



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Volume 51 Number 8

May 2, 2007

Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 A.M.	700 Poyntz Avenue
Sunday Worship at 10:45 A.M.	Manhattan, Kansas 66502
Second Helping Dinner at 5:15 P.M.	telephone 785-537-7006
Thursday Evening Taizé at 7:00 P.M.	e-mail ucc@interkan.net

Springing In

We are approaching an especially busy season, particularly for those among us involved with schools. There is plenty of ‘stuff’ to fill our calendars.

In the Church we stand in the Easter season- a time of celebration of Jesus’ Resurrection. As Jesus lives, we are promised new and eternal life, a life beginning in the now. This eternal life is activated by our response to God’s Grace and our commitment to living the Jesus Way- today as well as tomorrow. Its promise is that newness of life comes with our commitment to follow the resurrected One.

Let us recommit ourselves in this season to walking with the Risen Lord within our fellowship and without. Let us share our love with those who participate in weekly worship, remembering in particular new persons among us, inviting them to share in Christian fellowship. Let us share with one another our joys and sorrows, losses and gains, fulfillments and disappointments. Let us be the body of Christ where we are.

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

Rev. Eldon Epp

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Sharing and Caring

Prayers and Concerns

These items are not viewable on this website. Please call the church office for further information.

Thank You

- To **Mike Miller** and **Eldon Epp** who have taken over many of the office duties in the absence of an administrative assistant.
- To all of you who have volunteered to help out in the office to answer the phones. Your help is much appreciated!

Helping

- **Need a ride to church?** Contact one of our transportation volunteers: Jim Hodgson & Carolyn Schwab, Mike & Martha Miller, Bill Pallett, and Jeff Keller.

Announcement

- **Flint Hills Masterworks Chorale**
7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8
First United Methodist Church, 612 Poyntz Ave
Presents Duruflé's REQUIEM, Borodin's POLOVETZIAN DANCE and selections from Handel's SOLOMON
Soloists: Anne Walker, Dylan Evans and Jay Peters
Conductor: Reginald Pittman
Accompanist: Mary Ann Littrell
A freewill donation will be requested at the door.

Introducing Sandy O'Grady

New Volunteer Coordinator Second Helping

Hi, there! I'm Sandy O'Grady and I will be the new Second Helping Volunteer Coordinator. Starting in June I'll be contracting members of the church and community groups to assist the wonderful program that is Second Helping. I have a background in food service and really enjoy helping others. I look forward to working with Ann Smit and all the head chefs to continue to run this program successfully! If you are interested in helping out please feel free to call, email or just grab me at church. Thanks, I can't wait to 'dig right in!'

Sandy O'Grady

My Family:

Colin O'Grady- my husband currently serving in Iraq
Corbin O'Grady- our wonderful 9 month old son

Worship & Picnic at City Park Pavilion

All Creatures Sing!

An outdoor celebration
of all of God's creatures and creation

Sunday, May 20, 2007

Church School at 9:30, Worship at 10:45

Potluck Picnic at Noon

City Park Pavilion – behind the Band Shell
(northwest of 11th and Leavenworth)

Dress casually, invite a friend, bring your critters and casseroles to City Park Pavilion, and join in the fun.

Mission and Outreach

Strengthen the Church



The second of the four annual Special Mission Offerings, the *Strengthen the Church* Offering, supports leadership for new and revitalizing congregations in the United Church of Christ, programs for youth, and leadership development for the whole church. These ministries are carried out by

UCC Conferences and Local Church Ministries.

Read the enclosed brochure to learn more about the work of *Strengthen the Church*. Use the enclosed envelope to return your gift by Sunday, May 27. Thank you.

Let the Sunshine In!

We have beautiful windows in our church. Many times when sitting in choir chancel I have been transfixed (of course not to the point of losing track of the service) by the glowing hues of the stain glass.

But the outer coverings of these windows are badly weathered and discolored, and have damaged their frames besides dulling their radiance.

It is time to repair these windows and to allow them to blaze in their full glory, which many of us have never seen. Soon, we will launch a fund raising campaign to make these necessary repairs. Stay tuned for details.



Sincerely,
Jim Sherow, Moderator



Tower Chimes

For over 100 years, the loft of our tower has sat empty. That is about to change. First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma, is replacing their ten note Deagan Tower Chime System with a carillon of thirty-two bells. The bells are scheduled to be installed this fall.

First Presbyterian has agreed to give us their tower chimes in exchange for our safely removing them, installing them in our tower, and ringing & maintaining them for many years to come.

We need a crew of six to ten able bodied people to go to Tulsa to disassemble, hoist, and load the chime system onto a truck provided by Burke Bayer. Bill Pugh will provide all the rigging and needed equipment, and he will supervise the job; crew members should bring gloves and expect a long, hot, dirty but very rewarding and memorable day.

Bill and any available crew members will head to Tulsa on Friday morning, July 13, to set up the electric hoist and start disconnecting things. The rest of the crew will need to go to Tulsa Friday evening, **July 13**. We will reserve a block of rooms at a moderately priced motel. We will start work at the church at 7:30 **Saturday morning, July 14**. Rain dates are July 20 and July 21. If you are willing and able to help, **please register on the sign-up list on the desk in the Administrative Office**. If you would like to help but are not able to, please consider helping out with the motel and travel expenses of our crew.

Once the system is delivered to Bill's shop, there will be many volunteer opportunities ranging from light hand work to heavy labor in repairing the wooden rack that holds the chimes and restoring the strikers that ring the chimes. We will also need to prepare our loft for the chime system and install wiring to allow the chimes to be played from the organ console. With a concerted effort, we can have the chimes ringing Christmas carols to our community this December!

White Memorial Camp

Did you know that our church provides a scholarship of half of fees for all our kids that attend camp at White Memorial Camp? Just bring your enrollment form to the church office with a check for your portion of the fee, and we will submit it with the balance. (We won't cover late fees.)

And did you know that your child can invite a friend to attend, even if they don't go to our church?

Early bird registration deadline is May 15th! We need your enrollment form by May 10th to make this date.

Adult Forum Class Continues

Marcus Borg's *The Heart of Christianity*

On March 18 Adult Forum began a class led by Craig Weston which takes up Marcus Borg's recent book *The Heart of Christianity*. Since its publication, this book has sparked a renewed sense of a progressive, inclusive, and Jesus-centered faith in folks from all walks of life. If you would like to purchase a book, paperback copies are available in the church office at a cost of \$12.00 each.

Youth Corner

Friday, May 11, Youth Lock-In:

Lenexa at Emerald/ Bump City Indoor Play Park. There are in-ground trampolines, rock climbing walls, slides, rope swings, foam pits, zip-line, mazes and more. Cost is \$20, due at the lock-in. Each person needs to bring food items to share. RSVP ASAP to Tracey.

Tracey Weston,
Youth Ministry Coordinator



Christian Education for Kids

May is a busy time for everyone. School is coming to a rushing end, and several things are planned. The local animal shelter will have a presentation this Sunday for the youngsters. The topic for the 13th is Mothers. Some interesting crafts are planned. The 20th will be recognition Sunday and also the blessing of the animals in the park. Make your plans for Camp White this summer and get your application in. Then enjoy the labor day holiday and the slower pace of summer.. —*Cheryl Poister, CE Director*

UCC Women of the Church

Lunch Bunch June 6 The UCC Women of the Church invite you to Lunch Bunch on Wednesday, June 6. They will be meeting at 11:30 A.M. at Wamego Friendship House.

Church Office Volunteers

May 7-May 18, 2007
9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

Thank you so very much for serving the church by working in the office while we are in the process of hiring a new administrative assistant.

May 7..... Barbara Withee
 May 8..... Atina or Jerry Hanna
 May 9..... Atina or Jerry Hanna
 May 10..... Joy Schell
 May 11..... Atina or Jerry Hanna

May 14..... Jeff Keller
 May 15..... Margery Bayer
 May 16..... Virginia Bigbee
 May 17..... Joy Schell
 May 18..... Brent Maner



The Second Helping

The Second Helping is a local mission of First Congregational UCC. It serves a hot meal every Sunday evening and provides sack breakfast and lunch items to each guest. To volunteer, contact Sandy O'Grady 537-7006.



May 6, 2007

Chief Cook Jean Hill
Volunteers Food Science Club, Ann Gleason
Dessert Kay Sinnett

May 13, 2007

Chief Cook Brent Maner
Volunteers Tara Baillargeon, Aaron Carlstrom, Mary Cain, Don Saucier, Janine Stines, Christine Davis, and Ann Gleason
Dessert Margery Bayer

May 20, 2007

Chief Cook Bob Atchison
Volunteers Manhattan Mennonite Church, Ann Gleason
Dessert Joy Schell

May 27, 2007

Chief Cook Duane Kiefer
Volunteers ESA Sorority, Chris Hogan
Dessert Church

Worship & Church Volunteers

May 6, 2007

Sanctuary Flowers.. Susan Scott
Greeters Brent Maner
Scripture Reader Sue Zschoche
Word for Children .. Cheryl Poister
Fellowship Hour Jim & Marian Fuller
Lawn Mowing Brad Logan (*through May 12*)

May 13, 2007

Sanctuary Flowers... Virginia Bigbee and Jean Hill
Greeters Duane Kiefer & Chris Hogan; Marsha Tannehill
Scripture Reader Jo Foy
Word for Children .. Rev. Ira Williams
Fellowship Hour Kerri & Jeff Keller; Jo Foy
Lawn Mowing Dave Smit (*through May 19*)

May 20, 2007

Sanctuary Flowers... The Family of Marla Bugbee-
Happy Birthday!
Greeters Susan Scott & Lilly Marshall; Mike & Martha Miller
Scripture Reader Susan Scott
Word for Children .. Cheryl Poister
Fellowship Hour Judy Davis
Lawn Mowing Volunteer Needed (*through May 26*)

May 27, 2007

Sanctuary Flowers... Atina Hanna
Greeters Volunteers Needed
Scripture Reader Judy Willingham
Word for Children .. Cheryl Poister
Fellowship Hour Atina Hanna
Lawn Mowing Al Cochran (*through June 2*)

Community News

“Women in Your Life”

Thursday, May 17, 2007, 5:00-8:00 P.M.
Manhattan Fire Department, 2000 Denison Avenue
Large Assembly Room



May is National Stroke Awareness Month, and Mercy Regional Health is presenting “Women in Your Life,” an evening designed to educate the public about this serious health risk. Dinner is provided. The guest speaker is Dr. James Early, the Director of Clinical Preventative Medicine at the University of Kansas. He will speak about stroke risk factors, stroke signs and symptoms, and stroke prevention.

“Breaking Through” Free 8-Week Session

First Presbyterian Church, 801 Leavenworth
Beginning May 15 - Every Tuesday from 6:00-7:30 P.M.
Equipping and empowering African-American women to rise above the factors that place them at high risk for HIV and AIDS. For more information contact S’ambrosia Curtis at the Regional AIDS Project office (785) 587-1999 or by e-mail at rapwpc@yahoo.com.

Head Start Opportunity Preschool, serving the Manhattan-Ogden and Riley County School Districts, is accepting applications for the 2007-2008 school year. Head Start is a free, federally funded early childhood program that serves families with low income. To apply, a child must be 3 years old by August 31, 2007, but not yet kindergarten age eligible. For more information, call 587-2045 or stop by Head Start at 1700 Leavenworth.

Living with Grief: Before and After the Death

May 8, 1:30-4:30, 14th Annual Teleconference

Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community Banquet Room

The teleconference will explore the most current theoretical perspectives on loss and grief as experienced by persons throughout a life-limiting illness and by their survivors. A particular focus will be on areas where understandings of grief have been challenged. The program will be useful to a wide range of professionals who provide bereavement counseling or work with the bereaved and to those who offer education on loss, grief, dying and death.

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Manhattan, KS 66502**

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