

CONNECT To GOD



May 2019

Paula's Pondering

The Independence United Methodist Churches are working together to bring church day camp to Independence! This day camp is sanctioned by the Missouri Annual Conference and is run by Eagle Lake Camps. Churches all over the state of Missouri vie to host the limited number of camps each year. Our application was approved, so the Independence UMCs will host a week-long day camp **August 5-9, from 9 am - 4 pm each day, for ages 7-12**. The day camp will be held at Independence First on the square, since that was the most central location. The cost for this week of fun and learning is just \$100 per camper, because the Independence UMCs are subsidizing \$50 per camper.

My grandkids attended an Eagle Lake day camp at The Summit UMC in Lee's Summit last year and loved it! They enjoyed water activities, gaga ball, climbing wall, bungee trampoline and various inflatables. They read and discussed the Bible, met with their counselors, learned songs, did crafts, and created skits. They learned about God and their relationship with God, and they had FUN!!! I highly recommend this camp.

Our responsibility as one of the host churches is to provide and serve lunch for approximately 125 campers and counselors one day during the week, and to provide volunteers to sign the kids in one morning and make sure they get signed out and returned to their parent that afternoon. This is an inside-the-building job that can be done while sitting. There will be a sign-up sheet on the back table in the sanctuary for volunteers, for lunch servers, and for lunch preparers later on this summer.

This would be a wonderful opportunity for our children and grand-children, as well as the children in our neighborhoods. We would like to offer some

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scholarships to help make this a reality, especially for children who wouldn't have the opportunity to attend otherwise. We will take up a special collection for camp scholarships in the May worship services.

Sign-ups for camps are happening now. If you'd like to register your child or grandchild, go to www.eaglelakecamps.com and choose **Uptown Independence Day Camp**. I know you'll support this wonderful opportunity for our children.

Blessings,
Pastor Paula



Upcoming Events

- 5/5 Communion
- 5/12 Mother's Day
- 5/27 Memorial Day
- TBD Indian Taco Dinner



Birthdays

May

- 5/2 Marilyn Berry
- 5/6 Lucille Bolen
- 5/17 Joanne Ring
- 5/23 John Cahill



Sunday Sermons

Series: Clear Vision

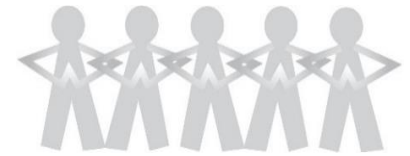
- 5/19 Clear Vision: Encountering God.....Genesis 28:16-19
- 5/26 Clear Vision: Following ChristMatthew 4:18-20

Phone Prayer Chain

If you know of a member in need of prayer, please call one of the below prayer warriors, starting at the top. If they are not at home, leave a message or call the next person on the list.

Philippians 4:6... Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Prayer Chain



- Pat Townsend..... 373-3915 or 225-9459
- Rosemary Garten.....427-5725 or 519-8500
- Carol Marcks427-5725 or 560-5627
- Marilyn Berry..... 796-5789
- Lucille Bolen 560-5131
- Mary Branstad796-9659 or 868-3752
- Ann Fiene 257-5214
- Jackie Leffingwell 257-1123
- Linda Roberts650-5131 or 853-3398

- Carol Buhrlé 796-3630 or 225-8174
- Shirley Weaver..... 461-9224 or 716-1184
- Chris Pauley571-3922
- Gayle Elliott.....257-9655
- Arletta Cahill.....600-9203
- Flora Costanza914-8034
- Sandy Bower373-5603
- Anna Inman (660) 232-1221
- Jackie McMenemy.....461-7577

Bread Of Life Food Pantry

The Food Pantry and Clothes Closet have new hours for all those busy families needing food. If you would like to help starting **Saturday, May 11**, call the office or Asia. Thank you for your help & donations!

We need **Canned Vegetables and Mac-N-Cheese**

2019	FAMILIES	PEOPLE	ITEMS OUT	ITEMS IN
JAN	48	170	563	1658
FEB	33	102	921	1222
MAR	27	75	756	775



Annual Post Office Food Drive

We have been chosen to receive food! If anyone can help on **Saturday, May 11**, please contact the office or Asia. Thank you!

Web: www.facebook.com/BreadOfLifeStUMC

UM Men's Minutes

Twelve members were present for the **April 13** meeting.

All lawn mowers working. Indian Taco Dinner was scheduled for Saturday, May 11, but will need to be rescheduled. New date to be determined. An Emergency Contact List will be created for building repairs. Treasurer Report and Old Business were approved.

Projects accepted: (1) Scholarships for Rotating Youth Camp and (2) Ft. Osage Graduating Project to get \$50. Joshua gave "Back to Chrisman High School" testimony. Next meeting is May 11.

Treasurers Report:

Opening Balance \$4,481.94
 Sam's Club/Church Supplies \$84.54
 Ending Balance: **\$4,481.94**

UM Women's Minutes

Six members were present for the **April 2** meeting. March minutes were read & approved.

We yielded \$657 from St. Pat's Potato Bar on March 16 and we spent \$86.77 for pizza for Randall School Teacher on Parent/Teacher Conference night.

UMW will hold Sunday, June 9 worship service in the local church. Rev. Paula will be at Annual Conference & Beckie Stark will coordinate service. Shirley Weaver will give the message.

Honorary mementos will be given to mom's on Mother's Day. Sugar Creek City Wide Garage Sale is on May 3 & 4.

Ending Balance:**\$2,952.40**



Are You 100% Sure?



He is risen! Jesus Christ died for us so that we may have eternal life... only if we personally accept his gift of salvation.

"But I go to church regularly and do good things! Doesn't that count for anything?" Those things are good, but they do NOT give you a ticket into heaven! Many people are sitting in pews across America thinking they are going to heaven. They believe in God, but they have not personally accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

The Bible tells us in **Matthew 7:13**, "... For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it."

The Bible also tells us in **Matthew 7:21-23**, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

You may not remember the day, but do you remember the moment you asked Are You 100% sure?... 75% sure?... 25% sure? If you are not 100% sure, then there may be a good chance your name is not written in the Book of Life. But the good news is that God tells us we can be 100% sure... right now. Let's take this opportunity to share with you how you can be 100% sure you are going to heaven when you die.

The Bible says in . . .

- **Romans 3:10**, "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:"
- **Romans 3:23**, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"
- **Romans 5:12**, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"
- **Romans 6:23**, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
- **Romans 5:8**, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
- **Romans 10:9,10, 13**, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

It doesn't matter how good or bad your life has been before. If you "call upon," or "ask" Him to save you, He will. In **James 4:14** it says, "You do not even know what will happen tomorrow! What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." Don't play around with your eternal destiny because we don't know what tomorrow brings!

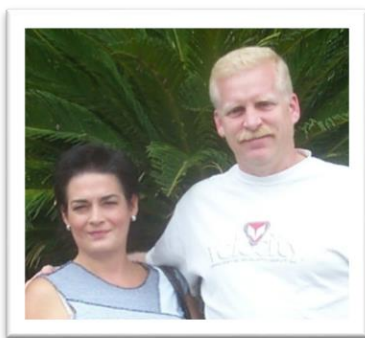
HERE IS HOW YOU GET TO HEAVEN:

Admit that you are a sinner. Believe Jesus is the Son of God. Believe He died to pay for your sins. Ask Him to forgive your sins. If you are truly sorry for your sins and would like for God to save your soul, you can ask Him by praying something like this:

"Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and that I deserve eternal punishment in hell. I turn from my sin, and turn to Your payment for my sin on the cross. I accept your gift of eternal life. I trust You only, Jesus, to save me from my sin. Come into my heart. Thank you for saving me from hell. Thank you for the gift of eternal life. Amen."

If you just now trusted Christ to save you, congratulations!!! You have just made the most important decision of your life. Let Pastor Paula know, and she will be glad to help you further your walk with your Savior, Jesus Christ. If you have any questions concerning your eternal destiny, please see Pastor Paula.

A Little Bit About Debra



My name is Debra Earley. I'm the new administrative assistant at St. Mark's. I was asked to tell you a little about myself. So here it goes, ready or not!

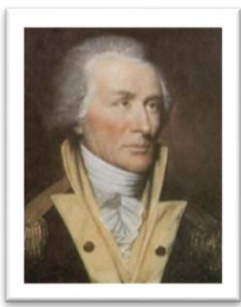
I was born and raised in Independence. I have one younger sister who lives in Kearney. My mother is still living at 79 and my dad passed away at age 83 in 2017. I received the Lord as my personal savior in 1986. I've been married to a wonderful Christian man, Mike, for 20 years. We live in Englewood and have no children, but we do have a 16-year-old chihuahua that has PTSD and an 11-year-old miniature pinscher with an attitude.

Mike has over 300 skydiving jumps and his D license. Before we were married, his best friend said if I want to get my future husband's attention, that I would have to jump 10,000 feet out of a plane. For the sake of love and the little bit of a risktaker that I am, I went skydiving twice... but it took me 4 months to talk myself into it. Do **NOT** try this unless you have a good ticker! We spend a lot of time with family, both ride motorcycles, practice our 2nd Amendment, go to weekly estate sales, attend weekly small group Bible studies and church at Abundant Life in Lee's Summit.



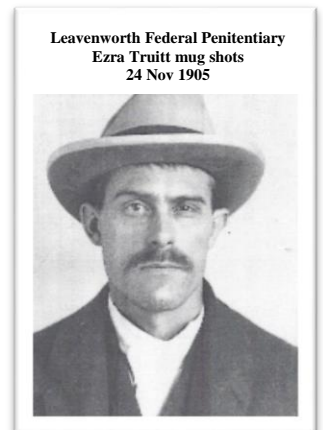
In my professional background, I've worked in Cardiology at Children's Mercy Hospital, and in Human Resources at a business consulting firm and at Hallmark Cards. I worked in the pharmaceutical industry for 7 years at Quintiles in the Biostatistics Department before I was laid off 5 years ago.

During this time, I found an interest in domestic and global history. I ran for office as a Jackson County Committeewoman, representing 8 districts. I'm a desktop publishing specialist with photo editing experience and have recently taken up watercolor painting and other mixed media.



I have a great passion for genealogy and have almost 3,000 in my family tree. Over 30 years of research traces my dad's origin back to 1011 AD with our first grandfather being named Hercules from Northumbria, England. My 5th great uncle was American Revolutionary War hero, [General Thomas Sumpter](#), which [Ft. Sumter](#) was named after and where the first shots of the Civil War took place. He knew George Washington, and served as a U.S. Congressman in 1789 and as a Senator in 1801. He was the last surviving General of the American Revolutionary War.

On the other extreme of the spectrum, my 2nd great grandfather was arrested for bigamy in 1898. He was a professional counterfeiter and was incarcerated for about 8 years before he was killed and buried at Ft. Leavenworth Prison in 1908 at the age of 41. My mother's side is from Puerto Rico. I found my mom's long-lost sister whom she had never met and united them for the first time after 50 years. Ancestry.com wanted to do a commercial about it, but circumstances didn't work out.



Anyway, that is my life in a nutshell. If you get a chance, stop by the office and say hello, and tell me a little about yourself! Tootles for now!

Church Mice

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