



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

Midway Locust Grove Church



Locust Leaves

Volume 37
Number 5
May 2024

"Kids These Days!"

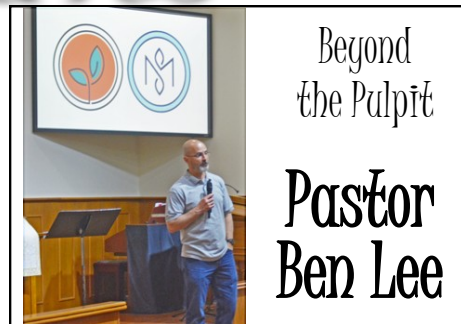
I have been so encouraged by the traction of our last sermon series, "You Will Be My Witnesses." The feedback we received throughout those four weeks was greater than any offered in the past four years! I love reading through your stories as you share the ways Jesus has been faithful throughout your 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

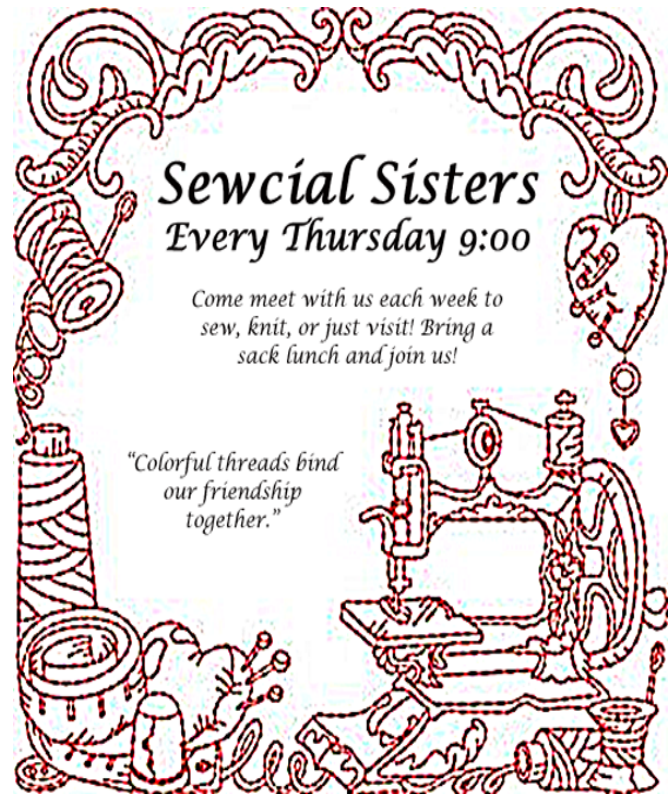
For about 8 years, I have served as the finance officer for the church. When I first began in 2016, it was with a great deal of reluctance. This was really not something I wanted to do. The church had a part-time employee who had previously done the work, but she was leaving.

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 28th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Midway Kids Fun Day @ Tiger Academy of Gymnastics (current kindergartners-5th graders)

*June 9th-12th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School

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

*Sunday, August 18th 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 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 coordinating 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

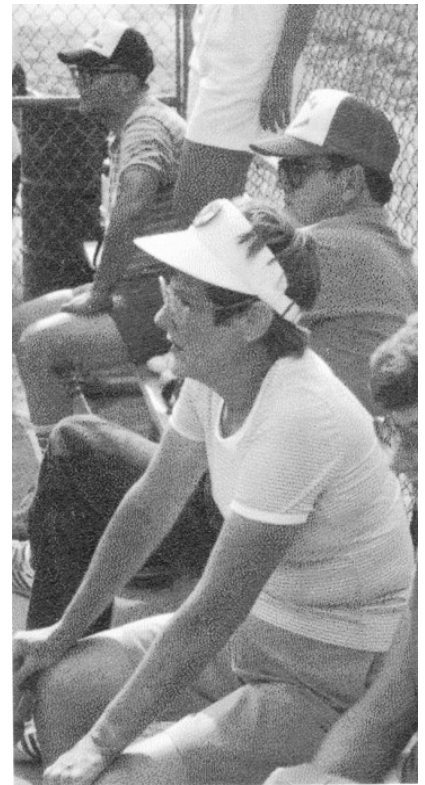
her niche. When asked about her proudest moment, she doesn't hesitate in looking back to 1978, living in the Netherlands, when she was elected Second Vice President of the Protestant Women of the Chapel, U.S. Forces—Europe.

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 9th -12th 2024 ~ (in the evening)

Midway Locust Grove Church

Kids ages 3 - incoming 6th 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

*Prayer written by
Catherine Shanahan 2024*

Heavenly Father,
We come before You in the name of Jesus 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



for all government officials – national, state and local (1 Timothy 2:1). We call forth men and women into service to our government who have revelation of Your truth and who will govern according to Your Word. We pray that voters elect those officials who will govern with righteousness. We pray for our President, Congress and the Supreme Court. We ask you to direct their hearts and minds to make righteous decisions. We also ask You to re-

move from positions of authority all those who stand against righteous rule and replace 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 ministering 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 others– 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 released 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 like more information, PLEASE contact
Jim or Glenna Johnson at midwaymo@ymail.com



The Kitchen Cabinet

Remembering
Mary Kay'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



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*

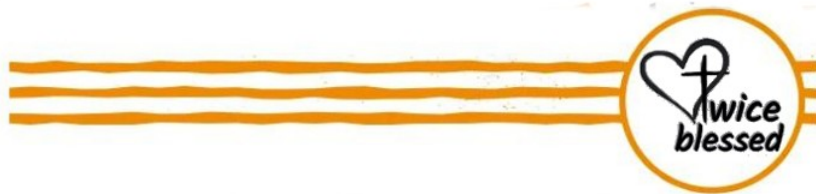
Midway Locust Grove
United Methodist Church

**Open
May 2 and 16**

**Twice
blessed**

*Open 1st & 3rd 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

2600 N. Locust Grove Church Road
Columbia, MO 65202

Pastor: Rev. Ben Lee
Administrative Assistant: Catherine Shanahan
Church phone: 573-445-4667
Pastor's cell phone: 478-447-4438
Email: mwlocustgrove@gmail.com
Email: blee.mwlocustgrove@gmail.com
Facebook: [@mwlocustgrove](https://www.facebook.com/mwlocustgrove)
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.

Locust Leaves Editor: Gene Baumann
Rocheport@aol.com 445-1998

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

Volume 37 Issue 5 May 2024

**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.