

Gore United Methodist Church
QUARTERLY NEWS



Our annual Ministerial Alliance Thanksgiving service will be held at 6pm on Sunday November 18th. We'll be gathering at the Webber Falls First Assembly of God. There will be a potluck following the service and we hope you will attend!



Watch the bulletin and website for movie dates at Vian UMC



We're currently in a series titled "A Disciple's Heart" on Sunday evenings at 6pm. We will soon be starting a study on "The Story". We invite you to join us for study, worship, praise and fellowship. We end the evening with a light meal or snack.



Watch the bulletin for game nights here at Gore UMC. It's fun!

Basketball & Breakfast
 7:15 a.m.



Our Basketball breakfasts will be starting again soon. This event is well attended and appreciated by the students and staff. If you'd like to participate by providing financial resources or by helping cook, serve or clean up, please see Teri Barrick.



We are proud to offer a "Strength for Service" appreciation breakfast for our local police, fire and first responders on Saturday November 10th. This is a great way to bless those who bless us daily. We'll be providing breakfast and presenting a "Strength for Service" devotional book written specifically for individuals in service. If you can help with cooking, serving, cleaning up or with a financial contribution to this event, please see Pastor Marcia or Teri Barrick.

We are blessed when we bless others!



As the weather cools and the days get shorter, our thoughts turn to Advent.

The season of Advent, which comes from the Latin word *adventus* meaning "coming" or "visit," begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year for Christians. [Liturgical -- from liturgy, which means the forms and functions of public worship.]

During Advent, we prepare for, and anticipate, the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of Jews for a Messiah and our own longing for, and need of, forgiveness, salvation and a new beginning. Even as we look back and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a humble stable in Bethlehem, we also look forward, anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by his first coming.

Although we are accustomed to celebrating Christmas on a single day, in both Christian tradition and on the Church calendar, the Christmas season lasts sundown on December 24 (Christmas Eve) through Epiphany of the Lord (January 6). This is sometimes popularly referred to as "the twelve days of Christmas."



Career Café at the high school has been a big hit with students and administration alike! If you'd like more information on this wonderful outreach ministry, would like to be a guest speaker sharing about your profession, or would like to help with monthly pizza and drinks, please visit with Pastor Marcia.



If you'd like to take part in the Christmas parade please see Teri Barrick or Pastor Marcia.



10/19 Tammy Miller & Larry Pack

11/3 Katelyn Duncan & Tanner Pool

Check the website often for news and upcoming events!

www.goreumc.org

Bible Study

You're invited at 1:00 each Tuesday for mid-week Bible study. This is a great way to get that mid-week "pick me up" we all need, and an opportunity to come together in a relaxed atmosphere as we dig deep into the scriptures. Invite a friend, we'll have the coffee pot on!



**Low Impact Exercise
Each Monday at 5:30pm**



Wondering how you can help? The food pantry can always use volunteers! Once a month we gather to unload the food truck, stock the pantry shelves and pack the food bags for distribution. Once each month we gather to distribute the food that's been packed. With the holidays getting closer the need always rises and financial assistance is always needed. If you would like to get involved in this wonderful ministry, please see Edith Tillson or Lezli Pool. We are making a difference in our community!

PASTOR'S PEN

A word from the heart

Who has time to celebrate Advent? That's the thought for many each year.

But that's the point. Advent takes time. It can't be microwaved, it can't be compressed into 24 hours, and it can't be sped up to the bustling speed of our daily lives. Advent is slow on purpose, because the slowness of the celebration mirrors the slowly unfolding drama of the Advent of the Savior himself in history.

One old pastor, Octavius Winslow, penned some words in his book *The Glory of the Redeemer* (1844) that are relevant to this slowing season of Advent:

The entire history of the Israelites was interwoven with a system of symbols and types of the most significant and instructive character. It was thus the wisdom and the will of God that the revelation of Jesus to the Church should assume a consecutive and progressive form. Not a sudden but a gradual descent to the world, marked the advent of our adorable Redeemer.

The same principle of progressiveness is frequently seen in a saving discovery of Christ to the soul. Not by an immediate and instantaneous revelation, not by a single glance of the mind, is Jesus always made known and seen. Long and slow is often the process. Observe, it is a gradation of light. The Sun rises — beam follows beam, light expands, Christ is more known; more known, He is more admired; more admired, He is more loved.

Thus has been the revelation of Christ's glory to the Church of God. In her infancy she was placed "under tutors and governors, until the time appointed by the Father." Not prepared to sustain the sudden and full revelation, God disciplined and trained her by various types and ceremonies; thus, wisely, and, it must be admitted, graciously, shadowing forth His dear Son by gradual but increasingly clear and luminous discoveries, until the "fulness of time was come" [Galatians 4:4], when He appeared the great Antitype of all the types, the glowing substance of all the shadows, the full meaning of all the symbols, the "brightness of the Father's glory, the express image of His person" [Hebrews 1:3].

And to reflect the slow illumination, candle by candle the darkness gets pushed back, and day by day we are invited into the slowly unfolding Advent drama. May we all find ourselves more connected, more equipped and more in love with Jesus every day.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Marcia