

# The First Presbyterian Church in Wamego

# ILLUMINATOR

The First Presbyterian Church in Wamego Newsletter • November 2017



## Pastor's Ponderings

by Bill Vincent  
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church



The two naturally go together.

Thanks...giving.  
Giving thanks.  
Thankfulness and giving.

Someone once said, "The heart gives. The fingers just let go."

Maybe, too, (it could be said) the heart gives, the fingers – and hands – reach out. For that's what happens when we give. We reach out. Reach out to others to help, to care, to love. Reach out to God in gratitude.

Too often, though, we're all wrapped up in "thanks-getting." Not because we are receiving thanks, but because we're excited about getting – getting stuff, getting money, getting prestige, getting ... you name it. "Thanks-getting," however, heads us in the wrong direction. It leads us into our own self-centered cocoon. It leads us away from God and others.

Maybe we need to remember the Pilgrims whose initial celebration we commemorate each Thanksgiving Day. They gathered together to give thanks knowing how much God had given to them.

God has given much to us, too, from plenty of food to a variety of clothing, from the beauty of the world to the joy of human love. When we open our eyes and minds and hearts to perceive and acknowledge how much (everything!) God has given to us, then we cannot help but give thanks.

And we cannot help but give. Give of our time and energy and resources. Give to celebrate and share out of our abundance. Give, not to try to re-pay God (which would be impossible), but give as a way of saying "Thank you!" (which is not only possible, but desirable).

"We love because God first loved us" (1 John 4:19). We give because God first gave to us.

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## Ongoing

- Women' Study group** at 1:30 p.m. on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays in fellowship hall
- AA** Thursdays at 8 p.m. in lower level fellowship hall
- Inductive Bible study** Fridays at 6 p.m. in fellowship hall
- 2nd Sunday Lunches** monthly\*
- Session meets** 1st Wednesday monthly at 7 p.m. in conference room\*
- Deacons meet** 2nd Wednesday monthly at 6 p.m. in fellowship hall

## November

- 2 Set up for Holly Fest** at 5:30p.m., dinner provided for volunteers and vendors
- 4 Holly Fest** from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Pulled pork sandwiches or ham and beans served in fellowship hall starting at 11 a.m.
- 5 Stewardship Sunday BBQ Lunch** after worship in fellowship hall
- 8 Moms of OZ** in fellowship hall at 2 p.m.
- 9 Lions Club** meeting in fellowship hall at 6:30 p.m.
- 12 No 2nd Sunday Lunch** after worship
- 15 Christmas Bureau meeting** in fellowship hall at noon
- 19 Blood Pressure Clinic** following worship **Minstrels** to Vintage Park at 2 p.m.
- 20 Christmas Bureau meeting** in fellowship hall at noon
- 23/24 Office Closed**
- 29 Christmas Bureau meeting** at noon in fellowship hall

## December

- 6 Moms of OZ** in fellowship hall at 9 a.m.  
**Christmas Bureau** in fellowship hall at noon
- 9 Christmas Bureau Distribution** at First United Methodist Church
- 10 No 2nd Sunday Lunch**  
**Mission Committee meeting** in conference room after worship
- 17 Blood Pressure Clinic** following worship  
**Deacons Soup Luncheon** after worship, followed by church-wide **Christmas Caroling**  
Desserts served after caroling in Fellowship Hall
- 20 Christmas Open House**, 10 a.m.-Noon.
- 24 Christmas Eve Communion Service** 7 p.m.
- 25 Office Closed**
- 28 Lions Club meeting** in fellowship hall at 6:30 p.m.



# OUR CHURCH

## *In the News*

### First Presbyterian Church

601 Elm Street  
Wamego, KS 66547  
785-456-2556

#### Elders

Glenn Brunkow     Craig Johnson  
Vernon Fails     Mary Beth Pfrang  
Sarah Hancock     Dick Shields  
Terri Hollenbeck     Brian Wohler  
Barry Jacques

#### Deacons

Kathy Bracken     Alex McKenzie  
Jennifer Brunkow     Pat Nelson  
Norm Delay     Brenda Patterson  
Bette Kastner     Lorinda Sultzer

#### Others

**Corporation President:** Darold Brunkow  
**Family Emergency Fund:** Callie Hildebrand, Darold Brunkow, and Pat Nelson  
**Treasurers:** Sherry Breymeyer and Julie Shields  
**Assistant Treasurers:** Stan and Susan Symons

#### Staff

**Pastor:** Bill Vincent  
**Church Phone:** 785-456-2556  
**Home Phone:** 785-456-2376  
**Cell Phone:** 573-576-6088  
**Email:** pastorbillv@gmail.com

**Administrative Assistant:** Brenda Patterson  
**Clerk of Session:** Richard Shields  
**Organist:** Dale Breymeyer  
**Choir Director:** Sarah Hancock  
**Custodians:** Bob and Lorinda Sultzer  
**Child Care:** Page Nelson (temporary)

#### Website

[www.wamegopresbyterian.org](http://www.wamegopresbyterian.org)

Church email address  
[wampresby@gmail.com](mailto:wampresby@gmail.com)

Mailing address  
601 Elm St., Wamego, KS 66547

Telephone: 785-456-2556  
Fax: 785-456-8931

#### Pastor's Ponderings continued from page 1

Giving thanks for God's giving to us. Giving, in thankfulness for God's giving to us.

Thanks...giving. It is reason for celebration. It is focus for living. ■

Peace in Christ,  
Bill Vincent



## *Covered in Prayers*

On October 22, Callie Allenbrand was presented with a prayer quilt, lovingly made by the quilting group at our church. After worship, church members were invited to tie knots in the quilt as they said a prayer for Callie.

Callie will take her quilt with her while she undergoes hip surgery in early November at Shriners Hospital in St. Louis, MO.

Our prayers are with you, Callie, and with your mom, grandma, and sister while you are on the mend. ■



## **Helping where we can**

The Special Presbyterian Disaster offering was \$1,350. Thank you for your generosity.

Pastor Bill delivered five clean up buckets to the Presbytery meeting on October 10. ■

- Mission Committee

# News from the Pews

## A look at what our members have been doing outside of church.

**Sheena Savaloja** was football manager this year at Wamego Middle School. The team ended the season undefeated and the police followed them into town after winning their last game. This is the first time the middle school football team has had an undefeated season in 29 years.

**Sheryl Wohler** is running for a position on the 320 district school board.

**Dick and Julie Shields** are proud to announce their daughter Bethany is officially engaged, and are thrilled she is happy with the situation.

**Blaine Hupe** has the lead role in the Wamego High School production of "Big."

**Dora Morris'** son, Scot was here from Texas for a few days and helped with some heavy yard work. ■



## Special Message

Pam Delay spends time sharing a special message with our younger members. Older members in the congregation enjoy her message just as much. ■



## BBQ Goodness

Barry Jacques participated in the first annual BBQ contest at this year's OZtoberfest. Youth from our church volunteered their time to help serve. Barry donated the proceeds to our youth.

If you missed out, come to the Stewardship Dinner, Sunday, Nov. 5 after worship. Everyone is invited to stay after worship. WPW will be selling items from Holly Fest and we will hold our annual basket raffle. ■

## Ongoing Activities

### Adult Christian Education Class

9 a.m. each Sunday in the Conference Room, nursery available.

### Youth Christian Education Class

The high school/middle school youth will have class each Sunday at 9 a.m. in the youth room downstairs.

"The Littles" (K-5th) will have class downstairs during worship following the Children's Sermon.

### Worship

10:15 a.m. each Sunday.

### Women's Study Group

1:30 p.m. the 1st and 3rd Tuesday in Fellowship Hall.

### Sewing / Crafts Group

3-5 p.m. 2nd Tuesday of each month in Fellowship Hall.

### 2nd Sunday Lunch

Lunch after worship the 2nd Sunday of the month in Fellowship Hall.

### AA Meets

8 p.m. each Thursday in lower level Fellowship Hall.

### Inductive Bible Study

6 p.m. each Friday in Fellowship Hall.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### November

- 3 Connie Rockey
- 5 Tatum Brunkow
- 6 Callie Allenbrand
- 7 Alec Hupe
- 11 Sharon Oliver
- 16 Virginia Hupe
- 17 Presley Hollenbeck  
Cadence Kueker  
Jimmy Tessendorf
- 18 Glenn & Jennifer Brunkow  
Barry & Stephanie Jacques
- 24 Nicole Block
- 25 Carter Block
- 26 Dan & Lisa Moser  
Brian & Sheryl Wohler
- 28 Jacqueline Wohler  
Bill & Connie Rockey
- 29 Kara White

### December (cont)

- 21 Bill Rockey
- 22 Ryan Kueker  
Anastasia Walker  
Max & Kay Russell
- 30 Phil Mahan

### January

- 1 John Habluetzel  
Stan Symons  
Norm & Pam Delay
- 4 Sam Fails
- 5 Jan White
- 6 Eric & Marjory Artzer
- 7 B.J. Eichem  
Kerry Dillon
- 10 Chris Anderson
- 11 Josh Eichem
- 14 Sue Potter
- 17 Warren Carnahan  
Rob Potter

### December

- 1 Lynne Morton  
Bill & Kim Ayres
- 6 Terri Hollenbeck
- 7 Nancy Grondin  
Gary Zinn
- 8 Brenda Patterson
- 15 Harper Jacques  
Max Russell
- 17 Jackson White
- 20 Shirley Carnahan  
Carl Oliver  
Brook Uhrich
- 21 Jessica Hollenbeck
- 26 Craig Johnson
- 27 Mariah Uhrich
- 28 Marie Carrel
- 29 Jennifer Brunkow  
Harriet Woodyard

# 2nd Sunday

## Lunch after Worship

October's Baked Potato Bar was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who came and enjoyed great food prepared by the Deacons.

**No 2nd Sunday in November**, because of our Stewardship dinner after worship the first Sunday, Nov. 5th.

**December 2nd Sunday** will happen on the third Sunday, Dec. 17 in conjunction with church-wide caroling.

We will serve a variety of home made soups, prepared lovingly by our Deacons, biscuits, and veggies after worship. Then join us for carolling. We'll come back to church for desserts.

If you would like more information, please call the church office, 456-2556. ■



## Thank You

To Wamego Presbyterian Church  
& Pastor Bill Vincent,

I just want to personally thank your congregation for helping with Presbytery of Norther Kansas' hurricane response through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. We are sending nearly 250 buckets from PNK! Nationally the church has donated more than \$5.3 million to this effort. PDA is working closely with the Synod of Puerto Rico while continuing to work in Texas, Florida and the Caribbean. We are hoping to be able to send one or more mission teams in 2018.

Thank you so much for being a part of this great effort. ■

Pat Ireland

Coordinator for Stewardship and Mission

## Choir News

Choir has reconvened for the Thanksgiving and Advent seasons on Wednesdays at 5:45 p.m. All adult and youth singers welcome. Come and enjoy singing and fellowship with us.

If you can't make Wednesdays, please contact Sarah Hancock at sarhan@ksu.edu. We can add rehearsals on select Sundays immediately following worship if necessary. ■

## Thrive!

by Sarah Hancock

We've witnessed so many disasters lately — hurricanes and shootings come to mind — and many of us feel powerless at times to make a positive impact in a world full of needs. I know many in our congregation help with many causes, but if you are looking for a way to help people in our area, I hope you'll take a moment to learn about an organization that serves Riley and Pottawatomie counties. It's called Thrive!

Thrive! is a nonprofit organization with the mission of reducing poverty by building skills and relationships that strengthen families and individuals. The focus is on the individual (known as a Leader) with help from a trained volunteer (known as an Ally). Individual Leaders are paired with Allies who are willing to be good listeners and to offer moral support and a nonjudgmental, consistent presence and sounding board. Leaders have classes to help them build the skills and confidence necessary to set goals and work toward attaining them. The program does not provide financial handouts, although it may at times connect Leaders with available local resources.

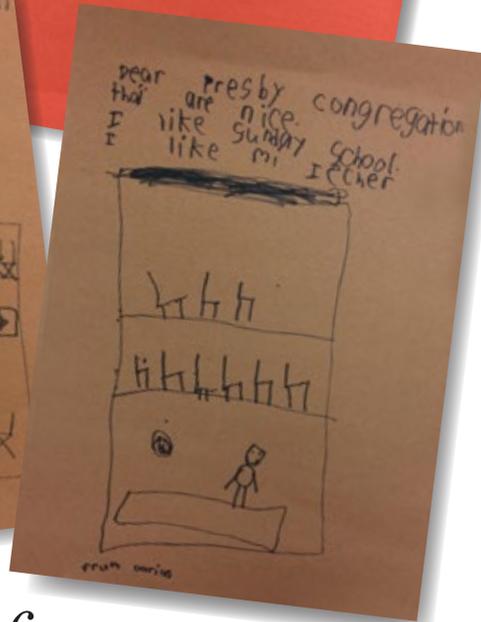
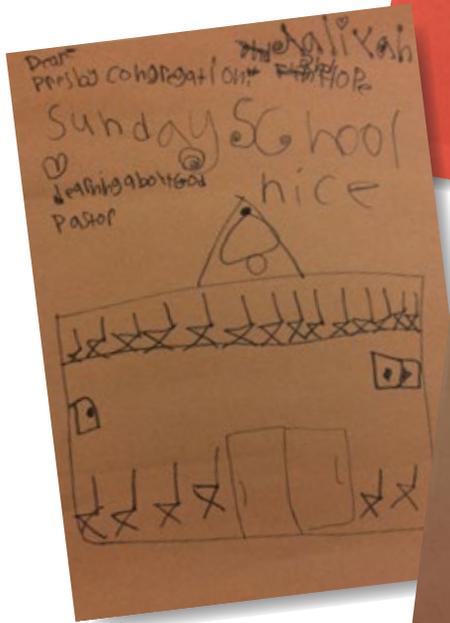
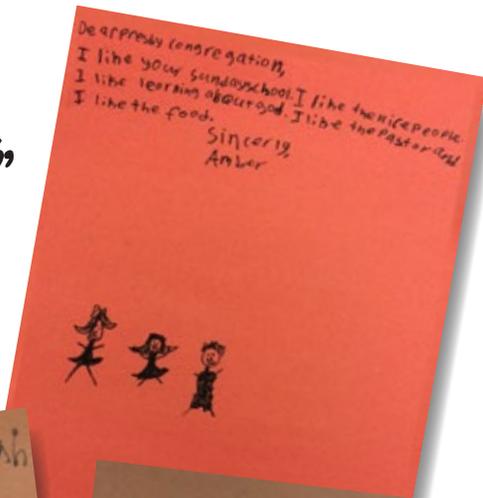
Thrive! meets on Tuesday evenings. The First United Methodist Church on Poyntz in Manhattan graciously allows Thrive! to use its Harris Activity Center to provide a regular Tuesday meal and meeting place. Classes and activities — including activities for Leaders' children — always take place on Tuesdays. Thrive! is recruiting Allies for its upcoming session. Interested individuals will attend a 3-hour training workshop.

I recently joined the board of Thrive!, and I would welcome your questions. If you are interested in finding out more about becoming an Ally, please email me at sechancock@gmail.com or contact Jayme Morris-Hardeman at jmorrisardeman@gmail.com or jayme@thriveflinthills.com.

Thrive also has a Facebook page, so you can like its page to find more information—search for "Thriveflinthills" or @thrivefh1. ■

# Thank You Notes from "The Littles"

Reade Wohler is teaching "The Littles" class this fall during worship. These are Thank You notes created by her class to share with the congregation. ■



## OZtoberfest fun

Many of our members were involved in OZtoberfest success, Oct. 7 this year by either volunteering, participating, or coming out to support the event.

Bob and Lorinda Sultzer, Angela Allenbrand, and Callie Allenbrand were very involved at this year's OZtoberfest celebration.

Bob ran sound on one of the entertainment stages, while Angela, Callie and Lorinda ran Munchkin Junction children's games.

Bob and Lorinda also created the sets for the Oz Murder Mystery, table decorations for special events, Farmers Market, and the vignettes on the street.

Oct. 7 was a good day to be in Wamego. ■



## Take Note

### Don't forget to fall back Nov. 5th!

**Daylight Savings ends** Sunday, Nov. 5th. Not only will we have a wonderful lunch after worship together, but we get to sleep in an extra hour! So, don't forget to set your clocks before you go to bed Saturday night. We'll have the coffee on in Fellowship Hall in case you forget! ■

### Save Your Change!

**The youth have begun** their project, "Change for a Change." If you haven't picked up your Mason jar at church to save your change, let us know. For more information, please talk to Sheryl Wohler or one of the youth in our church. ■

### Worship Leaders Needed

**If you would be interested** in assisting in the worship services by being liturgist, please let us know by signing up on the clipboard located in the Narthex. ■

### Weekly prayer list

**Weekly prayer list** is located on the table beneath welcome board in the Narthex. ■

### From the Deacons

**The Deacons focus** is Pray & Serve. We are here for you. Let us know if you are in or going into the hospital. We want to know how we can serve you by visiting, providing meals upon returning home and other needs you may have. If you are unable to call, you may ask a family member to call the church office at 456-2556.

Bette Kastner (785-456-9161) and Alex McKenzie (785-844-2710) will be the contact Deacons for this part of our ministry.

If you have other needs or questions, please call the office. ■

### Fill the cart at church with non-perishable food items

**Bring non-perishable food items** to church the first Sunday of each month. All items collected will be given to the Community Health Ministry Food Bank and the Food Pantry at the First United Methodist Church. ■



First Presbyterian Church  
601 Elm Street  
Wamego, KS 66547

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



15<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**HOLLY  
FEST**  
Saturday, Nov. 4  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Arts & Crafts on each level of the Church,  
Pulled Pork Sandwiches with Cole Slaw,  
Ham and Beans with Cornbread,  
Cookies-By-The-Dozen, and  
Homemade Pie



*We will have  
**Poinsettias**  
available to purchase for the  
church sanctuary in memory  
of someone, in honor of  
someone, or as a gift for our  
church family for the Advent  
season.*

*Poinsettias are \$7.50.*

*Envelopes will be available in  
the Narthex.*

Want to know more about activities at the First Presbyterian Church?

Visit [www.wamegopresbyterian.org](http://www.wamegopresbyterian.org)