

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 or call the church office at 573-348-2617. Thanks so much and God Bless!



CONTACT US:

5567 Osage Beach Pkwy
Osage Beach, MO 65065
573-348-2617
office@harperchapel.org
www.harperumc.org

*Connecting
people with
Jesus Christ
and
each other.*

December
2022

God's Cupboard



We appreciate everyone who gives to this ministry. You are greatly helping people in this community. Here is a list of what is currently needed:

- Spaghetti sauce
- Canned Meats
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Canned Vegetables
- Soup
- Canned Fruit
- Misc. Items (pancake mix, syrup, rice, chili, beans, etc.)

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

a note from Pastor Eric...

We are in a season of preparation. Did you know that Advent is a season of preparations? Many of us have lots of preparations to do before Christmas. There are gifts to buy, decorations to put up, parties to attend, and even church services to attend. Each of these things requires work on our part, however each one requires a different type of preparation.

We are quite aware of the preparations it takes to buy Christmas gifts. We need a list of all for whom we need to buy a gift. There is deciding what our budget is for those gifts. Then we need to purchase the gifts as well. Some of those gifts will be handed out in person, whether we drive to them, or they drive to us if they don't reside in our homes already. Some may need to be shipped, which requires time to go to a place to send them off. Much work and preparations are required!

Even decorating takes work. I know that some people go all out with decorating while others do very little. I'm always amazed at how much time it actually does take to get out the Christmas decorations and put them up. I can honestly say that I am always happy with the results, but it took work and preparations. In order to decorate this year, I had to buy new lights and figure out where everything was put after our move. Just dragging out all the boxes and tubs of Christmas stuff was preparing for the decorating.

Christmas gatherings require work and preparations. The United Methodist Men have been working and preparing for the Christmas dinner at church for some time. The youth have been working for weeks to learn short programs and songs to share at the dinner as well. There are other parties and gatherings that we may attend that took work and preparations to pull off.

So why did I also include worship services in my list of things for which we prepare? Because it takes intentionality to attend a worship service. I am always grateful for the people who take the time to attend worship in person or even to mess with technology to join us via Facebook. However just showing up is not all that is required but is very important indeed. What we need to do is open our lives for God to enter every part of who we are. We must make a conscience and intentional decision everyday, not just during Advent, to prepare a place in our daily lives for God to walk alongside us. How do we prepare for God as part of our lives, by inviting God to come into every moment and decision we have to make, so that all we do and say brings honor and glory to Christ. This advent season is a great time to recommit ourselves to preparing ourselves for the journey of following the Christ child every day.



Eric Schmidt, Pastor

All are Welcome to Join Us!



Meeting & Luncheon
Dec. 8th at 10:30 am



Meeting & Dinner
No Meeting in December



Next Meeting on
Dec. 12 at 11:30 am at
Yankee Peddler for Lunch

Sunday's Schedule

10:00 am Worship Service

Blended Worship

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

10 am



A Little
for Everyone

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



Now that the cold is here, if you have any clothing donations you want to give us, we would love to take them. We are able to accept any new or gently used winter clothing. Think about items that you would want to wear if you were homeless or had a home with no heat that was cold. We find that jackets, sweatshirts, sweaters, pants, hats, warm gloves or mittens, scarves, and socks go so fast we can hardly keep them on hand. All sizes of clothing are needed but men's and women's sizes go the fastest.

Please make sure the used items you donate are washed and clean (we don't want to put out dirty clothes) and in good repair (no broken zippers, bad rips or terrible stains). **Note:** We do not put out spring and summer wear unless it is something that can be layered easily. We do not put out underwear unless it is thermal long johns. **Articles of clothing get put out on the fence daily.** We could really use some volunteers to help sort, package, and display on the fence throughout the winter season. Please contact the office at 573-348-2617 if you are interested. Thanks for your help with this mission!



Are you thinking of giving during this season? Harper Chapel Youth focused on what they received during November; during December we are asking what we can give. Youth are working on the drama to present the evening of December 10th at the Men's Annual Christmas Dinner. Kathleen Marco has graciously stepped in for Jo Beth Nicklas to prepare for the show to go on! Nancy Culver has been magically making costumes for all. What a fun evening it will be as youth share a version of the Christmas story! Don't forget to get your tickets from John Buckingham!

In Gratitude
with Love



Volunteers

Thank you to all our volunteers who help out with the various parts of Sunday Worship that require your help. Your desire to serve does not go unnoticed.
Thank You.

Prayer List: Joys & Concerns

Elaine Blackwell	Jim Dexter	Ann Hubbard
Elizabeth Neill (Wheeler)	Verna Kurtz	Shelley & Hunter Burks (Moore)
Robert Myers	Pete Culver (Culver)	Angelica Lauletta (O'Keefe)
David Culver	Barb Massie (Witham)	Jerry Jansma
Jeanne Boardman	Bruce Sents (Jansma)	Nicklas Family
Marcia Murrow	Stephanie Savage (Hammonds)	Barbour Family
Jan Berry	Brooke Lawler	
Eva Cannon	Nancy Witham	
Emily Wheeler	Tami Moulder & Family	
Wilma Penfield	Megan Neulle	
Sadie Richey	Clarke Keenan	
Kathleen Marco's Parents	Marlys Miller (Ron's Mom)	
Susan Robinson (Rives)		

Members & Friends facing hard times

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

December Birthdays

Buddy Brayfield (4th)	Maurice Knudson (17th)	Kathy Hoemeyer (30th)
Dennis Brouillette (6th)	Rose Richey (17th)	
Eva Cannon (7th)	Kiley Bentley (21st)	
PJ Mossman (7th)	Sue Pierce (21st)	
Julia Clark (8th)	Joe Barber (25th)	
Norm Vojtech (8th)	Marcia Murrow (27th)	
Judy Jansma (16th)	Roy Witham (28th)	



Have a Blessed
Birthday

UPCOMING EVENTS



Meet at 2 pm
2nd Monday ea.
month
Dec. 12th is the
next meeting



Grief Support Group

Meet at 5 pm
2nd Tuesday each month
Dec. 13th is the next
meeting



Meet every Wednesday 6-7:30 pm.
All 2nd ~ 8th graders welcome. Youth
friendly dinner provided. All kiddos are
welcome to join in the fun!



THE CENTRAL MISSOURI
**Foster Care
& Adoption
ASSOCIATION**

*New items only, please. Also, make sure you
place the price on each item for CMFCAA
inventory purposes. Do not wrap items in gift
wrap.*

The reason for the personal hygiene kits: first
contact with a new client usually includes
the client's need for a shower before they
leave the office. This is also true with repeat
client visits to the office. CMFCAA will use the
kits, however they will already have the
soap, shampoo and lotions to add to them.

Apartment Shower to collect items needed
for older youth once they are on their own.

Drop off donations between **Monday, Nov. 21st - Sunday, Dec. 25th**
and place them under the Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary.

LIST OF ITEMS NEEDED ON FLYERS POSTED ON BULLETIN BOARDS AROUND CHURCH

Craft Supplies GIVE-AWAY Room 203A

If you like to sew, or create small crafts, crochet
or knit, these items are for you! The church will
no longer be using them. We are giving first dibs
to those who attend church here. Please call or
email the office if you would like to take a look
at what we have during the week, or take a
gander on Sunday. We would love to make
sure they all get to a home where they can be
used. If you know someone outside the church
who might be interested, invite them to look as
well. Thank you and happy crafting!

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next month's Newsletter (prayer list update, thank
you, etc.) please email your request to
office@harperchapel.org or call the church office at
573-348-2617. Thanks so much and God Bless!*



**Saturday
December 10th • 6 pm**

Tickets:
\$15 per
person

**Wonderful Food
& Fellowship with
Amazing
Entertainment
by Harper Chapel
Youth Group.**

Directed by Kathleen Marco

**Hope You
Can Join Us!**

For Tickets Contact the church office.



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*Hope you
can join us!*

FIND
the Light
OF JESUS WITH US



- Nov. 27th, "Limited Sight", 1st Sunday of Advent, 10 am
- Dec. 4th, "Glimmer of Hope", 2nd Sunday of Advent, 10 am
- Dec. 11th, "A Highway Home", 3rd Sunday of Advent, 10 am
Choir Cantata during service
- Dec. 18th, "A Starring Role", 4th Sunday of Advent, 10 am
- Dec. 24th, "God of Dark and Light", Christmas Eve Service
5:30 pm, in-person or live on Facebook
- Dec. 25th, "The Light of the World", Christmas Day, 10 am
- Jan. 1st, "Christmas Carol Service", New Year's Day, 10 am

JOIN US IN-PERSON OR LIVE
@HC LIVE AT HARPER CHAPEL UMC

Merry Christmas!

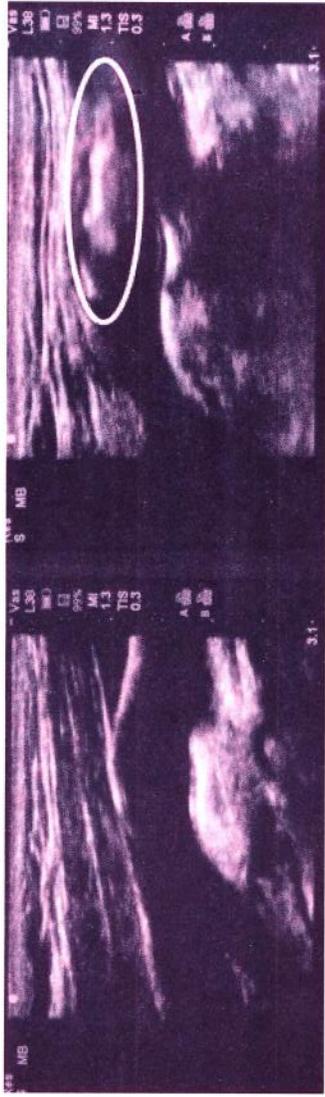
Take a step toward staying Healthy & Active

Life Line Screening goes beyond regular checkups to provide a more thorough look at your health.

Be Smart: Do More For Your Cardiovascular Health

No Plaque Buildup

Plaque Buildup



Advanced ultrasound technology looks inside your arteries for signs of plaque buildup. That's why **9 out of 10 cardiovascular doctors** support preventive screenings for those with key risk factors.¹

Adults age 50+ and those 40 and older with one or more risk factors for cardiovascular disease should be screened.

¹Key Risk Factors include: *High blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, obesity, smoking, family history.

We are coming to your neighborhood.

**Where: Osage Beach - Harper Chapel United
Methodist Church**

When: Saturday, January 14, 2023

To register for your appointment and to receive the special discount,
please call **1-800-640-6307** or visit **LLSA.SOCIAL/HC**

Trusted by Hospitals Nationwide.

Life Line Screening has partnered with over **100 hospitals** across the country and has conducted over **10 million screenings** since 1993.



Carotid Artery Disease

an ultrasound is performed to screen the carotid arteries (a pair of blood vessels in the neck that deliver blood to your brain) for buildup of fatty plaque. This buildup, called atherosclerosis, is one of the leading causes of stroke.



Atrial Fibrillation (AFib)

a 6-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) is performed by placing sensors on the arms and legs to screen for Atrial Fibrillation. AFib can lead to blood clots, stroke, and heart failure, and other heart-related complications.²



Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)

an ultrasound is performed to screen the abdominal aorta for the presence of an enlargement or aneurysm. AAA can lead to a ruptured aortic artery, which is a life-threatening medical emergency.



Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD)

an Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) test is performed using blood pressure cuffs on the arms and legs. It is important to screen for PAD because it increases the risk of coronary artery disease, heart attack, or stroke.³

**4 Screenings for Only \$149
Special Package Pricing**

² <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/atrial-fibrillation>

³ <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/peripheral-artery-disease/about-peripheral-artery-disease-pad>

No single screening can detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease. Screening results are provided to you in about 14 days. We direct all participants with abnormal results to take the report to their physician. Appropriate modification of risk factors (including high blood pressure, smoking, heart disease, diabetes and poor diet) is also necessary for cardiovascular disease prevention. Our screenings cannot detect all forms of stroke risk or cardiovascular disease. All tests are for screening purposes only. You should consult with your personal physician regarding your screening results. Price does not include any applicable review fees. Insurance Note: Life Line Screening does not participate in the Medicare program and the cost of our screening services is not covered or reimbursable by Medicare. Life Line Screening does not file insurance claims nor provide referrals to any physician's group or hospital. If you are unable to attend the screening for any reason whatsoever, we will issue a gift card for the full amount to be used by you, or anyone you choose, for future screening services.

'Tis the Season to be Jolly?

By long tradition, the holiday season is the best of times: excitement, reunion, sharing, and gratitude. To the person struggling with grief, the holidays can be the worst of times, casting a harsh spotlight on grief and loss. The flood of memories triggered by the season's familiar sights and sounds can create an overwhelming yearning for the return of the absent loved one. If anyone bothered to ask, the bereaved would likely share the "GRIEVER'S HOLIDAY BILL OF RIGHTS" to help them get through this emotionally packed season:

1. You have the right to say TIME OUT! Any time you need it. Time to let up, blow a little steam, step away from the holidays, have a "huddle", and start over.
2. You have the right to TEL Laughter is every bit as important as tears. L IT LIKE IT IS. When people ask "how are you...?" you have the right to tell them how you feel, not just what they want to hear.
3. You have the right to some "BAH HUMBUG" DAYS. You are not a bad person just because you don't feel like singing Christmas carols all day.
4. You have the right to DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY. There Is no law that says you must always do the Holidays the same way. You can do 10 cards instead of 100—or no cards at all! You can do without a tree, have pizza instead of turkey, etc.
5. You have a right to BE WHERE YOU WANT TO BE. Be at home or with relatives and/or friends.
6. You have the write to SOME FUN! When you have a day that isn't so bad and you feel like doing something just for fun, then do it!
7. You have a right to CHANGE DIRECTION IN MIDSTREAM . Holiday grief is unpredictable. You may be all ready to go somewhere or do something and suddenly be overwhelmed. When it happens, it's okay to change your mind. There's plenty of time in life to be predictable.
8. You have a right to DO THINGS AT DIFFERENT TIMES. Don't be a slave to the holiday clock.
9. You have a right to REST, PEACE, AND SOLITUDE. You don't have to be busy all the time. Take a nap whenever you need one. Take time to pray and meditate, to recharge your spirit.
10. You have the right to DO IT ALL DIFFERENTLY AGAIN NEXT YEAR. Just because you change things one year—does not mean you have written it in stone. Next year you can always change it back or do it yet another new way.

++++Bruce H. Conley, 1992

Bittersweet Christmas

By Carmen Brining, bereaved parent

I dread Christmas—gaudy with its bangles and bows and tinsel.

It is contrived, a frenzied whirlwind

That pushes me and pulls me along

In the guise of happy-ever-after and universal love.

I am side-stepping this kind of holiday

For mine is a bittersweet Christmas.

Our son died and left too many never-mores.

It's the love-no-longer-here that diminishes Christmas.

Yet Christmas still comes.

It is, after all, a unique time to acknowledge love.

But sadness and Christmas don't mix,

And I cannot promise much.

As I struggle, a Christmas song fills the air:

For unto us a Child is born,

Unto us a Son is given...

Suddenly, there is something I never saw before.

We celebrate this day because of Christ's birth—His coming.

Yet with every coming there is a going.

A son, God's Son, had to leave in order to come to us.

Here, even at this first Christmas, when the star lit the earth,

And the angels sang to announce the Babe, God's gift of love,

Was there not an emptiness in the heavens because Christ left?

Was not God, the Father, Himself sad? Christmas and sadness do mix!

O God, You do understand, don't You, my own bittersweet Christmas?

Peace and Grace, Billye Bennett, RN