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

# Join us October 26—It's Going to be Spooooktacular!



# **Clair Ad Council Votes to Install Three Security Doors**

New doors are on the horizon! Ad Council accepted a bid from Pioneer Materials to replace three doors in the church building to assure greater safety. Two doors on the north side of the building and the east door of the educational wing will be fitted with security devices that allow for easy exit while the doors remain locked from the outside. Brendon Clark shared the plan with the congregation Sunday morning, asking for donations from the congregation of \$2500 to go toward the \$5000+ cost. Brendon made a "seed" donation and stated, "If 50 people give \$50 we will have reached our goal!" On Sunday, Nov. 22, gifts will be dedicated toward the project. As needed, donated funds will be matched from existing funds. Donations of cash, checks, or online giving are welcome!

Council members celebrated the success of Harvest Homecoming and expressed gratitude to Karen Vulgamott for leading the event this year.

The Pastor Parish Relations Committee from Ebenezer UMC was present for discussion and approval of 2023 Pastoral Support in preparation for the annual Charge Conference. Other reports for Charge Conference were presented and approved. Reports were due in the district office Oct. 17. Charge Conference will take place on Jan. 14 at Ashland UMC in St. Joseph.

Upcoming events were highlighted: Family Fun Night, Oct. 26; Trivia Night in November; One Starry Night Christmas event, Dec. 17; and Christmas Eve service at 4 PM, Dec. 24. We are excited to host the Kansas City Metropolitan Men's Chorus at 3 PM, Sunday, Apr. 2!



# Jennifer Kinney and Family Feel Blessed at Clair



I was born in Mesa, Arizona, but I claim Colorado as my home state since a majority of my childhood was rooted there. After attending all of grade school in Colorado, I made my way to the Midwest and attended Iowa State which led me to my future here in St Joseph, MO and ultimately Clair Church! My husband and I have been attending Clair Church since 2019.

As mentioned above, I attended Iowa State University where I earned my bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. During my time at school, I did a few internships. One of those was at Altec here in St Joseph for seven months. I enjoyed that internship so much that I returned full time starting in January of 2017. In 2021, I also complet-

ed my master's degree in Engineering Management at University of Nebraska – Lincoln.

Our family lives a busy lifestyle while playing volleyball three days a week, camping or enjoying friends and family on the weekends, and being outdoors as often as possible. We have a dog named Judah who wants nothing but to be petted. Our son, Emric, turned a year old in September and we can already tell he is going to keep us busy with how active he is.

A few fun facts about myself are that (1) I have a twin sister that also happens to work at Altec here in St Joseph, (2) it isn't a very popular sport here in the Midwest but I played lacrosse throughout high school and played on the club team in college as well, (3) my husband Brendon and I had a wedding anniversary October 6<sup>th</sup> and we celebrated four years together!

A couple of the most memorable moments for us at Clair Church was each of the two Christmas services we have attended where our extended family was welcomed with open arms. Christmas is such a special time of year and we are always so excited to share our church experience and community with our family. The other was the baptism of our son, Emric. We are so incredibly lucky to have found a church we are excited for him to be a part of and involved in.

One thing (though really it is a lot of "things") are all of the people. We have been truly blessed to find a church that feels like home where everyone is so unbelievably welcoming. Not a single person that we have met has been a stranger and that can be hard to find.









Thank you, Clair Congregation, for the notes and gifts for Pastor Appreciation Sunday! Joe and I certainly feel appreciated and are thankful for your support and care. I look forward to a "heavenly" massage and a delicious dinner at Texas Road House! I am especially thankful for the leadership duties several took on while we were gone three Sundays. As I remarked yesterday, you really don't need me to keep things rolling along!

Sunday's sermon focused on saying "Thank You" and living a life of gratitude. From the "cutting room floor..." In preparation for our European adventure, I thought it important to be able to say please and thank you in the language of the countries we visited. Everyone responded to our English please and thank you, but I witnessed appreciation when I made the effort to say "si vous plait" and "merci" in France; "bitte" and "danke" in Germany;" "alstublieft" and "bedankt" in the Netherlands. People everywhere respond to appreciation. It is so easy for us to take for granted the blessings of our simple, ordinary, even boring lives. But a survey of local mission opportunities demonstrates the needs right here in our community. We empathize with those impacted by Hurricane Ian, those who have lost so much and are now tasked with starting over again. And a story from "60 Minutes" on Sunday, showed the pain, suffering, and sadness Ukraine's citizens continue to endure.

Thanksgiving Day is a month away. Let's focus on giving thanks today and everyday between now and then. And not just for the good, positive things. But, as the Apostle Paul instructs us, "Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." In our thankfulness, in our gratitude lifestyle, we will be living our faith and honoring God, AND we will be a blessing to others.

It is an honor to be your pastor, Friends!

Pastor Cindy







### CLAIR'S CALENDAR

October 22 Ebenezer's Lord's Acre Sale 11 –1 PM

October 26 Family Fun Night! 5:30-7:30 PM

November 6 All Saints' Sunday

November 13 Fellowship Luncheon

November 14 Starlite 12:30 PM

November 15 Administrative Board 6 PM

November 19 Men's Group 8 AM

November 20 Deadline for door donations

November 29 Serve Open Door Food Kitchen



Interested in official church membership?
Contact Pastor Cindy ASAP! We will
welcome new Clair members by year's end!

### **GOT MILK??**

Please donate empty milk cartons for use in Clair's Children's Christmas program!



# All Saints Day Sunday, November 6 During worship on Sunday, Nov. 6 we will remember dear ones who have died during the past year by lighting white candles and saying their names aloud. We will also honor babies born since last November by lighting pink and blue candles and by saying their names aloud. Please plan to be present for this powerful day in the life of our faith community.





