

July 2015

TO KNOW CHRIST, TO GROW IN CHRIST, TO GO SERVE

Medicine Lodge
United Methodist Church
108 E. 2nd Ave., Medicine Lodge, KS 67104



Hello, everyone!

I just wanted to say a quick Hi and tell you all that I am looking forward to coming down to Medicine Lodge UMC and meeting everyone.

It will be a joy to begin being God's family together with you! He is such a good God, and it will be a joy sharing Christ together.

Thank you to all who have helped me already, including the greeting "committee" who welcomed me into the parsonage :-)

I hope you have a happy and safe 4th, and I look forward to seeing those of you who can make it on Sunday the 5th, if not before.

'Til then, grace and peace to all of you,

In Christ, and with God's love,
Paul

THE OFFENSE JESUS BRINGS (JOHN 6:53-69)

In 2014, a man opened fire with a handgun during a meeting with his caseworker and psychiatrist at a hospital. Sadly, the caseworker was mortally wounded, while the psychiatrist—who returned fire with his own handgun—received minor injuries. The gunman, who was subdued at the scene, indicated that he opened fire because he'd been offended by the hospital's "no guns" policy.

Jesus once offended a crowd of disciples with some difficult words (John 6:61). Many of His followers "turned away and deserted him" (v.66). What caused them to bail? Jesus stated that only those who would "eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood" would receive eternal life (v.53). Perhaps stunned by His cannibalistic-sounding words or upset that Jesus wasn't going to be the militant, conquering Messiah they had expected or unwilling to surrender completely to Him, they turned away.

Jesus, of course, wasn't speaking of literal flesh and blood. He was simply exposing the deserters' lack of faith and their unwillingness to accept His life and ways as their own (v.64). As He watched the doubting disciples walk away, He "turned to the Twelve and asked, 'Are you also going to leave?'" (v.67).

That's a question we must all answer: *Will we turn away from Jesus when His words and truth offend others? Will we deny His teachings to avoid conflict, pain, or embarrassment?*

Peter replied, "To whom would we go?" (v.68). Jesus is the true Son of God who alone provides eternal life.

Some people, like the deranged gunman, will take offense for the wrong reasons. But as God helps us lovingly present the claims of our faith, it will allow the message to be the point—not us or the way we share it.

—Tom Felten (GodTube June 21)

THANK YOU!

Thank You!

Thank You!

- ✦ Cindy Christensen for changing the paraments and cross drape
- ✦ Tessa Wampler for opening the church while Cheryl was gone
- ✦ Rick Anderson for running the sound for the wedding
- ✦ Cindy Christensen for running the computer for worship
- ✦ Jody Mullican for getting the newsletters ready to mail
- ✦ To all who helped get the parsonage ready. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

UMC Family,

Thank you all so much for the thoughts, prayers, phone calls and meals provided while I recovered from surgery. It was all very much appreciated. We are very blessed to be part of this loving and supportive church family.

With Love -
Jamie Phipps



- * Computer Operators for worship services
- * Sound Tech for worship services
- * Newsletter editor

If you are interested in serving in any of these areas please contact the church office-886-3903.

KS Youth
Chorus
(From the Hutchinson area)
Sunday, July 19
9:30 am



Come enjoy as the chorus shares their gift of music with us during the worship service. A free will offering will be taken for the group.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 3 - Gracie Long
- 4 - Kristina Bell
- 5 - Tina Andrews
- 8 - Daylynn West, Judi Lukens
- 9 - Devon Burns, Delia Waller, Adrianna Brittain
- 11 - Cheryl Wampler
- 12 - Ethan Kneisel
- 16 - Darrel McNamar
- 17 - Kay Steckman
- 18 - Brooklyn Hernandez, Colin Roe
- 20 - Donna Garten
- 21 - Jennifer Kneisel, Wade Woods
- 22 - Chris Roe
- 23 - Sharon Capansky
- 24 - Robert Larson, Brenda McLain
- 25 - Landon Lukens
- 28 - Mark Watts
- 31 - Durham Nittler



Message from our sponsored child Kelvin Chege from Kenya.

Kelvin will be 12 in July

United Methodist Church, Kelvin sends greetings to the United Methodist Church, He says that he is fine and well kept by the Lord.

Kelvin says that he is really appreciating for the support you have continually given to him. He says that he has received a gift recently and they bought a goat.

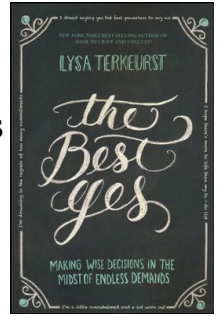
Kelvin says that he has been promoted to grade six this year and he says that he is working very hard and request for your prayer.

Kelvin says that the weather here is very hot, windy and dusty. He wishes to know the weather of your place.

Kelvin wishes you God's blessings.

Translated by Rehoboth

Study
On
Wednesdays
At 6:30 pm
Starting
July 8



This is a 6 week study that will help you in making wise decisions in the midst of endless demands and check into the cure for the "disease to please".

Order a book (cost \$11.50) by contacting the church office by June 29th. For questions contact Kelly Long -620-213-2426 .



To Megan Nixon and Josh Nelson on their marriage June 13th at the UMC.



VBS Coordinator Needed!

If we are going to have VBS this summer we need someone who is willing to be the coordinator.

If that sounds like something you would be interested in doing please contact the church office or Andrea Fisher

Great Plains Annual Conference Report by Betty Buell

The Great Plains Annual Conference met in Wichita, Kansas, at the Century II Convention Hall, June 10-13, 2015. Mary Lou Hinz and I attended this conference. I, as MLUMC Lay delegate, and Mary Lou as guest, confidant and advisor.

The meeting began on Weds. morning with separate Lay and Clergy sessions. The 29 Lay candidates for delegation to the General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference spoke at the meeting and other Lay reports were given.

There being no way to thoroughly cover all the four day events of this conference, I have chosen to use a "bullet format" in no special order of importance or relevance in my report.

~Bishop Scott Jones gave the opening worship sermon on unity and Spirit-led discipling. A highlight of this service was the baptism of the baby daughter of Rev. Emily and Stephen Cannon of Nebraska.

~ 33 young Christian interns are working in 20 churches this summer. This involves 10 weeks of service in the Great Plains Conference in various ministries.

~Bridges to the Future Campaign was a great success. The program raised more than \$8.7 million to help expand Hispanic ministry, build and renovate buildings for campus ministry, start new churches and improve UMC camps. MLUMC pledged \$1000 for five years during that campaign.

~Great Plains UMC has given \$623,000 to Imagine No Malaria.

~UMMen celebrated its 26th year of awarding scholarships to students who are pursuing degrees in Christian leadership and related fields.

~Great Plains UMWomen gave over \$800,000 to missions in 2014. Only one national conference gave more.

~MLUMWomen prepared 12 birthing kits for the UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) in-gathering at the conference. A huge UMCOR truck was at the loading dock taking various donations and it was about half full on Thursday morning!

~Five UMChurches in the Great Plains Conference celebrated 150th Anniversaries.

~Seven UMChurches in the Conference closed in 2014, with one re-opening as the New Beginnings Church in Wichita. The majority of the church closings were ones established in the late 1800's or early 1900's when they were organized for close accessibility, many had under 20 in their congregations at this time.

~New Church Development reported the continuing support of the nine existing new churches in the Great Plains Conference. They also announced a strategic plan for "20 New Churches by 2020" involving a three-tiered process.

~24 churches received grants to help build and strengthen partnerships between churches and schools throughout Kansas and Nebraska. About 177 churches have made partnerships with local public schools but many more are needed.

~UMCOR's giving in 2014 was \$8,939,720 and has been there for not only disaster relief but assistance and leadership for long-term recovery. UMCOR has been in existence for 75 years!

~One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday's in local churches support the staff and administration costs of UMCOR so that all donations to disasters and recovery will be 100%.

~Great Plains Conference ordained seven elders, commissioned twelve provisional elders, one provisional deacon and one associate member during this year's conference.

During the business sessions, there were 21 Resolutions and 7 Petitions presented, sometimes debated and voted on. The delegate voting process elected six Clergy and six Lay delegates to the 2016 General Conference, six Clergy and six Lay delegates to the Jurisdictional Conference plus three alternates each. This process was done by hand held voting machines and was a VERY lengthy process. As always, this Conference was not without controversial issues and decisions. Please contact me if you have any questions about the Conference and I will be happy to provide materials that address these issues and decisions.

Thanks to anyone who reads this entire report, it is an obligation I assume as the delegate and it is truly the only painful part for me! I considered it an honor to be the Lay Delegate to the United Methodist Annual Conference.

The church has used a slogan
Open hearts and minds and doors
It doesn't translate very well
If that attitude's not yours

If you don't see new faces
Walking up and down the halls
We're likely not inviting
Those who live beyond our walls

Our church must feel welcome
To the strangers at the door
And if it's not I guarantee
They won't be back for more

Next time in church just look around
Any faces you don't know
If not, I'll say this plainly
Then you've got some seeds to sow

It's all about faith sharing
That job is yours and mine
Living out discipleship
In word and deed and sign

When strangers come into your church
I hope you have believed
It's not the sermon they'll recall
But how they were received

We tend to do the church thing
Aimed at those already in
Not seeking those outside our walls
May be our greatest sin
We need to go where people are
But that makes such a fuss

We've got a grand church building here
So let them come to us

Unbinding of the Gospel
Is evangelism bent
WE think that's the preachers job
But each of us is sent

Two questions we must answer
Each one of us must know
'Cause if we don't it's pretty sure
Our church ain't gonna grow

What difference does it make to you
That Christian is your name?
If it really doesn't matter
Playing church is just a game

The second question's similar
Can be hard as a rock
When talking 'bout the "E" word
It's the key that turns the lock

What difference does it make to you
That others Christian be
If that really doesn't matter
Then you'll never get to "E"

The church's role is thwarted
No matter how it's sliced
If you don't see th'importance
Of knowing Jesus Christ

(poem written and read by Tom Watson for the Laity session of Annual Conf)

Sunday Schedule

- 9:30 am- Worship
- 10:45 am - Fellowship Time
- 11:00 am- Sunday School

Wednesday Schedule

- 6:30 am - Men's Bible Study

Ushers

- 5- John Fisher & Mike Roe
- 12-
- 19- John Fisher & Mike Roe
- 26- Todd, Sawyer & Schafer Stone

Greeters

- 5- Dallas & Patty Lawrence
- 12- Dawsons
- 19- Dawsons
- 26- Dawsons

Acolytes

- Dawsons

Readers

- Sue Lee

Children's Time

- 5- Paul Stephens
- 12- Melea Oxley
- 19- Brenda Dirks
- 26- Elisa Stone



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Church Closed for Holiday	4 
5 Paul's First Sunday Covered Dish Dinner following Sunday School	6 10 am Food Bank	7 6:30 pm - Agents of the Apocalypse	8 6:30 pm - *The Best Yes? Study	9	10	11
12	13 10 am Food Bank	14 6:30 pm - Agents of the Apocalypse	15 6:30 pm - *The Best Yes? Study	16	17	18
19	20 10 am Food Bank	21	22 6:30 pm - *The Best Yes? Study	23	24	24
26	27 10 am Food Bank	28	29 6:30 pm - *The Best Yes? Study	30	31	





United Methodist Church
108 E. Second
Medicine Lodge, KS 67104

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THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
www.umcmedicinelodge.com

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 Ph: (620)886-3903

Pastor
 Paul Stephens

Education Director

Secretary
 Sharla Mease
sharlaumc@sctelcom.net

Custodian
 Cheryl Wampler

2015 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

- Adm. Co-Tammy Keimig 739-4553**
- Congregational Care**
 Mary Lou Hinz 886-3558
 Ron & Judy Phipps 739-4722
- Education -Andrea Fisher 930-2049**
- Endowment-David Oxley 886-5783**
- Evangelism-Linda Vick 915-449-8149**
 Lesley Hill
- Hospitality-Emerald Bedwell 886-5320**
- Lay Leader John Platt, 886-2003**
 Dean Stucky 886-3485
- Lay Leadership-Paul Stephens**
- Memorial -**
- Missions - Andrea Fisher, 930-2049**
- Scholarship-Bob Packard 886-3006**
- SPRC Relations -**
 Dean Stucky 886-3485
 Dorothy Stutler 930-2020
- Stew/Finance- Dale Lonker 886-3311**
 Brandon Phipps
- History & Archives -**
- Worship/Music & Arts -**
 Elisa Stone 886-3030
- Trustees - Tom Lee 930-2072**
 Jed Hill
- Childcare Facilities-**
 Emerald Bedwell 886-5320

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Schedule

Worship 9:30 am
 Fellowship Time 10:45 am
 Sunday School 11:00 am

Monday Schedule

Food Bank 10:00 am

Tuesday Schedule

Bible Study 6:30 pm

Wednesday Schedule

Men's Bible Study 6:30 am
 "The Best Yes" Study 6:30 pm

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Natasha Florian
 Rodney VanRanken
 John Ordonio
 Blazer Walker
 Brian Larsen, Marilyn Fox's son
 Spencer Wartman, Lee's grandson
 Joey Ludwick (son of John & Heather Ludwick)

