

Waverly United Methodist Church Newsletter

September - December 2018

open hearts
open minds
open doors



FESTIVAL OF SHARING

This year the format for Festival of Sharing was changed from one central location in Sedalia to several places around the state. The board decided to use the Noisy Offering for a donation. Because the kids collect the Noisy Offering, during the Children's Time the kids decided what project to support. They were told about dental kits, school kits and flood buckets. They chose to send the \$625 that they had collected for flood buckets to be used in the recent hurricane areas.



HANGING OF THE GREENS

Please join us on Wednesday, November 28 at 3:30 p.m. for Hanging of the Greens. Come and help decorate our church for Advent and Christmas!

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR FOOD PANTRY

This year the Christmas Gifts for the food pantry patrons will be given out in our basement because of the change in the way the food is given out. The gifts need to be unwrapped, as the guests choose items to use as gifts on Saturday December 8 and 15. The items are for men, women, teens, and children. A guideline for gifts is around \$5.00. No clothes except for gloves/hats and scarves. The items may be brought to the church any time; there is a box in the foyer. We need the gifts by Friday, December 7 for setting up. This is a project that is much appreciated by the clients of the food pantry.



CHRISTMAS CANTATA

On Sunday, December 2, the choir will present the Christmas cantata, "Morning Star: Celebrating the Everlasting Light of Christmas," by Lloyd Larson. This will be the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Because of the cantata, the usual pattern of having Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month will be changed, and Holy Communion will be on Sunday, December 9, instead.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS - August 12 was the last Sunday of Summer vacation for most of the kids at church. The students present came forward with their backpacks for a special prayer and blessing for a good school year for them, teachers and staff members. We have kindergarten through sophomores in high school this year. At the close of the blessing, the kids received a gift from Pastor Sally.

ALL SAINT'S DAY – There is a tradition in churches to honor those Christians who have passed away, on the Sunday closest to All Saints Day, November 1. According to the United Methodist Book of Worship, it “is a day of remembrance for all the saints, with the New Testament meaning of all Christian people, of every time and place.” This year, the saints we honored in worship on Sunday, November 4 were: Charles Lebold, Charlotte Zumalt, Mary K. Lamp, Harry Lindhorst, Rosalyn Borchers, and Loyal Campbell. These people blessed our lives, and it was our privilege to acknowledge that. May they all rest in peace.

ALL SAINTS
DAY



BOY SCOUT COURT OF HONOR - On Sunday, November 2, three young men received the high Boy Scout honor of Eagle Scout. The ceremony was held in the church sanctuary. Brett Ives, Leyton Minnis, and Blake Hostetter were the Scouts of the hour. Their parents, the Boy Scout Troop #243 and its leaders all took part in the event. Becoming an Eagle Scout is a very special, as well as rare honor. How proud our church can be of these three young men whose Boy Scout troop our church sponsors!

“FIVE CUPS OF COFFEE” - November 17 was the last session of our 5 Cups of Coffee discussions on talking to people about being a Christian in ordinary, daily conversations. The first 'cup' was about how to begin a discussion about God in daily situations. The next cups were how to use individual gifts, the things we are passionate about, how to connect with God daily, and finally to see the opportunities for engaging in a God/Christian conversation with either a believer or non-believer. This training is part of Bishop Farr's Action Plan for this year. Nancy Peters was the excellent mentor for this group experience.



Lyla Erdman, Clara Mae Vandiver, Brayden Livingston, Kaylee and Kadie Drunert, Wyatt and Charlie Tyre.



Children's Sabbath was celebrated on October 21. Several children took part in the service as candle lighters (normal), ushers and readers. They sang several songs which were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

CONCERT EVENING



The Waverly United Methodist Church and their guests had a terrific time when the Phil and Pam Morgan concert was held on Sunday evening, October 28.

Phil and Pam provided us with great, uplifting contemporary Christian music, as well as an inspiring testimony about Pam's miraculous healing from a terrible car accident. It was so inspiring to hear her story and music, after recovering from injuries from which her doctors had thought she would never overcome. Also, Phil's piano-playing was stupendous. One comment was that "the church's grand piano got a real work-out!"

After the concert, the audience had the opportunity to visit with the guests and each other while enjoying a lovely dessert buffet. Thanks to the bakers of the cookies, pie, cake, cream puffs and the yummy strawberry dessert.

Let's hope that we can sponsor another concert with Phil and Pam Morgan, at some time in the future.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL DAY

This fall, our one-day Vacation Bible School had the theme of Thanksgiving. Those attending got to see a cartoon video about the historical events of Thanksgiving.

There were also numerous crafts, activities, games and refreshments. Several of the crafts had opportunities for noting what each child is grateful to God for in his or life.

A good time was had by all! We hope to share pictures of this event in our next newsletter.



Confirmation

Sunday worship on October 28 was especially joyous! Adam Utlaut was confirmed.

Confirmation is the time in the United Methodist Church when a young person makes his or her own decision to be a Christian, and the baptismal vows made on his or her behalf earlier in life are 'confirmed.' (In some cases, baptism and confirmation take place on the same day.)

Adam also became a full member in the Waverly United Methodist Church with all the rights and responsibilities of adult membership.

The members of the congregation, in welcoming Adam, also renewed their own vows of the Christian faith and church membership.

It is always wonderful when a young person is confirmed. It is wonderful for the congregation, the family, the minister, and of course, the confirmand. May the happiness of this event remain with us all.



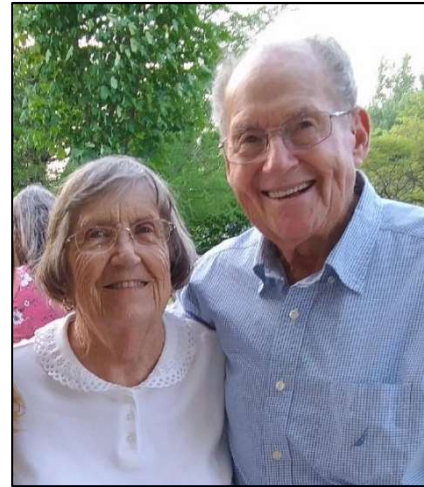
Welcome

We want to welcome our newest member of the Waverly United Methodist Church. Don Riley, as the oldest member of the congregation, greeted Adam on behalf of the congregation.



Member Spotlight

By Sarah Schmidt



Don and Jean Riley

Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Romans 12:11

Don and Jean Riley live a life in this type of service. Zeal and fervor in service to our country, to the community, to the church and to their family.

Both Don and Jean were born in Waverly, but Jean moved to the Grand Pass bottoms as an infant. She grew up there, attending the United Methodist Church of Grand Pass and graduated from Grand Pass High School.

Don lived in town and attended the Presbyterian Church with his parents until he was 7 years old. It was then that his mother instructed him to attend the Methodist Church. Why did she send her son away to find a new church? She felt there were no young people attending the Presbyterian Church and that it would soon die out. Don says she was right - youth is the lifeblood of any church. Don has been attending the Waverly United Methodist Church ever since.

After graduating from Waverly High School, Don joined the Navy to serve his country. He served during a critical time for our nation, just after World War II and was stationed on a Destroyer. It was after his return that he and Jean married on Jan. 12, 1951 in the Presbyterian Church. Don recalls that on that January day it was unseasonably warm at 70 degrees outside.

In the early years, Jean drove to Kansas City to work at Frigidaire and Don worked with his dad at the General Store in town, serving the community with the essentials of everyday life. In 1961, Don and Jean bought out his parents and turned the store into a hardware and sporting goods shop. In 1975, they sold the business. Don's service to the community continued as a rural mail carrier and later as Postmaster of Waverly.

Jean and Don raised 5 children, all of whom attended the United Methodist Church growing up. Though Jean was busy with kids, she made time for service to her church as board treasurer, youth choir leader, adult choir member and being active in the United Methodist Women's group. One of her hobbies and passions through life has been sewing, a pastime that helped her in her service to her family as well as to her church and community. Her handiwork is present still today in the church in the banners that hang in the sanctuary and the red robes and white vestments used at Christmastime for the children. Don has held positions on the UMC board, has been active in men's club and has been a longtime member of the choir.

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The couple's service to the youth of the community came in many forms. Don served as Scout master for the local Boy Scout troop which was chartered through the Waverly UMC as it still is today. Don felt a calling to help young boys because of his own experience with Boy Scouts. He was the first to earn the rank of Eagle in Waverly. Jean served as a den leader for the Cub Scout pack and also was a leader for the Girl Scouts. The two were also instrumental in bringing the Waverly swimming pool to the community, serving on the founding board of that organization.

When things settled down in life - kids gone, retired from careers - the Riley's enjoyed camping and relishing in God's creation of nature. Don took a fancy to copper work, making chimes. And Jean's lifelong passion of sewing brought her to work with a church group sewing sleeping bags for the homeless. They enjoy the blessings of a large family including their 5 kids, 11 grandkids and 8 great-grandkids.

The couple's love and passion for singing has remained steadfast through the years. Their commitment to the choir remains strong today, as they now drive from Lexington each week for choir practice and for weekly church services. Their faces are a comforting constant in the choir each Sunday. An example of the zealous and fervent service we should all strive to live out each day.



Something from Sally

Dear Friends,

What a wonderful time of year this is! The leaves on the trees have been so beautiful, and we have had quite a few sunny days to enjoy them (before it began snowing!)

I find it so intriguing and great that God created things this way. God deliberately made the trees to have their green summer leaves change color in the fall, so that they become red, orange, gold and brown—and so many shades in between.

Yes, chlorophyll, decreasing daylight, and cooler temperatures are all part of this. God created this whole system and process and set it all in motion, giving us such beauty and wonder.

When we sing the hymn, "For the Beauty of the Earth," our "hymn of grateful praise" to God, this is one very special beauty of this earth.

May we all see God's wonders in our days!

God bless you,

Pastor Sally



Nov. 1 – Brad Hinz
Nov. 2 – Maren Tyre
Nov. 3 – Jack Peters, Leigha Graf
Nov. 5 – Gingly Lebold, Nathan Wesley
Nov. 8 – Scott Livingston
Nov. 10 – Scott & Kristina Campbell
Nov. 14 – Amber Drunert
Nov. 17 – Gary & Vickie Zumalt
Nov. 20 – David & Jeanie Peters
Nov. 21 – Allie Wesley, Karen Zumalt
Nov. 23 – Ann Vogel
Nov. 25 – Gia Baldwin

Dec. 4 – Seth Tyre, Brian Erdman
Dec. 6 – Lyla Erdman
Dec. 7 – Donnell Wesley
Dec. 18 – Kathy Abshire
Dec. 19 – Keaton Graf
Dec. 24 – Charlie Tyre, Anthony Dudley
Dec. 28 – Clara Mae Vandiver, Randy & Sally DeMasters
Dec. 31 – Sophie Frazier

Jan. 1 – Margo Larkin
Jan. 2 – Cody Barrett
Jan. 4 – Richard Livingston
Jan. 8 – Todd Graf
Jan. 9 – Carolyn Campbell, Al & Carol Sanders
Jan. 10 – Wyatt Tyre
Jan. 12 – Don & Jean Riley
Jan. 14 – David Peters
Jan. 15 – Drew Schmidt
Jan. 16 – Kim Burton
Jan. 17 – Alicia Jones
Jan. 20 – Kaylee Drunert, Charlie Larkin
Jan. 28 – Garrick Baldwin
Jan. 29 – Ava Schmidt
Jan. 30 – Carol Graf

Feb. 2 – Mitch Baldwin
Feb. 3 – Greg Drunert
Feb. 4 – Sam Peters
Feb. 6 – Lindsey Tyre
Feb. 8 – Andrew Utlaut, Paul Peters
Feb. 9 – Margaret Catlett
Feb. 10 – Richard & Kathleen Livingston
Feb. 13 – Max & Jacob Hollingsworth, Ethan Campbell, Tommy Drunert
Feb. 17 – Kelly Erdman
Feb. 21 – Seth & Lindsey Tyre
Feb. 22 – Michael & Laura Barrett

Congratulations

Andrew Smith and Alicia Painter announced their engagement and are planning a fall 2019 wedding.

Jacob Hollingsworth and Aubrey Davis announced their engagement in October and are planning a wedding in 2019, but the season is still being decided.

GOOD LUCK!

December will see our high school and college students taking finals. Keep them in your prayers as they prepare and take these important tests.



COME JOIN US
UPCOMING EVENTS...

Sunday, November 18 – Youth Group begins, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 21 – Waverly Community Thanksgiving service,
7 p.m. at the Assembly of God Church.

Wednesday, November 28, 3:30 p.m. – Hanging of the Greens – Come and help decorate
our church for Advent and Christmas.

Sunday, December 2 – First Sunday in Advent and Christmas Cantata, 11 a.m.

Sunday, December 9 – Holy Communion during regular worship, 11 a.m.

Monday, December 10 – Administrative Board Meeting, 6 p.m.

Monday, December 24 – Christmas Eve candlelight service, which includes Holy
Communion, 7 p.m.

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Pastor Sally DeMasters

