

PRESBYTERIAN PROGRESS

602 Clarke St., Clay Center, KS 67432

July Helpers

Sermonette

- July 2 - James Chestnut
- July 9 - Renee Langvardt
- July 16 - Randy Wagner
- July 23 - Charissa Chestnut
- July 30 - Holly Chestnut

Hosts for Coffee

- July 2 - Randi Weller
- July 9 - Hoyt & Christie Hartner
- July 16 - Holly & Arlan Chestnut
- July 23 - Forrest & LaVonne Hartner
- July 30 - 5th Sunday Meal

Greeters

- July 2 - Sue Bebermeyer
- July 9 - Hoyt & Christie Hartner
- July 16 - Holly & Arlan Chestnut
- July 23 - Forrest & LaVonne Hartner
- July 30 - Richard & Mary Jo Bull

Nursery Assistant

- July 2 - Christie & Caley H.
- July 9 - Anna K. & Tillman H.
- July 16 - Karen B. & Aiden G.
- July 23 - Angie F. & Kathryn D.
- July 30 - April L. & Spencer P.

Deacon: LaVonne Hartner

Where Help is Found

There are some needs we have that only can be met directly by God. Hebrews 4:16 talks about two of them: “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” Two needs of ours that only God can meet are mercy (forgiveness) and grace (power/strength). And, God says to us, “Come confidently to get those needs met.”

We need mercy. Our hearts are bent toward sin, and so we commit sin. Our sins accumulate and don't leave. Our hearts are polluted and sin weighs us down. We are like Paul, “I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing” (Rom 7:19). Only God through Jesus can pardon that sin, and he invites us to come to his throne to receive mercy.

We also need grace. We are weak in many ways. Hebrews 4 describes how we are weak against temptation and weak in our ability to live how God wants us to. We're also weak in the face of life's burdens, sorrows, and trials. In every facet of our weakness, we need God's grace—his power and strength. When Paul prayed to have a weakness of his removed (his thorn in the flesh), God said to him, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” God said, “I won't take that away, but I'll give you strength (grace) to go through it.” God promises that same strength to us in Heb. 4:16.

Not only does God offer us mercy and grace, but he *gladly* offers them to us. First, he gives us the invitation to come—we didn't even have to invite ourselves. Second, he tells us how to come: confidently—fully anticipating forgiveness and strength because we are in Christ. Third, he calls his throne “the throne of grace,” not “the throne of condemnation,” and not even “the throne of begrudging grace.” So, come confidently to his throne. Don't go without his forgiveness and his strength. He is waiting to freely and gladly give you what you need.

Love,

Pastor Scott

July Birthdays



- 2 - Dan Heeren
- 4 - Ronda Kopher
- 4 - Jeffrey Livengood
- 4 - Kim Woellhof
- 6 - Nicole Graham
- 11 - Cindy Affolter
- 11 - Nolan Patterson
- 14 - Rosanna Livengood
- 15 - Stephanie VanMatre
- 18 - Shirley Riek
- 22 - Isaac Pierson
- 23 - Larry Wohler
- 28 - Aiden Graham
- 28 - Ruth McNish
- 28 - Juanita Patterson
- 29 - Sallie Hartner
- 31 - Linda Gibbs

July Mission Focus

Benjamin and Monica, along with their family, are EPC missionaries serving in the Middle East/Arabian Gulf. They would like prayers for:

- New team members coming to join us in this year and for team dynamics.
- The Holy Spirit to guide us to locals who are desiring spiritual fulfillment.
- Continued Arabic language study and strength for Benjamin.

Annual 4th of July Celebration!

This year's Independence Day Celebration will take place at 7pm Sunday, July 2, 2017 at Idana Presbyterian Church. Fireworks will begin at about 9pm.

Please bring lawn chairs, your choice of meat to grill, buns, and a side dish to share. Table service, drinks, condiments, and homemade ice cream will be provided.

Lowell Marsh is in charge of fireworks. You may make a donation to help him cover the cost, if you wish. **NO other fireworks, please.**

In case of inclement weather, the event will be cancelled.

July Youth Group Schedule*

- July 2 - No Youth Group - Idana 4th of July Celebration
- July 4 - Fundraiser @ 4th of July Celebration on Courthouse Square (4:30-7:30pm)
- July 5 - Sell Ice Cream Floats @ City Band Concert (7:45pm)
- July 8 - Concessions @ Fairgrounds Car Races
- July 9 - MS & HS Youth Group - Board Games & Root Beer Floats (5-7pm)
- July 12 - Sell Ice Cream Floats @ City Band Concert (7:45pm)
- July 16 - No Youth Group
- July 19-22 - Clay County Fair
- July 20-22 - Run Fair Rides in evening
- July 23 - Mission Trip Training
- July 28 - Mission Trip Prayer Send Off (6:45am)
- July 28-August 4 - Costa Rica Mission Trip

*This calendar is subject to change as baby Reding may make their appearance at any time this month!



Community Church Camp Update - July 2017

We are well into the Church Camp season! Several groups of students have already attended their camp and returned home excited. One little known side affect of this mission is the experience that many drivers have in transporting students to and from the camps. We have heard from several about how rewarding it was to see these students experience God’s love and beauty. It strengthens their own resolve to witness their faith to others. Thankfully, we are able to provide a loving experience to many youngsters because of your support. We will begin raising funds for next year’s scholarship applicants soon, first by operating a bounce house in the Courthouse square on July 3, 2017 from 1pm-7pm. Please come see us!

Community Church Camp Committee, P.O. Box 118, Clay Center, KS 67432
 Text/Call Alan @ 632-7523 or email: arjohn@eaglecom.net

Summer Small Group
 Parenting DVD Study and Discussion

Where: Scott and April Lingle’s Home
When: Sundays, beginning June 25, 2017, 6:30-8pm

Bring your kids and join us for dessert and fellowship!

*Please RSVP to Scott or April Lingle so that adequate childcare can be arranged.

We will NOT be meeting Sunday, July 2, 2017, but will resume on July 9, 2017.

Community Church Camp
Committee Fundraiser

Clay Center Independence Day Celebration, July 3, 2017 until 7pm:
 Bounce houses for younger kids on the Courthouse lawn. All proceeds go toward Camp Fund.

Any funds collected that exceed what is needed to pay for the current year’s camper registrations is held over to help pay for the next year’s campers. We are so grateful for the community’s support!

Financial Stewardship Update

May General Fund Income: \$16,179.29

May Expenses: \$16,296.13

Amount Needed Each Month to Meet Projected Budget: \$20,121.67

Coffee Time Dates Available

If you would be available to host Coffee Time, there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. We are very appreciative to those who help out with Coffee Time each week.

First Presbyterian Deacons

FPC Kids Corner