



LATHROP UMC

NEWSLETTER



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

FEBRUARY 2016

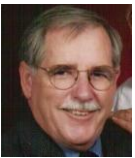
lathropumc.newsletter@live.com
www.facebook.com/UMECathrop
www.lathropumc.org

Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye *even* to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he *is* gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

Joel 2: 12-13

FROM OUR PASTORS' DESKS

Richard's Raps



The congregation will begin its Lenten observance on Ash Wednesday (February 10th) with an evening "Ash" service. Ash Wednesday is a special time in the life of Christians; as it is the time when we increase our spiritual disciplines in order to "draw closer" to God. Many people will give something up for Lent as a way to remind themselves that God gave Himself up for humanity. Most Christians will spend more time in prayer, attend bible studies, and practice the discipline of fasting. Mother Teresa once said, "Pray for me that I not loosen my grip on the hands of Jesus . . ." Richard Foster writes this about her statement, "That is our first task: to grip the hands of Jesus with such tenacity that we are obliged to follow His lead, to seek first His Kingdom. The next step is so simple I am almost embarrassed to mention it, and yet it is so important that I must. Begin now to obey Him in every way you can." During Lent (and throughout the whole year) let us follow Mother Teresa's admonition and pray for each other to "tighten our grip" on the hands of Jesus; that's the meaning of Lent!



BIBLE TRIVIA True or false: After Jesus answered the questions by the Pharisees, Sadducees, and a lawyer, they sought all the more to trick Him with questions. (*Answers found elsewhere in newsletter.*)

Ted's Ponderings

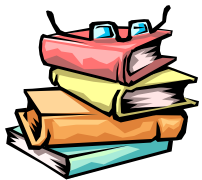
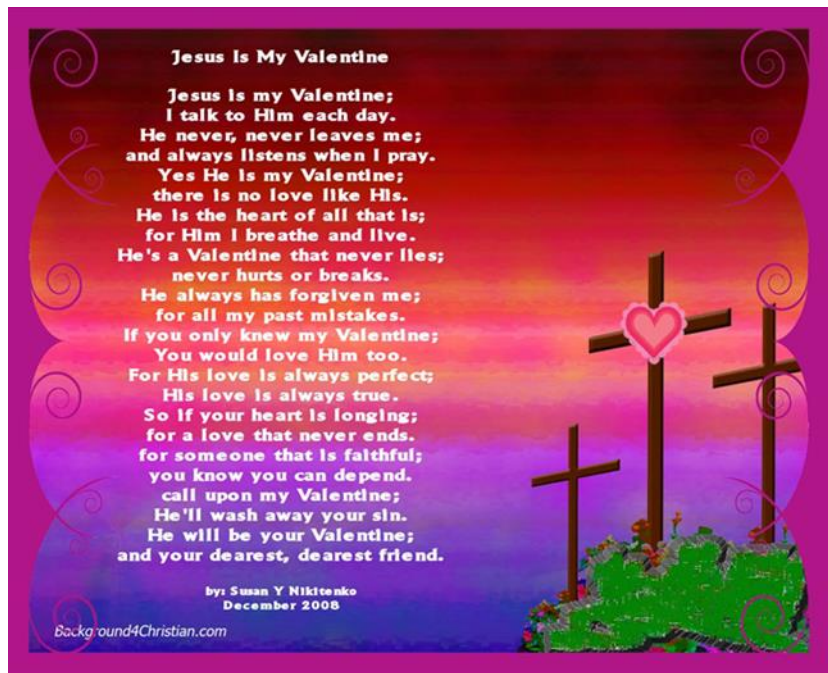


Welcome to February 2016! This year is really moving along. According to the grocery stores and shopping malls, the big event is Valentine's Day, February 14th. Their shelves and displays are filled with valentines, candy and jewelry. Oh, by the way, since its Leap Year, February also had 29 days and does include Presidents' Day and Ground Hog Day. For some states it will include a presidential primary election.

It is a very important month for the church, especially at Lathrop UMC. Wednesday, February 10th is Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m. The following week we will begin the adult Bible study, *John the Gospel of Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton, a study of the Gospel of John in the New Testament. This will be for the four weeks on Wednesdays from February 17th to March 9th starting at 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. A lite lunch will be served from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. Followed by the study from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

This seems to be especially appropriate for Valentine's Day since the Gospel of John has been said to be God's love story to mankind; "For God so loved the World.." John 3:16.

Be good. Be well. Pray for one another daily.



THE CHURCH LIBRARY BECKONS FROM ITS PAGES

Everybody’s Normal Till You Get to Know Them

By John Ortberg

The need for community is woven into the very fabric of our being. But there’s a hitch in our experience of community, says John Ortberg: We’re all weird. Folks around us may seem normal enough, but just wait till we get to know them—and they get to know us. In Everybody’s Normal Till You Get to Know Them, Ortberg reveals his insights using a lighten-up approach. With humor and fondness for well-spun stories, he pops the myth of normalcy and hands us the keys to creating and sustaining relationships. “God’s dream for community encompasses the redemption of all spheres of life,” he says. He opens our eyes and hearts to empathy, the art of reading people. He takes us through the ins and outs of conflict, forgiveness, confrontation, inclusion, and gratitude. This book is down –to-earth, educational, and fun to read.

Chocolate Beach

By Julie Carobini

Bri Stone seems to have it all: wonderful husband, beach bungalow, and a dream job as a Southern California tour bus host. Bri Stone seems to have problems too: a know-it-all friend, a snobby mother-in-law, and her boss. Will Bri need to reinvent herself? How will God work in her life this time?

OUR BLESSINGS



December is a wonderful month for giving and our church definitely knows how to give. The “Baby Grace Ministry” became a special program for the month. Pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, dollar bills, and checks all added up to\$190: \$90 from the children’s piggy bank and \$100 from donations in the offering plates. WHAT A WONDERFUL WAY TO END THE YEAR!

In the January Newsletter it stated that “WE HAVE THE MONEY TO PAY OUR APPORTIONMENTS!” How much are apportionments?

DATES TO REMEMBER



FEBRUARY 2016

2 Groundhog Day	
6 Community Men's Breakfast	7:00 a.m.
Hosted by Assembly of God Church	
7 United Methodist Men's Breakfast	7:30 a.m.
9 Admin. Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
10 ASH WEDNESDAY Service	7:00 p.m.
14 Valentine's Day	
14 Fellowship Dinner following Worship Service	12:00
17 Lenten Book Study and Lite Meal	6:30-8:00 p.m.
22-26 UMC Deliver Meals-On-Wheels	
24 Lenten Book Study and Lite Meal	6:30-8:00 p.m.

USHERS FOR FEBRUARY

Gerald Snodgrass & Griffin Hensen



BIRTHDAYS

2...Rayanna Doudna
 2...Jennifer Stark
 10...Jill Bergee
 16...Ralph Rupe
 17...Jennifer Stark
 19...James Aldrich
 25...Steve Jelinek



ANNIVERSARY

19...Keith & Norella Beane
 29...Jared & Heather May



CARES AND CONCERNS

Gerry McKee	Dean McKee
Jack Day	Jon Carter
Wilma Tippit	Barry Todd
Neoma Lottman	Judy Dexter
Mike Dickerson	Billy Webster
Estyl Bowers	Larry & Cathy Payne
Carmen Stone	Alyssa Dial
Robert Ewens	Shelby Ewens
Marguerite Pulliam	Brittany Kistner
Lou Todd	Lillian Harrell
All Travelers	Our Community
Our Military	Our Veterans
Our Church	Our Pastors
The Children & Youth of our Church	

**ALWAYS KEEP
 JESUS IN YOUR
 HEART**

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.

ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2015

Barry Todd reports that attendance at Sunday Worship Service has been good the past several months. November had an average of 54 people each Sunday and December's average was 78.25 (Add in the Christmas Eve Service attendance and the Dec. average is 84.6). Total of attendance for both months during worship is 693. Help us grow...Invite a friend!

LOCAL CHURCH OFFICIALS FOR 2016

Members of the Administration Council

Chair of the Administrative Council	Ed Stark	528-3277
Lay Member to the Annual Conference	Kathy Mydland	582-3780
Co-Lay Leaders	Barbara Hardin	528-3444
	Kathy Mydland	528-3780
Secretary of the Administrative Council	Caty Payne	528-3180
Pastor Parish Chair	Kathy Gateley	528-4554
Trustee Chair		
Chair of Finance	Lori Snodgrass	547-6688
Financial Secretary	Barry Todd	528-3476
Treasurer	Lori Snodgrass	547-6688
Worship	Jessica Aldrich	539-8182
Education	Kathy Mydland	528-3780
Outreach/Nurture	Barry Todd	528-3476
Memorial		
Membership	Barry Todd	528-3476
Scholarship	Lori Snodgrass	547-6688
Kitchen	Wilma Griffin	528-3184
Members at Large	Porter Hensen	740-3699
	Norella Beane	740-4419
	Sherry Carson	539-0267
	Rebekah Wilson	719-1922
	Kathy Gateley	528-4554
	Youth Members:	Rachel Martin
	Alex May	528-3165

The Administration Council Meetings are “open” to all who wish to attend and to contribute conversation to the business of the council.

CHURCH NAME Lathrop **DISRICT** Northwest **CHARGE** Lathrop Conference Church # 4029

REQUIRED COMMITTEE

CHARGE PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (¶ 285.2—Must be professing members; 5-9 members, including a young adult (age 19-30) and may include one youth (age 12-18).

Lay Member to Annual Conference	Kathy Mydland	
Lay Leader (if not included elsewhere):	Barbara Hardin – Kathy Mydland	
Committee Chair (included in a class below):	Kathy Gateley	
Class of 2016 (1 yr term)	Class of 2017 (2 yr term)	Class of 2018 (3 yr term)
Kathy Mydland	Pete Bonar	Trish Martin
Norella Beane	Cheryl Snodgrass	Kathy Gateley
Steve Wilson	Heather May	Suellen Pollard

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (¶ 258.3 & 2525-2551: 3-9 members, recommend at least 1/3 laywomen; at least 2/3 are to be professing members)

Class of 2016 (1 yr term)	Class of 2017 (2 yr term)	Class of 2018 (3 yr term)
Ed Stark	Gerald Snodgrass	Joe Gagnon
Porter Hensen	Terry Carson	Mika Hufford
Donna Jelinek/Pete Bonar adv.	Lisa Wilson	Wilma Griffin

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (§258.1 Must be professing members; not more than 9 members plus lay leader; shall include at least one young adult)

Pastor (Chairperson): Hepner/Ogden

Vice-Chair (from Committee)

Lay Leader: Barbara Hardin/Kathy Mydland

Class of 2016 (1 yr term)	Class of 2017 (2 yr term)	Class of 2018 (3 yr term)
James Aldrich	Brenda Bonar	Heather May/Kathy Gateley
Trish Martin	Cheryl Snodgrass	Sherry Carson
Don Griffin/Cathy Payne	Ed Stark	Jessica Aldrich

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (§258.2 Financial Secretary, Treasurer and Church Business Administrator cannot vote if paid employee)

Chairperson	Lay Member-Annual Conf.	Alternative Lay Member-AC	Council Chairperson	PPR (Representative or chair)	Trustees (Representative)	Stewardship Chairperson	Lay Leader	Financial Secretary	Church Treasurer	Church Business Admin.	Other	Other
Lori Snodgrass	Kathy Mydland	Barbara Hardin	Ed Stark	Kathy Gateley	Terry Carson	Lori Snodgrass	B. Hardin/K. Mydland	Barry Todd	Lori Snodgrass		Mitzi Hensen	Scholarship\Cathy Payne

COMMITTEES FOR 2016

Worship

Chair: Jessica Aldrich
Malore Johnson
Mandy Beane
Trish Martin (Communion to Shut-ins)
Barry Todd & Cassidy Hensen (Communion set-up)
Heather May

Education

Chair: Kathy Mydland
Donna Jelenik
Steve Jelinek
Porter Hensen
Pat Wagner
Bryan Johnson
Special Events: Kathy Gateley & Steve Wilson

Safe Sanctuary

Local Church Administrator: Kathy Mydland
Committee:
Pastors
Chairs of :
Administration Council
Pastor Parrish
Trustees
Education
Porter Hensen

Memorial

Wilma Griffin
Porter Hensen

Outreach/Nurture

Chair: Barry Todd
Committee Chosen as Needed

Scholarship (under finance committee)

Pastors
Admin. Chair
Cathy Payne

Kitchen

Chair: Wilma Griffin
Neoma Lottman
Barbara Hardin
Terry Carson
Lou Todd
Mitzi Hensen
Sherry Carson
Lisa Wilson
DeLayne Wilson

LENTEN 2016 BOOK STUDY

A four-week Lenten Book Study will begin on Wednesday, February 17th. Pastors have chosen the book *John the Gospel of Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton. The Rev. Reverend Adam Hamilton is the founding pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, and grew up in the Kansas City area. About the book: The Gospel of John is the most deeply spiritual of the four gospels. It includes some of the loftiest and most loved verses in all the Bible: "And the Word became flesh...", "For God so loved the world...", "You who are without sin cast the first stone...", "I am the resurrection and the life...", "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." The writing is filled with rich images and profound truths, but John notes that his aim in writing the gospel is that his readers will not only believe in Jesus Christ, but that they "may have life in his name."

As in past years, you are invited to join in a lite meal that will be served in the Fellowship hall prior to the book study at 6:30 p.m. Book Study will start at 7:00 and last approximately 1 hour.
(Bible Trivia Answer: False; they asked no more questions. Matthew 22:46)



LATHROP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
BOX 15
LATHROP, MO 64465

ARTHUR AND THE OLDER BROTHER-IN-LAW

Arthur is 90 years old. He's played golf every day since his retirement 25 years ago. One day he arrives home looking downcast. "That's it," he tells his wife. "I'm giving up golf. My eyesight has gotten so bad that once I've hit the ball I couldn't see where it went."

His wife sympathizes and makes him a cup of tea. As they sit down she says, "Why don't you take my brother with you and give it one more try."

"That's no good" sighs Arthur, "your brother's a hundred and three. He can't help."

"He may be a hundred and three", says the wife, "but his eyesight is perfect."

So the next day Arthur heads off to the golf course with his brother-in-law. He tees up, takes an almighty swing and squints down the fairway. He turns to the brother-in-law. "Did you see the ball?"

"Of course I did!" replied the brother-in-law. "I have perfect eyesight".

"Where did it go?" says Arthur.

"I don't remember."

TAKE FIVE MINUTES TO PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER