

First United Methodist Church
1401 E. Taft
Sapulpa, OK 74066
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October 2023

Praying Forward



Dr. Allen Schneider

I'm not quite ready to say "Good-bye" yet but I am planning to retire on Nov. 1. My last Sunday in the pulpit will be Sunday, October 29. I am aware that task force of our Transition Team is looking for an appropriate person to serve as an "interim" pastor during the time from my retirement up to the re-affiliation with a new denomination and the securing of a new Senior Pastor. Our family is planning to remain in the Jenks/Glenpool/Sapulpa area and we are presently looking to buy a house in this area. Beth will continue to work at the Jenks Public Schools and Chic-fil-a and I hope to further develop my family counseling practice: Living Hope Family Therapy & Counseling. I will be working closely with our Transition Team during the month of October to ensure a smooth process of change. Let's face it: change is hard and nothing goes perfectly. But I want our changes to be led and sustained by God and I invite us to "pray our way" forward through October!

We Are A Work In Progress

Following our congregational disaffiliation vote, our Discernment and Transition Team has been at work to ensure a smooth transition for congregational re-affiliation with a new denomination. At present, this is where we stand:

First, all of the required legal documents and exhibits have been submitted. Considerable work was involved in preparing these materials (including a membership audit of our entire church). We are especially thankful for the efforts of Trish Prine, Nancy Green, Kay Arbenz, Cheryl Cox, Kathleen Rascoe, Steve Collins (and others) for the many hours they put in to prepare these materials.

Second, all of our required apportionment and pension payments have been paid. This payment (taken from our "reserve funds") is being held in "escrow" until the ratification vote on October 13th. Our final payment was \$136,204.40. To date we have since recovered \$65,485 through special contributions. We still invite you to contribute to this cause if you are able.

Third, the next step in the process is the "ratification" by the Annual Conference which is scheduled for October 13th. If this vote passes then the legal day of disaffiliation will be November 1st.

Fourth, our Discernment and Transition Team continue to study options for denominational re-affiliation. We anticipate that soon a recommendation for re-affiliation will be made to our Church Council and presentations (followed by discussion) will be made to the congregation.

Fifth, once a denomination for re-affiliation is chosen we will begin the process (in cooperation with our new denomination) of securing a new Senior Pastor. Pastor Schneider is officially retiring November 1st.

Please Continue To Pray As We Move Forward!

Morning Messages

Oct 1 - *Forgiveness is Real*, Ps. 51

Oct 8 - *A Path to Joy*, Ps 42

Oct 15 - *The Cycle of Victorious Living*, Ps. 37

Oct 22 - *The Benefits of Grace*, Ps. 103

Oct. 29 - *The End of All Things is at Hand*, 1 Pet. 4:7-11

Office: 918-224-3006

Web: www.sapulpafumc.org

Upcoming October Events

October is a busy month! Here is a highlight of the events this month!



Arts and Crafts Show

From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on October 14th. Don't miss this opportunity to shop with all the vendors! This is the perfect event to shop and decorate for Christmas. We would like this event to become an annual event, so please make it worthwhile for vendors to participate. All proceeds will be donated to Missions for the Christmas and Thanksgiving Blessing Box.



OBI Vein Drain Blood Drive

From 8:30 am to Noon on October 22nd. Donors will receive this glow-in-the-dark T-shirt and one free entry to the OKC Zoo.

Fall Rummage Sale



October 27th from 8-5 pm & October 28th from 8-Noon. Items will be accepted by the ladies the week before the event. We would appreciate it if you did not bring your donations before then. There is a need for help setting it up!

Trunk or Treat



We will be having a Trunk or Treat event on October 29th this year from 5-7 pm. Sign-ups will be available soon, and we encourage everyone to participate by decorating their car trunk. Don't worry if you do not have the necessary items, Sheri will provide them. Remember, the more trunks, the better the event!

More Ways to Volunteer and Give...



Arts and Crafts Show: On October 14th, volunteers will be appreciated even if it is only a couple hours. We also need donations of sweets and craft items for our mission booth. Please remember all profits will benefit our Blessing Box ministry during the holidays.

Blessing Box: We are always in need of none-perishable donations to the blessing box.



Halloween Candy: We are collecting candy for Trunk or Treat and Sapulpa's Spooktacular. Collection buckets are in the Narthex.

Please check your Email/Facebook/Instagram for more events!!!



Allen Bowden Socks: Sock-tober begins October 1st and it will conclude on October 29th! We are collecting socks of all sizes for students at Allen Bowden, from pre-K to adult. Look for the collection bin outside the sanctuary.

Allen Bowden Pawsitivity Store: We are collecting items for Allen Bowden's Pawsitivity store. Volunteers needed at the school October 27th...see Sheri.

Allen Bowden Mobile Pumpkin Patch: We will host a pumpkin patch at Allen Bowden Oct 27 1230pm please contact Sheri ASAP if interested

October BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Trey Collins III
- 02 Irene Mann, Kathleen Rasco
- 04 Greg Helms
- 07 Sheri Osborne
- 08 Cindy Swift, O.D. Wingard
- 09 Patty Hershberger, Robert Ragsdale
- 10 Jeanne Adams, Leonard Gardner, Megan Linnington
- 11 Johnna Collins, Rick Woolery
- 14 Diana Hummel
- 15 Allyson Carver, Diane Gloden, Jeremy Johnson, Pam Alberding, Rick Engleman
- 16 Joe Tuttle
- 17 Jeanne Parks
- 18 Jason Reh
- 20 Sue Sullivan
- 22 Sherry Sherwood
- 23 Steve Leedy
- 25 Peggy Shelden
- 26 Lois Higgins
- 29 Ed Mouser

Prayer REQUESTS

- Larry Fry (health)
- Diane Gloden (health)
- Sue Coonce (health)
- Sue Skinner (health)
- Marian Frazier (health)
- Jackie Robertson (health)
- Maxine Conners (health)
- Daniel Maris (Claire's brother—Liver/kidney failure)
- Celia Rasmussen (Christy Cole's sister—health)
- Ray Cox (Cheryl's BIL—terminal lung cancer)
- Dicky Steeples (Wadley/Schmidt friend—heart issues)
- Donnie Grant (Mary Jennings SIL—health)
- Kay Arbenz (Cousin Steve Webb passed away)
- Schneider Family (calmness/discernment for a home)

Please inform us of prayer requests:

Phone: (918)224-3006

Email: admin@sapulpafumc.org

Names on this list
will be removed after 2 weeks.

Wednesday Dinner

October 4th

Grilled Chicken, Grilled Veggies, Dessert

October 11th

Lasagna, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert

October 18th

Roast, Veggies, Rolls, Dessert

October 25th

Mexican Surprise & Dessert



UMM meet at 12:00 noon October 5, 2023 in the Fellowship Hall, for our regular lunch meeting. We hope to see you there!

SANTA SACKS

You're invited to participate in a mission project to send Christmas SANTA SACKS to 39 Oklahoma servicemen and women deployed overseas. The project is to fill a bag with items they are missing from home. We've been in touch with them and they've made some specific requests.

The best way to maximize our funds is to purchase in bulk, so we're asking for your financial support of this project. Preliminary pricing indicates each bag will cost a minimum of \$20.00, before shipping. No donation, large or small, will go unappreciated.

Please make out your checks to the church and specify "SANTA SACKS" in the memo. Or if you put cash in the pew envelopes, please also specify "Santa Sacks" on the envelope. Ask if your Sunday School class or service group would like to share in this project. Our SANTA SACKS have to be mailed by November 1 in order to reach their destination by Christmas. Please continue to pray for all our servicemen and women at home and overseas. Thanks so much for helping to make Christmas away from home a little easier for these troops. If you would like more information, please contact Barbara Bush.

For The Record

Participation in Worship

9/03 Service: 85 Online: 8
 9/10 Service: 118 Online: 10
 9/17 Service: 105 Online: n/a
 9/24 Service: 81 Online: 4

Special Gifts to Offset the Cost of Disaffiliation Are Appreciated.

August Financial Update

Income:

Unrestricted: \$ 29,347.85
 Revenues: \$ 339.58
 Restricted: \$ 18,250
Total Income: \$ 36,078.65
Expense: \$ 48,027.43

Fund Balance (\$ 19,925.15)



United Women in Faith

Happy Fall y'all!

So much is happening at our church with the disaffiliation, BUT we remain a family and we stick together, and we move forward. Keep our church family in your prayers.

Please plan on attending the Special Unit meeting on October 1st at 2:00 PM. At this Unit meeting we will discuss the way our church ladies will move forward.

Just a reminder, the rummage sale has been rescheduled to October 27—28. Set up will begin October 23rd. There is not room at the church to store items this year until set up begins. Please don't bring things earlier.

Please join us at one of the two Circle Meetings. What a great way to get to know other women in the church and be a part of all that we do to support our community and our church.

Upcoming Events:

Oct 1	Unit Meeting	Fellowship Hall	2:00 PM
Oct 5	Joy Circle	Parlor	6:30 PM
Sept 12	Esther Circle	Parlor	9:30 AM

Church Wide Clean Up



Please keep your eyes and ears open for a date for the church clean up. The Trustees will meet on October 3 and a plan will be set! We are hoping to get our church cleaned up inside and out. There will be sign up sheets in the narthex as soon as a date is set.

Do you see a problem with our church property? PLEASE reach out to a member of the Trustee board. If you have a problem with anything at the church, please let the Trustees know. We meet the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 in the library.

Thank you, Kay Arbenz



shepherd shĕp'ərd

One who cares for and guides a group of people, as a minister or teacher.

I was hired in March 2020, one week before the pandemic shutdown. Starting a new ministry with no congregational contact was a challenge, and I spent a lot of time in the office trying to figure out how to navigate this opportunity. As I listened to Pastor Allen describe our family, our values and our ministry, it was easy to see this is a church with a clear vision and mission of serving God and loving others. I was excited to hear about all the outreach projects we were involved in, but what touched my heart the most was the compassion this church family has for each other. And I have never served at a church (member, volunteer or staff) that had a shepherd like Pastor Allen.

I have been "in church" my entire life. Some churches run endless financial campaigns, and others are focused on numbers and growth. While these are both important to the function and livelihood of the church, sometimes the congregation is overlooked or left untended. Some of us have been hurt by past experiences in the church. I was spiritually limping when I came on staff, honestly questioning if I was truly called to ministry. I am so grateful God brought me here to be a part of this flock, where I (and my family) was cared for and loved back to spiritual health.

We have been so blessed to be guided, cared for and loved by this man and his family. Allen's wisdom and humor helped guide us through the challenges we have faced over the last few years. Kristi has poured into each one of us- filling our cups with love, sweetness and grace. Beth's friendliness and fun spirit brings a smile to everyone's face (and her hugs will be missed!)

What an example they have set for us. When it came time to select a theme for the children's ministry, it was easy. Our kids' ministry name and logo is GLOW Kids - Shining God's Light in Our World. The Schneider's are the embodiment of Matthew 5:16 "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Allen, Kristi and Beth: We are so thankful for the time we had to serve together. God has truly blessed us through you. Thank you for being such faithful servants. You are so loved.



Our Flock Rocks!



Hey Sapulpa FUMC!

Here's a quick look into what is going on in the Youth this month...

Wednesday Nights: Bible studies will continue along with Church dinners from 5:30-7:00pm!

Sunday Mornings: Join us in the upstairs Youth classrooms for bible study and fun at 9:30am!

Events: We have a busy month planned full of opportunities to serve, have fun, and be involved in the church weekly. Be on the lookout for updates on times and dates for those events and always feel free to ask about how you can be more involved in this church and our community.

Happy Fall Y'all!

God Bless,
Youth Director, Cabe Killingsworth



Let's Celebrate the Schneider's!

We have the whole month of October to love on Allen, Kristi, & Beth. Don't miss the opportunity to make a call, write a note, or stop by the office. Share with them how they have blessed you, your family, and our congregation.

Ministry Team

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|--|-------------------------|
| 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) | |