:00 PM, respectively. Join us as we embark on this faith journey, and let the light of hope guide us through the Lenten season.

We would love to invite you to join us on February 11, 2024, for a memorable Scout Sunday celebration. This year, we are thrilled to have the talented members of Troop 225 assisting us with the service and sharing some fascinating insights about their program. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a community and show our support for these young achievers. Let's recognize their hard work, dedication, and outstanding accomplishments during this exceptional service. We believe that this event will be a source of inspiration for all of us, especially for our younger generation. So, mark your calendars and don't miss this chance to be a part of something truly special. We can't wait to see you there.



February BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Garland Osborne, Judy James
- 03 Dick White
- 04 Buddy Sherwood Jr., Carla Lewis, Stanley Garvin
- 06 Jessica Hickerson
- 07 Adley Bunch, Justin Hershberger, Nancy Green
- 08 Karen Smith
- 10 Wilma LaFavers
- 11 Everleigh Petersen, Marjory Taylor, Stephanie Cluck
- 17 Justyn Rains, Rebekah Northrip
- 20 Mary Beth Sellers
- 21 Paul Tucker
- 24 Allen Schneider
- 26 Dave Simmons
- 27 Shirley Fletcher
- 29 Mason McCormick

Prayer REQUESTS

- Ukraine
- Middle East
- Homeless
- Schneider Family (calmness/discernment for a home)
- Maxine Conners (health)
- Ivan Taylor (diverticulitis)

Jesus, I know that when you walked on the earth, you trod upon hard places, you felt the strain of this world and the pressures of mental torment. So I ask that you would come besides me now, lead me through this time where my mind cannot cope. Help me to find peace and calming inner thoughts. You hold me safe Lord, I trust in you. Amen.

— Unknown

**Please inform us
of prayer requests:**

Phone: (918) 224-3006

Email: admin@sapulpafumc.org



Our Flock Rocks!



Wednesday Dinner

February 7th

Breakfast Casserole, Cinnamon Rolls, & Fruit

February 14th

Spaghetti, Salad, Bread, & Dessert

February 21st

Chicken & Noodles, Vegetables, & Dessert

February 28th

Sloppy Joes, Fries, & Dessert

Methodist Men

We want to invite all the men to join us for our monthly Methodist Men's group meeting. The meeting will commence at **noon on Thursday, February 1st**, in the Fellowship Hall. The Methodist Men meeting is an excellent opportunity for all the men to come together, enjoy fellowship, and participate in a devotion session. Ken Henderson has generously offered to provide us with lunch. All men are welcome, and we look forward to seeing you there!



We invite you to join us on March 2nd for a spring-cleaning day at our church. Preparing for the upcoming Easter celebrations, we must ensure our church looks its best for all visitors. This is an excellent opportunity for our community to come together and show our love and appreciation for our place of worship.

We will clean and organize the church grounds, the sanctuary, and all other areas needing attention. Please bring any cleaning materials that you would like to use.

Your help and participation in this event would be appreciated. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on March 2nd for a day of spring cleaning. Together, we can make our church a beautiful and welcoming place for all who visit.



For The Record

Participation in Worship

12/31 Service: 89 Online: 7
 01/07 Service: 98 Online: 2
 01/14 Service: 55 Online: N/A
 01/21 Service: 68 Online: 21
 01/28 Service: 102 Online: N/A

December Financial Update

Income:
 Unrestricted: \$ 47,310.76
 Revenues: \$ 844.95
 Restricted: \$ 2,700.00
Total Income: \$ 50,855.71
Expense: \$ 24,189.05
Net Income: \$ 26,666.66



WINGS (Women in God's Service) is ramping up for a year of community service. We have not yet set our calendar of events (thanks to the weather), but soon, you will know when the first Rummage sale will be.

We do have our slate of officers for 2024. The officers consist of President - Christi Cole, Vice President - Jennifer Lindsay, Secretary - Sally Henderson, Treasurer - Amber Helms, Spiritual Growth - Barbara Bush, Membership - Ann Cornelius, Program Resources - Vicki St. Clair, Missions/Social Action - Cheryl Cox, Newsletter - Kay Arbenz, Nomination Committee: Kay Arbenz, Willie Garvin, and Vickie St. Claire, Esther Circle Chairman - Vickie St. Claire, Joy Circle Chairman - Kay Arbenz.

Please join us for a Circle or Joint Circle meeting to meet strong women working to help our church and community. Joint Circle meetings will be announced in the Crossbeams and the bulletin. The meetings are held on a Saturday and last about 2 hours.

Upcoming Events:

February 1	Joy Circle	Parlor	6:00PM
February 8	Esther Circle	Parlor	9:30AM

Be blessed,
 Kay Arbenz



Thank you! The generosity of the people who have been contributing to the Blessing Box, it has fed so many people. Because of this, it has become a very popular outlet in our community, which means that often times it is empty. In the past we have had extra food stored at the church, but those shelves are running low. So, we are in need of people to bring extra food. Please feel free to drop it off in church narthex.

We have some Blessing Box Angels who occasionally go shopping for single serving food items. If you would like to make a financial contribution to that, you can leave an envelope in the mailbox or in the Sunday Worship offerings. Thank you so much for helping us continue to provide for our local community's needs!



Hi everyone!

In February, we will be learning about God's love for us! We will have a Valentine's YAY celebration /Parent's Night Out on Wed Feb 14, from 5 to 9 pm. We will have dinner, a lesson, crafts and games. See Ms. Sheri for more info. Sign up today!

Check out our Cereal Bowl challenge in the kids' hallway from Wednesday, Jan 31- Feb 11 (Super Bowl Sunday). Come and vote- will your favorite cereal be picked as the favorite? Watch the bracket for updates!

Coming in March:

We will host a community egg hunt and a Special Needs egg hunt on campus. We will also be hosting our 3rd annual Egg Hunt at Allen Bowden. Call the church office or contact Ms. Sheri for more information on how you can get involved!

You are loved.
Ms. Sheri

For God SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON SO THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL HAVE EVERLASTING Life



Hey Sapulpa FMC!

I hope everyone had a great start to the new year! We're definitely ready for Spring to be here and for the Lord to continue working in every ministry opportunity we have in Sapulpa and beyond. Here is a quick look into what the Youth is doing this month...

Wednesday Nights: Church dinner and Youth Bible Study is every Wednesday night from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Join us for fun games, great fellowship, and deep bible study.

Sunday Mornings: The Youth meet every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the upstairs Youth classrooms above the Family Life Center. We have snacks in case you missed breakfast, games, and engaging bible study.

Coming Events: The Youth are in final preparations for the Spring Break Ski Trip in March. Please be in prayer as we get all the details smoothed out for the trip and a safe trip when we go. Watch for missional opportunities this month and fun activities week to week.

Shoulder2Shoulder: They have a lot going on this month, and in the months ahead, as they are coming off of their prayerful hiatus. They have moved their weekly street worship to Saturday afternoons at 2:00. However, this Friday February 2nd will be their initial street worship kick off at 6:00pm. Tuesday nights will be intimate worship and prayer at Ridgeway church at 6:00pm. Be on the lookout for more events as they continue their impactful ministry as well!

God Bless,
Youth Director Cabe Killingsworth

Two members need a little help:

- A member in the Kiefer area in a ride to church on Sundays.
- A member in the Sapulpa area needs to hire someone to do some housework and help pick up groceries and some rides to places. If you are interested, please call the church office, and Trish will give you the info to contact them.



Ministry Team

- Rev. Bill Clark (Interim Pastor)
 - Trish Prine (Office Administrator)
 - Nancy Green (Financial Administrator)
 - Sheri Osborne (Family/Children Dir.)
 - Gina Blansett (Nursery Director)
 - Cabe Killingsworth (Youth Director)
 - Jim Gregory (Organist/Director of Music)
 - Leslie Schmidt (PT Director/Music Associate)
 - Sarah Jones (A/V Director)
 - Paul Tucker (Building/Maintenance)
- admin@sapulpafumc.org
finance@sapulpafumc.org
kids@sapulpafumc.org
gina.blansett@gmail.com
youth@sapulpafumc.org
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sjones@sapulpafumc.org