Thanks be to God and to everyone who helped make the 120th Anniversary Celebration of Admire United Methodist Church a success. Sunday, May 15, 2011, was a special day, indeed! It was a joy to see all of our guests—the guestbook indicates that at least 115 came for the tri-parish worship service.

Honored guests were Bishop Scott J. Jones, Resident Bishop of the Kansas Area, and his wife, Mary Lou; and the Rev. Howard Johnson, Flint Hills District Superintendent. Rev. Johnson led a special anniversary prayer and response, and Bishop Jones administered Holy Communion and gave a sermon titled “The Church Confident.”

Former ministers attending included Pastor Joyce Iwig and her husband, Rev. Paul Iwig of Lyndon, Kan., and Rev. Roberta Fall of St. John, Kan. Longtime member and organist Virginia Paine accompanied the service. Special music was provided by former member, Joanne Spade Supernois, of Newton.

Following the service, many former Admire Church members visited with old friends and new acquaintances at a catered dinner at the Admire Community Center. A special thanks goes to tri-parish youth and Youth Director Phillip Brandt, who assisted and cleaned up at the dinner, and to the Admire UMC Men for serving the meal. Another special thank-you to Pastor Kim Benson for all her planning and for linking the scripture in Joshua and the 12 stones to the 12 decades of this church; and to Audra Sundberg for drawing our youngest guests into this scripture through the Children’s Moment. Thanks also goes to Dave Winkler, lay leader; Allen Curless, administrative council chair; Mary Winkler and Dee Reid, coordinators; and to all who worked to complete the nursery renovation in time and helped make the 120th anniversary celebration possible.

A note from Joanne Spade Supernois:
“I want to thank Pastor Kim and the committee members for giving me the privilege of playing my piano solo for the Admire UMC 120th Anniversary Celebration. I have many wonderful memories of playing for the congregation as I was growing up. I am so pleased I was able to share my talent for the celebration. My mother and I enjoyed the day very much.”

Weekly Worship & Sunday School Schedule

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Miller UMC</th>
<th>Admire UMC</th>
<th>Allen UMC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>11:15 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday School</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>During service for children; after service for adults</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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HONORING OUR GRADUATES

Congratulations to all the area graduates on their accomplishments this school year. On May 8th, graduates were recognized during worship and honored with a reception following church. Those attending were Grant McClellan, NLC Jr. High; Nikole Cain, Mission Valley Middle School; Nathan Stinson and Matt Wiggins, NHHS; Kiley Stinson, Kansas State University; and Julie Weakley, Bethel College School of Nursing. Others recognized were Bridjett Gaddis, NLC Jr. High; and Taylor Boucher, Olivia Johnson and Cody Wood.

Admire Christian Women News

The next meeting of the Admire Christian Women is planned for Wednesday, June 8th, at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our projects focus will be on VBS and plans for the July 3rd Independence Celebration Dinner.

Please come and review the accomplishments of the year and help set goals for next year. All women from the area are invited to attend. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, September 14th.

Sympathy Note

Our sympathy and prayers go to the family of Leonard “Bud” Dalke who passed away on May 14th. His wife, Ethel, was a long-time teacher’s aid at Admire Grade School. Ethel resides at Holiday Resort Care Center. Cards of sympathy may be sent to her in care of the home at 2700 West 30th St., Emporia, KS 66801.

CELEBRATING MOTHERS DAY

Along with the graduates, mothers were also recognized on May 8th during the children’s moment. A special prayer titled “A Mother’s Day Prayer” by Mary Fairchild was read by Rebekka Cain and a small gift was given to all the mothers present.

Thank you to Sandra Heins, Mary Winkler, Jami Mott and Audra Sundberg for these nice celebrations on behalf of our church.

It’s a Girl!

Alex and Leah Miller, Alma, KS, are the proud and thankful parents of Joanna Joy born May 14, 2011. Grandparents are Carl & Connie Miller and John & Joy Ferdinand. Great-Grandmothers are Ila Ferdinand, Nathalee Story, Marylin Miller and Marjorie Berry.

BREAKFAST BUNCH

On the second Saturday morning of each month, the Admire UMC Men prepare breakfast at the church. This group is raising funds to make improvements on the church kitchen. Come join us, and get a good, hearty start to your weekend! The next breakfast will be June 11.

Summer Plans beginning for VBS

Vacation Bible School planning has begun for Admire-Allen UMC Vacation Bible School. Please contact Audra Sundberg at 528-3611 or Shirley Williams at 528-3433 if you would like to be a part of this year’s staff.

Don’t Forget Pantry Sunday!

The first Sunday of each month is Pantry Sunday at Admire UMC. Please bring an item or items for the Admire Food Pantry to church on that day. Your generosity will aid families in need in our community.
Admire UMC 120th Anniversary Celebration
**Allen UMC News**

**Recognizing Our Graduates**

Eighth grade, high school, and college graduates were recognized in our church on May 8th. Allen-area eighth graders were: Shayli Gentry, Michael Karr, Rebecca Lowder, Chrissy Parks and Josie Wooderson. Senior high school graduates were: Jessica Goodwin, Rececca Helberg, Elizabeth and Jennifer Karr, Elaine Lowder, Jon Lowder and Vanessa Vantuyl.

College grads were Adrian Wallace (KSU) and Mathew Vantuyl (ESU). Rick Bush achieved his teaching certificate. God bless all of you in future endeavors.

**Special Stained-Glass Window Dedication**

The Allen United Methodist Church is planning a special dedication on Saturday, June 4th, at 2:00 p.m. for the stained glass windows at Allen UMC, which were placed in memory of Grace Lowder.

Grace was a long-time member of the church in Allen, and will be remembered as playing the piano many years, as well as faithfully serving on various offices and committees.

**North Lyon County Library News**

Ronda Parks will direct this summer’s library program at North Lyon County Library. This year’s theme is “One World, Many Stories.”

Registration/reading minutes will begin as soon as school is out. Programs will be held each Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at the library.

This summer’s programs will include Lynsday Flory who will portray a mission teacher in 1860; Leroy Hershberger, well-known storyteller, who plans to arrive by bicycle; Don Thomas, cowboy poet; Annie Wilson, singer/songwriter; Nancy Robinson & Crew, who will act out fairy tales; Shirley Williams, who plans to draw and tell stories, and a “fun & games” day, led by Nikki Plankinton.

The last day to turn in minutes spent reading is Thursday, July 14th. For more information about programs see the website: www.northlyonco.net or call the library 620-528-3451. All ages are welcome to attend.

**Sympathy Notes**

Our sympathies go to the family of Patricia Talbert, a former Admire resident who passed away May 11.

Our prayers are for Terry Lyon and family whose brother, Mark, passed May 14.

We also send our prayers and sympathy to Ethel Dalke, whose husband, “Bud,” passed away May 14.
Miller UMC News

Miller United Methodist Women News

The Miller UMW will meet on Wednesday, June 1st, at 2:00 p.m. Suzanne Johnson will be the lesson leader and Shirley Parks will be hostess.

Hostess for the July 13th meeting will be Helen Leeburg; lesson leader will be LeEtta Holmberg.

The Miller UMW received the following certificates for 2010 at the recent Spring District Meeting: Mission Today Unit, Five Star Unit, and Mission Study. Reading Awards were received by Dorothy Chisham, Betty Blex, Donna Robinson, Cathy Lieber, Charlotte Taylor and Alberta Beust.

Update on the Lord’s Herd

Cattle to be pastured for the Lord’s Herd project will be delivered soon to the people participating. If you would like to pasture one or more steers for the project, please contact Gary Robinson at 785-528-3788.

Congratulations, Miller Graduates!

Graduates were honored at Miller UMC’s May 22nd worship service. Those graduating this year include:
Neal Huffman & Sarah Robinson—NLC Eighth Grade
Jenna Ferguson—Northern Heights High School
Rachel Lewman—Rock Creek High School
College Degrees—Ashley Holmberg, Lacie Holmberg and Adrienne Price

In Sympathy

We extend our sympathies to the family of Anna Dickson Robinson Holmberg, who passed away April 21, 2011. Services to celebrate her 104 years of life were held at the Miller Church on April 26.

A long-time member of the Miller Church before she moved to Emporia, Anna was the mother of Gary Robinson, Joanne Pherigo and Jeannette McCollum.

The family would like to thank everyone for the expressions of sympathy, the cards, memorial donations, and the wonderful meal served by the UMW. Also, to Suzanne Johnson for the lovely music and Pastor Kim for her support and the wonderful service for Anna.

FRIENDSHIP CLASS HOSTING INFO

The Miller Friendship Class hosts for June will be Mark and Nancy Robinson and Alberta Beust. Hosts for July will be Lawrence and Shirley Parks and Betty Blex.
**Tri –Parish Events for June/July 2011**

**June 2011**
1. Miller UMW, Miller Fellowship Hall, 2 p.m.
2. Allen Ad Council, Allen UMC, 7 p.m.
3. Lowder Stained-Glass Window Dedication, Allen UMC, 2 p.m.
4. Communion Sunday
   - No Fellowship Luncheon at Admire UMC
5. Communion Sunday
6. Allen Ad Council, Allen UMC, 7 p.m.
7. 8-11 KS East Conference, Church of Resurrection, KC
8. Admire Men's Breakfast, Admire UMC, 7-9:30 a.m.
9. 12 Pentecost Sunday
10.11 Father's Day
11. Miller Trustees, Miller Fellowship Hall, 7 p.m.
12. 23 Admire Ad Council, Admire UMC, 7 p.m.
13. 27 Sloppy Joe Dinner at the Allen Senior Center for the Reading Relief, 5:00—7:30 p.m.

**July 2011**
1. Communion Sunday
2. No Fellowship Luncheon at Admire UMC
3. Admire Fourth of July Celebration, Jones Park
4. Lowder/Jones Wedding, Lowder Ranch
5. Aug/Sept 2011 newsletter deadline
6. Miller UMW, Miller Fellowship Hall, 2 p.m.
7. 16 Allen UMC Ice Cream Social, Allen UMC, 7-8:30 p.m.
8. 18-30 Pastor Kim attends summer Course of Study, St. Paul School of Theology, KC
9. 31 Communion/Fifth Sunday—All three churches worship at Miller UMC, 10 a.m.

**The Need for Speed**

A police officer was sitting beside the road, when he saw a car going by, at a slow rate of speed. All of the other cars were passing and blowing their horns. The police officer decided to pull the car over and give out a warning. When he got up to the car, he followed it for a short ways and clocked it doing 40 mph. Since the speed limit was 70, he felt that it needed to speed up, so he pulled the car over to talk to the driver. After the car pulled off the side, he walked up to the car and noticed that five nuns were inside. The youngest appeared to be driving, and she looked to be in her 70s.

As the officer came up to the car, he asked if there was anything wrong. NUN: No officer, why? OFFICER: I noticed you were going slow, and I thought that something might be wrong. NUN: Young man, I know that I don’t have much experience driving, in the job I do, but I was doing the speed limit, which was 40 mph. OFFICER: Ma’am, that was the route number, not the speed limit. NUN: Oh, I am very sorry! I thought that those signs were the speed limit signs. At this point, the officer looked in the car and noticed the other four nuns were shaking like leaves. The officer asked if the other nuns were okay. The driver said that they would be... that she had just come off of Route 119 a couple of miles back!
Reading, Kansas: Room for the Blessing

It happened, one day last week. I arrived ahead of all the noisy, big machines that had found their way into Reading, Kan., just 15 or so miles from Admire, to help clean up following the May 21 tornado.

And in the early morning hours, you could see and hear it: the voice of God, crying out that all was not lost. It came in the form of a robin, nesting in a tree outside Reading United Methodist Church. And a pair of cardinals, that still found their home in a red-tinted bush next to the church's front stairway.

Across the street, against the old jail building, a row of red geraniums bloomed, a bright spot between the church and Reading Elementary School.

Yes, they were there… signs of hope. Signs of life. Promises that God had not forgotten, after all. He was still there, still watching, still listening, still loving… if only we would take the time to notice.

I asked one young girl who emerged from her family's storm shelter, only to find their home was blown away: did it seem like God was on vacation that night? “Yes,” she said, quietly. It takes bigger people to admit their faith has been tested by such calamities as the Reading Tornado of 2011.

And maybe our faith—their faith—has remained strong. But surely we also have been wondering, asking those long-ing questions of “why?” Why does a God who loves us allow something as horrific as an F3, or as in Joplin, Mo., an F5 tornado to barge into our lives and cut through the heart of our hometowns?

I’m sure some great theologians would have something profound to say in response. But what I can know for certain is that, out of the rubble, Love has emerged. God has shown up—in the form of an outpouring of generosity. In the way of some very good things that, otherwise, might not have happened.

If you’ve never had your cup completely emptied, standing before God, waiting for something—ANYTHING—good to come your way, because it feels as though you have nothing left, then you cannot begin to fathom the impact of the blessings that have been received by so many people who have lost so much. Can you imagine what it would take to be thrilled by receiving a free, red trashcan to put your belongings in?

As my friend would say, “There’s hope in the struggle.” In other words, you don’t need much hope, unless you’re struggling. But I also say, when your cup is completely emptied, “There’s room for the blessing.”

I certainly was blessed, just to be there. To hear the stories… to see all that Reading residents could still be thankful for.

There are many things I will never forget from last week. One was a moment spent with a young woman who remembered aloud how the Holy Spirit had touched her life, and reminding her He would once again.

May you continue to find your empty cups filled, people of Reading, Kansas. And may the rest of us continue to fill your cups with the love we have received from our amazing, grace-filled God.

Be God’s Glory!

Pastor Kim

One Flock

“There will be one flock and one shepherd.” John 10:16

God has only one flock. Somehow we missed that. Religious division is not his idea… God has one flock. The flock has one shepherd. And though we may think there are many, we are wrong. There is only one. Never in the Bible are we told to create unity… Paul exhorts us to preserve “the unity which the Spirit gives.” (Eph. 4:3 NEB) Our task is not to invent unity, but to acknowledge it.

—From Max Lucado Daily
If you know people who would like to receive the Tri-Parish Newsletter, please send their names and full addresses to:

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Allen, KS 66833

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
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