



A Newsletter of the Peru Main Street United Methodist Church  
"The Church With A Warm Heart"

# The Messenger

September Issue  
2011



## SPECIAL SUNDAY SERVICE, SEPTEMBER 11TH

Sunday School "Kick-Off" at the church at 9:15 a.m.

Followed by:

## WORSHIP IN THE PARK AT 10:30 A.M.

On the Riverwalk - Shelter #9 (just west of Miamisfort)

Service will focus on a remembrance of 9/11 - it's  
the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Bring your lawn chairs - wear your Methodist T-shirt!

A pitch-in dinner will be held following the service.

Bring a favorite dish to share!

Meat, drinks & table service will be provided.

If your family has a favorite outdoor game - bring it along -  
we'll all play!

### Staff

#### **Pastor**

Dave Scifres

#### **Office Manager**

Karen March

#### **Director of Music Ministries**

Jason Gornto

#### **Organist**

Don Krug

#### **Accompanist**

Kay Weideman  
Nancy Spahr

#### **Nursery Attendant**

Emily Spahr

#### **Preschool Director**

Leslie Scott  
Connie Jones,  
Asst.

#### **Computer Consultant**

Brad Hochstedler

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Bonnie Bond

## A Note from Pastor Dave...



An important part of what I am doing right now as your pastor is listening to you as a congregation and discerning through our conversations what God is calling me to do here in Peru during this season of ministry. As we continue our cottage meetings with you, the outcomes you all desire seem clear: More people in worship each week, a stable financial situation, a rejuvenation of the Sunday school program, a focus on youth and families with young children, and more outreach into the local community. In essence, I hear you saying that over the next five years we would like to move from being a “Viable Congregation” to being a “Vital Congregation.”

I have been doing some reading on the *Vital Congregations* initiative within the United Methodist Church, and find most all of it aligned with our collective desired outcomes for Main Street Church. The initiative describes “Vital Congregations” as:

*“Spirit-filled, forward-leaning communities of believers that welcome all people (Gal.3:28), places where Disciples of Jesus Christ are made through the power of the Holy Spirit (Matt. 28:18-20), and, communities that serve like Christ through justice and mercy ministries (Micah 6:8, Luke 4:17-21).”*

With this in mind there are five defining characteristics of vital congregations. Vital congregations have:

- Disciples In Worship
- Disciples Making New Disciples
- Disciples Growing In Their Faith
- Disciples Engaged In Mission
- Disciples Sharing Their Resources For Mission

I am convinced that if we as a congregation commit ourselves to embodying these characteristics in our ministries and programs we will realize, with God’s help and blessing, the desires of our hearts for our church. My hope and prayer is that you will join me in embracing this focus for the church as we move from “Viability” to “Vitality” as a congregation.

Peace...

*Pastor Dave*

## Hello From Your Preschool

Wow, can you believe that it's already time for school to start! Where has the summer gone. Part of me wishes I had just a little longer, but the other part is ready to see all my little ones.

This year God has blessed us with a larger enrollment which includes the new faces of siblings of those I have had in the past. What a fantastic opportunity it is to stay connected with good Friends.

Before I go any further, I have some THANK YOUs to make. The first goes to you the Congregation for all the wonderful items you donated to the Preschool through the Mission's Wish List. I am delighted with the things we received and can promise you they will be put to good use.

The next thank you goes to Tami Holz and Jennifer Morimoto who really worked to get the Preschool room's floor in tip top shape. What a difference a clean, polished floor makes.

And, last but definitely not least, I want to thank all of you for your help in getting the toys and furniture in and out of the room so that the project could be completed.

With God's help I really feel this is going to be a great year. With God on our side, with enrollment up, with your support and prayers, and some exciting curriculum and adventures, we're on our way.

Have a "Wonderful September".

With Friendship,  
*Leslie*



## "MAIN STREET PRESCHOOL"

*Preschool begins Tuesday, September 6th.*

For more information, call Leslie Scott  
at 473-9483 or the church office  
at 472-3323.

### MONDAY MORNING LADIES' DISCUSSION

*– come for the Fellowship, stay for the Study.*

**September 12**, 11:00 am – luncheon at the home of  
Cindy Woloshuk  
2403 S 100 E (Bobtail Pike Rd)  
Home phone – 473-3801

The group will help choose this year's Bible Study.

**September 19** will be our first gathering.  
9:30 am - coffee and fellowship in Fellowship Hall  
10:15 – 11:00 am Bible Study in Library

### Contribution Statements:

Your contribution statements are in envelopes in the back of the Sanctuary (in alphabetical order). Any envelopes not picked up will then be mailed by first class postage which can be costly.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Sonja Myers

Vicki Utterback

Christy Conner

Dale Cook

Joe Williams

Pauline Thomas

Marilyn Sutton

Maybell Wintrude

Carly Christensen

Justin Prior

Family of Burl Blackman

Christine Ebert

Ginny Kelley

Aundrya Black

Frances Lease

Troy Norris

Allie Clymer

Jennie Stuber

K.C. Cutler

Ronnie Pownall

The Sebastian Family

Glenn Hill

Mardell Wayne

David Curl

Edward Lautenschlager

Betty Bankston

Bob Thompson

David Kreag

Pastor Steve Ailes

Wayne Kidd

Diana Krug

Ruth Hubbard

Margaret Burkhardt

Judy Rice

Rex Lease

Kathryn Sholty

Helen Tucker

Jack Jumper

Connie Mills

Rosanna Purvis

Delene Ewing

## JOYS

Answered prayers.

# MISSIONS NOTES

*"If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way."*

(author unknown)

Main Street Church may currently be a much smaller church than we would like, but we are truly doing small things in a GREAT way with the outpouring of support not only through weekly offerings to Missions but also the generous donations in support of the *Ministry of the Month Program*. Those donations each and every month impact dozens of people in our community - people who may never step foot in our building but are being touched by God's love through your generous givings. Thank you all for giving back what God has so lovingly given to you.

## **Ministry of the Month for September:    Salvation Army Food Pantry / Garden Produce Table**

September 11 - Fill-A-Truck Day --- we will be collecting items for this event through the 11th.

Non-perishable food items, dry goods, paper products, cleaning supplies, baby food and diaper supplies are all needed. Please NO glass containers.

September 12 - 30 - we will continue collecting non-perishable food items and paper products in our grocery cart to take to Salvation Army at the end of the month.

## **Food Pantries Need Our Help!!**

Helping Hands also urgently needs additional food donations. Each week these organizations are seeing an increase of new families needing help. With school starting and already limited funds needing to go for supplies and fees, there is little left for the groceries and other bills. Area churches are asked to help with not just food but also with personal hygiene products, such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, feminine products, toothbrushes, toothpaste, as well as paper products, diapers, wipes, baby shampoo, and cleaning supplies.

**The need for items for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes continues.** Money donations are always appreciated as well. We have members who will shop for what is needed to complete our boxes.

**October Ministry of the Month** will be a Salvation Army Food Drive again as the need will be great. We will also be starting our Holiday Cards for the Troops campaign. Cards will be available for members to write a short note and sign. We have several troop contacts now and hope to send at least 100 cards to these men and women.

**Troop Support donations** - we have stockpiled magazines for several future care packages so would ask that you hold off donating anymore until further notice. A list of suggested donation items will be available in the Mission Center.

**POW/MIA Recognition Day** is the third Friday in September.

*"Those who have served, and those currently serving in the uniformed services of the United States, are ever mindful that the sweetness of enduring peace has always been tainted by the bitterness of personal sacrifice. We are compelled to never forget that while we enjoy our daily pleasures, there are others who have endured and may still be enduring the agonies of pain, deprivation and imprisonment."*

**There will be a special presentation of "The Missing Man Table" at TNT on Sept. 15.** This ceremony is held around the world at military banquets and balls to honor those missing, lost, and remaining POW. It is a solemn and moving ceremony and surely one to touch the hearts forever of all who attend. Please remember in prayer those who have been held Prisoner of War, remain missing or in captivity as well as their loved ones and those working for the release of our POW's.



## **FALL RUMMAGE SALE!**

**Saturday, September 17th 8:00 a.m.— 2:00 p.m.**

First, thanks for your continuous support of our church sale. The things you donate are always clean and in good condition. We can use anything, especially household goods and adult, children & infant clothes. You can start bringing your items, and putting them in Fellowship Hall "B" on Friday, September 9th.

*It is a true ministry to our community. Many people say our sale helps them so much. Items that are left will be sent to the United Methodist Mountain Missions.*

If you are able to volunteer your time, please contact the church office at 472-3323 or by email at: [mail@perumainstreet.com](mailto:mail@perumainstreet.com)

## **This Year the Rummage Sale will include a BAKE SALE with proceeds going to the Youth.**

Donations of goodies would be greatly appreciated.

If you have a preference as to which group gets the profit, please mark accordingly:

- The Connection
- Sunday School
- Preschool
- Scouts
- UMYF

Proceeds from unmarked packages will be divided evenly among the groups.

Thanks so much! *Rosemary Rice*

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## **MEMORIAL BOOK**

We have a new memorial book. Jan Fern has filled in pages from 2004 to the present date with her beautiful calligraphy. We thank her!

The book will be on the memorial shelf outside the sanctuary. The old book is under it in the glass case. Sadly, the old memorial book was filled out ending in 1980. Please feel free to look at these books. It is wonderful to see the history and names of our church saints and when certain things were given to the church.

Memorial Chairperson,  
*Rosemary Rice*

## SEPTEMBER YOUTH EVENTS



Sunday, September 4th	Youth Council following second service.
Sunday, September 11th	Youth Ice Breaker at the church 5:00-6:30 pm
Thursday, September 22nd	TNT Dinner
Sunday, September 25th	Walk to East End 5:00-6:30 pm
Friday, September 30th	Nick Stanton Concert after the football game.

*Our Scrip gift card sale is an ongoing fundraiser with deadlines the 15th and 30th of every month. We are selling gift cards every Sunday after church and they are also available in the church office.*

### September Calendar

Thursday  
Night  
Thrive

#### September 1:

Meal - The Connection  
Program - Eikenberry-Eddy Funeral Home

#### September 8:

Meal - Tailgate Picnic  
Program - Tom McKaig - Football theme

#### September 15:

Meal - Church Carry-In  
Program - Missing Man Table Ceremony

#### September 22:

Meal - UMYF  
Program - Domestic Violence Coalition  
Presentation

#### September 29:

Meal - Choir  
Program - Pastor Dave

**THE CONNECTION** -- (our "younger" youth group for ages 3 years through 6<sup>th</sup> grade) Meet every Thursday during TNT from 5:30 to 6:30 pm gathering in a group for supper then splitting into "The Connect 2 God" (ages 3-6 yrs) and "The Connect 4 God" (ages 7 yrs-6<sup>th</sup> grade) groups for a message moment and activities. Some nights the two groups will stay together. Monthly schedules will be handed out on or before the first Thursday of the month.

Sunday gatherings of *The Connection* will be announced as events and activities are planned.  
Reminder -- September 1st : Cooking and serving the meal for TNT

There will be NO Connection gathering on Sunday, September 11.

LOOKING  
AHEAD

### Charge Conference dates

October 16th , 3:00 p.m. at Wabash First UMC

We are planning on a great time of worship and, of course, our business meeting, and fellowship. Plan to come and see the new and exciting things we are planning for 2012!

**TRUNK 'N TREAT** - Plans being made for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Trunk 'N Treat" taking place during the Peru Trick or Treat. Date and Time TBA in October Newsletter. We are hoping to **fill the parking lot** with cars/trucks decorated for the festivities and trunks/truckbeds filled with buckets of candy and/or treats. Hotdogs, chips, and drinks will be available. The return of this event is "largely by demand" - the community enjoyed last year's debut so much many asked us to please make it an annual event!

**CHRISTMAS ON MAIN STREET** on Sunday, December 4th, is looking for performers for the concert, help in the kitchen for the light supper, and many Santa's helpers for the Secret Santa Shop and craft areas for the kids. If interested in any of the above, please call the office or talk with a Missions Ministry member. More information will be coming soon.