

First United Methodist Church  
418 North Rock Street  
Minneapolis, KS 67467

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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Rev. Dr. Kennedy F. Mukwindidza,  
Ada/Minneapolis United Methodist Church  
Residence: 503 Elm St. Minneapolis Ks 67467  
Pastor Mukwindidza’s Cell: 620-382-5480  
Church: 418 N. Rock St., Minneapolis, KS  
Church Phone No.: (785) 392-3029

THE COMMUNICATOR  
2017



Ada/Minneapolis United Methodist Community  
Christ’s Ambassadors by Inviting, Sharing, Nurturing and Forgiving

From the Heart of the Pastor!

In the bible and especially in the gospel of Matthew, Jesus taught about forgiveness in a number of ways... In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus taught his disciples to forgive as they have been forgiven; “Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors!” It sounds as if forgiveness is a result of our forgiving our debtors. Or put differently, forgiveness on our part is the result of the realization of what God has done to us in terms of forgiveness. We have been forgiven so much that we ought to forgive!

Later on, Peter seems to be annoyed by the behavior of his fellow congregants who consistently wronged one another to the extent that work and ministry seem to be affected. He came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times must I forgive a member who wrongs me? As many as seven times?” Jesus' response shocked Peter; “Seventy times seven times!” One has to keep a ledger and a marker to count how many times each wrongs another. This Charge Conference season we may need to elect some people to keep the count!

Then in Matthew 18: 21 – 35, Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants; the parable of the Unforgiving Debtor! This parable forces us to reflect on forgiveness. In this parable, forgiveness is both an extravagant in the extreme and more precious by far than the wages of sin. Forgiveness is a thing we cannot do on our own; but by the grace and God. In the gospel of Matthew, forgiveness is relational, reciprocal as well as reliant! In answering the disciples' request for help in praying, Jesus teaches them that forgiveness is reciprocal; both the giving and receiving of it; one cannot have it without doing it! “For if you forgive others their sins, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father your sins.” In answering Peter's request for help in understanding how far forgiveness needs to go, Jesus teaches that God's forgiveness surpasses both our deserving and our comprehension of it; we who have first been forgiven must, therefore and there upon, forgive those who have wronged us so much so lightly.

Forgiveness lies at the heart of our faith in God and our love of one another. Forgiveness, which we receive from God our King in the person of Jesus is what our King expects from his subjects in their dealings with one another. The world is at war! The church must stand up and raise the flag of forgiveness! There is so much hate and discontent both in the church and in the public square.

Being corrected is painful, for it brings to mind how we have failed, especially how we have let down those we love. Asking for forgiveness is an act of humility. And yet perhaps as challenging as asking for forgiveness is the granting of forgiveness. After all, forgiveness heals relationships by requiring us to let go, to turn the page, to refuse the right to hold on to bitterness and anger. Forgiveness in short, sets things right again! Forgiveness is a powerful healing force but also an incredibly difficult thing to receive or share.

Forgive us our sins as we also have forgiven those who have sinned against us; as a prayer this puts the emphasis on what we will receive in turn for the forgiveness we have offered. Forgive your sister or brother from the heart; the parable turns the tables, teaching us that we have been first forgiven and encouraging us to forgive in turn. Taken together, this is a composite picture of the kingdom of heaven, and the kingdom we practice, both of which are driven by forgiveness!

Thank you all. See you all in church!  
Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza.



## OCTOBER EVENTS AND

### SCHEDULES

#### ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 - Jeff & Tamala Lott  
16 - Dr. Kermit & Kathleen Wedel

#### BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Justin Abell and Jaylee Abell  
(Father & Daughter)  
4 - Daryl Stone  
10 - Coby Grimes  
12 - Kermit Shipley  
16 - Lanny Zadina and Daren Sanders  
23 - Lane Sanders  
27 - Mary Ann Tasker

#### ACOLYTES

- 1 - Braxton & Bracen Grimes  
8 - Joel Abell and Braedee Weatherman  
15 - Paul and Kaleb Ocker  
22 - Maddy and Dalton Krueger  
29 - Conner and Jordan Peck

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGES

- 1 - Jill Runnion  
8 - Puppeteers  
15 - Tamala Lott  
22 - Cassie Bohl  
29 - Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza

#### GREETERS

- 1 - Blythe Atwell & Paul Muller  
8 - Youth Sunday  
15 - Bruce & Gretchen Cleveland  
22 - Jane & Eldin Smith  
29 - Jane & Eldin Smith

#### LITURGISTS

- 1 - Shayla Bailey  
8 - Youth Sunday  
15 - Nick Krueger  
22 - Nick Krueger  
29 - Steve Baccus

### NURSERY HELPERS

- 1 - Deb Pounds & Becky McDuffee  
8 - Rosalee Tibbits & Becky McDuffee  
15 - Kristi & Paul Ocker & Becky  
McDuffee  
22 - Angel Constable & Becky McDuffee  
29 - Barb Kibler & Becky McDuffee

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES - ADULT

Adult Sunday School Class meets every  
Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. Following  
are the lessons that will be discussed in  
October.

- 1 - God's Covenant with Abram  
8 - God's Covenant with Israel  
15 - God's Written Covenant  
22 - God's Covenant with David  
29 - God's Covenant with the Returned  
Exiles

#### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

October 17 - 7:00 p.m. UMW Unit Meeting

#### OUTREACH/FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE...

.....will be feeding the FCA Youth Group on  
10-4 at the Minneapolis High School.  
Donations are needed either at the church  
on the 4<sup>th</sup> by 5p.m. or the High School by  
6p.m. Items needed: 1 gallon nacho  
cheese; 1 large bag of shredded cheese  
(from Sam's or several small bags); 2 large  
bags of shredded lettuce (from Sam's or  
several small bags); 4 pans of brownies; 6  
dozen cookies. Sign up sheet is on the  
church office window.

#### DILLONS REWARDS

If you have a Dillon's plus account  
and an e-mail address: Search  
Dillon's Community Rewards  
Sign in OR create an account - Click  
on "Enroll Now" - Enter the 5-digit  
NPO  
and search: First United Methodist  
Church No. is 24771

THE ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER HAS  
BEEN CHANGED TO STEAK DINNER!

When: November 8

From: 5-7 P.M.

(Carry out will begin at 4:30 p.m.)

#### MENU

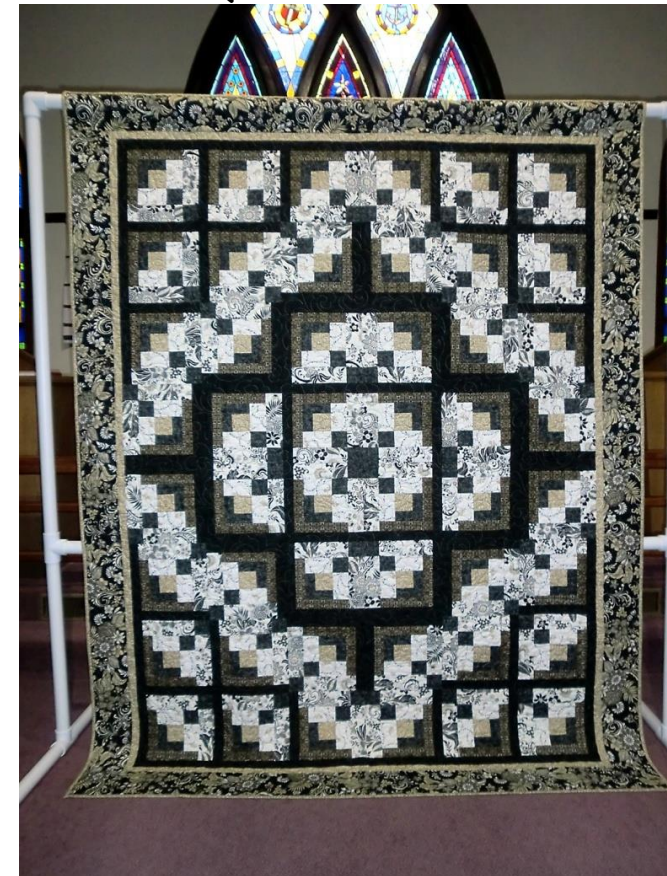
Grilled Steak, potatoes, vegetable, roll  
and dessert.



Dear First United Methodist Church & Mr. Barthel,  
Thank you for your generous donation of  
\$445.00 towards our "Make A Splash" project.  
Donations such as yours allow us to serve  
over 1200 campers, as we did this year!  
God bless you & thanks again!  
The staff at Camp Horizon

Diana  
Beth  
Shirley  
Kathy

### QUILT RAFFLE



Mary Ann Tasker has made the above  
displayed beautiful quilt that has been  
machine quilted by Kathryn Perney.  
Following is pertinent information about  
the Quilt Raffle:

Quilt size: 70 X 88

The drawing will be November 8, 2017  
at the Steak Dinner Church Fund  
Raiser

Tickets are sold at \$1.00 each

Tickets are available from:

Church members

Church office (785) 392-3029

Mon. - Fri. 7 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Chamber of Commerce

(785) 392-3068

Tues. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



JUDITH S. PICKRELL  
120 N Second Avenue  
Minneapolis, Ks. 67467

August 22, 2017

Dear Christian Friends,

Sooner than we can imagine, we will be celebrating one of our most sacred holidays, the birth of our Lord Jesus. Like every Christmas season, it seems to be upon us before we can even imagine and you are probably wondering why anyone would be contacting you in the heat of August about something four months away. This request comes seeking your prayers for the wonderful work of "OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD".

If you have not heard of this program or participated in the past, let me briefly explain that it is a wonderful way to spread the word of God and His plan of salvation to children around the world who wouldn't have a Christmas otherwise or hear the true Christmas story.

In every box the child receives a colorful explanation of "why" they are receiving their Christmas Gift Box. This gift is more than just a few trinkets, it is the first outreach to teach the children and their families about Jesus and the Bible. Every effort is made for follow-up to this experience by Christian workers in their area to continue the teaching. It has been very successful, but like everything we as Christians try to accomplish for the Lord, we know that if our efforts are to succeed, we need to continue to seek the Lord's guidance and blessings on the entire process.

This letter is prayerfully asking you to pray regularly for these efforts, perhaps you can add it to your daily prayer list. It takes a large number of individuals to bring about the completion of the program. Hopefully, every church in our area will have at least one person to represent their church as a liaison to the program. If your church has not participated in the past and you are interested in doing so you might want to consider attending a "Project Leader Workshop" being held in Salina, at the Crossroads Church on May 28, at 6:30PM to learn more about the program & its function. If you have further questions you can contact Evelyn Hyde, Minneapolis.

Prayerfully submitted,

*Judi Pickrell*  
Judi Pickrell

# October Happenings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	aturday
1 World Communion Sunday Conner Peck plays trumpet for church	2	3	4 6:00 p.m. Feed FCA Youth Group at High School	5 p a g e 3	6 Silent Auction items due at the church	7
8 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Dinner hosted by 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade & up SS students and families. Silent Auction starts	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 7:00 p.m. UMW Unit Meeting	18 9 – 12 Salina Clergy Gathering	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 6-9 p.m. Movie & Pizza for Noah's Ark Preschool Children & Parents	28
29 Bell Choir Plays for church 11 am - ?? Church is reserved for OCMA Toy Run	30 Charge Conf. Booklets are due today.	31 9:30 a.m. Pastor Peer Group				

## How to Get People to WANT To Come to Your Church

Written & Copyrighted by: John Squiric, Church Marketing Consultant and COO Truth Advertising

Before you can understand how to attract people to your church, you need to understand the basic psychological factors that people experience before they decide to attend a new church. Here is a recent statement from an unknown internet blogger about church. "Church is repetitious, predictable and a meaningless ritual. I would rather sleep in. I work hard all week and I deserve it!" - unknown author.

After most of my adult life being in the marketing field, I stand by the following statement. "The reason people do not attend church is because they see no benefit in attending."

Look at the top five reasons for attending church on a recent pastor's blog. I found during an internet search on "why we should attend church."

1. Because it is an act of obedience to God and it honors the Lord's Day. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy (Exodus 20:8).
2. Because we need to belong to a community of faith that includes our brothers and sisters in Christ who are trying to live out the gospel just like we are.
3. Because we will benefit from being taught and led to worship by others, rather than always depending on ourselves to read and study the Bible.
4. Because we need regular reminders of our standing in Christ, help in acknowledging and confessing our sins, and teaching about God's truth.
5. Because we need help in praying, tithing, and fasting.

Really? That's the best we can come up as to why people should come to church? They are all sound reasons and true benefits of attending church, but it sounds like something my grandma would say. No offense to the older crowd, but it's typically the younger families that churches are targeting. It's a day and age in which we are competing with: *"It is repetitious, predictable and a meaningless ritual. I would rather sleep in. I work hard all week and I deserve it!"*...unknown author. We better come up with better reasons to attend church on Sunday morning!

Look at the basic "buying" principles of people and how we can learn to apply them to the church.

### What do people buy?

The important thing to remember here is that people do not buy products and services. People buy benefits; they buy what a product will do for them. People don't buy a book because they like the cover. They buy it for what is inside - for the benefit it will bring them to beading it. It might be for entertainment purposes or it might in some way make their lives better.

**Modified and applied to the church:** People will come to your church for what it will do for them. Make certain that your marketing efforts describe, in detail, what the advantages and benefits are from attending on Sunday. This is done best by promoting a particular sermon series such as a series focusing on improving marriages, cleaning up financial pressures, bridging a gap between parents and children and many other key areas of life.

Now we are the ones who are in devastation. We look out our windows and see swimming pools where parking lots should be and boats where cars used to drive.

And the emails and phone calls and social media posts pour in: from Stanley in Kenya, from Meeli in Estonia, Pastor Carlos in Weslaco, Texas and Paul in Haiti. And all over the U.S. they assure us: We are praying for you. We are sending support. We are coming.

I had to evacuate my home this morning, to join the tens of thousands of others who are now displaced.

**But we will be okay again one day soon because of your prayers and your presence and your gifts, service, and witness.**

And because of the beautiful, compassionate, resilient people of Houston who have rallied around each other. **We represent every tribe, tongue and nation here in Houston. Although we are in the midst of deep waters this week, we have also experienced a hint of heaven.**

## REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE – PROCURING AN ARTIFICIAL LIMB FOR MEMORY NEZOMBA: BORN JANUARY 6, 2001

The school head, Mapaura M. wrote on behalf of Memory's parents, the school and her own behalf to ask for the above stated assistance. Memory is enrolled at Chitakatira High School and is badly in need for the limb. The letter from the school head appeared in the September newsletter if you need to review the letter.

Any assistance in funding you can help with to provide Memory with the artificial limb will be greatly appreciated. Below is a picture of Melody with one of her classmates.





Janine Roberts \*\*\*Notes from Houston: Giving and Receiving  
August 31, 2017

I am writing from an air mattress at my coworkers' house late at night. I just ate some fabulous fajitas around a table filled with laughter and shared stories after watching the sun set slowly from someone else's backyard.

I drove home from work last Thursday night jovially saying goodnight to everyone, knowing we would probably be "hunkered down" for the next few days to ride out Hurricane Harvey and his aftermath. It felt a little exciting at first, like anticipating a snow day when I was younger and growing up in West Virginia. But over the next days, which has now turned into a week, the excitement drained away with every tornado warning, every flood warning, every flash of tragedy that unfolded from the news reports and social media.

**I am back in the place of being the recipient of others' generosity and overwhelming support.** This is a familiar place for me, after living many years in Zimbabwe as a missionary and knowing that both my programs and personal finances depended on the kindness of others. When I could no longer renew my work visa and had to leave Zimbabwe, I somehow ended up at Chapelwood UMC, a large church community in Houston, Texas, as a Missions Director.

All of a sudden, the tables were turned and I was now in charge, along with my committee, of dispensing funds to hopeful missionaries and programs around the world who were just as eager as I had once been to be good stewards of what they were given.

**When disasters happened around the world and closer to home, Chapelwood generously donated funds and manpower in whatever way was most needed.**

Over the last three years working here in Houston, I have been privileged to have other staff and members become my family. My family has also grown to include people from Haiti and Kenya and other parts of Texas. My family now includes people from Estonia and Louisiana and Costa Rica. **When our family in Haiti was suffering from Hurricane Matthew, we were there. When flooding devastated Louisiana, we were there. When Kenya experienced famine from drought we were there.**

Why do people buy?

People buy to fulfill a need! There are four basic needs that drive buying decisions:

- Physical Needs (The need to fix a problem in their life.)
- Social Needs (The need to belong to something.)
- Ego Needs (The need to feel important.)
- Spiritual Needs (The need to connect and help others.)

**Modified and applied to the church:** People will come to your church to fulfill a need. Make certain your marketing efforts describe how your church can fulfill a need in their life. Tell them how to discover their purpose, how to have better relationships, or other value propositions. Be aware. Study your community and determine a need and market to the masses to solve it. Mark 8:1-9 illustrates how Jesus fed the masses with just a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish. Jesus found a need and filled it. We should, as a church, do the same in our communities.

**How do people buy & How to get them to your Church!**

Don't make the assumption that, by just sending out a direct mailer, putting up a billboard, placing a post on Facebook, hanging door hangers, or listing your ad in the newspaper, people will come to your church.

**Getting people to come to church is not a guessing game.** There is a formula, that if followed and implemented correctly, will yield a fruitful crop of new visitors ripe for the Holy Spirit to speak to their lives.

**There are 4 basic principles determining how people go about making a decision to come to your church. You should follow them in every marketing endeavor.**

1. They Must Have a Need to Come to Your Church.

**Develop sermon series that meet a need in people's lives.**

2. They Must Believe That Your Church Will Fulfill Their Need.

**Publish your sermon titles outlining action steps that meet that need. You must establish a need in their lives, then provide the ultimate answer to that need, Jesus Christ!**

3. They Must Decide That Your Church is The Right Church for Them.

**List the benefits your church offers them and their families.**

4. They Must Decide The Time To Come to Your Church Is Now.

**Create urgency with a timely sermon series that people won't want to miss.**

Getting people to attend your church is not an enigma. It should not be some far-off question in the back of your leadership's mind, or a discussion that takes hours without a definitive answer. **Getting people to church is simple human psychology**, and smart, secular companies use it to "sell" their products every day. The church should be using these same techniques to attract new visitors and grow the Kingdom.

MINNEAPOLIS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MONTHLY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 13, 2017

The Administrative Council of the First United Methodist Church of Minneapolis met for their monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza, Dale Henderson, Colette Henderson, Gary Kay, Lance Johnson, Patti Bertrand, Steve Baccus, Pat Baccus, Deb Nichols, Tamala Lott, Tammy Krueger and Joan Miles.

Pastor Mukwindidza opened the meeting with reminding the committee of Paul's letter to Timothy (2 Timothy 1:1-14) to rekindle our faith. We need to go into the season of Charge Conference and remember that God does not give us a spirit of timidity or cowardliness, but a spirit of power and love. God said, "I am who I am." We are to love one another.

We sometimes lead and do things by emotion. We say things we shouldn't say. We need to remember we are standing on holy ground.

Minutes: The August minutes were approved by Gary Kay and seconded by Pat Baccus. All Ayes.

Treasurer's Report: Gary Kay approved the Treasurer's Report and Pat Baccus seconded the motion. All Ayes. The Tom's Music House bill will be paid out of the Memorial Funds. Patti Bertrand reported she received a bill from Consolidated Printing Company for the purchase of a banner. More information is needed before this bill can be paid.

Financial Report: No report

Trustees Report: It was reported that money can be saved by installing more than one air conditioner unit at a time. It will save some money by installing an air conditioning unit in the Pastor's Study and the Church Office. It is undecided when to replace the Wesley Room air conditioning unit. Gary Kay reported the thermostat downstairs is turned off and has been set so the heat cannot be turned on. The thermostat will be set to heat in the fall. The two upstairs air thermostats can work in the offices. The thermostats in church can be controlled from homes of designated operators. The air conditioner at the Parsonage needs a semi maintenance agreement. Steve Baccus motioned to act on installing the furnaces in the offices and obtaining a Service Agreement. Colette Henderson seconded the motion.

PPR: No report. The committee will be meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 2017.

Outreach/Fellowship Committee: Deb Nichols reported the Outreach Committee will start feeding FCA on October 4, 2017.

Missions Committee: No report.

Worship Committee: Colette Henderson reported Acolyte Training was held and Children's Sabbath will be during church service on October 8, 2017. Dale Parker has accepted the position of Head Usher and will assume the duties on September 17, 2017

The Outreach and Worship Committees will work together in operating the camera.

UMW: No report.

Noah's Ark Preschool: No report.

Old Business: It was discovered the gas smell in the kitchen was due to the fact the pilot light in the oven was not lit. This has been corrected.

Instead of a Chicken Dinner as an annual fund raiser this year, a Steak Dinner will be served on November 8, 2017. There was discussion as to where to obtain grills to grill the steaks. There are several grills in the area that will be available to use. The dinner will be advertised on TV, on the Eagle free channel. Dale Henderson will talk to Paul Baccus about the Steak Dinner and Tamala Lott volunteered to help. The Delphos Church will be approached to see when their fund raiser will be.

New Business: Colette Henderson's Youth Class plan to go bowling in October and will deliver cookies to the Nursing home at Christmas Time. Four children's parents will supervise the kids who have agreed to tear down a gazebo for Dr. Kerm and Kathleen Wedel.

- We have lost one church member. Samuel Pridey has transferred his membership to the First Presbyterian Church in Salina.
- Steve Coleman has taken a break from teaching the Bible Study Class, but will resume the class in October.
- There will be Family Fun Nights with meals served for four weeks of Advent.
- The Salina District UMC is encouraging providing buckets filled with cleaning supplies be sent to the Hurricane victims.
- The Ministerial Alliance is hosting Community Prayer on September 23 at 6:00 p.m.
- On Wednesday, November 15 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. there will be a Thanksgiving Dinner and Worship Service wherein each church in the community will provide a three to five minute program, sing, solo, choir, etc. Location of this event will be announced.
- A District Wide Charge Conference, Revival, and Worship Service will be held on November 19 in Concordia, KS from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- Needed information for the Charge Conference Booklets are: a copy of Deeds for the church properties; insurance; renewed policy for protection of Children and Young Adults.

The next Administrative Council Meeting will be held on October 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wesley Room.

The meeting was closed with prayer given by Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza.

Respectfully submitted by

Joan Miles

COLOR A PICTURE FOR JESUS!!!!

