

The Bell Tower

The Newsletter of the

First United Methodist Church of Eureka

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October 2017

GLEANINGS: THOUGHTS FROM AROUND THE EDGES

By Rev. Kenneth Baker

“When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Leave them for the poor and the alien. I am the LORD your God.” Leviticus 23:22(NIV)

Some may have wondered at the odd sounding name of this pastor’s column – “Gleanings – Thoughts From Around the Edges.” It derives from the bible passage above, in which God commands the owners of the fields to leave something behind so that all God’s people might be fed. I chose the name for my column, with the idea that I might address thoughts and needs that might have been overlooked, or not often thought of – kind of the gleanings of our human interests.

As I ponder this passage, particularly in light of so many natural disasters that have befallen us recently, my mind goes all the way back to the original intent – to feed or care for God’s people.

We are God’s people. And so are the people emerging from the rubble from the two recent earthquakes in Mexico. So are the people in Puerto Rico that was recently ravaged by the two hurricanes, so are the people in Texas and along the Gulf Coast who are struggling to put their lives back together after Hurricane Harvey, as well as the people in Florida who are trying recover from Hurricane Irma. Not to mention many other people around this globe who have been left homeless, and starving, from storms, fires, wars, and violence. We are *all* God’s people, regardless of race, nationality, religion, or other life circumstances. We are *all* God’s people, and as such, those who are blessed and rest secure are called upon to set aside our own “gleanings” in order to help those less fortunate than us.

So how can we help? What do we do with the “gleanings” of our own fields, as we respond to so many disasters? And how do we do it in a way that helps best, and avoids those agencies whose “charity” is questionable?

My best suggestion is to work through our own United Methodist Church. Our agency, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) works around the world, and within the U.S., helping in disaster recovery – through donations, supplies, volunteers, and more. **100% of each donated dollar goes directly to the relief efforts.** UMCOR staff and administration are funded through a yearly special offering, and as such, do not depend on your disaster donations. For more info, contact your pastor, or look up UMCOR at www.umcor.org.

Your help is greatly needed, and will bless people, in ways you may never fully imagine. God’s people are blessed when we help God’s people.

And may God continue to richly bless you, my sisters and brothers.

Pastor Ken

The Mission of the Eureka United Methodist Church is to be a living, breathing, celebrating entity where time, money, and the talents God has given us are freely and joyously given, where serving God through ministry is a way of life.

What's happening at the Main Church On the Main Street in Eureka, Kansas USA?

UMW MEETING

Fall activities have been busy for UMW members. The group enjoyed serving a birthday lunch for Imogene McDaniel and her family in early September. Members are also planning for the activities of Fall Festival.



September 23, Eureka UMW hosted the Flint Hills District fall meeting. Speaker was Holly Heyrath from Derby, who is a missionary in Tanzania. District officers were installed and members attended program area sessions. Our UMW served morning refreshments and lunch to the group and several attended sessions.

All women of the church are welcome to attend the Morning Circle (meets the third Thursday of the month at 9:30), or be connected to the Circle of Friends (contact Janice Massey).

FROZEN FRUIT ORDERS

Frozen fruit in 14-pound boxes can be ordered from UMW. This is a fund raising project for the group and provides delicious fruit for family desserts and pies for church dinners! Boxes range from \$45 - \$62 and the fruit is very good quality. A truck from Bitchell Farms in Oregon will deliver the fruit in late November. Orders should be given to Jan Stephens before September 29.

WHERE IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SERVE?

We are beginning our annual process of enlisting the help of church members and regular attenders on our various teams. Want to get in on the excitement? Let Pastor Ken know.

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."
1 Peter 4:10

HELP HURRICANE HARVEY & IRMA VICTIMS

Donations to help those in Hurricanes Harvey and Irma can be made through UMCOR (the United Methodist Committee on Relief). To donate by check, please make your check payable to "Advance GCFA" and the Advance number **901670** on the memo line (and drop into the offering plate along with your regular offering). Or, to donate online, visit: www.umcor.org, and follow the links.

FALL CONFIRMATION

Pastor Ken is preparing for a **Confirmation Class** beginning this Fall. Please contact him or the church office if you are interested or know of someone who might be.

CHURCH CARNIVAL

Cancelled for 2017

FALL FESTIVAL AHEAD



Our church's annual Fall Festival will be Wednesday, October 18. This is a special day to celebrate our church, fall, and fellowship of the community. Many activities will be happening throughout the day for you to be a part of.

The morning starts with coffee and cinnamon rolls in the north classroom. Coffee is free with a \$1.50 cinnamon roll and will be served from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

All day and evening there will be crafts and baked items for sale in the foyer. Be sure to pick up some treats for later and gifts for Christmas.

A delicious dinner will be available from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. The menu is chicken and noodles or beef and noodles or sloppy joes, with coleslaw, dessert (pie or cake) and drink. Adult tickets are \$8.00. Children's tickets (ages 5-10) are \$5.00, and under 5 are free.

The UMW members are working on a beautiful quilt to be the prize of a drawing. Tickets for the drawing are available from any UMW member. This year's quilt is extra special as it is made from vintage quilt blocks appliqued with a Rose of Sharon pattern and is being hand quilted by members.

This is an all-church event and all are welcome to help, be involved, and especially to come and encourage your friends to come.

COMMUNITY LINC



Eureka Dinners

Thurs, Oct 12th & 26th @ UMC

Hamilton Dinner

Wed, Oct 18th @ Hamilton Community Center

Madison Dinner

Tues, Oct 24th @ Madison Community Center

Ministering the Love of Christ to ALL People.

Meals are provided :

Eureka—Every 2nd & 4th Thursdays

Hamilton—Every 3rd Wednesday

Madison—Every 4th Tuesday

Community LinC continues to serve meals for food, fellowship, and faith sharing in our community. This group has offered meals in Eureka for 4 years and now has meals being served in Hamilton and Madison. The Eureka meals are usually served in our church utilizing our wonderful facilities. Our church is proud to be a part of this mission happening twice a month in our church building.

Watch the newspaper, Facebook, or posted signs for times and menus.

FREE MOVIE @ EJSWS

Ministerial Alliance will host a **Free Movie @ EJSWS** Wed., October 18th at 6:30 p.m. Free popcorn and bottled water will be available. For everyone! Good family entertainment.

Please remember we need your support – even when you are not here. You can now easily give your offerings electronically by EFT. No need to write checks or carry cash, easier to continue to support the Church even when you're out of town. For more information contact the office.

Sermons for October 2017

Series Name:

Rule #1 and the Ten Commandments



Matthew 22:35-40(NIV)

³⁵Once, an expert in the law, tested Jesus with this question: ³⁶“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”
³⁷Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’⁴⁰All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Series Theme: Getting back to basics. The world these days seems so complicated, so over-burdened, so chaotic, and seems also to have strayed so far from the biblical basics we were all taught in Sunday School, even in grade school, as children. Therefore, for the next couple of months, we will be looking back to the basics, back to Rule #1, and the Ten Commandments, and asking, how might attending to these commands enhance my life today, and bring order back to the world. We continue this month, starting with the Fourth Commandment (Remember the Sabbath) and work through the eighth (look this one up for yourselves).

October 1: Communion Sunday.

Sermon: Remember the Sabbath Day by Keeping it Holy Exodus 20:8-11

Key Verse: “Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates.” Exodus 20:9-10(NIV)

Theme: When all was complete, after God looked out on all He had created, and looked and saw that it was all very good, He set aside one day out of seven to be a special day – a holy day – on which we would not only take a break, but also spend time with Him.

Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 20:11-20

New Testament Lesson: Luke 4:16-21

October 8th:

Sermon: “Honor Your Father and Your Mother” Exodus 20:12

Key Verse: ¹²“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. Exodus 20:12(NIV)

Theme: Strong family values and family ties! This was important enough to God that He made it an important part of His Commandments. When we return back to the basics, don't things go better?

Old Testament Lesson: Leviticus 19:32

New Testament Lesson: Ephesians 6:1-3

October 15th:

Sermon: “Thou Shalt Not Murder” Exodus 20:13

Theme: This seems like one of the simplest Commandments to keep. I mean, how many of us have really committed murder? But is it really that simple?

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 4:2(b)-11

New Testament Lesson: Matthew 5:21-24

October 22nd:

Sermon: “Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery” Exodus 20:14

Theme: Why does God care so much how we conduct our personal lives? What's at stake? Could it be that how we conduct our relationships with those we love, reflect the relationship between God and us?

Old Testament Lesson: Proverbs 2:6-19

New Testament Lesson: Matthew 5:27-29

October 29th:

Sermon: “Thou Shalt Not Steal” Exodus 20:15

Theme: Isn't it interesting, that in so many places in the Bible, we are commanded to *give*, rather than take. So often theft, or stealing, is a deal-breaker. It disrespects people's sacredness, and it breaks relationships.

Old Testament Lesson: Leviticus 6:1-7

New Testament Lesson: Ephesians 4:22-28

MINISTERS FOR OCTOBER

GREETERS

Oct 1	Roger & Darla Winfrey	Oct 22	John & Pam Cowley
Oct 8	Jack & Linda Downing	Oct 29	Stan & Susie Porter
Oct 15	Greg & Janice Massey		

USHERS

Oct 1	Jack Knotts, Cindy Knotts, Jan Stephens	Oct 22	Stan & Susie Porter, Debbie Ball
Oct 8	Debbie Dutton, Miracle Dutton, Vince Groendes	Oct 29	Charlene Baker, Caylee Baker, Deanna Funk
Oct 15	Jim & Leslie Spillman, Paul Seeley		

SCRIPTURE READERS

Oct 1	Leslie Spillman	Oct 22	Steve Taylor
Oct 8	Matt Wilson	Oct 29	Jan Stephens
Oct 15	Jim Spillman		

ORGANIST

Oct 1	Rhonda Boone	Oct 22	Rhonda Boone
Oct 8	Robin Himes	Oct 29	Robin Himes
Oct 15	Rhonda Boone		

COFFEE TIME

Oct 1	Jim & Leslie Spillman	Oct 22	Harold & Patsy Garner
Oct 8	Jack & Cindy Knotts	Oct 29	John & Pam Cowley
Oct 15	?Volunteers?		

Happy 90th
Birthday!

LOUIS HAYWARD

CELEBRATE WITH US!
SUN, OCTOBER 8TH
AFTER WORSHIP
(10:30 a.m.)

Eureka Area Ministerial Alliance

Fall Fundraiser Concert

Sunday, October 29, 2017
3:00 p.m.

New Life Assembly of God
1201 N. Main St, Eureka

A free-will offering will be taken.
Proceeds will go to Eureka
Area Ministerial Alliance to help
people in our community.
Call (620)757-5242 to sign up to
share your talent.

All numbers are required to have
a Christian theme.



October 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 AM Worship Fellowship Coffee	2 6:00 PM BSA	3	4 6:00 PM Choir	5	6	7
8 4-H SUNDAY 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Celebrate Louis Hayward's 90th Birthday 2:00 PM Racing Wranglers 4-H	9 6:00 PM BSA	10 5:30 PM Finance 6:00 PM Ad Council	11 6:00 PM Choir	12 6:00 PM Community LinC Dinner	13	14 1:30 PM Jack Berentz Memorial Service
15 9:30 AM Worship Fellowship Coffee	16 6:00 PM BSA	17	18  All Day 6:00 PM Choir	19	20	21
22 9:30 AM Worship Fellowship Coffee	23 6:00 PM BSA	24	25 6:00 PM Choir	26 6:00 PM Community LinC Dinner	27	28
29 9:30 AM Worship Fellowship Coffee 3:00 PM Ministerial Alliance Fall Con- cert @ New Life Assembly of God	30 6:00 PM BSA	31				

Eureka United Methodist Church

63rd Annual

FALL FESTIVAL

Wed, Oct 18th

Supper Menu

Chicken & Noodles, Beef & Noodles
or Sloppy Joes

Cole Slaw, Dessert & Drink
(served from 5-7 pm)

Adults **\$8.00**

Children 5-10 **\$5.00**

Children under 5—**free!**

Crafts and Baked Goods Sale

9 am—7 pm

Free Coffee with Homemade

9 am—11 am

Cinnamon Rolls—**\$1.50ea**

“Rose of Sharon” Quilt Drawing.

Drawing—7pm

Handmade by UMW (tickets \$1ea or 6 for \$5 donation)

Advance Tickets Available from any UMW member or
1st United Methodist Church, 521 N. Main

Phone: 620-583-5663 (you may leave a message)

The First United Methodist Church of Eureka

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Non Profit Organization

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Permit #64



Worship—Sundays 9:30



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Friends of Eureka First United Methodist Church