

See the complete Church Calendar at
www.fumcindy.com
click on "Church Calendar"

Sunday, June 5

8:30am Worship - Chapel
9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Worship - Sanctuary

Monday, June 6

6pm Trustees - Rm 101

Wednesday, June 8

Annual Conference
6pm Finance - Rm 101
7:30pm Men's Bible Study - Rm 202

Thursday, June 9

Annual Conference
5:30pm CUFF Meal - Episcopal Church

Friday, June 10

Annual Conference
7pm - 7am Mid High Youth Lock-in

Saturday, June 11

Annual Conference

Sunday, June 12

Blood Pressure Checks - Comfort Room
8:30am Worship - Chapel
9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Worship - Sanctuary

Monday, June 13

7pm Stewardship Committee - Rm 101

Tuesday, June 14

9:30am Caring and Calling - Rm 101
10:30am Marian Bean Memorial Svc - Chapel
Family Lunch to follow in Gault
4pm CUFF Planning Mtg - Episcopal Church

Wednesday, June 15

7:30pm Men's Bible Study - Rm 202

Thursday, June 16

9:30am Senior Day - WC
5:30pm CUFF Meal - Episcopal Church

Saturday, June 18

8am to 12 noon Safe and Sacred Space Training
- Gault Dining Room

Sunday, June 19

Father's Day
Food Basket Sunday
8:30am Worship - Chapel
9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Worship - Sanctuary

Upcoming Events

Summer SS Adult Series — July 10-July 31
VBS — July 25-29, 8:30-11:30am

Pastor Dee's contact information.

- Parsonage phone: 577-2636
- Cell phone: 1-785-554-1562
- E-mail: PastorDee@cableone.net
- Address: 2709 N. 8th Street, Independence

The CareLink



Open hearts.
Open minds.
Open doors.

The people of the United Methodist Church

First United Methodist Church
200 S. Penn - P.O. Box 545
Independence, KS 67301

Phone 620-331-3840

www.fumcindy.com
FUMCindy@cableone.net

June 3, 2011

Sermon Series: Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Over 10 years ago, The United Methodist Church 'branded' itself as a church with: Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors. Though this slogan was not put in place as a theological statement about The United Methodist Church, it has served to raise a positive awareness about The United Methodist Church.

During the first three Sundays of June, we will take a glimpse at this slogan that is plastered on our websites, letterhead and conference journals. We will look at each statement, Open Minds, Open Hearts and Open Doors, from a theological perspective using our Gospel Lectionary scriptures for the following Sundays.



- June 5 ... Open Minds ... Oh! I Get It!
- June 12 ... Open Hearts ... Speak to my Heart.
- June 19 ... Open Doors ... Whose at the Door?



So, as we journey through these next three Sundays, let us have Open Minds, Open Hearts and Open Doors, to hear what the Spirit of God has to say to the Church today as we come to know God and go to love people!

Pastor Dee Williamston



Camp Chippewa and Institute - Are you attending Camp or Institute this summer? Would you like to attend? Contact the church office if you need information, 331-3840. Scholarships are available thru the local church and Parsons District.



JMC Pre-school enrollment for the Fall has begun. Speak to Nancy Estes, our Pre-school Director, 331-0719 or pick up information in the church office.



FUMC will host the **CUFF meal on June 9**. So after you give blood, you can help feed our neighbors. If you can help, sign up on the sign up sheet on the Prayer table in the lobby! Or call the church office, 331-3840.



VBS 2011 July 25-29.

"Shake It Up Café." We are going to have a lot of fun!!! Plan to join us. We are raising funds for VBS 2011 so if you would like to help, make your check payable to FUMC and note VBS.

Can you help? Amy Brodman, our nursery coordinator is looking for someone to work the Nursery on Sunday, June 26. She will be out of town. If you can help please contact the church office, 331-3840.

**God is good all the time! And all the time God is Good!
Even in the midst of stormy weather, God is still Good!**

The report is good they got all the cancer and it had not gotten into the lymph nodes. However, as an insurance policy I will be going through Chemotherapy and Radiation which will be a year long process from what I understand. But still, in all, all is well with my soul, for I know that there are many who have been down this road or are on the same road to God's healing.

Thank you all so very much for your prayers, food, flowers, phone calls, facebook comments, food, text, emails, cards, visits, again the food, offers to help with yard work, going to the store and rides to the doctor's office! What a blessing it is to be here in Independence Kansas for such a time as this!

Many of you have asked how can I/we help? As time goes by and the chemo treatments begin, I will be able to better express how and when I will need the most help. Yet, as we move toward those days ahead there are a few things I will need your help with...

- first - I need your prayers,
- second - I want everyone to expect me to continue to do the work of a pastor, and
- finally - to share your funny stories and sermon ideas.

Again, thank you so much for everything. I now understand better why God placed me here in Independence, Kansas.



In the Lord's Service,
Pastor Dee

College Scholarships: Members of the congregation planning to attend a United Methodist College which has a scholarship program matching a scholarship granted by a local church are invited to apply for a scholarship from Independence First United Methodist Church. The application is a letter, due June 30, 2011, giving the following information:

- The name of the United Methodist College the student is planning to attend in the fall of 2011 and the name of the scholarship program which will provide matching funds;
- a request for a scholarship;
- and a paragraph describing how the student has been involved in the life and ministry of First United Methodist Church and how that involvement has contributed to growth as a follower of Christ.

The Permanent Endowment Committee will meet following June 30 to determine which students will be granted scholarships and the amount of each grant.

A **Safe & Sacred Spaces training** will be led by Amy Brodman here at FUMC on June 18 from 8am to 12 noon. Childcare will be available.

If you are planning to help with

- VBS — Live B.I.G. — Youth — Sunday School,
- or become a Early Response Team participant through the Kansas East Conference,

you must have this training. Call the church office, 331-3840 to sign up.



Safe & Sacred Spaces

We Uphold First United Methodist Church:

by our prayers...

- **Our prayers are with** Dale Russell and family at the death of his brother, Floyd A. Russell.
- **Our prayers are with** Rev. Willie and Alice Jones at the death of their son, Richard Kublnick
- **Our prayers are with** Jim Huffman and family at the death of his sister, Donna Kelly Ferrell.
- **Hospitalized:** Peggy Coder and Irene MaGill
- **Recovering away from home:** Jim Brown (Bradford Place), Lew Boys (Gansel House) and Laverne Harris (Regl Estates).
- **Recovering at home:** Terry Killman and Martha Marshall.
- **Also remember:** Dorothy Cretcher, Dixie Jensen, Marilyn Jensen, Jamie Rathjen, Erica Schultz, Martha Scott, and Dick and Phyllis Smith.
- **Military:** That they might be kept safe from all harm and used as instruments of peace.
- **Global concerns:** earthquake/tsunami victims in Japan; tornado and flood victims in the South; our global missionaries, our neighbors in Joplin and Oklahoma.
- **Local and National:** our government leaders; community and school concerns.
- To be included in prayer, call the office, 331-3840; call Corky Sanford, 331-4750; place a prayer card in the prayer box or offering plate.

by our presence...

	May 15	May 22	May 29
Early Worship	52	48	54
Sunday School	125	80	74
Late Worship	186	144	131

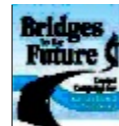
Please welcome Independence area guests who registered last Sunday: Aubree Caldwell; Karla Kemp and Rhyllie Powell.

by our gifts...

	May 15	May 22	May 29
General Budget	\$ 8,709	\$ 3,341	\$ 4,482

Designated Gifts

	YTD	Goal
• Pastors Discretionary	1945	\$ 3,800
• TV Ministry	1060	3,600
• FAST Program	245	1,500
• Independence Food Basket	325	
• Home Sweet Home Homeless	190	800
• Vacation Bible School	270	1,000
• Flood Buckets	115	
• Nursery Supplies		
• Missouri Storms	195	
• Kansas Storms	110	
• UMCOR general	155	
• FUMC teams going on clean up mission trips (gas and water)	260	



Bridges to the Future — Capital improvement campaign for the Kansas East Conference. We have begun the fourth year of five to raise \$5.3 million. FUMC's goal is \$43,000. We have received in 2011 - \$900. Total gifts received to date - \$35,226.

Disaster Relief Opportunities

- **Give the Gift of Life!** The Independence Community **Blood Drive** will be held Thursday, **June 9** from 11:15 am to 5:15 pm, at the Civic Center.
- We can take **monetary donations** and send them to the specific places you wish. Make your check payable to FUMC and write one of the following in your memo line...
 - **FUMC Disaster Response.** This will stay in the church office and be used to help Ed Epp and the people going to help in Joplin - Reading for things like water and gas. We had both vans go on Saturday to help with clean up in Reading.
 - **General disaster relief.** This will go straight to UMCOR
 - **Missouri Storms.** This will go to Julie Pohl with the Kansas East Conference and specifically help Joplin.
 - **Kansas Storms.** This will go to Julie Pohl with the Kansas East Conference and specifically help Reading)
- **There is also a need for flood buckets.** Our mission team is accepting donations to help prepare flood buckets. If you would like to contribute, make your check payable to FUMC and note Flood Buckets.
- **Disaster Response Training.** We have all seen the pictures and heard the reports of the massive damage from the recent storms. The Kansas East Conference is sending teams to Joplin, Reading, Oklahoma, Alabama and St. Louis to help with relief efforts. Is this something you would like to do? There are trainings that mission trip participants will need. Contact the church office to find out more about these trainings.

FUMC support efforts: On May 28, Ed Epp took a group of 14 workers to Reading, Kansas where they helped to clean up the yards of four homes that were damaged in the recent tornados. The people at these homes were very grateful for the help this group provided. Those participating were: Ed Epp, Joe and Bev Smith, Randall Bishir; Richard and Cindy Orr, Dennis Greenhaw, Dennis Doring. Ethel Landis; Terri Cain; Gail Fredrickson, Irish Alban, Steph Holm, and Vicki Thompson. Kent Keller also went and took his skid loader. Way to go!!! Be watching for other opportunities to help

Needed!

- Greeters, the coordinator is Andrea Sitton. Call the church office.
- Ushers, call the church office, the coordinator is Dale Boyd. Ushers serve for 1 month at a time, twice a year. Call the church office.
- Volunteers for VBS, the coordinator is Susan Ward, Call the church office.

The Wisdom of Children

He was just a little boy,
On a week's first day.
Wandering home from Bible school,
And dawdling on the way.

He scuffed his shoes into the grass;
He even found a caterpillar.
He found a fluffy milkweed pod
And blew out all the 'filler.'

A bird's nest in a tree overhead,
So wisely placed up high
Was just another wonder
That caught his eager eye.

A neighbor watched his zigzag course
And hailed him from the lawn;
He asked him where he'd been that day
And what was going on.

"I've been to Bible School ,"
He said and turned a piece of sod.
He picked up a wiggly worm replying,
'I've learned a lot about God.'

"M'm, very fine way," the neighbor said,
"for a boy to spend his time.
If you'll tell me where God is,
I'll give you a brand new dime."

Quick as a flash the answer came!
Nor were his accents faint.
"I'll give you a dollar, Mister,
If you can tell me where God ain't."

— Unknown

"Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." — Mark 10:15
— Luke 18:17

"Raising Awareness"

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'
— Matthew 25:40

- July 10 — Det. Harry Smith will talk about the problem with drugs, gangs, in Independence
- July 17 — Chuck Schmidt will talk about the school policy as it relates to drugs, weapons etc. and then will go into the poverty issues within the school system.
- July 24 — Derek Schmidt, our new Attorney General will talk about the new health changes in regards to Medicare and poverty issues in Kansas.
- July 31 — Angie Pearson will talk about the senior citizens and problems related to poverty and health issues.



From the Harry Pittman family: During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy and prayers will always be remembered.

A message the church office received from one of our former members that moved to Joplin... a couple of years ago. She got on line to retrieve her e-mails and responded to the e-LINK getting together mission trips to help clean up.

"Hi, this is Cammy Ruch from Joplin...me and the girls are ok. We made it from our 3rd floor apt. down to the clubhouse, but it collapsed on us and we were buried for an hour before we were rescued. We all had injuries, and I was transferred to Springfield by ambulance for a concussion. I lost everything I own, plus my car. We are so grateful to be alive and are temporarily staying in Miami.Ok with a friend. Just wanted to say hi.
Cam, Sheridan and Presley"



UMW News

The next **general gathering** for the UMW will be July 20, from 9:30 - 12 Noon at Nell Updegraff's home.

The **UMW Mission Team** (which is basically the executive board for our local UMW) will not meet again until August 31. Here are a few items from the meeting on May 25.

- It was reported that the Attic Treasures sale profit is approximately \$1,000. Next year's sale has been set for May 5, 2012.
- \$1,500 was sent to the District UMW Missions. In 2011 our local FUMC UMW pledged to give \$4,000 to missions. This will bring the total given this year to \$3,170, leaving just \$830 left to go. Way to go ladies! The "Mission Thought" articles that appear in the CareLink twice a month reflect the different ways this money is helping around the world.
- Plans were finalized for the Summer Gathering.
- A thank you note was received and acknowledged from the Pittman family for the funeral dinner that was served following Harry's funeral.

There will be **Mission Study at Dennis UMC** on June 18 at 9am with lunch at 12 noon. "Joy to the Worlds, Mission and Evangelism" is the topic. We must RSVP June 13. Call the church office if you want to go.



Artist: Mohammed Abu Laban, age 14, Iskandar Khoury School, Gaza.

Mission Thought: United Methodist Missionary, Janet Lahr Lewis serves in Palestine / Israel. This drawing is part of an art display by children who lived through the three-week siege of Gaza that began December 27, 2008