

# The Harper Journal



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*If you have anything you would like to be put in next month's Newsletter (prayer list update, thank you, etc.) please email your request to [office@harperchapel.org](mailto:office@harperchapel.org) or call the church office at 573-348-2617. Thanks so much and God Bless!*

August  
2022



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*Connecting  
people with  
Jesus Christ  
and  
each other.*



# God's Cupboard

Thank you to everyone who supports this ministry by donating food or providing monetary donations. You are helping others in the community a great deal!! We are pretty stocked up for the most part. We could use more:

- Canned Vegetables
- Mac & Cheese
- Jelly
- Peanut Butter
- Snacks
- Soups

To volunteer to stock the cupboard, please contact Jan Campbell at 573-280-6361.

## *All are Welcome to Join Us!*



Meeting & Luncheon  
August 11th, 2022 • 10:30 am



Meeting with Dinner  
August 25th, 2022 • 6:00 pm

## a note from Pastor Eric...

What an amazing first month I've had at Harper Chapel. I am constantly amazed by the passion and enthusiasm that everyone has for the church and each other. Going to many "Meet and Greet's" so far has given me a glimpse into the lives and hearts of many of you. I really missed being able to have more while I was home sick recently, but look forward to getting those rescheduled as soon as possible so that I can continue to become engrained into the life of Harper Chapel.

I want to give a big shout out to all the people who made our Godspell Jr camp such an amazing event for our community. Jo Beth did a wonderful job being camp Director and was backed up by some amazing helpers. The partnership and camaraderie I saw on display by the wonderful people of Faithbridge UMC and Pastor Andy showed me what it meant to be UNITED Methodists together. I felt proud to be the representing pastor of Harper Chapel during the week.

The last group I want to thank are some that many of you may not know or know very well, and that is fellow United Methodist Church pastors of the greater Lake of the Ozark region. I have been welcomed very warmly and enthusiastically by pastors of 5 area Methodist congregations. There is a spirit that is alive in the hearts of these pastors that inspires me. I believe God has great plans for the future of the UMC in our area and I look forward to how Harper Chapel can continue to be part of the on going work of building God's Kingdom right here.

My friends, I'm so excited about what I see here at Harper Chapel and feel so blessed to be your pastor. Together we will grow deeper in love with God, neighbor, and each other!

# Sunday's Schedule

10:00 am  
Worship Service

## Blended Worship

- Classic Hymns
- Modern Praise Songs
- Occasional Choir
- Occasional Guest Musician
- Occasional Handbells Choir

10am



*A Little  
for Everyone*

You can also join us from the comfort of your own home by going to our Live Facebook page!



# UPDATE



Godspell Jr. Camp was a huge success! We had a great week with the kiddos learning and acting out the Gospels, fellowshiping, and rehearsing for our final performances. Our final performances audience totaled nearly 400 patrons filling Thompson Hall over the two nights. Through donations from ticket sales, we raised \$2,300.00 for Kids Harbor, the charity selected by the camp volunteers.

We are so thankful for the support of Harper Chapel and its many volunteers as well as for all of the help from our friends at Faithbridge United Methodist Church, who joined us in this venture. If you were unable to see the performances, check out our Youtube channel that has an overview of the week as well as a performance video. God was truly in our midst in so many ways!



*See page 4 for more photos and volunteer list.*

## Undie Sunday



For Kids from Kindergarten - High School, help gather together socks and undies of all sizes to donate so they can have some backups at school when needed.

The kids and school nurses will definitely appreciate your help!

## Thank You!

## Collecting Donations All Through August

There will be two baskets outside the church office to collect your Undie Sunday donations. Thank you so much for your help with this ministry and choosing to give to our kiddos who may have need of them during school.

# Camp Leadership

Eric Schmidt.....Pastor of Harper Chapel UMC  
 Andy Blacksher.....Pastor of Faithbridge UMC

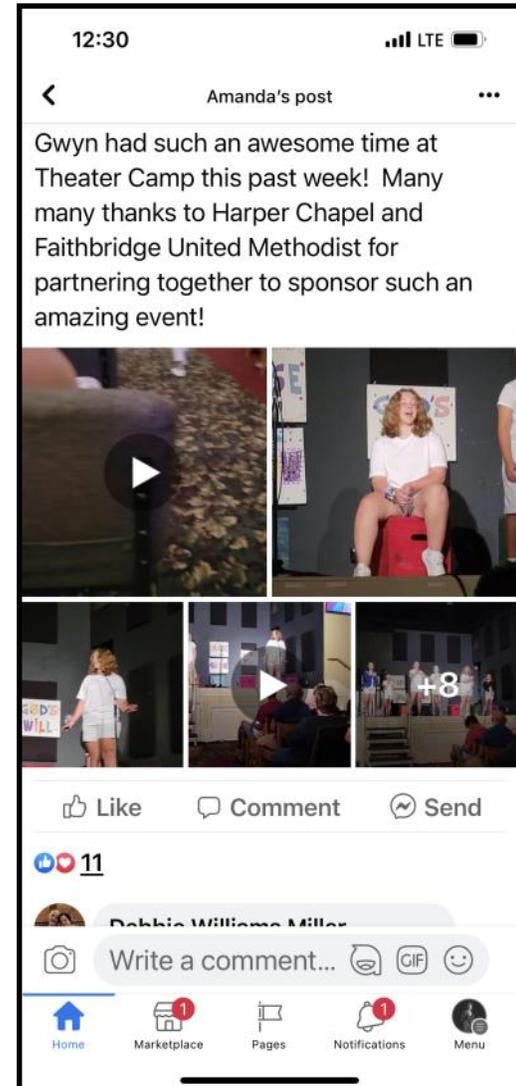
Jo Beth Nicklas.....Camp Director  
 Tabitha Carroll-Myers.....Performance Director  
 Kathleen Marco.....Director of Music  
 Judy Smits.....Youth Director  
 Nancy Culver.....Camp Visionary



# Camp Staff

Amy Adler  
 Selynn Barbour  
 Billye Bennett  
 Melanie Biggers  
 Kendra Bluhm  
 Julia Clark  
 Nancy Culver  
 Kelly Fischbach  
 Sue Fletcher  
 Izzy Hamner  
 Janie Hamner  
 Sherrie Hamner  
 Keandra Jennings  
 Linda Jobe  
 Linda Johnson  
 Linda Kapfer  
 Brian Knox  
 Dave Logsdon  
 Kathleen Marco  
 Sharon McGee  
 Kristi McGrew

Tina Melville  
 Kathleen Miller  
 PJ Mossman  
 Curtis Nicklas  
 Todd Nicklas  
 Andrea Nowak  
 Clark Ogden  
 Evie Pemberton  
 Pat Pemberton  
 Mikayla Pink  
 Bill Randell  
 Donna Rives  
 Nancy Sappington  
 Helen Schmidt  
 Cass Schmidt  
 Soren Schmidt  
 Chris Seider  
 Jo Ann Slead  
 Geniece Tyler  
 Carol Weatherford  
 Cathy Wood





## VOLUNTEERS

To everyone who helped out with the Camp, before, during and afterwards. You are the ones who made it such a success.

Thank You!

In Gratitude  
with Love 

### Prayer List: Joys & Concerns

Elaine Blackwell	Lourae Fitzgerald	Megan Neulle
Elizabeth Neill (Wheeler)	(Depew)	Clarke Keenan
Robert Myers	Jim Dexter	Marlys Miller (Ron's Mom)
David Culver	Verna Kurtz	Ann Hubbard
Jeanne Boardman	Pete Culver (Culver)	
Marcia Murrow	Barb Massie (Witham)	
Jan Berry	Verla Ahrens	
Eva Cannon	Bruce Sents (Jansma)	
Emily Wheeler	Stephanie Savage (Hammonds)	
Wilma Penfield	Brooke Lawler	
Sadie Richey	Nancy Witham	
Kathleen Marco's Parents	Jim Lewis	
Susan Robinson (Rives)	Tami Moulder & Family	

### Members & Friends

Bahule UMC & Maivene UMC  
(Mozambique churches sponsored by Harper Chapel)

All men and women serving our country

Local families in need

### Members & friends in Long-Term-Care Facilities

Elaine Blackwell  
Mary Barber

### August Birthdays

Marilyn Goswick (1st)	Jan Thomas (18th)
Pat Dexter (3rd)	Louise Anderson (18th)
John Berry (7th)	Rosalie Christiansen (27th)
Judy Knudson (7th)	Richard Luelf (27th)
Susan Buckingham (11th)	John Buckingham (29th)
Christine Weber (12th)	
Gloria Homan (12th)	
Jan Berry (18th)	



Happy Birthday  
and God Bless

# UPCOMING EVENTS



**BEGINS WEDNESDAY AUGUST 31ST**

**2nd - 8th Graders**

**6 - 7:30 pm**

**Every Wednesday Night**

**Youth Friendly Dinner • Fellowship • Bible Study  
Games • Service Projects • Devotions • Theatre & More**

**ALL KIDDOS ARE WELCOME**



**Meet at 11:00 am**

**3rd Monday every month**

Will get together on **Monday, August 15th** for a trip to the Missouri State Fair

Contact Jan Campbell for more information: 573-280-6361



**Meet at 2 pm**

**2nd Monday each month**

**Sept. 12th is the next meeting**

August meeting was changed to Aug. 1st.



**Grief Support Group**

**Meet at 6 pm**

**2nd Tuesday each month**

**Sept. 13th is the next meeting**

August meeting was changed to Aug. 2nd.

## ***INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY is AUGUST 31, 2022***

International Overdose Awareness Day is the world's largest annual campaign to end overdose, remember without stigma those who have died, and acknowledge the grief of the family and friends left behind. Many who are not aware of factors behind overdose unfairly blame victims. Such an attitude only works to flair the negatives surrounding the topic, suppressing any efforts to raise awareness. The campaign raises awareness of overdose, which is one of the world's worst public health crises, and stimulates action and discussion about evidence-based overdose prevention and drug policy.

Overdose (OD) is described as taking too much of a substance, and in this case, the overdose is related to drugs. Overdosing on drugs can be deliberate or otherwise. People deliberately overdosing on drugs may do it due to suicidal tendencies, mental illness, or looking to achieve higher levels of intoxication. On the other hand, people who overdose on drugs by mistake, may do so because of incorrect measurements. Whatever the case may be, the resulting consequences are faced by people who are close to the victims. The prejudice and stigma surrounding the topic make it hard for families and friends to overcome their grief. We as a society need to talk about overdose more openly and support people in their struggles, while campaigning for a robust prevention and treatment system accessible to all affected citizens. Even if one person is saved at the end of the day, it is a victory to be celebrated.

According to the National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics, over 100,000 people die from drug overdoses per year in the United States, more than vehicle crashes and gun deaths combined. Fentanyl has become the Number 1 cause of death among US adults, ages 18-45. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that can be deadly even in small amounts, and other drugs, including heroin, meth, and marijuana can be laced with the dangerous drug. Mexico and China are the primary source for the flow of fentanyl into the US, according to the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). Texas has seized enough Fentanyl to kill 200 million people this year alone, DEA officials say.

Overdose deaths can be deceptive. Just as drug-related deaths aren't always recorded as overdoses, some overdoses involve multiple drug types. The national OD rate is 21.6 deaths per 100,000 residents. Missouri's OD death rate is 26.9 deaths per 100,000 residents, which is 29.95% higher than the national rate.

Experts believe there is a correlation between the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and the increase in fentanyl overdoses. Seth Blake, age 27 from Vermont was among the recent overdose deaths from a mix of alcohol and fentanyl after struggling to find effective treatment for his addiction and other mental health problems, repeatedly relapsing. "I do love being sober," Blake wrote three years before his death. "It's life that gets in the way". Blake's struggles reflect the combination of factors that have allowed the overdose crisis to fester. First, the supply of opioids surged. Second, Americans have insufficient access to treatment and effective mental health programs that can ease the worst damage of drugs. Experts have a concise, if crude, way to summarize this: It's easier to get high than to get treatment, people who are addicted will get high. The US has effectively made it easy to get high and hard to get help. Treatment remains inaccessible for many. Seth Blake's parents, Kim and Tim, drained savings and retirement accounts and college funds to pay for treatment. Like the Blake's, many families spend thousands of dollars to try to get loved ones into care. Health Insurers often refuse to pay for treatment and when treatment is available it is often of low quality. The Blakes frequently found that providers were ill-equipped and overwhelmed. Some seemed to offer no evidence-based care at all. Beyond treatment, the US lags behind other countries in approaches like needle exchanges that focus on keeping people alive until they are ready to stop using drugs. The country also could do more to prevent drug use and address the root causes of addiction, a recent report from Stanford University and The Lancet found. Although the solutions are costly, so is the price of inaction. Overdose deaths cost the economy \$1 Trillion a year in health expenses, reduced productivity and other losses, a new government report concluded—equivalent to nearly half of America's economic growth last year.

Billye Bennett, RN, Parish Nurse

Sources: Center For Disease Control, DEA, National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics, The New York Times, Families Against Fentanyl.