



Stilwell United Methodist Church
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Stilwell, KS 66085
Phone: 913.897.2101
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Welcome

to Stilwell United Methodist

in the heart of the Blue Valley



On the web at www.stilwellumc.org

Stilwell United Methodist Church—Our purpose is “to be disciples of Jesus Christ, and to minister to others through compassion, education, hospitality and worship.”

For Your Information

Sundays

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Kids' Chimes 10:35 a.m. check calendar for dates

Youth Community Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Senior Youth Group 6:30 p.m.

Wednesdays

Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. / Chancel Choir 7:30 p.m.

Grace Notes 8:30 p.m.

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Fridays 1:00—3:00 p.m.

Contact Us:

913.897.2101

Ken Parker—Pastor

ken.parker@stilwellumc.org / x 22

Monday – Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Weekday afternoons by appointment

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lisa Schober—Administrative Assistant

office@stilwellumc.org / x 21

Monday – Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Aimee Farrington—Children's Ministry

children@stilwellumc.org / x 26

Wednesday 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Tim Gabriel—Adult Ministry & Music Ministry

music@stilwellumc.org / x 28

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday

10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Wednesday 2:00 – 9:30 p.m.

Mike Scrivani—Youth Ministry

youth@stilwellumc.org / x 27

Monday and Wednesday

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday 12:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Denise Ayers—Church Treasurer

finance@stilwellumc.org / x 23

Friday 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Published Monthly

Volume 10 Issue 2

February 24, 2010

United Methodist Church Kansas East Conference Bishop

Scott J. Jones

Kansas City District Superintendent

Mike Chamberlain

Stilwell United Methodist Senior Pastor

Ken Parker

Church Staff Administrative Assistant

Lisa Schober

Director of Youth Ministry

Mike Scrivani

Director of Adult Ministry

Tim Gabriel

Director of Music Ministry

Tim Gabriel

Director of Children's Ministry

Aimee Farrington

Church Treasurer

Denise Ayers

Nursery

Vicki Berry

Wedding Coordinator

Marcia Deaton

Custodian

Karen Cook

Giving—Generosity and Joy

Generosity and joy are two words that are seldom associated with giving. In the life of the church we seem to have taken the attitude that has permeated our society and now associate the word obligation with giving.

Why? Several reasons come to mind. **First**, we live in a world where government at all levels struggles with the ability to fund budgets and meet the demands of a vocal electorate. Local, state, and federal budgets are comprised of major infrastructure programs and many smaller programs that meet the needs of a small and particular segment of the electorate. Elected leaders struggle with the ongoing battle between creating budgets and spending plans that provide for infrastructure with their desire to be reelected by the very people who are making demands for financial consideration. **Second**, we live in a world of loud voices and little communication. Loud voices are instant and demand immediate response often without the due consideration of conversation and understanding. In addition, the up surge of technology has an impact on communication that could not have been imagined a generation ago. **Third**, we live in a world of the voice of the vocal minorities. The only voice that we believe has not been heard is our own. The only voice that needs to be heard is our own. The only way to judge the effectiveness of our communication is whether or not we get our way. We have become a society that is agenda driven at a very personal

level, and we can see no way but our own. **Fourth**, we live in difficult financial time.

When did the church allow the message of giving to be changed? It could be argued that the church in our quest to be seen as relevant actually gave the message away. Jesus taught throughout the gospels in compelling illustrations and parables that giving is the heart and soul of what it means to be a Christian.

Dave Ramsey has said, 'God's church does not need our money'. That statement sounds harsh. An immediate response is to argue the point that God's church can't exist without my giving. That reality is far from the truth. God's church as it has come into being through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ has existed for some 2,000 years through good and difficult financial times. The existence of God's church:

1. does not depend on the success of a financial campaign
2. the funding of a church's annual budget
3. or on my individual gift

Ramsey goes on to say, 'that our opportunity to give', establishes within us the capacity to see the world in a different way. Why? Because when you give with a sense of joy and sacrifice you see the world with the eyes of Jesus filled with compassion.

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Giving, Generosity, and Joy

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You look at people differently. You look at obstacles in ways that allow you to see possibilities. This is not a message of obligation.

At our Ash Wednesday service instead of a money offering I challenged those present to consider what gift each would bring. People then began to consider a gift of self, compassion, or love. They could then see giving from a sense of joy, generosity, and compassion rather than as an obligation. Praise God.

Pastor Ken

Noisy Offering

January

\$129 Olathe Medical Center Hospice

United Methodists Donate \$11 Million to Haiti Relief

Through individual gifts, special offerings, and innovative fundraising activities, United Methodists have donated \$11 million for Haiti through the United Methodist Committee on Relief. In addition, the UMCOR Sager Brown Depot distribution center in Baldwin, LA., has received 350,000 health kits.

Stilwell United Methodist Church has donated to date:
\$1,424 for the St. Joseph School for Boys
\$1,451 for the UMCOR Haiti fund

Message from Poland

Dear Friends, Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Peace and grace from our Lord Jesus Christ for you all.

On the Lent time in our Methodist church I wish for you all many blessings and good reflection by 40 days.

We all from Ilawa will think and pray for you.

Many lovely greetings and many blessings

God bless you

yours Pastor Kris, Zofia, Julia, Wiktorja and Methodist congregation from Ilawa /Poland

\$1 Simple Gifts

On Sunday, February 21st, as a part of my sermon I began an experiment at Stilwell United Methodist Church. It is the \$1 Simple Gift. During the six Sundays of Lent and on Easter I invite those who want to, to place a \$1 bill in an unmarked envelope. On Monday morning these will be mailed 1.) to an individual or group that is involved with Christian mission or 2.) given to an individual as a random act of kindness. During the six Sundays of Lent either Pastor Ken or other staff (taking into consideration suggestions from church members and friends) will determine where the envelopes go. On Easter Sunday the congregation will choose the recipient.

Why? Three reasons:

1 \$1 bills have become yesterday's penny. They don't buy what they used to and are becoming less relevant in our everyday lives. As they become less significant we diminish the value of the gift of a single dollar. In doing so, we don't grasp the magnitude of the \$1 Simple Gifts.

2 We are losing track of just how far our \$1 has an impact. We move at such a rapid pace with clips of information gathered here and there that we seldom take the time to realize 1) the full story and 2) just how important each and every \$1 is. There is a cultural phenomenon that began in the late 20th century called - *Where's George?* It had no specific goal other than tracking the movements of \$1 bills. The \$1 Simple Gifts project seeks to accomplish the same and will help us to reclaim the story.

3 I want to see if we can change the lives of people through the \$1 Simple Gifts. We may not know until after Easter whether an impact was made on any single person. We may not know even then. I am convinced that through the combined efforts of the members and friends of Stilwell United Methodist Church and the \$1 Simple Gifts that lives will be changed as we let God's spirit move in the midst of our gift.

During the Sundays of Lent and Easter we will continue this effort of the \$1 Simple Gifts. It is strictly voluntary. I encourage you to join us to hear the stories of how the \$1 Simple Gifts changed lives at Stilwell United Methodist Church and throughout God's community.

Pastor Ken

Come & Dine

Poem by Raymond Foster

A quiet distant voice wafts a message,
To the pilgrim it says come and dine,
There is water sweeter than nectar,
None better will you ever find!

You have traveled far and sought in vain,
What seems always just out of reach,
The distant voice knows what you wish,
Hidden mystery is able to teach.

One must listen by heart as well as by ear,
The voice really speaks to the soul,
There's urgent truth it wishes to share,
Your errant spirit it will gently console.

If heart's door opens freely and says come in,
The voice responds in a trace,
One cannot really see His features,
But you're ready to hear His advice.

He says if you truly believe that Jesus,
Willingly died to set men free,
You too are a son of the Father,
Come you must walk with me!

The road has many windings,
Among the hungry, the tired and the poor,
We must invite them to join us,
We journey towards Heaven's door!

Where the Gracious Father bides his time,
With St. Peter near at hand,
To manage the door that enters,
That wondrous Promised land!

The Father again says come and dine,
The table is amply spread,
With showbread from Heaven's pantry,
Our family of faith will be fed!

What we gave to the least of the brethren,
As we traveled life's rugged pathway,
Is the food now in Heaven's pantry,
That shall feed our souls for aye!

Year to Date Offerings

As of January 31, 2010

Total Income	\$40,260
Total Expenses	\$36,192
Income less expenses	\$ 4,068

Birthdays

March

3/1

John Coulter

3/2

Aaron Reinke

3/3

Sarah Margaret Heffernon

Ashley Helton

Kyler Leiker

3/4

Katherine Petermann

3/5

Susan Farrington

Bret Pilney

3/6

Jennifer Pilney

3/7

Kip Farrington

3/9

Kathleen Ayers

3/10

Paul Conrad III

3/12

Ava Holzer

3/13

Cynthia Gernhart

3/14

Jessica Crider

Jenna Dennis

3/15

Christina Conrad

3/16

Jim Lawson

3/17

Heather Wise

3/18

Molly Hartz

Chuck Mallicoat

3/19

Morgan Bingham

3/20

Dylan Black

Rachel Burton

Lesley Darsnek

Rex Harrison

3/24

Maurice Ayers

3/25

Jay Burress

3/26

Gertrude Melton

Terri Rudzik

Alexandra Tiller

3/27

Michelle Hall

Penny Johnson

Trinity Moore

Alex Villers

3/28

Rick Petermann

3/30

Sarah Smiley

Baker Tackett

Eli Tackett

3/31

Nancy Hultman

Altar Flower Gifts

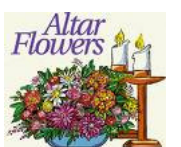
February

2/7 In honor of Bret & Angi Black's wedding anniversary

2/14 Given by Cliff & Roz Dahlen

2/21 In honor of Nancy Parker's birthday

2/28 Given by Michael & Loree Wells





**Stilwell
United Methodist Women
Pledge Card
2010**

Yes! I want to be part of Stilwell UMW.

I plan to participate in the following: (check all that apply)

- I pledge \$_____ to the local, national, and international mission work of UMW. (This can be paid monthly, quarterly, or annually.)
- I will attend Deborah's Circle meetings. (Meets the 2nd Wednesday each month Sep thru May, 10 am, at church)
- I will attend Sarai's Circle meetings. (Meets the 2nd Tuesday each month except Jul and Dec, 7:00 pm, in members homes)
- I will help serve Sarai's Meals. (1st Saturday each month at Neighbor to Neighbor, Westport area)
- I will attend Special Events. (such as Spring Fling, Annual Picnic, Christmas Party, field trips)
- I will help provide food or supplies needed for Sarai's Meals, Community Lunches, funeral lunches, or other UMW events.
- I pledge to pray for the mission work of UMW on a regular basis

Name _____

Date of Pledge _____

Please return to Sally Hartz, President; Vi Darsnek, Treasurer; or the church office

Out to Lunch Bunch

We will go to Tannah's, 5041 W. 135th in-between Nall and Roe, on **Friday, March 5th**, at **11:30 a.m.** Call reservations by Wednesday, March 3rd, to Barbara Kelley, 913.897.8158.



UMW Circle News

Deborah's Circle

Please join us **Wednesday, March 10th**, at **10:00 a.m. in room E1**. The meeting will include refreshments. Questions, contact Sally Hartz.

Sarai's Circle

Sarai's Circle will meet **Tuesday, March 9th**, at **7:00 p.m.** at Eleanor King's residence, 16636 Lamar. New members are always welcome.

UMW Mission and Service

Community Lunch

Our next Community Lunch is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 9th**. Lunch will be served from **11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.** Please call in case of inclement weather.

Sarai's Meal

We will serve at Neighbor to Neighbor, 500 Washington Street, KCMO (Westport area) on **Saturday, March 6th**. We will meet at 9:30 am in the parking lot in front of "Tuesday Morning", 151st and Antioch. We will be serving steak soup (vegetable beef), corn bread, fruit, cookies/brownies. If you would like to help serve or furnish food, please call Val Gordon, 913.851.3577.

Library

Our annual book sale will be held on **Saturday, May 1st**, from **8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Please mark your calendars now! Most paperbacks will be priced at only 50 ¢ and most hardbacks will be \$1. In order for the sale to be a success, **we need your donations of books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, etc. No encyclopedias, please.** You can place them in the box in the upstairs coat closet or in the library (W1/W2). If you would like to have books picked up at your home, please contact the church office, 913.897.2101, to make arrangements. A portion of our proceeds will go to local and global mission projects, so make a difference by donating books now and attending the sale in May.



Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is a Christian feast which always falls on the Sunday before Easter and celebrates what the crowds believed to be the "triumphant return" of Jesus to Jerusalem. This is the first Sunday of holy week that marks those special events in the life of Jesus leading to Easter Sunday. Churches will often have services of Communion on Maundy Thursday which sometimes includes a Jewish Seder meal and a service of light and darkness on Good Friday. In 2010 we celebrate Palm Sunday on March 28th.

2010 Palm Sunday at Stilwell United Methodist Church will have these unique features.

- 1 Gathering outside under the north portico (except in case of rain) for a time of coffee, fellowship, and greeting. If standing is a concern for you or members of your family you may make your way early into the sanctuary.
- 2 Dedication of the refurbished memorial bell tower and the memorial chimes
- 3 Distribution of palm branches and the procession led by the church choirs into our Palm Sunday worship and a choral Requiem

Holy Week

- ◆ Thursday, April 1st Seder Meal and Communion
- ◆ Friday, April 2nd Worship 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Easter Sunday
 - * Sunrise Service 6:30 a.m.
 - * Easter Breakfast 7:15 a.m.
 - * Easter Celebration Worship 9:30 a.m.
 - * Easter Egg Hunt 10:45 a.m.



Benefit Concert

Living Water a United Methodist new church start located at 3001 N 115th • Kansas City, KS is offering its first concert on **Sunday, March 7th**, at 7 :00 p.m. The evening will feature the gifts of Mic, Pam, Shawn, and Caitlin McGuire, and the musical talents of others God has provided for this new church start. Though the concert is free, the evening is a fundraiser for Living Water. Mic McGuire, pastor of Living Water, wants to find 250 people who would be willing to give \$40 each toward the mission and ministry of Living Water. Checks can be sent to the church.

Sack Lunch Program



Thank you to everyone who assisted with the Sack Lunch/Shop & Swap program during the month of February. We had **four** volunteers making sack lunches, **five** volunteers helped set up clothing on Friday February 19th, and four volunteers helped distribute clothing, household items, and 40 sack lunches on Saturday, February 20th, to 19 families.

We are now planning for March. Donations of clothing can be made by dropping items in the box, located in the church coat closet. If you have volunteered to provide a food item, Please bring these items to the church kitchen and placed on the cart designated for the **Sack Lunch Program** by **Wednesday, March 17th**. Volunteers are sought to help with clothing set up Friday, March 19th, from 3:00—4:00 p.m. and with clothing distribution on Saturday, March 20th, from 8:45 – 10:45 a.m., at the Baptist Church. Contact Randall and Lisa Schober, 851.4255, if you can help. Thank you to everyone for your donations of food, clothing, and time which supports this local community ministry.

2010 Seniors

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Danielle Allen | Brian Ayers |
| Brianne Fitzpatrick | Caroline Gernhart |
| Murphy McVey | Heidi Parrish |
| Ethan Reinke | Tyler Smiley |
| Alexandra Tiller | Lori Wise |

This is our current listing of high school seniors expecting to graduate in May, 2010. If you know of someone who should be and is not on this list, please contact the church office, 913.897-2101.

Anniversary Card Shower

Don and Barbara Dougan are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on March 18th. They were married at the old Bucyrus Methodist Church in 1950. They would like to hear from you with a card as Don is not able to get out. May God Bless all of you.

Don and Barbara Dougan
108 Delaware St.
Stilwell, Ks 66085

Children's Ministry

Sunday School

Throughout March, the children will be studying the events that occurred just before Easter including Mary anoints Jesus' feet, The Last Supper, Peter's Denial of Jesus, and Holy Week events. Preschool Sunday School meets upstairs in the nursery, K - 2nd meets in room S3, and 3rd-5th meets in the room N1.



Kids' Chimes . . .

will be practicing on March 14th, 21st & 28th. They will play in worship on Easter Sunday, April 4th.

KidzClub

Join us for KidzClub where kids can learn and grow in Christ! Our next KidzClub will be on Sunday, March 28th, from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will have Bible games, snacks, crafts, and much more! Bring your friends pre-k through 5th grade.



Blue Valley Easter Basket Mission Project

The Blue Valley Multi-Service Center provides social services to individuals and families in need living in the Blue Valley School District. The Easter Basket Mission project is designed to assist needy families by helping to provide Easter Baskets for their children.

On Sunday, February 28th, plastic bags with instruction on this project will be distributed during worship services. To participate, please purchase the items on this list for the age and gender noted. All items must fit inside the plastic bag.

All bags are due back to the church by Sunday, March 7th, to ensure timely delivery. Please contact Aimee Farrington x26 or children@stilwellumc.org with question or for more information.

Easter Egg Hunt for Children
Sunday, April 4th 10:45 a.m.
Meet in Fellowship Hall



"Word Thru Children" Children's Time Leaders
March 7th
Nancy Parker
March 21st
Mike Scrivani

Children's Ministry Volunteers

1. KidzClub—Three adult volunteers are needed for each session.
2. Sunday School—Teachers are needed for March, April, and May.
3. Children's time— during worship

Please contact Aimee at children@stilwellumc.org or 913.897.2101 x26.

Youth Ministry

Youth Lock In at Bump City March 5th 9:30 p.m.—7:00 a.m.

Cost is \$22 per person. Youth are encouraged to invite their friends!! Food will be provided. For information about Bump City visit www.emarldcitygym.com.

Youth Group Brainstorming Session February 28th 6:30—7:30 p.m.

This is a time for our youth to express their ideas and share in the planning of future youth events and activities in 2010. Youth should come to the brainstorming session with creative plans and ideas.

Parent and Youth Meeting March 21st: 6:30—7:30 p.m.

This will be an informative meeting about youth activities and fundraisers.

Irish Spud Fest March 21st : 10:45—11:45 am

There will be a baked potato bar fundraiser after church service on March 21st. A free-will donation will be collected and all proceeds will be used for youth mission trips, activities, and events in 2010.



Branson Trip March 26th-28th

The youth will be participating in Young Christians weekend at Silver Dollar City. We will spend the weekend listening to encouraging speakers, great music, and of course taking advantage of all the awesome rides. The cost is \$140 per person. See Mike for more details.

Junior Youth March 31st Game Night 6:30—8:00

This event is for Junior youth (5th—7th graders). We are going to play all kinds of fun and exciting games at the church. Pizza and soda provided. Invite your friends!!!

Adult Ministry

Short—Term Study

Signs of Lent is meeting at 10:45 a.m. to focus on each week's Biblical text. This class will meet in the library W1/W2 on Sundays February 21st - April 4th.

Adult Forum In April

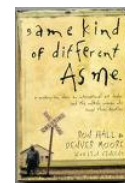
George Wiley, Ph.D. of Baker University's Department of Philosophy and Religion will present an adult study on **Sunday, April 11th, at 10:45 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall of Stilwell United Methodist Church. The study is entitled: "The Tension Between Christianity and Other Cultures" and uses material from Alister McGrath's Christian Theology: an Introduction. Wiley will present three options in Christianity for viewing other religions and then invite questions and discussion:

1. particularism
2. inclusivism
3. pluralism.

George Wiley, Ph.D. teaches in the College of Arts and Sciences at Baker University in Baldwin City, KS. Questions about this class can be directed to Tim Gabriel, Director of Adult Ministries, or Denise Tiller, chairperson of Education Committee.

Book Discussion

Same Kind of Different as Me by Ron Hall and Denver Moore will be held on Sunday, March: 14th, at 10:45 a.m., classroom N2.



Education Committee

Will meet on Tuesday, April 6th, at 7:00 p.m. Call Denise Tiller if you cannot attend

Training Events

Safe & Sacred—All adults working with children and youth need to be trained and certified.

Acolyte Training—Worship Committee is working to re-implement our acolyte ministry.

Please contact Aimee at children@stilwellumc.org or 913.897.2101 x26.

Waffle Mania Take 2



The youth will be hosting a second waffle brunch in the Fellowship Hall following the the worship service on February 28th.



This is a fundraiser for the upcoming youth summer mission trip to Arizona. Our goal is to raise \$500. We look forward to seeing you there.

Music Notes

Our handbell choir, JuBELLation, will be a part of the handbell festival, *Ring in the Spring*, on Saturday, February 27th at Church of the Resurrection. They will play in a mass choir with handbell groups from area churches, attend master classes about topics in handbell techniques, and present a concert at 3:00 p.m. You are welcome to attend!

The chancel choir is progressing toward a presentation of the Requiem in C Minor by Joseph Gruber on Palm Sunday. A "requiem" is a service celebrated for the deceased and often occurs at funerals. This genre of musical work is also appropriate during Holy Week as we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Thank You

Your check arrived today via US mail...this is wonderful! Thank you so much for your generosity. We truly appreciate the support of your congregation.

Bev Manlove Principal, Kansas City Kansas
Early Childhood Center

Thank you so much for your recent donation of food to the Blue Valley Multi-Service Center. Your donations will help many people in our community and we truly appreciate your kindness and support!
Julie Marshall, BVMSC

Thank you to all those who sent cards and have been praying for Sid Kelley as he continues to recover.
Sid and Barbara Kelley