

The Parish Visitor

Coffeyville First United Methodist Church — Making Disciples of Jesus Christ
August 2009 Edition, Volume 45, Issue 8

From Behind the Pulpit: Excerpts from the Pastor's Blog

Servant Identity

By Jennifer Collins — August 5, 2009

In his book entitled, *More Ready Than You Realize: The Power of Everyday Conversations*, Brian D. McLaren says that, “probably the greatest heresy in the history of monotheism,” is “that to be one of God’s people means to be chosen for exclusive and elite privilege, not universal service and sacrifice.” As Christians we are called to have a servant identity. As McLaren goes on to say, “without this servant identity truly and deeply ingrained in us, I do not think anything we do can be truly called *evangelism*, because *evangelism* means ‘spreading good news,’ and as non-servants, our elitist identity will pollute our message so that our version of the news becomes less than good.”

Here at First United Methodist Church, we have been at work taking on projects that will hopefully shape our servant identity. We have been preparing lice kits for the schools to have available for children or youth who become infected with head lice and cannot afford treatment. This year we partnered with The Salvation Army for the “Pack Their Packs” program to help provide school supplies to students in the Coffeyville area as they begin a new school year. At Christmas time, we have long prepared boxes of food for families in need. This coming Christmas, we plan to prepare boxes for even more families than last year. We have helped more than 100 individuals and families through the food pantry and the emergency assistance fund. We also prepare CDs of the sermon that are available to take to shut-ins, along with a bulletin, to keep folks connected to the church.

We hope and pray that God is indeed shaping us here at First United Methodist Church to have a servant identity. For we are called to be servants, as Christ was, reaching out and showing God’s love to all we meet.

No Birthday Letters This Year

By John Collins — July 28, 2009

Before anyone’s feelings get hurt, Jenny and I wanted to make it known that we aren’t sending out any birthday cards or letters this year as a cost cutting measure. If your birthday has already come and gone, we want you to know that you haven’t been left out. We wish everyone a happy birthday and a blessed year.

Breakfast Raises \$322.35 for Pack Their Packs

By John Collins — August 3, 2009

The counters came in this morning and yesterday’s Walker Fundraising Breakfast raised \$322.35 for the Pack Their Packs program. Thanks to all the Walkers, especially Janice, and the many folks who pitched in

and helped. We also thank those who came and made a freewill donation. It was a good way to raise money for a worthy cause and also a great opportunity for fellowship.

From the Pastor's Blog: Supplementing, Not Replacing

By John Collins — July 30, 2009

On more than one occasion I've mentioned that Coffeyville First has a reputation in the community for being "an old church for old people." (That particular phrase came from a child who attended our 2008 VBS—oftentimes children are more honest than polite society allows adults to be.) It occurs to me that clarification is probably needed. When I say that we need to change the community's perception of us and find a way to reach out to younger people, I don't mean that we need to replace our current congregation with younger people, but that we need to "supplement" (for lack of a better word) our current congregation with younger people. My ideal church is a church where multiple generations come together around shared beliefs, shared values, shared mission, a shared Gospel, and the one true God.

National Foundation for Credit Counseling

By John Collins — August 2, 2009

There are a lot of advertisements for consumer credit counseling. My understanding is that many of these companies are shady if not outright bogus. When Jenny and I went to the Good Sense Stewardship Course, Lee Sankey, from the Kansas Area United Methodist Foundation, recommended the National Foundation for Credit Counseling. Their phone number is 1-800-388-2227 and their website is nfcc.org.

Church News

New Great-Grandson!

Gladys Ayres wishes to announce the birth of a new great-grandson, Collin Ross Moody. Collin was born on July 28, 2009, at 3:12 pm. He weighed 6 lb, 11 ½ oz, and was 18 ½ inches long. His father and mother are Lucas and Lisa Moody. Collin was born in Emporia, Kansas. Congratulations to all the family!

Love and Thanks to our Church Family

On July 2, 2009, our family returned to First United Methodist Church in Coffeyville to celebrate the life of Rae Dena Unruh. This has been our home church since 1943. What a distinct honor it was to have Rev. John Collins and Rev. Ted Inman, former minister, conduct the beautiful memorial service. Thanks also to Mrs. Cindy Powell and Ms. Cathy Cain for their moving musical contributions, and we were pleased to have access to the wonderful sound system and technology that is now available in the sanctuary. After the service, we enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared and served by the United Methodist Women. The church building itself is still beautiful and well maintained. Finally, a special thank you to Ms. Linda Beever, who guided our planning and published the programs for Dena's service. Your thoughts and prayers will forever give our family lasting peace.

Milton Unruh, Deanna Hare and Denise Unruh-Kitch

Prayer Concerns

Members:

Helen Banzet, Martha Banzet, Dorothy Beals, Sarah Brown, Charles Cornett, Cornelia Davis, Norma Gaut, Betty Gearhart, Rick and Sue Henry, Virginia Hoppock, Maxine Hostetter, J.L. Hunt, Dolores Johnson, Sarabelle Jones, Mary Ellen Jordan, Anne Ketterman, Julia Smith, Gertrude Ward

Family and Friends:

Tracy Alban, Jim Bauer, Debbie Black, Julie Blaich, Dorothy Brickell, Carl Bridges, Jan Brownlee, Will Canan, Don Clayton, Leland and Neva Coester, Seam Comreu, Sean Conrey, Jo Ann Cook, Connie Coulter, Dick Crager, Dillon Cronkhite, Susie Derryberry, Dr. Carl Dudeck, Jerry and Paula Eden, Cole and Garrett Hansen, Forrest Hartzell, Marie Hildreth, Ann Marie Hobbs, Becky Holmes, Abby Horton, Kay Inman, Eulene Jackson, Christy Keefer, Clarence Keeton, Kelly Kimnitz, Mary Alice Knewton, Aria Layton, Al and Jerry Liebert, Peggy Lundberg, Ethan Owens, Jay Millen, Elaine Morton, Shirley Popken, Jill Richardson, Stan Roberts, Amy Roesky, Chris Shore, Julia Smith, Virginia Wise, Darby and Mark Zahradnik, and Jim Zink

Those grieving the loss of

Darcie Hernandez, Amanda Tosh, Gene Hobbs, Carl Pevehouse, Andrew Eli, Gwen Wintjen, Earlene Stokesberry, Rae Dena Unruh, Rachael Cronkhite

If you know of any changes that need to be made to the prayer concerns please fill out the form found in the Sunday bulletin, call the church office at 620-251-3240, or email linda@coffeyvillefirstumc.org.

Our Giving

July 5, 2009: General Operating Fund — \$4,975; Board of Trustees — \$83; Sunday School Offering — \$27.61; Emergency Assistance Fund — \$2; Bridges to the Future — \$4; Pack Their Packs — \$38.58

July 12, 2009: General Operating Fund — \$4,527; Board of Trustees — \$58; Sunday School Offering — \$26.50; Emergency Assistance Fund — \$2; Bridges to the Future — \$10; Pack Their Packs — \$48.64

July 19, 2009: General Operating Fund — \$3,294.85; Board of Trustees — \$80; Sunday School Offering — \$37.60; Pack Their Packs — \$55.00; Bridges to the Future — \$4; Genesis — \$10; VBS — \$100; Emergency Assist Fund — \$2.

July 26, 2009: General Operating Fund — \$4,660; Board of Trustees — \$8; Sunday School Offering — \$31.30; Emergency Assistance Fund — \$2; Pack Their Packs — \$198; Recycling — \$10

August 2, 2009: General Operating Fund — \$3,626.71; Board of Trustees — \$55; Sunday School Offering — \$26.50; Genesis, Inc. — \$10; Pack Their Packs — \$408.65; Recycling — \$10

August Birthdays

- 2 Gayle Keith
- 3 Dorothy Beals and Sarah Brown and Betty Chronister
- 4 Jim Taylor, Jr.
- 5 Robert Sallee
- 8 Kendall Garton and Klinell Hey
- 9 Pug Clough
- 11 Joyce Banta and Jackie Clough and Vernie Stallings
- 12 Emma Pool
- 13 Chad McMurray
- 15 Charlotte McMurray
- 16 Rev. Jenny Collins and Glenn Hamby
- 18 Gail Misch and Betty Sandon
- 19 Evelyn Evitts
- 20 Phyllis Thornbrough
- 23 Connie Nehrbass and J.R. Sullivan
- 26 Jerry Peckham

September Birthdays

- 4 Bernice Hansen
- 5 Connie Cox
- 6 Randi Bernhart
- 7 Mike Banta
- 8 Phil Bernhart and Karen Foster
- 9 Tom Bumgardner and Gail Traxson
- 11 Ruby Sallee
- 12 Betty Gossard and Marjean Hendryx
- 13 Tawnya Eck
- 18 Anna Pool
- 19 Gary Johnson and Kevin Pool
- 20 Jared Dobbins
- 24 Vicki Rauch and Brian Walker
- 25 Kathryn Long and Kathy Thompson and
Rick Thompson and D.L. Wood
- 26 Virginia Anning
- 27 Jayne Peterman
- 28 Helen Webster

We've started listing birthdays for two months so that additions can be made before a birthday passes. Please let us know of any additions or corrections that are needed.

Regular Weekly Events

Sunday	8:10 am	Worship in the Chapel (Small Worship Area)
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Coffee Time
	10:50 am	Worship in the Sanctuary (Large Worship Area)
Monday	7:15 am	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday	12:00 pm	Al-Anon Meeting in the Library
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Choir Practice

August 2009 Church Calendar

Sunday, August 2	Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
	9:15 am Pack Their Packs Breakfast
Thursday, August 6	5:15 pm Board of Trustees Meeting
Sunday, August 9	Tenth Sunday After Pentecost
	9:15 am Pack Their Packs Bake Sale
Sunday, August 16	Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost
	Pastors John and Jennifer Collins on Vacation
	2:30 pm Asbury Village Devotional Service
Sunday, August 23	Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
Wednesday, August 26	5:15 pm Vision Team Meeting
Thursday, August 27	5:15 pm Church Council Meeting
Sunday, August 30	Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Contact Us

Pastors: Revs. John and Jenny Collins ▪ Church Secretary: Ms. Linda Beever

Physical Address: 304 W 10th ST, Coffeyville, KS 67337

Phone: 620.251.3240 ▪ Fax: 866.333.1299 ▪ Website: www.coffeyvillefirstumc.org

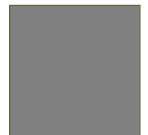
Pastors' Email: johnandjenny@revcollins.com ▪ Secretary's Email: linda@coffeyvillefirstumc.org

Quotable

“Live your life so the preacher doesn't have to lie at your funeral.”

— Angi V. of Shawnee, Kansas in the August 2009 edition of *Reader's Digest*

John's Note: I've never lied, but I have, at times, been forced to get pretty creative.



First United Methodist Church

304 W 10th ST
Coffeyville, KS 67337