

# McPherNotes

MCPHERSON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

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**Live Morning  
Worship Broadcast**

**Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
KBBE 96.7 FM**

## Thank You...

I want to thank each one for the 60th anniversary card you sent. They were surely appreciated. I took them to the nursing home and showed them to Robert and read each one to him. He enjoyed them too. He didn't speak in words, but with his eyes. Thanks for your thoughtfulness and care.

-Cleora and Robert Nelson

On behalf of Lake Hills Community Church I would like to thank you for

your generous gift. Your commitment to helping start a new church in our community is deeply appreciated. Our goal is to make a difference in the lives of many unchurched people. Thanks again for your generous support of our efforts to bring God's lost ones home.

-Mike Knapp

Thanks for the balloons and candy following my knee surgery. It came at a great time because I was alone and needed a pick-me upper!

-John Steers

**We're on the web  
www.macfmc.org**

## Come Pray With Us

Starting at 11:00am on Friday, September 18, and ending at 11:00am on Saturday, September 19, the youth ministry department is hosting "24 Hours of Prayer." This is a time that is designated to come to the youth area and spend an hour (or more) praying for our middle and high school students. Sign up information is available at the Welcome Center and in the church office. -- Pastor Zach Fleming

## Weekly Events

### **Sundays**

8:30am-Choir, Praise Team & Orchestra Rehearsal  
9:15am-Sunday School  
10:10am-Community Café  
10:30am-Worship Service  
6:00pm-Cell Groups

### **Mondays**

6:00 pm-Financial Peace University

### **Tuesdays**

1:00pm -Staff Meeting

### **Wednesdays**

5:15pm-Bible Quiz Practice  
6:00pm-Choir Practice  
7:00pm-"Teach Us To Pray"  
MarketPlace (as of Sept. 9)  
8:00pm-Orchestra Practice

### **Thursdays**

8:00-9:30am-TOPS  
9:00-11:00am-Play Date at Jan's  
9:00am-Overeater's Anonymous  
6:15 pm-Vocal Team Practice  
6:30pm-Full Band Rehearsal

### **Saturdays**

7:00am-Men's Prayer Group

## September 2009 at a Glance

Sept. 1	6:00 pm	"First Tuesday" Worship Arts Meeting
Sept. 2	8:15 pm	Missions Committee Meeting
Sept. 5-7		GPC Sr. High Getaway
Sept. 6	12:00 pm	Communion & Baptism Sunday BASIC Potluck MarketPlace Staff Meeting
Sept. 7		Labor Day - Office Closed
Sept. 8	7:00 pm	Pastor's Cabinet
Sept. 9	7:00 pm	MarketPlace Resumes
	8:15 pm	Trustee Meeting
Sept. 11		Pastor Deb's Birthday
	5:00 pm	Norcross/Schiro Wedding Rehearsal
Sept. 12	10:30 am	Sarah Norcross & Tim Schiro Wedding
Sept. 14	4:30 pm	Outreach McPherson Team Meeting
Sept. 16	6:30 pm	Middle School Leader Training
	8:15 pm	Finance Committee
Sept. 17	6:30 pm	High School Leader Training
	7:30 pm	BOA
Sept. 18-19	11:00 am	24 Hrs. of Prayer for our Youth
Sept. 19	9:00 am	Advent & Christmas Choral Reading
Sept. 20	12:00 pm	Children's S.S. Staff Meeting
	5:00 pm	All Church Picnic at Lakeside Park
Sept. 22		First Day of Autumn
Sept. 23		See You at the Pole
Sept. 26	9:00 am	Breakfast in the Park for Grades 1-5
Sept. 27	12:00 pm	Biluminous Potluck

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September 2009

## Making Connections...

Have you seen it? It's big on YouTube right now. If you have access to the Internet, go online and Google "Louie Giglio—Laminin" for the link. It's an eight-minute, 43-second clip from a teaching/preaching series by evangelist Louie Giglio. I first heard about the YouTube clip through an email from Calvin Hawkins. There's a full-page ad for the entire series in the latest *Christianity Today*.

The clip is now entering the Susan Boyle stratosphere of hits on YouTube with well over 3 million. If you don't have access to the Internet, visit your friendly public library, or ask a more technologically-minded friend with Internet to invite you over for popcorn and some serious inspiration (suggestion: you supply the popcorn).

In that same issue of *CT*, there is an article about a church Karl and I attended last January in Orlando, Florida: "Northland, A Church Distributed." Yes, that's its moniker. It is known as one of the country's most innovative church-planting faith communities. The catch is that more and more of their church planting is done through cyber-space and real-time web streaming. One way this unique initiative takes place is during the Sunday morning service as a "Web minister" sits backstage with his computer chatting with people from around the country who have logged on to the website to watch the live-streaming service. (*gasp here*)

With web streaming and a new online evangelism effort, Northland hopes to create house churches across the globe. *CT* Online Editor Sarah

Pulliam explains, "For example, if the church sees two people from Chicago worshiping online, they try to connect the two and give them information on how to start a house church together." Lead pastor Joel Hunter recently told his church that through this cyber-effort, they could create a million small groups or house churches worldwide by 2020. (*exhale*)

Love it or hate it, technology is here to stay. But there is precedence (even though none of us were around at the time). The emergence of technology in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century is reminiscent of the impact of the Gutenberg press of the 15<sup>th</sup> Century. Words and ideas were no longer held captive. Case in point: 75 years after movable type was invented, Martin Luther's Theses came down from the door of that famous Wittenberg church and were circulated to people hundreds of miles away. Repeat after me...The Great Reformation! (...and yes, there were other contributing factors)

The McPherson Free Methodist Church will not be planting cyber-churches any time soon. (*wipe brow here*) We will continue to focus our prayers and invest our resources for church planting with Mike and Cathy Knapp (Osage Beach, MO) and Sabra and Cliff Dyas (Tribune, KS), and others to follow. We will carry on the work of disciple-making in our own community as well. But neither should we scoff at those who refuse to "...let the devil have all the good [music] technology," as musician Larry Norman might sing if he were alive today.

Technology and the Internet will never replicate community and real-time, face-to-face conversation... substitute, maybe (especially for the techno-junkie), but never replicate. Skype isn't as good as being there, but for those of us distanced from family and friends, it sure helps. In the meantime, as a confessed information-aholic, I find I must remain on alert, keenly aware of my own tendency to spend more time looking at my monitor than into the eyes of my neighbor, of searching the web more than the heart of a hurting friend.

Laminin might hold our physical bodies together, cyber-space might even help connect seekers to a faith community, but only Christ in us—His Church in bodily form—can keep the spiritual body held together and engaged with a world that so desperately needs His truth and his love.

Reverend  
Deborah  
Somerville

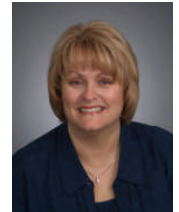


Photo by Kenna Photography

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# McPherNotes

## Children's Activities...with Jan O'Dell



### Wednesday Night MarketPlace

Join us starting  
September 9  
7:00-8:00 p.m.

**Play Dates for September** include the following Thursdays: September 3, 10, 17 and 24 at Jan's house from 9:00-11:00am.

Our September 17 field trip is a tour of Dairy Queen where we'll be treated to ice cream. Parental help is needed and much appreciated. Just let Jan know!

### **September Children's Church**

**1st Sunday Leaders & Helpers-** Mike and Jill Reimer, Allison Craig, Hannah Ediger

**2nd Sunday Leader & Helpers-** Linda Ferrell, Sarah Johnson, Janessa McVicker

**3rd Sunday Leader & Helpers-** Emily Mendez, Dara Quastad, Jenessa Rose

**4th Sunday Leader & Helpers-** Kami VanCampen, Sarah Gaeddert, Ally Ulsaker

**MarketPlace Kickoff** is Wednesday, September 9, 7-8pm for 3-year-olds through 5th grade. We will have the SpaceWalk, Hoops, Frog Bean Bag, Chicken Bean Bag and cookies to enjoy. The 3s meet with Melinda Evans and Kami VanCampen in 3s Sunday school room. Fours, 5s and Kindergarten meet with Sonya Hardgrave, Missy Mayse and Sarah Buehrlle in their Sunday school classroom. Grades 1-5 will meet in the Tree House Room downstairs.

### **Shepherds for Grades 1-5:**

1st and 2nd Grade

- Jerilyn Burgeson

3rd Grade

- Renee Nilson

4th Grade

- Travis Hale

### 5th Grade

- Greg Fields

### **Center Leaders for First Rotation, "The Good Samaritan":**

Art - Edna Hawkes

Drama - Lanita Quastad

Games - Deede Ediger

Video - Julie Cox

A big "thank you" to each of these volunteers who are committed to the future of our church...our children!

### **Breakfast in the Park** for Grades

1-5 will be Saturday, September 26 at Lakeside Park from 9-10:30am. We will enjoy a breakfast of cereal and donuts, play games and do a craft. Please let Jan know if your child will be attending by signing up at the Welcome Center or calling her at 241-0382 or 242-6775. Thanks!

## Discipleship with Pastor Dallas "Be Transformed..."

As many of our ministries kick-off for the fall, we also want to establish an overarching way of thinking about being a follower of Christ which is rooted in the analogy of the Vine and the Branches found in John chapter 15. The process of discipleship is something possible for us only as we stay *connected* to Him in a fruitful and abiding relationship. Therefore, we are beginning to orient and concentrate the direction of our ministries at McPherson Free Methodist Church according to six Elements of Discipleship that provide the best possible environments for cultivating a healthy and abiding connection to Jesus, our Center.

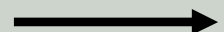
This fall our emphasis is on the Element of Christian Thinking. Already we have 30 people who have put themselves in a position for the Holy Spirit to transform the way they think about their money and resources through our very first Financial Peace University class. We also want to highlight opportunities to cultivate Christian Thinking through our church's primary exercise of

this Element: our Sunday School ministry.

Starting September 6, we will format our Sunday School classes according to an open quarterly system. Essentially, this means we will promote what each of our classes will be teaching for the quarter, and give you a chance to look into *any* of them, not just the ones that fit your age demographic or stage in life. There are several reasons for utilizing this format:

1. It introduces natural points of entry for new participants.
2. It allows for a well-rounded Christian education experience, with regular opportunities for exposure to new material and teaching styles.
3. It keeps studies fresh and focused.
4. It promotes new relational opportunities, especially in an inter-generational sense.

See Classes Offered



## Here's What's Happening...

### GPC WOMEN'S RETREAT

Nov. 13-15, 2009 at Airport Best Western. Registration forms available at the Women's Ministries table now! **Please bring board games and a pair of flip flops to decorate.** Take advantage of the end of summer sales and buy your flip flops now. Contact persons are Kellie Watson (402.326.3780) or Pastor Jan Mills (402.261.5759).

**MOMS IN TOUCH** A local group is forming to pray for children and schools. Our first meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 15, 9:15-10:15 a.m. at the home of Kerri Snell, 135 N. Maxwell. This group will pray for children kindergarten through college in all USD 418 schools, private and homeschools. If you are a mom, grandmother, aunt or lady who feels called to pray for the education of our next generation, please join us! Questions...call 241-3754 or email Kerri at [kerrisnell@hotmail.com](mailto:kerrisnell@hotmail.com). We'd like to know how many moms to expect so please RSVP. We

meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Location may vary.

**ALL CHURCH PICNIC** is Sunday, September 20 at Lakeside Park from 5:00-7:30p.m. across from the water park. Come for great food, fellowship, music, inflatables and games for the whole family!

**A-K bring salad**  
**L-N bring side-dish**  
**O-Z bring dessert**

Meat and drink will be provided. Please bring lawn chairs and table service for your family. See you there!

### OUTREACH MCPHERSON

is gearing up for our 3rd Annual Thanksgiving Box distribution on Saturday, November 8. Items that we need include: adult and child shampoo, laundry detergent, diapers, baby wipes, toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, bath soap, deodorant, and dish soap. Something new we are adding this year is antibacterial spray, and good **used** children's books. Watch for sales and stock up now!

**GLASS SLIPPER MINISTRY** is a non-profit organization founded by local resident Janet Roesti. The ministry is designed to have women minister to other women by delivering unique gift baskets to those who are going through a tough time. Janet asked that we help provide some of the items that are included in the baskets. Items needed include:

- key chains
- hand towels
- coffee cups
- tea cups & saucers

Items may be placed in the labeled container in the Narthex.

**MOPs**, seeks to help mothers of newborns through Kindergarten experience God's love through relationships. From September through May MOPs meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 9-11:15 a.m. Loving child care is a critical part of this ministry. Call Kristin Houston at 241-1147 if you would like to help with the "moppets".

### Points of Interest:

- **COMMUNION SUNDAY BAPTISM**  
SEPTEMBER 6
- **LABOR DAY**  
OFFICE CLOSED  
SEPTEMBER 7
- **24 HOURS OF PRAYER FOR OUR YOUTH**  
SEPTEMBER 18-19
- **ALL CHURCH PICNIC**  
SEPTEMBER 20
- **FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN**  
SEPTEMBER 22
- **SEE YOU AT THE POLE**  
SEPTEMBER 23

Class Offerings-Fall 2009		
Acts, beginning in chapter 9	Chris Smith	Pathways
Covenant Community	Bob Green & Jeff Johnson	BASIC
Ephesians	Bob Bailey	Bridge Builders
Gospel of John	Jim Rails	Finding His Way
Part 1-Better Bible Reading Part 2-The Better Way-Hebrews	Merril McHenry, Jerry Fithian Keith Ivers, Carol Ruth Hadduck	Biluminous/Light & Life
Part 1-Better Bible Reading Part 2-The Better Way-Hebrews	Dean Smidderks	BYKOTA
Part 1-Better Bible Reading Part 2-The Better Way-Hebrews	Calvin Hawkins	Philatheatan
Simplicity, Community & Membership	Dallas Burgeson	Simply Belonging
Reclaiming Sexy Back	Zach Fleming	Companion class for HS parents (see Pastor Zach for details)