PASTOR’S NOTE

We can only go forward through time…but, we can always look back. The problem with looking back, however, is that, if you do it for too long while you’re going forward, you will lose your direction; you might stumble; you might fall. So I want us all to focus on the forward view, while we only occasionally make short glances backward in the rearview mirror. I like what it says at the bottom of the side-mirrors on my car: Objects in this mirror are closer than they appear! However close things are, they are still behind us, and…we are going forward.

Don’t lose sight of the future. I think it was Yogi Berra who said that “The future is not what it used to be!” The places we find ourselves are not where we thought we were going. They say that, sometimes, God laughs when we make plans. Actually, God’s plans are the only ones that matter! These are the plans we need to learn. They keep us focused on our true future! And…

THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

The word goodbye is from an Old English contraction of the words “God Be With Ye.” (1580s) That’s what I want it to mean as we say farewell during the month of June. God be with you.

There’s a song in our Hymnal that has as its first line: God be with you till we meet again…. There’s the good news about our goodbyes…We will meet again! If we know Jesus Christ, if we are part of His Resurrected Body, the Church, we will not only see Jesus in eternity, we will see Him together, we’ll see each other! What a day of rejoicing that will be! Focus on that future, and we will all be blessed. But…keep the faith…and love each other…not because of who they are, but because of who you are!

But…who I am…I will no longer be a part of your future…as your Pastor. Your Pastor will be Rev. Harriette Cross. I do not need to cut ties with you. The ties that bind us are beautiful and strong! What a friend we have in Jesus! I can still think of you as my friends, and you can think of me as your friend if you choose to do so.

So, my friends… the end is near! We don’t forget the past, it got us to this point in our journey. But realize that God isn’t finished with any of us yet. I know He isn’t finished with me, and, Carol knows He isn’t finished with her. And, certainly, God isn’t finished with this Church! Look forward to what is next and beyond!

THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

In Faith, With Hope, Out of Love,

~~ Tom

You are invited
to a farewell brunch
honoring Pastor Tom and Carol
Sunday, June 4, 2017

Food will be provided along with entertainment by the DC-3 Trio (Daughters of Christ). Please join us as we say goodbye and thank you for their service to our church.

We are collecting a love gift. Please send your donation to the church office or place in the offering plate labeled “love gift” by June 1. We will be presenting this gift to Pastor Tom and Carol on June 4.
Thank you for your generous donation of $493.03. We are currently serving over 1,300 people in Wilmington. We couldn’t do this without you! ~ KUZMA COTTAGE

Thank you for your generous donation of $159 to the Church World Service Blankets program. ~ CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Thank you for your gift of $162.00. ~ INTERNATIONAL CHILD CARE

Thank you to all of our church family and community who supported our recent plant sale during the Red Carpet Corridor. Proceeds will help benefit the 2017 Work Mission Trip to Henderson Settlement, Frakes, Kentucky.

Thank you for all the prayers and concerns. ~ Bettylou Linke

Thank you to Bonnie Metzka for filling in for me at my desk when I needed to be out. And thanks to all the ladies that helped with the Flame this month, Bonnie Metzka, Bette Stutts, Star Beeson and Ruby Green. ~ Shirley Moore

SPECIAL THANKS...
From the Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center (The Baby Bottle fundraiser): We so appreciate your partnership with us! You are making a difference for LIFE and for the Kingdom one baby, one life at a time. ~ Ruth Tibstra, Director

BABY BOTTLE BANK FUNDRAISER
We raised $80.00 through the Baby Bottle Bank Fundraiser for the Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center. If anyone still has a Baby Bottle bank, don’t forget to bring it in!!! Living Alternatives is supported entirely by the compassionate gifts of friends, and receives no government funding.

IN OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY
Carol Kingery – with gallstones infection, surgery in a few weeks
James Bentz – underwent tests
Ellen Bryant (Adela Geiss’ daughter) – had foot surgery
Denise Meyer – at Riverside - had surgery for an infection on her spine, having difficulty controlling her pain
Mary Hunt’s granddaughter was in a car accident
Corina Sorensen – recovering from hip surgery
Kendall Reavis – recovering from surgery after a facial dog bite
Bettylou Linke – recovering from medication reaction after poison ivy
Barbara Springer – recovering from surgery and broken ankle
Dennis Peceniak (father of Jennifer Morrison) – recovering from open heart surgery
Jacob Garvey (grandson of Martha Rink) – had a grand mal seizure
Rita Mueller (friend of Pam Mowers) – having cancer surgery soon
Harold Cohoon (grandson of Adela Geiss) – having surgery

DISEASTER RESPONSE EMERGENCY TEAM
The Disaster Response Emergency Communications Team will be participating in the ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League) Field Days, June 24th and 25th. The purpose of Field Days is to operate under “disaster conditions”, using non-commercial power (ie generator) and be self-sufficient (meals, shelter, etc), for the 24 hours period of the test.

The Emergency Communications Team will be set up under the large pavilion on the South Island. We will be on the air, operating continuously, from 1 pm Saturday until 1 pm Sunday.

We will attempt to contact as many other stations as we can during this period.

Stop down June 24 & 25 and see what amateur radio is all about and what our team is capable of doing.

Church garage sale
June 1 and 2 (8-5) and June 3 (8-2)

Hosted By: St. Rose Church

June 19-23, 2017

Come join the fun!! Registration forms can be picked up at FUMC, St. Rose, Grace Lutheran or Presbyterian churches.

Classes are available for children age 4 by June 1, 2017 through those just completing 6th grade. Students who completed 7th grade on up and adult volunteers are needed for
8th ANNUAL WILMINGTON ALL-TOWN GARAGE SALE
June 1, 2, & 3

Garage Sale at church will be
June 1 & 2 (8-5pm) & June 3 (8-2pm)

The First United Methodist Church, 401 E. Kahler Rd., is once again sponsoring an All-Town Garage Sale. The church will have sale listings and town maps available. All of the advertising will be done for you and bargain hunters will be out all over town. The $8.00 donation will place you in our listing. You may sign up for one or all days and specify your hours. Please fill out and return this form by Wednesday, May 31, to insure your sale is included on the listing. Please call the church at (815)476-5474 with any questions.
Maps can be picked up on Thursday, June 1.

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Phone #</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Listing Information</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates of your sale</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location of your sale</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subdivision/Neighborhood</th>
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<tr>
<th>Items to be sold (approx. 10 word description)</th>
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Please return form to the First United Methodist Church, All-Town Garage Sale, 401 E. Kahler Rd., Wilmington, IL 60481, along with the $8 donation.

FROM THE PRESCHOOL
Preschool Open House/Parent Meet and Greet Night, Monday August 14th 6:00 to 7:00pm.
First day of Preschool Monday August 22nd 9:00 to 12 Noon.
Preschool registration forms can be found online www.fumcwilm.com and in the Church office with our friend Ms. Shirley.
Our Church Family

Garrett Wuchter          Wilmington High School
Hailie Hall              Wilmington High School
Season Shumard           Wilmington High School
Claire Springer          Wilmington High School
Isaiah Johnson           Wilmington High School
Alex Rink                Wilmington High School
Carson Anderson          Reed Custer High School
Evelyn Shepherd          Wilmington Middle School
Peiton Hook              Wilmington Middle School
Alaina Stukel            Wilmington Middle School
Corina Sorensen          Southern Illinois University

Our Extended Church Family

Gavin Wilburn           High School Greensboro, North Carolina
                        (grandson of Jerry & Margaret Wilburn)
Aaron Wilburn           8th grade Greensboro, North Carolina
                        (grandson of Jerry & Margaret Wilburn)
Brandon Springer        Duke University School of Law
                        (grandson of Lee & Barb Springer)
Alec Beeson             Lincoln Way West High School
                        (grandson of Dale & Star Beeson)
Kendall Fris            Joliet West High School
                        (granddaughter of Dale & Star Beeson)
Pauly Fris              Hufford Junior High School
                        (grandson of Dale & Star Beeson)
Amanda Garvey           Kentucky University
                        (granddaughter of Bob & Martha Rink)
Jacob Garvey            Neuqua Valley High School
                        (grandson of Bob & Martha Rink)
Nick Costello           Butler University-Actuary Science
                        (nephew of Bob & Martha Rink)
2017 Work Mission Team on Mission June 11-17

Please keep them in your prayers as they travel to and from Henderson Settlement, Frakes, Kentucky. Pray for them while they show God’s work as they build a storage shed. Members going on the trip are: Tony & Carol Merkel, and Lyndall Bentz,

Join them on June 4th as we send them off with a Commissioning Service.

Thank you to all of our church family and community who supported our recent plant sale during the Red Carpet Corridor. Proceeds will help benefit the 2017 Work Mission Trip to Henderson Settlement, Frakes, Kentucky.

The Disaster Response Team will be hosting the Food Wagon at Bellettini Food on Saturday, June 10th, and Sunday, June 11th. We will be serving lunch from 10 am until about 2 pm. During Memorial Day weekend 2016, the Disaster Response Team assisted Wilmington ESDA by providing food and drink for the rescuers who were involved in the river search for the drowning victims. We fed 75 - 100 rescuers for two days. Since this event, the group has been trying to put together a “Field Kitchen”, which would be able to provide meals and drink for such an incident on location. Money earned from our weekend at Bellettini Foods will be used to acquire additional equipment for this project.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Over the summer we will be putting together an updated membership directory with contact information for our congregation. Please let the office know the following information for your family:

Names: ________________________________________________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________________________________
Alternate Address (ie. winter): ______________________________________________________________

Primary Phone Number ( ) home ( ) cell ______________________________  Don’t Publish

Secondary Phone Number ( ) home ( ) cell ______________________________  Don’t Publish

Email address for ______________________________

Email address for ______________________________  Don’t Publish

If you have children who have been confirmed and no longer live at home, please provide their contact information also, including married names and any children.

We are exploring the possibility of emailing the Flame to our membership who wish to receive it that way, as well as continuing to mail it to those who wish to receive it by mail. Please indicate how you would want to receive the Flame if we decide to offer a digital format.

___ Please send my Flame by email to ______________________________

___ Please send the Flame by mail

Return this form to the church office or email information to fumcjfrancis@sbcglobal.net
NEW CHURCH ROOF

The Trustees are nearing a final decision on a contractor to replace the church roof. The idea of a steel roof was abandoned after comparative bids showed a steel roof is almost 3 times the cost of a 50-year 3M asphalt shingle. The new roof is anticipated to be about $60,000. To date, through steady donations over the past two years, $6,700 has been contributed.

The Endowment Committee has stepped up and agreed to not only contribute 50% of the cost of the roof, but also to provide the cash to pay the other half up-front with the idea that half will be repaid to the Endowment Fund. The funds will come from the Herb and Gladys Minner Endowment. The only requirement from the Foundation Committee is that the congregation should provide cash or three-year pledges totaling $30,000 to replenish half the total project cost to the Endowment Fund for future building projects. It is hoped that the roofing project can be completed this summer.

As a part of the process to plan the financing of the roof, a joint committee of the Trustees, Finance/Stewardship Committee and Foundation has had an initial meeting to develop a long-range building and grounds capital maintenance and improvement plan. Besides the immediate need to replace the church roof, they also identified the need to replenish our emergency fund as a top priority. The emergency fund has traditionally been about $30,000. The fund allows the church to make emergency building repairs (like a new furnace) right away and then ask the congregation for the money to be replaced after the repair is done. The emergency fund is currently at $14,670. The joint committee has recommended that in the event more pledges are received than the $30,000 needed for the roof, any excess be put towards the emergency fund. The joint committee believes it is fiscally wise to rebuild the emergency fund as a major step in maintaining the church’s financial health.

Should you have any questions, please contact Barry Oswald, Finance/Stewardship Chair; Lyn Allott, Trustee Chair; or Bill Francis, Foundation Chair.

A short presentation concerning this project will be made at church on June 11. Below find a Pledge Card for this initiative. Forms will also be available at the church.

---

**2017 CAPITAL FUNDS DRIVE**

**ROOF REPLACEMENT & EMERGENCY FUND REPLENISHMENT**

I/We PLEDGE to GIVE to the CAPITAL FUNDS DRIVE over the next 3 years:

(Please circle time frame of your gift)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>As a One-Time Commitment in:</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$_______</td>
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~ Pledges and Donations to the Capital Funds Drive/Roof Project may be dropped off at the church office during business hours, mailed or put in the offering plate on Sundays. Please clearly mark your gift for the Roof Project.

~ I wish to give electronically by: ____ Automatic Bank Withdrawal ____ Credit Card Online

(Sign up online using the church website, choose “Roof Fund” or ask for help in the office.)

Name_________________________________________________ Date ______________

I understand that should all the funds needed for half the roof project be collected, any additional donations will be directed to the church’s Emergency Fund to help cover future emergency expenses, such as a new furnace or air conditioner.
Greeters

6/4    Steve & Judy Francis
6/11   Barb & Lee Springer
6/18   Tony & Carol Merkel
6/25   Bill & Dorothy Locke

Ushers

6/4    Laura Martin, Ruby Green, Barry & Diane Oswald
6/11
6/18
6/25 Steve & Judy Francis

Acolytes

6/4
6/11
6/18
6/25

Communion Steward:

Gayle Robinson

Altar Flowers

6/4    Bernie Twait
6/11
6/18
6/25

Coffee Hour

6/4
6/11
6/18 Barry & Diane Oswald
6/25

Birthdays of the Month

06/01 Mark & Lisa Langusch  4th
06/02 Phil & Chris Goodwin  38th
06/05 Dan & Aileen Shorkey  24th
06/07 Megan & Tyler Graham  3rd
06/09 Linda & Jack Poquette  49th
06/12 Jason & Laura Stava  15th
06/15 Tim & Sue Cragg  37th
06/16 Kathleen & Steven Butts  5th
06/16 Ken & Patricia Wise  16th
06/19 Danielle & Brian Spangler  7th
06/21 Dan & Sarah Roesler  4th
06/22 Kyle & Stephanie Stickel  4th
06/23 Barry & Diane Oswald  16th
06/26 Tracey & Jack Brownlee  18th
06/27 Jeff & Kathryn Henderson  25th
06/27 Vern & Myrna Hoffman  58th
06/27 Julie & Daniel Vergo  3rd
MISSION OF THE MONTH

The mission of the Midwest Mission Distribution Center is to compassionately help God’s people in need locally, nationally and around the world, and to offer a center to fulfill the call for service to our neighbors in Christ’s name.

Midwest Distribution provides supplies for U.M.C.O.R. during times of natural disasters around the world.

PASTORAL TRANSITION

Congregations receiving a change in pastoral leadership are faced with particular challenges and needs. Appropriately meeting the challenges and addressing the needs can result in a strengthened church.

Here are a few suggestions:

Pray daily for both your incoming and departing pastors and their families. Send a note of welcome &/or farewell.

Share in the scheduled farewell brunch to say thank you and goodbye (June 4). And, attend worship the last Sunday of the outgoing pastor’s tenure (June 25).

Accept the grief inherent in the loss of a pastor and work through the feelings of anger, hurt, loss, and fear of the future.

Celebrate the diversity of gifts, experience and graces of each pastor. Comparing pastors is unfair to everyone and fails to fully appreciate God’s presence in others.

When your new pastor arrives, permit her to be your pastor. Requesting the return of a former pastor to perform pastoral duties such as weddings and funerals robs you and your present pastor of a unique opportunity and puts pastors and congregations in an awkward situation.

Attend worship the first Sunday of the new pastor’s tenure (July 2) and share in the scheduled welcoming coffee hour (July 9).

Remember that just as strong pastors make strong churches, effective congregations tend to make effective pastors. Open your hearts and decide that you are going to love your new pastor.

Be open to God’s leadership in some new and exciting directions.

No perfect pastors, congregations, bishops or district superintendents exist. Therefore, every pastoral appointment falls short of the ideal. The good news is: God desires faithfulness more than perfection. May we all be faithful in response to the One whose grace makes all things new.

The above is from an article published in the July 1994 FLAME, originally written by Bishop Kenneth Carder of the Nashville, TN area and published in the United Methodist Reporter June 1994.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
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<th>Wed</th>
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|     |     |     | ![June Calendar](June_Calendar.png) | 1  
8-5 Church Garage Sale  
7:00 Trustee Meeting  
7:00 A.A. | 2  
8-2 Church Garage Sale  
7:00 A.A. |     |
|     |     |     | ![Annual Church Garage Sale](Annual_Church_Garage_Sale.png) | 3  
8-2 Church Garage Sale  
7:00 A.A. |     |     |
| 4  | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  |
| 9:30 Worship Service  
Kuzma Offering  
10:30 Pastor Tom and Carol Farewell  
Brunch | 6:30 4-H | 7:00 Trustees Meeting  
7:00 A.A. | 9-3 W.I.C.  
6:00 Education Meeting  
6:30 Finance Meeting  
7:00 Church Council | 8:00 Men's Club Bellettini Food Wagon by Disaster Response  
7:00 A.A. |     |     |
| 11 | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  |
| 9:30 Worship Service  
Bellettini Food Wagon by Disaster Response |     | 7:00 A.A. |     |     |     | 7:00 A.A. |
| 18 | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  |
| 9:30 Worship Service | 6:30 4-H | 7:00 A.A. |     | 9-3 W.I.C.  
6:00 CFG |     | 7:00 A.A. |
| 25 | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  |     |
| 9:30 Worship Service |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Annual Church Garage Sale**

**Work Mission Trip to Henderson Settlement, Frakes, KY**

**Community VBS 9-noon at St. Rose Church**