

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

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

Flower Sale Raises Record Amount—\$1,507.20!









Pastor Cindy blesses
42 backpacks donated to help area foster children in their time of need.

**THANK YOU CLAIR!** 





Just go to our website:

Clairchurch.com and scroll to the bottom of the first page— the Flocknote form is right there!







This past Sunday we focused on 1 Peter 3:15 – "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." Several days ago, I offered up the question, "How has God been present to you in difficult times?" I received several thoughtful comments that I shared during Sunday's sermon. Many of the stories focused on a time of loss in someone's life. That is understandable. Grief leaves us vulnerable to questions, emotions, what ifs, what comes next. It is during those vulnerable moments that God longs to draw close to us.

I especially appreciated thoughts from Ron Clayton who lives in Chicago and worships online with the Ebenezer congregation. Ron shares, "God is never not there. God is NOWHERE. Sometimes we understand that as God is 'no where' and sometimes as God is 'now here.' But, however we feel, God is present and coming to us in whatever way we will allow God in: friends, family, art, stories, simply just being, etc., etc. God does not need for us to always be aware. But whether or not we are aware or appreciate it or not does not change anything. God is always present like the backdrop to our lives, to our universe, to existence itself."

Whether or not we are aware, "God is always present like the backdrop to our lives, to our universe, to existence itself." Wow! Profound words to keep in mind each and every day!

There is one more Sunday left in the Easter season. The 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday, which is May 21, is known as Ascension Sunday, and focuses on Jesus' ascension into heaven 40 days following the Resurrection. We will talk about the responsibility we have to carry out Jesus' Great Commission. And then... Pentecost arrives on May 28. It's the day of wind and fire and the Holy Spirit and lots of RED! It is also Memorial Day weekend. But, I hope you can carve out time to be in worship to celebrate the Birthday of the Church!

It is an honor to be your pastor!

Pastor Cindy



#### CLAIR'S CALENDAR

May 20 Men's Group 8 AM

May 29 Memorial Day

Serve at Open Door Food Kitchen 9 AM

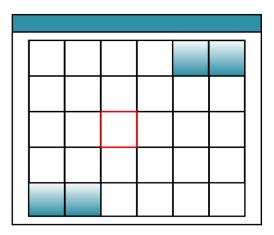
June 11 Fellowship Luncheon

June 12 Starlight

June 13 Administrative Board 6 PM

June 17 Men's Group 8 AM

June 29 Serve at Open Door Food Kitchen 9 AM





Collecting: deodorant; hair ties; toothbrushes/ paste; floss; feminine products

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