

POTWIN POST



Volume 19, Issue 10
www.potwinprestopeka.org

October 2008

Reflections

Hello, my name is Sue Ann Seel, and your Session has hired me to assist in pastoral care at Potwin. I am delighted to be a part of the love of Christ that is found at this church! Some of you may remember me. I did part of my internship in preparation for becoming a Commissioned Lay Pastor in the Presbytery of Northern Kansas at Potwin. I am currently commissioned to the Presbytery At Large, in addition to being commissioned to Dwight Presbyterian Church, which is a quarter time position. I am also the chair of the East Area of the Committee on Ministry for the Presbytery.

A little background about me – I have a degree in Social Work from the University of Kansas. I have been involved in the helping professions since graduation from college. In 2001, I felt the call to ministry, but my home situation at that time required that I stay in Topeka, so seminary was not an option. It was then I began training as a Commissioned Lay Pastor. It is a decision I have not regretted. Family wise, I have been married for nearly 30 years to my husband Rod, who owns Westboro Fine Arts here in Topeka. We have one son, Scott who is married to Katie. We hope to be grandparents someday soon!

I believe it is important to have available to you someone who is trained to bring the presence of God to you in difficult times. I believe I have this training and ability. Perhaps more importantly, I have the desire to be a part of your lives. Please feel free to call me with any questions, concerns, or prayer requests. I would be glad to visit any of you who wish to have a visit. If I am notified of hospitalizations or surgeries, I would be glad to come visit and pray if desired. I am also available for funerals. Please do not hesitate to call. My contact information is found below. You can contact me directly, or you can contact the church office and LaVonne will contact me. I hope to meet each of you soon.

I believe that together we can share the love and grace of Christ. Thank you for giving me that opportunity.

Blessings,

Sue Ann Seel

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Quotes of the Month

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• "Forgiveness can remarkably restore our relationships, renew our spirits and revitalize our lives."
—William Arthur Ward

• "If you really believe the Christian gospel — God behind us, his cause committed to us, his power available for us — then proclaim it, live it, implement it, for humanity's hope depends upon it. It is, indeed, a faith for tough times."
—Harry Emerson Fosdick

Claudia and Leo Luttjohann celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with an open house hosted by their daughter, Carol, on September 14th.

Member Update:

Margaret Sewell had surgery at St. Francis after a fall and a broken hip. Please pray for her as she recovers.

Clarence Dahlstrom was hospitalized at Stormont-Vail after a fall and pneumonia. Please pray for him.

Families to Pray for this Month...

October 5th – David and Susan Ohse and family - Bill Rayburn and family

October 12th – Libby Peters and family - John & Belva Sandmeyer

October 19th – Douglas Phenix/Gloria Phenix - Frank & Jane Sewell

October 26th – James Pritchard and family - **Margaret Sewell**

Our prayers and sympathies go out to the family of Grace McMillen.
Grace, a long-time member of Potwin Church passed away on Thursday, September 25th. Graveside services were held on Monday, September 29th at Mount Hope Cemetery.

Activities & Information

DECORATING VIDA

Wednesday, October 8th at 6:00pm

Please join us for a fun-filled evening of making VIDA even more lovely.

A local artist will teach us how to make traditional tissue paper flowers, which we'll string around the interior of the building. Materials for this project were donated by Hobby Lobby, a local arts & crafts store.

In addition, please feel free to bring your own ideas on how we can beautify our VIDA building. Moreover, you may also bring items that you're no longer using, or go to garage sales to find pretty decorations, that we can display in our special building.

We hope to see you there!

Report from the Treasurer

August receipts-	\$6,062.01
August Disbursements	\$4,308.58
Balance as of 8/31/08	\$11,076.58

Reserves

Memorial Fund -	\$1,765.39
Cap Improvement/Reserve Fund -	\$1,752.25
CD (#5762664) -	\$4,389.67
CD (#95658) -	\$16,285.71
CD (#75721) -	\$5,419.57
Educational CU CD -	\$22,143.03

Reserve Total	\$51,755.62
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UPCOMING EVENTS
FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

5th – World Communion Day (Peacemaking offering)

11th – Parents Morning Out (9am-12pm)
Natural Food Co-op Block Party (1pm-5pm)

26th – Reformation Day (Memorial Hall) (1:30pm)

Special Dates



• World Communion
Sunday, October 5, 2008

• Columbus Day Observance,
October 13, 2008



Reformation Day

• Reformation Day,
October 31, 2008

Those serving in the month of October:

Ushers: Belva Sandmeyer

Communion Servers: Debi Harvey & Libby Peters

Children's Sermons: Linda Tuller (12th),
Janet Halloran (19th)
and Pat Abbey (26th)

**The Deadline for the
November Potwin Post is
Sunday, October 26th.**

This Month's Chuckle



The loose change offering (coins and cash or checks so designated) in the month of October will go to the Peace Making Offering. Please give liberally.

Potwin Presbyterian Church

400 SW Washburn Avenue
Topeka, KS 66606
(785) 235-1311
www.potwinprestopeka.org

Pastor
LaVonne Meadows, Secretary
David Ohse, Choir Director
Sharon Bayless, Organist
Linda Tuller, Treasurer
Janet Lafferty, Financial Secretary

SESSION
Ross Freeman, Moderator

<u>2008</u> Gwen Jones Hervey Wright	<u>2009</u> Gary Baker Joyce Black Bob Fincham	<u>2010</u> Don Wright
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<u>2008</u> Janet Halloran Belva Sandmeyer Brenda Strobel	<u>2009</u> Libby Peters Jane Sewell Kim Kingery	<u>2010</u> Nellis Shaw
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SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

Superintendent	- Gwen Jones
Nursery Attendant	- Betty Bass
Preschool/Grade School	- Gwen Jones
Middle/High School	-
Adults	-
Jr/Sr Hi Youth Group	- Gwen Jones
Substitutes	- Jane Sewell, Ann Fincham
Attendance Clerk	- Janet Halloran, Jane Sewell

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

As Jesus tells us in the Parable of the Good Samaritan, all people are our neighbors. You can make a difference for others, beginning in your own neighborhood. Make and share this craft so people know you care and are thankful for your community.


What you need:

- Clear, disposable, non-powdered, non-latex gloves
- Craft paint
- Paintbrush
- Popped popcorn (about 3 cups per glove)
- Rubber bands
- Ribbon or raffia
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Markers or crayons
- Hole punch



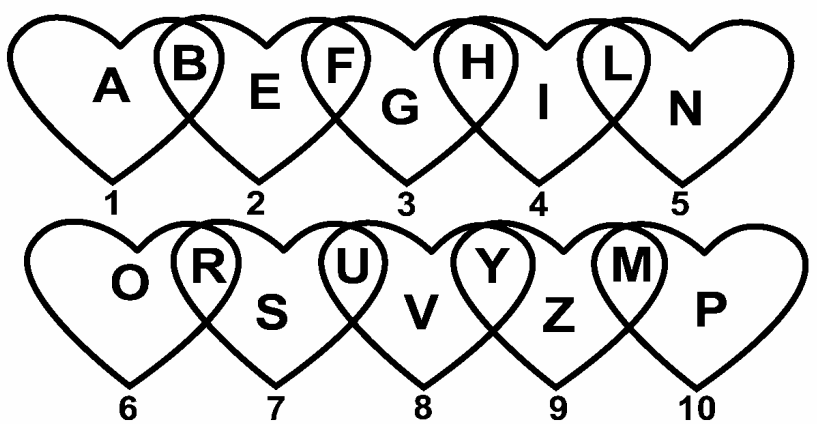
What you do:

1. Paint one side of the glove's fingertips to look like fingernails.
2. Fill the fingertips, then the rest of the glove, with cooled popcorn.
3. Wrap a rubber band around the wrist of the glove.
4. Tie ribbon or raffia around the rubber band.
5. Make a card. Ideas include "Welcome to the neighborhood," "Thanks for being such nice neighbors," "Here's how we'd like to serve you," etc.
6. Punch a hole in the corner of your card and tie it to the glove.



THE SECOND GREAT Commandment

In the Gospels, Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment is to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37, NIV). Do you remember what the second great commandment is? Use the code below to discover it.



“ L

4,5	6	8	2	8,9	6	7,8	6,7
5	2	4	3	3,4	1,2	6	6,7
			1	7			
8,9	6	7,8	6,7	7	2	4,5	2,3

”

Matthew 22:39, NIV

Answer: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Youth News



BIBLE QUIZ

In chapter 15 of First Corinthians, St. Paul wrote of several appearances of the resurrected Lord. Christ appeared to some women, to Peter and to the 12 disciples. Then Paul writes of Christ's appearing to a large number of people. How large was that crowd?

- A. more than 50
- B. more than 100
- C. more than 500
- D. more than 5,000

Answer: C (See 1 Corinthians 15:6.)

Messages & Thoughts

The Paradoxes of Life

When I spend myself — body, soul and strength — I find replenishment within.

When I extend kindness freely, I find kindness growing abundantly within.

When I give abundantly to God and charity, I find my resources increasing instead of diminishing.

When I exhibit happiness, I find mostly happy responses.

When I give or serve or share or provide, I receive or am served or shared with or provided for in return.

When I offer peace of mind to another, I discover it growing within myself.

When I feel at peace with God, I discover I am at peace with the world.

—Charles Ferrell

Are You God's Wife?

While working at a shoe store in downtown Truro, Nova Scotia, I noticed a little boy standing on the hot-air register outside the bakery shop next door in his bare feet, trying to keep warm.

I was unsure whether to invite the boy into the store, or just what to do with him, when a [woman] came by. After a few words with the barefoot boy, she brought him into the shoe store. She bought him new shoes and heavy woolen socks, for which he tried awkwardly to thank her. "Are you God's wife?" he asked his benefactor.

Taken aback by the question, she took some time before replying, "No, son, I'm just one of his children."

"Well, I knew you must be some kin to him," he said as he thanked her again and ran out the door.

—Zelda Cornish

Everyone Can Serve

Look for opportunities to serve; don't wait to be asked! Remember: You can serve without being a part of an "official" ministry. We all can:

- extend the word of welcome, whether or not we are official greeters;
- be listening, caring friends, whether or not we are official lay counselors;
- be ready to give reason for the hope that is in us, whether or not we are on the evangelism team;
- be enthusiastic participants and ready to give a hand, whether or not we are on the planning or cleanup committees.

September Session Notes

Treasurer's Report:

The session reviewed the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Secretary's Reports for August. Receipts reported by Janet Lafferty were \$6,062.01. Total disbursements reported by Linda Tuller were \$4,308.58, leaving a balance of \$11,076.58 in the general checking account. (This included \$1,919.71 in checks outstanding as of 8/31/08.) The reserve / memorial fund accounts and CD accounts total \$51,755.62. There are no outstanding debts. The reports were unanimously received.

Action on Membership: Joyce Black moved and Bob Fincham seconded a motion to accept the transfer of membership of Frank and Joan Benton to Grace Baptist Church in Topeka. This was approved with regrets. Joyce Black moved and Bob Fincham seconded a motion to remove Evajeane Feyh from the roll. Mrs. Feyh passed away on August 12, 2008 and was buried in Mt Hope Cemetery, with Reverend Freeman presiding over a memorial service. She joined Potwin Presbyterian Church on March 26, 1972. This was approved with sadness.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Christian Education Committee: Sunday School will begin September 21st.

Church Life/Worship Committee:

1. Planning for the combined outdoor worship service/picnic with Central for September 14th is well underway. The Abbeys will get the sound system out to the shelter house, and they are in contact with Ed Thompson, General Presbyter, to moderate the "town hall meeting" after the potluck dinner.
2. Choir will begin performing on September 21st.

Mission Outreach:

1. The Peacemaking materials for the One Great Hour of Sharing for October 5th are here.
2. Attempts have been made to contact the CROP Walk people but have been unsuccessful. It was noted other churches had the same experience.

Instigator Task Force: Parents Morning Out begins again September 13th.

Personnel Committee:

1. Sue Ann Seel will be gone for a week, but she has contacted a replacement.
2. Carl Fyler is scheduled for surgery this week. Sue Ann will follow-up with him on the 22nd when she comes back.

Pastor's Report:

Reverend Freeman asked the approval of the session for him to perform two children baptisms on September 28th, for Sebastian Michael Eldridge and Julian Romero Peters, grandchildren of Libby Peters. The session approved these baptisms.

Unfinished / New / Other Business:

1. There was extensive discussion regarding the possible merger and subsequent plans for the 'town hall' meeting after worship service on the 14th.
2. Barbara Shapiro and the Potwin NIA requested to use the church on October 26th at 1:30 pm (Memorial Hall) for their annual meeting and for November 29th at 4 pm (Fellowship Hall) for their children's play. The second date would also include some practices which would be announced at a later date. Don Wright moved and Gwen Jones seconded a motion to approve the use of their church, and that the \$118 piano tuning bill would cover their use of the church in the past, and a free will offering will be requested to help cover utilities, etc., for these other dates.

The Wider Church – Peacemaking/OGHS

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God", said Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace (Matthew 5:9)

World Communion and the Peacemaking Offering will both be celebrated on October 5th. This day is a special one for the church around the world. It is a day when churches everywhere are eating the special meal Jesus gave us, the meal called the Lord's Supper, or Communion. It is a very simple meal of bread and juice but what makes it special is that we eat it together and remember Jesus and the lessons he taught about loving your neighbor and peace.

In addition, Presbyterians, both as a corporate body and as individual members, have always looked beyond ourselves and helped those in need through peaceful means. We must continue this legacy to promote peace and hope to all the world's suffering.

The Loose Coin Offering this month is also dedicated to Peacemaking/ World Communion Offering.

Lectionary Readings for October

October 5 – Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

October 12 – Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

October 19 – Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99; I Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

October 26 – Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; I Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46



**POTWIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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