



## Summertime

What a great warm weather project...  
**First Presbyterian Church, Syracuse,** recently received a landscaping "facelift."



For the past three years God has blessed the **First Presbyterian Church, McPherson,** with a beautiful community garden ministry. This summer the garden is 45' x 55' and has 15 different



kinds of veggies including early and late season varieties. Member Delbert Bohn has provided the labor for tilling, planting and weeding. The church deacons assisted in harvesting and delivery. The vegetables are delivered to area neighbors, nursing homes, and church members. Those deliveries provide not only a "community connection" time but also a source for teaching the youth about gardening.



← One of the many summer activities at **Brotherhood Day Camp** is a cooking class! Other activities planned for the summer include a Talent Show & Ice Cream Social, swimming at the YMCA, skating, cooking homemade pizzas, Fairmount Water Park fun and more. As the summer progresses, please continue to hold the Day Camp children, director, counselors and staff members in your prayers.

# On The Wind

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[www.pbysk.org](http://www.pbysk.org)

**Presbytery Meeting**  
Tuesday, August 14, 2012  
First Presbyterian Church, Arkansas City, KS

It is the tradition with the Presbyterian churches of Lakin, First Leoti, Parks Leoti and Tribune for members to share "**Fifth Sunday**" activities together. On the fifth Sunday in April, this gathering heard a presentation from Larry and Berdena Pridey about their mission trip to Africa. The Prideys shared stories, and photographs of their trip as they told how their lives were changed by this experience. The Prideys plan to return next winter to the same area in Africa where mission work is sponsored by the Free Methodist Church. Those gathered to hear the presentation enjoyed a sandwich supper served by the ladies of Parks Presbyterian Church.

**"I've got the joy, joy, joy,  
joy down in my heart!"**  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp at  
Westminster Woods



As part of their fun activities during the June VBS - "Operation Overboard," a group of 13 children and seven adults from the church took a trip to Independence, KS. The kids had a wonderful VBS and then on

## Cambridge Presbyterian Church VBS



the final day...a big treat!...the group rode the bus, ate lunch, toured First Presbyterian Church, Independence & visited the Independence Zoo!

**Congratulations! Church Anniversaries Celebrated in July**  
Cambridge Presbyterian Church – 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
First Presbyterian Newton – 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
First Presbyterian Wellington – 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## 2012 Mid-Central Region APCE Event... OASIS

October 21-23, 2012 The Elms Resort & Spa and Barbee Memorial Presbyterian Church, Excelsior Springs, MO

[www.churchresourcecenter.org/oasis/](http://www.churchresourcecenter.org/oasis/)

During the **Omaha Presbyterian School for Pastors** held June 20-27<sup>th</sup> on the campus of Hastings College, Pastor Jay Ayers served as a member of the faculty. Pastor Jay spoke on the topic: "Saving Judas – a Biblical-narrative Theology of Salvation." His lectures explored the nature of salvation through the window of six biblical narratives: Saving Jonah, Saving Job, Saving Israel, Saving Peter, Saving the World, and Saving Judas. Of the 87 registered attendees, those pastors from PSK attending the school were: Jim Anderson, Kay Hull, Bill O'Connell, Denise Pass, Dennis Scheibmeir, & Deb Schmidt.

## *A Change in Perspective*

The apostle Paul once told a story about how his mind had changed about Jesus. "I used to think of Jesus from a human point of view," he said (II Corinthians 5:16): there had been a time when he had considered Jesus to be just another person who was sincere and devout and wrong. "But I don't think of him that way any longer," he went on to say: because he had come to know that Jesus is indeed the Messiah who came for the salvation of the world.

Paul had exchanged looking at Jesus from his human perspective for looking at Jesus from God's perspective: he had come to recognize that God had sent his Son into the world to redeem and transform us all. If we were to look at Jesus only on a human basis, we might simply see him as a misguided backwoods preacher who got himself killed – and therefore we would miss what God was actually doing.

There are a lot of lessons you could build from that, I suppose, but the one that Paul chose to develop in this particular instance was to carry this perspective over to everyone else. "I don't look at anyone at all from the human point of view any more," he said.

Isn't that intriguing? How would we not look at one another from a human point of view? We're humans, after all: when we look, when we think, when we talk, isn't it always from a human point of view?

But Paul's insight here is quite shrewd. He wanted us to see that we will always end up assessing each other from a human point of view, *unless* we deliberately choose to look at people from God's point of view. And if we learn to do that, if we learn to look at them as God looks at them, then we would see every individual as a person for whom Christ died.

Think about some of the people who bug you the most: but instead of thinking about them with the anger or irritation that you usually feel, think about them with the compassion of Jesus. It's not like he doesn't know the things that are wrong in their lives: but he sees more than just that, and loves them and wants the best for them.

It's not easy or automatic to change your perspective on this, especially when someone is being particularly bothersome – and some people seem so wondrously adept at being bothersome, don't they? It will take an ongoing deliberate choice, to remind yourself to think of that someone from God's perspective, with the compassion of Jesus. But what if you were to push yourself to do that, on the basis of Paul's example in scripture: what kind of difference might that make?

Jay Ayers