



# The Open Door

*a newsletter of*

## MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

[office@mccookumc.org](mailto:office@mccookumc.org) 105 East E Street McCook, NE 69001 308-345-2445

Jesus often used illustrations from farm life to make a point about his teaching. I have discovered some of these truths about life in my own work in the garden. I have never harvested anything other than what I planted. If I want white popcorn, I can't plant yellow popcorn seed and expect it to change in the growing season.

As we approach the coming of September, many of you have begun to harvest some of the seeds you planted earlier this spring. In past years when I didn't move to a new church, my own garden produced a variety of vegetables that we enjoyed. Corn, beans, lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, beets and dill are but a few of the items I grew. For those of you with gardens, it's now time to store up those vegetables for the fall and winter. I have done a lot of canning, but there are a numerous ways to preserve the fruit of our garden labor; canning, drying, freezing and pickling. Any of these methods will accomplish the desired purpose but some methods are better than others for preserving your garden vegetables. I suppose you could can strawberries whole, but freezing them seems to work much better.

At the church we offer a lot of ways for people to meet and engage themselves with the person of Jesus Christ. We have different styles of worship, Bible studies, Sunday School, small groups, mission activities and a whole host of ways to connect people with Christ. We are constantly looking for new or perhaps reviving old recipes to make sure every person who has come to a relationship with Christ remains in a growing relationship with Him.

As we get ready for an exciting, inspiring fall here at Memorial United Methodist Church, I encourage you to find the best method that will help you remain in Christ, so that, when he returns, you will be ready, not spoiled because of the negative influences of the world.

As a side note, we continue to settle in our new home and community. Debra is diligently working at making the parsonage a home for our family. Elizabeth is meeting new friends and navigating her way around the school. Ryan is back in Texas at LeTourneau University. Maranda our daughter who was just married is settling in to a new life phase in Kansas City and Nathan will be starting a new job in construction soon. I continue to visit, learn new names, wander down main street and familiarize myself with the nuances of McCook.

It is truly a blessing to be your pastor.

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

## September Birthdays:

Stacy Aguilar	Scott Graves	Kirk Messinger
Shirley Alberts	Kade Gray	Steven Miller
Danny Berndt	Caleb Griger	Jeff Mollring
Dean Berndt	Isaac Griger	Kent Nicholson
Jeff Boardman	Bernard Hall	Don Olson
Raegan Boyd	Brynn Hill	Sharon Parde
Drew Bredvick	Todd Hinze	Kristina Propes
Mike Brown	Amber Hixon	Tatum Radel
Jon Coburn	Tracy Hixon	Colleen Ramsay
Jeff Coleman	Justin Jensen	Jim Ruff
Frank Conley	Lydia Jensen	Laura Ruggles
Gloria Cotton	Gavin Johnson	Jaci Saalfeld
Joan Dike	Patty Keene	Jeff Smith
Dale Dueland	Jane Keith	Nicholas Smith
Chance Evans	Travis Keith	Stacy Springer
Jean Evans	Nina Loos	Jeanie Thurston
Char Froman	Whitney Loos	Pat Tuller
Tucker Gillespie	Dan Loper	Dana Wade
Kayla Goodenberger	Edith McCorkle	Annette Wagner
Jean Grant	Lyndsay McLaren	Steve Walter
		Jean Wilcox

## September Anniversaries:

Marilyn & Eugene Anderson  
 Helen & Dean Berndt  
 Janet & Charles Fritsche  
 Kathy & Mark Latta  
 Dixie & Marvin Lorentz  
 Andrea & Brandon Malleck  
 Eunice & Merlin Messinger  
 Staci & Jason Meyers  
 Heather & Scott Miracle  
 Pat & Ivan Schmid  
 Elda & Harley Shields  
 Nita & Art Skinner  
 Darlene & John Stansbury  
 Gretchen & Tim Wiebe  
 Robin & Gary Wolvin

## Little Blessings Preschool

We are so excited that our students are back for the 2016-2017 school year! We are starting the year off by learning about animals that live in the ocean. God made some pretty amazing creatures! We have 35 children enrolled for this school year. We are working hard on writing our names, learning shapes, colors and numbers. We have students who could use assistance this year. If you would like to sponsor a child or give to the preschool in any amount it would greatly Bless the children. We also have a goal to replace old carpet in front of the preschool room with vinyl flooring. We thank you for your prayers and support of these young children! Blessings to you - Traci



**Pantry collection item for September**  
**Canned Meat**



**YEAR-TO-DATE PENNY MARCH TOTAL**  
**Community Supper**  
**\$836.04**

WEEKLY SCHEDULE	<i>September 2016</i>						
	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<b>SUNDAY</b> 8:15/10:30am Worship 9:15am Coffee 6:00 pm Significant Light, S					1 6:30pm Trustees, L	2	3 6:00pm Singles
<b>TUESDAY</b> 9:30am Prayer Class, Adult SS Room <b>WEDNESDAY</b> 6:15 pm Mission Possible (7th) 6:15 pm WORD (9-10th), YC 7:00 pm Chancel Choir, S 7:30 pm WORD (11-12th) 8:00 pm Master Ringers, S <b>THURSDAY</b> 5:30pm Community Supper, FH					4	5 Labor Day	6
<b>September Unique Facts</b> Labor Day has its origins in Canada. It stemmed from the 1870's labor disputes in Toronto and in 1872 a parade was held in support of a strike against the 58 hour workweek.  September 9th, 1776, the name "United States of America" was adopted by the US!  September 19th is "Talk Like A Pirate Day" around the world... an international event.  On September 28th, 1820, tomatoes were first proven safe to eat.	11 Patriot Day	12 1:30PM Care Team, L	13	14 10:00AM Brookdale 2:30pm Hillcrest 8:00pm AD Council, L	15	16	17 6:00pm Singles
	18	19	20	21	22 1:30PM Esther Circle, FH	23	24
	25	26 5:30pm NOW, L	27	28 1:30pm Sarah Circle	29	30	

As we slide further into August, our summer vacations, rests and stay-cations seem to be falling quickly out of reach. That can only mean one thing: youth group along with all our youth activities are going to begin soon. I am so excited for the upcoming UMYF year and the possibilities it holds for all of us. We will start off with the youth kick off on **September 11**. Each month we will have one night for a lesson, one night for mission work, one night for games, and one night for business and organizational matters. Parents are always welcome to join us for any or all of our meetings.

New this year is "Food for Thought" which is the name of our lesson night. Each of those nights we will meet at my home (105 East F) and the youth are asked to bring a food or drink item to share the name of which begins with a certain letter-the letter will be determined by our topic for the night and will be announced in advance. For example if the letter is "G" they could bring Grapes, Gatorade. Green Jell-O, or any number of our things. Our first Food for Thought will be on **September 18** and the letter is "L".

Let us join together in learning, enjoying and glorifying God in this new year!

Pastor Arun Peters





105 EAST E STREET  
MCCOOK NE 69001  
308-345-2445

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 34  
McCook NE

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*"Praise Him with the sound of trumpet;  
Praise Him with the psaltery and harp  
Praise Him with timbrel and dance;  
Praise Him with stringed instruments..."*

*Psalm 150: 3-4*