I have found that any time I work for God, I receive just as many blessings as I give. Case in point is this lovely note written to our Prayer Shawl Ministry.

“What a lovely crafted afghan! It is so cuddly soft and comforting. I love the little cross on the corner. It will continually remind me how God walks with us each day — each hour.

Thank you so much for your lovely handiwork and the love that shows through the stitches.”

Bless the hands that crafted this prayer shawl.

As God cares, we care,
Katy Holbert, Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Concerns: Frances Johnston, Ruth Saulbeamer (Tom’s mother), Don Steen, Eileen Bennett, Melissa Stover’s father David, Irene Fischer, Betty Hopkins, Marjorie Snyder (Lorri Saulbeamer’s mother), Lorri Saulbeamer and Nik Geotz.

Our journey along life’s winding road to Joy has been a slow one this time. Illness and weather have resulted in detours but the journey beckons us to completion. This journey can be joined at any time along the way. We meet each Tuesday morning at 10:00 in room 206. Please join us if you feel a need to come with us as we “Journey from Mourning to Joy.”

As God cares, we care
Pastor Dennis and Katy Holbert
CPR/AED Training
We need volunteers for CPR/AED training. We are putting a class together for Wesley UMC members. The cost of the class will be covered by Wesley UMC. Please contact the church office, 826-4502, if interested.
Thank you, Board of Trustees

THANK YOU!
Thank you seems so small the love and support that filled our home from all of your was overwhelming. You pulled us in tight and hung on through the ride. Thank you for the lilies they will go in Dave's memorial flower bed.
Cheryl Hofstetter & Kids

We would like to thank everyone who supported our preschool by making a donation or joining us for some pancakes at our April 21st fundraiser. Thanks to that support we were able to add $305.40 to our preschool classroom and equipment funds to continue to improve our program.

Thanks,
Ms. Denise & Ms. Kris

Wesley’s Spring Rummage Sale was very successful! After expenses $3500 was made to go to Apportionments. Thank you to all who worked and donated items to make the Rummage sale so great!

Vacation Bible School
June 25-29
9am-11:30am
Sign Up Is Easy! Go to wesleyofsedalia.com

In the News…
Our very own Pastor Dennis was featured in the April 20th edition of the Sedalia Democrat under the heading of “Pastor’s Pulpit”. A copy of the article is on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary.

Faithfulness Affirmed

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Things are hap’n at Open Door Ministries this year and we, at Wesley, are right in the middle of things. For the past 20+ years Wesley UMC has been an active part of the Pettis County Ministry, as board members, food pantry volunteers, and donations of food, paper goods (Paper the Community) and clothing/furniture donations to the Open Door Thrift Store.

Two months ago our outreach mission at Open Door took a giant step forward as the Open Door Kitchen opened at the corner of Pettis and Moniteau. We now feed 35 – 45 free noon meals to those who need food 5 days a week. The kitchen also served as a warming center for the homeless during the extremely cold winter earlier this year. This expanded activity required the hiring of additional staff to coordinate the increased service. Our new Executive Director, Amanda Davis, brings many excellent years of community service to our ministry. She also brought new ideas on how to better serve those needing assistance. During the next couple of months we will be attempting to transition to a “shopper” mode of food distribution. This mode of distribution is being adopted by many of the larger region food pantries and is designed to reduce food waste while better serving those in need. What does all this mean to you? Just this – more activity means more opportunities to serve. If you have any spare time on your hands, prayerfully consider serving an hour, a day, or a week serving those in need. Please call the church office if you are interested in helping serve or tag me at church.

God Bless,
Don Plowman

From the Preschool Board
Thank you so much for your support of the preschool! You welcomed our kids and their families at the 10:45 service on the 15th. We really appreciate your generous contributions to our scholarship fund, $1,458.72 was collected and will allow scholarships for three students. Last Saturday, you also showed your support by coming out to our pancake breakfast. We made over $300, which will go into our general fund. School is quickly coming to a close and our 4 year class will graduate on Wednesday, May 16th. Before then, we will be finishing up our class work, visiting Ms. Amy at the library one last time and enjoy having Mr. Kim pop in again for some reading!

Natalie Smith, President
College Student Care Packages
Finals will be starting soon and we will be collecting this Sunday, April 29th for care packages for our college students. There is a basket in the Library to leave your gift. Thanks

8th ANNUAL PAPER THE COMMUNITY SATURDAY, MAY 19TH
Items to be collected:
BATHROOM TISSUE
PAPER TOWELS
DISPOSABLE DIAPERS
FEMININE PRODUCTS

Please place your donations in the basket in the main entry. All items will be distributed by Open Door Ministries.

Workers are needed for the day of the collection. Check the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary for times and locations!

To Karen Kay Taylor on being named the Marian Tempel Bothwell Auxiliary Volunteer of the Year!

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK
This past week has felt like Spring. The calendar told us Spring arrived over a month ago, but I disagree. Now, flowers are blooming, the grass needs to be mowed, and soon the leaves will return to the trees. New life is starting to pop up all around us. The season of Easter is an opportunity to celebrate and notice new life.

Of course, Easter is the season of resurrection. Jesus defeats death and rises from the dead on Easter Sunday morning. Sorrow, sadness, illness, pain, and death no longer have the last word. Hope steps in and defines us as followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus’ closest friends and followers were devastated by his death, and it took a bit for them to come to terms with what Jesus’ resurrection means not only them, but for all of God’s creation.

The Apostle Paul points out in Romans 19 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.” What that means is that God is working to renew all things through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christ’s reign is defined by hope for all of creation. If the resurrection brings new life, then Spring gives us a foretaste of God’s kingdom.

I want to extend an invitation to you this week. Take a look around you and be intentional about noticing God at work. You may notice the beauty of a redwood tree blooming or the singing to of a cardinal in the air. Also look for the beauty that is present in other people. Take notice of simple kindnesses that are shared. Savor smiles and laughter that are present in the world around you.

I hope we can get swept up in the work of the Holy Spirit that is at work all around us. We have the privilege of following Jesus Christ. His love, mercy, and grace, is at work in us and around us. Notice the beauty that is emerging all around us. God is at work.

In Christ,
Dennis

Festival of Sharing 2018
Festival of Sharing has posed a challenge to the districts with collections at Annual Conference (June 8th-10th) this year. Each district has been assigned an item that belongs in a Missouri Personal Hygiene Pack. Our district is Heartland and we have been asked to collect regular sized washcloths. There is a basket for them in the Library. Thank you.