

STULL COMMUNITY of FAITH

1596 E 250 Rd, Lecompton, Ks 66050

JUNE 2023 – NEWSLETTER

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ.



From The Pastor

Over the past few weeks, I've watched those big red, green, and sometimes yellow and even blue tractors emerge from their winter dens, like hungry bears after their hibernation. They eagerly get to work towing cultivators, followed by those seed tenders as they roll to the fields to prepare for planting. Then came the planters pushing the precious seed into the soil. But as the seeds lay dormant in the damp soil, the big question on everyone's mind is when's the next rain? Growing up I knew the real necessity of rain. Rain to me was more of an inconvenience to some as spoiling a little league game, or a cookout. Being raised on a ranch where rainfall was only about thirteen inches a year, I had a real appreciation for rain, which has taught me an important lesson. The farmers can till and fertilize and plant with their agronomy expertise and expensive machines; but, without rain, all their efforts are in vain. Hebrews 6: (KJV) For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed receiveth blessing from God.

My question today is his, how many of us really get that it is God who sends the rain, who causes the seeds to grow, who feeds us? Now one might say, "hold on there, preacher, it's not God, it's just the way nature works. You see, the sun evaporates the water, which in turn,.." yadda, yadda, yadda! I know, I learned the same thing in third grade. But who told nature to do so? You can't seriously believe that some little blob of good decided to divide one day, and then divide again, and again, and that all the beauty and majesty, all the intricacy of all the laws of physics and science **just happened!** You cannot have a creation without a creator, it just doesn't work that way!

But a week or so ago, one morning as I woke, not only was I greeted by the sweet sound of the dozens of birds that reside in the trees along the Wakarusa and those around our house, but also the sound of the last bit of the blessed rain that gently showered us all night. The air was again washed by the miracle of God's irrigation and the grass and trees seemed to respond almost immediately, becoming even greener and more verdant.

So, this year, as we see the corn growing, and see those little green spouts of soybeans and garden vegetables push their way up through the rich, fertile soil, and the fields of brown turn green and then golden, ready for harvest, remember it all begins with the blessing of rain.

With a side note, and a break in thought, I would like to reflect just a moment on last week's sermon for Ascension, "One Doesn't Mean Boring Uniformity" and this week's celebration on the birth of the church as we remember Pentecost and think about Decoration or Memorial Weekend.

In her speech for disaffiliation Diane Morris made the following statement, "Disaffiliation is nothing new, Christians have been disaffiliating for a long time. They disaffiliated from Judaism, Lutherans left the Catholic Church, Methodism was birthed in the Anglican Church." While the reason for disaffiliation was our disagreement with the UMC regarding several areas where we disagreed with the UM church. Most importantly, they drift away from the authority of Scripture. In **Matthew 7:24-**

27 Jesus said, **“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”** Jesus continues by telling us that when the rain, floods and wind comes the house built on the rock will stand. But those who hear His words and does not do them, **“will be like the foolish man who built his house on the sand.”** That house will be wiped out by the ravages of the storm. May the fresh wind and fire of the Holy Spirit ignite a fire and passion in us to spread the Gospel. Let us be servants of those who by faith embrace this new beginning trusting the LORD for what we can't see. To God be the Glory!

Those are my thoughts today, I welcome yours!
Pastor Kyle

Local Funeral Director/Pastor earns “Death and Grief Studies” certificate.

Kyle Scheideman, Funeral Director for Newcomer Funeral Service Group, Topeka, and Pastor at Stull Community of Faith Church, Lecompton, recently completed 150 hours of training from the internationally recognized Center for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colorado. Course study included five separate training seminars titled, Living with Meaning and Purpose, Companionship Bereaved Parents, Creating Meaningful Funeral Ceremonies, Becoming an Effective Grief Educator, Exploring the Spiritual Dimensions of Death, Grief, and Mourning.

The courses were taught by Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D., a noted author, educator, and grief counselor. Founded in 1983 by Dr. Wolfelt, the Center for Loss and Life Transition is a private organization dedicated to furthering our understanding of grief.

Mr. Scheideman has worked in the Topeka area as a Funeral Director for nearly twenty years. He is also a retired pastor from the United Methodist Church, and currently serves the Stull Community of Faith Church, in Lecompton.

Pastor Kyle has established standing office hours in his office in the Faith and Friendship Center on Wednesdays from 10:30-1:30ish. He is also available to meet with folks at any time as needed; just give him a call.

Worship services on the first Sunday of each month include the sacrament of Holy Communion. We have an open table, and all are welcome to take part.

Would you like to share a special or be a liturgist during a worship service? A special could be a poem, a devotional, telling of jokes, playing of special music, or sharing of a video. If you have interest, please sign up on the clipboard in the back of the sanctuary or contact Brenna @785-887-6605 or Mary @ 785-887-6780. We invite everyone to attend a worship service as you never know what our special might be.

Did you know our church has a Food Pantry and Clothing Closet Ministries that are open on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings of each month for anyone in need of a hand-up. We have no income restrictions for utilizing these services. The Food Pantry offers non-perishable food items and personal hygiene products. We also try to have fresh protein and bakery bread available. Our Clothing Closet offers gently used clothing from infants through adult sizes. If you know of someone who needs these services but can't make it out when we are open, please contact Brenna @ 785-887-6605 or Jimmy @ 785-887-6780 to see how we might be able to assist.

Want to be part of a small group and enjoy great conversation, signup sheet at back of church or contact Renee Beguelin 785-224-5263.

We are in partnership with Harvesters and offer the rural mobile food distribution on the 4th Thursdays of the month from 12-1pm in our church parking lot. Harvesters brings perishable food items (produce/bread) on this delivery that we then utilize volunteers to off-load into clients' vehicles. Food is distributed on a first come, first served basis. We do not know what we might receive on the delivery until the truck arrives. There are no income restrictions, however you must provide your name, zip code, and how your family unit is split by age prior to receiving food.

Please mark your calendar for our Fall Family Festival to be held on the church campus on Saturday, September 17th. We are still working out details, but we will have food and live music.

On our church website www.stullcoff.com you can now access a fluid Google calendar that you have the ability to drop into your personal smartphone calendar.

An offering is not linked to what we earn--it is freely given by Christians and is given to express thanks, give praise, or to show our love for God. Our faith tells us that God will always provide as our generosity comes from how generous He is with us. 2 Corinthians 9:7(NIV). Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Do you know that you can set up to have your church offering directly debited from your account each week or even once a month? Most banks offer this as a service to their customers. No more remembering to write a check! Ask Mary for more information.

SAVE THE DATE: Our Back-to-School event will be held on Saturday, August 5, 2023, from 9-10AM! You must pre-register your student to be able to participate. We will be accepting the first 25 registrants. Registration forms should be turned into the Community Cupboard & Clothes Closet by July 6. If you have questions or know a child in need, please email the church (info@stullcoff.com), leave a message on the Church's answering machine (785-887-6521), or contact Brenna (785-887-6605) or Mary (785-331-7326).

We can always use helpers to organize & pack the bags. Contact Brenna or Mary if you are interested.

We are in need of gently used children, youth, and adult books for our little library located on our church campus. Please drop them in the library located on the south side of the church or contact Brenna @ 887-6605 for a time to drop off.

Dan would like to **THANK** all who offered caring support with calls, cards, etc. He is doing well, appreciates the thoughtfulness of our church family.

Congrats to all graduates in our community!!! We wish you all the best in the next chapter of your journey.

Prayers: Amanda Wray, Jim Shultz, Norma Lynch, and others needing God's healing hand.

CHURCH CALENDAR

- Jun 1st, 6:30-7:30 pm Community Cupboard and The Closet open in the church basement for anyone in need of those services.
- Jun 7th, 9:30 am Wednesday Morning 'Muggers' meets for warm drinks and conversation; anyone in the community is welcome to join in whenever they can.
- Jun 14th, 9:30 am Wednesday Morning 'Muggers' meets for warm drinks and conversation; anyone in the community is welcome to join in whenever they can.
- Jun 15th, 6:30-7:30 pm Community Cupboard and The Closet open in the church basement for anyone in need of those services.
- Jun 17th, 4-7 pm Lone Star Church Pork and Pie Fest.
- Jun 19th, 7pm Administrative Team meets in the F&FC.
- Jun 21st, 9:30 am Wednesday Morning 'Muggers' meets for warm drinks and conversation; anyone in the community is welcome to join in whenever they can.
- Jun 22nd, 12-1 pm Harvesters Rural Mobile in the church parking lot to distribute perishable food items to anyone in need on first-come, first-serve basis.
- Jun 28th, 9:30 am Wednesday Morning 'Muggers' meets for warm drinks and conversation; anyone in the community is welcome to join in whenever they can.
- Jul 5th, 9:30 am Wednesday Morning 'Muggers' meets for warm drinks and conversation; anyone in the community is welcome to join in whenever they can.
- Jul 6th, 6:30-7:30 pm Community Cupboard and The Closet open in the church basement for anyone in need of those services.
- Jul 8th, 9am-? Carolyn and the late Lloyd Wulfkuhle will have a downsizing auction.
- Jul 18th, 5-7 pm Chicken Crunch Casserole Tuesday Community Meal Night served. Dine-in or carry out will be available.
- Aug 5th, 9:30 am Back to School Pickup (see article).
- Sep 16th, TIME TBD - Fall Family Festival with potluck meal and live music.
- Oct 17th, 5-7 pm Meatloaf Tuesday Community Meal Night served. Dine-in or carry-out will be available.



1596 E 250 Rd
Lecompton, Kansas 66050

We can have peace through God, Jesus, and the Spirit.