

# FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN .....

September is here! That means cooler temps, less yard work, more football, and...Charge Conference! Yippee!

It deserves repeating, because some have never heard about Charge Conference. Its simple definition is this (from UMC.org): "The charge conference is the basic governing body of each United Methodist local church and is composed of all members of the church council. All members of the charge conference must be members of the local church. The charge conference must meet at least once per year. The charge conference directs the work of the church and gives general oversight to the church council, reviews and evaluates the mission and ministry of the church, sets salaries for the pastor and staff, elects the members of the church council, and recommends candidates for ordained ministry."

What we do at this time of year is elect new members of the Church Council, which at PUMC operates under the "Simplified Administrative Structure". Instead of a lot of separate committees, our 9–15-member council functions as one big committee in which all are members of Finance, Pastor-Parish Relations, Trustees, and other auxiliary committees. Individuals are designated certain administrative duties such as Council chair, Trustees rep, Pastor/Parish contact, Lay Leader, Finance chair, and Treasurer while others are "at-large." Each member is asked to serve for a designated period, usually 3 years.

At this time each year, the Nominations/Leadership Development Committee—which is the only UMC committee chaired by the pastor—is tasked with nominating successors to the Church Council whose terms have expired or who wish to step away. To that end, you are invited to place your name, or the name of someone you think might be an asset, in nomination for a leadership role at Paradise UMC. The deadline for submission of Charge Conference forms is October 1, so let me know your thoughts as soon as possible.

We will have the option this year of attending one of three in-person district Charge Conferences. They are Saturday, November 1st, 10:00am at Ashland UMC, St. Joseph or 2:00pm at Christ UMC, Independence, or Saturday, November 8th, 10:00am at St. Paul's (Raymore). There will also be two virtual availabilities, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm and November 9<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm

PUMC continues to be blessed with members and constituents who have provided a variety of new ideas and excitement into an already passionate body of faith. It is an awesome time to be at PUMC!

Blessings on your heads!

Pastor Rob

# **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

The Adult Sunday School group meets on Sunday mornings at 9:45. Everyone is welcome to join us. If you are interested, please talk to Angie. We will be starting a new book in a few weeks.

# **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY**

Be sure to sign up to volunteer at A Turning Point on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. We normally help from 8:00a.m. to noon in their busy food pantry. If you haven't volunteered there before, this is a truly inspiring non-profit organization with lots going on in their food pantry, clothes closet, educational center, and other departments. Join us for our last trip this year to A Turning Point for a busy and rewarding Saturday morning!

## **ROB & DONNA'S SOIREE & HOOTENANNY**

Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, from 3-8p.m. (dark thirty)

Come join us for an afternoon of fun at 29815 NE 159th St in Excelsior Springs, MO! Rob and Donna are throwing a party you won't want to miss. Expect great music, delicious food, and fantastic company. It's going to be a soiree and hootenanny rolled into one! Bring your favorite beverage (unless you're good with water) and lawn chairs and get ready to have a blast. Fishing, pedal boating, zip lining, ping pong, swinging, or just sitting around. See you there!

**What's for supper?** Hamburgers and Hotdogs/Baked Beans/Potato Salad or Potato Chips and all the fixins'. Bring your favorite beverage but we'll have water on hand. Bring a side dish or dessert if you want.

### Please RSVP to Pastor Rob or Donna

### SEPTEMBER POTLUCK

The next Potluck meal is September 28<sup>th</sup>. It will be right after church. We hope to see you there!

#### **OUTREACH/MISSIONS**

Thank you for being the hands and feet and seeing needs and helping to address them. We are always on the lookout for other agencies that could use a hand - if you know of any or volunteer with a group - please let Tooti know.

### **August Missions Recap:**

The Smithville Food Pantry – 142 Toothbrushes, 62 Toothpaste, 5 mouthwash, 4 rolls toilet paper and \$50 monetary gift

Plattsburg Food Pantry \$295

Festival of Sharing: 3 dental kits, 1 paper product, 11 reading/writing kits, 6 backpacks of love (\$453 kit value) and \$400 in monetary gifts

Valor Ranch: \$25

Paradise Cemetery: \$25

Meals on Wheels (Ice Cream Social): \$362 to be split

between Plattsburg & Smithville

Trimble Food Pantry: \$125

Christmas Gift Cards (replacing Reverse Advent

Boxes): \$150

#### **September Missions Collections**

Smithville Food Pantry – Pasta and Pasta Sauce

Trimble Food Pantry - Monetary

A Turning Point: Saturday, September 20th, 8a-12

#### **Unhoused Meals**

We will be providing 1 more meal for the unhoused through the Fishes & Loaves Ministry that Darcy & Scott are involved with. We will be providing a meal December 6.

### **PUMC DIRECTORY**

Dave Jacobs is a new member who has offered to help with verifying information from our church management software such as name, address, phone, email and pictures to be updated so that we have everyone's most current information. After that it will be printed out (or emailed) if requested and made available to members. For those who use the Church Connect App (if you don't have the app, please let me, Tooti, know and I will help you get it and get set up) you can review your information at any time and also choose what is available to other members of the PUMC church family through the online directory section in Church Connect.

## **MONTHLY REPORT**

The monthly report for August 2025 is as follows:

 Beginning Balance:
 \$29,953.40

 General Offerings:
 +\$11,088.01

 Capital Improvement:
 +1,612.50

 Expenses:
 -8,379.50

 Final Balance:
 \$34,274.41