



The Shepherd's Voice

Vol. 22 | No. 3

A publication of United Methodist Church of the Good Shepherd, Yukon, OK

Eggs, luncheon begin Easter week

Mark your calendars for the annual Easter Eggs-travaganza March 28. The event begins immediately following the last worship services with an Easter story in the Sanctuary, while lunch is being set up.

Next, a Potato/Salad Bar Luncheon will be in the CLC following the Easter story. The luncheon is a fundraising event and all proceeds will benefit Vacation Bible School.

The cost of the luncheon is \$5 for adults; \$3 for children ages 3-12; children under 3 are free (macaroni and cheese and PB&J sandwiches will also be available for the little ones). Please sign up in the information center to donate items or help set up. Contact Glenda Kelton with any questions regarding the luncheon.

The grand finale will be the annual Easter Egg Hunt. There will be egg hunts by age groups for children infant through 5th grade.

There will be a special prize egg in each age group. So bring your basket and join in the FUN!

Coming Up

- March 14 One Great Hour of Sharing
- March 28 Palm/Passion Sunday
Confirmation Sunday
Potato/Salad Bar Luncheon
Easter Egg Hunt
- April 4 Easter Sunday
- April 18 Blood Drive



Minister of Education, Cathy Childers, presents new Bibles to members of the Good Shepherd third graders on Jan. 31 during the contemporary service.

Good Shepherd to provide Easter meals for local families in need

The Community Outreach Ministry Team (COMT) will be organizing the Easter Dinner Kits for local families that have a need for assistance for the 5th straight year during the Lenten season.

Each of the past four years, the COMT has been able to serve dozens of families who otherwise might not be able to provide a traditional Easter dinner for themselves or may not celebrate this most important holy day in anyway at all. But, this important local outreach mission could not be accomplished without support from a wide variety of individuals and small groups throughout the entire church.

You are invited to serve Christ by supporting this COMT effort in at

least one of these ways:

- (1) Donate cash or check designated for "COMT Easter Dinners" on the memo line during our fundraising effort;
- (2) Bring the suggested "side items" to the church during Lent;
- (3) Bake a favorite dessert and deliver to the CLC kitchen during Holy Week;
- (4) Pray for those who will receive the dinner kits and those serving in this ministry;
- (5) Let us know if you know of someone that may benefit from this outreach.

More information will be forthcoming during the announcements in worship services and in upcoming weekly bulletins. Please contact Keith Hamel at 494-7352 or 323-2732 for questions concerning this effort.

Who Are We?

"People of God, learning to follow Jesus, inviting others to join the journey."

THE HIGHLIGHT REEL:

CREDO News

✓ We raised \$635 at our annual Chili Cook-Off for youth programs. Thanks to all who came out and supported us at this fun event.

✓ We have so many youth coming to our "After School Hours" that we have expanded from the Youth Office into the Ocean Room where we watch movies and play games together. This program is an opportunity for the youth to have somewhere fun and safe to go after school once a week and spend time with their friends. The coolest part: the Mustang North kids just have to cross the street!

✓ This month we kick off our Sunday Night "Power" series with "The Power of Living our Faith." Can't wait to see the "power" instilled in the youth!

✓ Senior High Bible Study is continuing their Video Series with the Plautz's and the Delaney's, while the Junior High are working from their new "Active Life Journals" to find out what the Bible says about living our life.

✓ On March 4 we are going to see Carly perform in "The Music Man" at Yukon High School. It is awesome to have a group of youth who are involved in each other's lives, celebrating their successes!

✓ Spring Break means fun time at CREDO! We are doing a game night the first weekend, and a movie night the next.

✓ TGIF (Thank Good-Shepherd It's Friday) has quickly become our favorite youth fundraiser. We have had an excellent turn out of children from the congregation and community and it is a blast spending a night playing

Continued on page 4



From the Pastor...

Investing

I have worked at investing most of my life. At one time I thought I could invest in silver futures and beat the big boys at their own game. You can ask Rhonda how that turned out. My pension is invested in stocks and bonds and one day when we get closer to retirement, we will get to invest in property and a home to live in.

With the economy still a little shaky, there has been much talk about what investments are worth the risks and how to invest wisely. I hear a lot of commercials for gold nowadays as some consider the next few years being years of inflation.

In my lifetime I have even invested in ministry. I bought my first robe, which I still wear, I purchased

musical and sound equipment for worship, I have two walls full of books in my office, and the list goes on.

But the best investments I have ever made are the investments I've made in people. People are the reason Jesus came to earth. People are the reason the church has existed for 2000 years. People are the reason we have a building here on 15th Street. People are the reason we have pastors. People are the reason we built the CLC. People are the reason we do ministry.

I love the fact that Good Shepherd is not about maintaining or surviving, but rather building relationships with people and helping people build relationship with God. Way to go Good Shepherd.

Pastor Jeff

Prayer Shawl Ministry excited for 2010

The Prayer Shawl Ministry was officially started in November 2008. Since its inception, 244 shawls have been distributed; 217 in 2009. We are happy to welcome Sharon Radeka and Vicki Mason into our creative prayer shawl group, they bring our total to seven members.

We want this ministry to become an integral part of Good Shepherd. Consecrated shawls are available in the library/prayer room and there is a sign-out sheet so we can keep all shawls accounted for. If you have a friend, co-worker or a family member that needs the love of these prayer

shawls—please get one for them.

Our apologies to you if you have needed or wanted a prayer shawl and we have failed to get you one, please pick one out as soon as you are able.

All shawls are tagged with the church information and our motto "Fully Rely On God."

Again we send out our plea for more yarn and our thanks to the few who have donated. Search through your closets, buy yarn at garage sales, and if all else fails, donate your money.

Please utilize this ministry to bless others. God bless you! ■

New Members



Nancy Hughes
12517 SW 5th
Yukon, OK 73099



Gordon & Hazel Mills
13 E. Janice Apt. 103
Yukon, OK 73099



Joshua & Lindsay Swain
Jacob Dye
12105 SW 25th
Yukon, OK 73099

Pastor Karen's **PERSPECTIVE**

Whenever we talk about moving closer to God, it's natural to feel some reservations. Intimacy, (and I don't mean sex), with the original Mover and Shaker of our world can be an intimidating expectation. Even while we feel drawn to God through the hunger divinely implanted in our hearts, we also fell driven back at times. There are lots of reasons we feel this way.

We may feel too small and insignificant for God to bother with, or feel not sure that God could love us as we really are. These kinds of feelings might make us hesitate to see



God wholeheartedly. And, we might be afraid of what we might encounter if we came too close to God. It is one thing to be told what God is like; it's another thing altogether to discover the truth for ourselves! What is God really like?

I encourage you this Lenten season to continue seeking God, even if it seems a little uncomfortable. If you run into rough spots and need some help, there's a local spiritual director available to help you. Give me a call and I'll hook you up.

Pastor Karen

Name tags way of blessing one another

Name tags help us become a church of blessing because we can greet each other by name. In a church this size, with several different services, it is difficult to remember everyone's name. The simple act of wearing a

name tags helps us be more personal as we greet each other and welcome new folks!

If you'd like to order a magnetic or pin on name tag, please contact the church office. Cost is \$6.50.

Sojourner news

On February 15, Sojourner Circle met at the home of Gloria Fisher. Marilea presented the devotional, "Why Did Jesus Fold the Napkin?", referring to the cloth that was laid over Jesus face in the tomb. On John 20:7, the verse states that the linen wrappings were tossed aside but that the cloth that had covered Jesus head was folded, signifying that the master would return.

Gloria presented our program on Campus Crusade for Christ, an interdenominational ministry founded in 1951. It focuses on helping college students know God personally and grow in their faith, providing both large and small educational, social and spiritual programs.

We decided to ask for kitchen linens for NSO and we collected our change for the World Thank Offering. We then ended our meeting with a delicious turtle pie provided by Gloria.

Our next meeting will be at 2 p.m. on March 15 at the home of Mary Ann Drea. ■

2010 Chili Cookoff Winners

People of all ages had a great time at this year's annual Chili Cookoff/Carnival. Six local firemen gladly came to judge the competition which gets greater each year. Winners each took home a beautiful trophy and a prize from a local restaurant. Thanks to everyone who participated, over \$650 was raised for the Youth Program. Take a look below at this year's winners...



**Best Overall:
John & Jeanne
Hathcock**



**2nd Best Overall:
Allyson Kelton**



**People's Choice:
Carol Harber**



**Hottest:
Barbara Gray**

Youth news

Continued from page 2

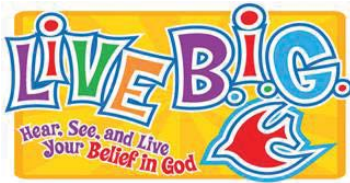
with them. Plus, when it's over, the senior high workers are all a little bit closer to their Peru Mission total!

✓ March 28 is the day our 6th graders have been waiting for-Confirmation Sunday! We have over 10 youth that will be "New Members" of Good Shepherd by the end of the month! This day is also a fun day for us because after the Potato Bar Luncheon, we get to hide the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. No melting candies please!



**Martha Stewart:
Brenda Cowell
& Fred Imel**

Living B.I.G. at home in March



Our B.I.G. Idea for March

We believe that Jesus wants us to remember how much he loves us.

Our Bible verse for March

"Now I tell you to love each other, as I have loved you" (John 15:12, CEV)

We are in the season of Lent—the period of forty days plus Sundays that began on Ash Wednesday (February 17) and ends when Easter arrives (April 4). During Lent we remember that Jesus loved us enough to die for us, and we take time to “practice” loving others as Jesus commanded us to do.

Lent is a special time for reading the Bible and praying, for acknowledging our sins and asking forgiveness, and for thinking about how God

wants us to live. The special color for Lent is purple, the royal color, because we are preparing our hearts and minds for the coming of the King of kings.

Some people give up things during Lent as a way to intentionally make room for God in their lives. Your family may wish to try giving up something each week.

You might skip one hour of TV and spend the time doing something to help a neighbor.

You might give up eating at fast food restaurants and donate the money you save to a food bank.

You might give up playing video games and spend the time playing religious board games with your family or watching a video about the life of Christ.

Be sure to check out the Live B.I.G. website, www.iLiveBIG.com.

Permission granted to copy for local church use. 2008 Abingdon Press. ■

Thank You

Thank you so much for all the cards, visits, thoughts and concern.

We love you all,
Jim & Patti Ross

To Our Church Family,

Thank you for all the prayers, meals and expressions of sympathy and encouragement after the passing Evelyn's mother. There are no words to describe the love and support we share with you, our family in Christ.

Paul & Evelyn Bourne
Chris & Jen (Tate)
Tim & Catrina Bourne

Dear Good Shepherd Church Family,

Joe and I want to thank you for all your prayers and caring you gave us during his surgery and recuperation. It is great to belong to a church family that is so caring. God bless you all.

Love in Christ,
Carolyn and Joe Spruiell

Many thanks for the blessings I have received through your prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, and dinners. God's healing powers have once again made it possible for me to appreciate each day, plus each and every one of my church family.

With love,
Evelyn Perkins

Dear Church Family,

Words cannot express how much we thank you for the beautiful cards, prayers, wonderful food, spiritual and emotional help you all provided during our time of sorrow. We are truly grateful for your friendship and support.

In Christ's Love,
Larry & Janet Bolton

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Melodie Turk..... 3/1	Chris Tate 3/12	Lynn Ketch 3/22
Cami Hill..... 3/2	Alyssa Baker..... 3/13	Jim Poe 3/22
Macy Rodgers 3/2	Shawna Cops..... 3/13	Lesha Sloan-Thompson.... 3/22
Steffanie Stoll..... 3/2	Brooke Fitzpatrick..... 3/13	
Allyson Kelton..... 3/3	Amy Ferguson..... 3/14	Ryan Cable 3/24
Tommy Lumpkin..... 3/3	Donna Firquain..... 3/14	Emily Farnham..... 3/24
June Carter..... 3/4	Sharon Lane..... 3/14	Stanley Burris 3/26
Jordan Cardenas..... 3/5	Kiley McKee 3/14	Rusty Snipes 3/27
Kristin Denton..... 3/5	Brent Neeley..... 3/14	Jennifer Tate 3/27
Melanie Smith..... 3/6	Brittany Rollins 3/15	Maggie Strickland 3/28
FeFe Willess..... 3/6	Karen Swain..... 3/16	Jane Eckert..... 3/29
Gene Bensey..... 3/8	Chesney Black..... 3/17	Gracie Parker 3/29
Regina Hopper 3/8	Pat Harris 3/17	Debbie Ferguson 3/30
Jason Brodmerkel..... 3/9	Bobbie Pierro 3/17	Brandi Schmidt..... 3/30
Laura Mathis..... 3/10	Mary McMahan..... 3/18	Tyler Wilson..... 3/30
Carly Childers..... 3/11	Elaine McPherson..... 3/18	
Barbara Gray..... 3/11	Sharon Tisdale 3/20	
Carolyn Spruiell..... 3/11	Lynda Weddle 3/20	
Mildred Bonham..... 3/12	Eddy Carder 3/21	
Bill Kindred..... 3/12	Ann Fields..... 3/21	

Let us know if your birthday's missing!

March Scripture Overview

March 7– 3rd Sunday in Lent / Communion Sunday

Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-9

During the Lenten season we are reminded of the suffering of God's servant. Whereas the discreet history of the text would suggest the identity of the servant as Israel itself or perhaps a new king, Christians, reading these same texts hundreds of years later, immediately recognized them as powerful depictions of Jesus.

In Isaiah 54 and 55, which should be read together, the suffering of the servant has obtained a great restoration in the land and among the people. Scarcity has been replaced by plenty, shame by glory. Chapter 55 is an invitation to the great banquet feast of redemption, an occasion provided by the faithfulness of God and God's servant.

March 14–4th Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Joshua 5:9-12

Covenant renewal can be painful, and not just literally as it is here in Joshua. Circumcision, though not unknown among other, non-Jewish peoples, is for the sons of Abraham the ritually distinctive, scarring mark of covenantal relationship with God. Each generation is obliged to ratify the covenant, to make it their own.

This observance of the Passover marks the beginning of a new, or renewed relationship between God and Israel. They are celebrating, in a new way, for the first time since their deliverance from Egypt, Passover, the covenant meal. That the manna ceased on the day after Passover, "on that very day" (5:11), indicates that temporary wilderness rations are no longer needed because God's promised provision, the land and its bounty, is now a reality.

March 21–5th Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-21

In this passage, Isaiah is proclaiming God's salvation. He traces it from God's deliverance of the people from Egypt until the present time where the community of faith reclaims its role of praising God in worship. Through Isaiah, we hear God's message of doing a "new thing", and it challenges the people of faith to wake up and participate in how the divine purpose will unfold.

Through this proclamation, we see Isaiah stressing that God acts in the events of history. The people must be open to the possibility of beginning anew. So often, we let our circumstances become the norm and follow the status quo no matter where it leads us or how it

captures us. The call is to stand straight and be perceptive to the advent of God, who delivered slaves in the past and who will restore what is broken in the present.

Mar. 28–Palm Sunday & Confirmation Sunday

Scripture: Isaiah 50:4-9 (Passion)

Scholars label this passage the third servant song. The feel of the text is of a lament psalm as Isaiah references suffering at the hands of opponents, but at the same time, we hear a word of trusting in God. Isaiah stresses the abuse suffered by the servant, but we also hear a word of hope for vindication and deliverance. In all, we are assured that the righteous will be vindicated and the community of faith will be healed.

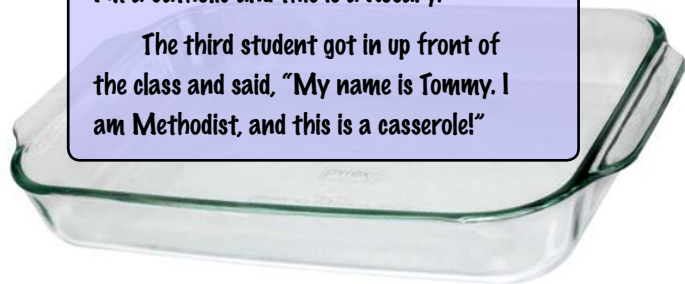
Passion Sunday is a great time to focus on Jesus fulfilling this test as the suffering servant. Instead of being a mighty military leader, Jesus came bringing peace and offering peace to all who would follow his ways. We are reminded that those who bring the message of peace and strive to bring about peace are many times the ones who are caught in our warring ways. The servants of peace are often ridiculed and end up suffering much for their messages and their causes.

Show and Tell

A kindergarten teacher gave her class a "show and tell" assignment. Each student was instructed to bring in an object to share with the class that represented their religion. The first student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Benjamin and I am Jewish and this is a Star of David."

The second student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Mary. I'm a Catholic and this is a Rosary."

The third student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Tommy. I am Methodist, and this is a casserole!"



United Methodist Church of the Good Shepherd

March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7:00 p.m.—Stephen Ministry 7:00—Boy Scout Troop 300	Noon—Staff Meeting 3-6:00 p.m.— Youth After Hours 7:00—Outreach	5:30 a.m.—Promise Keepers 10:00—Adult Bible Study 11:30—UMW Koinonia Circle 6:00 p.m.—Youth Bible Study 6:30—Praise Team Reh 6:30—Disciple I 7:00—Al-Anon		10:00 a.m.—Cookin' Up Casseroles	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.—Worship 9:45—Sunday School 4:00 p.m.—CREDO 4:00—FPU 5:30—Handbells 7:00—Chancel Choir	7:00 p.m.— Boy Scout Troop 300	3-6:00 p.m.— Youth After Hours 6:00—Youth Sponsors Mtg 6:30—Trustees 7:00—COYM 7:00—Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:30—Finance	5:30 a.m.—Promise Keepers 10:00—Adult Bible Study 11:30—Hopeful's Luncheon 6:00 p.m.—Youth Bible Study 6:30—Praise Team Reh 6:30—Disciple I 7:00—Al-Anon			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<i>One Great Hour of Sharing</i> Daylight Savings Begins 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.—Worship 9:45—Sunday School 4:00 p.m.—CREDO 4:00—FPU 5:30—Handbells 7:00—Chancel Choir	2:00 p.m.— UMW Sojourner's Circle 7:00 p.m.—Stephen Ministry 7:00—Boy Scout Troop 300	Newsletter Deadline 7:00 p.m.—Witness Mtg	5:30 a.m.—Promise Keepers 10:00—Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m.—Praise Team Reh 6:30—Disciple I 7:00—Al-Anon			8:00 a.m.—UMM Breakfast
Spring Break • March 15-19						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.—Worship 9:45—Sunday School 4:00 p.m.—CREDO 4:00—FPU 5:30—Handbells 7:00—Chancel Choir	7:00 p.m.—Reflections Circle 7:00—Boy Scout Troop 300	Noon—Staff Meeting 3-6:00 p.m.— Youth After Hours 7:00—Prayer Shawl Ministry	5:30 a.m.—Promise Keepers 10:00—Adult Bible Study 6:00 p.m.—Youth Bible Study 6:30 p.m.—Praise Team Reh 6:30—Disciple I 7:00—Al-Anon	7:00 p.m.—UMW Servants of the Shepherd Circle	6-10:00 p.m.— M.U.S.H. babysitting (TGIF) (Mission trip fundraiser)	
28	29	30	31	<p><i>“Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God.”</i></p> <p>~William Carey</p>		
<i>Palm/Passion & Confirmation Sunday</i> 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.—Worship 9:45—Sunday School Noon—Potato/Salad Bar Easter Egg Hunt 4:00 p.m.—FPU 5:30—Handbells 7:00—Chancel Choir	7:00—Boy Scout Troop 300	3-6:00 p.m.— Youth After Hours	5:30 a.m.—Promise Keepers 10:00—Adult Bible Study 6:00 p.m.—Youth Bible Study 6:30 p.m.—Praise Team Reh 6:30—Disciple I 7:00—Al-Anon			

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

For Your Information:

Who We Are:

“People of God, learning to follow Jesus,
inviting others to join the journey.”

Our Worship Times:

8:30 a.m. (Traditional-Sanctuary)

11:00 a.m. (Contemporary-Christian Life Center)

11:00 a.m. (Traditional-Sanctuary)

Sunday School: 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Address: 10928 SW 15th • Yukon, OK 73099

Phone/Fax: 405/324-1900 | 405/324-8513

Email: cgsnews@sbcglobal.net

Visit us on the web at:

<http://www.umcgoodshepherd.org>

Church Staff

Rev. Jeff Burress, *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Karen Clewell, *Associate Pastor*

Katy Cato, *Director of Youth*

Cathy Childers,
Minister of Education & Discipleship

Evelyn Bourne, *Church Secretary*

Stacey Gaylord, *Treasurer*

Bob Macemon, *Minister of Music*

Logan Walker, *Organist*

Tim Bourne,
Contemporary Worship Coordinator

Karen Frazier,
Caring Ministries Coordinator

Leslie Hamby, *Children's Day Out Director*

Jill Blevins, *Christ in Action*
After School Program Director

Marsha Alexander, *Covenant Missionary*

P.R.A.Y. PROGRAM

(also known as GOD AND COUNTRY)

IT'S FINALLY HERE!!

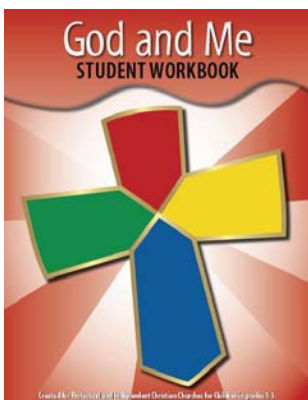
What is the P.R.A.Y. program...

- Is a religious emblems program created by the national church bodies cooperating with P.R.A.Y. It is a CHURCH program, approved for use by the national youth agencies.
- Includes awards/emblems that are approved for wear on the official uniforms of the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., Camp Fire USA, and American Heritage Girls.
- Is used by members of Protestant and Independent Christian churches.
- Is designed for boys and girls in grades one through twelve. All church youth (whether or not they belong to a scouting group) are eligible to participate.
- Consists of four different programs based on grade level.
- Offers an Adult Mentor component for parents. Parents may choose to serve as Mentors and be involved in the P.R.A.Y. program alongside their children.

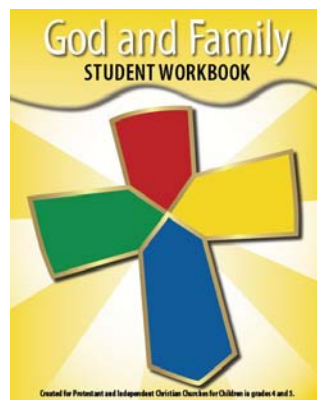


PROGRAM OVERVIEW

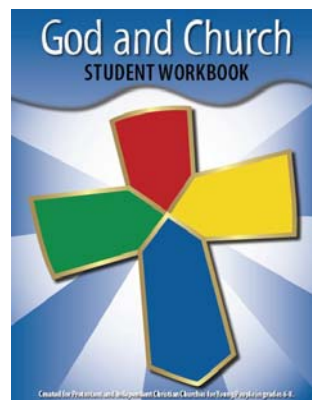
A program for every youth and a great way to be a mentor to a youth!



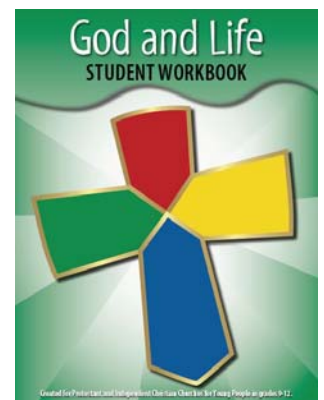
(GRADES 1 - 3)



(GRADES 4 & 5)



(GRADES 6 - 8)



(GRADES 9 -12)

Please join us for an informational meeting regarding the entire program and see how amazing this program is **March 24, 2010 in the Sanctuary 6 PM.**

God and Me Award

For Grades 1-3



Program: Earn the *God and Me* award. The God and Me curriculum is designed to help children become best friends with Jesus and tell their story of “God and Me” together. Children will make games and keep them in a GAMEBOX (God And Me Exploring BOX). These games will reinforce the Bible lessons and provide opportunities for families to explore God’s love together.

For: Boys and girls in grades 1-3

Meeting Place: United Methodist Church of the Good Shepherd
Christian Life Center
10928 SW 15th; Yukon, OK 73099

Introductory Meeting: March 24, 2010

Time: 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Dates: After introductory meeting, Every Wednesday for 5 weeks
March 31, April 7, April 14, April 21, and April 28

Cost: Up to \$25 per person. This includes workbook, medallion, lapel pin, sleeve patch, and certificate. (Sponsorship available and lower cost is possible)

Registration Deadline: March 24, 2010

Contact: Cathy Childers - 405-324-1900 cathy_childers@sbcglobal.net
Micah Parker - 405-306-3033 micah.parker@integrisok.com