

**ARMA/GRACE/MULBERRY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
JULY 2013 NEWSLETTER**

**9:30 am Worship Service -- Grace
11:00 am Worship Service – Arma
Church School – following Children’s Moment -- Arma
COME WORSHIP WITH US!!!**

Pastor Glen Duderstadt’s Contact Information:	620-347-8336 (office)
P. O. Box 489	620-249-4313 (cell)
Arma, KS 66712	gduderstadt@kc.rr.com

JULY DEVOTIONS

I want to take a one month break from our Faith Question Series to once again say “Thank You” for giving me the opportunity to be your pastor. Two years ago this month I used this column to express my thanks to you for extending this opportunity to serve as your pastor, and mentioned how I was looking forward to getting to know each of you. During the past two years Hilary and I have received countless blessings from the relationships we have developed with many of you. As we continue to be a part of the community of faith, we look forward to not only strengthening our relationships with you, but gaining more new friendships as we grow our relationship with God.

As this third year of work with you begins, there are some major changes that are taking place. The first is that with my buyout agreement with FedEx now complete, I am able to spend additional time with pastoral activities that should benefit both churches. This includes attending more of the weekly Pittsburg Area Methodist Ministers Breakfasts on Wednesday mornings and the Pittsburg Ministerial Alliance meetings that take place on a monthly basis. My hope is that this will allow our churches to participate in additional programs and events with other churches that will help us grow our involvement within our community. I also hope to spend more time with the youth in our communities as well as additional time with those people who are unable to attend worship on a regular basis. Both of these groups are very important parts of both our past and future as a community of faith, and are vital in our efforts to continue to grow as both individuals and as a group.

Another significant change will be completed in January, as we move from the East Kansas Conference to the Great Plains Conference that includes all United Methodist Churches in Kansas and Nebraska. A transition team has been working for the past 18 months to establish the new guidelines that will be used by churches in this new conference and will be voted on in a Uniting Conference Session that will be held at the Bicentennial Center in Salina on August 24-24. I will be attending that meeting along with June Harris (Arma Lay Leader) and hopefully a representative from Grace UMC (see me ASAP if you are interested). One of the issues that will be voted on concerns Pastoral Health Care Benefits. The proposal before the conference would require pastors who are full time or ¾ time to be on the United Methodist Health Care Plan. Although the cost for the new plan is not available as yet, the cost for churches in 2013 was just over \$15,000 per charge. This would result in a significant increase in each church’s budget. This change in policy, if approved, would impact a large number of small congregations like ours. I would request that each of you give some prayerful consideration on this matter. We will spend some time in July to openly discuss what options are available to us.

Again, thanks for all the love and support you have given us. We look forward to continuing our work with you in the years ahead.

Have a great month!
PASTOR GLEN

GRACE NEWS

We would like to wish the following people a Happy Birthday!! Hope your day is Great!

July 2	David Bough
July 10	Emmaline Rodich
July 26	Phylis Eagleton
July 26	Val Rae March
July 30	Paula Reinhardt

We would like to wish Newt and Linda Howell a wonderful anniversary!

Thank you to all of the Vacation Bible School workers!!!

Thoughts and Prayers:

Please keep Eva Gartner in your prayers.

Please keep Fred and his granddaughter in your prayers.

Please keep the Rogers family in your prayers.

Please keep the Englehardts in your prayers.

A Prayer

Give me the serenity

To accept what cannot be changed.

Give me the courage

To change what can be changed.

Give me the wisdom to know

One from the other

----Reinhold Niebuhr

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ARMA NEWS

June 30 **UMW Sunday**
July 8 – 12 **Vacation Bible School**
July 10 **Administrative Board**

JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 1	Jenny Dugan	July 15	Charlene Belobrajdic
July 2	Sandy Christman	July 15	Misty Mason
July 3	Thaxton Newberry	July 16	Teresa Yarnell
July 5	Richard Farley	July 16	Morgan Stokes
July 6	Craig Garrett	July 17	Wanda Walker
July 7	Dana Oenme	July 23	Tom Ales, Jr.
July 8	Murray Lockwood	July 28	Michaela Bedene
July 9	Marilyn Perry	July 28	Anel Minneman
July 14	Angie Crowe	July 29	Sharon Cowan
July 14	Dale Lockwood	July 30	Paula Reinhart

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

July 3 **Murray & Norma Lockwood**
July 3 **Scott & Christine Roberts**
July 6 **Laurence & Judy Smerchek**
July 8 **Troy & Laurie Graham**
July 14 **Darrel & Wilma Lollar**
July 26 **Craig & Clare Garrett**
July 28 **Alan & Linda Roberts**

JULY GREETERS

July 7 **Rae Ann McNamara**
July 14 **Ray & Linda Vail**
July 21 **Youth**
July 28 **Murray & Norma Lockwood**

JULY READERS

Ray Vail
Norma Lockwood
Youth
Dolores Bierbrodt

U.M.W. NEWS

UMW had lunch at Via Christi Living Center with Natalie Huber and Merry Lance on Friday, June 21st. We held our meeting there after lunch. Our next meeting is September 20th. Naomi Cameron has the lesson. Please don't forget to bring articles for Wesley House during July and August.

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Arma United Methodist Church

July 8 – 12, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, for children ages 3- 12

Registration is Monday, July 8, starting at 5:30 p.m. The Sunday School Program will take place during services on Sunday, July 14, and all families are invited to attend that program.

Volunteers are still needed. For more information, contact Dori Pipkin.



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

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