

# McPherNotes

MCPHERSON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

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Live Morning  
Worship Broadcast  
Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
KBBE 96.7 FM

(Thank You from pg. 2)

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,  
or sat quietly in a chair;  
Perhaps you sent beautiful flowers,  
If so we saw them there.  
Perhaps you sent or  
Spoke kind words  
As any friend could say;  
Perhaps you were  
not there at all,  
Just thought of us that day.  
Whatever you did to  
Console the heart,  
We thank you so much,  
Whatever the part.

-The family of Ruth Green

**We're on the web**  
[www.macfmc.org](http://www.macfmc.org)

## October Youth Dinner

**D**on't forget to attend and generously donate to the first Youth Dinner of the Fall on Sunday, October 11 immediately following morning worship. This year our students are raising funds to in order to attend International Youth Conference (IYC) in San Diego next July. Every contribution made to the youth dinners throughout the year will help get them closer to their goal. So bring your appetites, and your donations!

## Weekly Events

### Sundays

9:15am-Sunday School  
10:10am-Community Caf e  
10:30am-Worship Service  
6:00pm-Cell Groups  
7:00pm-ReMix (HS) Youth Group

### Mondays

9:00am-Women's Bible Study  
6:00pm-Financial Peace University

### Tuesdays

1:30pm-Staff Meeting  
7:00pm-Women's Bible Study

### Wednesdays

5:15pm-Bible Quiz Practice  
6:00pm-Choir Practice  
6:30pm-JOLT! (MS) Youth Group  
7:00pm-"Teach Us To Pray"  
MarketPlace  
8:00pm-Orchestra Practice

### Thursdays

8:00-9:30am-TOPS  
9:00-11:00am-Play Date at Jan's  
9:00am-Overeater's Anonymous  
12:00pm-Women's Bible Study  
6:15 pm-Vocal Team Practice  
6:30pm-Full Band Rehearsal

### Saturdays

7:00am-Men's Prayer Group

## October 2009 at a Glance

Oct. 1-3		Pastor Spouse Retreat
Oct. 1	7:00 pm	Missions Committee Meeting
Oct. 3		Bible Quiz Team Meet in Topeka
Oct. 4	12:00 pm	<b>World Communion Sunday</b>
		BASIC Potluck
	2:00 pm	<b>Farewell Reception for Don &amp; Margie Mason</b>
	6:00 pm	McPherson Life Chain
Oct. 6	6:00 pm	"Agnus Dei" Rehearsal
Oct. 7	8:15 pm	"First Tuesday" Worship Arts Meeting
Oct. 8	7:00 pm	Finance Committee
Oct. 9-10		TWIGS Silent Auction
Oct. 11	12:00 pm	GPC MEG Board Meeting
	6:00 pm	Youth Dinner
Oct. 12		"Agnus Dei" Rehearsal
Oct. 13	7:00 pm	<b>Columbus Day</b>
		Baby Shower for Alison Moore
Oct. 14	8:15 pm	Pastor's Cabinet
Oct. 15	7:30 pm	Trustee Meeting
Oct. 16		BOA
Oct. 17	9:00 am	CCC Homecoming/Family Weekend begins
Oct. 18	6:00 pm	GPC BOA
Oct. 25	12:00 pm	"Agnus Dei" Rehearsal
	6:00 pm	Biluminous Potluck
Oct. 30-31		"Agnus Dei" Rehearsal
Oct. 31	4:30 pm	Bishop Leadership; Youth in Tulsa
		Fall Party @ YMCA for Families of 3s - 5th Grade

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MCPHERSON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

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October 2009

## Polls, Politics, and Prayer

As I was reading the latest *USA Today* online this week I saw a headline that gave me pause: "Secret Service Probing Facebook Poll on Obama." This was no minor prank or infraction. The poll, posted on Saturday, September 26, asked respondents, "Should Obama be killed?" The choices were: No; Maybe; Yes; and Yes, if he cuts my health care.

Company officials for Facebook quickly took the poll off the popular networking site once they were alerted to its existence. The question wasn't created by Facebook, but by an independent person using an add-on application that has since been suspended from the site. The Secret Service is taking this very seriously.

We shudder at the depravity and brazenness of someone who would post such a survey. This has crossed so far over a line as to be heinous. If sarcasm or humor were the intent, they sorely missed the mark.

It isn't uncommon for me to receive a forwarded email whose point of origin is buried beneath so many layers of "forwards" that it's next to impossible to find its original source. Recently, I have received a number of those types of emails, most notably criticizing current leadership and/or related policies.\* Do these

\*I delete these emails without reading them as a matter of personal policy, not politics.

emails warrant Secret Service intervention? Of course not! They come from concerned citizens who do not have motives remotely resembling the criminally-minded Facebook interloper.

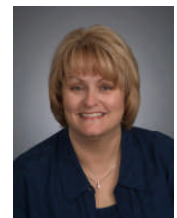
My first response, however, is to pray...for our leaders, for my own attitude, for the sender prompted by frustration or fear, for the future of our country as well as our world.

Here's a quote from another day and time: "Let's pray hard, you guys, or this ship's goin' to blow up." That American sailor in WWII told the truth about the "good ship earth," as well as about his own carrier. For our wounded world is full of holes and fires. One more global war and we shall all be destroyed.... Prayer will do the same thing for us. We need cool heads to do the right thing—to put out the fires of hate and prejudice, if our ship earth is to survive—and prayer will quench hate, fear and panic when nothing else will do it.

This quote is from a book written nearly 60 years ago by Frank C. Laubach entitled *Prayer: The Mightiest Force in the World*. Does that quote seem relevant? How about another one: *Millions of us ordinary people must pour an incessant white light of prayer upon our world leaders, day after day. We must lift the heads of those leaders toward God so that they will hear Him and obey His will.*

Or what about this one from the same book: *Most of us will never enter the White House and offer advice to the President. Probably he will never have time to read our letters. But we can give him what is far more important than advice. We can give him a lift into the presence of God, make him hungry for divine wisdom, which is the grandest thing one man ever does for another. We can visit the White House with prayer as many times a day as we think of it, and every such visit makes us a channel between God the President.*

Now there's something I can forward!



Reverend  
Deborah  
Somerville

Photo by Kenney Photo

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



**Play Dates for October** include the following Thursdays: October 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 at Jan's house from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

We will have two field trips this month! The first trip will be to the McPherson Fire Station for a tour on October 1. Then on October 15 we will go to the Smoky Hill Bison Farm to see the buffalo and Spookley's Play Patch. Parental help for both trips is needed and much appreciated. Just let Jan know!

### **October Children's Church Leaders Are:**

**Wayne and Jennifer Pickerell**  
**1st Sunday Helpers**-Allison Craig, Hannah Ediger

**2nd Sunday Helpers**-Sarah Johnson, Janessa McVicker  
**3rd Sunday Helpers**-Dara Quastad, Jenessa Rose  
**4th Sunday Helpers**-Eric Gaeddert, Ally Ulsaker and Jordan Kaufmann

### **MarketPlace Children**

**Grades 1-5** will be going to Joyful Creations to paint pottery on Wednesday, October 14. Each child needs a parental permission form filled out and returned in order to go. The cost is \$6.00. We will meet in the TreeHouse room at 6:00 p.m. so we can leave by 6:15 and return to the church at 7:55pm. Be sure you eat supper be-

fore coming! Feel free to call Jan at 242-6775 with any questions.

The next rotation for Grades 1-5 begins October 21 and will be "Abraham, Sarah and Isaac". The centers include Art, Video, Drama and Games.

### **Fall Party for 3s - 5th Grade**

and their families will be at the YMCA from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on October 31. We will have the Game Room, Swimming Pool, Bouncy Castle and Gym for basketball (and piñata)! Sign up your family for two hours of fun by calling Jan at 242-6775 or register at the Welcome Center.



## Mentoring Program Kicks Off by Pastor Dallas

**T**his month we are kicking off our Passages Mentoring program! Mentor training dates are set for September 30 and October 10. Our students will meet their mentors on Saturday, October 17 at a welcoming breakfast. We are excited to see the fruit of these intergenerational friendships getting underway this month, and we ask for your continued prayer for this program in these challenging and exciting formative stages.

We plan, we hope, and we pray for Passages Mentoring to become only the first step toward a much larger mentoring ministry in our church. We would like to extend the scope of these mentoring opportunities to include all of our youth, as well as college students. This, of course, requires mature Christian adults willing to take a few hours a month to walk beside them and get to know them.

Throughout the Bible, we see that these kinds of relationships were the very cornerstone of discipleship. Therefore, it is our hope that one day McPherson Free Methodist Church would be characterized by a vast network of mentoring relationships that will benefit not just the younger members of our congregation, but our whole body as well as the larger community. Please pray about being a part of this vision with us as we help to bring present and future generations to maturity in Christ.

***"...we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love."***

## 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 and are due October 13! **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).

### ELYRIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL:

**BBQ Beef Dinner and Bake Sale-** Tuesday, October 13, 11am-7pm at McPherson 4-H Building...featuring Knackies Brisket and BBQ Sauce. Free will donation! **Pizza Hut Fundraiser-** Stop by the Welcome Center and pick up a coupon to be used on Monday, October 19, 5:00-9:00 p.m. When you present the coupon Pizza Hut will donate 15% of the sales generated to ECS. Dine-in or carryout.

### OUTREACH MCPHERSON

is preparing for our 3rd Annual Thanksgiving Box distribution on

Saturday, November 7 @ 9am. Sign up to help with assembly and/or distribution at the Outreach McPherson table in the Narthex. Items 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! If you prefer that we do your shopping for you a cash donation is always welcome. Each basket costs approximately \$30. We will do the bulk of our shopping during the last week of October so your contributions, whether cash or purchased items, would be appreciated prior to Sunday, November 1.

*Outreach McPherson now has a designated phone number, 241-7179. Pass it on!*

**FAREWELL RECEPTION:** Help us honor **Don and Margie Mason** with a heartfelt "thank you & goodbye" in the Parlor on Sunday, October 4 immediately

following worship. We wish them the very best in Greenville, Illinois and thank them for their years of service in our church and community. They will be missed!!! Cards are welcome! -Sponsored by the Sanctuary Choir

### WOMEN, SAVE THE DATE-

**OCTOBER EIGHT:** Plan now to attend your monthly T.W.I.G.S. (Today's Women in God's Service) meeting on October 8 at 7:00 p.m. The night includes a Silent Auction Fundraiser for Free Methodist International Child Care Ministries and YOUR involvement is needed! Create a gift basket or gift bag at home and bring it to the auction. Visit the T.W.I.G.S. table in the narthex for more info.

### BABY SHOWER FOR ALISON

**MOORE:** (Ali is the concert choir director at CCC. Steve and Ali are expecting a girl!) Join us on Tuesday, October 13, 7:00 p.m. in the parlor. Nursery colors are light and dark purple. They are registered at Target and Walmart.

### Points of Interest:

- **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**  
OCTOBER 4
- **FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR DON & MARGIE MASON**  
OCTOBER 4
- **TWIGS SILENT AUCTION**  
OCTOBER 8
- **YOUTH DINNER**  
OCTOBER 11
- **BABY SHOWER FOR ALI MOORE**  
OCTOBER 13
- **FALL PARTY FOR 3'S-5TH**  
OCTOBER 31

## Thank You...

**A** note of thanks to everyone for their prayers, visits and cards while I was in the hospital. I also appreciate the food you brought since I'm home. I love my church family.

-Blessings to you all.  
Lila Ensey

**T**hank you to all the friends who prayed for us during the September 24/7 Week of Prayer and

those that continue to pray for our family. During that week our prayers were answered and Jacob got a job! We also thank you for the onesies, rattle, and balloon for Ethan when he was born. It was great to see Jan up at the hospital. Thank you to everyone for their love, prayers, and support for our family during this joyous time.

-Jacob, Tamara and Ethan  
Young

**T**hank you to our wonderful church family for the cards, prayers and love during our time of grief. The floral arrangement sent to Mom Short's funeral service was beautiful. She loved flowers and always tended a beautiful garden. We are so thankful to be part of the family of God.

-Harold & Doris Short  
& Short Families

(continued on Page 4)