

August 23, 2023

ClairChurch
UNITED METHODIST

CLAIR CONNECTION

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

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



Wind-driven wildfires on Maui have prompted evacuations and caused significant loss of life and widespread damage. UMCOR is coordinating with the California-Pacific Annual Conference to process an initial grant for emergency supplies such as shelf-stable food, water, hygiene items and tools to help survivors recover belongings. As first responders continue to provide initial aid in the area, please join UMCOR in prayer for those affected.

Gifts can be made in the following ways:

Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/901670>

- ✦ By toll-free telephone call: 1-888-252-6174
- ✦ By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #901670-Hawaii" written on the memo line and mailed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068
- ✦ By check made out to Clair United Methodist Church and "Hawaii" written on the memo line and put in the offering plate or mailed to the church at #2 SE 68th Rd., St. Joseph, MO 64507.

First Tropical Storm since 1939 Hits California

California experienced more flooding last Monday as Hurricane **Hilary** continued to bring rain to parts of Southern California. On Sunday, the tropical storm left roads underwater and cars stranded, triggered a rock slide that closed a portion of an interstate and prompted a state of emergency for much of the region. The United Methodist Committee on Relief is providing disaster relief. Donate online to UMCOR or by check made out to Clair United Methodist Church, "California" written on the memo line and mailed to the church at #2 SE 68th Rd., St. Joseph, MO 64507.



CLAIR CONNECTION



CONNECT is the theme of our current worship series which emphasizes the connection we United Methodists experience within our congregation, our Missouri Conference, and within the global United Methodist Church. We are using our membership vows as a map for our journey, with guidance from our founder John Wesley, and, of course, from scripture. When we choose to become members of Clair UMC, we promise to “faithfully participate in the congregation’s ministries by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.” What does that mean exactly?

On Aug. 20 we talked about prayer, the scriptural emphasis on prayer as a way to connect with God and to deepen our relationship with God. We mentioned the word ACTS (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) and the Hand Prayer as tools for praying. Each finger of our hand reminds us to pray for someone in particular: pinkie, the least of these among us; ring finger, those closest to our hearts; middle finger, those in leadership; index finger, those who point the way for us, teachers, parents, friends, etc.; thumb, for ourselves.

Aug. 27 – We promise our PRESENCE.

Sept. 3 – We promise our GIFTS.

Sept. 10 – We promise our SERVICE. This Sunday’s worship will feature special musical guests Mark Sander and his sister Debra Sander Burnett. Their music is a tribute to their parents, Lester and Doris Sander, who were long-time members of the Clair congregation.

Sept. 17 – We promise our WITNESS. The culmination of this series will be a great opportunity for a **membership event!** Please let me know if you desire to become an “official” member of our congregation.

In addition to each Sunday’s sermon, **the topic of the week will be discussed during conversation each Wednesday at 6:30 PM.** Everyone is welcome to join the party!

Speaking of parties!!! Thanks to the Clair Kids and their leaders for the great birthday cards and the great BIG candy card they presented to me at the end of worship on Sunday. What a nice surprise from my *SweetTarts!* Thanks, too, for the cookies as we left worship. I feel loved – and old!

As always, Friends.... It is an honor to be your pastor!

Pastor Cindy

CLAIR CONNECTION

Pastor Cindy Leads Congregation in Blessing Backpacks



**Happy Birthday
Pastor Cindy!**



Clair Kids presented Pastor Cindy with a unique and "sweet" birthday card! She really seemed to "eat it up!"



CLAIR CONNECTION

Americana Gospel Group Will Perform at Clair Church

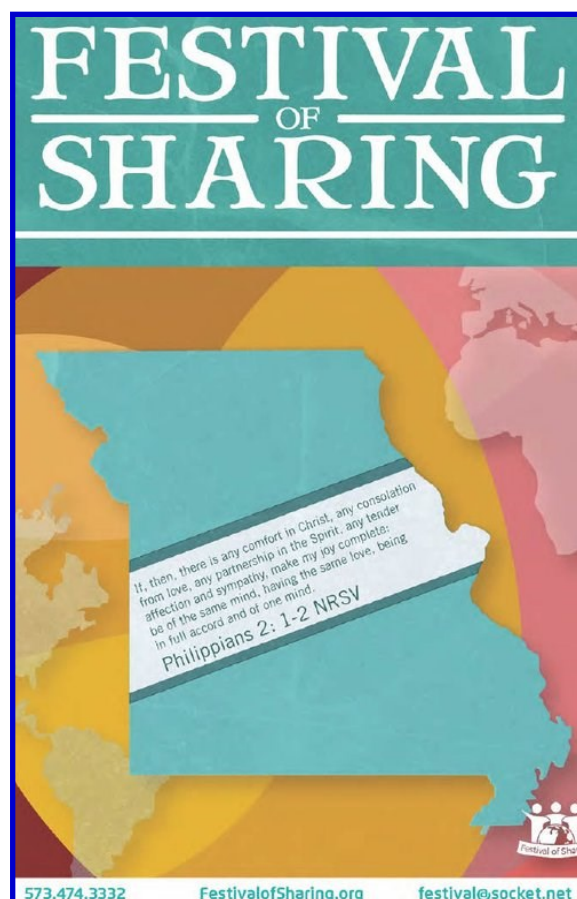
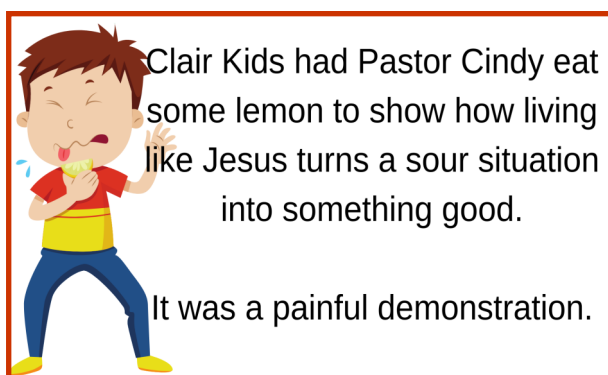


In 1989 Ernie Couch and Jason Couch began working together on-the-road with the famous [Plainsmen Quartet](#). Ernie already had a history with the group when Jason came onboard to play keyboards. A few short years later they formed [Ernie Couch & Revival](#). Now, over two and a half decades, various group configurations, and a zillion miles later, they continue to share the "Good News" through music to thousands of folks, coast-to-coast. Through the years, many have tried to find a specific label for Ernie's and Jason's

broad spectrum of musical styles. Maybe something nebulous like Americana Gospel best fits, but whatever the title, folks from eight to eighty-eight love their music!

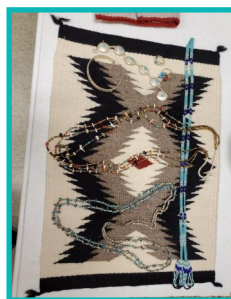
The annual Festival of Sharing for the NW District of the Missouri United Methodist Church will be held Saturday, September 30, at InterServ, 5400 King Hill Ave., St. Joseph, MO. Donation drop off – 9:30-11:30 AM. You may volunteer to help sort and package donations that day. The Festival provides numerous agencies all over the state with needed food/first aid kits/personal care kits, etc. Clair has always collected items/kits to be donated to the Festival of Sharing. Let's decide what items we will choose to provide this year and

START COLLECTING!



CLAIR CONNECTION

Some Perfect Attendees Go Fishing for Prizes!



Mary Lou Stepanek exhibits items to Starlight Group from her and her husband's years as missionaries in Gallup, New Mexico, working with the Navajo people.

August 29	Serve at Open Door Food Kitchen 9 AM
Sept. 9	Couch Revival Concert 6 PM
Sept. 10	Fellowship Luncheon 12 Noon
Sept. 11	Starlite 6 PM
Sept. 12	Administrative Council 6 PM
Sept. 16	Men's Group 8 AM
Sept. 29	Serve Open Door Food Kitchen 9 AM
Sept. 30	Festival of Sharing at InterServ

Weekly Sermon Review

6:30 PM

Wednesdays

Aug. 30

Sept. 6, 13 & 20!