

# McPherNotes

MCPHERSON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

## Pastoral Staff

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jodell@macfmc.org

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preimer@macfmc.org

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McPherson, KS 67460  
620.241.7176

Outreach McPherson  
620.241.7179

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

## Perspectives on the World Christian Movement

Our church is privileged to host a Christian education course, Perspectives on the World Christian Movement, designed to help believers learn more about God's heart for all nations and how believers worldwide can play an active role in the Great Commission.

The Perspectives Study Program is a ministry of the U.S. Center for World Missions—a non-denominational parachurch ministry that works with churches, mission agencies, and campus ministries around the world. It is run locally, coordinated regionally, and supported behind the scenes by a national office. It is currently in over 200 locations each year around the United

States with many more locations worldwide. Classes will begin Tuesday evening, January 12 and be held every Tuesday until May 11 from 6:30-9:30 p.m., convening in the youth room. A variety of speakers, many world-renowned as pioneers in missions and missiology, will bring their perspectives and expertise to the class.

The course can be taken for college credit (\$240), but there are also other enrollment options as well as discount and scholarship information. Visit the website to review the materials, speakers, and enrollment procedure: [www.perspectives.org/McPherson](http://www.perspectives.org/McPherson). For more information, contact Dean Smidderks, a member of the Perspectives Team as well as the local church.

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

## Weekly Events

### Sundays

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

### Mondays

9:00am-Women's Bible Study

### 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  
9:00am-Play Date at Jan's  
9:00am-Overeater's Anonymous  
12:00pm-Women's Bible Study  
6:15 pm-Worship Team Rehearsal

### Saturdays

7:00am-Men's Prayer Group

## December 2009 at a Glance

Dec. 1	9:15 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Moms in Touch "First Tuesday" Worship Arts Meeting "Agnus Dei" Orchestra Rehearsal
Dec. 3	7:00 pm	Missions Committee Meeting
Dec. 5		Bible Quiz in Lawrence
Dec. 6	9:00 am 12:00 pm 4:15 pm	TWIGS Breakfast at Montana Mikes BASIC Potluck "Agnus Dei" Rehearsal
Dec. 8	7:00 pm 7:30 am 7:00 pm	CCC Christmas Vespers USD 418 CPR "Agnus Dei" Orchestra Rehearsal
Dec. 9	7:00 pm	Pastor's Cabinet
Dec. 12	8:15 pm	Trustee Meeting
Dec. 13	9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm	"Agnus Dei" Full Rehearsal Children's Christmas Program Youth Dinner
Dec. 14	4:30 pm	Outreach McPherson Team Meeting
Dec. 15	9:15 am	Moms in Touch
Dec. 16	6:00 pm 8:15 pm	Christmas Caroling/Chili Supper Finance Team
Dec. 17	7:30 pm	BOA
Dec. 19	9:00 am	"Agnus Dei" Full Rehearsal
Dec. 20	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Christmas Brunch-No Sunday School (Bring a breakfast dish) "Agnus Dei"
Dec. 24	5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Dec. 25		Merry Christmas
Dec. 31	8:30-12pm	Office Hours (Please note hours for end of year giving)

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Volume 1, Issue 12

December 2009

## Pssst....it's a Conspiracy!

**A**dvent is the beginning of the Church Year for most churches in the Western tradition. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which is the Sunday nearest November 30, and ends on Christmas Eve. Historically, Advent has been a time for penitence and fasting, but in recent times the more penitential aspects of the Season have been replaced with an emphasis on hope and anticipation.

This year there is much anticipation for our participation in Advent Conspiracy, a grass-roots movement among North American churches to recover a sense of purpose and simplicity as we say no to the added stress, traffic jams, and debt that often takes months to pay off and can leave us with more stress than we started with. Our preaching series during Advent will focus on *Worshiping Fully, Spending Less, Giving More, and Loving All*. Here are some ways we can join in the Conspiracy.

### Support for our Church Planters:

The Great Plains Conference church planting fund is empty with two months of support yet to provide to our church planters. A special communion offering will be received, above and beyond our regular giving, on Sunday, December 6.

### A New Twist on Chili and Caroling:

You are invited to join us on Wednesday evening, December 16, for caroling at 6:00 and chili immediately following. Here's

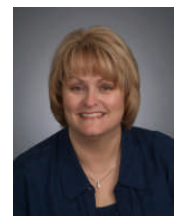
the twist: Some of us will visit the homebound and nursing homes as we have done in the past; others will visit designated Outreach McPherson homes, carol at the doorstep, and *leave a chili supper with them* (that has been assembled at 5:30). This means we will need more than just choir members to make this happen...we need LOTS of participants and LOTS of chili. Contact Rebekah Neighbors or Les and Marge Hargadine for more details.

### Clear Blue Global Water Project:

Throughout Advent we will learn about the global impact of unsafe drinking water. Currently 884 million people lack access to safe water supplies, which is approximately one in eight people. Every family and individual in the church is invited to defer the purchase of one Christmas gift during the holiday season and put that money toward Clear Blue Global Water, a Free Methodist World Missions initiative. Our goal: to build a well in Malawi, Africa. Will you join in the Conspiracy?

### Appreciation Sunday for Pat Reimer

As we prepare for the departure of Pat Reimer from the office manager role effective December 31, we are inviting the church family to express appreciation for her four years of service on Sunday, December 13, in conjunction with the Youth Dinner. There will be a receptacle for cards and notes and Pat will be present to receive your warm wishes as she anticipates full-time student status in January.



Reverend  
Deborah  
Somerville

Photo by Kerney Photography

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# McPherNotes

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## Children's Activities...with Jan O'Dell (242-6775)

### Thursday Play Dates Ages 3-5 Year Olds

- December 3, 10, 17 & 31 (not on Dec. 24)
- Jan's house, 308 N. Elm
- 9:00-11:00 a.m.
- Field Trip Dec. 10: Tour of the Pizza Hut and to eat pizza! Parental help is needed and appreciated. Contact Jan at the church office if you can assist.

### Wednesday MarketPlace 7-8pm for 3s through Grade 5

- Focus on *Advent: The Birth of Jesus*
- Learning Centers on December 2, and 9 followed by holiday break, resuming January 6 with a "Welcome Back Game &

Craft Night." Come ready to enjoy the Gator Slide, Twister, darts, Tic, Tac, Toe and popcorn from 7:00-8:00pm

### December Children's Church (ages 3-K)

**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 Helper

Eric Gaeddert, Jordan Kaufmann

### Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 13 during worship service. We will practice with ALL children 3 yrs. old through 5th grade on Wed., Dec. 2 & 9 from 6:15-6:45 in Room 226 and on Sat., Dec. 12 from 10:30-11:30am. We will meet in Room 226, go to the sanctuary and return to 226 to be dismissed. Thanks for bringing your special children to the practices!



## "Making the Most of Every Opportunity" by Pastor Dallas

As I reflect on the sermon series in recent months concerning missional and relational living, I am reminded of Ephesians 5:13-17:

*"But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.' Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is."*

In the past two months we have had light thrown upon our need to be a relational people on mission, and the Hospitality Team desires to respond to that light. We want to be obedient at a corporate level while believing that all along our efforts are running in parallel with the efforts of individuals and families to respond in each one's day-to-day sphere of influence. Therefore, we have three very important areas of ministry that we would like to see move forward as soon as possible:

1. **Connection Team** members that are available outside of a Sunday morning to make contacts and create relational connections with those who are new to the church as well as those regular attendees who have recently been missing on an extended basis.
2. **Welcome Center Assistants** who staff the welcome center, answer questions about the church's ministries and give direction to those unfamiliar with our facility.
3. **Roving Greeters** to rove throughout the lobby area before services, making connections with people new to our church. Rather than being stationed at one of our entrances, these greeters are free to become acquainted with these individuals, as well as to connect those who need help with other members of the Hospitality Team (Welcome Center Assistant, Ushers, etc.).

If you would like to learn more about these areas of ministry, contact Pastor Dallas or Cliff Hawkes. Come help our church to make the most of every opportunity and to grow in these aspects of hospitality!

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

### FESTIVAL OF TABLES

December 5 and 6 a "Festival of Tables" event will be held at Central Christian College's Presidential home at 700 South Maple. It will be open from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5 and 2:30 - 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6. Cost is \$7.50 for adults and \$3.00 for students. (Not recommended for children kindergarten age or younger.)

Tickets may be purchased at Central Christian College in the Business Office or at the door the day of the events. The money raised will be used to cover recent landscaping and updating done to the home.

Come and help bring in the holiday season with refreshments and viewing of beautifully and uniquely decorated tables in one of McPherson's stately homes.

### HARRY HYNES MEMORIAL COOKIE SAMPLER

Saturday, December 12, 8am-12pm at Trinity Lutheran Church. If you would like to donate homemade cookies, candy or breads, please bring them to the church on Friday, December 11 before 5pm. On Saturday you can purchase by the pound. Proceeds are donated to Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice, the only non-profit hospice in our community. Check the bulletin board for more information.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Ruth Ratzlaff  
120 Oak Park Dr., #28  
McPherson, KS 67460  
620-241-0314



### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH:

On Sunday, Dec. 20, during the Sunday school hour we will have our annual Christmas Brunch starting at 9:15am. Please bring Christmas rolls, pastries and finger foods to share. Worship Service will follow at 10:30 am. Join us!!!

### AGNUS DEI: LAMB OF GOD, BORN TO US-

Sunday, Dec. 20 at 6:00 pm. You will not want to miss this evening of wonderful music! Our Celebration Choir and Orchestra, along with many guest orchestra musicians, will present the Christmas message using the songs of Michael W. Smith and traditional sacred music. Invite your neighbors, friends, and co-workers for this highlight of the Christmas season!

### Points of Interest:

- TWIGS BREAKFAST AT MONTANA MIKES DECEMBER 5
- CCC CHRISTMAS VESPERS DECEMBER 6
- CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM YOUTH DINNER NOVEMBER 13
- CHRISTMAS CAROLING/CHILI SUPPER DECEMBER 16
- CHRISTMAS BRUNCH NO SUNDAY SCHOOL AGNUS DEI DECEMBER 20
- CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE DECEMBER 24
- MERRY CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 25

## Thank You...

Thank you so much for the lovely tray of breads and goodies brought to Washington Elementary School. It's so thoughtful of you to remember us. Everything was yummy!

-The Washington Staff

Thank you for your donation of a washing machine to one of the families that MCKIDS serves. This nice young couple have a son having surgery soon and they are trying not to expose him to any unnecessary germs by taking him out in public. Your organization is a vital part of our community and a blessing to those in need. The family receiving the washing machine is very appreciative and thanks you for your generosity.

We appreciate all you do to assist families in the McPherson area.

-Sincerely, Debbie Johnson

Early Childhood Special Educator  
Family Service Coordinator

We are grateful for our church family that weeps with us through life's difficulties and celebrates with us when life brings joy! A special thank you to those who joined us in recently celebrating our 25th wedding anniversary! Thank you for the many cards, phone messages, and congratulatory words. May the Lord continue to make Himself known through all of us!

Merv & Paula Quastad

Thank you so much for the delicious snacks and meaningful

card. It was nice to know that you were praying for us during the week.

Sincerely, EES Teachers  
and office staff

Oh my, what an awesome surprise party! Thank you for the bottom of my heart to everyone for keeping the secret and for coming to the party. I was very surprised and overwhelmed by your love and thoughtfulness! It meant so very much to see each of you! You definitely made turning 60 extra special! An extra BIG "Thanks" to my super husband, Danny, for all he did along with his helpers-Sheila Billings, Kimber Mellinger, Renee Nilson, and Pat Reimer. You are all so amazing!

-Love, Jan O'Dell