

Itâ€™s beginning to look a lot like fall around Coweta. Area residents are decorating their yards and porches with fall motif, including such seasonal items as pumpkins. The First United Methodist Church in Coweta is offering decorative pumpkins for sale at its 2nd Annual Fall Pumpkin Patch. The pumpkins are grown right here in Oklahoma. From now through Oct. 31, the pumpkin patch is open Monday through Friday from 12 Noon to dusk, on Saturday from 10 a.m. to dusk and on Sunday, from 1-4 p.m. The church is located at 206 W. Sycamore. Church Pastor Sara Pugh Montgomery said on Saturday, Oct. 25, the church will have special activities planned for the entire family, including face painting, childrenâ€™s games and pumpkin carving. Carving tools will be available. On other days there will be games for children, such as pumpkin bowling and a bean bag toss. Pugh Montgomery said visitors may enjoy taking fall photos on the half bales of hay surrounded by pumpkins. Others may opt for a sillier photo, such as behind a large wooden pumpkin or scarecrow with a cut-out for the face. Church staff will be available to help customers pick out pumpkins and carry them to the car. All proceeds from pumpkin sales will go into churchâ€™s the general operating fund. This fund helps finance Godâ€™s Lunch Bunch, a summer mission program to feed kids lunch three times a week. Others benefitting from funds raised will include the youth group, Bible classes and different mission programs each month within the community. In 2013 the pumpkin patch raised nearly \$800. Project organizers hope to surpass that amount this year. â€œLast year people loved being able to support their community and buy a pumpkin here in town, knowing it would go back to someone who gives to the community,â€• the pastor explained. â€œAs a community outreach, this also gives us an opportunity to get outside of our building for three weeks, wave at people and talk to them as they come by,â€• Pugh Montgomery continued. â€œIt is a very intentional way to be visibly present for three weeks right outside of our own doors.â€• She said being right across the street

from Coweta Post Office provides the perfect location for a pumpkin patch. “You see half of Coweta within two days,” she said with a smile. “Even if you don’t come by, we will wave at everyone,” Pugh Montgomery said. “This is a wonderful way for us to be present and say hey, we are here and we love you all!” Pugh Montgomery said fall is her favorite time of year and she looks forward to meeting folks and getting to know their stories when they come by. “If we sell pumpkins, that’s great. If we get to meet people, that’s even better!” she exclaimed. Prices will range from 50 cents for small, decorative pumpkins to \$30 for the largest item. Decorative gourds, including swan gourds, will also be available. Swan gourds are what people carve out to make bird houses. There will also be “elf houses”, another decorative type of gourd. “It’s just such a fun time” “come on by!” Pugh Montgomery invited. Pumpkin Patch Hours 12 Noon to Dusk on Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to Dusk on Saturday 1-4 p.m. on Sunday Pumpkin Patch Location First United Methodist Church, 206 W. Sycamore Pumpkin Carving Tips • To keep carved pumpkins fresh after you carve them, put Vaseline around the cuts. • Add a silicone packet (similar to what you find in a shoe box at the store) on the bottom of the pumpkin to keep it from rotting. • Always have adult supervision for young people who are carving.