

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Friends,

I am now on Facebook. In my first post, I wrote: I am asking for your patience. I am joining the word of “social media” because my good friend and co-pastor, Larry Linville, said it helped him keep I touch with our parishioners. Therefore, I am jumping into this adventure (even after being hacked on an old account) remembering Proverbs 28:26. “Those who trust in their own wits are fools; but those who walk in wisdom come through safely.”

Back when my “social media” was a telephone, I remember calling a very wise friend and asking her exactly what that meant. She directed me to James 3:17, which says “But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.”

It is with joy that I begin my second year serving in Paradise and it is my prayer that we continue to walk together in wisdom.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Judy

POTLUCK DINNERS

The potluck dinners on Sundays following the worship service are cancelled for the summer. They will resume in the fall.

OUTREACH/MISSIONS

In June, we collected 52 cans of vegetables, 22 cans of fruit, and 3 boxes of cereal for the Food Pantry. The July collection for the Food Pantry is paper towels. The monetary collection in July is for the Smithville Fire Department Fire Pups.

Thank you for your continued support of these mission projects. If you have questions or suggestions regarding any of the collections or mission projects, please contact Linda East or a member of the Outreach and Missions Committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please join us for the next Fellowship Sunday, July 13, at 10:00a.m. for breakfast and an opportunity to catch up with your fellow church members.

The Sunday School class will be starting a new book. Please join the class to help make the decision of what to study next and for some good fellowship.

WORSHIP IN JULY

July 6 (Pastor Larry) – “**I Don’t Understand My Actions**” from Roman 7:15-25;

July 13 (Pastor Judy) – “**How’s Your Crop Doing?**” from Matthew 13:1-9;

July 20 (Pastor Larry) – “**A Dream**” from Genesis 28:10-19; and

July 27 (Pastor Judy) – “**Do You Understand All This?**” from Matthew 13:31-33, & 44-52.

SCAM ALERT

We want everyone to be aware of two different women approaching churches for assistance. Their names are Rosemary or Rosalee Simpson and Georgia Buckner, and they often come into the church asking for a specific dollar amount for a variety of reasons, i.e. car trouble, rent, etc. Either of the women may be accompanied by family members, an elderly person she is caring for, or children.

Some of the churches they have approached include: Kidder UMC, Pattonsburg UMC, Liberty UMC, Smithville UMC, Platte City UMC, First Excelsior Springs UMC, Platte Woods UMC, Lawson UMC, Good Shepherd UMC, Lexington UMC, Weston UMC, and the Assembly of God churches in Lawson and Kearney.

If approached by one of these women, please do not offer them any assistance, monetary or otherwise.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Ice cream!! The time is quickly approaching for the annual Ice Cream Social. Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 24, and spread the word to family and friends. All are welcome to enjoy the homemade ice cream and sweet treats! More details and a sign-up sheet for ice cream and desserts to follow as the event draws nearer.

PRAYER PARTNER CONGREGATIONS

At Charge Conference, the churches present were paired up as prayer partners for 2014. We will be praying for Weston United Methodist Church and the church in Plattsburg will be praying for us. We are to send two individuals to Weston to worship with

them and pray for them. Plattsburg will do the same for us. So, please plan to add the Weston church and its members to your prayers in 2014.

MARCH TO THE MANGER

Christmas in July? Not really. The merchants are making plans for getting large sales for Christmas. It is important that we plan now to make our observance of Christmas spiritually successful. One step we can take now is to plan our "March to the Manger" preparation. We will bring a gift to Jesus in December. Many have found that they decide to put money back now so their gift will draw them closer. Some put back a little each week or month. However you decide, today is the day to begin – if you haven't already.

MONTHLY REPORT

The Monthly Report for June 2014, is as follows:

Beginning Balance:	\$18,969.27
Offering:	+\$4,414.00
Expenses:	-\$11,703.04
Final Balance:	\$11,680.23