

Connecting  
People . . .

to Each  
Other

to the  
World's  
Needs

to God  
in  
Jesus Christ

# The First Connection

*Leading people to an active faith in Jesus Christ*

BLUE SPRINGS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Red  
White

& Blue  
Bash

*A relaxing evening of fun,  
fellowship and dessert for all  
women of the church.*

*Date: Friday, July 24*

*Time: 7:00 to 10:00 PM*

*Place: FUMC in room 117*

*For information or to sign up,  
contact the church office at 229-8108*

*Childcare available upon request*

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

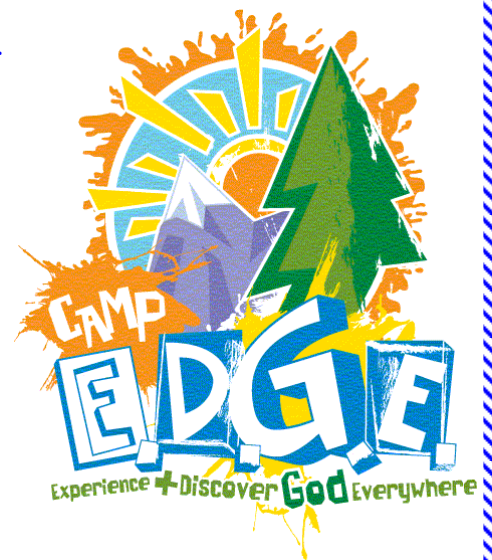
**DATES:** July 27 - July 31, 2009

**TIME:** 9:30am - 12:30pm

**AGES 4 - GRADE 4**

Registration forms and information  
can be picked up at the education  
office or the church website.

There are many items needed for  
this important ministry. Please visit  
the kiosk in the narthex or in the  
education wing to learn about items  
and sup-  
plies that  
we need  
you to  
purchase  
or to let  
us bor-  
row for  
that  
week.



## Rev. Steve Campbell

Dear Friends,

Hopefully, you will all receive this edition of the First Connection before Saturday, the Fourth of July. Those of you who are receiving it electronically will have it sooner. Many of you will have special plans for the Fourth of July holiday. It is a great time for family gatherings and special events. I hope you enjoy it all, keep safe, and remember to give thanks for the bounty and blessings of our life as citizens of the United States. I think we can easily get caught up in the fun and fireworks and feasting, and forget to give thanks.

I am thinking of a story I heard from a friend several years ago. This friend lived on a farm in Clay County as a boy. He used to go to the city with his father from time to time. They traded at the Planter's Seed Company in the area now called the River Market. As I recall, that is the correct name for the business. The proprietor was known to my friend as "Mr. Henry." Mr. Henry would tell the story of how he came to the United States. Somehow it had been possible for him to leave Europe on a ship with a return ticket. The ticket could be used in case he became homesick, or failed to find work. As the ship came into New York harbor, the young Mr. Henry got his first glimpse of the United States. Soon, he saw the

impressive waterfront and skyline of New York City. Soon, he could see the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island where he would be waiting in line to be processed. As I heard the story, Mr. Henry was standing on the deck of the ship, along with many others, thrilled at the sight before him. He reached into his pocket, where his return ticket was kept during the voyage. He pulled it out. He tore it in pieces and let the wind carry the pieces into the water of the harbor. When he stepped from the ship, his eye was on a new future in a new land.

Several years ago Nancy and I visited the newly reopened Ellis Island. It was an awe-inspiring experience to sit on benches where thousands of hopeful persons had made their entrance into the United States. It only deepened our sense of gratitude. It added a new dimension to what we understand about being citizens of the United States.

This week we will, again, give thanks, pray for God's guidance, and renew our commitment to the noble aims of our nation.

Sincerely,

Steve Campbell



### Communion Offering for Rural Life/Golden Cross Sunday

The **Golden Cross Program** supports health ministries in the United Methodist Church. Funds are raised from offerings gathered on an annual Golden Cross Sunday in United Methodist congregations. The Golden Cross program began early in the history of Methodism in America, primarily to support church-related hospitals and long-term health care facilities. The Evangelical United Brethren Church also collected offerings to support its health-care institutions. When the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church merged in 1968, the Golden Cross Sunday offering was continued as a way to support the new denomination's health-care ministries.

**Rural Life Sunday** is a time for Methodists to gather together to celebrate and recognize the ministry of rural congregations, many of which are without significant financial resources yet still harness the enthusiasm, gifts and talents of their people to do good work within their communities and with other churches. This special day also encourages rural, suburban and urban churches to get to know one another, exchange stories about their encounters with God, and realize how much they share in common.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>
<b>Sunday, July 5</b> Worship	8:00, 9:15, 10:45am	
July 4 Weekend—No Evening Youth Activities		
<b>Monday, July 6</b>	<b>July 4 Holiday - Office Closed</b>	
Vesper Voices Rehearsal	7:00pm	150
<b>Tuesday, July 7</b>		
Independents Singles Volleyball	7:00pm	MPR
Staff/Parish Relations Committee Mtg.	7:00	103
<b>Wednesday, July 8</b>		
Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00am	103
<b>Thursday, July 9</b>		
Open Gym	7:00pm	MPR
<b>Friday, July 10</b>		
Kaufman/Walker Wedding Rehearsal	6:00pm	Sanctuary
Adult Volleyball	7:00	MPR
<b>Saturday, July 11</b>		
Kaufman/Walker Wedding	3:00pm	Sanctuary
Worship Service	5:30	Sanctuary
<b>Sunday, July 12</b>		
Independents Advisory Board	Noon	112
Youth Dinner	5:00pm	117
Evening Youth Activities	5:30	Education Wing
<b>Monday, July 13</b>		
Administrative Board Meeting	7:00pm	103
<b>Tuesday, July 14</b>		
Independents Singles Volleyball	7:00pm	MPR
Stephen Ministry Peer Group	7:00	Office
<b>Wednesday, July 15</b>		
Pastors Lectionary Group	8:00am	103
<b>Thursday, July 16</b>		
Open Gym	7:00pm	MPR
<b>Friday, July 17</b>		
Reddell/Friedel Wedding Rehearsal	6:30pm	Sanctuary
Adult Volleyball	7:00	MPR
<b>Saturday, July 18</b>		
Reddell/Friedel Wedding	2:30pm	Sanctuary
Worship Service	5:30	Sanctuary

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

<b>SUNDAY</b>		
12:00 noon	Men of Praise	150
3:00	Crossover Rehearsal	Sanctuary
<b>MONDAY</b>		
<b>TUESDAY</b>		
8:00am	Morning Prayer Group	100
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		
5:30pm	Glory Ringers Off Until 8/26	
6:30	Spirit Ringers Off Until 8/26	
7:00	Creative Crafts - Prayer Shawls	103
7:30	Rhapsody Ringers Off Until 8/26	
7:30	Chancel Choir Off Until 8/19	
<b>THURSDAY</b>		
9:30am	Back Fence Bible Study	100
<b>FRIDAY</b>		
9:30am	Joy Ringers Handbell Rehearsal	154
<b>SATURDAY</b>		

## HEALTH CONCERNS

Nancy Ballew	Bernie Dietrich	Jean Doll
Dorothy Dumas	Jenny Floyd	Rev. Marvin Fortel
Debbie Hubbard	Alan Michelson	Jeff Saye
Shari Sullivan	Bob Turner	Harold Witte
Grace Wright		Lucille Welden
Carrie Rodebush, Mardis' daughter-in-law		
Ellie White, Gary and Kathe White's granddaughter		
Janet Penrose, Shelley Penrose's mother		
Jenny Johnson, Julie White's sister		
Joan Amy, Tom Mardis' sister		
John Whipple, Mary Derrington's father		
Joyce Brammer, Debbie Danner's mother		
Laurine Davis, Glen Davis' mother		
Merrell Graves, Rev. Karen's father		
Milt Hunt, Jan Harris' father		
Norma Ruhs, Carol Jo Hansen's mother		
Paige Oestreich, Carol Orndorff's niece		
Randy Harvey, Gary Harvey's brother		
Sallie Turner, Bob Turner's mother		
Sharon Street, Debbie Stacy's mother		
Skylor Grubb, Fred and Roma Troxel's grandson		
Vernon Yanney, Brenda Yanney's father		
Wilma Martens, Sharon McMullin's mother		
Ann Hudson, wife of retired pastor Rev. Herman Hudson		

## OTHER CONCERNS

Those struggling with finances and job loss  
 Financial concerns of our church  
 Leaders/teachers for Youth Sunday School—immediately and for the fall  
 Safe 4th of July holiday  
 Group from the Independents on a float trip

## SYMPATHY

to Shirley Bennett and family on the death of her mother, Helen Fitzhugh, on June 20.  
 to Sharon McMullin and family on the death of her husband, Larry, on June 22.  
 to Lydon Drury and Ednabelle Menditto on the death of their daughter/niece, Diane Justus, on June 25.

## JOYS

Congratulations to Carlee Harrison and Pete Martin who were married here on June 27. Carlee is the daughter of Eddie Harrison.

## THANKS

Thank you for helping me celebrate my birthday. The many calls and around 75 cards were much appreciated.

Jim Knoche

FUMC Congregation,

Just wanted to thank you all for the scholarship. I will be starting my junior year at the University of Missouri this fall, with a business major and Spanish minor. I'm hoping to graduate in May. Knowing that I have the support of my church means a lot. Thanks again.

Love Always,  
 Grace Hunt

Dear Friends:

THANK YOU! For the great food drive—it will go to help folks in Blue Springs all summer.

Debbie Benner  
 Community Services League

# SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR 2009-10

Please bring supplies to the church and place them in the CSL drop-box in the coatroom.

Thank you for your help. This project provides an important service by outfitting Blue Springs' students with the school supplies they need to begin a new year.

Pencils (#2 lead)

Red Pens

Notebook Dividers—8 or 10 count

Black Sharpies—Extra Fine

Zipper Pencil Bags with Holes

Kleenex tissues – Rectangular boxes

Colored Pencil Sets

4 oz. Bottles of Glue ( White preferred)

Scissors – 5" pointed, Fiskars preferred

Crayola Crayons – 16, 24, 48 counts

Spiral Notebooks – Wide Lined

Ziploc Bags – Quarts and Gallons

Erasers – Pink or Magic Rub

Post-It Notes 3"x3"

Ballpoint Pens (blue and black)

3" 3-Ring Binder Notebooks – Zipped

1" notebooks (NO zippers) with plastic covers

Dry Erase Markers – Black and Intense Color Sets

Supply Box

Solid-Colored Pocket Folders without prongs

Glue Sticks

Colored Markers – Crayola Classic

Hi-Liters—Yellow

Wide-Lined Notebook Paper

3x5" White Index Cards

Backpacks (No wheels)

Calculators – TI 30xIIS Solar

COMMUNITY SERVICES LEAGUE – BLUE SPRINGS OFFICE

200 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Blue Springs, MO 64015

229-0033

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00am - Noon and 1:00-4:00pm.

## JOB WORKSHOP

The unemployment rate in the metro Kansas City area is now more than 7% and it's not only entry-level positions being eliminated. Here is an opportunity to learn what you need to do in this slowing economy.

**Who:** Executives, Professionals, Students, Recent Graduates. Anyone who is interested in a methodology to help them find hidden employment opportunities during a tough job market.

**What:** A one-hour presentation on what specific actions you can take to find a new job opportunity.

**When:** Wednesday, July 22, at 6:30pm

**Where:** First United Methodist Church—Room 117

**Why:** The resources available for job seekers on "How to Write a Resume" or "How to Answer Interview Questions" are endless. However, this material typically fails to touch on the most critical component for anyone who is looking for a new job: GETTING THE INTERVIEW. Our unique presentation will provide you with proven tools and insights you can put into use immediately to start creating interview opportunities.

*About the Presenter...*

Zach Carruthers is a Vice President and Partner at Kansas City-based search firm, Christopher & Long/HCap Search. In addition to leading many of the business development initiatives, Zach has completed searches for key executives in a broad range of industries with a special focus in technology, banking/financial services and insurance.

## VOLLEYBALL CELEBRATION by Ron Gordanier

In June the Adult Volleyball programs held their volleyball celebration. This was the first time we were able to play at our home church in several years. We have rented courts in Grain Valley, Blue Springs, Independence, Lee's Summit, and Raytown. Our hosts have been very nice to us over the years, but it sure feels good to be back home.

Many of the players have offered assistance to make our volleyball programs successful and unique in many ways. We are like family, we care for each other, we help each other, we celebrate events like weddings and birthdays, and we offer support and comfort when needed. Many lasting friendships have been formed.



At the celebration Lee Ann Borberg was presented a framed certificate of appreciation, a volleyball t-shirt, and a water bottle labeled with her name and job title "Adult Recreation Coordinator."

### ***How we raised \$4,420 for two top-of-the-line volleyball systems:***

The Independents Singles Volleyball group started by having a fundraiser selling BBQ at a church concert almost 4 years ago. They also saved some money above their rental costs, ending up with \$805. An additional \$500 was given from the Independents general fund for a total contribution of \$1,305.

The adult volleyball group raised their weekly donation from \$3 to \$4. You could say that each player donated \$1 each time they played. Over a year's time that adds up. Every gift, large or small, helped us reach our goal. I know some would give \$5 and ask for no change. The adult volleyball group contributed \$1,000.

We give every one a big thank you!



### Ministers

All members who have pledged to uphold First UMC with their prayers, presence, service, gifts, and witness.



July 1, 2009

First United Methodist Church  
of Blue Springs  
301 SW Woods Chapel Road  
Blue Springs MO 64015

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Blue Springs, MO 64015  
PERMIT No. 21

Address Service Requested

### Pastors

Rev. Steve Campbell  
Rev. Karen Taylor

### Worship

Saturday, 5:30pm  
Sunday, 8:00, 9:15, and 10:45am

### Office Hours

8:00am—4:30pm Monday-Friday

Church Office: (816) 229-8108

Church fax: (816) 229-6705

E-mail: [office@firstumcbs.org](mailto:office@firstumcbs.org)

Learning Ladder Preschool  
(816) 229-9949

Church Website - [www.firstumcbs.org](http://www.firstumcbs.org)

Blog—<http://fumcnews.blogspot.com>

## Cancer Support Network

The Cancer Support Network will not meet during the summer months. We will resume monthly meetings in the fall. Watch the newsletter for announcements regarding meeting times and locations. If you would like someone to contact you about the Cancer Support Network and our plans for the future, please call the church office.

INDEPENDENTS SINGLE ADULT  
MINISTRY

## SOCK HOP

SATURDAY, JULY 18  
8:00pm – MIDNIGHT  
In the MPR

Admission: \$10 per person  
Light snacks and drinks  
(nonalcoholic) will be provided.  
We are collecting new socks  
for the needy.

Please place your donation in  
the collection bin at the door.

MUSIC PROVIDED BY  
DJ - BOBBY EDDY

## SUMMER YOUTH NEWS

- July 12 - Regular youth 5:00-7:30
- July 19 - **Super Splash in afternoon (Note the date change.)**
- August 1 - 10:00am-Noon-move school supplies for Community Services League. Senior High youth only, 10-15 people maximum.
- August 2-6 - Mid High mission trip
- August 9 - Regular youth 5:00-7:30
- August 14-15 Youth retreat

## June 27-28, 2009

### Giving

General Fund .....	\$13,331
(needed) .....	\$16,535
Giving to date .....	\$380,452
Budget to date .....	\$429,884
2009 Budget .....	\$859,783
% of budget Received .....	44.2

### Building Fund

Building Fund .....	\$4,922
(needed) .....	\$6,812
3-year Goal .....	\$1,062,703
% of Goal Received .....	17.5
% of Campaign Complete .....	16.7
Designated Giving .....	\$1,459

### Worship Attendance

Worship .....	472
Sunday School	
Children .....	33
Youth .....	8
Adults .....	96
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>137</b>
Sunday Night Youth .....	18