

Good Samaritan Center

By Lisa Paulson

Whew... what can we do to beat this heat? That was the question that kept popping up this week. Jerry, our cook, came out of the kitchen whooping and hollering and dancing from foot to foot; we all thought he had been burned by walking on the hot sidewalk, but he laughed and told us it was a "rain dance." Sorry Jerry, it didn't work!

The heat has had a major impact on the energy level of the residents, even though they live in a controlled environment of air conditioning. Or as someone pointed out maybe it's not the energy of the residents but of the staff.

Coleen Rippe had a good idea, she brought the fixings for Orange Julius and made them for the staff and residents for a cool-down treat!

Jenny Tally came to engage Drumming Club members in an afternoon of rhythm and fun. She uses her musical training to bring

out the very best of her group. Drumming has been encouraged by professionals who work with dementia as a way to connect with those who struggle with this reality. The exciting thing about Drumming Club is it is for everyone! Jenny is able to use her knowledge of history and music to intrigue those who love to learn and connect with someone else who is relying on innate, procedural memories to participate. Elden Haas, Phil Erickson, Opal Bryan, Alice Bobbitt, Leone Porsch and Betty May attended this week.

Flower Toss is an old stand-by, game that anyone can play with sometime surprising results. This week Evelyn Olson was our first place winner. Loren Schrock came in second and Leone Porsch took third. The surprise was guest Cheryl Miller scored 0 in several rounds. After the game was over, I saw her practicing for a re-match! Cheryl

and Loren filled Town Square with music while I gave some dancing lessons to our self-proclaimed wallflowers.

Our thanks to the many volunteers and visitors who don't let the heat stop them from bringing sunshine and joy to our home. This is not a complete list, but thank you Marilyn Horn, Bernice Martin, Dennis Brown, Larry Smith, Connie Simonsson, Reva Marshall, Dorothy Alstrom, Rosella Meitl, Frank and Mert McEvoy, Penny Finger, Pat Fringer, Carol Duncan, Yuki Berkheimer, Delores Koerperich, Jenny Tally, Keith Reuther and so many more!

Visitors this week included: Gerald and Connie Olson and Kelly Olson for **Evelyn Olson**. Bob and Neoma Tacha and Nadine Tacha (Jennings) for **Galen Tacha**. Max Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**. Marilyn Horn for **Myrtle Ross**. Murry

and Audrey Pavlicek and Kerri and Luke Schippers (Hoxie) for **Mary Lemman**. Mert McEvoy for **Lucy Schissler**. Cheryl Miller for **Loren Schrock**. Gerald Benda for **Eulaine Benda**. Eunice Martin for **Glenn Martin**. Reva Marshall for **Dorothy Hunt**. Jerry Hill for **Cheryl Hill**. Susie Sabatka (Atwood) for **Vera Kacirek**. Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh for **Opal Bryan**. Gene Leitner for **Marcella Leitner**. Rose Riffle for **Roxie Pomeroy**. Breckyn and Kennedy Jensen for great-grandma **Violet Schissler**. Ann Mines for **Leona Helmkamp**. Julia Otter (Hays) for **Leone Porsch**. Sally Henningson for **Connie Cramer**. Gary Erickson for **Phil Erickson**. Pastor Nancy Proffitt for **Phil Erickson**, **Eva Bryan** and **Glenn Martin**.

Decatur Health Systems

By Becky Wilson

It's truly inspiring to see what can be accomplished with a bit of effort.

Oberlin blood drive coordinator Greg Vontz has been something of a one-man whirlwind this past month, getting everyone and everything ready for the American Red Cross drive this past Tuesday.

Volunteers were pulled from every corner of Decatur Health Systems, Oberlin, the surrounding counties. If there was something that could be done to help make the drive a success, Mr. Vontz was there to make sure it was done. And all of that work paid off.

Just short of 80 people donated blood, nearly double the turnout of the last drive. More people than that showed up, ready to donate, but the drive was a victim of its own success, and the wait was too long.

The scorching temperatures we've been having surely didn't help, either. When I went down to see how things were going, the sign at The Gateway indicated it was 105 degrees.

But all in all, it was wonderful to see so many people willing to help by donating blood, and everyone should get ready for an even bigger and better drive next time. Don't worry, the Red Cross will be bringing more technicians.

The blood drive isn't the only thing at Decatur Health seeing a healthy amount of new attention. The hospital board and the senior management have been meeting

this summer in a series of strategic planning sessions.

The goal is to reinvigorate health care in Oberlin by emphasizing the myriad of services that we have available that folks might not be aware of, and also developing new services in areas that are currently underserved.

To that end, management has visited assisted living facilities in Hill City and WaKeeney to start thinking about how to add those services here. People have indicated that this would be a great help with our aging population, and so we are working to make that a reality.

Cancer treatment is another area of increasing focus. Many patients need regular chemotherapy sessions, and Decatur Health would like to expand our services in this area by creating a dedicated room with more staff and an aligned oncologist.

Of course, physician recruitment continues to be another area of attention. The overall goal is to have two additional full-time doctors here to serve the Oberlin area by next year. The physician recruitment committee's next meeting will be at 11:30 a.m. Monday. They are working hard to ensure that we have everything we need for a vital, healthy community.

If you have any ideas for further services, please feel free to contact Ruth Wolfram, who is spearheading this effort, or any other board member or manager at Decatur Health.

Norcatour News

By the Norcatour News Committee

The Norcatour Fire Department has been kept busy lately. They responded to a small grass fire at the home of Gust and Kay Foth and quickly extinguished it.

Matt and Brandy Kuhlman are in Omaha with their three-year old son, Eric, who has been diagnosed with Wilm's cancer. Surgery removed the tumor and one kidney. He started chemotherapy July 19, but expects to be released to return home next Monday.

If you would like to help the family with medical and travel expenses, Krista Kuhlman, is selling T-shirts for him. You may order by sending a \$12 check to the Eric Kuhlman Cancer Fund, in care of Krista Kuhlman, 305 Cherry Ave., Oakley, Kan. 67748. Watch for information about

a future hog roast benefit. Cards may reach the family at 307 S. Dexter, Norcatour, Kan. 67653.

Happy birthday wishes to: Brenda Arnold, July 18; Mildred Schwab, July 19; Oran Milner, Greg Long, Mary Wentz, July 20; Aaron Helm, Adam Spanier, July 21; Judy Ward, July 22; Carol New, July 23; Ken McVay, July 24.

Happy anniversary to Adam and Andrea Spanier on July 23.

Senior Citizens played cards on July 12. Gust Foth swept the field with the high score in every game. Five-handed pinochle makes for some wild bidding, often going for 40-50 point bids. The group met July 20 to play pitch. Senior Citizens meet again at 1 p.m., Thursday in the Methodist Church Educational

Building.

Minh and Wanda Nguyen picked up Betty Reid on June 29 and returned to Lone Tree, Colo. Mrs. Reid celebrated her 94th birthday there and had lots of company to visit her. Linda Young, Terry and Debbie New, Conifer, Colo., were guests. On July 4 they had dinner at Chanh and Lien Nguyen's. Also visiting were Chen and Mimi Su with their children Luhan and Lauren

from Virginia. Later in the day Eric and Bibi Chen and their children Eli, Clara and Evan arrived from St. Paul, Minn. They returned Betty to Norton on July 12. The Nguyens had dinner at Attitude's with Ted and Connie Sanko.

The Norcatour Clinic will be open from 9:30 a.m. to noon on Tuesday. Call 475-2015 to schedule an appointment, however, walk-ins are welcome.

Living in two worlds Roy Matthewson, Lund Covenant Church

Living as faithful, thoughtful Christians requires that we stop thinking scientifically about unscientific things. Last week's article argued that since the scientific method and the world view it engendered came into being at least 1,100 years after the canon of Scripture was closed, it is a mistake to attempt to read the Bible scientifically. The Bible is not a scientific document. Recognizing that the times in which Bible books were composed meant that the authors did not see the world in the way that we see it, frees us—and the Bible—to explain the Gospel on its own terms. The terms by which we are to read the Bible are theological.

Theology is often seen as a scary word. Stereotypically, a theologian is someone sitting in an ivory tower with no real connection to the world in which people actually live. From that tower a theologian makes a pronouncement in the form of a heavy book about God and the world. Too often that book seems completely irrelevant to our lives.

In reality, the vast majority of theological study in the world is not done in this way. Anyone who talks about, or reads the Bible to learn more about God is doing theology. Theology is a Greek word that combines two roots: 'Theo,' meaning God; and 'logos,' meaning word. At its heart, theology is nothing more than words about God. When we pray, sing, read scripture, or share the grace of God with others in words, and perhaps also in our actions, we are being theologians.

Approaching Scripture as theology, instead of as a science textbook, is challenging, difficult and potentially dangerous work. It is challenging because our faith is built on the God revealed in the Bible. If the biblical description of how the world came to be cannot be trusted scientifically, we question whether anything in the Bible can be trusted. Can we really believe the reports in the New Testament about Jesus coming back to life after his crucifixion

if Noah didn't have two of every type of animal on the ark with him?

The Christian response to this dangerous threat to faith is often confused. We choose to remain faithful to our scientific mindset and attempt to prove the stories in scripture scientifically. As a result we throw out the scientific work based on the world around us in favor of the scientific work based upon an unscientifically composed book of theology. The barrier to the Gospel this choice makes is massive. Non-Christians conclude we are irrational, uncritical and unscientific. We are none of these things, of course. We just tend to start from an improper position. That improper position is the scientific mindset with which we approach the Bible.

Approaching the Bible as theology is still difficult work. It requires that we come at the text from within the world in which it was written rather than the world in which our minds live. The authors and actors in the Bible were intelligent, thoughtful people who were using the most precise words they could to describe the world in which they lived and the God who created that world. Those words were not scientifically biased like ours are because they were not thinking in the same scientific way.

The truths they communicated—that God is the creator of the world, that He loves creation and wants to be in relationship with it, and that He redeemed it through Jesus the Christ—are still true. The eyewitness accounts and testimony to the resurrection from within and outside of the Church are valid and verifiable, even by our critical standards. The fact is that God does not need us to defend His creation, or how He did it. The evidence is all around us. What God does need us to do is share why God as creator and redeemer matters. The difference requires intellectual and spiritual courage, as we live in two worlds simultaneously.



Rexford News

By Gwen Griffiths

It's been another hot week in Rexford. Even with the heat, Rexford residents have been out and about.

The crowd at the Selden ball field was a little smaller this week, but the kids still had a good time playing T-ball and softball.

The 40 and over crowd met Thursday night at the Red Barn for the monthly Spuds & Splits event. There was a good turnout – about 26 people. Everyone enjoyed baked potatoes, banana splits and good conversation. This event is held on the third Thursday of every month, so plan to check it out in August!

A group of about 16 youth and sponsors spent the weekend camping at Merritt Reservoir. This event

is put on each year by churches in Nebraska. There were 110 kids attending this year. The kids got to spend a portion of each day doing fun activities on the lake, but the bigger focus was learning about God. They had a daily small group study time and the main speaker was Jeremiah Knoop, of Scotia, Neb. He and his wife, Elizabeth, were part of the Village Missions Summer Connection conference held at Shepherd's Staff earlier in July.

That seems to be the news from Rexford this week. I'm always happy to put your important events or gatherings in this column; just call 687-2076 or e-mail griffithsgang@gmail.com. Have a great week!

and Charlene Shaw; July 31, Sara Emigh, Ralph Nelson; Aug. 1, Ben and Renee Filmore, Nick Merkle, Chad and Mandy Focke; Aug. 2, Rodney Smith.

A big "Thank You" to everyone who helped with the fire on Sunday. Without everyone showing up to help, the fire would have been much, much worse. We cannot say "Thank You" enough. Fire departments responding included: Selden, Menlo, Hoxie and Rexford. Sheridan County Emergency Medical Services, Selden Station, was on the scene to help with people getting overheated and handing out lots of water.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

On July 19 during Senior Citizens at the Community Center, Jeanie Spesser won high with a score of 646; Janice Kruse took second with a score of 616; Lillian Sulzman got low with a score of 398; and Pat Wessel had the most tens. Other members present included Ralph Weis, Bob Wessel, Matt Finnessy, Betty James, Carl Mumm, Royce Cook, Lola Cook and Shirley Emigh.

Birthdays and anniversaries: July 28, Betty Pauls, Lacy Rogers; July 29, Marcia Schlageck, Rowdy Belair, Jill Boultinghouse; July 30, Josh Miller, Arvilla Juenemann, Janice Brantley Roth, Tex

spaces, but don't wait till the last minute.

The Back-to-School Picnic is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 15, in City Park. The Jaycees, with the help of Chamber members, will be serving pork burgers and all attending are asked to bring a covered dish to go along with the meal.

The Oberlin Herald will have their \$1,000 Shopping Spree drawing during this event also. New staff at the schools will be introduced. Bring your lawn chairs and table service. Hopefully, it will have cooled off a bit by then.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

I think I have decided to move to Wyoming! It's halfway between the hot Midwest and the rainy Northwest. Just kidding.

I hope to have enough tomatoes for all this Wednesday, providing that Klooz Farm has an ample supply.

The Chamber board members will be serving root beer floats again this Friday at the gazebo in Centennial Park.

The Decatur County Fair sign-up sheet for games and rides is here in the Business Entrepreneurial Enhancement Building for your convenience. There are still open

Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
785-475-3103
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 5:30 p.m. Saturday

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEOVILLE
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 8 a.m., Sunday.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 10:00 Sunday

JENNINGS-DRESDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor: Barbara Patterson
SUNDAY: Church School, 10 a.m. Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

DRESDEN
SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 9:30 a.m.

PRAIRIE CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
The Rev. Nancy Proffitt
SUNDAY: Church Services, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 8:30 a.m.

HERNDON IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Pastor: Dennis Brown
SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 9 a.m.

OBERLIN UNITED METHODIST 102 North Cass — 785-475-3067
The Rev. Nancy Proffitt
SUNDAY: Church School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. (Nursery provided.) WEDNESDAY: Praise team practice, 8 p.m.

OBERLIN ASSEMBLY OF GOD
The Rev. Royce Leitner
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible study, 7 p.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF OBERLIN
Pastor: Judi Stricker
109 North Griffith-American Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian USA
SUNDAY: Adult Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee: 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m. Choir practice every Sun. at 9:45 a.m. Holy Communion, 1st & 3rd Sundays. United Church Women, 2nd Wed at 2 p.m. Parish Council, 2nd Sun. following Worship

OBERLIN COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP (Southern Baptist)
Pastor: Gene Gee
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m., WEDNESDAY: Service, 7 p.m.,

CLAYTON UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Ed Woods
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.

OBERLIN CHURCH OF CHRIST South Beaver Street - Oberlin
Bill Duncan — Phone 785-475-3259
SUNDAY: Fellowship and coffee time; 10:00 a.m. Praise and Worship time, with Weekly Lords Supper, Multi-media Bible sermons & open bible studies combined. Private Bible studies on request.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC, HERNDON
Fr. Nick Parker
Phone 785-322-5560
MASS: SUNDAY and THURSDAY 8:30 a.m.

HERNDON COVENANT CHURCH
Pastor: Keith Reuther
Phone 785-322-5316
SUNDAY: 9:45 a.m. Morning worship, 11 a.m. Youth group, 4 p.m.

NORCATOUR UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Ed Woods
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Church School, 10:30 a.m.

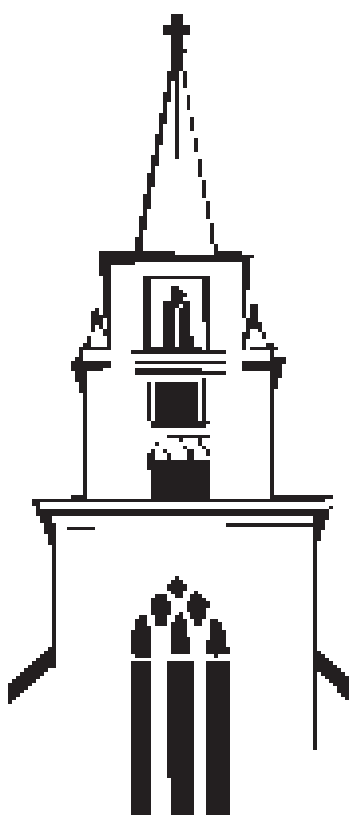
LYLE UNITED METHODIST
Guest Speakers every Sunday
SUNDAY: Morning Worship 9 a.m.

EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF OBERLIN
Pastors: Chris and Sharon Nelson
810 West Cedar, Oberlin
Office Phone 785-475-2769
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship Time, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m. WEDNESDAY: Bible Study, 7 p.m.

LUND COVENANT CHURCH
Pastor Roy Matthewson
10 miles south, 4 miles west of Oberlin.
Men's Breakfast Saturdays June 2, 16, and 30 8 a.m.
Lawn Vespers Sundays June 10, and 24 7 p.m.
Sunday: Sunday School 10am Worship 11 am "The Difference is worth the Distance" facebook.com/LundCovenantChurch

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 North Wilson
Interim Pastor: Brad Rick
SUNDAY: Sunday School and Bible class, 9:45 a.m.; Divine Worship Service, 8:30 a.m.; Holy Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays..

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
404 North York Avenue
Oberlin, Kansas
The Rev. Charlotte Strecker-Baseler
Church Office Phone: 785-475-2053
SUNDAY: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; Fellowship and Educational Hour, 11:15 a.m. Holy Communion first and third Sundays. THURSDAY: Women's Bible Study second Thursday at 9:30 a.m.



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