

The Church Mouse



NOV-DEC 2010

PRAY and Sunday School - Nov-Dec

It was an honor and a privilege to help kick-off the PRAY program this year for our youth. Many youth are participating that do not even attend Gary's UMC, so it is wonderful to see our ministry extending beyond the boundaries of our own walls. Boy Scouts from Gary's own Troop 902, as well as John Houlberg's Troop 900 in Prince George are participating along with Girl Scouts and Gary's Methodist Youth Fellowship. There are two programs being offered that are age-level specific. The God and Church program introduces youth in grades 6-8 to the ministry of the church. The God and Life program helps develop the ministry of youth in Grades 9-12.

I want to extend a special thank you to those that have stepped up to help lead us in this program. Alison Carmack and Kacee Thompson are leading the God and Church program. John Houlberg and Janet Callis are leading the God and

Life program. Without their willingness to teach and profess the love of Christ to these youth, I do not know how we could have done it.

Feel free to stop by and witness these youth's growth in Christianity during one of their meeting nights. They meet every other Wednesday evening at 6:30.

May Christ continue to light our paths.

In reference to Sunday School...

First of all, I would like to say thank you for your support in my new role as Superintendent. It came as a shock to be asked to assist with this endeavor, but honestly I felt led in my heart to come forward and see what can be done. Over the past several months we have watched the Sunday School classes dwindle in size and no one can seem to explain why. We offer classes for the nursery, pre-school, elemen-

tary, youth and adult ages groups. We are more than willing to offer additional classes for those that may be interested. I ask, no I beg, you to let us know what we can do to help you fulfill your Christian education needs. We've saved a place for you at our tables, so please come join us.

Just one hour could change your life!

Steve Snodgrass,
P.R.A.Y. & Sunday School
Coordinator

Come Join Sunday School

- We start at 9:45 am
- Nursery - Kacee Thompson
- Preschool (3y/o-K) - Brandi Butterworth
- Elementary (1-5 Grade) - Stacia Lee
- Teen (6-12 Grade) - Alison Carmack
- Adult Class - Mike Henning

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GARY'S UMC MISSION

- To encourage every person to become a disciple for Jesus Christ. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this community of faith that nurtures our brothers and sisters, reaches out to those in need, and witness to those without hope.

Little Things Mean A Lot

Thank you for all collections for the Prince George Food Bank! Our targeted items for the next 2 months are:



November Bottled or Canned Juice
December Instant Potatoes

Please continue to place donations in one of the two collection areas (Narthex or back hall way). Still accepting paper or plastic bags. The large department store bags are good for the clothes closet.



Should you wish to physically help, they are open on Tues & Fri from 10-2. Gary's UMC volunteers the 4th Friday of each month. Submitted by Julie & Jane

Sunday School
9:45
Worship Service
11:00

Dear Family and Friends of Gary's,

Having just finished a chapter by chapter study in the Letter to the Ephesians, there are many Scriptures that are fresh on my mind.

One of the key verses in this letter is found in chapter 4 verse 4, where it reads: "We are all parts of one body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future".

In this present day and time of stress and strain on our individual and family lives, I discern one of the enemy's attacks on the body of Christ is with the enticing culture of modern technology in whatever forms that may come. Whether that technology is through TV or the latest I Pod device that attract our attention, nevertheless, we are becoming more and more isolated from one another in our relationships.

The bottom line is; we no longer share with one another in family and community. Instead we are inundated with the opinions and polls of a society that basically reflect humanistic and hedonistic ideals.

We call ourselves Christians (Christ-followers) and treat Him as if He were just another spoke in the wheel of life, where the center hub revolves around me, myself, and I while traveling along with the flow of the world that leads to confusion and a sense of no hope or a future.

We, who, have been called and commissioned by Jesus Christ, our Commander in Chief, often project to family and community the thought that there is no future or hope for the present situation. If we believe that in our hearts and minds then we're going to project that vision to family, friend and foe.

We are in a constant battle with the forces of darkness, and we need to use every spiritual weapon at our disposal. (see Ephesians 6:11-18).

I believe that we are best suited for this battle when we realize our importance for one another in the local church. Through the teaching and preaching of God's Word we can be equipped with the armor in which we are to wear daily in this ongoing battle.

I thank God for the diversity and unity in His family here at Gary's and covet your prayers as we move forward embracing and living the life that God has purposed for each of us as His beloved children.

In the Family,

Pastor Henry

"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."

Jeremiah 29:11

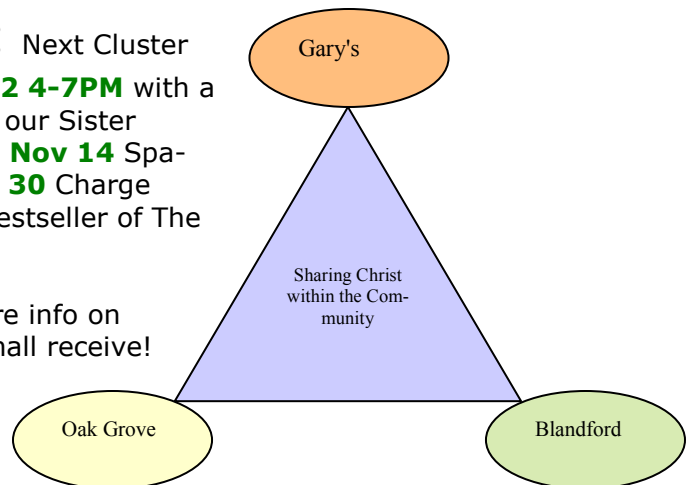
Shirley and I want each of you to know how very thankful and blessed we are to be your pastoral family for such a time as this. May our Lord Jesus Christ bless each of you during this season of Thanksgiving and Christmas. We love you in Christ as we serve Him through serving each of you.

Pastor Henry and Shirley

CLUSTER NEWS: Next Cluster Worship will be @ Blandford UMC on **December 12 4-7PM** with a live nativity, worship and caroling. Other dates of our Sister Churches you need to make note of: At Blandford, **Nov 14** Spaghetti Supper 4-7 w/Copper Ridge & Hwy 35, **Nov 30** Charge Conference @ 7:30 and **Dec 9** at 7PM NY Times Bestseller of The Christmas Jar, Jason Wright will be present.

**Charge Conference
November 30 at
Blandford UMC.**

Want more info on above, ASK and Thee shall receive!





Always a need...

It certainly has been a busy year, lots of activity in the church. Which says volumes about those that have participated in giving, sharing and helping us expand on our ministries.

Gary's is no different in their needs of HELP. I believe we fall into the same category of 80/20 rule as so many others. Many of us would love to help, but haven't the time or energy or know how. Or like myself, sadly, over commit and then fall short of effectiveness or passion. Can't help but believe that God would like us to continue to pursue in the giving and witnessing of His Love and Grace.

If I have learned one thing this past year, when I step out of God's Room and I turn left into the stream of the world, I am still welcome back into the room with God. Which then provides me with the strength to step out and turn right. Not perfect by a long shot, definitely a work in progress but powered by His love, reminded I am able to move those mountains.

We have many openings for the new year, which we pray you will consider filling. With Alison's departure we will need a youth minister, BUT we still need an assistant for that position, so if you prefer to not wear the chiefs headdress but have a calling to assist, please see someone SOON.

Also, we are in need of someone to coordinate the Acolytes and the Flower ministry. Both Cindy Thompson and Inez Tyrcha who have done an exceptional job, deserve a break.

We are pleased to have filled the Superintendent position with Steve Snodgrass.

God is good and he will continue to fill our cups. Again, pray about it, answer the prayer and God will Bless us all!

Submitted by Karen Dearman Bailey

NOTE: Regarding Hooks n' Needlers

Effective November 1, 2010 the Group held at Gary's every other Monday at 1PM has officially disbanded and joined the Senior's Circle at Southside Regional Medical Center.



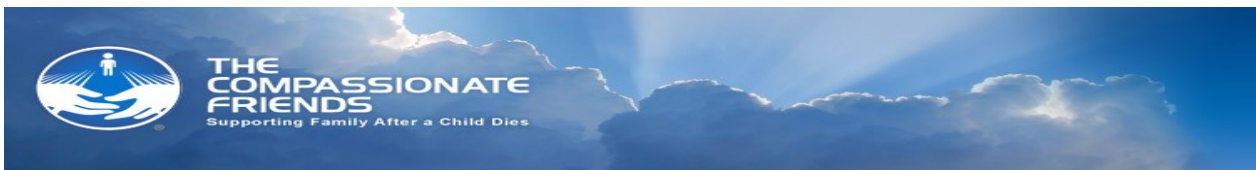
If you have an interest to join, please contact Carolee Lee.

We thank them for the numerous prayer shawls, afghans and hats they Lovingly produced, blessed and donated.

No EXCUSE Sunday

Important Notice: We are pleased to announce that, to make it possible for everyone to attend Church this Sunday, we are arranging a special "No Excuse Sunday." Cots will be placed in the foyer for those who say, "Sunday is my only day to sleep in." There will be a special section with lounge chairs for those who feel that our pews are too hard. Eye drops will be available for those with tired eyes from watching late night TV. We will have steel helmets for those who say, "The roof would cave in if I ever came to church". Blankets will be furnished for those who think the church is too cold; fans for those who say it is too hot. Scorecards and pencils will be available for those who wish to make a list of the hypocrites who are present. Your close relative and friends, too will be in attendance - a boon to those who always are expected to be on Sunday kitchen duty - "I can't go to church and cook dinner, too". We will distribute "Stamp out Stewardship!" buttons for those who feel the church is always asking for money or help. One section will be adorned with trees and grass for those who like to seek God in nature. Doctors and nurses will be in attendance for those who plan to be sick on Sunday. The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who never have seen the church without them. We will provide hearing aids for those who can't hear the preacher and cotton for those who think the music is too loud.

Hope and love to see you there!



We are a group of parents, grandparents, and adult siblings that have lost a child. We meet the 4th Thursday of every month at 7PM in Gary's UMC library room. If you have lost a child young or old, recent or many years ago, please come and share your story with us as we remember together.

Many parents just want others to understand, that "If you mention my child's name I may cry. But if you don't mention it, you will break my heart." We all just want our child to not be forgotten. ~ You need not walk alone~ Next two meetings are Nov.18th (change due to Thanksgiving) and Dec. 23rd.

To contact the facilitator, Stacia Lee call 804-898-4885 or email Trinsmommi@aol.com.

Submitted by Stacia Lee

November 2010

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 BS	4	5	6
7 Daylight Savings Time Ends	8	9	10 Council Mtg 7PM BS	11	12	13 UMM Dinner 4-7
14 UMM Mtg;/ SCE	15	16 UMW	17 BS	18 CF Mtg	19	20
21	22	23	24 BS	25	26	27
28	29	30 Charge Conf @ Blandford				Pls Note Times/Dates can change!

- 11/3- Every Wed Night 7PM Bible Study ~ Amos.
- 11/10 Council Mtg 7PM
- 11/13 UMM Spaghetti Dinner 4-7 PM
- 11/14 UMM Mtg 8:30 AM
- 11/14 SCE Blandford
- 11/18 Compassionate Friends Mtg 7PM
- 11/30 Charge Conference at Blandford 7:30PM
- Choir Practice each Thursday @ 7:30 pm
- SCE - Stands for Sister Church Event

United Methodist Women's (UMW) Group

The UMW would like to thank all those that supported the annual Brunswick Stew the first weekend in October. This year we tried a craft sale at the same time and it went so well this could turn into an annual event also.

We meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month and we welcome all women of the church. Join us for our next meeting November 16 at 7PM. Ms. Cuffe of the District will be our guest to discuss prison ministry.

December meeting will be a special outing, more info to follow.

Our 2011 Officers have been elected; Jean Janeka-Pres, Julie Lee-V-Pres, Katherine Tyler-Sec., and Jane Lee-Treasurer.

Submitted by Jean Janeka

Nursery Volunteer Schedule is as follows:

Nov 7 Karen B. & Jenny	Nov 14 Patty & Shel
Nov 21 Julie, Ben & Josh	Nov 28 Stacia & Trinity
Dec 5 Brandi & Carol D.	Dec 12 None-Cantata
Dec 19 Kim and Sydney	Dec 26 Kacee & Cindy
Jan 2 Bonnie & Elaine	Jan 9 Karen S. & Girls

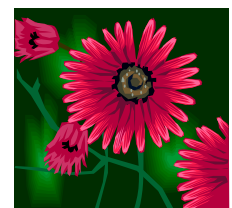
Thanks to all who volunteer to this precious ministry. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Stacia Lee.



Yes, the UMW continue to collect these labels, thanks for contributing.

Poinsettia orders will be available shortly, if you're interested contact Inez Tyrcha at 731-7725.

It would be so appreciated if you don't see flowers on the alter before service, please get them from old kitchen refrigerator and then put back after the service. Many Thanks!



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 12/1 Every Wed Night 7PM Bible Study
- 12/9 Sister Church Event -Blandford Jason Wright @ 7PM
- 12/12 UMM Mtg 8AM
- 12/12 Sister Church Event (SCE) Blandford UMC Cluster Mtg 4-7 Our Choir to sing too!
- 12/19 Cantata during worship service
- 12/23 Compassionate Friends 7PM

December 2010

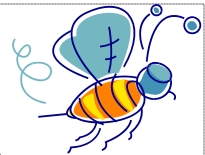
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 BS	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 BS	9 SCE	10	11
12 UMM Mtg./ SCE	13	14 UMW TBA	15 BS	16	17	18
19 Cantata	20	21	22 BS	23 CF 7PM	24	25
26	27	28	29 BS	30	31	

United Methodist Men's (UMM) Group

Wow! It seems that so much has happened and will continue to do so in the coming months. The BBQ Dinner in October was such a success, that I am certain we will plan to do it again next year. The annual spaghetti dinner is coming on November 13th from 5-7 pm. The proceeds from this event will help to support the Scouting Ministry at Gary's, so please come out and enjoy some good food and great fellowship. December brings our annual leadership elections -stay tuned for more information! Strengthening all men through Christ.

Submitted by Steve Snodgrass,
UMM Vice President

4 Rules to Live By



Drink, Steal, Swear & Lie
(Not what you think so read on!)

I met this guy while in Albuquerque and he has a motto he lives by everyday. He said listen carefully and live by these 4 rules: Drink, Steal Swear and Lie. I was shaking my head “no”, but he then told me to listen while he explained his four rules. So here they are:

1. “Drink” from the “everlasting cup” every day.
2. “Steal” a moment to help someone that is in worse shape than you are.
3. “Swear” that you will be a better person today than yesterday.
4. And last, but not least, when you “lie” down at night, thank God you live in America and have freedom.

I am not as good as I should be; I am not as good as I could be; but THANK GOD, I am better than I used to be. *Author Unknown*

MYF ~ Youth News

Hello beloved!

Fall is upon us, and as the leaves change, times change as well. But this does not mean that we do not proceed forward, onward and upward. The Gary's Youth Group is still alive and kickin' and will continue to be so for a long time to come! We've got lots going on the next couple of months, so hang on for the ride.



In Sunday School we continue to meet each week in the library at 9:45. We have just finished the book "Three Simple Rules: 24/7" on John Wesley's Three Simple Rules: Do Good, Do No Harm, Stay In Love With God. Next we will continue with the "BL4Y" series (Bible Lessons for Youth), a quarterly lesson series formatted after the adult Uniform studies. In other words, our Youth Sunday School lessons will loosely follow the lectionary. So, put on your Bible book finding hats as we're gonna look up Scripture in the Old and New Testaments and dig deep into God's Word. The lessons relate the Bible to its original context but also to how we can apply it today and each lesson contains games, activities and study time. So no worries about dry begets and begots here, our studies of Scripture using the BL4Y will be informative and fun. Come in and join us Sunday mornings to see where the action's happening!

Wednesday Night Bible Study continues every other week. We'll be continuing along with the Boy and Girl Scouts on the P.R.A.Y (Programs of Religious Activities with Youth) program. PRAY is a religious education program open to all that are interested. Alison Carmack and Kacee Thompson are leading the God and Church for 6th through 8th grades, and John Houlberg and Janet Callis are leading God and Life for 9th through 12th grades. Steve Snodgrass is keeping us all in line so if you have any questions, he's the man to find! In our God and Church program we are going to create a video montage of Jesus' life, so come join the excitement! The actors and actresses have

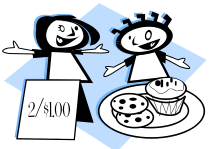
been chosen, so now the true adventure begins! Our God and Life program is continuing to understand their call to a life of discipleship by focusing on the life of the Apostle Paul. Come join the fun and learn more about who we are called to be as Christians.

The youth nominated Trinity Lee to be their representative on Church Council, so if you have any suggestions please let her know. As youth, please send her anything you want to tell the Church Council, as she's your voice there. I know she will do a wonderful job!

Breakfast foods and juice boxes are always needed for Sunday School and treats are welcome for Wednesday night Bible Study. I know our "always hungry" (spiritually and physically!) youth truly appreciate having food when they arrive for meetings. If you would like to contribute, please leave the donations in the library marked "MYF." What wonderful things God continually does among our Youth! Thank you for continuing to support and pray for them.

Submitted by Alison Carmack





Youth Fund-raiser Canceled

Due to the lack of youth members selling and overall support, the cookie dough fund raiser has been canceled. If you placed an order and paid in full please see your youth group member for a refund. At this time, there are no additional fund raising events planned.

Submitted by Karen Sadler

The Wed night P.R.A.Y. Bible Study is a joint study with the Boy and Girl Scouts. We'll meet every other week at 6:30 PM. There will be 2 classes, one for Junior High and one for Senior High students.

COME JOIN THE FUN!

This program was formerly called God and Country, but is now called P.R.A.Y. (Programs of Religious Activities with Youth).

Vision Statement: Young people are brought closer to Christ through dynamic programs that enable adults in their ministry with youth. Our programs and resources are offered through churches and youth agencies for them to work together for the benefit of youth.

The *God and Church* program will lead young people on a faith journey w/three parts: meeting Jesus, worshipping God, and witnessing and ministering for Christ. We will create a video or photo album to share what was learned. There will be an opportunity to work with the pastor or other adults as they study the church's structures and objectives and participate in service projects that will give them a better understanding of the mission of the church.

The *God and Life* curriculum is the final program in the P.R.A.Y. series. After being introduced to Jesus as their best friend (*God and Me*), learning how the family is to grow strong in God's love (*God and Family*), and studying the church as the body of Christ (*God and Church*), students in the God and Life program will seek to understand their call to a life of discipleship. This curriculum will focus on the life of the Apostle Paul as recorded in Acts 9:1-31. This is a brief account that describes how Paul encountered Christ and was changed forever. Five chronological "events" out of this story will be highlighted and used as the focus for the five different sections in this program. Each section will illustrate a key element in learning how to live one's life for Christ.

If there are Parents interested in being Mentors, we'll have a class for them too in order to enhance the Youth experience (not to replace the existing Adult Bible Study class). If you feel called to learn more about this mentoring program, please contact Steve Snodgrass, John Houlberg or Alison Carmack.

Submitted by Stacia Lee

Gary's United Methodist Church

13501 Sunnybrook Road

Church Phone: 804-861-3201
Email: pastor@garysumc.org
Rev. Dr. Henry Butler, Pastor
804-639-7985

Visit us on the web!
www.garysumc.org



November-December 2010

Join us!
Sunday School 9:45
Worship Service 11:00

Gary's Thanks God for
YOU!



GARY'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (UMC) MISSION

- *To encourage every person to become a disciple for Jesus Christ. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this community of faith that nurtures our brothers and sisters, reaches out to those in need, and witness to those without hope.*

MAY GOD RICHLY BLESS YOU!