



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Volume 51 Number 9

May 30, 2007

Sunday Worship at 10:45 A.M.	700 Poyntz Avenue
Second Helping Dinner at 5:15 P.M.	Manhattan, Kansas 66502
Thursday Evening Taizé at 7:00 P.M.	telephone 785-537-7006
	e-mail <a href="mailto:ucc@interkan.net">ucc@interkan.net</a>

## Summer

Greetings to the congregation of Jesus Christ, in His Name. As I write it has been very rainy in Manhattan and indeed across the state. Greensburg has been mostly destroyed. At the same time “random acts of kindness” sprouted in many places to assist those in need. (I just learned that the senior class of my high school donated their \$20 each to Greensburg relief.) The United Church of Christ and many other denominations are helping ease the losses there. God still reigns!

We at First Congregational were blessed to have a (relatively rare) clear and sunny day for our worship in the park, blessing of the animals, and potluck lunch on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Our brother Sean Weston shared helpful reflections on the theme of Christ’s Second Coming; a good event.

I wish to encourage all of the members and friends to “not forsake the assembling of ourselves together” in these summer months. Whereas in some ways summer can feel even busier than school time, and outdoor recreation, sports, camping etc. can involve

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Sunday mornings, I hope we will seek to gather for worship as often as possible. –Not only for our own sakes but for our visitors and inquirers, that they may experience the dynamics of praise, care, worship and love which attend our gatherings. As brother Al Cochran put in a Mission Moment, “There is need. We can help!”

Lastly, a few quotes from the internet for Trinity Sunday (June 3<sup>rd</sup>)  
**Abe Lincoln**- “I don’t think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday.”

**Billy Graham**- “Knowledge is horizontal; wisdom is vertical.”

**Cervantes**- “Time ripens all things...no man is born wise.”

**T.S. Eliot**- “The end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time.”

Blessings!

Rev. Eldon Epp

## Sharing and Caring

### *Prayers and Concerns*

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

## 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

- **Church Office Hours**  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday
- **Choir Rehearsal**  
Choir rehearsal has moved to 9:30 a.m.
- **Adult Sunday School**  
Adult Sunday School is concluded for the summer.

## Introducing Mariana Mancera

### New Nursery Attendant

I love to meet new people and learn new things as well. I believe that there is no such thing as learning enough, you can never stop learning. I admire people who are willing to help others and wish to someday do something good for humankind. I am excited to begin this job! I feel that I will learn a lot from this organization and hope to be of assistance as much as possible.

.....Mariana Mancera

## Volunteers Needed

With the summer break here and many of us taking vacations, I know that our numbers will decline some. However, that does not reduce the number of volunteers our church needs each Sunday (though it may reduce the number of goodies consumed). Please keep these needs in mind and sign-up to volunteer for scripture reading, greeting, and Fellowship Hour. We all have gifts to give and your gift of time is needed. Please call Chantel Vogel or hunt her down after church to volunteer.

## Help Open Our Windows!

As you read in the last Newsletter the church is launching a campaign on June 3 to raise enough money to ‘open the stained glass windows’ to the world – or at least to the residents of Manhattan. The Trustees have signed a contract with Bovard Studio in Fairfield, Iowa to do the work and the company plans to complete the project during the fall months of this year.



After removing the present covers the window frames will be repaired as needed and painted to match the windows in the new addition on the west. New protective coverings of ¼ Inch plate glass will be placed over the windows. These will include a ventilation system designed especially for coverings for stained glass windows.

The Trustees are moving ahead with a fund raising campaign during the month of June to cover the cost of the project, about \$32,000. Bonnie Lynn-Sherow is submitting a proposal to the state to declare our church a historical building and, if approved, there may be some cash benefits to help with the cost. The Women of the Church have already contributed \$6,000. toward the new window covers. The rest should be easy!

A committee composed of Marge and Burke Bayer, Al Cochran, Jeff and Hikaru Peterson, Bill Richter, Carolyn Schwab and facilitated by Barbara Withee representing the Cabinet, have planned the fund raising campaign to be launched on Sunday June 3 and to end June 30. Our hope is that all friends and members of our church will be able to make a contribution to this long awaited project.



## *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!

## 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

Youth - keep a lookout for a couple events that we'll try to organize during the summer. Enjoy your time from school and have a great break!

*Tracey Weston,*  
Youth Ministry Coordinator

## 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. Meet at the church at 11:00 a.m. to carpool.

The UCC Women of the Church have purchased a clock for the church office.

## A Note From The Treasurer

Summertime and the livin' is easy. So the song goes. However, it seems summertime is a time for vacations, reunions, ball tournaments and sleeping in. The church doesn't get a vacation. There is still a payroll to be met, utilities to be paid and the list goes on. If your plans include being away from church for the summer, PLEASE continue with your pledge. You can mail your check to the church office and it would be most appreciated!



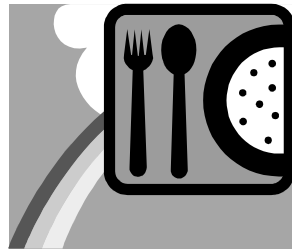
Have a great summer and hope to see you in church.

..... *Judy Ahrens*  
..... Treasurer

## Rainbow Table

Rainbow Table is a way for people who identify as LGBTQI to gather together as friends and share food, fun, news and a portion of their lives. Our activity for June will be to participate in "Little Pride on the Prairie", June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Go to:

<http://www.xcaliburclub.com/events/pride07.htm> for more information. Plan to bring your covered dish for the BBQ at 2pm. Duane Kiefer and Jo Foy intend to have an informational table at this event. Come join us to commemorate the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots (1969), the generally accepted beginning of the Gay Liberation movement in the United States.



..... *Jo Foy*

## The Second Helping

## About Donating Food to the 2nd Helping

Almost every week, one or more items of food appear in the church kitchen that seem to be intended for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Helping. Sometimes there is actually a note that says "2<sup>nd</sup> Helping." Unfortunately, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Helping cannot accept food that comes from an unknown source. There is a common-sense reason for this: Would you serve food to guests in your home if someone unknown to you left the food on your doorstep? Isn't that a bit risky? It could be even riskier for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Helping because there might be individuals in the community who are hostile, either toward specific guests or toward our church.

Therefore, if you leave food for 2<sup>nd</sup> Helping, look for the post-it notes in a drawer near the telephone in the kitchen. **Indicate that the item is for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Helping and include your name and phone number.** I may call you to verify the donation and/or to determine if an opened package was opened in our kitchen or elsewhere. Food that is not labeled will be thrown out.

At the moment, we have these foodstuffs in the kitchen or in the freezers, and we do not know who the donors are:

- several packages of hotdog buns
- part of a dozen donuts
- a very large jar of chopped garlic, opened (found in the refrigerator)
- something called "Better than Bouillon," opened (also found in the refrigerator)
- several containers of whipped topping, "lite" and regular
- a 1-lb bag of flour, opened (found in the refrigerator)
- a huge container of catsup
- a huge can of pinto beans
- a small container of Schwann's juice concentrate
- a jelly jar containing pecans (found in the freezer)



Thanks for your cooperation!  
*Ann Smit*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Helping Food Coordinator

# 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 537-7006.*



## June 3, 2007

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**Chief Cook** ..... TBA  
**Volunteers** ..... Ryan, David Woodmansee, Victoria, Marilyn  
**Dessert** ..... Kay Sinnett  
**Lunch**..... Ann Gleason

## June 10, 2007

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**Chief Cook** ..... TBA  
**Volunteers** ..... Christine Davis, Christie Crenshaw  
**Dessert** ..... Sandy O'Grady  
**Lunch**..... Ann Gleason

## June 17, 2007

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**Chief Cook** ..... Jean Hill  
**Volunteers** ..... Christie Crenshaw, Volunteers needed  
**Dessert** ..... Volunteers needed

## June 24, 2007

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**Chief Cook** ..... Ann Smit  
**Volunteers** ..... ESA Sorority, Ryan  
**Dessert** ..... Ann Smit



# Worship & Church Volunteers

## June 3, 2007

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**Sanctuary Flowers**... Barbara Withee  
**Greeters** ..... Chantel Vogel, Jim & Marian Fuller  
**Scripture Reader** ..... Jim Lewis  
**Word for Children** .. Cheryl Poister  
**Fellowship Hour** ..... Virginia Bigbee  
**Lawn Mowing** ..... Al Cochran (*through June 9*)

## June 10, 2007

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**Sanctuary Flowers**... Judy Ahrens  
**Greeters** ..... Virginia Bigbee & Jim Ahrens  
**Scripture Reader** ..... Donna Sidorfsky  
**Word for Children** .. Cheryl Poister  
**Fellowship Hour** ..... Brent Maner & Marsha Tannehill  
**Lawn Mowing** ..... Dave Smit (*through June 16*)

## June 17, 2007

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**Sanctuary Flowers** Helen Toburen  
**Greeters** ..... Jean Hill  
**Scripture Reader** ..... Jean Hill  
**Word for Children** .. Cheryl Poister  
**Fellowship Hour** ..... Marian & Jim Fuller  
**Lawn Mowing** ..... Rob Hayes (*through June 23*)

## June 24, 2007

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**Sanctuary Flowers**... Martha Miller  
**Greeters** ..... Volunteers Needed  
**Scripture Reader** ..... Volunteers Needed  
**Word for Children** .. Cheryl Poister  
**Fellowship Hour** ..... Volunteers Needed  
**Lawn Mowing** ..... Rob Hayes (*through June 30*)

## Community News

### Juneteenth Celebration

**Friday June 15 and Saturday June 16**

#### **Douglass Center Park**

June 19, 1865, was the day many slaves west of the Mississippi River heard about President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. The official proclamation took effect on Jan. 1, 1863. To this day, a celebration, called Juneteenth, honors the freedom of the slaves. The Manhattan 18th Annual Juneteenth Celebration will be held June 15 and 16, starting with a Gospel fest on June 15, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. June 16, 11:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. starts with a parade at the Town Center Mall ending at the Douglass Park with the World Famous KC Cobras. There will be lots of food and activities throughout the day. Every one is invited. Anyone may participate in the parade. All activities will be held at the Douglass Center Park, 901 Yuma. For more information call 785 776-5917.

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