



Midway Locust Grove Church

Locust Leaves



Volume 37
Number 5
May 2024



Beyond
the Pulpit

Pastor
Ben Lee

Please join us for worship.
Midway Kids: 10:30
Worship: 10:30

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Calendar

Sundays —

Women's Bible Study 5:00 p.m.
Midway Students 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Mondays — 6:30 p.m.

Boy Scout Troop 68

Last Monday of Month—
Gorgeous Girls Lunch: 11 a.m.

Wednesdays —

Midway Hotel Lunch—Noon
Choir Rehearsal — 6:29 p.m.

Thursdays — 9-4:00

Sewcial open sewing

Yoga at 11:00

Men's Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
1st and 3rd—Twice Blessed
Open Noon to 5 p.m.

This Month

Tuesday, May 14— Noon
Second Tuesday Lunch
Fellowship Hall

Tuesday May 14 and 28 - 1:30 p.m.
Prayer Ministry
Fellowship Hall

Monday, May 20—11 a.m.
Gorgeous Girls Lunch
Olive Garden in Columbia

June 9-12
Vacation Bible School

"Kids These Days!"

I have been so encouraged by the traction of our last sermon series, "You Will Be My Witnesses." The feedback we received throughout those four weeks was greater than any offered in the past four years! I love reading through your stories as you share the ways Jesus has been faithful throughout your lives. And I love hearing about all the ways you are taking the next steps in sharing the Good News with the world around you. You are doing great! Keep it up!

Woven through the last series was consistent encouragement to start witnessing in your homes, with your children or grandchildren. This is hard work. In an effort to continue to come alongside you, we will launch a new sermon series this Sunday called "Kids These Days." Together, we will seek to help you better understand what challenges children and youth are facing today. We will aim to encourage greater empathy and equip you to better disciple the next generation.

Each week, we will look at a unique challenge kids today are facing, not just as individuals but as Christians. It's essential for us to understand their struggles so that we can comfort and encourage them with the comfort and encouragement that we have received from the Lord.

I hope you will make it a point to be here for each part of this series!

Peace,
Ben

TREASURY NOTES

By Nedra Moreau

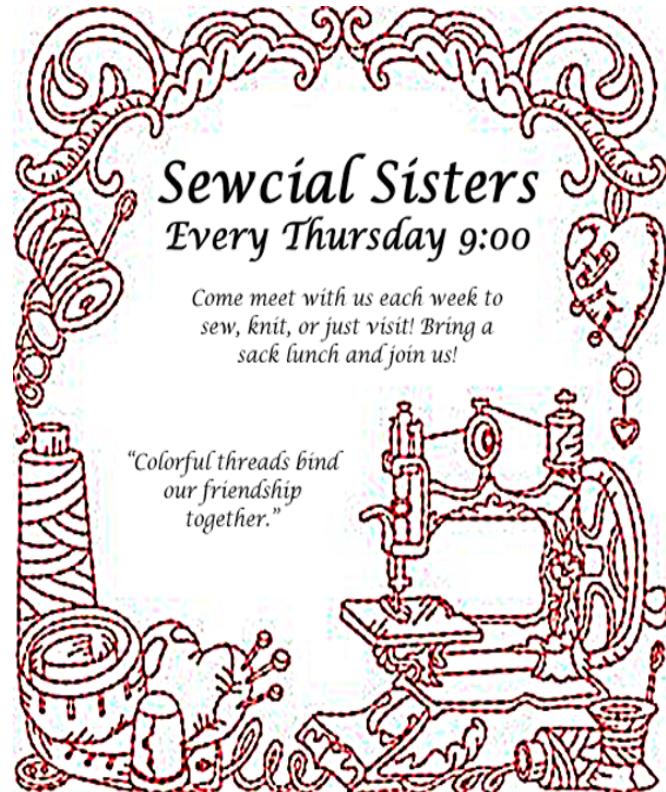
For about 8 years, I have served as the finance officer for the church. When I first began in 2016, it was with a great deal of reluctance. This was really not something I wanted to do. The church had a part-time employee who had previously done the work, but she was leaving.

Pastor Parish tried to find someone to replace her, but had been unable to do so. I was treasurer at the time and my basic responsibility was signing checks and monitoring bills. Because I was concerned that no one would know what to do, I began to sit with the employee to learn the job.

I was soon frustrated with the way things were being done. Spreadsheets were used for much of the accounting function, and there were numerous rules about printing certain reports on specific color paper. I immediately decided I could make things more simple by using QuickBooks for all of the accounting. And I did away with colored paper!

Thus began my term as finance officer. It turned into a good experience. I was able to work with two pastors, and I had the pleasure of watching Ben as he developed his ministry with us. I learned a lot about operation of the church and various other things, some I was interested to know, and others I didn't really want to know. I have done a lot of things I never anticipated when I started.

It is now time for me to do something new. I am retiring from the position and turning my duties over to others. Kelley Frink will replace me as finance officer, Catherine Shanahan will take over payment of the bills, and Barb Harville will continue to handle recording and depositing of income. I have laughed that it takes 3 people to replace me, but that really isn't true. At



Some of the Sewcial Sisters have been making items for our Midway Market Sale with all proceeds going to our youth missions.

We also are excited to go on our yearly Quilt Retreat this month, May 7 - 10 to Brunswick MO. We share friendship, fellowship, and lots of stitching! Our group is always open. We gather every Thursday 9:00 a.m. at church.

one time, when the church was much smaller, I was doing all of it. But as Ben and all of us working together have grown our church, the job has required more. I am sure things will be in good shape with the people we have working.

I am pleased to note that my final report in Locust Leaves is a good one. For April, we received more than \$27,000 in contributions. In addition, we received funds for Firm Foundation and some memorials. In total, we received more than \$36,000. Thanks for making my last month a good one! And thanks for the opportunity to serve the church in this way.

Meeting gives a closer look at our Youth Ministries

By Shala Roop

A meeting was held on Sunday, May 5th at 4:30 p.m. to give an update on the children and youth ministries in our church. All parents and grandparents were encouraged to attend, and the meeting was open to everyone.

Shayla Roop discussed that our mission is to instill an everyday faith in our children and youth to help get them through all of life's ups and downs.

She gave information about the Orange Curriculum that is used in grades kindergarten-12th grade. The church has approximately 40 hours a year with the children, where the parents get approximately 3,000 hours each year. Yellow represents the "Light" of the church while red represents the "Heart" of the family. It takes both to create Orange and we as a church want to partner with each family to grow our children's faith.

Shayla shared a variety of resources that were available to families. The most important one being the "Parent Cue" app. All parents/grandparents were encouraged to create an account. She discussed volunteer opportunities and the transition from Midway Sprouts to Midway Kids and from Midway Kids to Midway Students.



Happy Birthday

May 2024

1 Lloyd Sumner	15 Jane Bensussen
3 Heather Abrams	16 Bob Moore
3 Gavin Gessling	19 Colton Kempf
4 Ellie Netemeyer	20 Travis O'Neal
5 Nedra Moreau	21 Amy Green
5 Randy Mueller	24 Beth Luetjen
6 Jake Frink	28 Jim Johnson
6 Stacy Lee	28 Chadd Fuemmeler
13 Laurel Groh	31 Blake Roop
13 Diana Netemeyer	31 Don Moore

If someone's name does not appear here and they do have a birthday this month, please let us know by email and we will update our records.

~~~~~  
The following dates were shared:

\*Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Midway Kids Fun Day @ Tiger Academy of Gymnastics (current kindergarteners-5<sup>th</sup> graders)

\*June 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School

\*Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7:45 p.m. June Family Fun Event (more information to come)

\*Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> Promotional Sunday/Blessing of the Backpacks (during 10:30 worship)

If you were unable to attend and would like more information, please contact Shayla Roop ([sroop@cpsk12.org](mailto:sroop@cpsk12.org) or 573-406-4349).





## Getting to know you

With the recent and continuing growth of our congregation, it seemed a good idea to revive a feature from earlier years of Locust Leaves. We will feature someone in each month's issue, alternating new and longtime members. Thanks to LeeAnn Martin for co-ordinating the series.

### Lou Pegues

Lou Pegues arrived at Locust Grove in June of 1981 when her husband, David, was appointed pastor of our church.

Both arrived with veteran's credentials from the United States Air Force, where they met and were married on May 25, 1954.

Lou served three years active duty, followed by 28 years as the wife of an Air Force Chaplain. She continued that role as the preacher's wife as David exchanged his military uniform for the pastor's robe at Locust Grove. He served our pulpit until 1985, then was assigned to several other central Missouri churches before retiring. David took his place in the Village of Locust Grove in August of 2006.

Although Lou sold the family home just across from our parsonage and moved into Columbia, she considers this her home place and Locust Grove her home church, and remains a faithful and active member.

A native of North Carolina, Lou was born on September 16, 1932. She joined the Air Force after working a few years following high school graduation; she had found



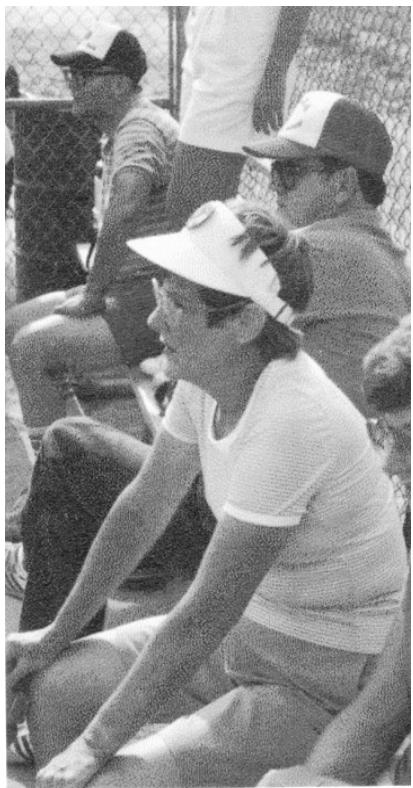
her niche. When asked about her proudest moment, she doesn't hesitate in looking back to 1978, living in the Netherlands, when she was elected Second Vice President of the Protestant Women of the Chapel, U.S. Forces—Europe.

While her natural family is small, daughter, Peggy Lou Diaz, in Vista, California, and a niece, Carolyn, in Carolina, Lou has created a strong circle of friends here and afar.

While the role of pastor's wife had its duties, Lou found other ways to serve the church, and fondly recalls her days leading the youth group, reminiscing about families in the area today whose parent was "one of my youth group members."

As the photo below from our church history book, "Out of the Wilderness," shows, Lou was part of the church softball team in 1981, shown here with Bob Grant, and Bob Moore. The three are symbolic of long tenure at our church. Bob Grant died this past February, the other two continue as active and faithful members.

If you find yourself looking for an opportunity to get out of the house for a coffee or lunch break, check with Lou about her Friday morning coffee or after church Sunday lunch with fellow worshippers. Both of these activities are held at the Perche Creek Yacht Club Café in Midway.





# SAVE THE DATE

## Vacation Bible School

June 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> 2024 ~ (in the evening)

Midway Locust Grove Church

Kids ages 3 - incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade

\*More information about registration and volunteering in May.



# Midway Market



## By Jessie Kempf

On May 4, we hosted our first annual Midway Market as a fundraiser for our missions projects & Midway on a Mission. The threat of a little rain didn't stop us from having our first fundraiser...we set the sale up inside.

The event was a huge success! Some of the more popular items at the sale on Saturday were the gorgeous Hanging Baskets, the homemade tamales (sold out by 12:30!), and all of the homemade items donated by our members – from pickles to leather earrings to aprons & quilts to stuffed animals & more! The amount of time & effort going into those items is so appreciated and we are lucky to have such a talented group of people willing to work and donate their talents to our mission.

THANK YOU to those who donated any items to our sale – every little bit counts! I would like to thank the Market committee who helped plan the event – Lauren Mendez, Lori Stoll, Leslie Brown, Stacy Lee – and the two Mission Committee members, Lynda Baumgartner & Sherri Perry. We also had SO many volunteers help with the drop off dates, serving on Friday for set up, Saturday during the event, and for cleanup.

We are very grateful for all hands on deck for the event and a huge THANK YOU to all of the helpers! We are excited to report that we raised \$4,000 on Saturday! We look forward to continuing to grow our missions at MLGC, and these funds will help us do just that! Blessings, Jessie Kempf

*Fellowship Hall was full to the brim with donated products ranging from furniture to food. It attracted a steady flow of shoppers, many of whom left needing help carrying their abundance of purchases.*





# Prayer for Our Nation

Heavenly Father,  
We come before  
You in the name of Je-  
sus on behalf of the  
United States of  
America. We declare  
that the United States  
of America would be  
in covenant with You,  
that upon Jesus this  
nation was founded,  
and His Name will be  
held high above all  
others.

We acknowledge  
that the United States  
has sinned and turned  
from You in many  
ways. Your Word  
says that where sin  
abounds, grace does  
much more abound  
(Romans 5:20). We speak “Grace” to the  
mountain of sins in our land, that they may  
be laid low (Isaiah 40:4). You said in Your  
Word that if Your people would turn from  
their wicked ways and pray, that You  
would heal the land (2 Chronicles  
7:14). So, Lord, we join others throughout  
our country and repent for the sins of this  
nation. We repent that Your Name is used  
in vain. We repent that your Holy Day is  
not properly observed. We repent that Your  
Righteous Laws are not the basis for all  
that we as a nation do. We repent that we  
have normalized the taking of babies’  
lives. We repent that we have trampled on  
the sacred bonds of marriage. We repent  
that we, as a nation, do not always put You  
and Your Will first and foremost in our  
lives.

We pray and thank You for the shield of  
divine protection over this country and  
over all Americans everywhere. We pray

*Prayer written by  
Catherine Shanahan 2024*



for all government of-  
ficials – national, state  
and local (1 Timothy  
2:1). We call forth  
men and women into  
service to our govern-  
ment who have reve-  
lation of Your truth  
and who will govern  
according to Your  
Word. We pray that  
voters elect those of-  
ficials who will gov-  
ern with righteous-  
ness. We pray for our  
President, Congress  
and the Supreme  
Court. We ask you to  
direct their hearts and  
minds to make right-  
eous decisions. We  
also ask You to re-  
move from positions of authority all those  
who stand against righteous rule and re-  
place them with men and women who will  
follow You.

We pray for all of those in the military  
and national guard. We plead the blood of  
Jesus over each one, and especially for  
those in harm’s way. We declare that minis-  
tering angels surround them to keep them  
in all their ways (Hebrews 1:14). We pray  
for all military commanders that they turn  
to You for guidance and protection.

We pray for all first responders in our  
country – police, EMTs, firemen, and oth-  
ers – for their protection and safety as they  
serve our citizenry. We declare ministering  
angels are released round about them to  
keep them as they carry out their duties.  
We pray for ministering angels to be re-  
leased to protect our country’s borders, its  
electric grid, cyber network, transportation

*(Continued on Page 9)*

## Prayer for Our Nation

*(Continued from Page 8)*

system, water system and food supply.

We pray for our educational systems, that the lies which are abounding within them be overcome with truth. We pray special protection over our educators as they strive to impact our youth. Let Your Word come back into our schools and places of higher education. Give exceptional boldness and grace to believing teachers and students who stand up for Your Name's sake (Proverbs 28:1).

We pray for righteousness in the media and in all forms of entertainment. May the enemy be thwarted as he tries to take over all aspects of what we take in through our eyes and our ears. May Christian media and entertainment prosper and continue to spread the glory of Your Name.

We pray that America continues to stand with Israel and the Jewish people. May

America be a blessing to Your land and Your people, for You tell us that You will bless those who bless them (Genesis 12:3). May anti-Semitism be cut off wherever it rises up.

As we come into the last days we ask for a release of holy miracles, signs and wonders and for the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be in strong operation in churches across our country (Joel 2:28).

We declare that the United States will continue to spread the good news of the Gospel throughout the world. Thank you, Lord, that Your Glory is revealed in the United States and through the United States to other nations.

Your Word declares that "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord," (Psalm 33:12) therefore let the United States of America be one nation, under God, and may America continue to be Blessed.

Amen

**Musicians Wanted!**  
Instrumentalists (high school and above) interested in sharing their talents.

The Music Ministry at MLG would LOVE to include you in special music throughout the year to add to our worship services, playing for special occasions – Easter, Christmas, Special Anthems

For more information, PLEASE contact Jim or Glenna Johnson at [midwaymo@ymail.com](mailto:midwaymo@ymail.com)





# The Kitchen Cabinet

Remembering  
Mary Kaye's  
Food Ministry

April showers bring **May** flowers and BBQ. Here are several sauces for spicing up your old hamburgers and hot dogs.

Enjoy, *Hope Burkart*

## Dipping Sauce:

1/2 cup mayonnaise  
2 T horseradish  
1 T ketchup  
1 T Worcestershire  
1/2 t spicy brown mustard  
1 t smoky paprika  
1 t black pepper  
1 t garlic powder

## Mustard Sauce:

1/2 cup spicy mustard  
2 T ketchup  
1 T mayonnaise

1 T diced jalapeno  
1 1/2 T sweet relish

## Burger Sauce:

1/2 cup mayonnaise  
1/4 cup ketchup  
1/4 cup mustard  
2 T honey  
1 T Worcestershire sauce  
2 t hot sauce \*optional

**Join us for  
Second Tuesday  
Lunch  
May 14, Noon,  
in Fellowship  
Hall.**



# GORGEous GIRLS

Join us for lunch!

**New Date:  
Monday, May 20,  
11:00 a.m.  
Olive Garden  
in Columbia**

Let Kathy Koehler know if you'd  
like to come  
[kkoehler1976@gmail.com](mailto:kkoehler1976@gmail.com)



*Jim Johnson sent us this report: Went to the SMS band concert last night and these 4 boys are members of our Midway Students program: Colton Kempf, Evan Peiter, Dylan Roop, and Owen Bartmess. They all played their FINAL concert at Smithton Middle School last night.*



Twice Blessed is averaging 15 - 25 NEW customers per session so our usual amount of "staple items" is quickly depleted! Thank you all for your constant and continuing support!!! So if you are able .... keep those basic supplies comin' our way!

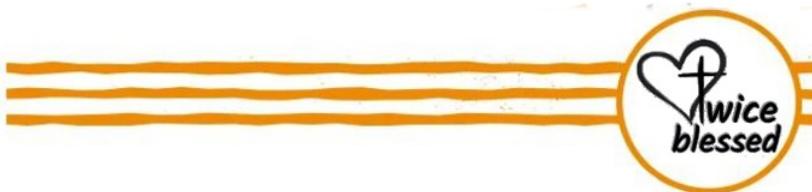
Basic necessities free of charge  
to those temporarily in need

Open  
May 2 and 16

**Twice blessed**

Open 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
12:00 – 5:00

The little white building  
on the corner of  
Henderson and Locust Grove Church Road



# GOING GOING ALMOST GONE

Some of our most needed supplies  
are nearly depleted.

If you can help fill the need of some of our  
clients, it would be MOST appreciated!

**Razors      Toothpaste      Kotex**

**Shampoo      Towels      Band-Aids**

**Cleaners      Decoratives      Small Toys**



## MIDWAY LOCUST GROVE CHURCH

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YouTube: [mwlocustgrove](https://www.youtube.com/mwlocustgrove)  
Instagram: [@mwlocustgrove](https://www.instagram.com/mwlocustgrove)

***Our Mission:  
We exist to  
gather in grace,  
grow in Christ,  
and go share the Gospel.***

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## The Back Row By Gene Baumann

Thanks to those of you who submitted your answers to April's search for Bible names. Those reporting they found all the hidden names are Barb Harville, Carolyn Doyle, Kathy Koehler, Mariea Caruthers, Kathy Hughes, Billy and Jill Cook, and Connie Wieberg. Rev. Ben was the first to submit his list, not surprisingly, although he did admit it was a challenge finding the 16th name.

The winning name was drawn at the April 23rd Prayer Ministry meeting, but not announced until you read this. Congratulations to Mariea Caruthers! She will receive a bound copy of Mary Kaye's 14 years of Food Ministry columns in Locust Leaves. . . quite a cook book. Here is the quiz with the answers in boldface type.

**Find the hidden Bible  in this issue.**

Visit our Web Site: [www.mwlocustgrove.com](http://www.mwlocustgrove.com)

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**If we had a  
Message Board...**

**Tuesday Lunch will be  
at noon on May 14  
in our Fellowship Hall.**

There are names of 16 books of the Bible mentioned in the paragraph below. See how many you can find.

I once made a **remark** about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a **lulu**; **kept** people **looking** so hard for **facts** and for others it was a **revelation**. Some were in a **jam**, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the **truth** finally struck home to **numbers** of our readers. To others it was a real **job**. We want it to be a **most** fascinating few moments for you. **Yes, there** will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require **judges** to help them. I will quickly admit **it usually** takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud **lamentations** when it is found. A little lady says she **brews** a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can **compete**. **Relax** now, for there really are sixteen names of the books of the Bible in this paragraph.