

FURLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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November 2024

Church Website furleyumc.org



From the
Pastor

SMALL MEMBERSHIP CHURCH Advantages and Disadvantages

In a church the size of Furley United Methodist Church, we are much closer to being a real church than the larger and mega churches. There is a connection between many of the members who have known each other for years, and some are actually relatives. When we share during prayer time, we get right down to details and specifics. In a larger church, if there is even a prayer time, there would be no more than the mention of a name.

As we made the transition from Cheryl Slater, LONG time Treasurer and Carolyn Hill, LONG time Financial Secretary to a hired Treasurer and a new Financial Secretary there were questions about transparency. The United Methodist Church require the offering in church be counted by two, unrelated persons. Was there too much transparency about private information? In a large church, the persons that count the offering are often the same few people that may not even know who the person was that put in the check. We have the same number of people counting the money each Sunday, but they are a larger part of the congregation and know everyone.

We ask these persons to observe confidentiality, but at first glance it seems that we are more transparent when we are actually just the same as a larger church, but with the positive difference of all of us being connected.

The second change that is happening is how the District does a charge conference. The original model of a charge conference was for us to have a higher level of accountability and more objective meeting in the church and it was chaired by the District Superintendent. Those of us that appreciated shrinking the size of upper management were pleased when the District Superintendent had a larger District. But that meant that the Superintendent could not get around to every congregation for a REAL Charge Conference.

So the Charge Conference became a group event. We did not bother to change the name, but “Charge” is the church or churches served by one appointed pastor. A group meeting can not look at the issues or reports of each “Charge”. Now we have expanded the work of the District Superintendent to an even larger District, and the “Charge” Conference has become one meeting of the entire District for one hour. That meeting is November 16th at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church. That will be followed by a District Conference the next hour.

I commented to the District Superintendent that we should just eliminate the Charge Conference since it was such a sham. I do not recall just what his reaction to my comment was. On the other hand, we still have the real Charge Conference when it is needed. If there are issues to be resolved like church building, borrowing money, (Cont. on pg2)

GOOD WORDS

or some legal type of issue, a charge conference can be called in our church building with the District Superintendent presiding.

In my opinion, this shift from having the District Superintendent meet in each church to approve the budget, and other annual business given the responsibility of insuring that these things are done correctly back to the Administrative Council. The reality is that when we approve these things in the Administrative Council that is all the further the REAL approval goes. In fact this is the way things have been for a few years, but the move to the whole District meeting prompted me to alert everyone to the need for all of us to pay attention to the actions of the Administrative Council. Our meetings are open and public to church members.



Jesus Children ~ Luke 12:13-21 Help the Needy!

October is our Food Drive at Furley Church. Each year so many of our church family share generously with the various food banks so that food can be distributed to those in need. Your Mission and Outreach Team thanks you for all you donate. We know that you give from the heart!

Jesus saw some people putting themselves first. They were thinking that “It’s all about me!” Occasionally, these same people thought about other people who did not have enough food but they didn’t ponder that very often. Jesus also saw that many of the people who thought mostly about themselves, didn’t really need more stuff.

So, Jesus told a story about a very rich man. He had a huge farm; and it was a very good farm. His fields and orchards had lots of wheat, lots of figs, lots of grapes, vegetables and much, much more than one man could eat!

The rich man could have shared with those less fortunate. But you know the story. The rich man went to look at his barns and they were all stuffed with food. So...he tore them down and built bigger barns and stuffed all his food into his new barns!

The rich man sat back in his favorite chair and said to himself, you have plenty so just relax. Was he planning to give any of his food to the poor? Did it seem he was thinking of others? Was he asking himself what God expected him to do with the extra food.?

That night, the rich man heard from someone. He heard from God! God said to him: “You foolish one, tonight your soul is required of you. The things which you have prepared-whose will they be?” The rich man will die, says God. Then what use will all his barns full of food be?

The rich man should have been doing God’s will all those years. He should have cared about the hungry people instead of keeping it all for himself. He should have piled up works of love instead of piling up food!

Jesus said that a man like this may think he is rich, but really being rich is having years of love and compassion being shared.

Dear God, may we learn from these Bible verses as we follow God’s direction to not be greedy but instead to share with the needy.

(adapted from www.sermonwriter.com)



GREETERS
November 3rd
Gary & Lamoyne Eilert

November 10th
Ron & Karen Buss

November 17th
Keith & Cheryl Slater

November 24th
Doug & Kim Hague

USHERS
November 3rd
Gary Eilert & Keith Slater

November 10th
Ron Buss & Doug Hague

November 17th
Randy Koehn & Keith Slater

November 24th
Ron Buss & Doug Hague

COUNTING TEAM
November 3rd
Keith Slater & Jan Lane

November 10th
Doug Hague & Lamoyne Eilert

November 17th
Pam Horner & Gary Eilert

November 24th
Jan Lane & Randy Koehn



THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY LUNCH ON NOVEMBER 8th

Praise the Lord for another year of serving the Furley Community through this ministry of food and fellowship! By HIS strength, guidance, and grace, the little flock called Furley Church, with help from community members, will complete our 13th year (with 2020 and 2021 lost to COVID) of serving lunch to hungry folks. So much to be thankful for!

Please see the flyer in this newsletter for Community Lunch details and use it to invite your neighbors. November 8th is the final lunch gathering of 2024.

Serving is between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm. PLEASE BE PATIENT at the NOVEMBER lunch. With turkey, ham and mashed taters to serve the line may go a tad slower than usual.

At 12:30, when the serving line closes, Whitewater Food Pantry volunteer, Jean Thiessen, will speak to lunch attendees about the pantries work and needs. Our Kitchen Ladies will pack Box Lunches for take home with any items left on the buffet line. Box Lunches will be available after 12:45. We will continue to offer meal deliveries and lunches to go for those who cannot stay for the meal and fellowship.

A huge SHOUT OUT of THANKS to the many volunteers who work so very hard to facilitate these monthly gatherings: church and community cooks, the set up crew, the shoppers for lunch supplies, the decorating team, the greeters, the groundskeepers, the church cleaning ladies, the Kitchen crew on each lunch day, the cleanup crew, the sound techs, the food servers, the doer's of little tasks that just get done without fanfare, and donors of prizes for the drawings. AS WELL AS the prayer warriors who hold each gathering up to the Lord in prayers. May God bless you for your service to the Kingdom!

Please contact Cheryl Slater at cbslater58@gmail.com with questions about this ministry.

We look forward to serving our community one last time in 2024 on NOVEMBER 8th.



From Mission/Outreach

The Blessing Box could use individual crackers with tune salad or chicken salad packages. You can get them at the Dollar Tree.

Thank You. Karen Buss

The North Butler 4-H News

The North Butler 4-H Club's monthly meeting was held on September 9, 2024 at Emmaus Church. The meeting was called to order by President, Caleb Klingenberg, Jeremiah Brewer and Donovan Brewer led the flag salute

and the 4-H Pledge. Roll call was "My favorite fair food is..." and was answered by 15 members. Secretary and Treasure's reports were read, Debora Claassen, club community leader, recognized club members that participated in the Kansas State Fair. She reminded the club about finishing record books and the upcoming new 4-H year. She said to get enrolled starting October 1 to be eligible to vote at the next meeting. She also encouraged members to participate in the parade float for Fred Fest in Whitewater on October 5, 2024. Lastly, she reminded the club about the County Achievement Banquet on October 26, 2024. There was no old business. In New business, the club voted to reimburse membership dues, participate in the Christmas play in Whitewater on December 1st, donate food to the local food pantry, have a gift exchange at the December meeting, and club exchange meeting in April. Business meeting was adjourned. For the program, the Nominating Committee lead Officer Elections for the 2024-2025 4-H Year. Officers for next year are: President-Cora Brackenridge; Vice President-Ella Amend; Secretary-Hope McLaughlin; Treasurer-Carson Brackenridge; Parliamentarian-Julia Amend; News Reporter-Gracia Brewer; 4-H County Council Members-Harley McLaughlin and Paige Goebel; Alternate 4-H Council Members-Cora Brackenridge and Carson Brackenridge; song leaders-Caleb Klingenberg & Kate Klingenberg; and Recreation leaders; Milo Klingenberg & Natalie Worrell. To conclude the night Lucy Goebel led the club in singing The Hippo Song. Next meeting October 14th. Julia Amend, Reporter 2023-2024

**COME
LET'S JOURNEY TOGETHER
LIVING LIFE
LOVING JESUS**

DAILY BIBLE READING

The following Bible reading will take you through the New Testament in small passages. There will also be a memory verse for each month. Memory verses help us deepen our reading, and help with our mental health. The Reading will be available before the first of each month.

November

1	I Peter 1:1-12	11	4:12-19	22	3:14-18
2	1:13-25	12	5:1-7	23	Romans 1:1-7
3	2:1-10	13	5:8-14	24	1:8-15
4	2:11-17	14	II Peter 1:1-11	25	1:16-23
5	2:18-25	15	1:12-15	26	1:24-27
6	3:1-7	16	1:16-21	27	1:28-32
7	3:8-12	17	2:1-10	28	2:1-11
8	3:13-22	18	2:11-16	29	2:12-16
9.	4:1-6	19	2:17-22	30	2:17-24
		20	3:1-7	31	
10	4:7-11	21	3:8-13		

Memory Verse: Romans 1:17, "The person who is put right with God through faith shall live."

Cole Seagraves, grandson of Dale & Pat, kicked a record 54 yard field goal for Kansas Wesleyan University on September 21st. This was the longest kick and broke the school record. Grandma & Grandpa are proud of you Cole. Good Job.



Furley Church Family,
Thanks for all the prayers, cards, texts & calls during my hospital stay and recovery. I am slowly getting better but still need a few prayers. Hope to be able to see you all soon.

Love
Sherry



SPECIAL THANKS

In a church like the Furley United Methodist Church we all serve and minister in one way or another, but there comes a time when a special thank you seem right. Cheryl Slater as church Treasurer, and Carolyn Hill as Financial Secretary served very long terms in those positions, and on November 17th we will have a moment of appreciation for them following the worship service with cake and punch.

FURLEY COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING LUNCH

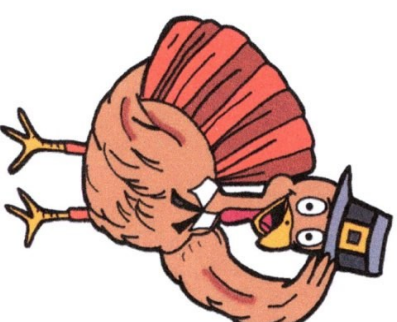
- Furley United Methodist Church
- 11400 E. 101st Street N

— FRIDAY, NOV. 8th

Serving between 11:30 am & 12:30 pm

Dine in or carry out!

All are invited to join us for good food and fellowship!
FREE WILL donations to the Community Lunch Fund



MENU

Turkey and Dressing,
Mashed Potato's and
Gravy, Baked Ham and
Sweet Potatoes
Green Bean Casserole,
Salads, Dessert and
Beverage

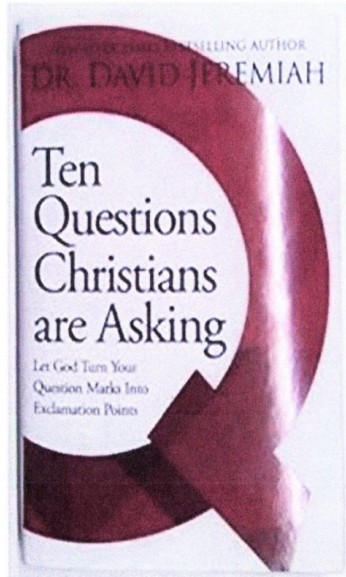


At 12:30 our Special Guest, Jean Thiessen, from the Whitewater Food Pantry Will share about this opportunity for food assistance in the Whitewater area. Our "Kitchen Ladies" will have boxed lunches for the weekend @ 12:45.

Come! Let's journey together living life, loving Jesus!

Adult Sunday School. Join in — Everyone welcome!

The adult Sunday School class has been enjoying the teaching of Dr. David Jeremiah as he discusses the ten questions he is most often asked by Christians. Each class stands alone — everyone is welcome, come when you can! We're watching a video presentation (available on YouTube!) during the first part of class. Afterwards we review scripture and respond to questions provided in the textbook. *(Participants do not need a book for this study.)*



Sunday School
9:30 am - Furley United Methodist Church

- 09/08/24 — How Can I Be Sure of My Salvation?
- 09/22/24 — How Can I Overcome Temptation?
- 10/06/24 — How Can I Get Victory Over Worry?
- 10/13/24 — How Can I Find Forgiveness?
- 10/27/24 — Is There Only One Way to God?
- 11/03/24 — Why Do Christians Have So Many Problems?
- 11/10/24 — Why Don't My Prayers Get Answered?
- 11/24/24 — Is There a Sin God Cannot Forgive?
- 12/01/24 — What Is Faith?
- 12/08/24 — What Is the Greatest Commandment?

We will not have Sunday School classes on "lunch sack" Sundays.
Need additional information? Contact Jan Brandom, Candy Elting, or Jan Lane.

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord God, on this day of Thanksgiving, we ask your blessings on our family, our friends, our home, our health—and on the food we are about to eat.

We thank you for this time together and the many gifts that you have given us.

Help us to remember in this time of bounty those less fortunate. And may your love consume us all that we might share in your glory.

Amen.

