

# The Cross and Flame

www.pinegroveumc.org

THE CROSS AND FLAME IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY TO INFORM MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF EVENTS AND MINISTRY AT PGUMC.

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## GRANT US GRACE

The following is a prayer written by Frank "Dee" Morgan (printed with permission by the family).

Dear God of Eternity, in whom no dawn rises and no sun sets, we are grateful that nothing is ever lost to you. We acknowledge, our Father, that life as we have come to know it is so precious to each of us that all that is within us says NO to death.

Help us, Father, to learn to see death as you see it; not the end but the beginning; not a wall but a doorway; not a dark road but a path that leads to eternal life.

And grant us grace, in the presence of death, to embrace that deathless life that you alone give and to entrust those who have entered that doorway and ourselves to that life and love--- a life and love that no matter what, will never let us go.

In the name of the tiny baby, called Jesus, who has conquered all death, we pray. Amen.

Dee's prayer truly captures the glorious news of Easter! Death is not the end. Death is not the victor. Jesus Christ has broken the chains that would keep us bound to sin and death and has set us free to experience eternal life. May each day of our lives be a celebration of that resurrection power as we love and serve the One who gave everything for us. Thanks be to God!

Grace & peace,  
Pastor Sylvia

## APRIL CALENDAR OF OPPORTUNITIES

### Each Sunday

9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 4:30 p.m. Disciple I

### Each Monday

7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts  
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts  
 7:00 P.M. Bible Study on Romans

### Each Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Handbell Practice  
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

April 1	1:15 p.m.	UMYF Deliver Easter Baskets
April 3	NO UMYF	Spring Break
April 4	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Committee
April 5	7:30 p.m.	Holy Thursday/Communion
April 6	7:30 p.m.	Good Friday Tenebrae
April 8	7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Service
April 8	8:00 a.m.	Easter Breakfast
April 10	6:30 p.m.	"Whatz Up??" Master's Loft
April 15	2:00 p.m.	UMW Executive Committee
	4:30 p.m.	Kingdom Kids
April 17	6:30 p.m.	UMYF Meeting
April 17	7:00 p.m.	Finance Committee
April 21	11:00 a.m.	UMW Tea
April 22	11:00 a.m.	UMYF lead in Children's Worship
April 24	6:30 p.m.	UMYF Devotion-Cookout-Volleyball
April 24	7:00 p.m.	Before and After School Committee
April 29	4:30 p.m.	Kingdom Kids

### WHO, ME?

I need to be forgiven, Lord,  
 So many times a day.  
 So often do I slip and fall;  
 Be merciful, I pray,

Help me not be critical  
 When others' faults I see.  
 For so often, Lord  
 The same faults are in me.

## HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 1	Jody Day Clark
April 5	Jim McGinnis
	Randy Greenwood
April 6	Billy Joyner
	Brandi Hunter
April 7	Mitchell Fortescue
April 8	Mark Joyner
April 9	Gladys V. Hockaday
	Tim White
April 10	Mike Fulk
	Melissa Kite
	Betsy Mitchell
	Chad Young
April 12	Beckie Shutt
April 13	Margaret McLeod
	Samantha Swaim
April 14	James Orville Cox
April 15	Ray Byrd
	Denise Henry
April 16	Willie Perkins
April 18	Kris Abshire
	Irene Tucker
April 19	Jamie Cox
April 20	Frankie Caudle
April 23	Vicki Fair
	Abby Lynn Moran
	Charles Bell
April 24	Joe Boles
April 25	James Brannock
	John Fulk
	Mike Moran
	Richard Shutt
	Luke Genevie
April 26	Mildred Holder
April 28	Murvin Moser
	Brian Tolbert
April 29	Peggy Griffith
April 30	Karen Newsome



### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

April 7	Jon and Melissa Kite
April 17	James and Jane Groce
April 20	Bobby and Peggy Sizemore
April 29	Lee and Willie Perkins

## OUR VOLUNTEERS

### PROVIDE BREAD FOR 1ST TIME VISITORS

April 1	Peggy Brewer
April 8	Melanie Niblock
April 15	Joyce Long
April 22	Betty Bell
April 29	Mary Council

### VISIT FIRST TIME VISITORS

April 1	Bobby and Peggy Sizemore
April 8	Bill and Dee Anne Fortescue
April 15	Richard and Shirley Shutt
April 22	Joan Fulk and Evelyn Groce
April 29	Charles and Dorothy Parker

### USHER SCHEDULE

April 1	Tom Mahannah, Head Usher David Alexander Scott Pugh Eddie Scott
April 8	Roy Spach, Head Usher Chris Council Butch Hogue John Fonda Brent Shutt
April 15	Tom Mahannah, Head Usher David Alexander Eddie Scott Scott Pugh
April 22	Roy Spach, Head Usher Chris Council Butch Hogue John Fonda Brent Shutt
April 29	Tom Mahannah David Alexander Scott Pugh Eddie Scott

### SANCTUARY ASSIGNMENT

April	Bobby and Peggy Sizemore
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### GREETERS FOR THE MONTH

April	Discovery Sunday School Class
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### CRISIS CONTROL ITEM FOR THE MONTH

April	Jelly or Jam
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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**—We need volunteers in all categories listed above. If you are willing to help in any or all of these areas please contact the church office, (765-2569) and we will add you to the schedule.

## SENIOR NEWS FOR APRIL

The “55 and Over” folks of Pine Grove met for the first time on March 35. Much thanks to the Searcher’s Sunday school class for facilitating this event.

The Searcher’s Sunday school class presented a trophy to Shirley and Richard Shutt in appreciation of their dedication to the Jonestown Senior Citizens Club. We hope Shirley and Richard will continue to enjoy sharing their love and care with all of us, while passing the weight of organization and planning to others.

Many ideas were discussed for the hopes and vision of the group. The first step toward organization was the nomination and election of officers for the coming year. Rhonda Duhon will serve as President, Frank Stump as Vice President, Burlee Jones, Secretary; and Mary Manning as Treasurer. Though we had many volunteers for several committees, we will need to continue filling slots for some of them.

While acknowledging that work schedules, driving limitations and attending grandchildren activities dictate what some of us are able to attend, it was suggested that everyone be looking for events of interest to all. Some of the things that were mentioned included: theater, movies, eating out, seasonal events at local venues, concerts, and extended trips. We hope to be able to alternate the type of activities that are planned so as to accommodate as many people as possible.

The first planned activity of the group will be a covered dish lunch on May 6, following worship service at 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be choosing a name for ourselves, filling committee seats, and planning some outings. The officers will have met before this event to prepare a list of items which were suggested by those who attended the March meeting. Everyone will be able to choose their favorites and present more options for future consideration.

We hope that all the 55+ seasoned citizens of Pine Grove and the surrounding community will come bringing a food to share, while looking forward to the fellowship, planning and fun on Sunday, May 6 at 12:30 in the fellowship hall.

# NEWS FROM UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

April, 2007



**OUR PURPOSE:** The organized unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through JESUS CHRIST; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the Church.

## CIRCLE MEETINGS

The **Sue Rollins Circle** will meet April 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Church Parlor. Devotions will be led by Kathleen Sprinkle. The program, "Lent/Easter—Rise and Shine: For Christ is Risen!" will be led by Linda Kite. Hostess is Betty Jarvis.

The **Gertrude Alspaugh Circle** will meet April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Parlor. Devotions will be led by Ruth Spach. The program, "Lent/Easter—Rise and Shine: For Christ is Risen!" will be led by Peggy Williams. Hostess is Evelyn Groce.

## CHICKEN PIES

One hundred eighty-six Chicken Pies were made and sold on March 13 and 14. Thanks for all the hard work that made this a success.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

UMW Executive Committee will meet Sunday April 15 at 2 p.m. in the History Room.

## UMW TEA



The UMW Tea for all women and friends of the Church will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 21. Tickets are \$12 and include a catered lunch and Weekenders Fashion Show. See Renee Aldridge for tickets.

## UMW SUNDAY

UMW Sunday will be April 22. Our women will be in charge of the 11:00 service.

## DISTRICT PRAYER BREAKFAST

The UMW District Prayer Breakfast will be at 8:00 a.m. on May 5 at Sedge Garden United Methodist Church. The speaker will be Rev. Pamela Blackstock. Reservations should be turned in to Peggy Sizemore by April 15.

## SPRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

The UMW spiritual growth retreat, "Faith, Fears and Dandelions" will be held June 15 and 16 at Lake Junaluska. Reservations to Peggy Sizemore by April 15.



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Greetings from your Weekday School!

It is unbelievable to me that April is upon us! This school year is moving by much too quickly! It just goes to show that the old adage is true...“Time flies when you’re having fun”!

Fun is exactly what we’ve had throughout the month of March. The classrooms and hallways were filled with the beautiful butterflies and flowers that the children created to celebrate the arrival of Spring. What a glorious Spring we have had, so far! With “sun shiny” days and temperatures well into the 80s, the boys and girls have finally been able to play outdoors a lot more. I really think the teachers have enjoyed it just as much as the children!☺ Doesn’t Springtime just make your heart sing?!! It is my very favorite season of the year (except for the allergies, of course)! Our 4s & Rs had a great time on their field trip to the Children’s Theatre for the production of Cuentos del Arbol (The Tale of the Trees). For most of the children, it was their first multi-lingual theatre experience (for some of the teachers, as well). It was a wonderful opportunity for them to learn about some of the different countries and cultures in our world. Everyone joined in on the fun at our annual Easter Egg Hunt that was held on the 27<sup>th</sup>. The children had a ball hunting for candy-filled eggs with the help of their friend, the Easter Bunny. Our 3-year-old classes experienced their first field trip of the year on the 29<sup>th</sup> as they traveled to the Stevens Center for a concert by the famous children’s entertainer, “Mr. Al”. The children had a great time singing and dancing along with the “catchy” tunes! The 3s enjoyed another “first”, as well...they were the first students to travel in the new church bus! It was a great experience for them and (I’m sure) for “Miss” Joanne (Hall), who was the “inaugural chauffeur”! I am so glad that the Pine Grove congregation made the decision to ~~purchase the bus!~~ I’m sure all of us will feel much safer as we transport “children of all ages” to our various destinations. A BIG “thank you” to Homer Craig for coordinating the purchase of the bus and for providing bus driver training for members of our staff. (It takes a brave man to travel down the road numerous times with seven (very nervous) women drivers!☺) As we finished out the month, everyone (especially staff) was excited about the upcoming Spring Break. School will be closed April 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> ~~as the children enjoy some time at home with their families and our staff enjoys some (much needed) “R & R”.~~ As much as we all look forward to the “vacation” time, I know we’ll all be looking forward to April 9<sup>th</sup> when we return to school and all the fun we have with our friends.

Our Spring Children’s Clothing/Toy Sale was a huge success! We had over 80 participants in the Sale, several of which took home checks of over \$150.00. It was a great way to help our school and also provided the parents with an opportunity to recoup a portion of the “hard-earned dollars” that they’ve spent on their children’s clothing & toys!

Our *World’s Finest Chocolate* candy bar fundraiser continues through April 13<sup>th</sup>. The delicious candy bars can be found on the table opposite the Weekday School office and in “Miss” Peggy’s office throughout the weekdays or just see one of our Weekday School staff. We’ll be glad to “fix you right up”! The candy bars sell for \$1.00 and each wrapper has a coupon for \$2.00 off at Pizza Hut. Pizza and chocolate...who can resist?!!

“Summer Fun” registration is in “full swing”! Everyone seems to be excited about the different activities that we have planned and classes are filling quickly. If you know a child (6 months through 1<sup>st</sup> grade) who would like to join in on the fun, just give us a call. Don’t delay... space is very limited for “Summer Fun” classes.

When we return from Spring Break on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, we will be looking forward to many more beautiful days filled with fun. Highlights for the month include a trip for our 4s & Rs to Sci-Works on the 13<sup>th</sup>, a fundraiser for Muscular Dystrophy - the MDA “Hop-a-Thon” on the 16<sup>th</sup>, and our annual “Crazy Hat Day” on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Feel free to drop by and join in the fun!

Happy Easter! And, Happy Spring!!

Until next time...

*Chris*

**I SPOKE A WORD**

I spoke a word  
 And no one heard;  
 I wrote a word  
 And no one cared  
 Or seem to heed.  
 But after half a score of years  
 It blossomed in a fragrant deed.  
 Preachers and teachers all are we,  
 Sowers of seed unconsciously.  
 Our hearers are beyond the ken,  
 Yet all we give may come again  
 With usury of joy or pain.  
 We never know  
 To what one little word will grow.  
 See to it, then, that all your deeds  
 Be such as bring forth noble deeds.

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**The Cross and Flame  
 April, 2007**



## MINUTES FROM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL CONTINUED

**Youth Council**—Kaye Greenwood reported that the Youth Council would be interested in a Director for the Children and Youth but only if the position was full time. Dennis Houle also added that the youth would like to do a building trip this summer through the Conference as well as a youth worship service in June.

**Weekday School**—Margaret McLeod reported that the day school is doing well with both budget and enrollment. Fifty five have already registered for next year and they are currently taking registrations for the “Summer Fun” program.

**Before and After School Program**—Peggy Sizemore reported that the Before and After School is doing well. She also reported that the United Methodist Women are having a good year.

**Outreach**—Polly Caudle reported that 96 bears were collected for the police department. She also reminded everyone of the Lenten boxes to be turned in for missions. There are currently 9 Brownies and 2 leaders in the troop. They are looking at starting a Daisy troop for 5 year olds next year.

**Children’s Council**—Eddie Scott reported for Sally, reminding everyone of the Easter egg hunt on March 25 and of Bible School July 23 through July 28.

**Witness Committee**—Pastor Sylvia reported that although they still do not have a chair person, they are meeting. Details will be discussed at a later date.

**Endowment Committee**—Jack Bullington reported that over the last three years the Endowment Fund has done very well and the following contributions have been made from the funds earnings: \$1,900.00 was donated to church missions in 2004; \$4,500.00 was donated to church missions in 2005; \$5,000.00 was donated to land purchase and \$5,000.00 was donated to capital improvements in 2006. The current balance is \$95,732.00. With the endowment fund, only the interest earned can be spent. The principal must stay intact. Contributions to this fund can be made by simply making your check out to Pine Grove United Methodist Church and earmarking it for the Endowment Fund.

**Senior Adults**—Barbara Mahannah reported that on Sunday, March 25 there is a meeting planned to explore the possibilities of restarting the senior group. Everyone 55 and over is invited to come and share interests and ideas.

**Communications Committee**—Barbara Mahannah reported that so far 112 families have scheduled appointments for their pictures to be made for the new directory. There are dates available on April 2 and April 3. If you would like to make an appointment or make a change, you may contact Olin Mills at 1-800-866-2263.

You will need to identify Pine Grove United Methodist Church contract number 17967.

**Homer Craig** reported that they are trying to compile a list of drivers for the new Mini-bus. The drivers will require some orientation before being added to the list. He also mentioned that there are 14 safety restraints available for children in the new bus.

**Land Use Committee**—Jim Mabry reported that after committee meetings and surveys of the congregation, it was determined and recommended by the committee to keep the recently purchased house and use it as a “meeting House”. It would be for church use much like the fellowship hall with similar guidelines. The committee will monitor the use and care of the house over the next year.

**Current Building**—Jack Bullington reported that once the improvements have been done, if there is money available, they would like to upgrade the bathrooms in the older part of the building near the church offices.

**Jean Darden** asked that we all think about any changes or suggestions we may have for future council meetings.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Becky Meade



## MINUTES FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

The Administrative Council of Pine Grove United Methodist Church met March 20, 2007 with 19 members in attendance. Jean Darden called the meeting to order and Dee Anne Fortescue gave devotions.

With no changes to the minutes of the last meeting, they were approved.

The committees reported to the council as follows:

Trustees : Bobby Sizemore reported that most of the painting was complete. He also stated that the Meeting House (home purchased from R. L. Spach) is equipped with a TV, chairs, lighting and is ready for use. Bobby also gave the following financial report.

### Purchase of Property

Donations as of 3/19/07	\$117,328.15
Borrowed	\$ 60,000.00
Purchased property 2/20/07	\$173,094.32
Payment now due	\$ 543.00
Balance on hand as of 3/19/07	\$ 3,690.83

### Capital Improvements Loan

Donations as of 3/19/08	\$ 25,825.00
Loan payment made	\$ 142.90
Balance of donations on hand	\$ 25,682.10

Borrowed	\$115,000.00
Coatings Unlimited for painting	\$ 41,920.00
Kernersville Carpet	\$ 13,816.35
Modern Chevrolet/Bus	\$ 46,129.81
Total paid out of loan	\$101,866.16

Balance of loan available	\$ 13,133.84
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From the balance of the loan approximately \$600.00 will be paid to repair the steps and approximately \$10,000.00 will go for purchase new windows for the Sanctuary. These will fit over the stained glass windows reducing heat loss and protecting the carpet from fading.

Eddie Scott reported on the general budget as follows:

Contributions year to date	\$69,500.00
Overage	\$ 8,300.00
Account balance as of 3/19/07	\$ 7,600.00

All invoices are current and 5 months of apportionments have been paid; conference apportionments \$12,900.00, district apportionments \$3,800.00 and \$1,000.00 transferred to the contingency fund.

Staff Parrish: Tom James reported that an offer was extended and accepted by Whitney Williams for the Sunday morning nursery attendant position. A job description was written and approved by the committee. After meeting with both the Children's Council and the Youth Council the Staff Parrish Committee determined that the programs were running smoothly with the current leadership. Both the Youth and Children's councils felt that if the position for a Director of Children and Youth ministries was filled, it should be a full time position. A motion was made by Polly Caudle to keep the programs in place as is for now. The motion was seconded by Jim Mabry and the motion carried.

Youth Council: Kaye Greenwood reported that the Youth Council would be interested in a Director for the Children and Youth but only if the position was full time. Dennis Houle also added that the youth would like to do a building trip this summer through the conference as well as a youth worship service in June.

**MINUTES FROM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL**