

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!

During my recent mission trip to Zimbabwe August 3 through 16, 2017, I observed a new development in the mission field. Scott Hannon, a United Methodist Pastor from Burlington, Kansas went with me. This was the ninth time Scott has traveled to Zimbabwe with me on mission trips since 2001. Our mission was twofold; first, to evaluate, assess and discern the future of our projects in Zimbabwe. And the second part of our mission was to contact workshops on moving with peasant farmers “From Subsistence to Sustenance.” For a long time, missionaries have emphasized giving out whatever is available to the natives of foreign countries. Missioners have given away everything. Scott and I went to Zimbabwe to listen and hear the experiences of the people with whom we are in ministry together. I remembered Jesus' words after telling the parable of the Sower; “Let anyone with ears, listen!” Jesus, like the prophets of the Old Testament was communicating that physically hearing the words is not enough. Discernment or the ability to hear spiritually is necessary to understand Jesus' teaching and what the other person or persons are saying. Hearing spiritually is related to the concept of deep listening. Deep listening is the idea that we listen with compassion. We listen to understand and finally we listen with intention, specifically with the intention to act. In other words, to open one's ears is to open one's heart! In fact the Greek word used in Matthew 13: 9 at the end of the parable of the Sower may be defined as to hear, to heed, or to obey. Just as a teacher may instruct his/her students to listen closely because the material may be on the test; Jesus ends his parable by telling the crowd to listen not only to understand, but also to act on the teaching, to obey, and in this particular case, to participate in the manifestation of God's kingdom on the earth.

Scott and I went to Zimbabwe to evaluate, assess and discern the future of our projects. In our listening, we discovered that the people we thought we were ministering to, were actually ministering to us more than we had imagined. The majority of the people in rural Zimbabwe live on less than a dollar a day. They are living from hand to mouth, and sometimes, in fact many times they do not have anything in the hand to put into their mouths. Yet they sing and praise the Lord with wide smiles. Their faith that keeps them going is amazing to say the least. The way they share the meager resources they have with their neighbors is astonishing. The patience to wait for the rains which never come or sparsely come is unbelievable. The people still believe in a miracle-making God because each day to most of them is a miracle.

Scott and I came home convinced that the mission field is ripe, but the reapers are few! There is great need for a ministry of presence where people go to people to listen with the intention to act compassionately. What would it look like for us to claim such a blessing and imagination and to join in the community that Jesus is building. A community Jesus encourages his disciples to pray; “Thy kingdom come, thy will be done here on earth as it is in heaven!” We are part of the solution, I am part of the solution, and you are part of the solution. Together we can make a difference!

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



## SEPTEMBER EVENTS AND

### SCHEDULES

#### ANNIVERSARIES

5 - Gary & Colleen Hogg  
9 - Stoney & Jill Runnion  
29 - Ty & Noell Hamm

#### BIRTHDAYS

3 - Katie Nichols  
9 - Shirley Shipley  
10 - Deb Nichols and Quinley Bohl  
13 - LaDonna Hauk  
14 - Brandy Womack  
15 - Tacy Contreras  
16 - Riley Bohl  
20 - Joyce Hamm  
23 - Stacy Buchwald  
24 - Paula Baccus  
26 - Nick Krueger  
27 - Sandra Clanton, Norman Fuller  
and Anne Abell

#### ACOLYTES

3 - Maddy and Dalton Krueger  
10 - Connor and Jordan Peck  
17 - Riley and Ethan Bohl  
24 - Joel Abell and Brinley Boyer

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGES

3 - Joan Miles  
10 - Puppeteers  
17 - Lance Johnson  
24 - Shayla Bailey

#### GREETERS

3 - Blythe Atwell & D Phillipson  
10 - Blythe Atwell & Tammy Knox  
17 - Steve & Pat Baccus  
24 - Steve & Pat Baccus

#### LITURGISTS

3 - Dale Henderson  
10 - Tamala Lott  
17 - Nick Krueger  
24 - Nick Krueger

#### NURSERY HELPERS

3 - Shayla Bailey & Becky McDuffee  
10 - Rosalee Tibbits & Becky McDuffee  
17 - Barb Kibler & Becky McDuffee  
24 - Angel Constable & 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.

3 - The Rainbow  
10 - Circumcision  
17 - Sabbath Observance  
24 - Spirit-Filled Heart

#### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

19 - 7:00 p.m. Unit Meeting  
23 - Salina District Annual Meeting at  
Jewell UMC.

#### MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Remember....Donations are always  
welcome for the Salina Rescue  
Mission for men and the Ashby  
House for women and children. Both  
places need clothing and toiletries.  
The donation boxes are in the  
hallway south of the Church office.

#### 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

#### REPORT FROM THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Missions Committee and Camp Kids  
will be selling flower bulbs as a fund  
raiser. The Fall bulb sale will be now  
through September 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be a  
table set up at church for sales and the  
kids and mission committee will be selling  
them also. Payment is due at the time  
of purchase.

Noisy bucket collection will be taken up  
on September 3.

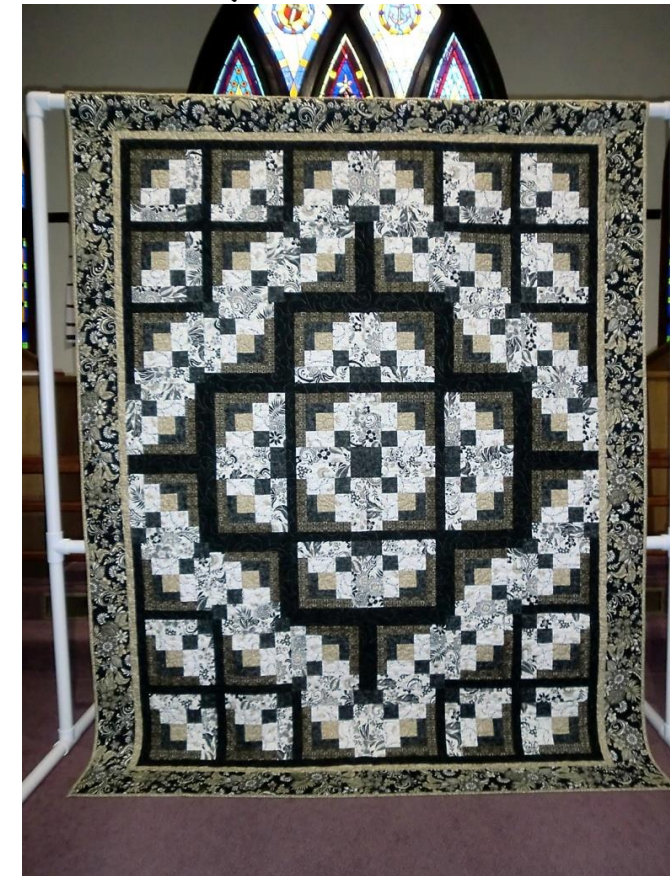
We will be having a Fall themed Silent  
Auction beginning Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>  
and will end Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Craft items and canned jams/jellies plus  
new items are welcome. Our Spring  
Auction was a big success and we hope  
this one will be also.

Our Annual Cookie Walk will be  
Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at the John  
Henry Center, so start planning your  
cookie baking projects!

We are going to try and get sewing  
machines and material plus more for  
scholarships for the girls in Zimbabwe  
Our church is fortunate to have people  
who are willing to help out when asked  
and we appreciate the support very  
much.



#### QUILT RAFFLE



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

Quilt size: 70 X 88

The drawing will be October, 2017

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.





GREAT PLAINS ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
of the United Methodist Church

RUBEN SAENZ JR., Resident Bishop

9440 E. Boston St., Suite 160  
Wichita, KS 67207  
800-745-2350  
316-686-0600  
www.greatplainsumc.org

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am sure you, like me, have been deeply troubled since hearing or reading about the events stemming from deplorable racism displayed last weekend by white nationalists and supremacists in Charlottesville, Virginia. The circumstances there that led directly to the death of Heather D. Heyer, the indirect deaths of two law enforcement officers, and injuries to 34 people serve as yet another reminder that the United States has not put racial tensions behind it – not even close.

The protest to oppose a plan by local officials to remove a statue of Robert E. Lee from Emancipation Park was a hate rally organized and titled, “Unite the Right.” The protesters were met by counter-protesters bravely standing up for the inherent dignity, rights, and equal protections for all persons. Angry shouts reportedly turned into shoving, shoving into brawling, and then a young man used a vehicle as a weapon by driving into a crowd of counter protesters.

What happened in Virginia is a senseless act of blatant racism that is increasingly reemerging as a normal state of affairs in our society. This “Unite the Right” protest sought to drive a wedge further between people based on color and religion. It was not civil. It was not American. And it most certainly was not Christian.

Racism is a sin. It is antithetical to the gospel of Jesus Christ. As Christians and United Methodists, we affirm all persons as equally valuable in the sight of God. We vehemently deplore personal and institutional racism enacted through attitudes of inherent superiority over others, acts of hate, and violence toward groups or persons because of race, color, national origin, and ethnicity (BOD ¶ 162).

Brothers and sisters, Christ is our peace. Through the cross, Christ has broken down the dividing walls of hostility between peoples, reconciled us to God, and created a new humanity (Ephesians 2:11-21). We believe that Christ can overcome violence by transforming and healing sin-sick human minds and hearts.

I ask that you continue to remember the people of Charlottesville, Virginia in your prayers. Please continue to pray and work for an end to the insidious persistence of deplorable racism in our country. Never tire of working for a more just world and for the dignity of all people. Make a positive contribution toward peace according to your particular opportunities and responsibilities. As Christians, let us ask Christ in prayer to see others with his eyes; as brothers and sisters, not rivals, statistics, and opponents. Let us transform our divided world by working to build bridges of peace, not walls of hostility.

Pray that the grace of the Holy Spirit will bring healing, reconciliation, and peace in people’s hearts and in our nation. The journey is long, but Christ goes before us,

Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr.

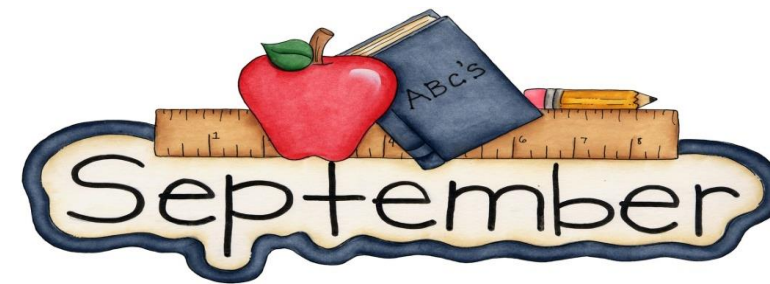


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Lincoln, NE 68504  
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Fax: 402.464.6203

www.GreatPlainsUMC.org



2017

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 2:00 p.m. Mildred Moorman's funeral.
3 Communion	4	5 Noah's Ark Preschool Starts	6 No Bible Study in September	7	8	9 5-8 P.M. Taste of Africa – Church of Cross in Salina
10 Rally Sun. Whitebirds provide music. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Dinner – Ed. Comm. 8:30 -11:30 Taste if Africa –Church of Cross/Salina	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 7:00 p.m. UMW Unit Mtg – Wesley Room.	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 9:30 a.m. Ministerial Peer Group in Wesley Room	27	28	29	30

All communications should be addressed to  
"The Headmaster"  
Phone: Cell 0712783496  
Email: [chitakhgh@gmail.com](mailto:chitakhgh@gmail.com)



Chitakatira High  
23 km along Mutare BurmValley Rd.  
Chitakatira Village  
ZIMUNYA  
P.O.Box 220  
Mutare  
Zimbabwe

The Project Manager  
Plan International Zimbabwe

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE- PROCURING AN ARTIFICIAL LIMP FOR OUR FORM 1 LEARNER MEMORY  
NEZOMBA : BORN 01/06/2001.**

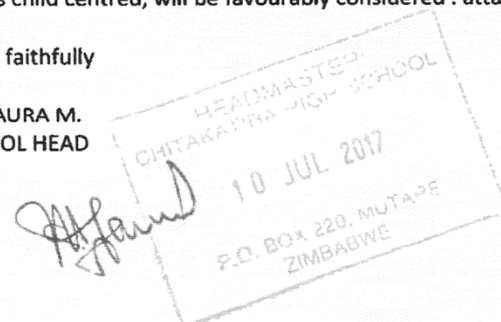
I write on behalf of Memory's parents, on behalf of the school and on my own behalf to ask for the above stated assistance. Memory enrolled at Chitakatira High School at the beginning of 2017 and I have noted with concern that the learner badly needs the limp. She lost the limp (leg) when she was very young. I talked to the parent on a number of issues including where she was going to stay. She promised that she will try her best to ensure arrangements will be made with the 'combi' operators so that they will ensure the girl will get to and from school easily. This they have done but at times funds may fail them and the learner will walk home about 11/2 km away.

This girl is determined to come to school and learn but I have noticed that she has challenges such as her body which has grown so much such that use of crutches becomes very difficult to her. She also appears to be uncomfortable with mixing with classmates as well as school mates. This is shown by the fact that she is very reserved and moves alone most of the time. I strongly feel if she is provided with an artificial limp she will feel much better. I also feel if she is provided with the limp now she will adapt and perfect its use. The parent has also informed me that she has requested for the limp from the department of social services but nothing has materialized yet.

I am therefore asking Plan to assist this girl so that she concentrates on her studies and curve a career that will make her someone in life. I know 'where there is a will there is a way'. I hope this request to an organization that is child centred, will be favourably considered. attached is a photo for your analysis.

Yours faithfully

MAPAURA M.  
SCHOOL HEAD



Father when he gave his life to Christ in 1973. Since then, his perfect, loving, heavenly Father has filled all the voids his earthly dads left in his life. Years later God would make it possible for him to establish a meaningful relationship with his dad, Peter, Sr.

In fact, by God's grace, Peter lead his dad to true faith in Jesus just three short years before he died of cancer in 1995.

Although he is very proud of his Chippewa heritage, Peter will tell you that discovering his true, eternal identity in Jesus Christ is what changed his life forever and freed him from the frustration of trying to prove himself to God, himself and others. God has used the pain in his life to make him a wiser, humbler man, and he has learned through his own trials in life how to communicate God's real life answers in the message and ministry of his songs. "Everyone you know gets up every day trying to find completeness in life. I found that completeness when I found myself in the person of Jesus Christ," says Peter.

Following are some words from one observer of Peter's ministry and music: "In the course of my ministry there have been people that have intersected my path and have left such a favorable impression on me that I simply had to tell others about them and their unique gifts. Such a person is Peter Whitebird. It is truly a privilege to commend to you the unique ministry of this very talented and gifted artist. In the world of Christian Country Music, Peter has few rivals as a songwriter/performer of music that is truly "tied" to the Word of God. He communicates the Gospel with clarity and power that has instant appeal to country music lovers, and a growing appeal to anyone who rejoices in the clear, positive proclamation of the Gospel. Peter is an artist whose main interest is ministry through the medium of County music. His personal testimony, coupled with his firm grasp of Biblical truths, all combine for a presentation that stirs the hearts of believers, and speaks to non-believers with simplicity and drawing power. Your church, or special group will truly be blessed by his communication of the Gospel of Jesus Christ." Kenneth James, Director of Evangelism and Director of Discipleship Training, Kansas/Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists (Retired).

For more than sixteen years, Peter has taken his cross-denominational, God-ordained music, teaching and preaching ministry to churches, rodeos, prisons, drug and alcohol rehab programs, Indian Reservations, fairs, festivals and other special events all across America.

If you are interested in inviting him to minister to your group, you will find that this artist with a "Pastor's heart." Is anointed to communicate the Gospel in a warm, uplifting manner. You'll also enjoy his down home, humorous country style as you laugh at the antics of his Arkansas hillbilly cousin character, Bubba Burks. You'll be truly touched by his ministry in a way that will change your life, and you'll want to tell others about it.

For booking or product information contact: *Whitebird Ministries Inc.* 2008 SW Tara Avenue, Topeka, KS 66611

Phone: 785-267-2573

Email: [whitebird52@msn.com](mailto:whitebird52@msn.com)

[judywhitebird@yahoo.com](mailto:judywhitebird@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.peterlewiswhitebird.com](http://www.peterlewiswhitebird.com)



**SUNDAY MORNING  
SEPTEMBER 10,  
WHITEBIRD MINISTRIES, INC. WILL BE BLESSING US WITH PETER  
WHITEBIRD'S MUSIC MINISTRY.**

Following is an article about Peter Whitebird's life and how he grew to know the Lord!

**PETER LEWIS WHITEBIRD  
WHITEBIRD MINISTRIES, INC.**

"He who is joined to the Lord is one  
spirit with Him." 1 Cor. 6:17

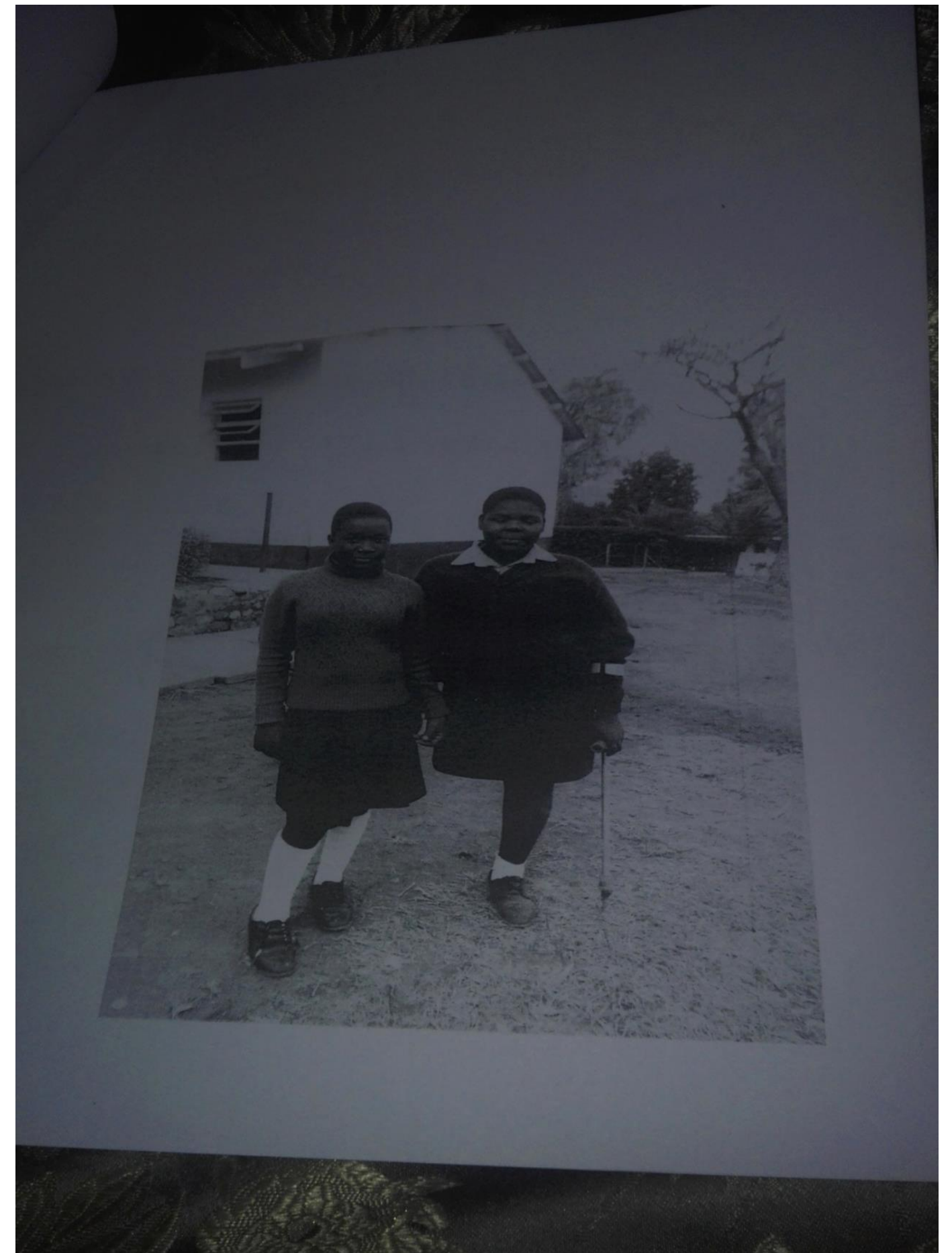
In 1998 the Christian Country Music world was introduced to the talents of recording artist, Peter Lewis Whitebird - A Native American Chippewa from Topeka, Kansas. He quickly established himself as one of the top Christian Country songwriters and singing artists with 18 top three radio hits and 12 number one singles on the national charts.

Peter spend twenty-five years in construction work before going full-time into the ministry, Ordained in 1995, he served as the pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Topeka from June, 1994 until August of 1999. In his time there, the Lord grew a congregation of approximately 15 to more than 100. Then, he and his wife, Judy, began touring full-time with his music and evangelism ministry. He has recorded seven albums in Nashville, Tennessee that resulted in 18 top three singles and 12 number one hits on the national and international Christian Country charts. He also recorded a live concert on DVD in California. In October, 2011, Peter authored and self-published his first book, "Journey to the Center of Life."

He has had the opportunity to appear as a guest of Pat Boone on TBN, along with other guests, Stephen Baldwin and Dean Jones. He has also performed on television shows in Nashville and Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Recognized nationally by his peers, Peter has been nominated for, and won, several awards for his singing and songwriting talent. His music is genuine because God has shaped it as he has shaped his character in Christ.

Despite the successes in his ministry and music, life has not always been a bed of roses for Peter. At a young age, his mother and father divorced and both would marry two more times. His mom's second divorce in the mid-60's put his mom, him, and his four siblings on welfare. Full of insecurity and inferiority, he had plenty of opportunities to run with the wrong crowd and could easily have ended up like too many others who have come from the disillusionment of broken homes. Like his dad, he too would struggle with addiction to alcohol after a divorce of his own. But, God's Amazing Grace prevailed! Ask him to tell you about his life and you will discover a man who has not just overcome life's difficult obstacles, but has overcome them with God-given style.

Although he never truly experienced a real father-son relationship with any of his earthly dads while he was growing up in northeast Kansas, God became his eternal



MINNEAPOLIS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL BI-MONTHLY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 9, 2017

The Administrative Council of the First United Methodist Church of Minneapolis met for their bi-monthly meeting on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Dale Henderson, Gary Kay, Lance Johnson, Patti Bertrand, Steve Baccus, Joan Miles, Deb Nichols, Blythe Atwell, Barb Kibler, and Pat Baccus.

In Pastor Mukwindidza's absence, Dale Henderson provided a Devotion entitled "Protecting Your Church". Ephesians 4:3 states, "Try always to be led along together with the Holy Spirit and so be at peace with one another."

Following are five ways to protect our church:

1. FOCUS ON WHAT WE HAVE IN COMMON, NOT OUR DIFFERENCES.
2. BE REALISTIC IN YOUR EXPECTATIONS.
3. CHOOSE TO ENCOURAGE RATHER THAN CRITICIZE.
4. REFUSE TO LISTEN TO GOSSIP.
5. PRACTICE GOD'S METHOD FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION.

Romans 14:19 states, "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification."

Minutes: The May minutes were approved by Gary Kay and seconded by Steve Baccus. All Ayes.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Patti Bertrand reported on the written information she provided the Committee to review and discuss. Gary Kay approved the Treasurer's Report and Steve Baccus Seconded the motion. All Ayes.

Financial Report: Chairman, Steve Baccus reported the Financial Committee will use available funds to maintain the operation of the church and will make donations to our M&M's when funds are either available or designated. The committee discussed Camp Horizon, and Shasta Weatherman has completed auditing the books.

Trustees Report: Chairman, Lance Johnson reported the furnaces and air conditioners issues continue to be investigated. The thermostats will also be worked on. Gary Kay has been in touch with Bruce Brown with Callabresi Cooling and Heating. Bruce Brown is working on a service contract for these units. Gary Kay reported the service contract will be to clean and check the air condition and furnace units. Callabresi will not be paid until the work is completed. The furnaces can be set so they will not heat from May to October. The fan can be left on continuously to run on the main floor. Gary will provide the Service Contract to Lance when he receives it. There is a window with a crack in it near the Noah's Ark Preschool area that needs to be replaced. The Farm Bureau Ag & Ed will be meeting with the 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> graders at the fairgrounds. A date is to be announced. Lance reported that Steve Kingman thought the fairground church stand needs insulated and updated electrically.

A gas smell has been detected in the church kitchen area. Someone will check on this tomorrow and will call the gas company if the smell is still strong.

PPR: No report.

Healthy Congregation Committee: Barb Kibler advised the "Healthy Congregation" Committee would like to have Chris Coleman speak to the kids at FCA sometime. The Administrative Council Committee thought this would be a good idea and the final decision could be left up to the Outreach/Fellowship Committee. Gary Kay said another alternative would be Teens for Christ from Concordia may be willing to also speak to the FCA group.

Outreach/Fellowship Committee: Deb Nichols wanted to confirm with the Committee that our church would continue to feed the FCA group, which was confirmed. The dates our church will feed the FCA group will be coordinated with the Healthy Congregation Committee and speakers they may have for the same dates.

Missions Committee: This committee will have a fall fund raiser. The fund raiser and date of event will be announced.

Worship Committee: Pat Baccus reported there will be Acolyte Training on Wednesday, August 30 at 3:45 p.m. The Worship Committee has talked to some people who may be interested in being ushers, but nothing firm has been set. The Committee discussed the fact it would be a good idea to have co-head ushers. There has been no interest in anyone wanting to be a song leader. It has been decided the names of people attending church will no longer be reported to the District Office...just the number in attendance. Steve Baccus made the motion to withhold names of people who have been talked to about these positions. Gary Kay seconded the motion. All Ayes.

Steve Baccus reported there is an event the evening of Wednesday, August 16 at 6:30 p.m. that is important for all in Ottawa County to attend. The Hanson Foundation has committed \$400,000 to Ottawa County to be used for improvements to our county. Residents need to get together to determine what improvements are needed in Ottawa County. Betty Johnson will be at the John Henry Center to explain what can be done for our County. If people don't show up, they'll go on to another County. People should be receiving RSVP cards in the mail to return as they are serving a light meal the evening of the meeting. There is more information on the front page of the Messenger.

Charge Conference will be in Concordia on November 19. Charge Conference books are due on October 6.

The individual committees will meet on September 13. The next Administrative Committee Bi-Monthly Meeting will be held on October 11, 2017.

Steve Baccus closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Miles