



Please join us for worship.  
Midway Kids: 10:30  
Worship: 10:30

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### Calendar

#### Sundays —

Women's Bible Study 5:00 p.m.  
Midway Students 4:30-6:00 p.m.

#### Mondays — 6:30 p.m.

Boy Scout Troop 68

#### Tuesdays—

Prayer Ministry—1:30 p.m.

#### Wednesdays —

Midway Hotel Lunch—Noon  
Choir Rehearsal — 6:29 p.m.

#### Thursdays — 9-4:00

Sewcial open sewing  
Yoga at 11:00

Men's Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

1st and 3rd—Twice Blessed  
Open Noon to 5 p.m.

#### This Month

**Tuesday, August 5— 5:30-8:30**

Family Fun Night  
Midway Golf and Game

**Tuesday, August 12 — Noon**

Second Tuesday Lunch

**Friday, August 8— 10-11:30**

Ronald McD House

**Sunday, August 10**

Midway Students Fall Kickoff

**Sunday, August 17**

Blessing of the Backpacks

*Midway Locust Grove Church*

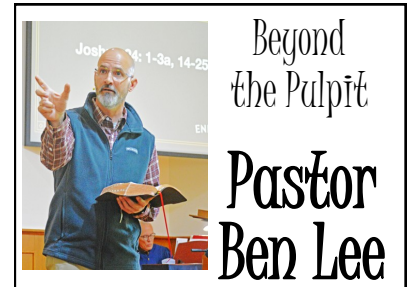


# Locust Leaves

Volume 38  
Number 8  
August 2025

## How to Read the Bible

This August, we're launching a new sermon series titled "How to Read the Bible," a four-week journey designed to deepen our engagement with Scripture and equip us with the tools to read it well.



The Bible is more than a book, it's the living Word, revealing God's heart and pointing us to Jesus. But let's be honest: it's not always easy to understand. Between ancient contexts, confusing passages, and differing interpretations, many of us wonder where to start or how to make sense of it all.

That's exactly what this series is all about.

Each week, we'll explore foundational truths and practical principles for engaging God's Word with confidence, clarity, and spiritual hunger:

#### •Week 1: "The Word Made Flesh" (John 1:1-18)

Jesus Christ is the Word of God, the fullest revelation of who God is. If we want to know God, we begin by looking to Jesus.

#### •Week 2: "Fulfilled in Christ" (Matthew 5:17-20)

Jesus didn't abolish the Old Testament, He fulfilled it. We'll learn how to read the Old through the lens of the New.

#### •Week 3: "God-Breathed" (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Scripture is inspired by God and powerful to teach, correct, and transform us into Christlikeness.

#### •Week 4: "Living and Active" (Hebrews 4:12-13)

The Bible isn't just ink on a page, it's alive through the Spirit. It reads us as we read it.

This series is not so much a Bible study method, as it is an invitation to encounter the living God through His living Word. Whether you're a seasoned student of Scripture or opening the Bible for the first time, my hope is that you'll come away more equipped, more encouraged, and more convicted than ever to spend time in God's Word daily.

May we be a people who read Scripture not just for information, but for transformation.

Peace,  
**Ben**

# Ministries & Missions



## TREASURY NOTES

*By Kelley Frink*

### GORGEOUS GIRLS

Join us for lunch!

**August 25—**

**11:00**

**Flat Branch  
in Columbia**

Email Kathy Koehler  
if interested;  
[kkoehler1976@gmail.com](mailto:kkoehler1976@gmail.com)



In the month of August be on the lookout for your 2025 year-to-date giving statement from the church. We are going to start sharing these periodically throughout the year. We will not be mailing the statements, only sending via email.

The hope is this gives you more frequent updates and gives you the opportunity to compare your records for accuracy. We will continue to mail year-end statements for tax purposes.

We will let the church know in the Monday Morning Map when statements will be going out, if you do not receive a statement and would like one, please contact Catherine and we will get your information updated! Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks, Kelley Frink ([kelley.m.frink@gmail.com](mailto:kelley.m.frink@gmail.com))

#### Singing for the Glory of God

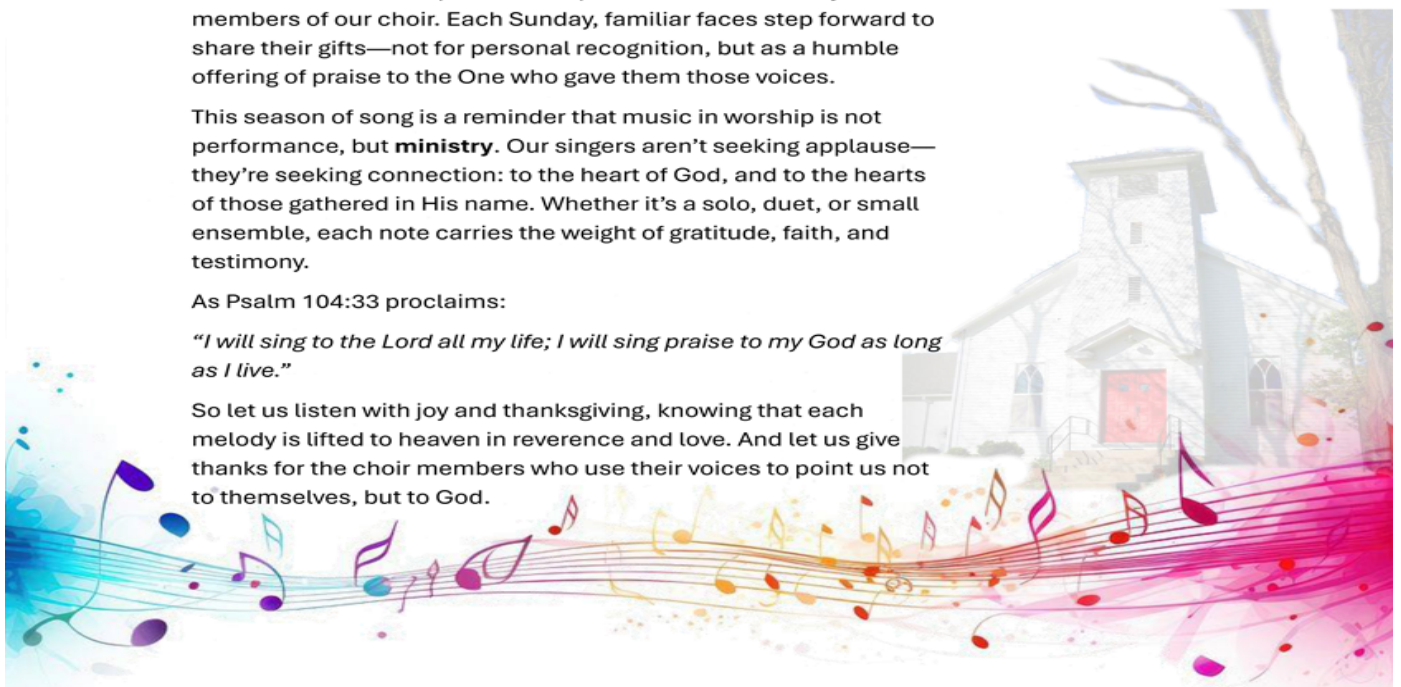
As summer continues in full bloom, so too does a beautiful tradition in our worship services: special music offered by members of our choir. Each Sunday, familiar faces step forward to share their gifts—not for personal recognition, but as a humble offering of praise to the One who gave them those voices.

This season of song is a reminder that music in worship is not performance, but **ministry**. Our singers aren't seeking applause—they're seeking connection: to the heart of God, and to the hearts of those gathered in His name. Whether it's a solo, duet, or small ensemble, each note carries the weight of gratitude, faith, and testimony.

As Psalm 104:33 proclaims:

*"I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live."*

So let us listen with joy and thanksgiving, knowing that each melody is lifted to heaven in reverence and love. And let us give thanks for the choir members who use their voices to point us not to themselves, but to God.





# Happy Birthday

## August 2025

*If someone's name does not appear here and they do have a birthday this month, please let us know by email and we will update our records.*

2 Louise Stanley	5 Margaret Butzlaff	11 Enzo Le	26 Dalli O'Neal
2 Marj Reed	5 Paige Hovis	17 Barry Stoll	26 Mike Thomas
2 Jessica Kempf	5 Patrick Persinger	19 Addison Frink	28 Joe Boillot
3 Sheldon Toepke	6 Shirley Forinash	22 Barb Harville	29 Larry Henneke
4 Beth Hager H. Prado	7 Jayden O'Neal	24 Johanna Roberts	30 Tony Martin
	10 Addie Cunningham	25 Raylin Burkart	

## Cemetery plots increase in price



The price of cemetery plots at Locust Grove increased from \$300 to \$500 on August 1, 2025. A total of 57 new plots have been sold ahead of the August 1 price increase, but if you missed that opportunity, the offer will remain open for a short time. Please contact me at your convenience. Cemetery plots in Columbia at Memorial range from \$2500 to \$5500. We have some maintenance planned for this summer on the road. While it is not possible to know the exact numbers, it is estimated that there are 745 buried in the cemetery, with 99 of those unknown as to location.

**Please contact me with any questions, Respectfully, Kevin Yaeger — 573-819-9210**

*Save The Date!*

PRAY. WALK. REFLECT. CONNECT. **Midway Prayer Walk**

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2025**

Registration 8:00 AM

**Walk 9:00 AM**

Midway Heights Elementary School  
8130 W. Hwy 40  
**FREE to register & attend!**

A Guided 5K prayer walk to pray over our schools, community & world.

Shorter walk & prayer circle options will be available!

Can't attend but would like to send prayer requests?  
Email [prayerwalk@mwlocustgrove.com](mailto:prayerwalk@mwlocustgrove.com) to submit your prayer requests!





## Getting to know you

*With the recent and continuing growth of our congregation, it seemed a good idea to revive a feature from earlier years of Locust Leaves. We will feature someone in each month's issue, alternating new and longtime members. Thanks to LeeAnn Martin for coordinating the series.*

### Lauren Steinhoff

The congregation at Locust Grove has grown significantly in the past few years, not only in size, but also in participation.

Lauren Steinhoff's description of her attachment is a good explanation of how this has happened.

"I joined MLG Church in the spring of 2024. I love the community of believers at MLG and the focus on teaching God's word. I work with the middle and high school student ministry, and those kids bring me so much joy. It is so encouraging to watch their desire to know God flourish at such a young age."

She was baptized at age 16 in the summer of 2008 at Table Rock Lake in southern Missouri at a Christian summer camp.

Lauren's professional career has been in accounting in Columbia, the town where she grew up. That career is about to change; Lauren is training her successor in accounting, and is planning for a career in the ministry, exactly at what level is not certain at this time, but her participation in our youth ministries should help her make that decision.

She attended Mill Creek Elementary, Columbia Independent School, and Rock Bridge High School. Although she grew up in a renowned college town, Lauren chose Baylor University in Waco, Texas for her



college years, and lived in Dallas for several years following college.

She moved back to Columbia in 2018 to be closer to her family. She credits her father with having a big influence on her faith journey.

As Lauren recalls it, "I remember watching every day before school, Dad reading Scripture, creating in me the need for keeping the Scripture in my life as well."

Lauren must have been pleased with her college life; she has named her yellow lab dog Baylor, who she enjoys walking around her neighborhood. She also likes attending Mizzou football games with her dad, and spending time with her two nieces and nephew, children of her sister Kristen, at the family farm.

In case you have the opportunity to treat Lauren to an outing, her favorite beverage is a Fancy Water at Sonic. As she describes it, "It is a Route 44 water (so hydrating!). Add Real Fruit Lemon, Sugar Free Raspberry Flavor, and "NERDS! Try one, you won't regret it."





# In Memoriam

## Dianne Filbert

August 28, 1942 – June 30, 2025

We offer our deepest sympathy to Warren Filbert of our Locust Grove family on the loss of his wife, Dianne Filbert, 82, who went to be in the arms of Jesus on June 30. Dianne was born on August 28, 1942, in Rushville, Illinois to Howard Wilson Yates and Hazel Irene Yates, née Lung.



A memorial service was held Saturday, July 26, at Moniteau Chapel in rural Fayette. Inurnment followed that service at Locust Grove Cemetery, followed by a luncheon served by church members.

Dianne grew up in Rushville, where She attended Hale Ridge Country school, a one-room schoolhouse, for 8 years before going to Rushville High School. In 1960, after graduating, she attended Brown's Business School.

Dianne owned and operated two Cloud Nine stores with her first husband, Ken Caspall, in Columbia starting in 1972, and another in Jefferson City's Capitol Mall which opened in 1979. Dianne was the creative spirit behind these stores for 11 years.

After selling Cloud Nine in 1984, Dianne began her next adventure: the business that she solely owned and operated for 35 years, Identity Custom Emblems - ETC. Identity started with only one local client, but it grew to do business with organizations all across the United States.

Dianne put her heart and soul into everything she did, and she was grateful for every opportunity God afforded her for success. In 2000, she met her second husband, J. Warren Filbert, who would be her faithful partner and beloved companion for the rest of her life. . She is survived by her husband; son, David Caspall; brother, Steven Yates; sister-in-law, Sheila Yates-Vincent; stepson, Ryan Filbert, and his children; stepdaughter and stepson-in-law, Renee and Brett Howard, and their children; and niece, Mary Ann Hard.

## Special Music in Worship June 13, 20 and 27



**Special Music**  
"Satisfied"  
Belinda Thompson



**Special Music**  
"Dona Nobis Pacem"  
Grant Us Peace  
Glenn & Barb Gregory

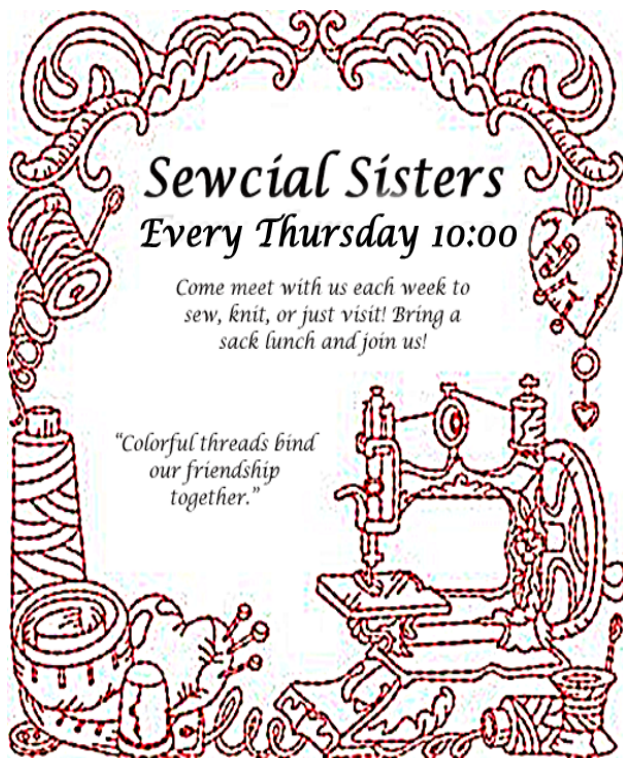


## Special Music

"I Believe"

Barb Gregory, Glenn Gregory, Kathy Hughes  
Steve Lightner, Beth Luetjen, Steve Luetjen  
Danny Meives, Margaret Preus

## Quilt depicts Locust Grove Church as center of community.



The green quilt on the wall of our Fellowship Hall was hand pieced and hand quilted by Edie Brennan. Edie was a long time member of our church and a gifted quilter. She passed away July 8, 2019. She gave this quilt to Carolyn Doyle and Carolyn has let the church display it. Edie enjoyed giving us Sewcial Sisters some very useful tips on quilting.

I especially love this quilt because it de-



*"Church in the Wildwood" by Edie Brennan completed in 2008 after 244 hours of quilting. It was her 13th quilt.*

picts our church in the middle and our community around it. Showing how we share the Good News of Jesus with others

Thank you Edie and Carolyn

Sewcial Sisters meet on Thursdays at 10:00. All are welcome.

### A-Frame Items Needed

In order to help welcome our new transitional home residents we are asking for donations of needed items for the A-frame. I would ask that all donors call/text me before bringing items to the A-frame so I can make sure we don't get multiples of the same thing. **We need the items to the house by Thursday, July 31.**

- Bunk bed with mattresses (two

twins is preferable!)

- Loveseat or chair for living room
- TV stand/cabinet
- Flat screen TV for living room
- Weed eater
- Exterior rugs (2 or 3)
- Need manpower with truck/trailer to haul a dresser, chest of drawers & two nightstands from SW Columbia to the A-frame sometime this week.





*Iola Grant learned early the benefits of having a birthday party, and continued sharing those benefits with friends and family for the 90th time July 12 in Fellowship Hall at Midway Locust Grove Church.*



*Family, left to right — Gary Grant, Kathy Love, Iola, Kim Henning, and Mike Grant.*



*Friends, left to right — Lowell Asbury, Wayne Asbury, Iola, Alma Asbury, Roger Asbury.*



*Pastor Ben Lee brought greetings from the church.*





## July Tuesday Lunch included a world tour

Gene Baumann continued the travel theme in July with photos of his worldwide trips with Shelter Insurance Companies incentive trips for its agents. The world tour slide show represented about one-third of the 63 trips to photograph and publish the report of the trip in the company magazine. Attending the luncheon were two Shelter agents and their wives who had earned several of the reward trips for their sales.



## Second Tuesday Luncheon Back To School Edition!

**The 2TL Lunch Ladies  
have a very special day planned for  
Tuesday, August 12 from 12Noon-1:00**

**“Breakfast for Lunch” is the plan,  
so bring a dish or two to share - the main  
course will be breakfast casseroles!**

**Invite a friend and spread the word!  
You won't want to miss this special  
day filled with Food, Fun, Fellowship  
and YES – there will be a test!**





Our intrepid group of church family members met again for a Saturday potluck and fellowship prior to our September departure to the reservation in South Dakota. As always, there was a delicious array of summer-inspired, delicious offerings to fill our tummies. And even better, hugs and laughs and conversations to fill our souls.

The 7 of us traveling and two additional interested family members gathered around the tables for some teasing, laughter and life stories which continue to bond us as a group intent on offering love and understanding, friendship and service to an area of our own country seriously lacking in in these commodities.

We will be taking heavy, warm coats, hats and gloves for the brutally cold winter ahead. We will take some prom dresses and even a wedding dress for young ladies eager to participate in events they cannot hope to afford special clothing for. More importantly, we will offer our return presence to friends who hear lots of promises from the outside world but see little follow-through.

Our light-hearted conversation morphed into a much more serious one about culture, real-life challenges and devastating loss and deep-seated prejudices against our indigenous brothers and sisters. As we prepare ourselves for the unimaginable poverty we will become immersed in, we also shared our eagerness to see those we have come to love deeply on the reservation. Although several of us keep in touch throughout the year, we miss the humor and dry wit, the hearty hugs and laughter and tears of our

# ON THE REZ

*With Kathy Hughes*

friends and Lakota relatives.

Our evening concluded with travel plans and logistics and our mutual agreement to travel to Devil's Tower on our way home so those who have never experienced this amazing offering from God, can.

We already have a list of several planning or interested in joining us next fall in this life-changing, immersive opportunity for service combined with education with the Lakota.

If you are interested in learning more about this amazing mission opportunity, talk to Kathy Hughes, Mariea Caruthers or Keith Andersen.

Mitakuye Oyasin!!



Did you know, thanks to your generous support....

Twice Blessed has provided clothing, personal hygiene products, housecleaning essentials, home goods, bedding, and much more to well over **800** individuals just in the first ½ of this year alone?

We have an average of over **20 NEW** clients each week, in addition to our regular clients?

Twice Blessed works not only with our neighbors in need, but with the Stop Human Trafficking Coalition, Burrell Behavioral Health, and with other area agencies?

Thank You for ALL you do to support this growing mission!

Glenna and Jill



# The Kitchen Cabinet

Remembering  
Mary Kaye's  
Food Ministry

**August** is here so lets make something cool and quick. This recipe is an oldie but goodie! Many of you will remember Furr's Cafeteria that was located in the Biscayne Mall. This Million Dollar Pie was one of my favorites.

Enjoy,

**Hope Burkart**

## Million Dollar Pie

- 2 pie shells baked and cooled
- 1 large container of Cool Whip
- 1 large can crushed pineapple well drained
- 1 can Eagle Brand milk
- 2 T lemon juice
- Chopped pecans for topping

Bake pie shells as directed and let cool. Combine Cool Whip, drained pineapple, Eagle Brand milk and lemon juice. Pour into pie shells and top with pecans. Refrigerate at least 2 hrs. before serving.



## Thank You

My family and I wish to thank each of you for the kindness you have shown after Herb's death. Our grief is overwhelming, but it is made easier by your love and support. The church family and Midway community are so important to me. I am filled with gratitude. Thank you for the prayers, cards, food, and memorial contributions.

Sincerely,

Louise Stanley

## Midway Meals Program Providing Free Food To Go

This summer, all families with kids and teens 18 and under can enjoy FREE to-go meals from our church. For more information, contact Jessie Kempf at [Jessica@weichhertft.Com](mailto:Jessica@weichhertft.Com) or 573-445-4667.

Please reach out if you would like to help or contribute food. Already signed up for the summer are: Kempf, Crane and Quinley families; Sewcial Sisters, Choir, Frink Family, Mariea Caruthers Small Group; Ladies Bible Study.

## Tuesday Lunch August 12

The August Second Tuesday Lunch will be on August 12 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. We are celebrating back-to-school and will have breakfast casserole for lunch. We will have math and reading games for the program. For information or comment, please contact Barb Harville at [moharville-family@aol.com](mailto:moharville-family@aol.com)





*Basic necessities free of charge  
to those temporarily in need*

Midway Locust Grove  
United Methodist Church

**August 3 & 17**

**Twice  
blessed**

*Open 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
12:00 – 5:00*

The little white building  
on the corner of  
Henderson and Locust Grove Church Road

We want to thank the MLGC Vacation Bible School and the Midway Baptist Church Vacation Bible School for all of the wonderful items that they collected for Twice Blessed. We once again are able to have all of our personal care and cleaning products bins filled and ready for the customers.

Twice Blessed is gearing up for back to school. We have a wonderful supply of children's clothes, shoes and some of the basic school supplies.

We have been blessed with many donations in the last month and have a very good selection of all items. Our Christmas Store gathering has benefited from these many donations also. Thank you to all who have blessed us with donations.

We are going thru our coats, hats, scarves and gloves and getting a donation ready for the Pine Ridge Reservation group that will be traveling there in September. We feel blessed to be able to donate items for their great mission.

If you have read about Twice Blessed in Locust Leaves or heard people talking about us but would like to know a little more about us, please feel free to stop in and see us. We are open on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 12:00-5:00. Stop in and meet some of our customers and see our store and what we offer.

We truly are Twice Blessed and thank everyone for all their support of our little mission down on the corner!

We also want to thank Julie Maxwell for all the many ways she helps and supports us.

**We made an error  
last month.**

**CORRECTED**

**ADDRESS**

**CHANGE:**

**Lou Pegues  
has moved to  
Unbridled Living  
Of Columbia\*.  
Her new address is:**

**Lou Pegues  
Apartment N 311  
1408 Bus. Loop 70 W.  
Columbia, MO 65202**

**\* Formerly called  
The Terrace**



## **MIDWAY LOCUST GROVE CHURCH**

2600 N. Locust Grove Church Road  
Columbia, MO 65202

Pastor: Rev. Ben Lee  
Administrative Assistant: Catherine Shanahan  
Church phone: 573-445-4667  
Pastor's cell phone: 478-447-4438  
Email: [mwlocustgrove@gmail.com](mailto:mwlocustgrove@gmail.com)  
Email: [blee.mwlocustgrove@gmail.com](mailto:blee.mwlocustgrove@gmail.com)  
Facebook: @mwlocustgrove  
YouTube: mwlocustgrove  
Instagram: @mwlocustgrove

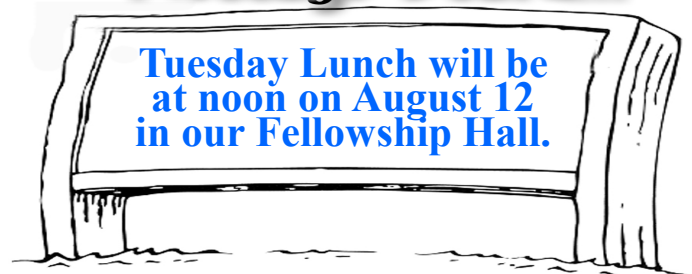
***Our Mission:  
We exist to  
gather in grace,  
grow in Christ,  
and go share the Gospel.***

Locust Leaves Editor: Gene Baumann  
[Rocheport@aol.com](mailto:Rocheport@aol.com) 573-445-1998

***Find the hidden Bible***  ***in this issue.***  
Visit our Web Site: [www.mwlocustgrove.com](http://www.mwlocustgrove.com)

*Volume 38 Issue 8 August 2025*

***If we had a  
Message Board...***



### **The Back Row** **By Gene Baumann**

#### **Finding some good among the bad. . .**

What a month it has been since my last Back Row. I've attended four funerals, all involving friends, three of them with connections to Locust Grove, the other a Rocheport connection. I realize this is part of the aging process and one day we will all be together again.

While all four have left me with warm memories of our friendship, the one I have seen the least in recent years has prompted the most memories and parallels from years past.

When Mary Kaye and I were exploring our prospects of a life together in the mid-to late- '70s, she was the news anchor for Channel 17 and was involved in every aspect of life in Columbia. She had become

good friends with a lady who owned a couple of shops in town. Moving ahead a few years, MK had become available to this already single guy; we married and moved to the country west of Columbia, found the church at Midway and settled in.

In those years in a new location I made new friends, one of whom had become single and was getting married again. It was about 20 years after MK and I had married and started our new lives together when my friend introduced us to his new bride, a lady who used to own a couple of shops in Columbia 20 some years ago. Her obituary is in this issue of Locust Leaves, and I assured her husband Warren that Mary Kaye would be there to greet Dianne Filbert when she arrived at Heaven's gate.

Dianne died June 30; we observed MK's eighth departure anniversary July 21. I know they had a great reunion.