



OUTREACH



Volume 30, Issue 3

First United Methodist Church

March 22, 2018

Perspective

Greetings in the Name of Christ!

As I write this, the last vestiges of winter are falling to the ground in the form of fat, fluffy, snowflakes. It is the last day of winter and I have no doubt that as spring arrives tomorrow, a sunny day will ensue. I'm certainly not complaining. The moisture that is falling is desperately needed by rural and city folks alike, and when I couple that with the anticipated sunshine tomorrow, Hays, and prayerfully the fields around it, will be as green as a St. Paddy's Day shamrock.

We have just passed St. Paddy's Day but it seems like only yesterday that we gathered together on St. Valentine's Day to begin the season of Lent with a well-attended Ash Wednesday Service on February 14th. We followed that up with a sermon and study series written by Max Lucado entitled "He Chose the Nails". Each Sunday we considered topics such as "He Chose to Forgive Us", "He Chose to Love Us", and "He Chose to Give Us Victory". We are now considering our own choices as we enter into the most holy week of the year.

So, as you consider this most holy week, I invite you to choose to participate in these services below:

- **Sunday, March 25- Palm Sunday-** both services will feature the children's Palm Parade remembering and celebrating Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The service will also feature our Chancel Choir presenting the first part of the Easter Cantata "Jesus, the Resurrection of the Messiah" by Mary McDonald and Rose Aspinall.
- **Holy Thursday Service- March 29 7:00 p.m.-** Come and experience the love and grace of Jesus as we remember and celebrate his final meal with his disciples in an upper room. All are welcome at his table as we serve Holy Communion on this special night.
- **Good Friday Service- March 30 7:00 p.m.-** We will experience the passion of Christ as we remember and celebrate his amazing act of love for each of us as we consider his betrayal, suffering, and crucifixion during a Service of Tenebrae (Darkness).
- **Good Friday to Easter Sunday Prayer Vigil-** at the culmination of the Good Friday Service, a prayer vigil will be held in the Chapel. You are encouraged to participate in the prayer vigil by signing up to pray for an hour or more. Please call the church office for available times. There will be someone in the Chapel from that time until 8:30 a.m. on Easter morning, praying and giving thanks to Christ for his sacrifice for each of us.
- **Easter Sunday Worship- Sunday, April 1, 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.-** Come and celebrate the victory of Christ's resurrection! This majestic and meaningful service will not only feature the second half of the Easter Cantata, "Jesus, the Resurrection of the Messiah" but will also include my sermon entitled "Unafraid: Living with Hope and Courage in Uncertain Times" based on Adam Hamilton's study of the same name.
- **Easter Sunday Children's Easter Egg Hunt** on the West Lawn- Sunday, April 1 at 9:35 a.m.- bring the children and grandchildren for this fun filled time! Then stay for a meaningful Easter worship experience for the whole family.
- **After-Easter Study and Sermon Series, "Unafraid: Living with Hope and Courage in Uncertain Times"-** begins April 8th at 9:35 a.m. in the Chapel or April 4th at 6:15 p.m. in room 207 (Milers). This is an important study (and sermon series) for these times. I hope you'll be a part of it!

Finally, from my family to yours, have a blessed Easter!
Pastor Mike

Please email your OUTREACH item to haysumc@hotmail.com before Sunday, April 15, 2018.

Please place the name "Outreach" in the subject line...or place your item, clearly labeled **for the Outreach**, in the office by **Sunday, April 15, 2018.** The next Outreach should be received by April 19th.

Thank You

Our sincere thanks to Hays FUMC members for their prayers, visits and support during Roberta Brewer's extended illness and confinement. There seems to be no end to the heart-felt warmth of this congregation.

Bless you all,
Max Brewer & family

I am really grateful for all the recent cards.

Ron Herrman

The sustaining gift for the Altar Foundation, 2018 is \$145.

Support the Mission Team by purchasing tickets for the gift baskets located in the parlor. Winning baskets may be picked up after service on March 25.

Proceeds will benefit mission projects.



INTRODUCING OUR STAFF

PROGRAM STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Mike Rose
 Director of Music: Johnny Matlock
 Special Music Coordinator: Meredith Cory
 Organist:: Charlotte Rathke
 Pianist: Alexis Robinson
 Handbell Choir Director: Shawn Henderson
 Children's Ministry Director: Jo Swayne
 Asst. Children's Director: Rebecca Kuehl
 Youth Ministry Director: Matt Dumler
 Outreach Editor: Wendy Beougher

SUPPORT STAFF:

Administrative Secretary: Beverly Bearley
 Administrative Assistant: Wendy Beougher
 Financial Secretary: Don Forssberg
 Childcare Director: Sandy Henningsen
 Building Supervisor: Aaron Van Der Wege

Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family & friends of

Irene Taylor who died 2-28-18.

*Joe & Jan Edwards, on the death of Joe's aunt on 3-3-18. **Susie Rogers** was 106.*

Marguerite Stout died 3-10-18.

Tim & Ann Crowley, Alex & Sam on the death of Tim's dad who died 3-17-18.

Congratulations

to our newest members:

Adam & Alyssa Dees, Kay and Rachel.

Megan Askins, Camdyn & Hannah.



to Erica & Michael Berges on the birth of Isaac Valens on Feb. 14th. Isaac has two brothers, Jackson & Noah.

to Adam & Kylie Moritz on the birth of Miles Michael on 2-16-18.

Grandparents are Mike & Laura Gaughan.

to Donna & Aven Weaverling on the arrival of their first great-great grandchild, Kalee Little, born on February 20th. Her mother is BreAnna Little of Davenport, Iowa.

Circle News

Naomi Circle met in the church dining room on Wednesday, February 21. Linda Palmberg and Marva Miller co-hosted the breakfast, serving eleven members. Debra McDonald conducted the meeting and presented the program of "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial". Member Marilyn Wasinger was recognized, celebrating her birthday on this day. Marilyn Ginther presented devotions and Virginia Kraus offered prayer. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 14 in the home of Debra McDonald with Virginia Lehman co-hosting. The program entitled, "The Wonders of Nature" will be presented by Tom McDonald.

Naomi Circle met in the home of Debra McDonald on Wednesday morning, March 14 with Virginia Lehman co-hosting, assisted by Nancy Jones. Debra conducted the meeting and presented devotions. Marilyn Ginther offered prayer. Naomi Circle presented baby quilts to two families. Tom McDonald presented the program, "Wonder of Nature". The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 11 in the home of Sheryl Blair with Sherri Matlock presenting the program "Hays High Pantry".

Rebekah Circle met at the church with 12 members and 1 guest, Earline Fairbank, present. Hostesses were Carol Purdy and Dorothy McRae. Rebekah will be the hostess circle for the General Luncheon on March 21. Karen Owings will be the guest speaker. Sheryl Cox presented the program on the Lenten season and Easter.



KIDS CORNER

We had 19 talented members of our church family share their gifts for the "Let Your Light Shine" Talent Showcase and Silly Sundaes. The talent show was well attended, with 75 folks enjoying the show and ice cream served by the Children's Advisory Board. This was a fundraising event to replenish our Camp Fund to send kids to church camp this summer. Our awesome church family donated a WHOPPING \$1,192.10 for our camp ministry! THANK YOU!!!



Last year we sent 44 kids to church camp. Because of the generosity of our church family, we were able to pay for half of the registration fees (one camp per child). Last summer we covered \$4,472 dollars of registration fees. The average church camp costs \$240 so our children and their families are VERY APPRECIATIVE of the support and financial backing of our church.

We will have one more camp fundraiser before the camping season begins so mark your calendars for our Annual Camp Sunday and Bake Sale on April 22. Every baker in the church is welcome and invited to bake and bring goodies. After both services, the Children's Advisory Board will have the bake sale set up in the Welcome Center/Parlor area. All free will donations will be used to pay for half of kids' registration fees. Anyone interested in church camp is invited to visit the camp table that will be set up in the Welcome Center/Parlor beginning March 25.

Sunday March 25 is Palm Sunday! All children of the church, and any adults, are invited to join us for the palm procession before either worship service. Meet us in the Dining Room at 8:15 and/or 10:30 to get a palm branch and line up.

Easter Sunday is April 1 this year and the 4/5 Grade Sunday School class will host our annual Easter Egg Hunt on the West Lawn. Each class, Preschool – 3rd Grade, will have their own hunt time so look for the pink flyers around church.



Kids Prayze has moved upstairs! Effective March 11, we have moved our singing time with Shawn and Nate Henderson up to the K/1 Room 204 from 9:30-9:45. Please bring all Preschool-5th grade aged children to that room for check-in and then check-out at 10:30.

Thank you for caring about the children of our church. If you ever have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact either Rebecca Kuehl (rebeccarg@hotmail.com) or Jo Swayne (jswayne33@gmail.com).

Do you have a passion for teaching exercise classes? Have you been gifted with the knowledge of how to improve the health of people through exercise? The Healthy Congregation's Committee is looking for you! We are in search of someone who can teach a low impact class. As part of our goal for the 2017-2018 year, we would like to introduce our congregation to a new class on a quarterly basis. We will help you find the day and time to teach a class. It could be once or it could be a recurring class for the next 2-3 months. If you would like more information, please reach out to one of the committee members or contact the church office. Committee members: Sandy Aldrilch, Susan Dumler, Lynn Fisher, Deb & Sam Gross, Nancy Jackson, LaVaughn Hull.

The 2018 **METour** (Mission Education Tour) is heading Southwest. We will travel on a comfortable tour bus and sleep in UMC churches while we learn about and participate in mission work in Pueblo, CO; Santa Fe, NM, El Paso, TX; Albuquerque, Farmington, Espanola, and Shiprock, NM; Durango and Canon City, CO. We will depart from and return to Colby, KS UMC. Space is limited to 40 participants.

Saturday, June 2-Saturday, June 9, for young women ages 15-20, registration deadline is **April 1**

Cost is \$400 but UMW will pay 75% of the cost. Contact Evelyn Zellmer for information -650-5048



Your church **Audio team** is currently looking for additional volunteers to join our group. No experience is necessary. We will train you. Time involved might be once or twice a month for Sunday services. No tests or homework is involved.

Responsibilities include microphone set-up for first and second services, operating the audio console upstairs during the services, and putting away mics and stands following the second service. After you become comfortable with the operation, you might be asked to assist Pastor Mike with audio needs for an occasional wedding or funeral service.

The **Audio team** is also looking for 4 volunteers to train to operate our video system which will be coming this year. This would involve two volunteers at the video desk for the 10:45 service each Sunday. The time commitment would be every other Sunday for each pair of volunteers. If possible, we would like a commitment of at least a year. If after you try the work and you decide it's not for you, no hard feelings and we won't say bad things about you.

If you might like to explore the possibility of joining our merry band, get in touch with Tony Anthony, Mark Kellerman, Marsha Swanson or Mike Cooper (or call the church office, 625-3408).

This past month we, as a nation, encountered yet another senseless act of violence that took 17 innocent lives. We ourselves encountered a threat that caused fear and uncertainty in the secure place we like to call home. As the past month has unfolded, we have watched as this generation of youth has taken up the call for change. Whether we agree with their platform or not, they are right, something has to change. Our very own youth have been called to step up in their own way.

Romans 12:10 tells us to be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to another. This past month, we began to challenge the youth to change the world, more like change someone's world. During one of our programming sessions, we discussed what we saw, heard and felt during the week of the threats and violence. I was blown away by what the kids had to say and what their insight into possible solutions. We agreed that change had to happen, and that the youth would be the catalyst for change. That's where our challenge originated.

We now begin each group by asking the question how they changed someone's world. We have them share out loud not to boast about our good works, but to inspire each other. Over the past month, I have been amazed to hear the little acts of kindness the kids have come in with. We have had stories of kids leaving their usual study partner to work with the lonesome outcast, we have had stories of kids sitting outside school simply to say hi to random students as they enter the school, and we have had stories of kids sitting with someone at lunch who usually sit by themselves. There are countless others, but the point is that our kids, the kids of our church, are doing something that is going to change the world. They aren't doing it through political means, but rather by showing the love of Christ on a daily basis, the only true way change can happen.

My challenge for you is this: don't let this challenge stay within the youth of our church. As adults, get outside your own circle and notice those that are in need of a little brotherly love. Then show them the love they so desperately need. While it may seem like a tedious task to reach one person at a time, it isn't. As soon as you reach one, that turns into two. The two of you doing the same will turn to four, then to eight, then to sixteen and so on. Before you know it, a movement has started and it can't be stopped. I challenge you to step up and match the intensity of our youth in making a difference in this world.

Matt Dumler, Youth Ministry Director



Greetings from Bangkok

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for all your continued prayers and support! This year is off to an exciting start. So much is happening at NightLight, and we're excited to see God at work in Thailand. I am sending you a list of prayer requests and updates from our director, Annie. As for me personally, the past few months have been busy and exciting. I am continuing to teach English and guitar lessons to our staff and women working in the red light district. I am also continuing to assist our beauty salon and trafficking cases. I've been organizing our quarterly medical clinic. I celebrated my birthday last month, and I was so blessed to have my sister Beckie come visit for one week! We had a great time exploring Bangkok and visiting the beach. If you are interested in joining me financially on this journey, tax-deductible checks can be made out to Hays FUMC and sent to me at 1111 Noose Road, Hays, KS 67601. Paypal donations can be sent to rachel-danell@gmail.com. Thank you,

Rachel Palmberg



From our director, Annie Dieselberg:

It is an exciting but intense season at NightLight and so would appreciate your prayers.

Please pray for the 8 Ugandan trafficked women who finished their pre-trial hearing Wed. Two of the traffickers were present, but thank God they allowed them to sit in a separate room and watch on video. We had a wonderful day celebrating their courage and speaking out for justice, as well as thanking the police who also worked hard on their behalf. The women will be able to return home now, but still have to wait for official letters releasing them and for interviews with IOM to support them. Going home is a big transition. Pray as they prepare for reintegration.

There is one more Ugandan trafficked woman who is waiting for her case to move forward. She has already been with us many months and is weary of waiting. Pray that the officials keep focused and move her case forward.

Pray for the Colombian woman who will need to return before her visa expires. Often times the Colombian traffickers are connected to the drug cartel and it is dangerous for the women and their families. She is afraid for her mother's safety, especially since a family member is connected and the one who recruited her for the trafficker. Pray also that she takes the time to make a wise choice about her next steps when she returns. She is young and making plans which are probably not the best for her. Our team will try to guide her and connect her to a NgO for assistance but it's always the women's choice.

Pray for the two Tanzanians in our care who have complicated cases with their own and their children's documents. Pray for their protection and for peace and healing in the wait. Also for the Liberian and her son who are also waiting for progress on their case.

We interviewed 4 women in the detention center and all four agreed to report their case of being trafficked to the police. Pray for the right timing for them to be interviewed by the police and to be identified as trafficked. There are still another 9 women waiting for us to interview them and 9 more arrested this week.

Please pray for the team that cares for all these women in so many ways. We have a new staff member starting this week. Pray for protection, wisdom, unity, perseverance and love for the team.

Donations have dropped and yet needs are even greater. Pray that God raises up the people with the heart, passion, and commitment to give. Thank you so much!

Blessings and love,

Annie

March OUTREACH

*First United Methodist Church
305 West 7th
Hays, Kansas 67601*

(785) 625-3408
haysumc@hotmail.com
www.kaysradio.com
www.HaysFirstUnitedMethodistChurch.com

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Return Service Requested

Upcoming Events



Sunday, March 25	Palm Sunday, Part I of Easter Cantata
Thursday, March 29	Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, March 30	Good Friday Service, 7:00 p.m.
Friday-Sunday	Prayer Vigil in Chapel
Sunday, April 1	Children's Easter Egg Hunt, 9:30
	Easter Sunday, Part II of Easter Cantata
Tuesday, April 3	Loving Hands/Loving Hearts
Sunday, April 8	Youth Game Night
Monday, April 9	American Red Cross Blood Drive
Thursday, April 12	Crafters, 9:00
Sunday, April 15	Endowment Committee reception