April 2022 Pastor David Kim

# UMConnection

# **Pastor's Page**

## Lord, We Lift up Our Eyes and Look to You

People around the world are outraged and grieved over Russia's invasion of Ukraine. How could a man made by God savagely kill other brothers and sisters and take the lives of those little children? We pray more earnestly than ever before. In a situation like this, everyone has a question. Why is God silent in this situation? The lyrics of the gospel song sing, "God has never let me down, and He has always kept me with fairness and grace", but our lives often do not feel that way at all. When it is neither fair nor just, or when we are in pain in an unreasonable world, there are many times that we as a believer are not able to complain to our heart's content and sometimes suffer alone. Philip Yancey saw this absurd phenomenon and wrote a book titled, *Disappointed with God*. Is God Really Fair? Does He care about the world? Is He listening to my prayers? Does He really exist? It's a question everyone can ask, but it's not an easy one to answer.

We believe in the Sovereignty of God. We believe that not even a single sparrow can fall to the ground if God permits it. The problem is not the sparrow that falls, but a child who has never been a teenager in Ukraine, a teenager who is about to turn 20, and a parent in their 40s who has to take responsibility for the family of a growing child. It makes our hearts ache even more that everything depends on God's Sovereignty. If it is Almighty God, if it is an absolutely good God, then why would He allow such a thing?

We as believers need a new perspective on this phenomenon. Looking at the reality of all the sins caused by human sin, what we need to ask for is God's mercy, even in situations we do not understand. The answer to this world does not stop with the end of war and hopefully peace coming, but that the people of the world to come to know Jesus and restore their noble image before God. Because we don't really know who we are until we know our Creator.

Looking at this painful world, all we have to do is to ask God, the Lord of history. May God have mercy on this land and spread the gospel of the cross to the ends of the earth soon. When life does not unfold as we thought, when the world seems unreasonable, the place we Christians must return to is the cross of the Lord. When we stand in front of the cross, there will be healing in the broken human world, and when we stand before God's love, the world will embrace each other with that love. Lord, have mercy on this land. May the fires of war quickly dissipate, and give the light of hope upon the suffering people of Ukraine, and send down the rain of grace. And, as we approach Easter, may we all experience an encounter with Jesus, the Lord of hope and the Resurrection.

Pastor David



Elizabeth Circle, Thank you for the very sweet Valentine. It was very thoughtful and unexpected! Love, Chloe Besler



If you are interested in an Easter Lily for the Church in memory or in honor of a loved one, please call Blooms at 697-3800.



Thank you for the blanket! It's very warm. Thanks, Dierks Sayer

#### THE JELLY BEAN PRAYER

Red is for the blood He gave. Green is for the Grass He made. Yellow is for the Sun so bright. Orange is for The edge of night. Black is for the sins we made. White is for the Grace He gave. Purple is for His hour of sorrow. Pink is for our New tomorrow. A bag full of jelly beans Colorful and sweet, Is a prayer, Is a promise, Is a special treat.

**Connie Fahnestock** 

## Fellowship Time

Sunday mornings at 9:45-10:45 in Cambridge. Sunday mornings with Indianola/Bartley after services!



Good Friday Services! Services at Trinity United Methodist Church Friday evening at 7 pm. Please join us!



**Zach McArthur** is the son of Barb and Jeff McArthur. After high school, I plan to attend the University of Nebraska Lincoln. There I will pursue a degree in mechanical engineering. Academics have always played a large part in my high school career. I have stayed on the distinctive honor roll every year of high school. I

am ranked second in my class version 99.26 GPA. I participate in many activities to help with my academics, such as Quizbowl, Science Olympiad, and Academic Decathlon. A scholarship would allow me to pay for more things outside of my tuition, like food and housing.

Gaby Raburn is the daughter of Derek and Jennifer Raburn. She has participated in many clubs and activities including one act, play production, student council, academic decathlon, Just for Kix dance, FCCLA, FBLA, Speech, National Honor Society, C-Club, Publications, and Choir. She has received the honor of attending Girls State, Summer Honors, and Rotary Youth Leadership Camp. Gaby has been the president of her FCCLA Chapter for two years and district president for 1 year. She served as her class student council representative. She has served in her chapter and district office for four years. She also was a state one act participant and academic decathlon medalist. Gaby plans on attending Peru State College in the fall. Her major is still undecided.



**Wyatt Ervin** is the son of Kim Ervin and Cody and Michelle Ervin. Wyatt has been involved in many High School activities including Football, Wresting, Quiz Bowl, Science Olympiad, Trap Shooting, FFA and National Honors Society. Wyatt recently was awarded the NCPA Academic All-State Award again this season for being a wonderful studentathlete.

After graduation, Wyatt will attend University of Nebraska at Kearney and major in Wildlife Biology.





Ch of Staci

Hopkins and Shad Fiene. I have been involved in the following clubs and sports throughout my high school career at Cambridge – FFA, Football, Basketball and C-Club. When I am not in sports I work for Bart and Bill Deterding and help my grandparents on their farm.

After graduation I will attend Northeast Community College in the pursuit of Utility Linemen. I look forward to coming home and completing my summer internship at Twin Valley here in Cambridge.

Please support our youth as they head out into their chosen professions. Pray for guidance and health that their dreams come to fruition. They all have expressed a thanks for the scholarships and help in getting started on their paths.



**Lord,** give our graduates courage to persevere, especially in these uncertain times. Never let them turn from giving You first place in their lives. You understand their weaknesses, but You offer grace and strength. Assure them that failures can be the steppingstones to success and that the only kind of approval that really matters is the acceptance and unconditional love You offer them.

We pray that these coming days will not bring a daze for them, but a strong sense of dependency on You, Lord. Strengthen their faith in You, and deliver them from temptations to doubt, fear, or second guess. You never have, and You never will abandon or let them down. In Jesus name we pray.....

We have some sets of party dishes in the Fellowship Hall that are for anyone who wants some. Please stop by and take a few. You can always have a tea party with your grandchildren!



# April 17, 2022 Services

Indianola, Bartley & Cambridge

Good Friday Service will be at 7 pm on April 15 at Trinity United Methodist Church in Cambridge.



## Did you go to Church Camp as a Youth?

Please keep in your thoughts about letting your youth go to a church camp. The United Methodist Church has several youth camps and all would be fun. Watch for information!

- Camp Chippewa
- <u>Camp Fontanelle</u>
- <u>Camp Horizon</u>
- <u>Camp Lakeside</u>
- <u>Camp Norwesca</u>

# The History Behind "The Old Rugged Cross"

The year was 1912 and George Bennard, an evangelist traveling throughout the Midwest, was heckled incessantly by several youth at a revival meeting in Michigan.

# A Vision, a Melody and the Completion of the First Verse

Troubled by their disregard for the gospel, Bennard turned to Scripture to reflect on the work of Christ on the cross. He later recalled, "I seemed to have a vision ... . I saw the Christ and the cross inseparable."

The melody came easily, and the first verse was completed by Bennard during a series of meetings in Albion, Michigan.

Several months later, the remaining three verses were completed in Pokagon, Michigan, where Bennard was leading meetings at a local church.

# The First Performance of the Hymn

After completing the hymn, he performed the song in its entirety for the sponsoring pastor and his wife, Rev. Leroy and Ruby Bostwick, in the living room of the parsonage. The Bostwicks were moved to tears and incorporated the song in the revival service on June 7, 1913.

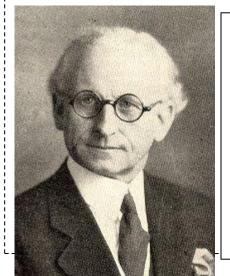
First, Bennard sang his hymn with guitar accompaniment, and then a five-voice choir sang with organ and violin accompaniment.

Today, that same church building, originally a hops barn, is owned by the non-profit Old Rugged Cross Foundation and welcomes thousands of visitors annually.



# George Bennard: The Early Years

The hymn quickly spread throughout the region and came to the attention of the evangelist Billy Sunday, who frequently utilized it in his meetings. Two years later, Bennard sold the copyright to the song for a payment of \$500, forgoing future royalties. Upon the renewal of the copyright 28 years later, he received a final payment of \$5,000.



Bennard was born in Youngstown, Ohio, in 1873 and spent his childhood in Iowa. His father was a tavern owner and later, a coal miner. Bennard's conversion at the age of 22 through the evangelistic ministry of the Salvation Army in Canton, Iowa, led to his ordination and commissioning as a traveling evangelist in 1898.

In 1910, stepping out in faith, Bennard resigned and began his own itinerant ministry. He traveled throughout the Midwest, holding revivals until his retirement in Reed City, Michigan, more than 30 years later. Loved for its lilting melody and words of personal trust in the cross of Christ, "The Old Rugged Cross" remains one of the most cherished hymns of the Christian faith. It has since been included in numerous hymnals and recordings by contemporary artists.

#### **UMCOR – Ukraine Relief**

How is the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) responding? UMCOR's work in Ukraine is being funded with gifts given to the International Disaster Response and Recovery Fund (Advance #982450). All donations with this # or earmarked "Ukraine Relief" will be directed to Ukraine. Grants for immediate relief have been given to United Methodist partners in Ukraine as well as neighboring nations—Poland, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia—to support those who remain in Ukraine as well as those who have fled the violence. In addition, grants are being awarded to partners like ACT Alliance, a global faith-based coalition working in 120 countries around the world. These grants are providing humanitarian assistance in the form of food, water, clothing, shelter and other necessary supplies. We are in continuous dialogue with UMC entities and other partners throughout Europe to identify additional ways UMCOR might assist. The situation in Eastern Europe is evolving and Global Ministries and UMCOR will continue to respond in the months and years ahead. How can I support those still in Ukraine and those fleeing the violence? At this time, all gifts to UMCOR's International Disaster Response and Recovery Advance will be used to assist those who remain in Ukraine and those who have fled the violence to neighboring nations. Gifts can be made in the following ways: • Online at https://umcmission.org/advance-project/982450 • By toll-free telephone call: 1-888-252-6174 • By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line and mailed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068 • By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line and given to any United Methodist church. If written out in the name of the local UM church, the church will remit these gifts to the conference and on to UMCOR

Will UMCOR be sending kits and other supplies?

UMCOR does not ship relief kits or other supplies internationally. It is tempting to assist by shipping clothes, shoes and diapers; but the cost is high and impractical. Instead, we encourage you to help us assist our partners in securing supplies in Europe. Sending money directly is less costly than shipping supplies; this also helps stimulate local economies and ensures that materials received are the materials needed at any given time. Your gift will allow our local entities to procure materials and supplies locally.

What prayer can I lift up for the people of Ukraine?

This prayer was written for World Day of Prayer by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland, on February 25, 2022:

God of the past, the present and the future, Our thoughts and prayers are with our sisters and brothers in Ukraine and the surrounding countries in their fear and distress. We pray too for all other regions of the world where there is conflict, unrest or oppression. We pray that reconciliation will overcome hatred, peace will conquer war, hope will replace despair and that your plans for the region will be fulfilled, God, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

The General Board of Global Ministries is the global mission, relief and development agency of The United Methodist Church. The work of Global Ministries includes 17 programs organized around four missional priorities: Missionaries, Evangelism and Church Revitalization, Global Health and Humanitarian Relief and Recovery, which includes the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). UMCOR is dedicated to alleviating human suffering and advancing hope and healing through disaster response and support of global migration.





# **APRIL 2022**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:45 Fellowship Communion	4	5	6 1:30 pm C – UMW 5:30 pm Bible Study Easter Egg Assembly	7	8	9
10 9:45 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School Palm Sunday 12 pm Potluck	11 12 pm Elizabeth Circle	12	13 2 pm B – UMW 6 pm Youth Group	14 2:30 pm Bingo at ALF	15 Good Friday services at 7 pm	16
17 9:45 am Fellowship Easter Sunday	18	19	20 7:30 pm Lois Circle	21	22	23
24 9:45 am Fellowship	25	26	27 10:30am Worship at - ALF 6 pm Youth Group	28	29	30



March 2022 The Outreach Committee has been busy again. I think the residents at Assisted Living have enjoyed the fun this group brings!



# Trinity United Methodist Church

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(308) 697-4352 trinityumcoffice@swnebr.net

Pastor David's e-mail: David\_kim@greatplainsumc.org

> 9:45 am Fellowship 11:00am Worship

#### Indianola United Methodist Church

#### Kemper Memorial United Methodist Church

9:45 a.m. Worship Followed by Fellowship

# ANNIVERSARIES

#### April

- 2 Elisabeth Johnson Loyd Thompson
- 3 Jessica Porter Kinley Mollring
- 4 Loretta Carpenter
- 6 Ross Ebbers
- 7 Kevin Banzhaf Calvin Wineland
- 8 Kimberlee Jorgensen Cody Ervin
- 9 Pat Rice
- 10 Anthony Whipple Steve Downer

- 16 Kim Ellicott
- 17 Phillip Johnson
- 18 Brenda Ruf
- 20 Jadyn Brooks
- 24 Stan Sexton
- 25 Deanna Brown
- 26 Joanne Lewis
- Darcy Johnson 27 Alex Grindle
- 28 Ken Cole

#### Happy Anniversary

April 1 David & Darcy Johnson

April 8 Daren & Lorrie Mowry