

Waverly City Council OK's new picnic tables

Ida Wilson
Reporter

WAVERLY — Waverly City Council met June 10 and approved monthly bills and the EMC insurance policy, received the 2019 audit report, purchased picnic tables, and discussed a request from Daniel Heck to purchase the Heck Addition.

Mayor Jacob Marsh led the meeting where council members present in person or by audio conference were Taylor Everhart, Jerry Collins, Kevin McMillen, Nicole Rasmussen and Tammy White. Others present were City Clerk Anna Keena, Maintenance Superintendent Travis Vogts, City Attorney Denise McNabb, City Treasurer Mary Collins and Officer Sam Frantz.

The council approved the

purchase of six eight-foot metal brown picnic tables from ULINE at \$545 each, plus \$278.72 sales tax and \$446.21 shipping and handling for a total of \$3,994.93.

Keena said she completed the audit request for the Community Development Block Grant funds the city received for the water project. Kenna had not learned the results of the report.

Varney and Associates, Manhattan, audited the city's financial statements for 2019. They found that during the water construction project, a separate bank account for the KDHE grant funds had been opened but not included in QuickBooks. Varney's audit said the account was not necessary. The account was never used. Because the account was not included in QuickBooks, the monthly reports

provided to the council were incomplete. The account has been closed.

The council approved \$15,172.38 in payroll for May and \$22,688.80 in bills for May 14 through June 10. Total expenditures were \$37,861.18.

Keena reported there were four customers with utility accounts over 90 days past due and three accounts over 60 days past due. She said letters had been sent, giving those customers until end of day June 22 to pay outstanding balances, arrange for a hearing, or risk having their service terminated.

She said letters had also been sent to those who need to renew dog tags before the end of August.

The council discussed Daniel Heck's interest in purchasing the city's portion of the Heck Addition, but came to

no final decision.

The council discussed, but took no action, on applying for the second round of CDBG funds through the CARES Act. These funds relate to local funding of food programs.

In other business, the council:

■ Renewed the city's insurance policy with EMC for \$37,356.

■ Approved a request by the Prom Committee to waive the deposit and rental fees for the community building for June 25-28.

■ Approved a fireworks permit for Trish Bowers, 205 Senior, upon approval from the Coffey County fire marshal and completion of paperwork with the city.

■ Approved a building permit for Gary Giffin, 508 Senior Street, to add a covered deck.

God's Storehouse resumes operation

BURLINGTON — After being closed for an extended period of time due to the restrictions imposed by COVID-19, God's Storehouse, 515 Neosho Street, is open once again to serve the community.

God's Storehouse began receiving donations June 15. Items needed include clean clothing, shoes, bedding, towels and kitchen items. Clean items can be dropped off at the alley garage during business hours from 9 a.m. to

noon each weekday and Tuesday evening from 5 to 7 p.m. Please notify the volunteers of your donation.

Items left in the alley or by the front door will be put in the dumpster.

COVID-19 restrictions limit one adult family member inside the store for food pickup with no time limit. Two adult family members will be allowed in the store to shop for clothing with a 20-minute time limit.

This Week in History

Brought to you by the Coffey County Museum, 1101 Neosho Street, Burlington. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. See

their YouTube channel, Coffey Museum, for videos about the history of Coffey County.

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The Coffey County Republican

Devotional Page

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Presence and trust

Fr. Quentin Schmitz
St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Burlington



Fr. Quentin Schmitz

The Old Testament in the Bible is filled with many great stories of people's interactions and encounters with God over the years. Even though there is a great gap in time between us and the people who had these experiences, I believe it is easy for us to relate to them. Recently one of the Scripture readings I prayed with was from the Book of Judges, Chapters 6 and 7. It was from part of the story sharing the experience of Gideon. I believe that there are countless ways to relate to this story today as well.

Israel cries out to the Lord for help because of the afflictions they are experiencing through the hands of Midian. The Lord lets them know that they are not the innocent suffering at the hands of Midian. Rather, they have disobeyed and dishonored God by turning to false worship. Sadly, even for us, a time that we are most likely to call out to God is during times of distress. Also, when things are going bad, it is easier to look around and put the blame on someone else instead of recognizing our own sinfulness.

The presence of God is made known to Gideon through an encounter with an angel of the Lord. Initially, Gideon relates to the angel of the Lord his doubts to the presence of the Lord. "If the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are his wonderful deeds?" The angel of the Lord reveals to Gideon that he will help save Israel. Gideon feels helpless and insignificant for the task given. Gideon is only ready to accept if he can receive a sign. God gives a sign through the angel. This part of the story is also easy to relate to. I think most of us during times of prayer wonder if the Lord is really talking to us or

whether we are having a conversation with ourselves. We ask the Lord to make his presence known. We can also wonder what part we could possibly have in solving the great difficulties of the world. As the story goes on, there is a similar moment of asking for a sign before Gideon goes into battle with Midian. Gideon is seeking a sign by observing dew. One night he asks God to show his presence and promise by allowing dew to settle on all the ground except on a fleece that is left outside. God gives the sign. Gideon still wonders so he asked that the next morning there be dew on the fleece but not on the ground. This sign was also given to Gideon. Again, I think it is easy to relate to Gideon, who continues to doubt whether God is with him or whether he's able to hear God clearly. The next part of the story is my favorite part. God has now in multiple ways revealed to Gideon his presence and that Gideon is hearing correctly what God desires of him. Now it

is God's turn to see if Gideon trusts him. Gideon had assembled 32,000 soldiers with him for the battle. God revealed to him that this was too many soldiers. So, God had Gideon send away anyone fearful of the battle. At that point 22,000 soldiers are left. God revealed that still there were too many soldiers, so He asked for one last test to get to the right number. The soldiers were to go to the water to drink. Only 300 soldiers drank from the water by lapping it up, which would be the way soldiers used for the battle. Talk about trust! Gideon assembles 32,000 soldiers and the only ones who were allowed to go to battle were 300 men who lapped up the water like a dog.

I will leave the rest of the story for you to look up but I do continually see these themes lived out in my life and the lives of others. At times, especially during difficult times, there is a doubting of the presence of God. Doubting of what little insignificant me could do in the midst of the difficulties of the world. Doubting of whether or not we are truly hearing God speak to us and our ability of knowing what he desires of us. God also continually plumbs the depths of our trust, which is what God desires of us. That takes us back to the beginning of the story, where God had desired trust from the people of Israel. Instead they had revealed their doubts by turning to false worship of the gods of the Amorites, but God brings them to this moment of complete trust.

From the Bible

Isaiah 6:8

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

Living water

The word "righteous" in Scripture carries with it the idea of meeting God's standards of doing what is right in the sight of God - being obedient to Him and being just and fair to others. If the "righteous are to flourish like palm trees" what does that mean?

1. Palm trees grow straight up - always looking upward to heaven for light and nourishment. Likewise the Christian looks to God to find His will for their life.

2. Each and every part of a palm tree is useful. The leaves not only provide shelter from the elements but the tree itself has many nourishing and medicinal qualities. The Christian is expected to give life and hope and nourishment to others.

3. Palm trees are not affected by drought. A palm tree is not affected

by the weather and can survive nearly every surface injury. The Christian rooted in Christ draws his strength and well-being from God.

4. The palm tree is an evergreen tree because it draws its life flow within its being, keeping it fresh.

5. The palm tree cannot be grafted into any other tree because it has its own unique identity. Christians have one Master and cannot be grafted to any other identity.

6. Palm trees are an emblem of victory. This was seen when Jesus entered triumphantly into Jerusalem.

7. Palm trees always show a place where water can be found. Christians find their "living water" in Christ who can quench their thirst.

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