

CLAIR CONNECTION

NW District <http://www.northwest.moumethodist.org/>

Missouri United Methodist Conference <http://www.moumethodist.org/>

Clair Church Remembers Erick Ross Dale



The Clair Church family was saddened to hear of the unexpected passing of Erick Ross Dale on March 17, 2026. He was 46 years old. Erick had been residing at a local group home for approximately 2 1/2 years. Erick was the nephew of Dave and Patsy Dale, who attend Clair along with their daughter, Amanda. Erick was a familiar face in the congregation who assisted with the offering and even provided Oreos for the children to enjoy following Children’s Time with Pastor Crystal.

Erick formerly resided in a group home for 20 years in the Chicago area, where he and his father, Donald, had moved. His parents had divorced in 1987. Erick’s mother, Stephanie, passed away in 1989. Upon the death of Erick’s father in October 2023, Patsy and Dave obtained guardianship of Erick and he moved to St. Joseph. He resided with the Dales

for about 5 ½ months before moving into a local group home. He was very happy and was “always busy”.

Patsy and Dave’s two grandsons spend Saturdays with them. That continued when Erick arrived in their home. He was immediately part of the group. Saturday activities also included a visit to Carriage Square to see Dave’s mom, Sandra, who is 88 years old.

Erick was well known as a Special Olympics athlete. He was awarded many medals over the 2 ½ years he was in Missouri. Erick would proudly wear any new medal to church and was featured in Clair’s newsletter various times. Dale and Patsy always made sure he made it to these competitions, whether local or across the state. Erick’s events included bocce ball, pickle ball and bowling. Erick also bowled in a separate bowling league on Sundays following church.

Erick was enrolled in the local United Cerebral Palsy programs and attended there five days a week. He assisted with Meals on Wheels, recycling and grocery shopping. UCP posted heart-felt comments on their Facebook page following Erick’s death:



“Erick was a vibrant part of the UCP community who truly brightened every room he entered. He loved being out in the community—whether bowling, giving back through Meals on Wheels, or shopping for UCP essentials—and he approached everything with his signature smile and playful banter. Erick’s warmth, humor, and kindness touched everyone he met, and he will be deeply missed. His memory and the joy he brought to our lives will leave a lasting mark on all of us.”

CLAIR CONNECTION



Christ is risen! He has victory over death. As it says in John 11:25, *"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."* Jesus spoke these words to Martha before raising Lazarus, reminding us of the living hope we celebrate during this Easter season.

I warmly invite you to join us at Clair for our Easter gatherings. We will begin with our Good Friday Service at 6:30 PM at Ebenezer UMC. On Easter morning, we will gather for Sunrise Service at 6:30 AM at Ebenezer UMC followed by breakfast at Clair at 9:30 AM. Clair's Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10:30 AM, and we will conclude our celebrations with our Easter Worship Service at 11:00 AM. It will be a joyful time of worship, fellowship, and celebration together.

Looking ahead, our EC Youth will be taking a mission trip to Oklahoma City in July. There, they will serve by working on projects for individuals with disabilities and ministering to those in need in the inner city. In addition, some of our youth will attend Unite, a United Methodist camp held on the Central Methodist University campus. During this time, they will hear from guest speakers and fellowship with other United Methodists. We are grateful to be partnering with Ashland United Methodist Church for this meaningful experience.

I would also like to extend a sincere thank you to the Starlight Women's Group for preparing the church for the Easter season, and to the Men's Group for their work cleaning the septic system and putting up the crosses. Your service is deeply appreciated and helps make this season special for all.

We have many exciting opportunities for fellowship in the coming weeks. At the end of April, we will gather for a trivia night—please plan to join us for an evening of fun and connection.

During this Easter season, we will also have the joy of welcoming new members and celebrating baptisms and confirmations. What a blessing it is to grow together as a church family as we continue to make disciples for the transformation of the world.

Clair Church, the future is bright, and I am thankful to be on this journey of faith with each of you.

Blessings, **Rev. Crystal Karr**

CLAIR CONNECTION

Continued from Page 1— Erick Ross Dale



That's the Erick that Patsy and Dave knew. Erick genuinely liked people. He was polite, helpful and loved to cook. He got to help mow the lawn for the first time (upon request) when he moved to Dave and Patsy's home. He remembered absolutely everything. He would remind them of various people's birthdays and other important dates – just to be sure they didn't forget! More importantly, he decided to call Dave "dad" and would tell Dave and Patsy, "I love you guys." What better testament to the love, care and advocacy shown to Erick by the Dale family. God bless Erick, who touched many lives so profoundly.



CLAIR CONNECTION



Good
Friday
April 3rd - 6:30 PM
@ Ebenezer UMC



EBENEZER UMC
Easter Sunrise Service
Join us for sunrise in the parking lot
Sunday, April 5th at 6:30 am
7000 SE HWY 169
(Bring a lawn chair!)



EASTER BREAKFAST
APRIL 5 - 9:30 AM
EASTER EGG HUNT
10:30 AM
CLAIR UMC




H E I S
R I S E N
CELEBRATE THE SAVIOR
WORSHIP AT 11 AM EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Lily Orders

- Harlyn and Susan Fritzon in memory of Jamie Shara;
- Dennis Mull and Sandy Wallace in memory of Donald and Jeannie Mull;
- Dennis Mull and Sandy Wallace in memory of Leon and Lorna Wallace;
- Steve and Rosie Spangler in memory of Stan McClellan and David Jones;

Steve and Rosie Spangler in memory of M.J. and Jack Spangler; Crystal Karr, Karen Vulgamott and Carol Guthals for Clair Church; Robin Pierpoint in memory of DeWitt and Joann Finney; Karen Jones in memory of Stan and Irene Reed; Karen Jones in memory of Ken and Carolyn Bishop.

CLAIR CONNECTION

ClairChurch
UNITED METHODIST

Men's Group ALWAYS Gets It Done!



Thank You



Thank You



Thank You

CLAIR CONNECTION



Hosanna! Hosanna in the Highest!



APRIL 25

6:30 PM

Clair
Church



Teams of 8 - \$15/person

Sundays in April

EC Youth meetings at Clair 6 PM

April 3

Good Friday Services at Ebenezer 6:30 PM

April 5

EASTER SUNDAY

SUNRISE SERVICE AT EBENEZER 6:30 AM

BREAKFAST AT CLAIR 9:30 AM

EASTER EGG HUNT AT CLAIR 10:30 AM

WORSHIP AT CLAIR 11 AM

April 13

Starlight Group 3 PM (will change to 6 PM in May)

April 14

Administrative Board 6 PM

April 18

Men's Group 8 AM

April 25

TRIVIA NIGHT 6:30 PM

April 29

DEBBIE WELLS' BIRTHDAY AND Serve at Food Kitchen

SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL FLOWER SALE—SAT. MAY 2 - 9 AM

CALENDAR