

Good Samaritan Center

By Lisa Paulson

Thank God for the vision of Dad Hoeger, who founded the Good Samaritan Society. His belief that "In Christ's Love Everyone is Someone" extends beyond providing a loving home for the elderly. It includes ministry to their families, staff members and the community as well. But it doesn't end there. The residents themselves carry on his mission. Most are not aware of the love and impact they have on those who visit here or care for them.

Faithfulness comes to the forefront of my mind. When I came to work at the Good Sam in 2003, my personal life was in shambles; I was broken and hurting. I came looking for a job, but what I found was a place of refuge and caring. Right away I was so encouraged by the faith in Jesus the residents so freely shared. I never met Dad Hoeger, or the founding employees; it was through my interaction with those I cared for that I was strengthened and found healing for my broken heart.

Then I began to notice the faithfulness of the families who came to visit every week and some every day. The faithfulness and unconditional love of husbands whose wives were struggling with Alzheimer's or another health problem and vice-versa the wives whose husbands were living here made a huge

impression on me. The children of the residents who were faithful to call, visit, shop, take their mom to appointments etc. encouraged me. That was nine years ago, the names and faces of residents have changed, but faith in Jesus and the faithfulness of their families remain.

New staff members, some who are broken and hurting just like me, have joined our Good Sam family giving our residents a wonderful opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus right where they live!

The last two weeks have seemed a bit long and quiet. We haven't had the beautiful sound of Anita Hirsch's singing. She has been in Alaska and has sent a postcard promising an "Arm Chair" travel experience when she returns; we can't wait. During Songs of Worship in her absence we watched a very beautiful video called "In His Presence." It portrayed God's magnificent creation set to music with scripture interspersed. Walt and Betty May, Amy Rehm, Connie Cramer, Leona Helmkamp, Phil Erickson, Myrtle Waldo, Violet Schissler and Margaret Vacura all took in the beauty.

The In House Club played the Life Stories game with Coleen Rippe on Friday with Earl and Elsie Winder and Evelyn Olson. Checkers was a hit with Loren Schrock

and Earl Brown. Shut the Box was played with Elden Haas and Leone Porsch.

Can't fail to mention Bingo which is played by just about everyone! Poker was dealt by Max Carman for his mom, Myrtle Waldo, Lucy Schissler, Barb Beisner and Elden Haas.

Visitors this week were: Audrey and Murry Pavlicek for **Mary Lemman**. Mert McEvoy for **Lucy Schissler**. Reva Marshall and Penny Fringer for **Dorothy Hunt**. Donna Kelley for **Eva Bryan**. Connie Simonsson for **Amy Rehm**. Cheryl Miller for **Loren Schrock**. Jerry Hill for **Cheryl Hill**. Max Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**. Sally Henningson for **Connie Cramer**. Marilyn Horn for **Myrtle Ross**. Gerald Benda for **Eulaine Benda**. Eunice Martin for **Glenn Martin**. Susie Sabatka (Atwood) for **Vera Kacirek**. Gene Leitner, Pat Tongish (Newton) and Julie Hafner (Herndon) for **Marcella Leitner**. Pat Fringer for **Margaret Vacura**. Rose Riffle for **Roxie Pomeroy**. Nadine Tacha and Bob and Neoma Tacha (Jennings) for **Galen Tacha**. Ralph and Norma Unger for **Earl Brown** and **Lucy Schissler**. Miranda Mock and Virgil and Donna Mock (Norton) for **Vivian Mock**.

Picnic and tailgate checklist

With fall picnics, potlucks and tailgates often planned at locations without running water, here are some quick tips for a safe and successful gathering:

- Plan a menu to match the size of your group to minimize waste and leftovers that could spoil if you leave food out for extended periods.
- If sharing the responsibilities for the food, ask those traveling the shortest distances to bring the perishable foods; invite others to bring non-perishable items.
- Use one insulated cooler for raw foods such as beef patties, brats or chicken, and a separate insulated cooler for perishable cooked foods, such as cooked meats, pasta or potato salad.
- Dedicate a third cooler for beverages that can be opened more frequently without jeopardizing the safety of other foods. Each time a cooler is opened, the temperature inside the cooler rises.
- Place plenty of ice and an appliance thermometer in each cooler; food should remain at 40 degrees F or below.
- Transport food in the air-conditioned passenger compartment, and shade it with a blanket.
- Shade coolers, picnic basket and other foods on site.
- Position a grill or other cooking appliance well away from a vehicle or other flammable materials, including recreational equipment. And, keep children and pets away from an open flame and other hot grilling and cooking equipment.
- Pack a food thermometer, and check internal cooked temperatures: Poultry, 165 degrees F; ground meats, 160 degrees F; and beef, pork, lamb and veal steaks, roasts



Home Time

By Tranda Watts
Regional Extension Agent

and chops, 145 degrees F. Reheat leftovers to 165 degrees F.

- If serving hot cooked soup, such as chili that will be transported, make it in advance; cover and chill it well before packing in a cooler, and reheat on site to 165 degrees F.
- Pack water, moist towelettes, soap, hand sanitizer, paper or other towels.
- Check tableware, and bring enough serving containers and clean utensils for both raw and cooked foods.
- Wait to get food out until shortly before cooking and serving; shade foods from direct sunlight, and return leftovers to coolers within one hour or less if the temperature is 90 degrees F or above, and two hours or less if the temperature is lower.
- If planning to pick up fried chicken or pizzas, make the pickup the last stop before the picnic or tailgate, and serve the hot food promptly.
- If sharing cooking responsibilities for a large group, keep recipes

separate, rather than blending them, to simplify identifying an errant food if food-borne illness becomes an issue.

• Plan snacks that will not need to be cooked for half-time and post-game gatherings, rather than relying on leftovers that need to be reheated.

• Cool the grill or other cooking appliances completely before packing them for the trip home. Dispose of coals or other flammable materials safely to reduce the risk of fire.

More information on food and food safety is available at your local K-State Research and Extension offices.

Tranda Watts is Kansas State University extension specialist in food, nutrition, health and safety for Decatur, Gove, Norton, Sheridan, and Trego counties. Call her at (785)443-3663 or e-mail twatts@ksu.edu. For information, contact the Decatur County office of Twin Creeks Extension, 475-8121.

Rexford News

By Gwen Griffiths

I'm loving the cooler evenings and mornings that come with late summer.

Bingo was held at the Red Barn on Saturday night. This was the first Bingo meeting of the fall, and was lots of fun for everyone who attended.

The Gideons held their monthly meeting at Shepherd's Staff on Saturday night.

The Girl Scouts welcomed new members and honored existing members at their meeting on Sunday afternoon. The meeting was followed by a cake and punch reception for the Girl Scouts and their families.

Shepherd's Staff will hold their Open House and dedication of the Historic Philip Houston House at 4

p.m. today. The dedication will be at 4:30 p.m. You can enjoy lemonade and cookies or tour the Shepherd's Staff facilities until 7 p.m. We'd love to have you attend!

Thursday night is the Homecoming parade. It will begin at 7 pm at the north end of Main Street and proceed south to the high school, then on to the football field. Come on out and support our teams!

Ladies, don't forget about the Beth Moore simulcast on Saturday. Registration begins at 8 a.m., with the simulcast beginning at 8:30 a.m. Lunch is included in the \$50 registration price, and the event will conclude by 3:30 p.m. To register, visit www.shepherdstaff.org or call 687-2565.

Well, that seems to be the news

for this week. Enjoy this beautiful weather! To publish your news or special event in this column, just call 687-2076 or e-mail griffithsgang@gmail.com.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

Is everyone enjoying the beautiful weather? I took a drive on Sunday. It was a little warm in the afternoon, but it was comfortable. A little more green would have brightened it up a bit, but hopefully the moisture will come soon.

The weekend will bring lots of people coming through town for the Highway U.S. 36 Treasure Hunt Across Kansas. We have 24 scheduled sales here, and I know of others who didn't get on the map. I'm sure there will be a few bargain sales going on at the Oberlin businesses, and in Norcat and Jennings, so come out and have a good time seeing what Decatur County has to offer.

The Mini Sappa Antique Thresher and Engine Show will be going on at the Decatur County Fairground, along with the Tripple Creek Riders

Horse Club having a Swap Meet and lunch (hot dogs, burgers and cookies) at the arena at the south end of the fairground.

The Oberlin Convention and Visitors Bureau board will meet at noon Thursday at the LandMark Inn.

The Chamber will be doing a tailgate party at the homecoming football game on Friday, Sept. 21. Sloppy Joes, chips, cookies and brownies will be served from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m.

The Oberlin Business Alliance will have a tailgate on Friday, Oct. 5, with the proceeds going for winter banners.

I know there is always a lot going on, but it is good to come out when you can and help support our town as much as possible.

Have a good week!

Relationship with Jesus Roy Matthewson, Lund Covenant Church

The Church talks a great deal about the need for people to be in relationship with Jesus. Perhaps this is more emphasized within the Evangelical wing of the faith than in other branches, but this appears to be an agreed upon central theme of Christianity. Thanks to the work of Jesus of Nazareth, God's Messiah, through His death and resurrection in victory over the powers of sin and death, our relationship with God can be restored.

Our relationship with Christ is much like our relationship with other people. Lots of benefits come our way. When I interact with people I learn from them. I can receive encouragement and blessing. Of course I can also receive discouraging information as well. When my family, friends, or neighbors tell me things that I've done that disappoint or hurt them I have an opportunity. I can decide to look at myself and see if there are things that need to grow and change within me, or I can choose to stay the same. After all, I might decide the other person is a jerk not worthy of my energy and time.

Proverbs 27:17 reads, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." The point here is that as we interact with one another we change each other. The way in which two people interact will have an impact on them both. Often these changes are subtle while sometimes they are big. In every case, they have an impact. The idea of sharpening attempts to convey the idea that the two people grow and develop in wisdom and knowledge in their relationship.

When we speak of being in relationship with Christ I wonder if we in any way "sharpen" Him. I recognize that as I interact with Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit through my scripture reading and prayer, I am learning and growing. But does Jesus change in any

way? That he might not be unsatisfying. The Church has maintained throughout its history that God is immutable, unchanging. God has been good, is good, and will always be good. God is loving, gracious, just, righteous, merciful and faithful. These aspects of God's nature will never change. However, if the actions and plans God intended to carry out could not be changed, there would be no real need to pray. If our prayers do not change God in any way, what good would there be in asking God to send rain on our dry land?

The idea that God is absolutely immutable and unchanging in any way lies behind the belief that God is something like a watchmaker. The theory, called deism, is that God created the world and all of the laws that govern its functions. God then wound the spring, or put in the battery that makes the clock operate and started it in motion. God is now sitting back and observing the way the world is working. This idea is also unsatisfying.

We read in Scripture that God did change at various points in history. For example, when the people of Ninevah repent before the Lord, God decides not to visit the judgment and destruction on them that Jonah had proclaimed. Indeed, Jonah complained to God that the reason he didn't want to go preach the warning of impending doom was because it is in God's unchanging nature to be merciful. In other words, God might change his mind and forgive them. Jonah looked on these enemies of Israel as only being worthy of destruction and did not want to give either the Ninevites or God the opportunity to change.

So does our relationship with Jesus cause him to change even now? (to be continued...)



Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

- OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH**
785-475-3103
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 5:30 p.m. Saturday
- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEOVILLE**
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 8 a.m., Sunday.
- SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN**
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 10:00 Sunday
- JENNINGS-DRESDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
Pastor: Barbara Patterson
SUNDAY: Church School, 10 a.m. Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
DRESDEN
SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 9:30 a.m.
- PRAIRIE CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST**
The Rev. Nancy Proffitt
SUNDAY: Church Services, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 8:30 a.m.
- HERNDON IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
Pastor: Dennis Brown
SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 9 a.m.
- OBERLIN UNITED METHODIST**
102 North Cass — 785-475-3067
The Rev. Nancy Proffitt
SUNDAY: Church School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. (Nursery provided.) WEDNESDAY: Praise team practice, 8 p.m.
- OBERLIN ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
The Rev. Royce Leitner
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible study, 7 p.m.

- UNITED CHURCH OF OBERLIN**
Pastor: Judi Stricker
109 North Griffith-American Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian USA
SUNDAY: Adult Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee: 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m. Choir practice every Sun. at 9:45 a.m. Holy Communion, 1st & 3rd Sundays. United Church Women, 2nd Wed at 2 p.m. Parish Council, 2nd Sun. following Worship
- OBERLIN COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP (Southern Baptist)**
Pastor: Gene Gee
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m., WEDNESDAY: Service, 7 p.m.,
- CLAYTON UNITED METHODIST**
Pastor: Ed Woods
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.
- OBERLIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**
South Beaver Street - Oberlin
Bill Duncan — Phone 785-475-3259
SUNDAY: Fellowship and coffee time; 10:00 a.m. Praise and Worship time, with Weekly Lords Supper, Multi-media Bible sermons & open bible studies combined. Private Bible studies on request.
- ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC, HERNDON**
Fr. Nick Parker
Phone 785-322-5560
MASS: SUNDAY and THURSDAY 8:30 a.m.
- HERNDON COVENANT CHURCH**
Pastor: Keith Reuther
Phone 785-322-5316
SUNDAY: 9:45 a.m. Morning worship, 11 a.m. Youth group, 4 p.m.
- NORCATUR UNITED METHODIST**
Pastor: Ed Woods
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Church School, 10:30 a.m.

- LYLE UNITED METHODIST**
Guest Speakers every Sunday
SUNDAY: Morning Worship 9 a.m.
- EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF OBERLIN**
Pastors: Chris and Sharon Nelson
810 West Cedar, Oberlin
Office Phone 785-475-2769
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship Time, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m. WEDNESDAY: Bible Study, 7 p.m.
- LUND COVENANT CHURCH**
Pastor Roy Matthewson
10 miles south, 4 miles west of Oberlin.
Sunday: Sunday School 10am Worship 11 am "The Difference is worth the Distance" facebook.com/LundCovenantChurch
- ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**
510 North Wilson
Interim Pastor: Brad Rick
SUNDAY: Sunday School and Bible class, 9:45 a.m.; Divine Worship Service, 8:30 a.m.; Holy Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays..

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
404 North York Avenue
Oberlin, Kansas
The Rev. Charlotte Strecker-Baseler
Church Office Phone: 785-475-2053
SUNDAY: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; Fellowship and Educational Hour, 11:15 a.m. Holy Communion first and third Sundays.
THURSDAY: Women's Bible Study second Thursday at 9:30 a.m.

Planning a Wedding?

The Oberlin Herald is happy to run pictures and stories of weddings.

However, we need the information within five weeks of the marriage.

Write-ups received after this date require a \$10 charge for each month past the deadline date.

Stop by our office for a wedding form.

Paul's FUNERAL HOMES
A Trusted Name Since 1925.
Phone:
785-475-3127 — Oberlin
785-386-4311 — Selden
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Rick and Dori Pauls