

# CLAIR CONNECTION

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

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



## ALL ABOARD!

Join us for

### Vacation Bible School

June 27 thru July 1

Dinner served from 5:00 to 5:40  
with activities starting at 6:00!

Ages 2 to 6th grade will have  
adventures on the Rocky Railway  
full of crafts, games, Bible les-  
sons and much more!

The train pulls back into the sta-  
tion at 8:00 sharp.

Don't miss the fun, fellowship  
and learning at Clair!

## Clair's Calendar

June 6—June 27

June 27-July 1 evenings

July 5

July 11

July 12

Collect Grace House items

BIBLE SCHOOL

Church Council

Fellowship Luncheon

Starlite

REMINDER: We are collecting school supplies for Grace House through June 27!

## CLAIR CONNECTION

### Board Member Scooter Hartenbower— The Legend



I came from Ellinwood, Kansas, about 260 miles southwest of St. Joseph. I graduated from Kansas State Teachers College in Emporia, Kansas, with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Education. I came to St. Joseph in the fall of 1970 to teach computers at Hillyard Technical School when the school was on Ninth Street. I earned a Master's Degree in Secondary Education from Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville.

I started coaching football at Lafayette high school in the fall of 1973 and that is where I met my wonderful wife, Patricia, who was teaching PE. I coached for 30 years at Lafayette - coaching football, track, baseball, wrestling and girls' basketball. After Lafayette, I coached baseball for five years and then taught for Head Start for three years. I then taught 10 years at Helen Davis.

I first attended Zion United Church of Christ but, when I met my wonderful wife, began attending church with her and her family at Clair. We were the first couple married in the new church on December 11, 1976. We have attended Clair Church ever since. We have one daughter, Nicole Messick, and four beautiful grandkids: Madyson age 14, Molly age 10 and the twins - double trouble - Garyn and Kolt age 6.

My hobbies are gardening, making wine and jelly, playing with my grandkids and printing shirts for my lovely daughter who sells shirts on line. We have four dogs: Sumy, a Great Pyrenees; Lucy, a Morkey; Chase, a King Charles Spaniel and a Golden Doodle named Cooper.

I would be writing all night if I told you all the great memories I have of my Clair Church family. Some favorite memories I have of Clair are teaching Sunday School to the young boys and girls such as Travis Klein and the more mature kids such as Wanda Klein, Lowella Nold, Luella Rinard, Betty Wilkins, Virginia Patton and many more. I almost forgot my new generation of kids: Cobie, Sammy, Grace and Charlie Klein plus the years helping Penny teach the young kids and playing the bells for the different Christian hymns. We all had fun serving at the food kitchen and doing the worship service at the nursing homes. For a few years, the mature, wiser women of the church and Don Hendricks had a baking class where we sold jelly, pies, pizzas, Christmas candies, homemade bread and cookies and many other items.

I am serving on the board because Pastor Cindy asked me to I hope I will be able to help more people come to be disciples of our Lord and his son Jesus.



## CLAIR CONNECTION

# Church Camp Here We Come!



Seneca Carr and Clara Mink from Ebenezer; Cobie Klein and Pastor Cindy

Oregon UMC held its Mobile Camp the week of June 7-11 and three campers from Clair and Ebenezer attended: Cobie Klein, Seneca Carr and Clara Mink. A total of 70 campers, ages 7-12, attended this year! Oregon UMC has been hosting the event for years and although it's quite an investment for the church, they continue to host it because of the huge impact it has had on their area youth and families.

The company hired to conduct the camp is Eagle Lake Camps out of Colorado Springs and they facilitate church camps in Colorado, Missouri, Arizona, Kansas, Wyoming, Iowa, Texas, South Dakota and Nebraska. The fees for the camp are paid for in part by Oregon UMC and the MO United Methodist Conference, and the balance by the campers and/or their local churches.

The kids enjoyed fun activities all day long including: arts and crafts, block racers, gaga ball, group games, inflatables, laser tag, speakers and worship, tie dye and many more!

One member of a Missouri rural church said this about hosting this type camp:

**"To bring Eagle Lake to our community, we partnered with another church in the area. It had never been done before but together, we were able to reach a wider community. Seeing our sanctuary packed with families at the festival, made my heart swell. Rural churches have the habit of thinking they're too small to make a difference and so having my church leadership see that we can and did make a difference in the lives of these families did a lot for them."**

About the camp, Cobie Klein stated, "I sure want to get signed up to go next year!" What a great testimony!

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Annual Conference 2021 is complete! The hybrid version of conference (some in person, most online) was a first, but appeared to go very well, even including several opportunities to vote on resolutions and reports. I am SO thankful for the tech team that figured out how to make all of technology possible.

The big issue this year was the vote to reduce the number of districts within the Missouri Conference from nine districts to five. The measure passed by a large margin. So, the Bishop, superintendents, directors, and others will work during the next 12 months to determine district boundaries and new district names. The reduction in the number of districts comes in response to the decreasing number of churches within our conference – congregations deciding to close due to decreasing numbers and financial struggles, some impacted by COVID-19. Leaders also suspect that decisions made by the next General Conference regarding inclusiveness and sexuality will lead some congregations to choose to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church.

I am grateful to Duane Kimble who participated in Annual Conference as the lay representative for the Clair/Ebenezer Charge. I know he'll have good information to share in the weeks to come.

I completed the virtual Boundaries Training on Friday and attended the ordination service on Sunday morning, celebrating with my friend Britton Fields and the others being commissioned and ordained this year. You'll be hearing about both experiences in the days to come.

And, I celebrate that I have been reappointed to serve the congregations of Clair and Ebenezer for the new year which begins on July 1. I pray that God will let us be a part of what God wants to bless in our midst in the year ahead.

Pastor  Cindy

### From Duane Kimble:

I participated in Annual Conference online. We voted on reducing the number of districts due to closures of churches, etc. I feel the church has done a great job during COVID with worship changes and the difficulties faced. I'm impressed how much our District Office is really helping NW MO churches.

### **Worship with Men in Mind!**

Invite your friends to join us for worship this Sunday, June 20, when our focus will be on men, things that interest them, and scripture that pertain to men and their faith.