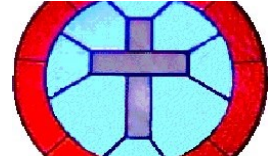


OUTREACH



Volume 29 Issue 7

First United Methodist Church

July 20, 2017

Perspective

Greetings in the Name of the Great Caregiver!

Long ago, in what is known as the Great Discourse of John's gospel, Jesus instructed his disciples thusly: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35) It was a commandment not written on cold stone tablets by the unseen "finger of God", as some assert...rather this commandment was written on the hearts of the believers and followers of Jesus by the ubiquitous Holy Spirit making them disciples. The new direction of God's people was to follow the Way of love, grace, and mercy.

That was a long time ago indeed, and a long way away from the heartland of the new world, but the commandment could not be more valid or necessary, here and now. There are those in our community of believers who have lost loved ones to that thing we call death, feeling sad and alone...there are others who have been diagnosed with serious illness and are going through terribly uncertain times...and still others who have children or parents who are in need of care and are feeling overwhelmed... and we mustn't forget those who are going through the pain of marital separation and divorce and need a listening ear and a caring heart.... And there are even those who are struggling with addictions and need that solid rock to stand on through the currents that draw them back into the storm of addiction. The list goes on and on... it can seem overwhelming and is certainly too much for any one person to handle.

So what are we to do, if we are to take the "Love One Another" commandment of Christ seriously?

First, understand that "Loving one another" is NOT a spectator sport...it is one in which you are called to "get in the game". Most of us understand the need, because we've seen and experienced the challenges and hardships of life, but most of us also feel unequipped to provide quality Christian care. So, again, what are we to do?

One way, is to prayerfully consider whether or not God is calling you to be a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministers are those who complete 50 hours of Christian Caregiving training and then are referred by the pastor to be a Stephen Minister to someone in need of Christian care. Stephen Ministers commit to two years of training and pastoral supervision that will change the lives of those who receive care, and is one of the best ways that we can make sure that the members and attenders of Hays First United Methodist Church who go through challenging and difficult times are not left feeling isolated and alone. But more than that, those who participate in the Stephen Ministry program are changed, often moving from that of a Sunday morning believer to that of a disciple every day.

As you read this, Armin Kelly and I are at Stephen Ministry Leader Training in Dallas, Texas. I have been a Stephen Minister and a Stephen Leader for well over 30 years, and I can attest that it will change your life if you choose to make the commitment to become a Stephen Minister. This is Armin's first experience with Stephen Ministry, but we both commit to those who God calls into this special ministry to train you with the same dedication and care that we have received. So, my question for you is this: "Is Christ calling you to "Love One Another" by becoming a Stephen Minister?" If so, contact the church office at 785-625-3408 or email me at mikerose994@gmail.com for more information. It's time you moved from being a believer to a disciple!

Grace and Peace, Pastor Mike

Please email your OUTREACH item to haysumc@hotmail.com before Sunday, August 20 , 2017
Please place the name "Outreach" in the subject line...or place your item, clearly labeled **for the Outreach**, in the office by **Sunday, August 20, 2017**. The next Outreach should be received by August 24th.

Thank You

To Trevor Henningsen who is serving as youth leader this summer.



Thanks to those who help with communion each month: Dave & Karen Hendrickson, Carol Purdy, LaVaughn Hull, Sharon Barton, Shauna Zweifel, Carol Pitner, Vicki Kelly, Rita Barker, Sherri Matlock and Sheryl Dreiling.



Thanks to Rick Robinson who changes the sign on 8th street all year. These clever words make us smile and make us think.

Worship Bulletins are available in large print .Please ask an usher.

INTRODUCING OUR STAFF

PROGRAM STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Mike Rose

Director of Music: Johnny Matlock

Special Music Coordinator: Meredith Cory

Organist:: Charlotte Rathke

Pianist: Alexis Robinson

Handbell Choir Director: Shawn Henderson

Children's Ministry Director: Jo Swayne

Asst. Children's Director: Rebecca Kuehl

Youth Director: Matt Dumler

Outreach Editor: Wendy Beougher

SUPPORT STAFF:

Administrative Secretary: Beverly Bearley

Administrative Assistant: Wendy Beougher

Financial Secretary: Don Forssberg

Childcare Director: Sandy Henningsen

Building Supervisor:

Congratulations

to Cody & Kelly Lewis who were married June 10th.

to Kyle & Hilary Kitson who will be married July 22.

to Jerry & Ruth Briney who will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on August 18.

to Louene McBride who celebrated her 102nd birthday on July 12th.

The Church & Society work are provides an annual Senior Brunch to recognize the high school graduates of our church family. Dating back to the mid 80's, all graduates have signed a white tablecloth. At the brunch each graduate introduces family members and shares their plan for the future.

For the second year, the Endowment Committee has presented scholarships to the Senior youth who have been involved in worship and youth activities at FUMC . This year five applicants became recipients of \$500 scholarships. They were Xander Swayne, Riley Kenton, Chantz Brungardt, Isys Bearley and Tigist Bannister. This is another way for our Church to wish high school graduates well as they move on to their post-secondary education endeavors.

100 Days of



The Mission Committee is collecting food to stock the food pantry for Hays High School . Items can be left on the shelves in the parlor. There is an increased need for assisting students outside the school day. Meeting the basic needs of students is critical for them to be successful.

Non-perishable food items are needed such as:

Hamburger/Chicken helper

Canned Chicken

Pop Tarts/Breakfast Bars

Maruchan Instant Lunch Cups

Bumble Bee Chicken/Ham/Tuna ready to eat kits

Peanut butter/Jelly/Crackers

Cans of Soup/Spaghetti

Macaroni & Cheese cups

Fruit cups/Applesauce/Pudding cups

Spaghetti/Spaghetti Sauce

WalMart or Dillon's gift cards or checks can be made payable to "HHS Pantry".

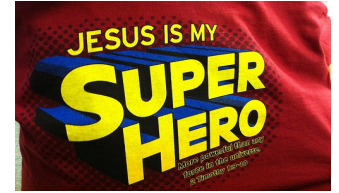
If you would like to receive an electronic copy of the Outreach, please call the church office, 625-3408,

Buy Fair Trade Coffee , available in the church office. This supports an equitable trade system and the livelihoods of small farmers worldwide. Fair Trade promotes environmental practices.

KIDS CORNER

We are God's SuperHeroes!! As you read this, we will be right in the thick of "Hero Central" VBS. Be sure to "fly" by and see what fun we're having, Monday-Thursday, July 17-20 from 5-7:30. We'd love to share how we are finding our strength in God and tell you our Hero Verse, "Do good! Seek peace and go after it!" Psalm 34:14b. Be sure to come to VBS Sunday, July 23 to hear all about our awesome week!

After VBS Sunday, we will still have three weeks and three board games to go for Summer Sunday School. We have had a lot of fun learning about Jesus and playing games this summer. Come get your game on July 30-Aug 13 on the second floor in the KidsZone from 9:30-10:30.



Has anyone seen the signs about the ducks returning to Hays?? Big Brothers Big Sisters charity is organizing their second annual duck race at the Hays Aquatic Park on Wednesday, August 2 from 5:30-8:30. They specifically requested the help of our youth and families because of the great time we had last year! How our kids can help is by getting wet and helping rubber ducks navigate the lazy river during the races and hosting kids' games!! We thought this would be a very fun and very easy way to serve our community and help a good cause! Contact Matt or myself if you're interested in helping.

To end this busy summer, the Children's Advisory Board and Youth Advisory Board will be hosting "Messy Church Games" on Sunday, August 13, 7-8:30 pm. We thought that a great way to wrap up Pastor Mike's "messy" sermon series, AND enjoy one last summer fling, AND get messy.....would be to invite the church family out for some good messy fun. Because of the CAB obligation, we will not be having our church potluck after church so that we can instead come back Sunday evening for a time to socialize, take pics and of course, get messy! Look for more information as the day gets closer!

Another VIP date to have on your calendar is New Beginnings Sunday, August 20. The Education Work Area will host a program between services to share all the opportunities for children, youth and adults to get plugged into our church this fall. More information to come, just get the date on your calendar now!! FYI, this is also the Sunday we have our Backpack and Teacher Blessing to start off the school year.

BLESSED TO SERVE- Jo Swayne, Children's Director & Rebecca Kuehl, Children's Ministry Assistant
jswayne33@gmail.com or 316.204.6529 and rebeccarg@hotmail.com or 785.432.6477 Check out the web for up-to-date information! www.haysfirstunitedmethodistchurch.com

In his first episcopal address to the Great Plains Annual Conference, Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. laid out five key factors for United Methodists in Nebraska and Kansas to move forward into the future. "Friends, we can do better – and we will," Bishop Saenz told the clergy and laity at the Heartland Events Center in Grand Island.

The bishop's five key points include increasing the number and diversity of small groups; reaching and teaching young people in all places; moving toward a mutual ministry of clergy and laity; moving toward unity through prayer and dialogue; and developing a Great Plains culture of movement.

"The conference is deeply committed to enhancing the ministry and vitality of each local church," the bishop said, citing urban, rural, small-membership and large churches.

The move toward unity, prayer and dialogue is a prelude to the decision by the Commission on a Way Forward and the planned 2019 special General Conference session to discuss human sexuality issues.

Each conference has been assigned a week for coordinated prayer, and the Great Plains' week will be Sept. 3-9, he said.

Two year Anniversary Newsletter

Today celebrates two full years in Swaziland. In two weeks, I begin my journey into the next chapter. I will be in America for three weeks in July before flying to Thailand for 18 months.

Today I listened to a podcast about the “**five requirements for perseverance**”. The first is **passion**. Have something that drives you, motivates you. Jesus’ passion was for people. He talked with and listened to them-whether they were men, women, children, Samaritans, rabbis, prostitutes, tax collectors. He was there. The second requirement is **problems**. Trials, adversity. We’re going to have them. But don’t give up. In James 1:2-4, we learn that facing trials and making it to the finish line brings maturity. The testing of our faith produces steadfastness.

The third requirement is **patience**. Distancing ourselves from anger.

The fourth requirement is **prayer**. Devoting time every single day to receiving words, encouragement, grace, peace, hope from the Lord.

The fifth and final requirement is **people**. All of you receiving this letter-whether you’re in America or Africa or somewhere else in the world, the Lord has placed you in my life so that I’m never alone. So that we can support and encourage one another. He’s already providing people for me in Thailand. I rejoice that I’ve already found a place to live for my duration in Bangkok.

All five of these things for perseverance, or being steadfast, are both a promise and a command. Have these things, and you will be steadfast. The Lord promises to provide. He has provided the people, patience and passion. He reminds me of promises through prayer. He promises that there will be trials, but He will be right there through every single storm.

Though I’m sad to leave Swaziland, I’m so excited to experience Asia. I’m excited for the food, city, culture, people, and ministry. I’m excited to see new things I can’t even imagine. I’m excited to learn from an incredible organization and gain wisdom and experience from those who have walked this journey; before me. I’m excited for new friends and adventures.

Thank you for all your love, support and encouragement. Please continue to keep me in your prayers during this difficult season. If you are interested in helping out with funds-tax deductible checks can be made out to FUMC. Online donations can be sent to me via PayPal at racheldanell@gmail.com.

Rachel Palmberg

The Great Plains Annual Conference was held in early June 6 in Grand Island, NE. Bob Cox and Mary Meckenstock along with Pastors Mike and Alice represented Hays 1st.

The conference’s first evening opening worship included memorializing 27 clergy and 31 spouses who had passed away since last year’s conference. Each name was read and projected on the screen, accompanied by the playing of a tone and the lighting of a candle.



The Great Plains Annual Conference delegates voted Thursday, June 8, to consolidate its three offices into one, to be located in Topeka. "This is difficult," Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. said after the vote Thursday afternoon. The delegates authorize the trustees to purchase, lease, sell or transfer property accordingly. The decision to consolidate offices resulted from a staffing study conducted earlier this year. A singular office, the study concluded, would increase staff collaboration and unity, as well as improve customer service for clergy and laity. Topeka was chosen from eight possible sites in Kansas and Nebraska for its housing affordability, cost of living, office space availability and location to airports, as well as its smaller metro area and small-town feel. No timetable for the consolidation and move was set, except that it possibly would happen sometime in 2018.

Taken from the Great Plains Connect.

Meet Matt Dumler, Youth Ministry Director

Let me start off by thanking you all for the warm welcome you have given myself and my family in our short time here at First United Methodist Church. I wanted to give you a short introduction about myself and my family and give you a short vision I have for the youth ministry of FUMC. I have spent the past twelve years serving as a teacher and coach. I spent the first part of my teaching career as a Physical Education teacher for both Plainville Elementary School and Holy Family Elementary School. During that time, I grew in my faith and learned to trust the Lord in all things seen and unseen. It was also during this time that I entered the seminary at Liberty University. I graduated from there in 2015 with a Masters of Art in Theology.

Three years ago, I felt the Lord telling me to prepare for an end to my time at Holy Family. I wasn't sure what direction he was going to take me but I knew he had something. At the end of the year I still had no direction so I spent most of the summer wondering if I had missed something or if it was still a year away. Three weeks before school started, I was approached about a new position at Victory Christian Academy teaching Kindergarten through 2nd grade. I prayed a lot about it and discussed it with my wife. I accepted the position and had two weeks to learn how to teach not just one grade, but three. I found that I loved teaching in the classroom.

However, I also knew that ministry was being placed on my heart and that this would be a short season. This proved true, as after only the second year I again felt the Lord calling me out, except this time without a job lined up. We prayed about it and ultimately decided to be obedient and I resigned at the beginning of June, knowing that the Lord would open the right door when the time came. Which leads me to here. I heard that FUMC was looking for a youth director and began to pray and the rest is history.

My wife, Susan, and I have been married for almost twelve years. She is a lecturer in the MDI department at FHSU. She has been active with several different ministries throughout her time at church. She loves to run, workout, make us eat healthy and spend time with our family.

We have three beautiful children. The oldest Bryson will be in third grade next year. Wherever we go he can make a friend. He enjoys riding his bike, playing baseball and getting into trouble with grandpa.

My daughter, Braelyn who will be in Kindergarten next year, is a ball of energy. One of my favorite quotes of hers is when she asked her mom why she didn't run everywhere. This sums her up in a nutshell. She challenges us and she isn't afraid to stand up for herself.

My youngest, Benjamin, is full of life and joy. Be careful, he can control you with his smile. He loves chasing after his big brother and sister, especially when they are going outside. If you happen to have a dog with you when you see him, he will be your friend.

I am excited for the upcoming year with the youth ministry here at FUMC. I have spent my first days here at FUMC planning and designing the first six months of the curriculum. I am going to challenge the youth with their faith, and help train them how to walk it out not just on Sunday mornings, but everyday of their lives. We will continue to meet Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. However, keep your eye out for some exciting news towards the end of the year as we are going to be trying some new things beginning in January.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can and thanks again for welcoming my family and I with open arms. Take care and God Bless.



July OUTREACH

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Upcoming Events



Sunday, July 23

Thursday, August 10

Sunday, August 13

Sunday, August 20

Sunday, August 20

VBS Sunday

Crafters, 9:00 a.m.

New Member Joining Sunday

New Beginnings Sunday

Installation of Dist. Superintendents