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The Parable



When I was growing up, my father had a small figurine on his desk at home. It was three monkeys, one with hands over ears, one with hands over mouth, and the third with hands over the eyes. It represents that old saying, "See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil." The saying originates in Japan and is referred to as the three wise monkeys.

The other day I spotted three frogs striking the same pose as those monkeys. For \$1.50, I couldn't resist purchasing the figure to put on my desk in the pastor's study. As an adult, I look at them now and I reflect on how to interpret their posture.

Speak no evil seems self-evident. In the Ten Commandments, we're instructed never to bear false witness. In Paul's New Testament letters he cautions against slander, gossip or

malicious speech of any kind. Jesus calls out the hypocrites and those who oppress others with their words. So the frog, or monkey, with hands over the mouth reminds me what my dad always said, "If you don't have something nice to say, don't say anything at all." I don't believe it means we never speak out. There are things that happen that we need to address and not be silent.

What about see no evil? We may need to occasionally cover our eyes, so we're not overwhelmed by the evil in our world. But this is what happened in WWII, when the German neighbors looked away from the concentration camps next door where the Jews were being enslaved and incinerated. Like Jesus, we need to notice the people around us and sometimes we need to act.

Finally, hear no evil. Again, we need to protect our souls from being corrupted by evil speech. At the same time, we may need to hear some hard truths about what's going on in our world.

What seems like an innocuous, humorous figure of three frogs or monkeys suddenly becomes a double-edged sword. We pray for God to protect our hearts and keep us right with God. Don't let the evil in this world overcome us but overcome evil with good.

The three frogs sit on my desk, reminding me of my father and the wisdom we all need in order to live a Christian life.

*Go well and safely,
the Lord be ever with
you.*

Pastor Margaret

In Our Prayers



If you are not able to serve on the date you have signed up for, please try to trade with someone else on the list or contact Bob Unruh.

The food bank is put in a difficult situation when volunteers don't show up!



Those that have been ill, hospitalized or in need of prayer.

Students at Fern Valley UMC, Zimbabwe

Those in nursing homes:

John Darting, Dot Ensz, Elaine Lowry, & Merle Knak



MAIN STREET MINISTRIES FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

September 6 - Larry & Judy Klein

October 4– Need Volunteers

November 1 - Pastor Margaret & Brenda Kimberly

Third Sunday Food Offering will be September 21

Cash offering will support our Zimbabwe Students.

Thank you to everyone who brings food for the Main Street Ministries Food Bank on the third Sunday of each month.

We also appreciate those who volunteer their time on the first Saturday of the month.

Please remember to double-check the expiration date on the food you donate. If it's past the expiration date, it has to be discarded.

Current needs include: laundry detergent, toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, shampoo/conditioner, feminine hygiene products, bath/hand soap, deodorant, & razors

Cash donations can also be given to Main Street Food Bank at Dale's Supermarket where they have an account set up to use for purchasing groceries for the food bank. You can also make online donations to the Food Bank at: www.mainstreetministries.net/food-bank

WE DID IT!

My friends are always astonished when I tell them what the church did over the summer. We participated in Annual Conference in Salina and had a fun "Second Sunday" in June, resulting in lots of photos of "flat Jesus" traveling with church folks. The youth group spent time at Camp Chippewa and Worlds of Fun. We celebrated Father's Day, enjoyed pie, ice cream and fireworks for the 4th, and served bierocks at the Farmer's Market. The women gathered for monthly breakfasts at Durham, and the men enjoyed monthly breakfasts at the church. We had an outstanding Vacation Bible School, blessed the backpacks for back to school, presented a Bible to Jordyn Housman (incoming 3rd grader), and supported the teachers with items for their classroom. We've also survived the heat! Are you ready for Fall?

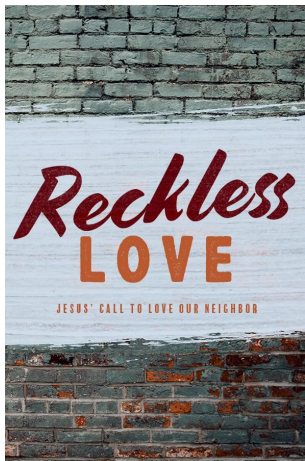
**THANK YOU!**

Vacation Bible School was a great success! The theme was *Road Trip: On the Go with God*. The "travelers" heard four Bible stories, were mesmerized by science experiments, created colorful crafts, enjoyed parachute games and a cup stacking challenge. The mission project resulted in 84 "snack sacks" that were given to the Senior Center and sent out with the mobile meals. The music was lively as always. We celebrated during worship on August 3 and enjoyed a meal at the "Boro Roadside Diner". In the meantime, we want to thank all the people who helped make this ministry a success! A huge thank you to **Debbie Ratzloff** who worked tirelessly for many months to organize and prepare for this vital children's ministry. We also appreciate the use of decorations and other items from Calvary UMC in Wichita—it saved us a lot of labor and dollars.



September 4	John Hein
September 9	Keith Jost
September 12	Norma Cabeen
	Priscilla Unruh
September 13	Brynlee Janzen
September 20	Kelly Booton
	Taylor Hein
	Morris Hope
September 21	Katie Hein
September 24	Aaron Slater
September 27	Mardell Carlson
September 30	Hunter Housman





BACK TO CHURCH POTLUCK

Sunday, August 31 (*Labor Day weekend*) — *after the worship service*
Wear your church shirt if you have one.

When families head back to school it's also a time when they think about heading back to church. If there's someone you know that we haven't seen in a while, invite them to join us. Maybe you have a new neighbor who doesn't have a church home—invite them too! Then bring your favorite dish to share and enjoy tasting what others have to offer.

FALL BIBLE STUDY: RECKLESS LOVE BY TOM BERLIN

In this day and age, love is sometimes in short supply. How can we live out Jesus' call to love our neighbor?

Six Wednesdays at 10:00 AM September 3 - October 8

The sign up sheet is on the table at the back in the Sanctuary. We'll meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM. The cost of the book is \$15. A donation to cover the cost is appreciated. There's been a request to add a Wednesday evening class. We'll need a minimum of six people for this to happen.

SECOND SUNDAY, 5:30 - 6:30 PM

For all ages — children, youth and adults.

A fun time of fellowship on the second Sunday of each month.

Last spring we began by playing Bunco in March. Then in April we made an Easter Garden and Easter cards. We skipped May (*too many graduations!*) and in June we had a "taster" of Vacation Bible School (*walking tacos and stoplight brownies, Bingo with prizes, decorating sacks for Meals on Wheels, and making a Flat Jesus to take with us all summer*). July was busy with the fireworks celebration and in August it was time for VBS.

Here are the dates for this fall:

October 12 - Weiner Roast at Randy & Lindy Wiens

November 9 - Advent/Christmas Theme

THE EYE OF THE STORM

Several sermons this fall will focus on how we as Christians respond to the chaos and turbulence in our world today. Based on your recent survey responses, we'll explore several topics. We'll do this based on the Wesleyan Quadrilateral of Scripture, Tradition, Experience and Reason.

Here's an outline of topics:

- September 14 Mental Health (this is Suicide Prevention Month)
- September 28 Intro to The Eye of the Storm
- October 5 Divisiveness and Table Fellowship
- October 12 Jesus and Social Justice
- October 19 Laity Sunday
- October 26 Physical Health
- November 2 Stewardship of our Resources



LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Pastor Margaret will be attending Leadership Institute. The Institute is held every September at Resurrection UMC in Leawood KS, featuring speakers and workshops for any size church. You're invited to join her at the church for any of the sessions you might be interested in.

OPENING WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

FEATURED SPEAKERS ON THURSDAY/FRIDAY INCLUDE:

Andy Stanley, Bishop Tracy Smith Malone, Grace Ji-Sun Kim

CLOSING IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 10:15 AM—12:00 PM:

Opening and Closing Worship with Rev. Adam Hamilton



CHURCH CONFERENCE

All church members are invited to attend the annual Church Conference on **Sunday, November 16, 2:00 — 3:30 PM** at First UMC in McPherson. We will be gathering with the churches in Marion and McPherson counties. Our district superintendent, Karen Rice-Ratzlaff, will be leading the event.





Labor Day is
Monday, September 1.
The church office will be closed
in honor of the holiday.

Trustees
will meet on
Wednesday, September 3
7:00 PM.



UMM/UMY Parking Lot Fundraiser!

September 20 from 8 AM — 2 PM

Cost is only \$10.00 per car

Adult volunteers needed.
Contact Lyman Adams if you can help out.



Adult Sunday School — 9:30 AM

Sunday Worship — 10:30 AM

HUMC worship service on MCTV channel 20
is broadcast on the following times:

Sundays at 4 PM	Wednesdays at 7 AM
Thursdays at 10 AM	Fridays at 1 PM

If you have to be away from church on Sunday morning, you can still worship with us. Go to YouTube and type in **Hillsboro KS UMC** and you'll find it live. If you go to YouTube after 11:30 AM, click on Live Video and it will be there. On Mondays, the service is uploaded to our Facebook page, Hillsboro KS UMC.



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Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday
From 9 AM — Noon

Sharon Denholm, Office Assistant

Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday mornings

Missi Redger, Custodian



POSITIVE & PRAYER THOUGHTS, by Dot Ensz, Prayer Coordinator

- We all go through difficult times, but we can get through those times with great faith.
- How we live our lives matter to God.
- Be a good example.
- Always do your very best and work toward excellence.
- Put your trust in God and obey him.
- Do all things with great love.
- God created us as unique, valuable, and special.
- Happiness is knowing Jesus.
- Be a light in the world.
- Be caring and loving..
- God's love – pass it on.

Dear God,

We invite you into our lives and help us to put you first. You created us and we need you and want you in our hearts and lives. Help us to be the kind of people you created us to be. Forgive our foolish ways. We give you all of our love and praise.

In Jesus' name,
AMEN

