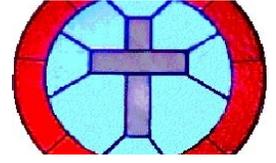


OUTREACH



Volume 29 Issue 4

First United Methodist Church

April 20, 2017

Perspective

Greetings in the Name of the Risen Christ!

You're getting on an elevator, going to the 34th floor, and an acquaintance gets on with you. "Say", he says to you, breaking the awkward silence as you get on. "As we were getting on the elevator, I saw you were talking about your Church. You seemed happy and excited about Easter. I know Easter is a special time, but I didn't grow up in the church, and I really don't know exactly what you Christians believe. So tell me, what do you believe and why?" You look and it's another 33 floors...what would you tell him? Like most thoughtful Christians, you would probably begin by saying....

Credo in Deum Patrem omnipotentem, Creatorem caeli et terrae, et in Iesum Christum, Filium Eius unicum, Dominum nostrum, qui conceptus est de Spiritu Sancto.....

Ok, so maybe you wouldn't use those exact words, but the text above is the Latin beginning to The Apostles' Creed, a creed that was written in about 390 c.e. (probably in a special council in Milan, Italy) to establish a common belief system for the young and growing Christian Church as it spread throughout the Roman Empire. The Latin version begins with the word 'Credo', meaning "I believe". And while those early Christians probably didn't have to worry about explaining their Christian belief in a 33 floor elevator encounter, they encountered plenty of people who had heard about the Christian faith, but didn't quite understand what the Christians believed or why. The Apostles Creed was created to educate and affirm a common set of core values and beliefs of the Christian faith and it is used to do so today. So you might tell your elevator companion.....

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Now comes the 'Why' part in your elevator ride. You look at your companion and he says, "I kind of knew most of that, but WHY DO YOU BELIEVE?" You look and there's another 24 floors to go....

And that's when you're glad that you signed up for the CREED: WHAT CHRISTIANS BELIEVE AND WHY class at Hays 1st UMC!...and as your elevator companion gets off with you on the 34th floor, he says, "I'd love to be a part of a church full of believers like that...would you mind picking me up next Sunday?"

I'll be leading two CREED classes beginning next week- Sundays at 9:35 a.m. in the Chapel (4/23-5/28); and Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. in Room 205(4/26-5/31). Additional information will be included in this mailing. Other class-times may be formed, so if these times don't work for your schedule, please call the church office and we will try to establish classes that will fit your needs.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Mike

Please email your OUTREACH item to haysumc@hotmail.com before Sunday, May 21., 2017

Please place the name "Outreach" in the subject line...or place your item, clearly labeled **for the Outreach**, in the office by **Sunday, May 21, 2017.** The next Outreach should be received by May 25.

Thank You

Pastor Mike,
On behalf of the huge group from Christian Student Fellowship at University of Kentucky-we want to say THANK YOU so much for allowing us to stay the night at your church! You were incredibly hospitable & helpful! It was such a huge blessing for our group. Praying God's blessing over your ministry!

In Christ,
Sarah Faye

*Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for the cards, phone calls, prayers, words of encouragement and hugs. All of your kindness has helped ease the pain of my mother's death.*

*Thank you,
Leta Stukesbary*

Thank you so much for opening up your church to us as we passed through to serve in Colorado. We know that it required effort on your part, and we are so appreciative of the love and generosity you've shown us. Thanks again for everything.

Hannah Learner
Mizzou Alternative Breaks

INTRODUCING OUR STAFF

PROGRAM STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Mike Rose
Associate Pastor, Youth Pastor: Alice Koech
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
Outreach Editor: Wendy Beougher

SUPPORT STAFF:

Administrative Secretary: Beverly Bearley
Administrative Assistant: Wendy Beougher
Financial Secretary: Don Forssberg
Childcare Director: Sandy Henningsen
Building Supervisor: Ron Herrman

Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family & friends of

*Don & Vi Hurst on the death of Don's sister, **Pauline Olsen**, on March 23rd.*

*Sherri & Johnny Matchlock, Shelby and Jay & Jordan Petz on the death of Sherri's grandmother, **Ruth Wineland**, who died on March 27th.*

***Bryan Tholen** died on April 2nd.*

***Ruth Dragoo** died April 8th.*

Please call the church office if you have a family member that will be graduating from college or university this spring.



The Community Assistance asks for your help as the food pantry is desperately low.

All confirmation students, families, and sponsors are requested to be at the 10:45 service on May 21st.

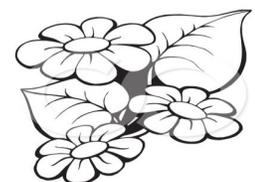
April 23 the Boy Scouts will serve a fundraising meal of pancakes, sausage and eggs after second service.

Circle News

Shalom Circle met at the church on April 10 at 7:00 p.m. President Linda Beech called the meeting to order. Julie Giess introduced Diana Pfannenstiel, APRN with HMC's Bladder & Bowel Rehabilitation Clinic. Diana explained the non surgical approach therapy used to treat bladder and bowel leakage. The therapy is for both men and women and has up to an 80% success rate with most people, requiring only 6 visits. A card was signed for Mirian Youmans. Refreshments were provided by Patty Nicholas and Virginia Johnson.

Naomi Circle met on April 12 with Traci Kennemer. Sharon Carlson assisted and served 15 members. Debra McDonald conducted the meeting. Verona Chapman presented devotions and Linda Stahlman led in prayer. Naomi Circle member Jo Swayne, presented a very informative program about the youth activities within our church. Members are encouraged to provide baked items at the church on April 23rd which will raise funds to help with camping expenses.

All women of the church are invited to the UMW's Spring Brunch on Saturday, April 22 at 9:15 a.m. Program will be "For Such A Time As This" presented by Pastor Becky Saddler, Arapahoe, Nebraska. Hope you can join us!



KIDS CORNER

It's Easter Season at FUMC!! By the time you get this, we will have paraded with palms to rejoice in the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, completed our Resurrection Eggs project in Kids Club, had our annual Easter Egg Hunt and sang hymns of joy during Easter worship services....whew!

Next up, Camp Sunday on April 23! This is the day that we have our bake sale to raise money for our Camp Fund. Again this summer, our church will pay for half of each of our church kids' camp registrations! So, if you like to bake, please bring any baked good item ready to sell and if you, like me, prefer to eat those baked goods, bring your money for our freewill donation and take home some goodies!



Important info about camp can be found on the display in the church parlor. But here's a rundown of what you need to know as a parent!

- + Summer camp is based on the year in school your child is going into this Fall.
- + Look for available camps in the Great Plains District for your child @ www.greatplainsumc.org/camps.
- + Once you've decided on a camp, fill out a registration form for each child and each camp.
- + Write a check for half of the camp registration fee(s), made payable to FUMC. One check for multiple camps and kids is fine.
- + Get the registration(s) and check into the church office by April 30.
- + Early bird deadline for camp is May 1 so we HAVE to have your registration by April 30 to postmark our packages to the camps.
- + Additional financial assistance can be made available for campers in need who fill out an orange scholarship application and turn it into the office on or before April 23.

Kids & Youth Prayse have been practicing some new music and are singing for worship services on April 30 so be sure to mark your calendars!!

Our last WOW is April 26 and the Missions Team invites EVERYONE to join in assembling "Blessing Bags" as a church wide mission project and time of intergenerational fellowship. All adult classes, Kids Club and Youth will be participating. Meet in the Gym after WOW Worship on April 26..

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).

Blessings

The Missions Committee is collecting items for "Blessing Bags" to be given to homeless or transient people. If you can bring any of the following items from now through April 23rd, please place in the container in the parlor. Items needed are granola bars, gum, mints, beef jerky and individually wrapped hand wipes. The Missions Committee is collecting items for "Blessing Bags" to be given to homeless or transient people. If you can bring any of the following items from now through April 23rd, please place in the container in the parlor.



What: Bus trip to Kansas City Royals Game

When: Saturday June 3, 2017

Cost: \$125 per person for bus transportation to Kansas City and back and your lower level Field Plaza ticket.

Details: The bus will depart from the church at 7:00 a.m. for the 1:15 game at Kauffman Stadium against the Cleveland Indians, and return to the church after the game. Stops will be made in route both ways at Junction City with the return stop a supper break.

Sign up by contacting the church office. Please make checks payable to the church.

Sign up deadline is May 2nd.

Our Youth Group is Doing World Vision's 30 Hour Famine

What: For 30 hours, we're going hungry to raise funds to help hungry children around the world.

Why: Every day over 7,000 kids die from hunger-related causes. The clock is ticking and we are taking action now!

How you can help:

1. **Give**-Every \$40 we raise can help feed and care for a child for one month. Make checks out to World Vision and give to Pastor Alice or turn into the church office.
2. **Volunteer**-There are many ways you can help. Join us for an eye-opening Famine weekend.
3. **Pray**-Ask God to bring us together and to help those in need every day.
4. **When**-April 29th & 30th.
5. Hire a youth on the 29th to help with light work or yard cleaning. Call Pastor Alice.

Our goal: We're raising \$480 to help feed and care for 12 kids for a month. We are looking for people to match this amount. So we can feed more kids. Any money beyond that will go towards Camp ministry.

Support Fair Trade

Coffees are available in the church office.



Through Fair Trade, farmers support their families, stay on their land and care for the environment. Working in democratically-run co-operatives, small scale farmers gain control of their own livelihoods and make strides together in organic agriculture and quality control. With the added income from Fair Trade, farmers invest in education and social services for their communities.

The UMCOR Coffee Project is a partnership between the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and Equal Exchange, a worker-owned co-operative offering 100% fairly traded coffee, chocolate, tea and foods. UMCOR is the humanitarian relief and development agency of the United Methodist Church

When we pray to God for patience, does God give us patience or the opportunity to be patient?
When we pray to God for courage, does God give us courage or the opportunity to be courageous?"

Of the many things we may pray for, I'm guessing we don't have to look too far to see our many endless opportunities. Opportunities to be agents of peace, of patience, of grace, of forgiveness, of kindness, of joy, of hope and of love. As we see the world around us, in fact, opportunities abound.

Courtney Fowler, Conference Lay Leader

GP Connect, Spring 2017, p. 3

Dear friends and family,

Greetings, and happy 2017! I pray this year is off to a great start for all of you. These are exciting times out here in Swaziland.

As of October, Hosea's Heart purchased a plot of 3 hectares of land about 30 minutes from town. This will be the site of our future campus. We are currently waiting for government approval to start building, which will hopefully begin in June of this year. Phase One building will include director/long-term volunteer housing, two girls' homes (to house our current girls living in town), and a large multi-purpose dining hall/chapel/everything building. By the time campus is complete (in about five years), we will be able to house over 50 girls! If you are interested in helping out financially or coming over on a short-term team, please contact me at Rachael@hoseasheart.org.

We welcomed two new girls into our home in December, Natasha and Samantha. They are both 16 years old and delightful additions to our family. Please continue to pray for their transition into the home and healing from their not-so-distant pasts. They are also both in need of sponsors. If you are interested in sponsoring them, please visit [here](#).

As of January, I am now homeschooling two of our girls full-time. I've really enjoyed going back to my "familiar" life of lesson planning and instructing, even though it keeps me very busy. I am still running the Blossom House Training Center and assisting our director with administrative duties, so please pray for my strength and energy throughout this day-to-day life.

My sister, Beckie, came to visit us for two weeks in February! We had a great time with her here. She helped with home-school (dissecting a chicken for science class), and taught new products at Blossom House.

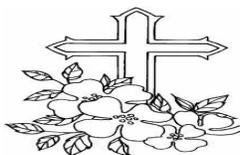
More great news! I'm now connected with a brand new church in our community, Liberty Church Manzini. It is a church plant from Liberty Church in New York. Liberty opened a community center in town about a year ago that our girls are actively involved in, and I'm very excited to be a part of the launch team for the church. I am a member of the worship team, playing guitar with the band on Sundays. It is a great family to be a part of, and I'm praising God for this wonderful opportunity.

Thank you all for your continued support over the past few years! Here is how you can be praying for us at Hosea's Heart Swaziland:

- Natasha and Samatha's healing and transition into the home
- Kalli is applying to go to college in the States and should hear back very soon from a school in Wisconsin
- Approval from the land board to start building our campus
- Funding for campus
- Rest and unity for the staff
- Pray against sickness in the girls and staff (there is a bug going around with the change of seasons)
- Future volunteers and interns

Thank you so much! Please let me know if there is any way I can be praying for you. You are all such an important part of God's work here in Africa!

In His Name,
Rachel Palmberg



Thanks to the Confirmation Class for the good job you all did putting together and leading Easter Sunrise Vigil on April 16th. Each of you did an awesome job and I'm so proud of you. Thank you parents for providing us with breakfast. I know it was early for most of us and it was good to have food after the service. Pastor Alice

April OUTREACH

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

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

**NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HAYS, KS.
PERMIT NO. 97**

Return Service Requested

Upcoming Events



| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Saturday, April 22, 9:15 | UMW Brunch |
| Sunday, April 23 | Camp Sunday, Bake Sale for Camp |
| Sunday, April 23, noon | Boy Scout Venture Crew Fundraising Meal |
| Friday, April 28– Saturday, 29 | Youth 30 Hour Famine |
| Sunday, April 30 | New Member Joining Sunday |
| Sunday, May 7 | UMW Sunday |
| Thursday, May 11, 9:00 a.m. | Crafters |
| Sunday, May 14 | Graduation Sunday |
| Sunday, May 21 | Confirmation Sunday |