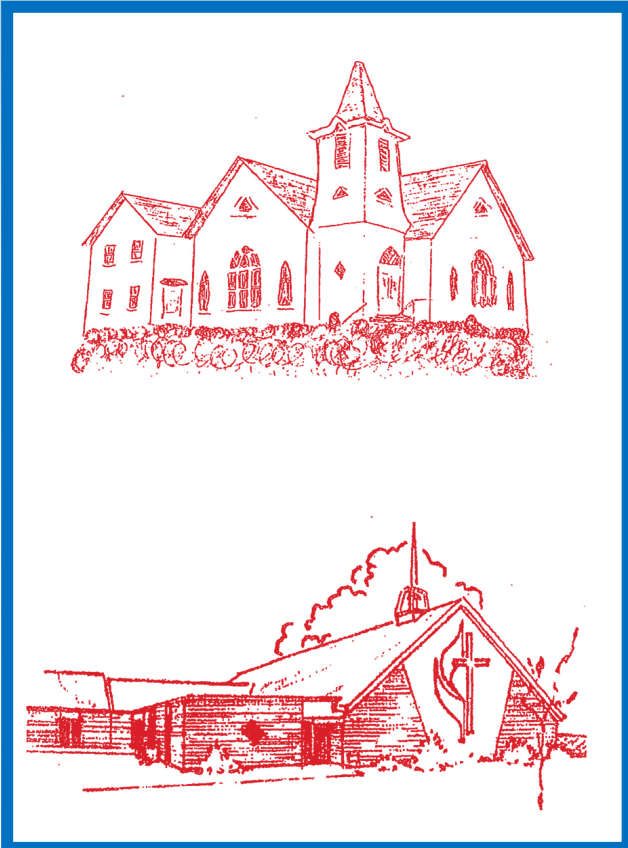


CLAIR CONNECTION

Clair Church Began As Clair Society in 1908



In the spring of 1908, the Schindler and Minor Appointments of the Platte River Circuit merged to form the Clair Society. The church took its name from the Clair railroad platform station that was located one mile east of the present church. The Rev. L. Hanne, Cosby pastor, served the Clair congregation, which met in the CPA hall until he and layman Frank Schindler surveyed the Frogge School Community and found land that could be purchased three miles east of St. Joseph on Hwy. 36 (now 6 Hwy). A half-acre was purchased on January 3, 1909 for \$200. The original church was built and dedicated that same year at a cost of \$3,700. Clair's first full time pastor, appointed by the Kansas Conference of the Evangelical Association, was the Rev. R.B. Ralls. Another half-acre was purchased in 1916 on which the original parsonage was built at a cost of \$3,351.

Additions were made to the church in 1941 and 1949. In 1941, the basement was dug out and converted into a

fellowship hall. In 1949 an educational unit was built on the south side of the church at a cost of \$7,718. Four more acres were purchased in 1968 to be used as the church parking lot. Plans for a new church building began in 1975. Under the leadership of Rev. E.L. Dierking, the new church was completed in 1976 at a cost of \$200,000. Even the new church has since been enlarged. In 1987, the addition of a \$116,000 educational wing, which includes a library/parlor, conference room, nursery and six classrooms, was constructed. The original parsonage was removed in 1988 to expand the parking area and a new parsonage was purchased on Mockingbird Lane for \$85,000 (this parsonage has now been sold).

Clair has undergone changes in its denominational ties – becoming an Evangelical Church in 1922, an Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1946 and then a United Methodist Church in 1968.



CLAIR CONNECTION

Get to Know PASTOR CINDY BUHMAN!



Pastor Cindy



Joe, Mitchell, Ethan and Lucas

I am a DeKalb County girl, growing up with my sister Cheryl on a farm just south of Maysville where my mother still lives. Our family attended the Maysville United Methodist Church where I was a 6th generation member. My ancestors were founders of the Maysville Methodist Church, coming to settle in DeKalb Co. from Kentucky.

I studied journalism at the University of Missouri, worked at a county newspaper and did some freelance writing for a while before Joe and I started our family. I was able to be a stay-at-home mom for 14 years. During that time, I was a “professional” volunteer, provided child-care in our home, and did a lot of substitute teaching. When I was 40, I figured out what God wanted me to do when I grew up! I graduated from Saint Paul School of Theology in 2000 and was ordained an elder in 2003. During my years of pastoral ministry, I have served churches in Winston, Stanberry, Ashland UMC as an associate, Bethany and Savannah. I served as the superintendent of the Northwest District from 2015-2018. I returned to local church ministry in 2018 with an appointment to the Clair/Ebenezer charge.

Joe Buhman and I were married on Aug. 6, 1977 – 44 years next week! Joe retired as the general manager at Shamrad Metal Fabricators in St. Joseph after 44 years. That’s a long time at one place! We have three wonderful sons: Lucas is a science teacher and football coach at Staley High School in Kansas City, which is just a couple of miles from where he and his family live. He and his wife Rebecca have three sons: Kaden,

(Continued on Page 4)

CLAIR CONNECTION



MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

How can it be August already! Summers always go too fast, don't they? I hope you have been able to enjoy the season, maybe take some time away from your regular routine, even get away for some days of rest and relaxation in a different place. Joe and I are looking at some days away in September when it's cooler!

As we turn the calendar page to August, there are several things on my radar:

Aug. 8 – 2nd Sunday Fellowship Dinner following worship

Aug. 10 – FREE ice cream to celebrate Missouri's 200th Birthday. Invite your neighbors to come by the Culver's CENEX at Riverside and Frederick between 6-8 PM for a free ice cream cone. This is a great opportunity to connect with your neighbors; so grab a handful of fliers and go for a walk!

Aug. 22 – Backpack Blessing Sunday – Bring your backpack, tote bag, briefcase, etc. for a blessing as the new school year begins.

I love the beginning of school and really anticipate those days as an opportunity to start fresh, almost more than the beginning of a new calendar year. I look forward to the fall months with opportunities to learn, grow, share, and serve with each other and the neighbors around us.

I am enjoying our current worship series and Bible study around the book *Broken and Blessed*. The families from Genesis have much to teach us about our own families. Even though our families aren't perfect – no family is – we are still blessed by relationship with God and each other – and... called to pass that blessing on to others.

It's a blessing to serve with you!

Pastor Cindy :)

Clair's Calendar

July 14-August 26	Bible Study: (Wed. nights 6:30 pm Ebenezer & Thurs. 1:30 pm Clair)
Aug. 2 Monday	Administrative Council 6pm
Aug. 8 Sunday	Fellowship Dinner
Aug. 9 Monday	Starlite Circle 6 pm
Aug. 10 Tuesday	FREE ICE CREAM—Culver's

CLAIR CONNECTION

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

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

Pastor Cindy Profile— (continued from Page 2)

Xander, and Trey. Mitchell is on staff at First UMC in Kearney, where he serves as the lay pastor of the modern service. Mitchell and Laura have two sons: Grant and Owen. Ethan and Kelsey live in Gower with our granddaughter Finley and dogs Otis and Sadie. Ethan is an engineer working for a firm in Kansas City.

Relationship is really important to me, from my theology to my leadership style, from my worship style to my interactions with those I meet. So my favorite experiences at Clair UMC center on times of fellowship – young families getting together, youth events, Vacation Bible School, Starlight, Bible study, worship at care facilities, serving at Open Door. I love getting to know people better and to share the journey of discipleship together.

COVID has changed how everyone does church. I appreciate SO much the way our congregation embraced the technology that helped us stay connected over the last year and a half. I give thanks for the core group of families who are always willing to do whatever it takes to stay connected and to keep being the church during uncertain times. We continue to reach out to the community through service opportunities, which is vitally important to us as a congregation.

With a family of boys you might suspect that we love sports – especially football and baseball! I love to read, particularly mysteries, and to cook. I appreciate being able to spend time with my mother and to help her be able to live independently in the home she loves. And... of course, I LOVE being Grammy!



SAVE THE DATE

Aug. 10—6-8 pm

Free ice cream cones

**Culver's—corner of
Frederick & Riverside**

To celebrate

Missouri's 200th

Birthday!

