



# OUTREACH



Volume 30, Issue 5    First United Methodist Church    May 24, 2018

Christ Has Risen! Christ Has Risen, Indeed!

It was the Easter greeting that launched hundreds of white, helium filled balloons to the heights of our Sanctuary. The hope of Easter Sunday and the Holiest of Weeks that proceeded it was a special time in the life of the church. But, to me, what makes Easter even more special is what happens after Easter. In other words, has Easter and its meanings made a difference in your life? Has it made a difference in the life of the Church? And maybe most importantly, has it made a difference in the life of the community, nation, and world. You see, the Easter message must be about how good overcomes evil, and about how humankind is saved because of it.

I'm a big fan of J.R.R. Tolkien and love his "Lord of the Rings" series. Tolkien was a master storyteller, and in his epic tales, I believe Christian readers find the gospel message of Easter: good overcomes evil, and humankind is saved because of it. A 'prequel' to the Lord of the Rings, is a book written by Tolkien in 1937 entitled, *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*. Tolkien wrote it as the Great Depression snatched away hope from average people, the Dust Bowl raged, and the evil of fascism in Italy (Mussolini) and in Germany (Hitler) were overwhelming people of good. A hobbit, (think human rabbit), named Bilbo Baggins is chosen by the good Wizard Gandalf to do the most dangerous job on the unexpected journey, to reclaim for the Semitic-looking Dwarves their homeland that was taken from them by an evil dragon named Smaug. When asked why he chose a timid hobbit for the task this is what he said:

"Some believe it is only great power that can hold evil in check, but that is not what I have found. It is the small everyday deeds of ordinary folk that keep the darkness at bay. Small acts of kindness and love. Why Bilbo Baggins? Perhaps because I am afraid, and he gives me courage." The Dwarves still didn't think he was up for the task and wondered why he would agree to come with them on such a dangerous journey. Bilbo responded: "Look, I know you doubt me, I know you always have. And you're right. I often think of (my home) Bag End. I miss my books. And my armchair. And my garden. See, that's where I belong. That's home. That's why I came back, because you don't have one. A home. It was taken from you. But I will help you take it back if I can." To me, this is a microcosm of the Easter message, taking back our home; the one taken from us by the wily serpent of Eden. It takes great sacrifice... through the small, everyday deeds of ordinary folk to keep the darkness at bay. Jesus would say it this way: "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13

I believe that Tolkien wrote the *Hobbit* in the uncertain and seemingly hopeless time of 1937. In some ways, I believe the feelings of uncertainty and hopelessness are similar today. But we can be certain of this hope: The Easter message of how good overcomes evil, and about how humankind is saved because of it, is alive and well. It is lived out in the small acts of kindness and love by everyday people who sacrifice self for others.

I pray that, in Christ's Holy Name, you will be a 'Bilbo Baggins' for those who are in need, especially in need of hope. May we continue to do small acts of kindness and love in this uncertain world, so that evil might be kept at bay, and balloons might rise on Easter morning.

Please email your OUTREACH item to [haysumc@hotmail.com](mailto:haysumc@hotmail.com) before Sunday, June 17, 2018.

Please place the name "Outreach" in the subject line...or place your item, clearly labeled **for the Outreach**, in the office by **Sunday, June 17, 2018**. The next Outreach should be received by June 21.  
Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Mike

### Thank You

Paul Kraus, son of Virginia & Harold, will be featured on the discovery Channel's new show, *Sticker Shock*, which is scheduled to be aired on June 27 at 9:00 p.m. Paul will show Harold's 1947 whizzer bicycle that he restored a few years ago.



The new parts is complete!



### 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 Forsberg  
Childcare Director: Sandy Henningsen  
Building Supervisor: Aaron Van Der Wege

### Sympathy

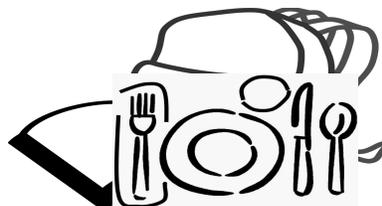
*Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family & friends of Adam & Alyssa Dees on the death of Adam's grandfather, Rev. Allen Polen. Rita Barker on the death of her husband, Bill Barker.*

### Congratulations

*to Cassandra Quillen and Patrick Loomis who were married April 28th. to Tanya Smith on being granted tenure and promotion to the listed academic rank at FHSU. to Amelia Dawn Pyle on her baptism, April 29. Parents are Chris & Melissa Pyle. to our new members, Hale & Jenna Sloan and children Alvy & Chalmers who joined 4-29. to our new members Garrett Keith & Tabitha Wolf and son Noah, who joined 5-20.*

Thank you to Rev. Kathy Bannister for presenting the sermon "Love That Rolls the Stone Away" for May 6 UMW Sunday. Thanks to Karen Owings as liturgist, Marilyn Ginther led children's time and our president, Marsha Swanson ran the sound system.

The UMW Singers, directed by Hannah Barrett & accompanied by Sheryl Cox, presented special music. Thanks to greeters & ushers. Treasurer Debra McDonald prepared the giving insert for the bulletin.



### Circle News

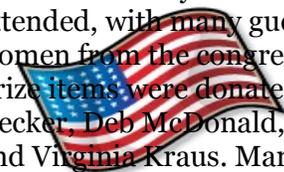
Naomi Circle met at the church May 9 with eleven members attending. Virginia Kraus was the hostess. Prayer and devotions were given by Debra McDonald and Linda Stahlman. The program was presented by Jolene Windholz and four Hays High students highlighting Helping Hands, a class offered to Hays High students. Naomi Circle will reconvene this fall on September 12 in the home of Nancy Jones with Becky Johnson co-hosting

### UMW Spring Brunch

Marsha Swanson, President

~~The UMW wants to give a special~~ 'Thank You' to Tony Anthony, who saved the day for our Spring Brunch by fixing whatever was wrong with the downstairs sound system. Also, Sandy Henningsen went the extra mile to arrange child care during the brunch, and we thank her for her efforts, too.

Debra McDonald did her extraordinary magic with all things printed, and Ruth Briney & Marguerite Stewart planned and executed the event flawlessly. Marilyn Ginther and Virginia Kraus welcomed everyone with a smile. Shalom Circle provided us with a delightful and delicious brunch, as they are known for. Shelly Stafford gave the program about Bethesda Place, a special place for special needs men. Sixty-five women attended, with many guests and women from the congregation. Door prize items were donated by Emily Decker, Deb McDonald, Ruth Briney, and Virginia Kraus. Many hands worked together to make a great day. We thank all who attended and made the event a time of joy and fellowship.



THANK YOU CHURCH FAMILY! Your generosity and support of our camping ministry brought in \$1,192 from the Talent Show and \$1,540 from our Bake Sale!! As of now we have 47 campers signed up for church camp this summer - YAY! That is once again up from last summer with 32% FUMC! We have currently depleted our camp fund, because sending all these kiddos \$3,198, so donations are always welcome for our campers!

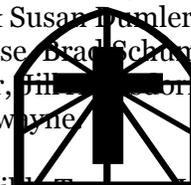
## KIDS CORNER



Yep, it's time to start writing notes for our first campers heading to church camp Monday display in the Welcome Center and grab some notecards to jot a quick note to all our campers up next. Be sure to stop by every week because we'll have a new list of campers for the upcoming weeks.

Our last WOW had us worshipping Jesus in song, hearing a profound word from Matt about growing our roots over the summer so we will blossom in the fall, assembling 200 Blessing Bags and a fun time of games, snacks and socializing at Kids Club. What an amazing year! A big thank you to all of the volunteers who faithfully attended every week to help. We truly could not have this program without each one of you!

The Education Ministry will be holding "Bible Treasure Hunt" on May 20. Our church ministry happen. We thank each and every one of you—Sandy Henningsen, Erica Berges, Jessica & Mark Luck, Rebecca Kuehl, Molly McMurtire, Shawn & Marie Henderson, Matt & Susan Trampler, Stacey Jones, Mark Hantla, Shauna & Josh Zweifel, Sarah Schwarz, Pastor Mike, Sue Rouse, Brad Schumacher, Meghan Brown, Melissa Pyle, Brenna Garcia, Lisa McGrath, Joey Roth, Brett Bruner, Jill Johnson, Mike Cooper, Sandy Aldrich, Deb Gross, Susan Jansonius, Kristi Lang, Jodi Coker & Jo Swayne



Summer Sunday School will kick off June 3 when we'll be embarking on a Bible Treasure Hunt! Look for your letter of invitation in the mail with all the important information.

Save the Dates.....July 16-19 for "Rolling River Rampage VBS." More details coming soon.

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).

My husband and I picked up two of the blessing bags as we were leaving church. It was so cold that morning and it was wet with rain and snow. We usually go to IHOP for breakfast, but we had decided that we didn't want to get out of our warm car. So, on our way to the McDonald's drive thru I was telling him what the blessing bags consisted of. He was a little skeptical about just approaching a stranger and handing them a blessing bag.

As we were discussing this he drove past the McDonald's entrance. We were laughing as he went to turn around and go back. Just as we turned around there was some young girl standing in the cold wet snow with a cardboard sign that read "Anything will help". We quickly pulled up beside her and my husband handed her a blessing bag. He briefly explained to her that the bag was from our church and we hoped that it would help her. She thanked us and immediately opened the bag and started drinking the water.

As we drove away my husband said "I think I was supposed to miss that turn." I had to laugh and said that yes, THIS time I agreed! We are so thankful that we had picked up the bags and were able to share the love of God and our church with her.

Terry & Lisa Blide

Your church **Audio team** is currently looking for additional volunteers to join our group. No experience necessary. We will train you. Time involved might be once or twice a month for Sunday services or homework is involved. Responsibilities include microphone set-up for first and second services, operating the audio console upstairs during 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).

**Congratulations to the 2018 Hays High School Graduates**

Rylea Barrett	Seth Beauchamp	Nicholas Davidson
David Gross	Abby Kennemer	Adam Klausmeyer
Mikayla Koerner	Dawson Rooney	Ben Rose
Kayla Satomi	Kaitlyn Schaben	



**Congratulations to these 2018 graduates**

**Luke Bowers**, grandson of Norm & Karen Owings, graduated from Missouri State with a BS in Production.

**Logan Renz**, son of Troy and Lisa & grandson of Vera Storer, graduated from the Kansas State Poly Technic at Salina with a BS in Aeronautical Technology with an emphasis on unmanned air craft systems.

**Thatcher Brown**, son of Troy & Sherri, graduated from FHSU with a degree in Finance.

**Mackenzie Lewis**, daughter of Steve and Carey Lewis, graduated from FHSU with a BS in Criminal Justice and a minor in Political Science.

**Ashlee Simpson**, daughter of Jackie Powell, graduated from FHSU with a BA in Education.

**Amy Rider**, daughter of Ruth Rider-ImMasche & Don ImMasche, graduated with a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Oklahoma Law School.

**Scott Rider**, grandson of Ruth Rider-ImMasche & Don ImMasche, graduated with a BS in Astronautical Engineering from the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Scott was selected for pilot training school at Vance Air force Base, Enid, Oklahoma.

Face your fears with faith (trusting that things will work out).

*Whenever I'm afraid,*

Examine your assumptions in light of the facts.

*I put my trust in you-*

Attack your anxieties with action.

*In God, whose word I praise.*

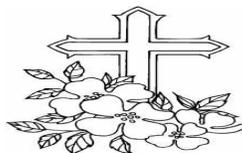
Release your cares to God.

*I trust in God; I won't be afraid.*

Adam Hamilton

*What can mere people do to me?*

Psalm 56:3-4 Psalm 56:3-4





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are all well and that God has been blessing you abundantly in this season. It has been a There is much to celebrate and much to pray for. I don't know the exact number of trafficking cases that have come into our hands and were sent to home countries in the past two months. But I know it's a lot. We currently have roughly a dozen trafficked women in our care, and several with children. We praise God for the breakthrough in the government that these women can be properly cared for and justice brought to their situations. Please continue to pray for NightLight and the country of Thailand. More new women have been coming to our free salon. We praise God for the relationships that have been building for years. We have also been receiving increased favor from the bars, as we build relationships with the managers and girls.

There is much on the horizon for NightLight, as well as me personally. As you're reading this I am likely on my way to Swaziland (recently renamed "eSwatini") for a two-week trip. I have been excitedly anticipating this journey for a few months now. I am looking forward to catching up with old ministry partners and reconnecting with the girls at Hosea's Heart. The main purpose of this trip is to relax and debrief my time so far in Thailand, and to pray and discern into what the Lord has for me long-term. I have a strong desire to return to southern Africa, but I need direction and clarity from God. Please pray for my heart in this, and that I will have peace either way.

Another exciting update! Earlier this year, I was accepted into Liberty University's Online graduate school program, to work on an MA in Human Services Counseling: Marriage and Family Counseling. I am passionate about education and I love to learn, so I am thrilled to have the opportunity to be further equipped in my calling to empower women throughout the world. I will be starting courses this summer. If any of you are aware of scholarship or grant opportunities for master's programs, please let me know.

Thank you so much for all your prayers and support! Here are my main prayer requests for this month:

- \*prayers for healing for one of the baristas who lost a baby
- \*daily strength and energy to do what God has called me here to do
- \*wisdom for all of us at NightLight as we navigate the intricate world of trafficking and exploitation
- \*protection over each of us serving in this field
- \*open hearts in the bars, streets, and the women working there
- \*direction and clarity during this trip to eSwatini
- \*provision for graduate school
- \*meaningful friendship and a supportive community here in Bangkok

Thank you friends! Please let me know how I can be praying for you in this season. If you are interested in supporting me financially, checks can be to Hays First United Methodist Church and mailed to me at 1111 Noose Road, Hays, KS 67601. Donations can also be sent via PayPal to racheldanell@gmail.com.

Blessings,

Rachel Palmberg

**Missionaries Mel & Fran Noah** request continued prayers for strength, good health, and above all blessed interaction with their Brazilian brothers and sisters. Pray for their children and grandchildren as they are separated for several months. They arrived in Brazil on March 1 and will stay until mid-June. Mel has been teaching courses in seminary and Fran has been teaching English Bible study classes and directed the Easter cantata.

# May OUTREACH

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## Upcoming Events



**Sunday, June 3**  
**Tuesday, June 5, 4:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, June 6, 13, 20**  
**Thursday, June 7 & 14, 1:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, June 9, 6-8 p.m.**  
**June 13-16**  
**Thursday, June 14, 9:00 a.m.**  
**Saturday, June 16 at dark**

**Heritage Sunday**  
**Loving Hands/Loving Hearts**  
**Youth Games, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Youth Service Project**  
**Parent Date Night**  
**Annual Conference in Wichita**  
**Crafters**  
**Drive-in Movie. church lawn**