

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Christmas Eve candlelight services for the Immanuel United Church of Christ of Herndon will be held at the home of Leon and Marita Portschy at 5:30 p.m., followed by a soup supper.

St. Mary's Catholic Church will hold Christmas Day Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Herndon seniors met Wednesday, Dec. 19, at the center for their monthly dinner. Winning the prizes were Beth Chartier, door prize and Sue Frick, the blackout. The January noon potluck will be Jan. 23 at the Herndon Senior Center. All seniors are welcome.

Herndon received its first widespread snowstorm for the season on Wednesday. Conditions were

threatening by afternoon with travelers encouraged to stay off the roads. Thursday found men on their toys removing the heavy wet snow. Two nice surprises this week for Herndon; the much needed moisture and the world did not end on the 21st.

Julie's Memory Joggers
The Herndon Nonpareil
Thursday, July 26, 1945
City Has New Siren

The city has acquired a new siren to be used as an emergency fire warning. The siren is to be installed on top of the City power plant, and will be turned on at noon and at six o'clock each day. The fire call will be an intermittent blast from low to high and repeating. The noon and

six o'clock blasts will be long and high-pitched.

The siren will replace the old bell which has been rather hard to hear since trees have grown up all over town.

News of Neighbors

Rumors are that the Indianola prisoner-of-war camp is to be closed officially by the end of the month.

Melvin Arkle, Gunner's Mate 3rd Class was visiting friends here Wednesday afternoon. His home is at Ludell and he has been home on leave the past few weeks. He has been in the Navy since the start of the war, and has seen a lot of action, mostly in the Pacific.

Put gift cards towards fitness

With most of the holidays over, we can focus on using those gift cards that so many of us received this year. Maybe we have gained a few pounds, so why not use that gift card and choose a gift for yourself that promotes health and wellness. Here are some gift ideas that can really get people motivated to be more active.

1. Workout Attire: Nothing is more exciting than getting a few new outfits to wear when being physically fit. This can include shorts, sports bras, or brand new athletic footwear. Many of these items come in a variety of prices and forms. If you like to run, why not buy a pair of tennis shoes that you've customized. Many of the popular brands of shoes have websites where you can choose the shoe, color, and even add a name or favorite sports team. If you are into yoga, why not buy a new pair of yoga pants and matching top. Fun colors will really brighten up the workout experience.

2. Exercise Equipment: Don't let the title make you think you have to spend a lot of money. This can range from a new set of free weights to a balance ball to fit bands. Anything that promotes physical activity. If you are willing to spend more money, try an exercise bike, a treadmill, or an elliptical machine. Just make sure if you are purchasing a larger item that you have the space to accommodate the equipment.

3. Fun Fitness DVDS: Some people like to do their physical activity in the privacy of their own home. There are a million and one different workout regimens available. Some have up to three months worth of workout routines along with tips and nutrition advice. There are also video games out there that promote physical fitness in one's home, just



Home Time

By Tranda Watts
Regional Extension Agent

make sure to check what gaming device the game uses.

4. Gym Membership: Sign your whole family up for the gym. Make it a habit to go with your loved ones so that it creates accountability. If you sign up with a friend, you will be more likely to encourage each other to use it. 5. Other Memberships: Buy the gift of membership to a place that has room to move such as the zoo or a nature center. This will encourage physical activity in the form of long walks with loved ones. Not only will you be active, but you will also learn about different topics. Plus it's fun to get outside.

6. Music: If you like to do physical activity with music, try buying

a music gift card to your favorite online or in-store music store. Nothing's better than adding some new tunes to your mp3 player for your morning jog.

Whatever you decide to buy this year, try to do a little something to promote physical activity. It doesn't have to be big. Even small changes lead to results in the end.

Tranda Watts is Kansas State University extension specialist in food, nutrition, health and safety for Decatur, Gove, Norton, Sheridan, and Trego counties. Call her at (785) 443-3663 or e-mail twatts@ksu.edu. For information, contact the Decatur County office of Twin Creeks Extension, 475-8121.

Good Samaritan Center

By Whitney True

Did you know that if you take the word "holiday," apart that it's actually comprised of the two words, "holy" and "day"? And what a holy day Christmas is, as we celebrate the birth of Christ and the hope and promise of eternal life this Christmas season!

Looking forward and into the New Year the residents want to invite you to come and participate in our Bible study and devotions.

They love to be involved with the community and would love to host youth nights or any type of Christian fellowship here. One of the most beautiful elements to our residents is their faith that has grown and blossomed over their years and it is the type of faith that helps others grow in their faith.

Performances which were enjoyed included a piano recital by Cheryl Metcalf and students.

We would also like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy "Holy Day."

Visitors this past week included: Bob and Neoma Tacha for Galen Tacha. Cheryl Miller for Loren Schrock. Reva Marshall for Dorothy Hunt. Rita Barratt for Margaret Vacura. Max Carman for Myrtle Waldo.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Sympathy is extended to the family of Violet Holle, who died Wednesday night at the Good Samaritan Center in Atwood. The former Violet Anderson, she was a daughter of the late Oscar and Vivian Anderson, of this community.

Survivors include two sons, Larry Holle, and Kevin (Mary) Holle and family; two daughters, Shelly and Cheryl Holle; and two sisters, Eunice Martin and Lila Thorson. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Atwood.

Christmas Eve services will begin at 11 p.m. at the Herndon Covenant Church.

Clay and Jennie Anderson and Grant, not Brody, were hosts for the fourth birthday party honoring their son and brother, Cowen, on Dec. 15.

Christmas Day guests of Dick and Donna Kelley will be Kirk Kelley, Davenport, Iowa; Sheldon and Brenda Kelley, Kendra and Jessica, Frederick, Colo.; and Jan Hackney, Herndon. Wednesday guests will be Seth, Chelsea and Brody Kelley,

Topeka, and Nate Kelley, Payton and Nathan.

Gary and Mary Ann Erickson were last Monday supper guests of Steve and Arian Arnold.

From a distance

A few years ago there was a song made popular by Bette Midler. It was about the time of the first Gulf War, and brought a lot of tears, as I recall. The title of the song was, "From a Distance." The song made it clear that God is watching us "from a distance." The songwriter was writing about our "little blue marble" way out in the black-velvet space, and the fact that God watches from far beyond that, yet up close and personal as well.

From a distance the earth must look beautiful, the blue of the oceans, the green and brown of the terra firma. Yet, as we focus the camera, if you will, and zoom in, it is not such a beautiful picture. The ice caps are melting, and the end-caps are growing darker and darker. The billions of life forms, animal, insect, reptilian, are shrinking each day, as more go extinct due to our encroachment into their eco-systems. And, that beautiful blue water that we see from space, is actually muddy and unclean through our mismanagement of our earth. That great God who is watching, left us in charge. We were to be stewards of all but.... well, many would rather deny it than accept it and try to make a difference. All that, and more, as we, as mankind, try every device possible to exterminate each other through war, greed and selfishness. We give little thought to the idea that God is watching us. Many deny He is even He.

Would it not be absolutely wonderful if we really looked up close as we do from afar? If we took seriously the conservation of all of our resources, if we were willing to sacrifice a little to help slow global climate change, if we were willing to sit down and talk more, with each other rather than shouting at each other? Oh, and wouldn't it be wonderful if our young

men and women in the military could be across the globe, keeping peace, not making war and no Virginia, they are not the same.

A little over 2,000 years ago, God was watching us as in a manger, his Son was Born, a Savior to bring his message of forgiveness and grace. That night, the heavens were full of the glory of God's angels, the shepherds were in awe, and the wise men saw the star and began their two year journey to worship at the feet of the new King. He still is watching us, as we near this celebration of the Season, 2,013 years later. He is watching to see what we will do to help make our children safe. What we will do to keep our world together, our globe unspoiled. Somehow, I see him as in the ad a few years ago that showed a great Native American Chief, tears running down his face as he saw what had happened to nature. If God made tears, then he is capable of them and I think he is crying a lot right now.

What a grand and glorious year 2013 can be. Can we make it so? Pretty much, yes! It is going to take a change in our arrogant attitudes of feeling entitled to the kind of life we have been living, "too high on the hog." It is also going to take sacrifice from all of us, not just within the bounds of our shores, but all across the world.

God is watching us from a distance. We have an opportunity to truly please Him, to make Him smile. One way, is to truly appreciate our little ones, to make our world fit for our grandchildren and their grandchildren. They are the rarest and most precious of our resources. Hug one today, and like the Grinch, your heart may grow three sizes this year. God is watching.



Pastor Judith Stricker
United Church of Oberlin

Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
785-475-3103
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 10:30 a.m. Sunday
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEVILLIE
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 8 a.m., Sunday.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 5:30 p.m. 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.

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

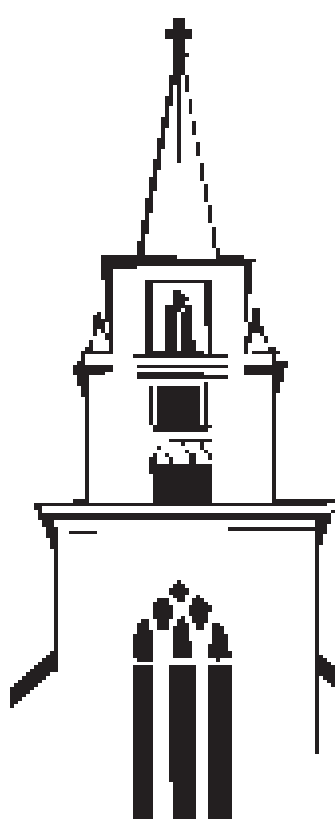
LYLE UNITED METHODIST
Guest Speakers every Sunday
SUNDAY: Morning Worship 9 a.m.

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.
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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