



# The Messenger

 Vol. 4

Our mission: Connect people in a growing, engaged, active relationship with Jesus Christ  
February 25, 2015

A bi-monthly newsletter of the Shawnee United Methodist Church, [www.ShawneeUMC.org](http://www.ShawneeUMC.org)  
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**COME & WORSHIP**  
8:00 & 11:00 Traditional  
9:30 Praise Worship

**March 1, 2015**

Mark 2:23-28  
"An Everyday God"

**March 8, 2015**

Luke 5:17-26  
"An Unlimited God"

**Sunday School**  
All Ages – 9:30 a.m.  
Youth – 11:00 a.m.

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**Church Staff**

**Ronald King**  
Pastor

**Connie Perry**  
Office Administrator

**Julie Bahnsen**  
Administrative Assistant

**Nancy Carson**  
Director of Student  
Ministries

**Phyllis Stauffer**  
Coordinator of Children's  
Ministry

**Scott Fears**  
Chancel Choir Director

**Tammy Page**  
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**Dominick Italiano**  
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Hello Friends,

There are several things that are deemed important in life. We rank among them those things that seem to be a priority — family, God, church, friends, work, time for ourselves — these are a few things at the very top of the list. We might throw in the big three, food, shelter, and clothing, and then add to that list money and vehicles just to be safe, but I would be willing to place a small wager that of all of those, God and family would still be 1 and 2 with the others falling a distant second. I've observed over the years that it's usually at the end of life — when we're faced with the realization that death is imminent and we really can't take it with us — that our list becomes quite short, the truly important things in life move to the front of the list and we find ourselves leaning more heavily on God and family for comfort and security.

Now the question is which should be first, or have the greatest priority. Well, we can turn to two Scriptures that really narrow it down for us. Jesus, in a response to those things that typically become a priority for us, food shelter and clothing, says:

*Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (Matthew 6:31-33)*

It seems that for Jesus, first and foremost what's at the top of the list is our relationship with God.

Now, Paul on the other hand has another approach. He says,

*And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:13)*

It seems that for Paul as well, God becomes the absolute top priority, because we know that God is love. God is greatest and should be our priority in life. However, Paul's entire conversation is really about our relationship with each other as we express the presence of the quintessential God. Jesus invites us to focus on God and our relationship with God, while giving a lower priority to the creature comforts in life. Paul's invitation is for us to join in loving expressions of one another as a true expression of God present in our world, and says that without love (God) present in his life, *he's just a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal (1 Corinthians 13:1)*.

What I love about the Bible is its consistency. While it may, on the surface, sound different, aren't both men — our Christ and the apostle Paul — really trying to point us to the first and great Commandment,

*"The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 6:30-31; Matthew 22:37, & Luke 10:27)*

Love as both see it are outward expressions of love to our brothers and sisters. It's not a feeling toward someone, but an action that we take to engage in relationship. My prayer is that during this Lenten season, we will be able to fast from things that don't matter and love in ways that others may find expression of God in what we do rather than what we say.

Agape and Shalom,  
Pastor Ron



## Notes from Children's Ministry



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For the next few weeks, Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be studying "Signs of Faith". The children will be rotating between Geography and Games, Art, Drama and Audio/Visual.

The Children's Sabbath has been moved to April 19<sup>th</sup>. The Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be participating in the service and we are preparing for it during Sunday School. Please make plans to join us as we celebrate our children!

### A blessing to pray over your child -

May you know that our God is the one and only God. May you always turn to Him for everything you need. Amen.

### TIME FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES

This is the season when the Lectionary Bible Study has its tissue (Kleenex and all brands welcome!) Drive for Merriam and Raymond Marsh Elementary Schools. We have been told that the fall school supplies of tissue are often depleted by this crucial time of year. All other **school supplies are also needed** as there becomes a need for them at this mid school year time. Please make sure any notebook paper is **wide line** paper. Look for the school supply collection box in the Chapel hallway, under the bulletin boards. We will be collecting through this Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you.

### GIFT-CARD MINISTRY...

Our Youth Ministries program uses \$5 gift cards as incentive rewards, prizes and appreciation gifts. We are in need of a variety of cards, \$5 in value, from all sorts of businesses: movies, fast food, gas station, specialty stores, etc. If you're out and about and want to donate some \$5 gift cards for this purpose, please place them in Nancy Carson's box in the church office. Thank you!

### Sympathy

To the family of Lois Higbee who died February 15, 2015.

To Becky Russell and family whose father, William Robert Sterling, died February 19, 2015

To Ginny Cuppage and family whose husband, Pete Cuppage, died February 21, 2015

To Laurie Matson-Ritter and family whose father, Larry Matson, died February 23, 2015.

### UM Women Collecting for Bluejacket-Flint Elementary School

In the continued support of Bluejacket-Flint Elementary School, the UMW is collecting healthy snacks for the special education and first graders through March 8, 2015. Pretzels, Teddy Grahams, Goldfish, etc. may be placed in the Bluejacket box in the Narthex.

### **From the library...a quiet ministry**

On the chest outside the library you will see some of the beautiful art books contained in our library. Of special interest during Lent might be the painting of *The Lord's Supper*, found in the book of the works of Michelangelo. Stop by and take a look, or check it out! Don't forget: March 2, Dr. Seuss's birthday is National Read To A Child Day. Lots of good children's books await you in our Church Library! Grown-ups would find it interesting to "Google" Dr. Seuss.

### **New Time, New Look!**

As you plan ahead for Spring, you will want to put April 17 and 18 on your calendar for the church Book, Jewelry, Bake and Breakfast Extravaganza! We are combining the Jewelry, Book and Bake Sale (April 17 and 18) and the Methodist Men's famous breakfast will be held that Saturday morning.

Start saving books and jewelry that you would like to donate and recipes you might want to bake. More information will be coming as the time draws closer!

### **COME EAT WITH US! Reminder**

**WHO:** Everyone is invited to the monthly community dinner on the 4th Sunday of each month.

**WHEN:** Begins immediately after 3rd service - 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**WHAT TO BRING:** If possible, bring a main dish and either a side, salad or dessert. If everyone brings this much, we should have enough to feed whatever additional community members we have.

### **REMINDER:**

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8th.

### **AMBASSADORS**

The Ambassadors, a senior adult group, will be meeting Monday, March 9, 2015 at the Shawnee United Methodist Church located at 10700 Johnson Drive. The potluck luncheon begins at 11:30 AM. Our program speaker will be Charles Goslin who will be telling stories of the span of swords used in the Civil War and Biblical times...and the greatest sword of all...the Spirit of the Bible. Bring a covered dish, table service and \$2 donation. Bread and beverage will be provided. Remember to bring pop tabs. A free will offering for community service will be accepted. The Johnson County Health Department nurses will check blood pressure from 10:30 to 11:30 AM. All senior citizens are welcome. First-time visitors are not expected to bring food. For information, call Fred Henik, 913-631-5804.

### **REMINDER:**

All meetings held in the church need to be on the church calendar in a timely manner in order for the heat to be turned on for your particular area.

**CHURCH CALENDAR**  
**March 1 – March 15, 2015**

Sunday, March 1

7:45 a.m. Prayer Time, Conference Room  
 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service  
 9:30 a.m. Praise Worship Service  
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:30 a.m. Youth "Brunch Bunch", Gym  
 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Classes, Room 308  
 11:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School Hour  
 2:00 p.m. KC District Youth Event, Atchison, Kansas  
 3:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Ron, Room 304

Monday, March 2

All Day – Cross-Lines Hot Lunch – Cross-Lines  
 7:00 p.m. SPRC Meeting, Library  
 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 93, Fellowship Hall & Gym

Tuesday, March 3

10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study, Room 304  
 6:30 p.m. CONALD Meeting, Library  
 7:30 p.m. Open Coed Basketball, Gym

Wednesday, March 4

6:00 p.m. UMYF, Gym, Lounge, Fellowship Hall  
 6:00 p.m. Lectionary Bible Study, Parlor  
 6:00 p.m. Worship Committee, Room 304  
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
 7:00 p.m. Bible Study Group (Revelation), Annex

Thursday, March 5

10:00 a.m. UM Women Executive Meeting, Room 308  
 1:00 p.m. Prayer Quilt, Room 307  
 6:15 p.m. TOPS, Room 307  
 6:30 p.m. Keystone Class Home Bible Study Group, Howard & Elaine Keling Home  
 7:00 p.m. Bible Study Group (Romans), Annex  
 7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl, Parlor

Friday, March 6

10:00 a.m. Friday Prayer List  
 7:00 p.m. Jam Session, Fellowship Hall

Saturday, March 7

8:00 a.m. Trustees Meeting, Room 305  
 9:00 a.m. Bread Baking & Shut-In Visitation, Kitchen, Fellowship Hall, Stage & Room 308  
 10:00 a.m. Gideon Meeting, Room 307

Sunday, March 8

7:45 a.m. Prayer Time, Conference Room  
 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service  
 9:30 a.m. Praise Worship Service  
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Classes, Room 308  
 10:30 a.m. Youth Brunch Bunch, Gym  
 11:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School Hour  
 3:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Ron, Room 304

Monday, March 9

11:30 a.m. Ambassadors, Fellowship Hall  
 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 3352 Den 2 (Tigers), Room 307  
 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 93, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 10

10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study Class, Room 304  
 6:00 p.m. Stephen Leaders Meeting, Library  
 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry, Rooms 304 and 306  
 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts 3352 (Bears), Room 300  
 7:30 p.m. Open Coed Basketball, Gym

Wednesday, March 11

6:00 p.m. Youth Physical Fellowship, Gym, Fellowship Hall and Lounge  
 6:00 p.m. Lectionary Bible Study, Parlor  
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
 7:00 p.m. Bible Study Group (Revelation), Annex

Thursday, March 12

10:00 a.m. UMW Unit Meeting, Fellowship Hall  
 6:15 p.m. TOPS, Room 307  
 6:30 p.m. Keystone Class Home Bible Study, Howard & Elaine Keling Home  
 7:00 p.m. Bible Study Group (Romans), Annex

Friday, March 13

10:00 a.m. Friday Prayer List

Saturday, March 14

7:00 a.m. Scout Leader Training, Room 307

Sunday, March 15

7:45 a.m. Prayer Time, Conference Room  
 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service  
 9:30 a.m. Praise Worship Service  
 10:30 a.m. Youth "Brunch Bunch", Gym  
 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Classes, Room 308  
 11:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School Hour  
 3:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Ron, Room 304

<u>Attendance</u>			
<b>February 15, 2015</b>		<b>February 22, 2015</b>	
8:00 a.m.	49	8:00 a.m.	55
9:30 a.m.	41	9:30 a.m.	71
11:00 a.m.	<u>77</u>	11:00 a.m.	<u>75</u>
Total	167		201
<i>Sunday School – 54</i>		<i>Sunday School – 88</i>	

**"SAVE THE DATE": ALL-CHURCH EVENT  
 SUNDAY, APRIL 19!**

This year's annual basket-auction/dinner/show promises to be bigger and better than ever! This is an event you'll want to invite friends and family to attend with you! Our entertainment for the evening will be Christian Magician Keith Leff! Dinner for donations and the basket auction will precede the show. Plan now to attend Sunday, April 19th 5:00-7:30 p.m. (Classes and small groups are asked to contribute gift baskets for the auction)!

**Newsletter News...**

The next *Messenger* will be mailed out on Wednesday, March 11, 2015. All articles need to be received in the office or email [julie@shawneemc.org](mailto:julie@shawneemc.org) by Monday, March 9, 2015, 9:00 a.m. **Keep in mind that all time sensitive articles need to be 10 days or more after the date of the newsletter.**

## **Weekly Prayer List**

### ***Please pray for our members:***

Kathy Madison  
Dennis Brown & Family  
Judy Petersen  
Wilma McReynolds  
Bob Waller  
Gus Gosch  
Don Kennett  
Jess Clark  
Susan Fears & Family  
Bailey Larkin  
Clena Wilson  
Laurie Matson-Ritter & Family  
Ginny Cuppage & Family

### ***Please pray for our friends:***

Gloria Benson  
Nancy Morando  
Christie Goebel  
Rich & Barb Sussenbach  
Francis Schumacher  
Norma & Larry Moore  
Dennis Newsome  
Linda & Mickey Houser  
Mike Daniel  
John Daniel  
Jeanne Hoffman  
Zoya Stephens  
Family of Lynn Moore  
Megan Gutierrez & Family  
Richard Pina & Family  
Libby Stone  
Family of Lois Higbee  
Family & Friends of Tom Pyke  
Curt Dixson

### ***Please pray for our homebound members:***

Lois McAlister  
Bob & Harriet Guthrie  
Beth Crane  
Ruth Lund  
Lorene Cobb  
Virginia Hubbard  
Prue Basel  
Earl Love  
Gifford Spaugh  
Berneta Neese  
Jack Richter  
Doris Cathey  
Darrel LaRue

### ***Please pray for our church, that God would:***

- Enable us to be successful in achieving God's mission for our church to connect people in a growing, engaged, active relationship with Jesus Christ, ▪ Send laborers for the harvest (evangelism) *See Luke 10:2*
- Make clear God's vision for our church,
- Enable Shawnee United Methodist Church to become a House of Prayer (*See Isaiah 56:1-8*), and reveal any other prayer needs in the life of our church.

## **CROSS-LINES EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY**

We are now collecting the following items for the Cross-Lines food pantry:

Canned Soups, Canned Vegetables, Canned Meats,  
Diaper Wipes, Disposable Diapers, Hamburger Helper.  
There is a collection box in the hallway by the Chapel.

## **UNITED METHODIST NIGHT AT THE T-BONES**

The Great Plains Conference UMM is sponsoring a United Methodist Night at the T-Bones this year on Saturday night, May 23, 2015. Tickets are for the Select seats and are \$10 each. There will also be fireworks that night. The T-Bones will be playing the Lincoln Saltdogs so both teams are within the boundaries of the Great Plains UMC. We will have a table in the lobby around the middle of March to take ticket orders. (see insert for more information)

## **Coats/Scarves**

Coats and jackets are still needed, as are scarves, hats and gloves. Do you have items you no longer wear? Winter still has time to come. The wardrobe continues to be available as well at the entrance to the chapel. Shawnee Community Services and Cross-Lines continue to be recipients of SUMC donations this winter. Thanks so much for your donations.

*United Methodist Women, SUMC*

## **Name Our Bear!**

Our Library Bear has gone into hibernation until Spring. Kids...will you help him have a name when he wakes up? Leave your suggestion, with your name as well, in the "honey pot" next to our bear, outside the library. You may have more than one suggestion. A vote will decide the name in the Spring.

## **BUILDING POLICY REMINDER**

Groups/persons leaving the building after 8:00 p.m. are expected to insure that doors are secured and lights off. If it is before 8:00 p.m. and you are the last group/person to leave the building, make sure the doors are locked and lights turned off. In that same thought mode, *please* remember to shut lights off *anytime* of the day or evening if you are the last one to leave a room, or a particular area of the building. High utility costs affect us ALL! Thanks.

## **FLOWER CALENDAR**

Please check the 2015 Flower Calendar, posted outside the church office. Think of all the ways you can honor loved ones and family: birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, and memorials. This is a very special way of participating in the life of the church, and the beauty of our worship experience. Pick a date, fill out an order form, and turn it in at the church office. It's that simple!!



## **75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR! HELP NEEDED**

The United Methodist Committee on Relief is the outreach arm of the United Methodist church and is at the ready when disasters occur around the world. UMCOR is there undergirded with prayer and offering caring hearts and hands to help those who have lost loved ones and/or possessions.

On Sunday, March 15th, Methodist churches will be celebrating "One Great Hour of Sharing" and taking a special offering to help insure that UMCOR can continue its mission. I can't think of a more worthy cause to which to contribute!

After researching the needs UMCOR has in addition to cash donations, I found out that of the many kinds of kits that churches can prepare and mail to the Sager Brown depot in Baldwin, LA, the most needed at this time are health kits and school kits. If your Sunday school class or other small group in the church would be willing to assemble some kits, please contact Kay Reid at 745-4802 for specific instructions. I would hope that these kits could be assembled and mailed this spring and summer.

The school kits require that the 4"x16" heavy duty cloth bags be made of denim, corduroy, drapery fabric etc., so those who enjoy sewing and/or have fabric to contribute, please let Kay know. Perhaps your sewing skills could be used and the bags donated to a group assembling school kits, or perhaps some individuals would prefer to assemble a few kits on their own.

Whatever help YOU can give will be very much appreciated!





**Nancy Carson, Director of Student Ministries**  
**Contact us on Facebook: Nancy SUMC**  
**Facebook group: "Shawnee United Methodist Youth"**  
**E-mail: [shawneeyouth@yahoo.com](mailto:shawneeyouth@yahoo.com)**

WED. MARCH 4- UMYF 6:00-8:00

SAT. MARCH 7- Confirmation Bread Baking & Homebound visitation 9:00-1:00

SUN. MARCH 8- Praise 9:30, Brunch Bunch /Confirmation Class 10:30, SS 11:00

WED. MARCH 11- UMYF 6:00-8:00

SUN. MARCH 15- Praise 9:30, Brunch Bunch 10:30, NO CC (Spring Break)

WED. MARCH 18- NO UMYF (Spring Break)

SUN. MARCH 22- Praise 9:30, Brunch Bunch /Confirmation Class 10:30, SS 11:00

COMING: BASKET AUCTION/DINNER/SHOW APRIL 19th!!!