

THE CROSS ROAD

EUREKA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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THE EUREKA UM CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT: TO KNOW, LOVE, AND SERVE GOD

JULY/AUGUST 2021

From the  Pastors Heart

Dear Church Family,

Worship has been sooooo good this summer. I have felt a good spirit in our Sanctuary. Of course some will not be happy with the time (too early- too late), or the music (too traditional, too contemporary). Todays world is do it my way or I will quit and go somewhere else; but I feel worship has to do with Jesus, not us. "Turn your eyes upon Jesus and look full in his wonderful face, and the things of this world (our wants, our criticisms) will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace". Focus on Jesus and you will find worship come alive for you. An old Black spiritual says , 'I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus" Is yours?

I am enjoying my visits and I will continue till I get them all in even if that takes me to the end of the year.

God Bless You All,

Pastor Ted A

SUMMER SERMON SERIES—GOD IN THE MOVIES!

July 11— “The Wizard of Oz” What do you do when a storm enters your life without warning! Tuba solo by Pastor Ted A.

July 18 — “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade” How do we step out in faith.

July 25— “Star Wars—A New Hope” The power of the Holy Spirit. What is the Holy Spirit.

Aug 1— “Places of the Heart” How does God’s grace and Holy Communion help us not to hate and allow us to forgive.

Aug 8 & 15—Sermons to be arranged

Aug. 22—”How to talk like a Christian” Ephesians 4: 25 - 5:2

Aug. 29 - The Compassion of the Christ. Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

PORCH VISITS

Come, lets sit a while....

When people used to come by and visit it would be on the front porch or back porch (at my parents house it was the carport). With a cool glass of tea or lemonade, people would laugh and share their lives with each other (sometimes with a tear). This summer in July I want to come by and visit. The visit will be no longer than an hour at the most and can be on a porch, carport, or front steps, (even inside if you feel comfortable). I still feel like we don’t know each other well enough. You are my flock and church family and I want to be your pastor. I will be contacting you to set up a time. I also am fine if you would like to come to my house. I have a porch and a deck. Lets get to know each other as pastor and congregation. ~ Pastor Ted A.

BACK PACK SUNDAY

School will start for students, teachers and parents on August 13th. After a strange year our prayers are for a normal year with activities, sports, concerts and classroom learning. On August 22 during worship I would like to bless the backpacks and students and teachers and support staff of all education levels (Pre School, Elementary school ,Middle School , High School and College). Please be present for this special service.

DIRECTORY

We are working on a new church directory and we need your picture!

Now through Labor Day we have one service on Sunday starting at 9 a.m. Please stop by the Fellowship Hall after the service and let Sandi Sylvester quickly take your picture. There is coffee and snacks you can enjoy as well!

We want to finish this as quickly as possible so please come by before the end of July. We can work with your vacation schedule! You can also send a picture to Jenny in the office.

TEACHER APPRECIATION 2021

This year we will be collecting items for a teacher appreciation bag for the 3 elementary schools teaching staff. Last year we did the middle School and the presentation was well received. Nancy Hoelscher will be our leader for this event, We will present them the first of September. We will start collecting the first of August till August 22nd. There will be a table set up in foyer for the collection. Thanks for your giving heart.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

August 23rd from 10:00 - 7:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

JULY MISSION EMPHASIS: EUREKA AREA FOOD PANTRY

During July we are asking you to donate to the Eureka Area Food Pantry. The Eureka Area Food Pantry serves residents of School District 140 (Eureka, Goodfield, Congerville). Just a few years ago the average number of families served per month was 68. This number has increased greatly. Many of the clients are temporary – just until they can get a job and get back on their feet. Others are long-term – senior citizens, disabled people, etc. The Pantry is open one morning per week – Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30. They rely totally on donations of food and money plus a couple of small grants. We take donations year round, but we have chosen July to highlight the constant need to our congregation. There is a Food Pantry tub outside the church office. If you make a check donation, be sure that it is marked for the Food Pantry.

AUG. MISSION EMPHASIS: MIDWEST DISTRIBUTION CENTER

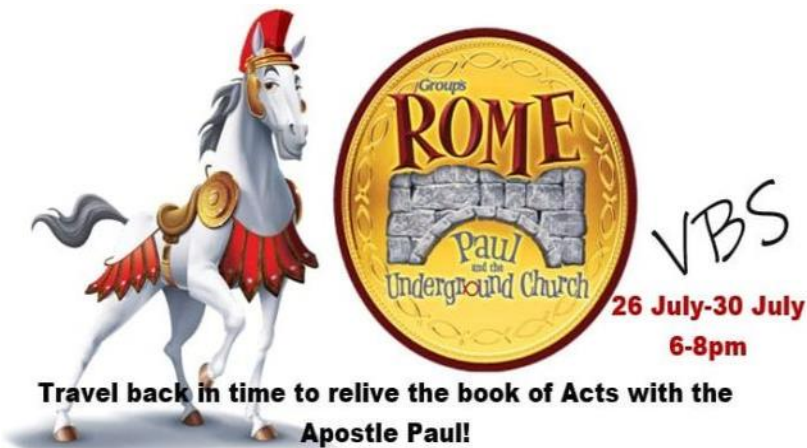
Since opening for ministry in 2000, Midwest Mission has been showing God’s Love in practical ways through the distribution of education, health, micro-business, and disaster relief supplies meeting basic human needs around the world and around the corner. A “hands-on” mission experience is provided to those who serve at Midwest Mission which brings hope to those receiving supplies.

HEARTLINE OPERATION BACKPACK

Operation Backpack is an equalizing program where Woodford County children, rich or poor, start out the school year just like everyone else - with new school supplies! Last year we served over 165 children in need. This year the sign up for Operation Backpack begins the first week of July, and we are asking that all school supply donations be delivered to Heartline and Heart House **by July 26th**. If you know of any children who reside in Woodford County and need help with school supplies, please refer their parents to Heartline. We would love to reach out to and help as many children as possible!

Thank you!
Brenna Taufer
Heartline Program Manager
(309)467-6101 Ext: 2 brenna@heartlineandhearhouse.org

2021 VBS JULY 26 — JULY 30, 6-8PM



**RIGHT CLICK HERE
OPEN LINK TO
VOLUNTEER OR
SIGN UP YOUR
KIDDOS!**



[https://vbspro.events/p/
events/1c5dc4](https://vbspro.events/p/events/1c5dc4)

During VBS we will see what it was like in ancient Rome witnessing some of the early church's historic moments.

Explore a crowded marketplace, tiptoe past watchful Roman guards, encourage first-century Christians who meet in a dark cave, race chariots, and visit Paul for daily discoveries about God's love.

KIWANIS PET EVENT-SATURDAY AUG. 28

The Eureka Kiwanis (Pastor and a number of members belong) are hosting an event for people and their pets from 10-2 at the Lake Pavilion. Many groups will have a booth. Our church will have a pet blessing station with Pastor Ted A. giving a blessing and giving the animal a blessing and then giving the owner some information about our church. We could use a couple of volunteers to help Pastor that day.

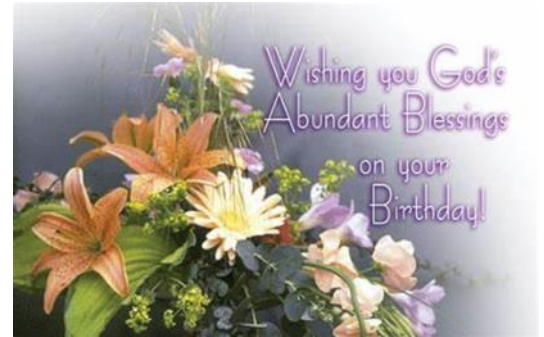
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

July Birthday's:

5 Al Hinnen
6 Jadon Bunting
10 Marilyn Bachman
18 Dennis Crouch
29 Andy Schertz

August Birthday's:

5 Alexis Lehigh
11 Sue Knepp
13 Jim Kenagy
17 Clara Neaveill
18 Bill Baer
31 Paul Attig



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

July Anniversary's:

1 Dennis and Joy Crouch
9 Gary and Sue Knepp

August Anniversary's

4 Ron and Vada Schertz
30 Tim and Sandi Sylvester



FROM THE CROW'S NEST

Many of you have prayed for me, reached out through a phone call, or sent a lovely get well card. I am immeasurably blessed by you. The month of June, and a little bit in July I've been unwell. Infection after infection. Hard to talk, difficult to breathe, sleepless nights. I do all I can to fix it, but something else comes up, a new hurdle. Last night I was at the pharmacy filling yet another prescription, and the Holy Spirit met me right where I was. A young lady was standing in front of me and her t shirt said "Let go and let God". I have seen this saying so many times. But last night, I stared at it, couldn't look away, and had a conversation like no other.

As I read her shirt, I felt a stillness come over me. A deep wave of "finally" washed over me. I broke down inside. It was powerful. In the Walmart pharmacy, the why me, the pity party of 1, the month of uuuggghh what's next; was silenced by a t shirt. I began to have a conversation with who I can only describe as the Holy Spirit. I felt a release as I acknowledged that I have been burdened and I have not laid those burdens down before God, but have kept them as my own to bear. I felt ashamed to learn in my frustration, when I continued asking why me, why him, why her, and what's next, that God was indeed with me, but my cries of frustration were louder than His whispers of assurance. Rest....be still....be quiet... were repeated over and over to me. Let go and let God.... let God what I asked. I pray to Him, I thank Him...Yes but do you listen to Him, hear Him, trust in Him. Well yes, I think I do. Do I? Its not that I don't want to because I do, but my life is noisy and sometimes stormy and I have to be in control or....again it was repeated... rest...be still... be quiet. Instead of listening to the noise of your worries, listen to the voice God. He remains the same. He remains loyal and loving. Be still, stop paying attention to the storm. He has already proved that He can calm any storm. God is in control. He can do all things. Stop trying to fix everyone and everything and trust in Him instead. As I continued to sit, stare and listen, it became clear what June was about; it was more than being sick. It took a month for God to still me, forcing me to be quiet so that I can hear Him, trust in Him to handle the noise, the storms, the burdens. Can you imagine trying to teach someone something so simple, that they have to be knocked off their feet for a month and found in a pharmacy staring at a t shirt just to get through to them!

On the way home from the pharmacy and this morning on the way in to work, Lauren Daigle's *Trust in You* was on the radio. OK, I'm listening, and I hear You.....~Jen

JULY MINISTRY CALENDAR

Sunday, July 4 Happy Independence Day!
10:00 AM - Community Worship at Eureka Lake

Monday, July 5 Church Office Closed
6:00 PM - Hospitality Meeting

Sunday, July 11 Wizard of Oz
9:00 AM - Worship Service, Communion
10:00 AM - Fellowship

Tuesday, July 13
10:00 AM - Pastor at University UMC for training

Wednesday, July 14
6:30 PM - Choir practice

Thursday, July 15
9:00 AM - Noon - District Clergy meeting

Sunday, July 18 Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade
9:00 AM - Worship Service
10:00 AM - Fellowship

Wednesday, July 21
Noon - Kiwanis
6:30 PM - Choir practice

Sunday, July 25 Star Wars
9:00 AM - Worship Service
10:00 AM - Fellowship

Monday, July 26 - Friday, July 30
6:00 PM - VBS!

AUGUST MINISTRY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 1 Places of the Heart
9:00 AM - Worship Service, Communion

Sunday, August 8
9:00 AM - Worship Service
10:00 AM - Fellowship

Wednesday, August 12
Noon - Pest Control spray scheduled

Sunday, August 15
9:00 AM - Worship Service
10:00 AM - Fellowship

Sunday, August 22 Back to School Blessings
9:00 AM - Worship Service
10:00 AM - Fellowship

Monday, August 23 Red Cross
10:00 AM - 7:00 PM - Blood Drive

Saturday, August 28
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Kiwanis Pet Event

Sunday, August 29
9:00 AM - Worship Service
10:00 AM - Fellowship

JULY/AUGUST SUNDAY GREETERS

July 11 - Vickie Ridle

July 18 - Linda Anderson

July 25 - Paul & Norma Attig

August 1 - Larry & Lois Bonin

August 8 - Marilyn Lamb & Rosalee Shanklin

August 15 - Karen Langley & Alice Zimmerman

August 22 - Gary & Judy Robenstein

August 29 - Lou Strong & Richard Small