

2013
Pawnee City
United Methodist Church

Congregation's mission statement:

Forming disciples while sharing God's Gifts.

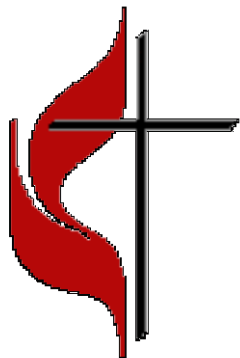
Description of the community the congregation serves:

- Pawnee City is located approximately 90 miles south of Omaha, 75 miles southeast of Lincoln, 40 miles southwest of Falls City and 30 miles north of Seneca, Kansas.
- The population of Pawnee City is approximately 860 people with the median age being 52 years.
- Pawnee County is one of the poorest counties in Nebraska.
The area economy is primarily connected to the service industry and agri-business.
14.3% of the population in Pawnee City zip code area fell below the "Poverty Level" in 2008 with the estimated per capita income in 2008 being \$ 25,326.
- Located in Pawnee City are the Pawnee County Courthouse, a preK-12 school, a regional hospital and doctor's clinic, a pharmacy, a dentist office, a senior living complex, a nursing home, two banks, a grocery store, active small businesses, a grain elevator and one manufacturing company.

Summary of adult religious practices in the Pawnee City zip code area:

- There are 5 churches in Pawnee City with at least 4 other churches within a short driving distance.
- 64.9% of the Pawnee City Zip Code population affiliates with a religious congregation.
- 28.6% of the population in the Pawnee City zip code area selected The United Methodist Church as their 'church affiliation.'

Above data taken from: US Census Bureau, MissionInstitute Executive Institute Report, City-Data.com



Open Hearts.

Open Minds.

Open Doors.

The People Of The United Methodist Church

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2013 Discipleship Plan

• Heartwarming Worship

- Continue to have children and youth participate in worship - light candles during prelude
- Utilize liturgists (scripture reader) during worship
- Encourage more open (personal) sharing during 'joys and concerns' time
- Encourage diverse energetic music and accompaniment
- Continue to use both the piano and organ during every worship service
- Utilize songs from both *The Faith We Sing* and *The UMC Hymnal*
- Encourage and schedule special music
- Purchase projector and use PowerPoint presentations during worship
- Repair and/or upgrade sound system, including connecting with fellowship hall
- Continue having special offerings for missions--such as children collecting "Noisy Offerings"
- UMW will be in charge of the service for UMW Sunday
- Collaborate with our ecumenical partners for special community or county-wide services
- Host special recognitions such as wear pink for Cancer Awareness Sunday, wear your work clothes to church on Labor day Sunday, wear red on Pentecost Sunday, etc.

• Risk-taking Justice Ministries

- Continue to open the church facilities for community gatherings
(Weight Watchers, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Bloodmobile, School, etc.)
- Continue to encourage letter-writing campaigns to our elected officials
- Support and take multi-generational one day/short mission trips
- Participate in "The Church Has Left The Building" by having a community work day to assist with minor home projects
- Host at least two free meals for the community
- Become more aware of and assist with the backpack food program—(food stored in our basement)
- Assist with the summer school lunch program—utilizing our fellowship hall as needed
- Remain informed by reading publications like *Response*, *New World Outlook*, *Prayer Calendar*

2013 Discipleship Plan

- Systematic Faith Development

- Re-establish a Prayer Group
- Maintain and strengthen current Sunday school program
- Host quarterly children and youth parties (Pizza trips, bowling, swimming...)
- Maintain worship at the local nursing home and Pawnee Village
- Hold at least two short term (4-6 week) studies/discussions
- Hold a UMC refresher class (like an adult confirmation class)
- Provide UMC camping scholarships (non-members welcome to apply)
- Send "care" packages to our college students
- Encourage group gatherings outside the church building (going to where the people are)

- Gracious Generosity

- Intentionally study and work toward the Biblical example of tithing
- Continue to host funeral meals at no charge
- Encourage "random acts of kindness" (individual participation)
- Continue to financially support the County Ministerial Association
- Continue to collect items for SENCA
- Continue to promote, sell, and buy fair traded coffee, tea, and chocolates
- Continue to act as wise stewards for the estate monies & farm income entrusted to us to distribute
- Promote availability of our fellowship hall to area non-profit groups

