

# ***Murray Presbyterian Messenger***

***August 2015***

***Murray Presbyterian Church***

***Pastor Portia Iverson, Interim***

***Office: 402-235-2754***

***P.O. Box 196 Murray NE 68409-0196***

## **August News - From the Pastor**

We now conclude the results - the thoughts and dreams collected - from our time together in discernment in June of this year. In Part 2 of the second week's class the key passage was from Luke 17:11-19, the story of Jesus healing the 10 lepers, with one coming back to give thanks. We completed the following thoughts:

Q: The heart of the matter is...A: Thankfulness. Sharing ourselves. Do we judge others? Contemplate the words: "Your faith has healed you..."

Q: To me this passage means...A. Where were the other lepers? What causes some to me thankful and not all? Trust in the Lord with all your heart. (Proverbs)

Q. This passage perplexes me because...A. It raises questions about the food pantry experience here...Only one gives thanks. It reminds us how human we all are.

Q. As we contemplate the passage, in what areas of our church do we need healing?  
A. Healing with confusion and dysfunction. Removal of anxiety.

Q. How might our church move forward? A. With greater faith commitment; clearly determining what our real mission is now, providing clarity through job descriptions.

### **Class Three - Part 1 - Discerning Discipleship**

The final two parts of our study were the most creative and imaginative in the series. Scripture: Matthew 10:5-14 Jesus sends out the Twelve to drive out spirits, heal and preach.

After slowly reading and hearing the scripture, we experienced a meditative experience where we visualized Jesus speaking to a group. We were included. Jesus spots us in the crowd and comes to us. He comes to You. To be with You.

Q. What was the experience like for you?

A. Calming-humbling-coming face to face with fears. Beyond comprehension. Wanting to be a part of the kingdom-hoping to join in-but reluctant-"unchartered waters."

Q. What did you discover about yourself?

A. Inner confusion-need for mercy-desire to be in control-surprised to be a part of the search process. Caution is overrated. Openness needed.

Q. What did you discover about what it meant to be a disciple?

A. We're here to be disciples together; "group think." We are still learning/developing. Is the message from Jesus for me?

Q. What do you need from others in this?

A. Group input; more trust; help discovering: What does Jesus want from me? "Send me."

Q. How will you give (get more involved, do more) or express your commitment (help with food pantry, join in the church's mission).

Q. What did you discover about the mission of the church at this time?

A. Desire to do more/find out more about the chapel in memory of Marty.

Q. How do we prepare for new pastoral leadership?

A. Pray-Be open to God's leadership. Remain faithful-clean house-get things in order. Have realistic expectations. "Trust the process."

Q. What can your roll be in all of this?

A. Pray. Begin to give prayerful attention to the makeup of the Search Committee. Clean the house. Critical thinking.

### Class Three - Part 2 - The "Curious Church"

We read an article in the publication "The Parish Paper" titled "Could Lack of Curiosity Kill the Church?" This marvelous article by Cynthia Woolever is on the table at the back of the church. If you weren't in the class, you can still read it too!

Here are some Traits of a Curious Congregation

- \* Never satisfied with the status quo...
- \* Less concerned about rules...than what works.
- \* Experiences frustration over information gaps and that fuels desire to learn more.
- \* Shows empathic curiosity.
- \* Willing to make choices.

We brainstormed over four "Curious Congregation Questions":

Q. Thinking about current and previous pastors, what leadership approach fit the church best?

A. Skill sets are very important. The pastor needs visitation and personal as well as church administration skills. Faith background is important. Ability to lead and to follow. Positive connection with members. Good rapport. Congregation needs to feel comfortable with the person. Needs to have a good speaking voice.

Q. If our church leaders could travel back in time 20 years, what message would they deliver to us now?

A. Welcome new and younger leadership. Involve new members quickly. Give new members a sense of ownership. The past was too rigid. Identity does not depend on the pastor.

Q. Would we listen to their message now?

Q. What are we doing now to transform desired values into core values?

A. Staying faithful.

For folks reading this now who were not together with us in our discernment classes, how do you hear these things? Where will they lead you in the days ahead? How will you share in our interim journey?

With joy for the journey,

*Portia*



Barb Koester - Tom Meeske  
 Tina Kidd - Nessie Swedlund  
 Madelyn Shumaker – Deb Koelling  
 Richard (Dick) Schanot (Joyce Johnson’s brother)  
 Kosta (Anna Mallett’s Brother)  
 Dave Padilla (Diana Pool’s Brother)  
 Trip Pool (Julie Nickels Brother in Law)



The August Breakfast Club will be gathering on Tuesday August 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:30a.m. at the Plattsouth HyVee.



Thank You to the donor who gave Murray Presbyterian Church a very generous anonymous donation.

*Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.*  
 Proverbs 3:27

## SERVING THE CHURCH IN AUGUST

Please consider signing the Sign-Up Sheets on the back table.

### Greeters

August 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... Worship on the Water  
 August 9<sup>th</sup> ..... Ray & Melissa Avidano  
 August 16<sup>th</sup> ..... Open  
 August 23<sup>rd</sup> ..... Open  
 August 30<sup>th</sup> ..... Open

### Special Music

August 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... Worship on the Water  
 August 9<sup>th</sup> ..... “Give Thanks”: Gracie Kliegl - piano  
 August 16<sup>th</sup> ..... “Blessings”: Sarah, Jocelyn & Delaney  
 August 23<sup>rd</sup> ..... Open  
 August 30<sup>th</sup> ..... Open

### Fellowship

August 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... Worship on the Water  
 August 9<sup>th</sup> ..... Sharon & Frank Rivas  
 August 16<sup>th</sup> ..... Virginia Spangler & Laraine Young  
 August 23<sup>rd</sup> ..... Ray & Melissa Avidano  
 August 30<sup>th</sup> ..... Open



Murray Presbyterian & Murray Christian Churches together are inviting you to **WORSHIP ON THE WATER**

Sunday, August 2, 2015

At 10:00a.m. – Beaver Lake – Pavilion #1

Meat, table service & drinks will be provided. You are asked to bring a side dish to share. Come join us for worship, lunch & a fun day at the beach.

\*BYOC-Bring your own chair.

## YOU ARE INVITED

18<sup>th</sup> Annual BBQ & Quilt Auction  
 at Calvin Crest  
 Saturday, August 15, 2015



10a.m. Quilts on display

11:30 – 1:00p.m. BBQ Lunch

\$10.00 adults - \$4.00 children 4-9

10a.m. – 2p.m. Silent Auction

1p.m. Live Quilt Auction in a/c Proett Center

Open swim and activities

Evening cookout and campfire

Live online bidding available at

[www.proxibid.com/calvincrest](http://www.proxibid.com/calvincrest)

Live Online Bidding Powered By: [proxibid](http://proxibid.com)

Help support Calvin Crest’s annual fundraising event!

### Directions

Calvin Crest is located between Fremont & Cedar Bluffs off of Highway 109. Go North on County Road 13 for 1.5 miles.

Welcome Back!

It's going to be a great year!





## Important Notice

### INFORMATION FROM SESSION

Please make other arrangement should you need tables for yard sales or events at your home. The church can no longer loan out tables.

Thank you. Session



## Important Notice

### INFORMATION FROM SESSION

It has come to the attention of the Session that there have been some instances of competing priorities lately for use of the church. We are excited that the church is able to be utilized to support a variety of church and community activities as that extends our outreach but we want to ensure that there is a master calendar of events in order to avoid scheduling conflicts. Effective May 1st we will require a, "Church Use Form" to be completed and submitted to the Session for approval for **all activities** being held at the church outside of Sunday worship services. The Session, which meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month, will review the requests at each meeting, and ensure that the church calendar is kept current and published for the congregation to view.

If you currently have events scheduled please complete a "Church Use Form" for these events as well, the forms will be available in the church office.

The Session is also coordinating having the locks changed on the church. It has been many years since the locks have been changed and several keys are unaccounted for. Once the locks have been changed new keys will be issued to the Pastor, church staff members, Deacons and Session members, when your term on either Deacons or Session is up you will be asked to return the key.

If you have events scheduled on the church calendar you may check out a key from the office during office hours or on Sunday.

Please direct your questions to any member of the Session.  
Thank you.

## Craft Day

### August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

August Craft Day will be on Saturday, August 15th at the usual time of 10:00a.m. Mark your monthly calendar for Craft Day on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month as it has been decided that we will be consistent with having Craft Day on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Saturday of each month. It will be Potluck again so bring your project, and invite a friend. See you in August.



#### Session #'s if needed

Dave Friedli:	402-297-0313 (c)
Sharlyn Deterding:	402-296-3682 (h)
	402-681-9517 (c)
Julie Nickels:	402-235-3908 (h)
	402-690-4579(c)
John Meeske:	402-298-7155 (h)
Melanie Honaker:	402-297-3546 (c)
Kenny Drake:	402-237-9373 (c)

### Murray Presbyterian Church

105 W. Main St. – P.O. Box 196

Murray NE 68409

Telephone: 402-235-2754

E-mail:

[murraypresbyterian@windstream.net](mailto:murraypresbyterian@windstream.net)

website: [www.murraypresbyterian.org](http://www.murraypresbyterian.org)

Sunday School - 9:00a.m.

Morning Worship - 10:00a.m.

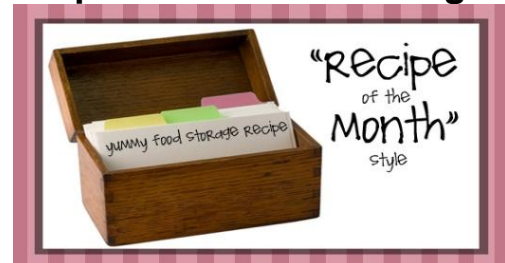
Nursery Care Available

Portia Iverson – Interim Pastor

E-mail:

[murraypresbyterianpastor@gmail.com](mailto:murraypresbyterianpastor@gmail.com)

### Recipe of the Month – August



Submitted By: Barb Koester

#### Ham Loaf

1 lb ground ham	2 eggs
1 lb ground lean pork	2/3 cup cracker crumbs
1/3 cup min. tapioca	1 ¼ cup milk

Mix and shape in baking pan. Pour glaze (ingredients below) over loaf.

#### GLAZE:

¼ cup vinegar	½ cup water
½ cup brown sugar	1tbsp. prepared mustard

Bake in moderate (350°) oven for 2 hours, basting often.

~ August 2015 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Judy Simpson & Carol Heylmun hosting a shower
2 Worship On The Water 10:00am. Beaver Lake MPC & MCC Pavilion #1  *LaVerne Ebner	3  Session (July) 7:00p.m.	4 Breakfast Club 8:30a.m. - HyVee     <i>America's Night Out Against Crime</i>	5  *Shawn Kliegl	6	7  *Nessie Swedlund	8  *Tina Kidd
9 10:00a.m. Worship COM rep. Pam Otto will be a worship guest Deacons – 11:15a.m.	10  *Sarah Remmers	11	12  *Amber Burg	13	14	15  Craft Day 10:00a.m.
16 10:00a.m. Worship	17	18 School Begins for 2015- 2016   <b>Back to School</b>  Mom's In Prayer 8:00a.m.-9:00a.m. 	19	20	21	22
23 10:00a.m. Worship Communion Potluck Dinner Discernment results with COM rep.	24  Session 7:00p.m.	25  Mom's In Prayer 8:00a.m.-9:00a.m. 	26	27  *Samantha Drake	28  *Lindsey Drake	29
30 10:00a.m. Worship   **Del & Diane Puls	31	<b>Notes:</b>  <b>**In September: Rally Sunday – September 13<sup>th</sup></b>				