



# The Cross and Flame

www.pinegroveumc.org

## TheCross andFlame

Is published monthly to inform members and friends of events and ministry at PGUMC.

### Church Staff

Neill Shaw, Pastor; Beverly Myers, Music Director; Peggy Williams, Secretary, Chris Nelson, Weekday School Director; Linda Houle, Director of Before and After School Program.

Contact Information  
Phone: 336-765-2569  
Fax: 336-765-0727  
Church E-mail:  
pgumc113@bellsouth.net  
Pastor's E-Mail:  
Pgumc\_pastor@bellsouth.net  
1130 Jonestown Road  
Winston-Salem, NC  
27103

## THAT'S WHAT GOD SAYS!

Charlie Brown frequently expresses feelings that many of us have. One emotion he often has is feelings of inadequacy. Consider this *Peanuts* comic: Charlie, Linus, and Lucy are walking to school and discussing their class work. Lucy asks Linus what he's bring to "Show and Tell". Linus opens up his backpack and brings out handmade copies of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

He shows his two friends these ancient manuscripts, which he has painstakingly copied *in Hebrew*. Linus goes on to explain to Charlie and Lucy why the Dead Sea Scrolls are such a significant archeological find. He finishes up with a mini-lecture on their importance to modern-day Christians. Lucy turns to Charlie Brown and asks him what he's bring to "Show and Tell". Charlie looks sheepish. He reaches into his jacket pocket and says, "Well, I was going to use this little, red, toy fire truck. But I think I'll just forget it." Deflated, he puts the fire truck away.

Any of us may feel inadequate when facing life's challenges. Parents sometimes feel they aren't up to raising their children right. Children and teenagers may feel they'll never be "good enough" to please their parents. Adult children with aging parents sometimes feel overwhelmed by the responsibilities they must undertake on behalf of Mom or Dad.

What are we, as Christians, supposed to do when a problem seems overwhelming and our resources seem inadequate? The gospel story of the feeding of the 5,000 offers a clue. We need to bring whatever we have to God. What resources did the disciples have to feed 5,000? Five loaves and two fish. Jesus took what they brought him and turned it into a magnificent feast: with leftovers to take home. It is precisely when we feel most inadequate that we should not give up but offer what we have to Jesus. God can use our concern, our fumbling good will, our halting prayers, even our feelings of inadequacy to accomplish much.

People often talk bad about us. That is their view. Do we believe what they say about us or do we believe what God says? Remember you are created in God's image. That's what God says about us. You are fearfully and wonderfully made. That's what God says about us. We are knit together in our mother's womb by God himself. That's what God says about us. We are loved unconditionally. That's what God says about us. We are invited to the eternal feast. That's what God says about us. We are so important to God that he sent His only son to die on our behalf. That's what God says about us. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. That's what God says about us. Who will you believe today? God or those who speak evil? Bring what you have and God will use it to do miraculous things?

The Journey continues,

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## OCTOBER CALENDAR OF OPPORTUNITIES

### Each Sunday

9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Worship  
4:00 P.M. Kingdom Kids

### Each Monday

7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts  
7:00 p.m. Disciple I Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Disciple II Bible Study

### Each Wednesday

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

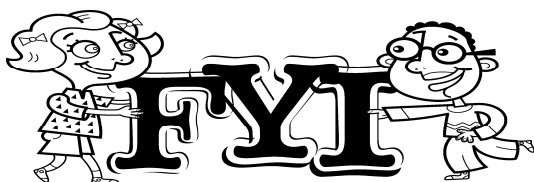
October 3 8:00 a.m. UMW Make Chicken Pies  
October 3 4:00 p.m. Pumpkins arrive  
October 5 12:00 p.m. Teacher Appreciation Luncheon  
October 8 10:00 a.m. Sue Rolling Circle  
October 9 7:00 p.m. Gertrude Alspaugh Circle  
October 12 3:00 p.m. Prime Timers  
October 16 6:30 p.m. UMW Ham Supper  
October 21 7:00 p.m. Administrative Council  
October 25 8:00 a.m. UMW Bazaar  
October 26 6:30 p.m. Trunk or Treat  
October 28 7:00 p.m. Weekday School Committee

October 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAY

October 1 Ashley Spach  
October 5 Courtney Shutt Hawkins  
October 5 Penny Roberts  
October 6 Betty Bell  
October 9 Kate Ashe  
October 10 Opalee Hall  
October 11 Jim Neace  
October 12 Carolyn Black  
Kathy Jay  
October 14 Linda Kite  
October 15 Jane Bullard  
October 16 Libby Bullard  
Lori Genevie  
October 17 Audrey Blackburn  
Sean Houle  
Noelle Shutt  
October 20 John Read  
October 22 Jane Groce  
Helen Moser  
October 23 Lee Perkins  
October 24 John Bouley  
Dee Fair  
October 27 Melba Tesh  
October 29 Doug Buie  
John Fonda  
Tara Pope

## CHILDREN'S CORNER



Kingdom kids will meet every Sunday at 4:00 p.m.

Trunk or Treat will be on Thursday, October 30 from 6:30—8:30



## Anniversaries this Month

October 4 Jack and Lou Bullington  
October 5 Richard and Shirley Shutt  
October 13 Jim and Carrow Mabry

**OUR VOLUNTEERS**

**PROVIDE BREAD FOR 1ST TIME VISITORS**

- October 5 Evelyn Groce
- October 12 Peggy Sizemore
- October 19 Dee Anne Fortescue
- October 26 Lisa Hale

**VISIT FIRST TIME VISITORS**

- October 5 Bobby and Peggy Sizemore
- October 12 Dee Anne Fortescue and Peggy Sizemore
- October 19 Richard and Shirley Shutt
- October 26 Evelyn Groce and Peggy Williams

**USHER SCHEDULE**

- October 5 Tom Mahannah, Head Usher  
Scott Pugh  
Eddie Scott  
John Fonda  
Robert Mason
- October 12 Roy Spach, Head Usher  
Chris Council  
Butch Hogue  
Dee Fair  
Brent Shutt
- October 19 Tom Mahannah, Head Usher  
Scott Pugh  
Eddie Scott  
John Fonda  
Robert Mason
- October 26 Roy Spach, Head Usher  
Chris Council  
Butch Hogue  
Dee Fair  
Brent Shutt

**SANCTUARY ASSIGNMENT**

- October Peggy Sizemore

**GREETERS FOR THE MONTH**

- October Discovery Class

**CRISIS CONTROL ITEM FOR THE MONTH**

- October Canned tuna or salmon

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

- November October 27, 2008

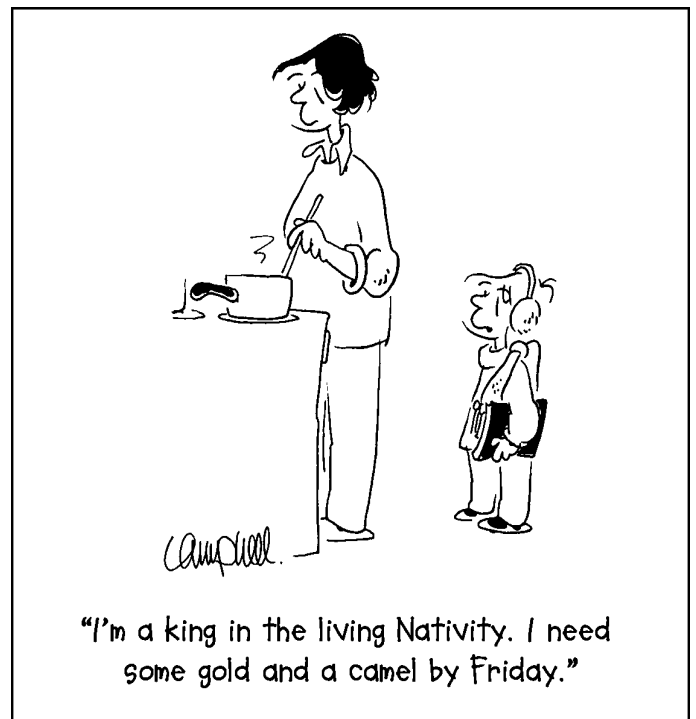
**MISSION MOMENTS**

Reminder to all persons wanting to order nuts from the United Methodist Women, that the orders must be in by September 30 to Polly Caudle. All profits go to Missions

The Christmas Boxes for the Children of Armenia are due at the church on October 5. For information on what to put in the boxes, please refer back to the September issue of The Cross and Flame. This is our opportunity to share the joy and hope of Christ's birth in Armenia. I invite you to get the Christmas spirit to help with this United Methodist ministry in Armenia. For additional information, see Polly Caudle or call the church office. Let's try to fix 100 boxes to send to Armenia.

**PENNY CAMPAIGN**—Just a reminder to start saving your pennies (or other coins) and begin bringing them to church on November 2. We will begin our drive to Help Samaritan Ministries with their penny campaign.

Polly Caudle,  
Mission Chair



## Greetings from your Weekday School!

“It’s Fall, y’all!”...and (thank goodness!) we’re already seeing some cooler temperatures! (Unloading and loading 70+ children at drop-off and pick-up time is not much fun when it’s 90° outside!!☺) The leaves are beginning to change colors and will soon be falling from the trees. Isn’t it wonderful how beautifully God “paints” our world for us during this time of year?! Speaking of painting...That’s just one of the many fun things our children have enjoyed during the first few weeks of school. The “little ones” are all settled nicely into their classes now and are “falling in love with learning”. Everyone seems to be happy that school is in session once again. September has been a very busy (but fun!) month. Along with all the fun in their regular classrooms, the children have really enjoyed their time each week with “Miss” Carol in Movement Class, “Miss” Claire in Musicare Class, and “Miss” Adriana in Spanish Class. They love Movement because it gives them an opportunity to get rid of some of their excess energy (while developing their gross motor skills) and Musicare is always a “blast” with “Miss” Claire’s fun songs and child-sized musical instruments. The Spanish Classes, which are new to our curriculum this year, have been a big hit with our 3s, 4s, & Rs classes. The children were really excited about teaching me how to say “hello” in Spanish! (That would be “hola”-with a silent “h”, by the way!)☺

Our Open House on the 11<sup>th</sup> was a big hit with everyone! Our favorite Pirate, “Captain Jim”, entertained us with some truly astonishing magic tricks as we enjoyed delicious cookies and punch. The evening also gave the parents and children an opportunity to get to know the staff members in a less structured environment as they visited in the classrooms. It was lots of fun! Our 4s & Rs traveled to the Elliott Farm on September 19<sup>th</sup>. They had a great time as they visited with “Miss” Margaret and all the different farm animals. The weather was gorgeous, too, so it was just a perfect day! The “Creature Teacher” visited for the first time this year on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, accompanied by her friend, “Iris, the Screech Owl”. Iris lives with “The Creature Teacher” because she was hit by a car and, as a result, is unable to see through her left eye. The boys and girls learned that owls are nocturnal and have great night vision. Since Iris’ vision is impaired, she will never be able to live in the wild again.☹ We are sad for Iris, but we are happy that she has “The Creature Teacher” to love and care for her. The children had a great time visiting with Iris and “The Creature Teacher” and can hardly wait to see what new friend she will bring to visit with us next month! As I am writing this letter, our staff is busily preparing for our annual Fall Children’s Clothing/Toy Sale that will take place on Friday and Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>. I hope many of you will join us to take advantage of the great bargains that will be available for the children in your lives.

October will be another busy month beginning with a visit from some of our W/S Firefighters who will present their wonderful Fire Safety Program. This is always a hit with the children as they learn about fire safety, visit with a firefighter in full fire-fighting gear, and get to see a real fire truck up close. Our staff will also be busy this month certifying (or re-certifying) for CPR and First Aid on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Pat Stine, an instructor for the American Heart Association, will be with us to provide this important training. Our PMOs, 2s & 3s classes will visit the Pine Grove B/A School’s “Pumpkin Patch” and the 4s & Rs will travel to Myers Greenhouse on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The children will be purchasing a small pumpkin for their very own and helping to select a large “Jack-o Lantern” pumpkin for their classrooms. Rumor has it that “The Great Pumpkin” will even make an appearance! This is a fun day for everyone and a wonderful photo opportunity for the parents! Our annual “Pumpkin Carnival” will be held on the 29<sup>th</sup>. The Parents’ Association members are already hard at work with plans for the Carnival so I know it will be loads of fun! The children and staff will dress in costumes that day so stop by to see some of the cutest little “characters” under the sun! Sounds like a fun-filled month, doesn’t it?!

Beginning October 13<sup>th</sup>, PGWS will offer the First Choice Cookie Dough and Butter Braid Pastry fundraiser. This fundraiser is back by special request! The cookies and pastries are so delicious and so easy to prepare that they are becoming more and more popular for holiday baking. All orders must be turned in by October 27<sup>th</sup>, so don’t delay in placing yours! There will be catalogs and order forms available throughout the order period on the table outside the Weekday School office. (Orders may be paid for upon receipt.) All orders will be received in time for your Thanksgiving and Christmas baking.

Special thanks again this month to Homer Craig and his “crew” for providing and spreading the new mulch for our playground. (I’m not sure who all the “crew” members were but I wanted to thank you, anyway!) And, additional thanks to Homer for helping with the myriad little jobs that have popped up from time to time this month. I’m sure there will be a special place in heaven for all our wonderful volunteers!☺ Be sure to keep our important ministry in your prayers!

Until next time... *Chris*

## *News From the Before and After School*

*Fall has officially arrived. This is certainly my favorite time of year. There is nothing like the nip in the air and the anticipation of all the beautiful fall color from the trees. God's work is awesome.*

*We are blessed to have Burlee Jones who has joined our Before and After School. She has been a wonderful addition to our program. We also welcome one additional child recently enrolled in our morning program.*

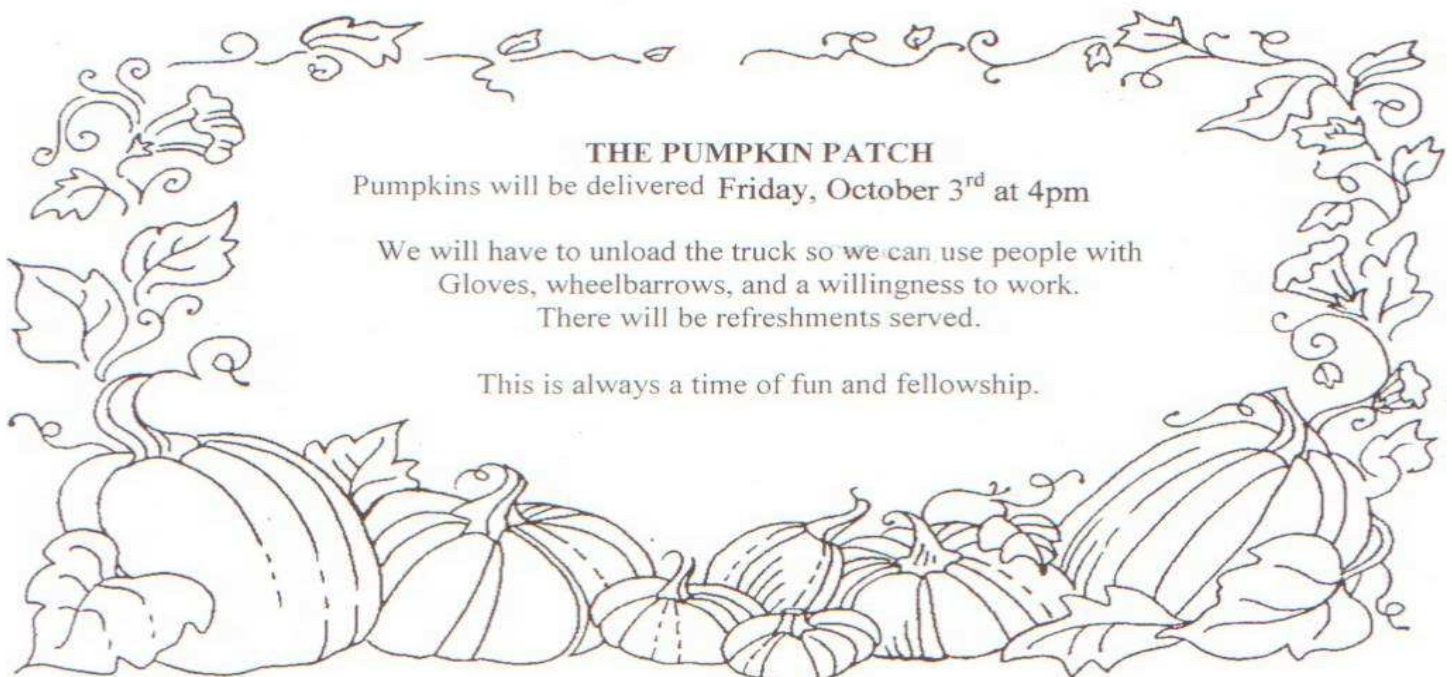
*A big THANK YOU to Mary Manning and Alex Niblock . They both have been volunteering their time to help out in our homework room. Homework time has been running smoothly. We are truly thankful for this help.*

*A new computer has been set up in the homework room thanks to Kelly Hale. THANK YOU KELLY!!!! He has worked hard to get us up and running with our computers. The addition of the homework room computer will be very helpful to the children. We can't thank Kelly enough for all he has done.*

*We have two October birthdays. Celebrating this month are Gavin Hunter on 10/21 and Alyssa Cook on 10/27. We wish each one a very happy birthday.*

*That is all the news from the Before and After School. As always we want to thank you for your continued support of the program.*

*Linda*

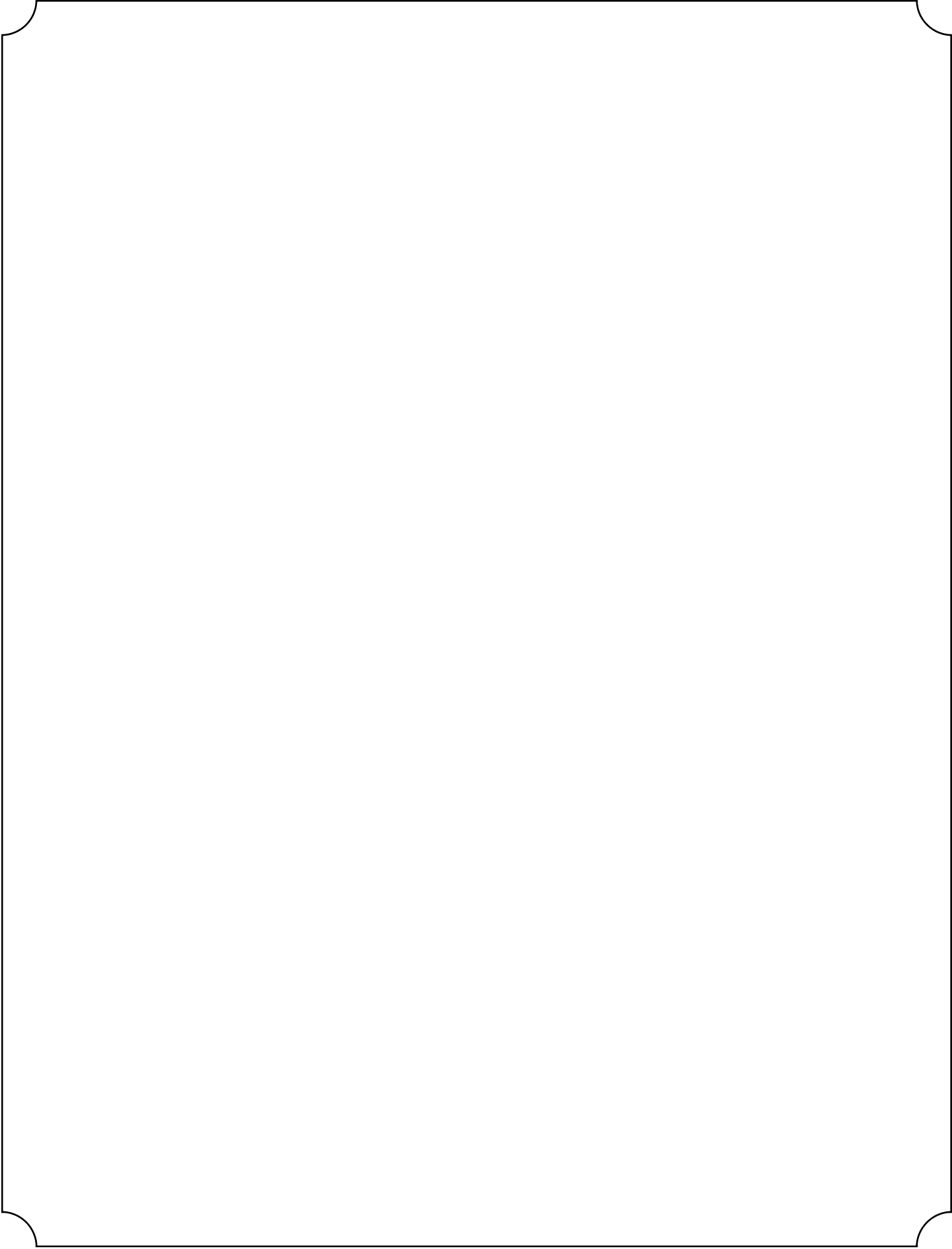


### THE PUMPKIN PATCH

Pumpkins will be delivered Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4pm

We will have to unload the truck so we can use people with  
Gloves, wheelbarrows, and a willingness to work.  
There will be refreshments served.

This is always a time of fun and fellowship.



## THIS AND THAT

**LAITY MEETING WITH BISHOP GOODPASTER**—There will be a laity—Bishop meeting on October 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary at Maple Springs UMC. A reception will follow at 8:00 in the Craven Hall. Bishop Goodpaster has asked that a key group of people from each church attend (lay leader, Council Chair, delegates to conference) and any other laity that would like to attend. You may call the church office for additional information.

**TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON**—There will be an appreciation luncheon for all Sunday School teachers and their families. This will be on October 5 immediately following the worship service.

**ATTENTION ALL BAKERS**—Please consider donating baked goods for the UMW fall Bazaar on October 25. Bring your priced items to the fellowship hall on Friday afternoon or by 8:00 a.m. on the Saturday morning of the bazaar. Thank you for your help in making our bazaar a success.

**PUMPKINS ARE COMING**—The pumpkins are arriving on October 3 at 4:00 p.m. We need help unloading the truck and placing pumpkins. There will be refreshments, fellowship and lots of work. Bring your wheelbarrows, gloves and come join the fun.

**ADVENT STUDY**—An advent study will be offered beginning November 30. There will be sign up sheets on the Communication Center by the first of November. If you have any questions please call the church office.

**ADDRESSES OF COLLEGE STUDENTS AND THOSE IN THE MILITARY:** Please provide the church office with the addresses of all college students and those of your family that are in the military. Please fill out the form below and return to the church office.





**FALL BAZAAR**



**Saturday, October 25, 2008**

**8 a.m. to Noon**

**Fellowship Hall**

**Ham Biscuits, Chicken Pies, Canned Goods, Baked Goods, Crafts, and more**

**Sponsored by Pine Grove  
United Methodist Women.**

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