



First United Methodist Church
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November 2011

First United Methodist Church of Warsaw

ENGAGING...

Minds, Hearts, & Hands

Preschool Trip to the Pumpkin Patch



WORSHIP TIMES
 8:15AM-TRADITIONAL SERVICE
 9:25AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL
 10:30AM - CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

PASTOR:
 D. ERIC DERKS
 ERIC@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG

ASSOCIATE PASTOR:
 JUSTIN GRIFFORD
 JUSTIN@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.:
 SARAH WYNN
 SARAH@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG

STUDENT MINISTRIES DIR.:
 JAMEY DERKS
 JAMEY@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:
 MELISSA STEPHENS
 MELISSA@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG

CUSTODIAN:
 EARL KELLERSTRASS

Sunday Worship
 on-line @ firstchurchwarsaw.org

OFFICE HOURS
 8:30—4:30 P.M.
 MONDAY—FRIDAY
 CLOSED 12:00 - 1:00 P.M.

DEADLINES
 NEWSLETTER: 3RD FRIDAY EACH MONTH

BULLETIN: NOON ON WEDNESDAY

SEND ALL INFORMATION TO:
 SARAH@FIRSTCHURCHWARSAW.ORG

“Excellence is the result of caring more than others think is wise, risking more than others think is safe, dreaming more than others think is practical, and expecting more than others think is possible.”

Pastor's Thoughts...

I would like to express my thanks for the cards and gifts received during October for Pastor Appreciation Month. It is wonderful that we are appointed to a church that remembers their pastoral family. Jamey, I, and the boys feel blessed to be your pastoral family. I also want to express to everyone my appreciation of our staff. My position here at First Church would be impossible without them and I am immensely grateful for their work. Each of them does an awesome job and puts in many more hours for which we could never pay them. They see their position as a calling which is evident by how God is blessing each of their ministries. PLEASE convey your gratitude and appreciation to them as you have to me.

Something to think about: God is in the multiplication business. It doesn't matter what your need is today, God wants to increase you. One time in the Old Testament, God simply multiplied the sound of four men's footsteps and caused them to sound like a mighty army. When their enemies heard them coming, they took off running. Thousands of people, thousands of troops running for their lives, scared to death, thinking they were being attacked by a massive army, when in fact, it was just four people. God can make you seem bigger than you really are. He can make you look more powerful. He knows how to multiply your influence, your strength, your talent, or whatever else you need! You don't have to figure it all out. All you have to do is believe. If you will release your faith and get up every day expecting God's favor, then you're going to see God show up and do amazing things. He'll bless you beyond your wildest dreams!

One of the most powerful scenes in the film Lawrence of Arabia depicts the ten-day death march that Lawrence's army made through the desert. As the army staggered along, nearly dead from dehydration, they suddenly spied an oasis and eagerly fell into the water. When Lawrence took a head count, he noticed that one of the camel boys was missing. The boy's camel was found riderless near the back of the camp. Lawrence immediately told several of his men, "We must go back and find him." But the men refused to venture back into the merciless furnace of sand. "Master," they pleaded, "it is Allah's will that the boy did not return with us. His fate was written by God. We must not interfere."

Lawrence angrily remounted a camel and headed back into the dunes. The men stood there, shaking their heads. "Now we've lost him, too," they said as they returned to their rest. ... Two days later a shimmering image emerged from the heat wave. "It's Lawrence! He has found the boy!" the soldiers shouted as they ran forward to assist him. Lawrence leaned over and handed them the unconscious boy. He looked at their faces and said in a hoarse whisper, "remember this: Nothing 'is written' unless you write it." Nothing is written unless you write it. (Jesus CEO, Laurie Beth Jones, pg. 186)

What is it that we're writing here at First UMC? God will guide and direct, bless and gift, and empower and encourage, but we do the writing. So as we work to move into what God is blessing in this community, how do we use God's awesome presence in the life of this church community to expand His Kingdom and to write the life of this church?

It's up to you. What are you writing?

Remember ... God is in the multiplication business! You have been anointed and empowered to bring healing, wholeness, and deep joy and peace to those with whom you come in contact. You literally are the hands and feet of Jesus ... YOU! You are a part of an amazing church that believes in you as well ... live like it. Live blessed, don't simply pray for God's blessings, live blessed because you already are.

My eclectic bag of thoughts:

Our youth, IGNITE, will be leading the service on November 27th as we prepare for Advent (the 4 weeks before Christmas Day). Make sure you come and support them in the Hanging of the Greens service at both 8:15am & 10:30am services.

As you may know, with Fall comes our pledge drive. Stewardship relates to our entire life – where we spend our time, where we give our talents, and who receives our tithe. Typically, the Fall is when we consider the stewardship of our money and how it relates to the church. As you fill out your pledge card, my prayer as your pastor is that each of you would prayerfully consider your own walk with your Creator and let your 2012 pledge reflect your relationship with Him. I can feel in my spirit that 2012 is going to be an absolutely awesome year! Join us in supporting the ministries of your church community in 2012 as we actively commit ourselves to changing people's lives for Jesus by spreading God's hope and serving as the hands of Jesus in our church, our community, and our world.

Believe it or not, it's already time for Thanksgiving! I pray that you would experience God's joy as your family gathers and for God's protection to be upon your family as many travel to be together. I also hope that you will consider those who may not have a family or may have a family but no food to celebrate Thanksgiving together. Please be the hands and feet of Jesus and bless others with your abundance.

Don't forget to [invite someone](#) to worship each week. Provide a ride for that person or family if necessary. Focus on those who have never experienced the saving, healing power of Jesus Christ. If you get rejected, remember that you have planted a seed that will be a healing presence. I am praying for each of you!

Remember to help us **celebrate with you!!!** I mention this often, but I want to continue celebrating your accomplishments. If your child or youth does exceptionally well on their grade card and makes the A or B honor roll, if they do well in music or sports, or if have other accomplishments/victories, please call the office and let us know. **How about you?** If something happens in your life that we can celebrate, please let us know. I like to celebrate these events in worship by praising God for your (your child's) talent and lifting you (your child) up for your willingness to use the gift you've been given.

Rev. D. Eric Derks

Friendship Club

Mavis Wendt

Friendship Club will meet on November 15th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Pete Grayum will be our guest speaker. He will be speaking on his work with the MDC Master Naturalist program and his work with the DNR. Please bring your favorite potluck dish to share. Everyone is welcome!! ☐

Hall of Fame Celebration

There will be a celebration for Randy Morrow on Saturday, November 5 starting at 3:30pm at Randy Morrow Field. Refreshments will be served. Randy was inducted into the Missouri Hall of Fame in January 2011. In case of inclement weather, the celebration will move indoors. Everyone is invited to this event!

Youth Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 20

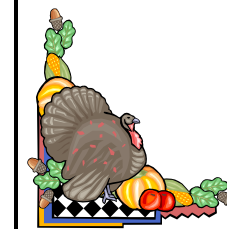
Following 10:30 a.m. service

Turkey and all the fixin's

Dessert Auction *All proceeds to benefit*

IGNITE Mission Trip

& other activities they do!



Sunday,
November 6

Notes of Thanks

•IGNITE would like to thank the Kreisel family for hosting our annual hayride and wiener roast. There were 49 youth and adults present for a TERRIFIC night!

•Thank you to everyone who inquired about my husband, Charles Howard, during his long seven year residency at the VA home. Thanks also to those who gave out hugs and cards after his passing on September 23rd. A special thanks to Justin who conducted his military funeral at Leavenworth KS National Cemetery. Phyllis Howard

•Thank you all for healing prayers...my eye is on the mend and the dental surgery on Monday went well. God is most certainly good all the time. Blessings, Diann Gochenour

•Dear Eric & Church Family, I want to thank you all for your prayers, phone calls and cards after my recent surgery. Also Eric for being at the hospital to pray with and support me and my family. Thank you all for the love you have shared with me. Yours in health, Emily Lane

Angels Wanted



FUMC's Christmas Tree is made up of Angel ornaments that represent church members, either individual or family.

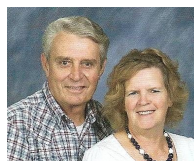
The Worship Team would like to extend to our members, if you do not have an Angel ornament on the tree representing you or your family, hand make or purchase one to add to this Amazing Christmas Tree! We encourage you to write your name or family name on it. Members that already display an Angel are welcome to add or replace their Angel ornament.

Please bring your Angel Ornaments to the November 27th, Hanging of the Greens Service.

Mission

I had been wanting to go to Joplin and volunteer in some way since the F5 tornado in May. Like so many of us I hadn't acted on my desire to go. My husband Pete was scheduled to go to Joplin for a conference in September and I thought OK, I have no excuse not to travel with him and volunteer while there. After several phone calls I was able to connect with the organization Americorp and they directed me to a person who has started a not for profit organization called Misti's Mission. Misti's Mission is a center to aid disaster victims with clothes, food, household goods etc. Misti is someone just like you and me who saw the need and opened her heart and property for donations that came in and are still coming in by the truck loads. I spent the day sorting, folding and organizing clothing and moving many boxes of donated items. I worked with and connected with several other volunteers. One lady in particular had lost everything in the storm and was there to help others in need just like herself. The highlight of the day was meeting and talking with Misti. In that conversation I knew she had seen the need and heard the call to act on her feelings and help. The devastation in Joplin is still quite evident but the rebuild has already begun giving hope to many effected families. Numerous volunteers have given many tireless hours and more will be needed in the months to come. Pete and I will be taking the VIM Leadership

training in December and will be planning a trip to Joplin sometime in 2012. Begin praying with us for God's leadership and for your participation in the upcoming VIM schedule. God Bless, Sandy Grayum ☐



Volunteer Profile

Larry Conn moved to Warsaw from Burlington, Iowa the spring of 1987. He had been injured on the job which put an end to his career as a firefighter. He moved to Warsaw because his parents, Rex and Henrietta Conn, were here as well as his aunt Hazel Hight, who at the time had a real estate business and he joined her in that business for a time. Later he would become a farmer. He is a Vietnam veteran having served 2 tours of duty there.

He and Holly were married in July of 1994. Between the two of them they have 5 children and 14 grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Larry's hobbies include owning his own airplane and has started building his own plane. He recently bought a motorcycle and won a prize in a motorcycle show. He is involved in the Young Eagles

program in which he gives children airplane rides.

Larry started coming to church as soon as he moved here and feels it has become his extended family with all the caring people that attend here.

He went to church as a child and had drifted away as an adult, but found his way back to the Lord here.

Larry has held several positions in the church. He has been Administrative Council chairman, served on the Nomination, Stewardship and Scholarship Teams. He was on the organ committee when we put in the pipe organ, ran the sound system for a time and has been the building superintendent twice. Presently Larry is part of a team that teaches the JOY Class and is the part time parish visitor.

We are very sorry about the injury that caused you to move to Warsaw, but we are certainly glad you came and is so involved.



Newcomer's class provides an opportunity to learn more about First Church, the United Methodist Church, and what it means to live as a Christian. Pastor Eric tries to answer your questions as we drink some coffee and learn about each other. **Our next gathering is 1-4 p.m., Sunday, November 27 in The Chapel. Please RSVP to the church office by the Wednesday before if you plan to attend, 438-6261 or umc@firstchurchwarsaw.org**

IGNITE

Director: Jamey Derks

What an awesome September and October this has been! I have to say a HUGE THANK YOU to this church family. IGNITE has asked for extra food and sponsors this month and you have gone above and beyond. WOW! What a blessing you all are!

IGNITE had a great hayride and wiener roast hosted by the Kreisel family! Thank you so much to them for having us out. We also went to the Lowry City Corn Maize. We had beautiful weather and so much fun! And finally, our youth experienced a Mystery Dinner with interesting named food on the menu!

Mark your calendar now for our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Pie Auction. It will be Sunday, November 20. Bring your family, friends, PIES and check book! This is our number one fundraiser for IGNITE. The proceeds will go towards our mission trip to Oklahoma in June.

Don't forget about the Hanging of the Greens service on November 27. Our youth lead this service. The sanctuary is absolutely beautiful and it always gets me in the Christmas spirit and reminds me of what Christmas is all about!

Thank you as always for the yummy food each week. The youth really appreciate YOU! The sign up sheets are on the bulletin board by the glass doors if you are able to help out!

Below is our November calendar. Make sure to hang this on your refrigerator.

Nov. 6 - 6-8pm Dinner & Worship
Nov 13 - 6-8pm Dinner & assist with the Madrigal concert

Nov 19 - Set up/decorate for pie auction 10am-noon

Nov 20 - Thanksgiving dinner & pie auction. 9am-4pm. Wear IGNITE shirts. Attendance required! No bible study!

Nov 27 - Hanging of the Greens for both services. 7:30am - noon. Wear IGNITE shirts. 6-8pm - Rake & run

Upcoming dates:

December 18 - Christmas Party at the Derks'

December 31 - Lock in

Thank you so much for your prayers and support! ☐

Thanksgiving Dinner & Pie Auction

Mark your calendars now for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner & Pie Auction, Sunday, November 20th immediately following second service. Please bring a dessert to be auctioned off and come hungry! All proceeds will go towards IGNITE's mission trip to Oklahoma. ☐

Camino News

Camino friends let's give thanks for our many blessings on Monday, November 14 at 6:30 pm as we gather for food, fun, spiritual enlightenment and fellowship. Cliff & Joan Saupe will serve as our hosts and Cliff will bring the devotional. ☐

Concert

Warsaw High School Madrigal Singers will be performing at 1st Church on Sunday, November 13 at 6:30 pm. There will be a love

offering that night. The money collected will go towards meals for their upcoming trip to California. Please come support these awesome youth! Refreshments will be served after the concert. ☐

Labels For Education

The Pre-School is collecting Labels For Education. The following is a list of products that will earn points for free merchandise. Campbell's®, Campbell's Select Harvest®, Campbell's® Chunky, Campbell's® Soup at Hand, Campbell's® Healthy Request, Campbell's® North America Food-service, Pepperidge Farm®, SpaghettiOs®, Swanson®, Prego®, Franco American®, Pop-Secret®, Bic®, Wolfgang Puck®, and Post® Labels. V8® caps. Place the labels and caps in the container in the entryway. ☐

Literacy Night

On November 29th the preschool will be hosting their second annual literacy night and Scholastic book fair. They will be having local guest readers, activities, refreshments and of course — the chance to buy books! This would be a great opportunity to pick up a few Christmas gifts as well as help raise money for the preschool. Literacy night is open to all ages 0-5 years (siblings are welcome to attend). Bring your kids, grandkids, or neighbors to share a great night full of reading, snacks, and fun! The book fair will be available in the narthex on November 27th before and after both services. It will also be open December 1st from 5-7 pm. ☐

