



LATHROP UMC

NEWSLETTER



Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.

NOVEMBER 2017

lathropumc.newsletter@live.com
www.facebook.com/UMEC/Lathrop
www.lathropumc.org

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:6

FROM OUR PASTOR'S DESK

Richard's Raps



Thomas G. Pettepiece writes, “Lord, only one in ten returned to give thanks or so the story goes about the lepers you healed. It is tragic but I confess, Lord, that is probably my percentage compared to the times I ought to be thanking you.” I suspect all of us could say those words about ourselves. Of course, our minds turn toward our national celebration of Thanksgiving as the month of November begins. Mary and I are very thankful for all God’s blessing over the entire length of our lives. However, like Pettepiece, we seldom take a few minutes to just sit and reflect on all the blessing we have received, and “breathe” a grateful thanks to God. I look forward to Thanksgiving’s food, family gathering, football, and after dinner nap; however, the most enjoyable part of the day are those few minutes I “steal” from the family celebration to sit quietly and reflect on all the wonderful and wonder filled Thanksgivings celebrated with the family of my younger days. I thank God I was reared in a family of aunts, uncles, cousins, and parents who went “over the top” to celebrate Thanksgiving. Mary and I wish all of you a Thanksgiving so enjoyable that it will be an event to remember and be thankful for throughout your lives. You are a blessing to us.

Special Notice: The Church’s annual Church Conference will be held on Sunday, November 12th, between the hours of 6:30 and 8:00 p.m. at the Lawson United Methodist Church. Everyone is invited to attend this annual business meeting.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER



Peanut butter...soup...spaghetti sauce...canned fruit: What does that have to do with “Love One Another”? These four particular items are desperately needed at our local food pantry. Located in the basement of the Goppert Community Building, the Lathrop Food Pantry serves an average of 55 families each month. Families must qualify and can visit only 1 time per month. There is a checklist: 2 canned vegetables, 1 can of fruit, 1 box of cereal etc. The food pantry receives no government funding. It relies on donations of canned goods and cash. Monetary donations are used to buy groceries from Second Harvest in St. Joseph. Frequently items are available at Second Harvest at a much lower price than at a typical grocery store. However, items are not offered on a regular basis. Toilet paper might be offered in June, cereal in December, chili in March. When a monetary donation is made, it is placed in a checking account to be used when these “specials” are offered. Hence, giving a monetary donation is tremendously appreciated and a true blessing.

In November our church is challenging YOU to “Love One Another”: support the Lathrop Food Pantry. Donate once or every week: canned food (especially peanut butter, soup, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit)...anything you might buy at the grocery store. Give a monetary donation. A table for donations will be set up in the narthex. “CAN” it be completely covered with our Love for One Another by the end of November?

THE CHURCH LIBRARY BECKONS FROM ITS PAGES



Knit for Love THE SWEETGUM LADIES

By Beth Pattillo

Once a month six women met to discuss books and share their knitting projects. These women were called the Sweetgum Knit Lit Society. It was Eugenie Carson's turn to choose the topic for the year. What would she choose? She had just recently been married. Yes, she knew just the topic: "Great Love Stories in Literature". Thus began a year of discovery. Six very different personalities went down the road in search of love in literature and for themselves. What they discovered was that even in Sweetgum, Tennessee, love isn't easy.

It's Not Easy Being Green And Other Things to Consider

By Jim Henson,

The Muppets, and Friends

Have you ever thought what it would be like to be green? To blend in with so many other ordinary things? There is much to ponder with this well known puppeteer and his friends.

OUR BLESSINGS



Do you want a church where people care about God and love one another? Do you want a church that is fun? Do you want a church that sometimes meets in the park...at a lake? If you do, you have found the right one: The Lathrop United Methodist Church! On September 17 our Sunday church service was held at Lake Lenore. There wasn't an organ to play. There wasn't a piano to play, but music still filled the air. Jennifer Howerton played the keyboard. Brenda Bonar picked her banjo. Kevin Bonar added a special touch with his guitar. SueEllen Pollard and Rachel Martin led the congregation with their beautiful voices. I'm pretty sure God was looking down saying, "You don't need a building to learn about Me and spread My love. This is good!"

There is a special "Love One Another" challenge going on this month! How did we do? Look for a report right here in the next church newsletter.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF MINISTRY

Nine years ago the Lathrop UMC was assigned a new pastor. This pastor and his lovely wife joined us for the first time in June 2008. Thus started our leadership and friendship with Richard and Mary Ogden. It takes a special person to serve not only the church and it's people faithfully, but who also makes their own life a testimony of Christ's love. Even though we have only known Pastor Richard for 9 years, Sunday, November 5th will mark a special milestone for him and we want to celebrate with him.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 5th following the worship service as we help Pastor Richard and Mary celebrate his (their) 40th anniversary in the ministry.

DATES TO REMEMBER



NOVEMBER 2017

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1-30 UMC Food Drive - " Love One Another" | |
| 1 Bible Study with light meal in Fellowship Hall | 6:30 - 8:00 pm |
| <i>Lt. Meal at 6:30 pm; Bible Study at 7:00 pm</i> | |
| 4 Community Men's Breakfast | 7:00 am |
| Hosted by First Baptist Church | |
| 5 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME FALLS BACK | |
| 5 November Birthday Breakfast | 10:30 am |
| 5 Rev. Richard Ogden's 40 year of Ministry Celebration | 12:00 |
| Fellowship Hall | |
| 8 Bible Study with light meal in Fellowship Hall | 6:30 - 8:00 pm |
| <i>Lt. Meal at 6:30 pm; Bible Study at 7:00 pm</i> | |
| 11 Veteran's Day Observance | |
| 12 Charge Conference - Lawson UMC | 6:30 - 8:00 pm |
| 14 Trustees Meeting | 6:00 pm |
| 14 Administration Board Meeting | 7:00 pm |
| 19 Community Service for Thanksgiving | 7:00 pm |
| Hosted by First Assembly of God Church | |
| Pastor Richard Ogden will deliver the message | |
| 26 Advent Bible Study - <i>The Redemption of Scrooge</i> | 9:45- 10:45 am |
| Fellowship Hall | |
| Ushers for October: Gerald Snodgrass and Donald Griffin | |



CARES AND CONCERNS

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jack Day | Dylan Gowin |
| Wilma Tippit | Cheryl Snodgrass |
| Lillie Harrell | Burla Lilley |
| Billy Webster | Jon Carter |
| Robert Ewens | Shelby Ewens |
| Candy Fugett | Marguerite Pulliam |
| Brittany Kistner | Frank Eggleston |
| Wynne Peterson | Family of Jim Crenshaw |
| Lori Snodgrass | Family of David Rupe |

ALL that have been effected by hurricanes, earthquakes, floods and fires.

The Children of our Church

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Our Military | Our Community |
| Our Church | Our Pastor |

If you have prayer concerns, please email lathropumc.newsletter@live.com or contact: Kathy Mydland 528-3780; Brenda Bonar 528-3004; or Norella Beane 740-4419.

November



BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Griffin Hensen
- 3 Lilly Aldrich
- 5 Steven Beane
- 22 Lanie Justus
- 22 Debbie Smith
- 26.. Becky Lytle
- 29 Kathy Gateley



ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 I.D. & Debbie Smith
- 28...Gerald & Cheryl Snodgrass

ATTENDANCE REPORT for September 2017

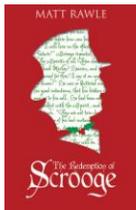
Average Church Attendance for September 2017 was 41; Average Sunday School Attendance was 28 average; Income was \$5,314.

Average Church attendance for the same period in 2016 was 52; Average Sunday School Attendance was 25; Income was \$3,260.

Average Church attendance for the same period in 2015 was 50; Average Sunday School Attendance was 31; Income was \$2,698.

Average Church attendance for the same period in 2014 was 47; Average Sunday School Attendance was 21; Income was \$4,394.

ADVENT BOOK STUDY 2017



Pastor Richard will lead a 4 weeks Advent Study beginning November 26. This Advent study will “bless us every one” and reinvigorate our spiritual journey. In his this book *The Redemption of Scrooge*, pastor and author Matt Rawle walks readers through this timeless tale to explore sin, grace, and redemption. We will learn theological and prophetic truth from a cultural classic. Is redemption possible for such a greedy, dark and sad character? We will dive deep into Scrooge's world, revealing the darkness, the sadness, and all the greediness and in the process, it will reveals the need of humanity for a second chance.

This year instead of an evening class, it will be held during the hour that usually the adult Sunday School time (9:45 am). If you normally drop your children off for Sunday school, why not join Pastor Richard in the Fellowship Hall for cup of coffee or tea and an interesting hour.



FOUR GENERATIONS SINGING PRAISES TO THE LORD

Four Generations of Suellen Pollard's family singing praises to the Lord. Suellen's grandmother accompanied on the piano as Suellen and her mother sang "His Eye Is On The Sparrow". And of course, daughter Kaitlyn completed the foursome.

ATTENTION SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS!

It will soon be time for the Christmas play. This year's play 'Because God Said So, Love Finds A Way', will be presented on December 17th. We are asking that you make a special effort to be present at Sunday School so parts may be assigned. Thank you!

HONORING OUR VETERANS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL



As an observance to all Veterans and members of the Military we will have a bucket of toy soldiers as a reminder of what these men and woman have done to protect our freedoms and keep the world safe. On Sunday, November 12th we are asking that everyone take a soldier. Put it in a place at your home or work where you can see it daily. You can 'name' this soldier for a specific person or for any veteran or military personal. This will serve as a reminder to say a prayer for our veterans and soldiers daily.

Prayer for Veterans and their families: “Jesus, you said, ‘There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.’ Today we pray for those men and women who have, in their military service, sacrificed their time, strength, ambition, health and even their lives on this earth to benefit ‘friends,’ known and unknown.

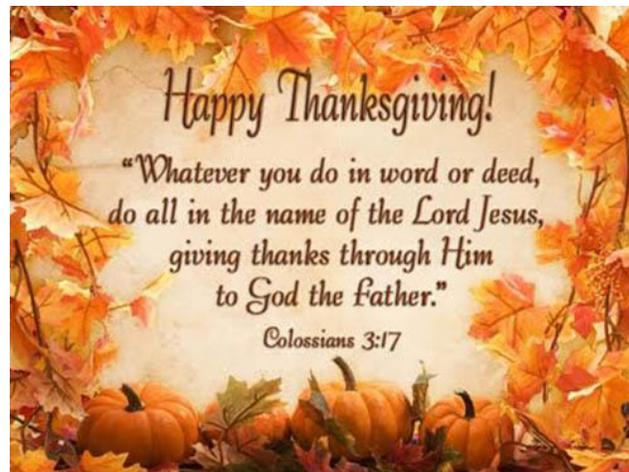
Many of our warriors carry scars in their hearts as well as on their bodies. Dark memories haunt their dreams at night. Fears cloud their waking hours. Jesus, you came to give us abundant life by providing a way for us to release our pain to you. On the cross you bore our sorrows and brokenness and when we trust you, we can exchange our wounds for your joy in a future unhindered by fate. Bring this gift now to the veterans of our nation who bear tangible and intangible wounds. Heal them, Jesus.

Bless the families of soldiers who bear these pains vicariously. Give them patience and wisdom and strength to endure, and more than endure to hope in faith for a blessed life. God, not everything that happens in life is good. But you promise to work all things together for good to those who love you and align their lives with your purpose. Create good in the families of veterans who have experienced pain and loss. Do this miracle, we pray.

We honor our veterans in your name. We thank you – as we thank them – for their sacrifice. We ask you to return to them the favor of your blessing, a gift we on our own could never offer. We ask that you would give our veterans a peace beyond the peace they fought to secure, a peace in their own hearts, wrapped in the joy of a life touched by your strong hand. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Prayer for All Military members and families:

God of compassion, we pray for military personnel, offered for the sake of others, and separated from family and loved ones. Care for them; meet their needs. Grant them courage, compassion, strength, and all they need for the living of these days. Sustain them through their every trial. Remind them of the humanity they share even with those who are called "the enemy;" through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.



🌀🌀🌀 A man goes to the Doctor, worried about his wife's temper.

The Doctor asks: "What's the problem?" The man says: "Doctor, I don't know what to do. Every day my wife seems to lose her temper for no reason. It scares me."

The Doctor says: "I have a cure for that. When it seems that your wife is getting angry, just take a glass of water and start swishing it in your mouth. Just swish and swish but don't swallow it until she either leaves the room or calms down."

Two weeks later the man comes back to the doctor looking fresh and reborn. The man says: "Doctor that was a brilliant idea! Every time my wife started losing it, I swished with water. I swished and swished, and she calmed right down! How does a glass of water do that?"

The Doctor says: "The water itself does nothing. It's keeping your mouth shut that does the trick".

🌀🌀🌀 Three friends decided to go deer hunting together. One was a lawyer, one a doctor, and the other a preacher. As they were walking, along came a big buck. The three of them shot simultaneously. Immediately the buck dropped to the ground and all three rushed up to see how big it actually was.

Upon reaching it they found out that it was dead but had only one bullet hole. Thus a debate followed concerning whose buck it was.

A few minutes later a game officer came by and asked what the problem was. The doctor told him their reason for the debate. The officer told them he would take a look and tell them who shot it.

Within a few seconds the game officer said with much confidence, "The pastor shot the buck!" They all wondered how he knew that so quickly.

The officer said, "Easy. The bullet went in one ear and out the other."



Lathrop UMC
P.O. Box 15
Lathrop, MO 64465

🌀🌀🌀 **As a trucker stops** at a red light, a woman catches up. She jumps out of her car, runs up to his truck, and knocks on the door. The trucker lowers the window, and she says "Hi, my name is Heather and you're losing some of your load."

The trucker ignores her and proceeds down the street. When the truck stops for another red light, the girl catches up again. She jumps out of her car, runs up and knocks on the door. Again, the trucker lowers the window. As if they've never spoken, the blonde says brightly, "Hi my name is Heather, and you are losing some of your load!"

Shaking his head, the trucker ignores her again and continues down the street. At the third red light, the same thing happens again. All out of breath, the woman gets out of her car, runs up, knocks on the truck door. The trucker lowers the window. Again she says "Hi, my name is Heather, and you are losing some of your load!"

When the light turns green the trucker revs up and races to the next light. When he stops this time, he hurriedly gets out of the truck, and runs back to the blonde's car. He knocks on her window, and as she lowers it, he says "Hi, my name is Kevin, it's Winter in Missouri and I'm driving the SALT TRUCK!"

TAKE 5 MINUTES TO PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER