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# Far West Mission Center Evangel January/February, 2008

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**The Far West Mission Center Outreach/Evangelism Commission** is pleased to present this inaugural issue of the Far West Evangel, a bi-monthly newsletter dedicated to sharing the good news of the Gospel, testimonies of the risen Christ, and good news associated with our 16 congregations in Missouri and Kansas.

Throughout the scriptures and church history the number 70 has had special significance. Two examples are the 70 Elders of the Old Testament and the 70 missionaries that Jesus sent out in the New Testament. Especially important to the life of the Community of Christ has been the Missionary Seventy who travels literally around the world to tell the story of the love of Christ and the work of God. In appreciation of their contribution to the growth and life of the church both past and present we are dedicating the goals announced in this newsletter to the Seventy. We invite every member to join us in a series of goals for the year based on the number seventy, as it applies to the following ongoing mission center ministries:

**Far West Mission Center Outreach Evangelism Commission Sets Growth Goals of 70 for 2008**  
**Camp Farwesta : Over 70 different volunteers helping Farwesta.** Old man winter has done a number on the trees at the campgrounds this year so plan now to join with 70 or more of your closest friends at Farwesta during workdays this spring to begin to clean up after such a

devastating winter. In decades past a “work day” at the campgrounds might find 50 to 60 people involved in various projects for the betterment of this invaluable asset and tool of the church. In honor and appreciation of those hundreds of forbearers who have gone before, let’s turn out in mass.

**Camping: 70 new campers participating in our summer camping program;** Plan now for your child, grandchild, or neighbor to attend Junior, Junior High, Sr. High, or Spectacular this summer. Better yet join the team in your congregation that raises money, recruits kids, and/ or serves on staff at one of the camps. (*Three cheers for the Trimble/Smithville congregation’s practice of taking up a collection 52 Sundays out of the year to send their kids to camp.*) Young Adults email John Hamman at your first opportunity regarding a Boundary Waters Trip.

**Reunion: 70 new reunion attendees** Please start now by inviting your family and friends to share in the incomparable experience of participating in the Reunion at Camp Farwesta. Far West is the largest reunion in the continental US and Canada.

**Second Season Shop: 70 people to volunteer** to help in some phase of the Second Season Ministry. Second Season needs volunteers to help with the change from winter to summer clothing on the racks in April. Additionally, two months (Continued on Page 2)



Lucretia Hawley and Shelley Hartl sprucing up the kitchen at Farwesta. Some of the most wonderful fellowship of the year occurs in the workdays each Spring as volunteers gather to prepare the campgrounds for a summer of ministry and fellowship.



**Come spend the week with your friends. Enjoy visiting with 300 of the greatest people in the world in the Community of Christ’s largest reunion in the Continental US and Canada.**



**Second Season merchandise for sale.**

## Second Season (Con't):

ago when the KC Diocese of the Catholic Church closed their St. Vincent's de Paul's store on Edmond, Jim Taylor, Second Season Board member made the needed contacts and arranged for our Second Season Shop to take over the inventory of the store as well as the display racks. Gordon Holtsclaw, Ed and Elaine Davis, Dave and Andrew Davis, Michael Marsh, and three young men from Noyes home helped Jim, Naomi, and Steve C. move 7 truck loads of clothing and articles into the Second Season's back area. What a wonderful display of the power of teamwork to help meet the needs of some of our region's most needy citizens. We appreciate the ministry tradition which has been provided for so many years by the Second Season Board, and staff and volunteers. We also appreciate the ongoing efforts of so many who continue to give so much to keep this Christ like ministry reaching the lives of our brothers and sisters. If you have gently used items or a Saturday or weekday that you could give once a year, month, or week, please call Dee Richie at 816 364 4052 and volunteer items or time.

**Second Season Bucks** Don't forget to stop in at the Mission Center and purchase your Second Season Bucks which you or your congregation can make available to needy families who call out to the church for support year round. You can also leave them with Linda who can make them available to provide wonderful assistance for families with children who need coats, clothing and other basics for family needs. What an awesome way to perform ministry to our fellowmen in the name of Christ.

## Looking Forward to Reunion

What an incredible response of volunteers for Reunion! We are humbled by how many people who have said, "yes." An overwhelming majority have said, "Thanks for asking." In the past we have almost been apologetic about thinking in terms of Reunion so early in the year but in the past 48 hours three people have told us thinking about Reunion has encouraged them to check their vacation calendars at work.

## Upcoming Events:

- **Mission Center Spring Conference** April 20th
- **Farwesta Workdays:** April 12th and May 31st
- **Young Adult Gathering with Harry Black**  
10:00 a.m. April 19th
- **Peace Unlimited Golf Tourney:** April 26th. Call Chris Riley at 816 294 3579, 1:00 P.M. Shotgun Start

**Recent Baptisms:** Charles Hawkins, Maryville  
Chelsea Fannon, Candice Fannon, Guilford  
Conner Boyt, Gaige Wilson, ALC  
Conner Masoner, Carson Masoner, Fanning

## Joyous News

### Ella Reese Estes

Parents: Jessica and Jarrett Estes

Born October 4, 2007, 7 lbs. 11 oz. and 21 ½ inches long

"Ella brings us laughter and joy everyday! Her most recent activities include laughing, drooling and sucking her thumb."

### Jarett Ryan Brooner

Parents: Kelsey Talbot & Kole Brooner

Born December 22, 2007, 5 lbs 14 oz. and 19 inches long

Grandparents are Ted & Jeanne Talbot, Kent & Deb Brooner. Jarret's proud aunt and uncles are Megan Brooner, Tyler Talbot, & Kane Brooner. Prayers of good health for Jarret are appreciated & prayers for Kelsey & Kole as parents/students are also appreciated. Kelsey & Kole are full-time students at MWSU.

### Chloe Noel Hall

Parents: Josh and Valerie (Hamann) Hall

Born January 8, 2008, 6 lbs. 13 oz. and 20 inches long

Chloe has a big sister, Ariel who is 6 and a cousin Madalynn Lanning who is 3 yrs. old.

Edwin Harris and Michelle Paxton are the proud parents of

Madison Michelle born July 28th, 2007.

John & Michelle Harris are expecting in June. Julita & Eddie are the proud grandparents and perspective grandparents!

## Marriages:

Despite the snow and ice we had two weddings in December. **Kyle Jeschke & Meredith Schlup** were married on Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at the Stone Church and are now residing in Wamego, KS. Meredith is working in Topeka at the Ramada Inn as an Event Planner. Kyle will graduate from Kansas State University in May and will return to the Highland area where Kyle will farm with his Dad.

**Eric Todd and Jennifer Davis** were married on December 22, at the Cameron Church and are now residing in Turney, MO. Eric continues to teach for the Kearny School District and Jennifer continues to teach Early Childhood in the Cameron schools. Eric recently ran a Strong Man Competition and Raised \$2,000 for Camp Quality.

If anyone is interested in having an electronic version of Maple Groves' 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Memory Book, please email Steve at [stevecalloway@farwestmc.org](mailto:stevecalloway@farwestmc.org) or Cartha at [mail\\_cartha@yahoo.com](mailto:mail_cartha@yahoo.com). We extend a continued invitation to submit Maple Grove stories to add to our memory book. Email your stories to the mentioned email addresses.

## Send in your Reunion Stories NOW

Becky Gilmore has graciously volunteered to publish a book of Reunion Stories. Please be a part of this ministry by submitting a Reunion memory to Becky. As an Outreach ministry, not only share your story with us but ask at least one person to share their story. You can make this a family commitment by gathering stories from each family member. Please email your stories to Becky at [Bgilmore5@embarqmail.com](mailto:Bgilmore5@embarqmail.com). Deadline is May 31<sup>st</sup>. The book will be available at Reunion.

## Recent Ordinations:

Judy Smith, Priest, ALC, December

Theresa Mackey, Elder, Mound City, March

Jerry Rowlett, Priest, Mound City, March