



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Greetings in the name of the Risen Christ!

The busy-ness of fall is upon us. School is back in full swing—football games, PTA meetings, fundraisers, marching band contests, the holidays are just around the corner, etc. Summer seems too short, and summer has its own kind of busy-ness. We never get enough real rest during the busy-ness of spring, then we have the busy-ness of summer that feeds right into the busy-ness of fall. There is always that six week period after New Year's Day and before Valentine's Day when, in the dead of winter, there is just a bit of a slow down. But it never seems to be restful enough or long enough.

But then Lent is upon us and suddenly we are warming up and speeding up into the busy-ness of spring again and the cycle starts all over. Too much busy-ness and not enough rest!

Well, here is a look at some of the busy-ness of the church coming in November and December:

Tuesday, November 1st: 2nd Annual Verdigris vs Hunger as we support the Verdigris Fire District and their civic work in helping address hunger and food poverty in Rogers County.

Tuesday, November 8th: Election Day (I bet you can't wait for it to be past, too!)

Sunday, November 20th: Hanging of the Greens just after worship

Sunday, November 27th: First Sunday of Advent (Advent Series: "Finding Bethlehem in the Midst of Bedlam.")

Sunday, December 4th: Second Sunday of Advent and the 2nd Annual Thanksmas Dinner

Monday, December 5th: 2016 Charge Conference at Oologah United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 11th: Third Sunday of Advent

Wednesday, December 14th: Combined Christmas Cantata at Skiatook FUMC

Sunday, December 18th: Fourth Sunday of Advent, Combined Christmas Cantata at Verdigris UMC

Saturday, December 24th: Christmas Eve Service at 6:00pm

Sunday, December 25: Christmas Service at 11:00am (No Sunday School)

Sunday, January 1st: Normal Sunday School and Sunday worship service

And stay tuned to announcements, bulletins, and the website. I know there is more to come with Thanksgiving baskets, the Angel Tree, and other opportunities to serve and fellowship.

Thanks again for all the generous gifts that helped us raise \$4000 to fund new playground equipment for the church and for Verdigris Children's Connection (formerly CAPE). And thanks to those who donated items and time to help with the Youth Garage Sale. You are a generous and giving church!

Be blessed!

*Pastor Mark*

Pastor Mark

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

SARA MORGAN	<b>3RD</b>	JAMIE OVERTON	<b>9TH</b>
DON BECK	<b>13TH</b>	REGENEA GIBSON	<b>15TH</b>
CASEY BRAMWELL	<b>18TH</b>	TRAVIS EWTON	<b>18TH</b>
JEROD GOODMAN	<b>19TH</b>	EMILY LANE	<b>19TH</b>
LYNN DEARDORF	<b>20TH</b>	ARIAL AKERMAN	<b>22ND</b>
JERRY BUSH	<b>22ND</b>	JAMES DEAN	<b>23RD</b>
ROD BRAMWELL	<b>27TH</b>		



## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



JAMES & JACKIE DEAN

NOVEMBER 6TH

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

5:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

\$6.00 per person / \$15.00 per family

### NOVEMBER MENU

- 2ND** LASAGNA, GARLIC BREAD, SALAD, BROWNIES
- 9TH** CHILI 3-WAY, FRITO CHILI PIE, CRACKERS AND/OR CORNBREAD, COOKIES
- 16TH** TURKEY, MASHED POTATOES/GRAVY, SWEET POTATOES, CORN, CRANBERRY SALAD, HOT ROLLS, PIES
- 23RD** NO DINNER
- 30TH** VEGETABLE AND POTATO SOUP, CORN BREAD AND /OR CRACKERS, CAKE

*\*All Meals include: Dessert, Coffee, Iced Tea, and Water*

### Send Me Your Articles

*Do you have something you would like to share?*

You can place it in the Newsletter File  
on the information wall,

**Call:** 918-266-4161 or **e-mail:**

[Lonette.gordon@verdigrisumc.org](mailto:Lonette.gordon@verdigrisumc.org)



For prayer needs and concerns, please complete the prayer cards at the beginning of the service and you may place them in the designated basket near the pulpit before Worship or during Friendship Time. Pastor Mark will collect them for use during the Prayer Time to announce the joys and prayer needs.



## Thanksmas Is Coming

December 4<sup>th</sup> will be Thanksmas this year.  
The theme will be “Come Home for Christmas”.

Jamie Overton and Pastor Mark have offered to cook the turkeys and hams. Two will be smoked, 1 fried and 1 baked so there will be a variety of Turkeys.

We will be having signup sheets for everyone to bring other things.

This year we will have door prizes, games for the kids and an Ugly Sweater Contest for the adults and a separate one for the kids.

The party will begin right after church on the 4<sup>th</sup>, so please plan on being here.

Thank You,  
Karen, Maggie, Chris, Linda and Sharon



*Verdigris Community*

### **Blood Drive**

**Wednesday, November 9th**

**2 pm-8 pm**

Verdigris United Methodist Church  
Fellowship Hall

Sign up at the Church Information Desk  
or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and use  
Code: Verdigrisumc.

All presenting donors will receive a complimentary Home-Cooked Meal, beverage & dessert (no carry outs) and a long sleeved t-shirt while supplies last.

American Red Cross

## **November 20<sup>th</sup>**

12:00pm to 3:00 pm  
*Immediately following service*  
*\*\*lunch provided\*\**

**Adults join in the  
Sanctuary to hang the  
Seasonal decorations  
In preparation for  
Advent, while children**

**meet in the Fellowship Hall  
To decorate Christmas  
Cookies. Cookies will be  
available for purchase  
at the end of the event  
for just \$5/dozen!**





The children's programming is growing by leaps and bounds! There have been a number of changes recently and we are excited about them all.



CAPE is now officially **Verdignis Children's Connection** (or **VCC**). The change has been something that's been on my mind for about a year now and with the new branding of the church, the change came naturally. Our new name better suits our connection with the community as well as the connection with the church. VCC is continuing to grow! We just added four new students last week with continued interest in our programming. We are excited about the future of VCC and where we can have more of a spot in the school and community.

I am amazed every week at how the changes in VUMC's children's programming affect the kids. I speak with the kids in the Children's Worship Center each morning during prayer time about what's on their hearts. Their concerns range from everything from a boo-boo that's been there for a week to a loved one that's passed away. They are real concerns and it's what's on their hearts. We say a short prayer before going to light candles at our new children's candle station. I am so pleased to see their hearts yearning for the Lord! And we got to see that yearning turn into service this past weekend for Family Sunday.



VUMC's first Family Sunday was a great success! We had a large crowd for breakfast, games, and pictures and I loved seeing all of the kids taking part in various elements of the service. Children participated in passing out bulletins, offertory, and we even had a couple mini-acolytes. They were all fantastic! It warmed my heart to see so many children so eager to serve in the Lord's house. This event will be a continuous, partnered event for the children and youth. The next fifth Sunday will be January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

We also have our first *Hanging of the Greens and Cookie Decorating* event coming up on November 20<sup>th</sup>. This event will follow right after service and go until about 3:00pm (or whenever everything is finished). The adults will assist in hanging the decorations for the Advent season and the children will be in the Fellowship Hall decorating cookies with help from the youth group. The cookies will be packaged and will be available for purchase immediately following the

event to offset event costs. I encourage everyone to stay after service and help out where you can.



## VUMC Youth Group Nov. Activities

**Nov. 6th** Vision Casting Part II 4:00pm-6:30pm~ We will be planning and revisiting our goals and visions for our youth group. Parents are encouraged to take part in planning the future for our youth group.

**Nov. 13th** Rakesgiving~ 4:00pm-7:30pm We will be raking leaves for a Verdigris family and after we finish will head back to church for a Thanksgiving themed potluck bring a side to share with all your friends.

**Nov. 18-20~** I will be gone for the Youth Workers Academy second session.

**Nov. 20th** Hanging of the Greens/Cookie decorating with Children Ministry~ after service we will be taking part in decorating our church for Christmas and decorating cookies with the children. Lunch will be provided.

**Nov. 27th** Christmasafying the Youth Area~4:00pm-6:30pm For the first Sunday in Advent season, we will be drinking hot chocolate and decorating Christmas stockings for the stair well and making Christmas ornaments for our Ficus.

Any questions or suggestions please get free to contact me.

For His Glory,  
Sara Davis  
Director of Youth Ministries



## What's Cooking?

### ARTISAN BREAD

**Recipe submitted by:** *Lonette Gordon*



**3 cups of white flour**  
**1 tsp. salt**  
**1/2 tsp. yeast**  
**1 1/2 cups warm water**

Use wooden spoon and mix until combined (1 min or less).

Cover with plastic wrap and leave at room temperature for 8-24 hours.

About 90 minutes before you want to serve turn dough onto well floured surface.

Form into a ball by folding sides in.

Let rest for 30 minutes

While dough is resting heat oven to 450 & heat dish, dutch oven, large crock pot dish, or casserole dish with high sides

Use a sharp knife to slash an X on top.

Spray baking dish with pam

Pick up dough with floured hands & plop it in.

Cover with aluminum foil & bake for 30 minutes.

Uncover and bake an additional 10-15 minutes

Let cool at least 15 minutes before slicing.