



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Volume 53 Number 15

August 12, 2009

Sunday School at 9:30 A.M.	700 Poyntz Avenue
Sunday Worship at 10:45 A.M.	Manhattan, Kansas 66502
Second Helping Dinner at 5:15 P.M.	telephone 785-537-7006
Thursday Evening Taizé at 7:00 P.M.	www.uccmanhattan.org

Calling All Followers

I intentionally sat down with pen and paper to draft this guest column. Some days it's hard for me to remember what it was like pre-PC. I'm of the generation that experienced the web-olution of the workplace in my first job out of college. I still distinctly remember attending an in-house workshop on a new thing known as the "world wide web." That was less than 20 years ago.

Fast forward to earlier this month and a newspaper report that the federal government will convene a summit of experts to figure out what to do about texting and driving. I'd like to say what a waste and how sad. However, it's ironic that the day after reading the article my sister texted me directions to her house. No, I did not text back while driving but it could have appeared that way as I referred to the directions on my Blackberry.

The vitality team of First Congregational has thoughtfully considered the use of technology for *[continued page 2]*

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sharing our good news with others and facilitating connections among our current faith community. Visitors and new members commonly cite a visit to our website for finding our church and learning more about us. Given the importance of our website, the vitality team recently re-examined our site. As a result, we have added several enhancements that include rotating photos on the homepage, a link to the monthly calendar, RSS news feeds from the national website, and...drum roll please...a link to our Twitter page. Check out our "tweets" about events, special announcements and other updates. You can also become a "follower" of our tweets. A follower...another bit of irony isn't it?

If becoming an e-follower is not your thing then join us as a face-to-face follower during Purple Power Play. More details will be forthcoming. As D.P. Smith and M.K. Sellon suggested in a recent article, "Before others will turn to a congregation as a life-giving resource in their lives, the congregation has to be a place that offers life." Whether through tweet or spoken word, help us share First Congregational's life-giving gifts.

Kerri Keller

Sharing and Caring

Prayers and Concerns

- Please call the church office for further information.

Helping

- **Need a ride to church?** Contact one of our transportation volunteers: Jim & Carolyn Hodgson, Bill Pallett, Mike & Martha Miller, or Jeff Keller.
- **During Pastor Kent's leave** for continuing education and vacation, please call the church office or one of the Deacons in the case of an emergency or if a need for pastoral care arises. Kent will be out of the office July 23 through August 20.

E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN

If you wish to be added to the First Congregational e-mail prayer chain, please contact office@uccmanhattan.org



Christian Education

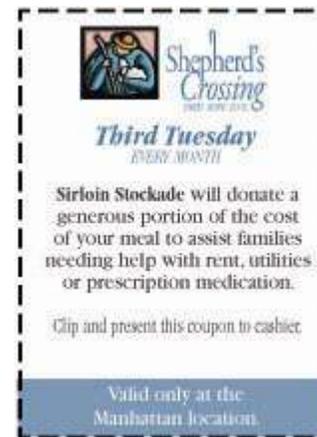
Sunday School Kick-Off August 23

Sunday School classes for all ages—children, youth, and adults—will kick off a new year of learning and growth on Sunday, August 23, at 9:30 A.M. Invite a friend! This year's theme for children's Sunday School is **Our Whole Lives**.



Sunday School Registration

Please see Grizelda MacDonald to register for Sunday School. Sign up sheets can also be found in this Sunday's bulletin.



Third Tuesday August 18

**A tasty way to support
Shepherd's Crossing**



FEAST & FESTIVAL

SUNDAY
AUGUST 23
DINNER AT 5:00
FUN FOLLOWS!

- ✦ Join us for a fun evening of food, games and fellowship.
- ✦ Enjoy a catered meal at 5:00—nothing to fix or bring! Games for all ages follow the dinner.
- ✦ Tickets on sale now. Youth and adults are \$6 each, children ages 5-12 are \$4 each, and children under 5 are free.
- ✦ Don't miss the fun as we welcome everyone back to school and church.
- ✦ Invite a friend to “meet your church.” Complimentary tickets are available for guests.
- ✦ **Face it! Feast and Festival is a Fantastically Fabulous and Facile Feast to Fete the Forthcoming Fall with Fellowship and Fun. That's no Fiction.**



Women of the Church



The Trustees wish to thank the Women of the Church for donating \$500 from the rummage sale proceeds toward the anticipated repairs to the structure of the roof of the Tower housing our chimes. This along with another very generous donation

from a member of the congregation has the fund for this project on its way. The repairs will begin as soon as the final details are completed for the tax credits available for historical buildings. It is anticipated that we will still need to raise about \$16,500 to complete the project. This project will include the replacement of rafters and decking in addition to the Tower roof.

In September, a Moment for Mission will provide a time to invite the congregation to contribute toward this project and a slide show of the damage will be shown during the coffee hour. We hope others will make donations without a formal fundraising drive. Please note on your checks that your gift should go to the Tower roof project.

The replacement of the shingles on the main church roof is expected to be completed with insurance funds. The Trustees also thank Jeff Keller for successful negotiations between the insurance company and the roofing company. This is independent of the Tower roof project and it is hoped that work will also begin in the near future.

KO Women's "FALL ASSEMBLY" at White Memorial Camp, September 11-12-13th

PLEASE mark your calendars, spread the word to others in your church, and register for this year's KO Women's "FALL ASSEMBLY" September retreat experience at White Memorial Camp, September 11-12-13th!!! Registration forms are available in the church office.

This will be an exceptionally fine retreat with Biblical reflection on JOSHUA and our relationship with the Israel of old and the Middle East of the present.

Keynoter will be Rev. Dr. Kathy McCallie, Oklahoma City, who wrote her dissertation on the Middle East and who has a special passion for the Biblical and current relationships there for us in our faith journey.

Another special guest who will share with us throughout as a retreator, but especially on Sunday morning is Deborah Bailey. She will share highlights and new understandings gained from her Woman-to-Woman trip to the Israel-Palestine area last fall.

Some highlights from the JUBILEE! -LUKE (butterflies) materials from last year will also be shared here and there during Fall Assembly... plus some new, fun additions to our time together.

The agenda has been adjusted so that you can come in on Friday afternoon, as in the past, for some personal time and/or crafts and other early-bird activities at the camp. But, if you cannot arrive until later that day due to other responsibilities, then you can get in on all of the program which will officially begin after our supper together!

Registrations are due by the end of this month (to save late fees added)... so think about it and encourage a carload from your church to come along with you! Healing and growing ... "FREELY ON A JOURNEY OF FAITH"... COME, for all things are ready.



ECM is a student group of Kansas State University that encourages students to explore faith, come together through fellowship and study, and meet needs through service. The ECM Campus Center is our meeting place, a building on the west side of campus. **1021 Denison Ave.** (Across the street from Durland-Fiedler-Rathbone College of Engineering Complex.)

Opening Week Schedule

- Sunday, August 23rd, 5:30pm - Welcome Back BBQ - ECM Campus Center**
- Monday, August 24th, 7:00 - 11:00pm - International Music and Dance Fest - ECM Campus Center**
- Friday, August 28th, UPC After hours Dance - for time and location please check out www.k-state.edu/upc**

Weekly Schedule

- Sundays: 6:00pm - Sunday Night Table Fellowship (Activities & Worship Following)**
- Mondays: 6:30pm - Everyday Sexuality Non-Credit Course**
- Thursdays: 6:00pm - Coffee House Discussion and Bible Study**

Worship & Church Volunteers

August 16 2009

Flowers.....*Volunteer Needed*
Greeters.....Mike & Martha Miller, Kathy Bleam
Scripture Reader.....Kathy Bleam
Word for Children...Dave Smit
Word in Music.....Saxophone Quintet
Fellowship Hour.....*TBA*
Lawn Mowing.....Bill Pallett (*through August 22*)

August 23 2009

Flowers.....*Volunteer Needed*
Greeters.....Carolyn Hodgson
Scripture Reader.....Bill Richter
Word for Children...*Volunteer Needed*
Fellowship Hour.....Kathy Bleam
Lawn Mowing.....R.C. Jones (*through August 29*)

August 30 2009

Flowers.....*Volunteer Needed*
Greeters.....Mike & Martha Miller
Scripture Reader.....*Volunteer Needed*
Word for Children...*Volunteer Needed*
Fellowship Hour.....*Volunteer Needed*
Lawn Mowing.....Jim Ahrens (*through September 5*)

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 lunch items to each guest. To volunteer, contact Mandy Strawn at 537-7006.



August 16, 2009

Chief Cook.....Steve Staker
Volunteers.....Ann Gleason, Manhattan Mennonite Church
Dessert.....*Volunteer Needed*

August 23, 2009

FEAST AND FESTIVAL

Second Helping guests are invited to join the congregation in the Annual Feast & Festival Dinner and Games!

August 30, 2009

Chief Cook.....Sandy O'Grady
Volunteers.....*Volunteers Needed*
Dessert.....*Volunteer Needed*

Community News

When a Friend Has Cancer

It can be hard to know what to say or do when a friend has cancer. This booklet was created by the Cancer Resource Network of Manhattan, which includes cancer survivors and nurses, to offer ideas on how to show you care. Inside, you'll find suggestions for providing emotional support and practical help, as well as gift ideas.



This beautiful, award-winning booklet was designed free of charge by New Boston Creative Group, Manhattan, KS., and printing was supported by the Johnson Cancer Center.

To request a free copy, contact Marcia (marcia@k-state.edu) at the Johnson Cancer Center. Nominal fees may be charged for large orders.

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