

UMW NEWS

To the women of the church: As of now, we are planning our first gathering of our Methodist Women since March of 2020 for August 10, 2021. Please mark your calendars and plan to come. You will hear more on this closer to the date. I am truly looking forward to seeing each of you again soon.

Peggy Chappell

THANKS FROM THOSE WE SUPPORT

This year our church raised **\$603.54** for the Tri-Area Pregnancy Resource Center's Baby Bottle Campaign. Thanks to everyone that participated.

Kid Junction

Thanks to everyone who donated to Kid Junction, we were able to serve 7 families and 25 children. This includes two new families.

We so appreciate the volunteers that donate their time and energy to keep this project going.

Elsie Davis
Janis Kurtz
Linda Richardson
Dianne Marshall



The KJ team would like to thank our church family and friends for their continued prayers and support of this worthy cause.



Bernie & Mary Margaret Rector	7/1	Clark & Babette Nuckolls	7/31
Michael & Betty Butler	7/18		



Grant DeZern	7/1	Robert Boyer	7/3	Janet Smith	7/11
Barbara Boyer	7/2	Becky Guynn	7/7	Arleen Saville	7/30
Andrew Peddy	7/2	Tom Peddy	7/10	Elsie Davis	7/31



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

JULY CALENDAR

Thurs	1 st	1:00 p.m.	Devotion (FB Live)
Sun	4 th		INDEPENDENCE DAY
Mon	5 th	Office Closed	
Tues	6 th	1:00 p.m.	Devotion (FB Live)
		6:00 p.m.	Staff Parish Relations (ZIP)
Thurs	8 th	1:00 p.m.	Devotion (FB Live)
		7:00 p.m.	Finance Meeting (ZIP)
Tues	13 th	1:00 p.m.	Devotion (FB Live)
Wed	14 th	12 & 5 p.m.	Bible Study (ZIP)
Thurs	15 th	1:00 p.m.	Devotion (FB Live)
		7:00 p.m.	Administrative Board (ZIP)
Mon	19 th	10-12 p.m.	Kid Junction
Tues	20 th	1:00 p.m.	Devotion (FB Live)
Wed	21 st	12 & 5 p.m.	Bible Study (ZIP)
Thurs	22 nd	1:00 p.m.	Devotion (FB Live)
Tues	27 th	1:00 p.m.	Devotion (FB Live)
Wed	28 th	12 & 5 p.m.	Bible Study (ZIP)
Thurs	29 th	1:00 p.m.	Devotion (FB Live)

*ZIP: Zoom and In-Person

JULY ALTAR GUILD WOMEN: Rebecca Cardwell & Geneva Anderson

(Pastoral Ponderings continued from page 1.)

There will even be more “normality” in August. The Choir is booting back up! In August the Choir will be leading us in two hymns, one at the beginning and one at the end. There will be no choir practice in August; HOWEVER! if you have been in the choir or wish to be in the choir, meet in the choir room on Sunday (IN AUGUST) before worship at 10:15 to go over the two hymns for Sunday worship. I personally look forward to it! Our Choir Director is Shirley DeZern (thanks Shirley!).

Ordinary time continues and reminds me of this: “Like sand through the hourglass, so are the days of our lives.” Life goes on, faith goes on. May we incrementally and gradually grow in the love of God revealed in Christ Jesus and brought to our hearts and lives through the Holy Spirit to enrich our lives and share God’s love and compassion with the world around us. If that sounds familiar, most of my benedictions SPP state that in one form or another.

This 4th of July: Enjoy the food, family, fun, and fireworks!

Pastor Mark B. McFadden



THE VINE NEWSLETTER

JULY 2021

“I am the vine...you are the branches”

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INVITING FORMING SERVING

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

What a great June weather-wise. It was consistently in the 70s most days. Yes, we had some rain, but we needed it. Will July be cooler? We shall find out. July is also the month that we celebrate our “Declaration of Independence.” By the way when I moved here, I quickly discovered the name of Independence’s paper was “The Declaration.” That is the best name I have ever found for a paper, especially given the town’s name.

Nonetheless, we have much to celebrate on July 4th. I especially am thankful for the “freedom of religion.” Anyone can worship any way he/she chooses, whenever he/she chooses. I know there are restrictions like worshipping on the train track but that is understandable. But rejoice: No state sponsored forced religion and no state interference in worship. It is indeed a great freedom! As for attending church, that is a different matter. I am convinced that if you cannot find a church to suit you in America you just do not wish to attend church. Happy July 4th!

“Things are quickly returning to “normal,” even at First UMC. We are meeting not only on Zoom but also in person. This ranges from Bible Study to various committee meetings. The word to remember is ZIP. If you see ZIP before or after a meeting, it means that it will be on Zoom and in-person, e.g., ZIP Bible Study, ZIP Finance Committee. (Continued page 4.)