

 **Geyer Springs
United Methodist Church**
5500 Geyer Springs Road & Mabelvale Pike
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209-1811

Church Staff

Arkansas Area Bishop, Rev. Gary
Mueller
Central District Superintendent, Rev.
Dede Roberts
Pastor, Rev. David Hoffman
Custodian, Mr. Brian Carrio

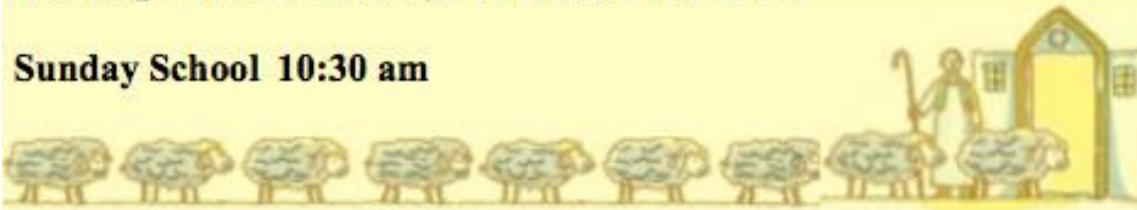
Rev David Hoffman

Phone: (501) 475-6397
Email: davidd.hoffman@gmail.com
geyersprings.umc@comcast.net

Please join us for

Worship in the Sanctuary 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Sunday School 10:30 am



The Informer

Geyer Springs United Methodist Church

501-565-3175 • geyersprings.umc@comcast.net • www.geyerspringsumc.org

A Monument

The Satanic Temple recently filed a petition to place a statue of Satan depicted as a goat complete with wings, horns and hooves on the grounds of the state capitol. Without hesitation, the Satanic Temple says they want to erect the statue, Baphomet, as a counter to the monument of the Ten Commandments that has already been approved for placement.

I am not at all happy about the statue; as a Christian pastor I find it reprehensible and aesthetically, it's just ugly. But we'll probably have to contend with it.

Our Constitution guarantees freedom of religion as well as freedom from religion. We may each pursue our own path without fear of governmental interference. At the very same time, the government may not support one religion over another. That duality sounds pretty simple at first, but in reality creates a great deal of tension.

In its most recent session, the legislature passed a bill to permit placing the Ten Commandments on the capitol grounds. Private money will pay for the monument, but it is being placed on public property. Being on public property creates the constitutional question. If we do not permit other religions to place a monument there, we are establishing a religion. Thus the argument for the Baphomet statue was born.

The state of Texas won a lawsuit before the U.S. Supreme Court permitting them to keep a similar monument as an historic display. The Court cited the fact that the monument had been in place for 40 years without challenge and the monument had non-religious as well as multi-faith symbols and decorations on the monument as the basis for their decision. But in the same year, Kentucky lost their case before the Supreme Court; theirs were new displays.

If this is what we face, I suggest we take the "none" approach, meaning no statue or monument be placed on the capitol grounds by anyone, lest we find ourselves forced to let everyone put up their statue. I realize the legislature acted in a way to please the majority of their constituents, but this is not a matter of majority rule under our Constitution.

If this is a matter of impressing God, I just don't think it will work. I have found nothing in the Bible indicating God will bless us more if we have a monument. I am absolutely convinced that our actions in God's name here on earth serving God's people will.

Neither individual Christians nor the Christian faith will be diminished because we don't have a monument of the Ten Commandments in Arkansas. Our faith should never be so shallow as to rise or fall on whether there is a monument or not. Our service in God's name should be our monument to God. I have never heard of a monument that ever brought anyone to salvation.

Our task is to make disciples. We do this by showing and living our faith, not by monuments of granite or marble.



Oct 2 Jeremy Rodgers
 Oct 5 Jeremy Pressgrove
 Oct 11 Martin Nutt
 Oct 12 Rick Shelton
 Oct 18 Henry Nutt
 Oct 23 Dan Shelton
 Oct 24 Anne-Marie Swafford
 Oct 24 Zoe Watson

Treatment and Concerns:
 Please continue to let us know of your prayer, joys, and concerns:
 Rev. David Hoffman, (501) 475-6397
 davidd.hoffman@gmail.com

Grief:

Rehab & Nursing Centers:

Home Bound:
 Loran & Marinelle Page – 3 Buffington Court, LR 72209
 Charles Turley
 Don & Mary Ridgway

Treatment and Concerns:

John Bencick	Victoria Ross
Marie Brown	Lilly Smith
Sherry Cardell	Rodney Swaty
Mildred Chenault	Jay Wang
Carol Haskins	Elaine Watson
Rose Kelly	Hazel Wilson
Tom Kelly	Barbara Wood
Hildegard May	Becky Shelton
Linda McCown	Young

**Wednesday Night Fellowship
 Wednesday Evenings
 at 5:30 pm**

Adults: \$3 Children: \$1 Any of the host groups welcomes your help.

Oct 5	Meyers
Oct 12	UMW
Oct 19	Blackwell
Oct 26	Wesley
Nov 2	UMM
Nov 9	New Beginnings



Oct 26 Scott & Vernetta Grizzelle



The Food Pantry continues to feed the hungry in our neighborhood. This would not be possible without the generous support of our congregation. Donations to the Food Pantry may be given directly to Terri Hammond or to the office with a designation "Food Pantry" on your envelope.

New Start Time for Sunday Service

Starting on July 3rd, worship services will begin at 9:30am with Sunday School following.

Outreach

HELP! We need volunteers on the first and 3rd Thursday mornings when we have food pantry. Let Terri, Anna or Kathy K know if you can help. We have sitting down jobs for those who can't pack and lift!

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!
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Please continue to donate money to our food pantry. We are seeing many more people and the need for food for children in the summer is high! WE served almost 300 families in June representing over a thousand individuals. They all were appreciative and you could tell 99% of them REALLY were needy. This is a wonderful ministry we are doing . Please make a donation this Sunday!!!!

REMEMBER: If you want to honor anyone's birthday or anniversary, make a donation and I will send a card letting them know!!

Thanks, everyone!
Terri

Bible Study and Small Groups

I am beginning to plan the coming year of Bible Studies and small groups I might lead. I am willing to do daytime and evening, any day except Friday or Saturday. I will offer groups at both Faith and Geyer Springs and everyone is invited to come to either church as your schedule permits and the topic interests you.

Please let me know what topics you are interested in. Please leave a message for me at the church office, my cell phone (501) 475-6397 or at da-vidd.hoffman@gmail.com.