



Paradise United Methodist Church

THE GREETER

September 2014

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Summer is over, school has started, and fall will soon be here. Another ending and another beginning. As I begin my second year of serving the community of Paradise UMC, I am excited to continue our journey together "toward Christian perfection," one of John Wesley's favorite terms from Hebrews 6:1, NRSV. *Therefore let us go on toward perfection*, a term that today probably needs some explanation.

Wesley preached on Christian perfection many times. The first time was in 1773 in a sermon titled, "The Circumcision of the Heart," 15 years before his heart was "strangely warmed" by his Aldersgate experience of 1748. His thesis was, "the circumcision of the heart is the habitual disposition which in the Sacred Writings is called holiness."

"... the being cleansed from sin ... and by consequences the being **endued with those virtues which were in Christ Jesus**, the being so renewed in the image of our mind as to be **perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect.**" (taken from Matthew 5:48, KJV).

At the age of 93 and one month before he died, Wesley wrote a letter to Walter Churchy dated February 21, 1771. In it he said, "**Christian perfection, is neither more nor less than pure love – pure love – love expelling sin and governing both the heart and life of a child of God.**"

So dear children of God, this day and everyday let us purpose in our hearts *to go on toward perfection* by loving one another and our neighbors as Christ loves us and we might have a Great Awakening in Paradise.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Judy

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will resume after taking the summer off and will meet on Monday, September 8, at 6:30p.m. We will pick up our study of Genesis at Chapter 40. It will be good to get everyone back together again and all men are encouraged to join us.

OUTREACH/MISSIONS

In August, we collected 50 tubes of toothpaste, 56 toothbrushes, 5 dental flosses, and 26 cans of fruit and vegetables for the Food Pantry. The September collection for the Food Pantry is canned meats. The monetary collection in August is for snacks for the elementary schools in Smithville.

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.

CHURCH COUNCIL

There will be a Church Council meeting on Thursday, September 18, at 6:30p.m. at the church. Please join us and provide your input on the direction for our church. We would really appreciate your help.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please join us Sunday mornings at 10:00 for a discussion on "Do Your Best and Trust God for the Rest." The book is by James W. Moore and all are welcome!

The next Fellowship Sunday is September 14 at 10:00a.m. It's a great time to meet and get to know fellow church members, as well as partake of breakfast, so please come join in the fun!

WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

September 7 (Pastor Judy) – "**The Passover of the Lord**" from Exodus 12:1-14;

September 14 (Pastor Larry) – “Why Do You Judge” from Romans 14:1-12;

September 21 (Pastor Judy) – “How Much Do We Really Believe?” from Matthew 21:23-32; and

September 28 (Pastor Larry) – “Adopt the Attitude of Jesus” from Philipians 2:1-13.

DAILY TEXTS OF SCRIPTURE

If you would like to have scripture texted to you Monday through Friday, text your name to Tooti at 816-305-3745. We are starting fresh, so if you have already been receiving these texts and want them to continue, please text Tooti to let her know.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Weather permitting, please plan to gather at the church at 9:00a.m. on Sunday, September 14, to pick up trash along Highway W. With enough help, we should finish in plenty of time to participate in the potluck breakfast that morning.

POTLUCK SUNDAYS

Potluck Sundays return on September 28, immediately following the worship service. Bring a dish and join us for a great meal and fellowship. For the football fans, we'll have the television available, but keep in mind the Chiefs play on Monday!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

For those who are interested, we will have a confirmation class this fall. It will be held over two or three Sunday afternoons and is for anyone 13 years of age or older who is interested in learning more about the Methodist faith and joining the church. If you are interested in participating in the class, please contact Angie or Tooti by email, telephone, or at church.

DEDICATION OF AED UNIT

Mark your calendars! Sunday, October 26, will be the dedication of the new AED unit provided by memorial funds from the Whipple family. Please join us for the dedication and blessing of the unit

during the worship service on the 26th. The unit will provide a wonderful resource at our church and there will be information forthcoming on the next class to help familiarize everyone on its' use.

PRAYER PARTNER CONGREGATION

Please don't forget our prayer partners at Weston United Methodist Church. In addition to sending two individuals to their church to worship with them, we also need to keep their church and church members in our prayers during 2014.

MONTHLY REPORT

The Monthly Report for July 2014, is as follows:

Beginning Balance:	\$13,516.95
Offering:	+\$5,287.00
Expenses:	-\$8,222.43
Final Balance:	\$10,581.52



... first Prayer Group and then onto the annual Hawaiian event in Trimble!

