

**ARMA/GRACE/MULBERRY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
AUGUST 2009 NEWSLETTER  
8:00 am Worship Service -- Mulberry  
9:30 am Worship Service -- Grace  
11:00 am Worship Service – Arma  
Church School – following Children’s Moment -- Arma  
COME WORSHIP WITH US!!!**

\*\*\*\*\*

<b>Pastor Don Foster’s Contact Information:</b>	<b>620-347-8336 (office)</b>
<b>P. O. Box 489</b>	<b>620-249-4313 (cell)</b>
<b>Arma, KS 66712</b>	<b>620-347-8540 (home)</b>
	<b>Email: def@ckt.net</b>

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE HEALING OF MEMORY**

As a pastor I share many private and personal conversations with others. I am honored that people trust me enough to share. The conversation I share with you is with someone who lives elsewhere. You do not know his name. I am not betraying confidence by sharing this conversation with you.

He said when he was a small boy he was frightened and intimidated by his father. When his father would speak to him, he could not respond. Instead he would stutter and try to speak but he could not. This would make his father angry and he would whip him to try to make him talk. There were times when his father actually beat him so badly trying to make him talk that his mother would have to soak the shirt off his back because of the dried blood. He said when he was about nine years old he decided that if his father did it to him again, he would kill him if he could, but he knew that was wrong, so he ran away from home. He got a job and started living with another family and never again returned home. He is an older man now. He has carried that ache for many decades. His father died. He said he went to the funeral just to be with the other members of his family but he felt nothing and that bothered him because he knew he was supposed to feel something. His question is, “What do you do with a memory like that?”

What would you have said? How would you have handled it?

In the first place, you cannot hide the fact that it happened. You cannot excuse, rationalize, analyze or in any other way get rid of the reality of the experience which happened to you. You may try to push it down like a rubber ball under water, but eventually it is going to pop up.

The only way I know of healing the aches of past memories is forgiveness. It is the conscious decision to give up the practice of being an emotional garbage collector and letting it go. That is not easy. It is important, out of your heart, that you be willing to say, “I do not want to carry this pain any longer, so I am going to set you free, so I can be free from my past, and claim the present possibility of a joyful life.” Notice I did not say excuse, or forget, or rationalize. I said forgive. That means changing one way of feeling for a new one.

One of the amazing by-products of being willing to set another person free of their guilt of what they have done against you is that you also get free from your self-righteousness and that can be a real burden at times. The cross is a reminder that God did not give you what you deserved either. God gave your grace, love and forgiveness and freedom in his son, Jesus Christ. We abort the whole process, he says by parable and lesson, when we will not accept our own forgiveness or we will not forgive others, or when we think we are so good we do not need it. “Don’t grieve the Holy Spirit of God . . . Let bitterness, wrath, clamor, stander be put away from you and also your desire to get even . . . “ Instead “be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you . . . “ If you want to be fre. Life is too short to do it any other way. There are so many burdens to be borne, why not lay that one down?

**Pastor Don Foster**

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

**GRACE NEWS**

**PRAYERS:**

Please keep Kathryn George, the Trebars, Wilrose Bough and Jill Goodwin's Uncle Steve in your prayers..

Our Condolences to Barbara Engelhardt and family on the passing of her sister, Vera Little. She will be greatly missed by family and friends. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Our fund raiser will be a **BAKELESS BAKE SALE** in the month of **AUGUST**>

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

- Aug 1            Jim McDaniel**
- Aug 3            Norma McCabe**
- Aug 7            Les Eurit**
- Aug 16           Rick Goodwin**
- Aug 17           Kelly Wright**
- Aug 19           J. B. Standley**
- Aug 22           Rev Don Foster**
- Aug 23           Kelci Williams**
- Aug 27           Shannon Lynn**

**AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES**

- Aug 1            Jim & Della McDaniel**
- Aug 1            Joe & Debbie Grisolano**
- Aug 6            Frank & Emmaline Rodich**
- Aug 28           Dick & Jeanine Rogers**

**AUGUST GREETERS**

- Aug 2            Mike Seely**
- Aug 9            Jim McDaniel**
- Aug 16           Norma McCabe**
- Aug 23           Susie Taylor**
- Aug 30           Emmaline and Frank Rodich**

**PLEASE SIGN UP TO BE A GREETER!!!**

**God is our loving, reliable guide for life.  
Howard Coop (Kentucky)**

\*\*\*\*\*

**ARMA NEWS**

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**Aug 12      Administrative Board, 7:00 pm**

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

<b>Aug 2</b>	<b>Agnes Doue</b>	<b>Aug 22</b>	<b>Don Foster</b>
<b>Aug 5</b>	<b>Alan Roberts</b>	<b>Aug 26</b>	<b>Nancy Dungan</b>
<b>Aug 7</b>	<b>Jenifer Morey</b>	<b>Aug 26</b>	<b>June Harris</b>
<b>Aug 13</b>	<b>Susan Polhlopek</b>	<b>Aug 27</b>	<b>Kenneth (K.C.) Cameron</b>
<b>Aug 15</b>	<b>Susan Herrell</b>	<b>Aug 27</b>	<b>Bill Kovacic</b>
<b>Aug 15</b>	<b>Louise Kovacic</b>	<b>Aug 28</b>	<b>Nadine McDonald</b>
<b>Aug 20</b>	<b>Debra Cummings</b>	<b>Aug 30</b>	<b>Betty Brunk</b>

**AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES**

**Aug 6      Tammy & Gerald Wayman**

**AUGUST GREETERS**

<b>Aug 2</b>	<b>Rae Ann McNamara</b>
<b>Aug 9</b>	<b>Nadine Comley</b>
<b>Aug 16</b>	<b>Youth</b>
<b>Aug 23</b>	<b>Nadine &amp; Jim Jones</b>
<b>Aug 30</b>	<b>June &amp; Phil Harris</b>

**U.M.W. NEWS**

**U.M.W. will not meet during July and August. We will resume with regular meetings in September.**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**The Finance Committee wishes to report that \$164.00 was collected in our coins in June 2009 and they were designated for Vacation Bible School. June 2009 financial information follows and all bills have been paid.**

<b>Income June 2009</b>	<b>\$4,060.28</b>
<b>Expenses June 2009</b>	<b>\$4,616.15</b>

**Elevator Update –Last month we reported that the Trustees are gathering information on the costs for an elevator for our church. We continue to get donations for this project. Since 2007, several thousand dollars have been designated for the “Elevator Fund” and are in the Memorial Fund. During this “quiet” fundraising period for an elevator, any donations are appreciated. It is also a time when donations toward an elevator could be made in someone’s name or in honor of someone. It is hoped that in the near future, more specific information will be available.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Homecoming Dinner**  
**Saturday, August 8**  
**11:00 - 1:00 pm**  
**Arma United Methodist Church**

**\$6.00 for adults**  
**3.00 for children 3-12, under 2 are free**

**Chicken Dinner that includes scalloped potatoes, slaw,  
dessert and drink.**

**Workers are still needed – please check the sign-up sheet in  
the Narthex.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**United Methodist Church**  
**Arma/Grace/Mulberry**  
**P. O. Box 489**  
**Arma, KS 66712-0489**

**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**ARMA, KS 66712**  
**PERMIT 6**  
**NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**