



The Beacon

Volume 58 Issue 4

April 2021

University United Methodist Church
Welcoming all to grow as disciples of Christ as we
worship, learn, and serve in community.

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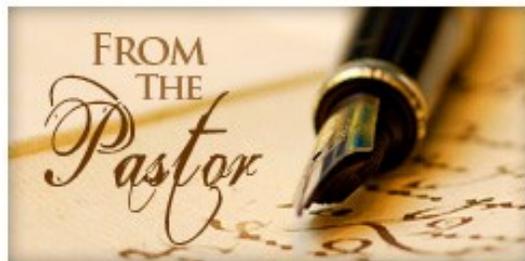
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Custodians: Linda & Bob Reece
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Pastor Jeff's information: Email Address: jpotter@greatplainsumc.org or phone 785-580-5468



Greetings in Christ,

April arrives right at the heart of Holy Week this year. Just in time for Maundy Thursday, for a last meal between Jesus and the disciples he calls friends, for a reminder from Jesus that love will be the defining mark of those who follow him. We move then to Good Friday, to a reminder of the horrific brutality of the cross, the fatal consequences of sin, and an unconditional divine love that would stop at nothing to reconcile and redeem us. We hold space and wait through Holy Saturday. And then we celebrate the awesome power of God witnessed in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ! Alleluia! What a way to kick off a new month!

Throughout the last month, our Lenten journey, and even the last year, we have experienced isolation, grief, loss, fatigue, and a number of other challenges. And through it all, we've been the Church together, we've reached out and held each other up, supported each other, and encouraged each other! That's what new life in Christ is all about! We experience new hope all around us- in the Easter promise of Resurrection, in the song of the birds against the canvas of Spring, and in the ability to begin to safely gather together once again to worship God! It is a joy to be in ministry with you and a blessing to be a part of your church family!

In Christ's Love and Light,
Pastor Jeff



Rend Your Hearts: Claiming the Promise Holy Week Worship

04.01.21 - Maundy Thursday Livestream on Facebook, from University UMC - 6:00 p.m.

04.02.21 - Good Friday Livestream on Facebook, from Perry UMC - 7:00 p.m.

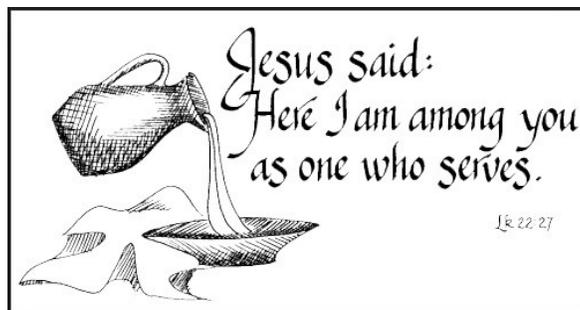
Living the Resurrection Easter Worship Series

04.04.21 - Easter Sunday - *Terror and Amazement* - Mark 16:1-8

04.11.21 - *Unless I See* - John 20:19-31

04.18.21 - *Touch and See* - Luke 24:36b-48

04.25.21 - *Listen to My Voice* - John 10:11-18



OPPORTUNITIES FOR HELPING OTHERS

501 Summer Lunch Program

Believe it or not, summer is just around the corner. And that means 501 Summer Lunch Program. While things have not completely settled down due to Covid, we *think* we are going to be able to provide hot lunches for children ages 1-18 this summer, as we have in the past. A few new rules, such as masks are required and the tables will be set significantly apart for social distancing. We are hoping the final decision will be made real soon. If you are interested in volunteering to help serve lunch to our neighborhood kiddos, this is your opportunity!! You may volunteer one day a week, one week of the summer, or however many times you would like. The time of the lunches has not been set yet. In the past it has been from Noon to 1pm. But we have been handing out weekly lunches from 11-12 on Wednesdays since November. If you are interested please contact Diana Whitney, 785.633.5559. Stay tuned for more details to come. We are going to serve lunches. The possibility exists we may continue handing out a week's worth of food once a week, but we hope to go back to in-person hot lunches by summer. Please keep the program in your prayers.

Diana Whitney

Blessing Box

The Blessing Box is being looked at by the new group who took over the building of the last 21 boxes that were built in 2018. Their name is "Bee the Blessing Box" group. They would provide a new door and paint, if needed and they will provide some food at times. I looked at our box and feel that the bottom board is not weathering well so I think a new door would be good. I don't think we need to paint it yet and have already seen some food brought to it. Carla Hearrell is "filling" the box in March and Mary Peters is taking care of in in April and June. We need someone to come forward to fill it for May and July - December. Please call Mary Winans, 785-224-4155 to sign up for a month or two. Thanks Stacey and Carla for doing the 1st & 3rd months of 2021. Always need food to put into the office for the person that is filling it, to draw from. We are getting low on Ramen noodles, soups, small shelf milk and small cereals, canned meat, snacks, small peanut butter & Jelly etc....



JUMP

The Justice ministry is in its busiest season of the year: Research to Action Season. Our Affordable Housing Committee is continuing to search for dedicated revenue sources for the affordable housing trust fund. The Committee will meet with the Topeka City Staff very soon to discuss what revenue sources they have found for the affordable housing trust fund. We expect the revenue to have multiple sources so that we can reach \$1 million per year. An investment at this level will incentivize \$6 million worth of housing development for low to moderate income families in Topeka.



Our Mental Health and Addiction's committee has been on 20 different research visits since December. We learned about a model called Oxford House. People that live in Oxford housing after treatment are twice as likely to abstain from doing drugs or drinking, than people who do not go to Oxford houses after treatment. There are 18 houses in Topeka currently, but there is a large demand for more. Oxford Houses are located in regular residential neighborhoods to give residents a sense of normalcy as they adjust back to mainstream society. Residents are required to pay rent weekly and most have full time jobs. DePaul University researchers have also found that Oxford Houses do not impact the rate of home values in neighborhoods and they do not impact the crime rate. Oxford is a successful recovery model that is helping people have a fighting chance at recovering from addiction. To learn more about what we will ask our officials to do regarding these essential campaigns, please ask Stacey Cooper.

As a reminder, University Justice Ministry Members should plan to attend the Zoom Rally on April 12, 7PM to prepare for the Nehemiah Action.

Everyone in our church should mark their calendars for the Nehemiah Action Assembly where we will hear live from our officials on what they have to say about these serious community problems. The Action is on April 26, 7pm on zoom. If you cannot access the internet, there will be a drive in option at Topeka First UMC where you can tune in by radio. You will receive a personal invitation from someone in our church. Come JUMP for justice with us!

NEW ADDRESS

Edward (Ed) Querbach
1101 SW Cottonwood Ct., Apt. L-1
Topeka, KS 66604

FINANCE

The (extra) 10%... your tithing ...

Please remember to give the (extra) 10% during the month of April from the \$1,400 stimulus check you received.

In last month's Beacon, you read that our church experienced a burst water pipe during the freeze. Repairs were made and the phone system has been replaced.

Your (extra) 10% will go a long way toward helping to pay for these repairs.

Thank you so very much!

Blessings,
Karen Myers
Finance Chair

The logo for the Finance Service, featuring the word "FINANCE" in a large, blue, serif font with a slight shadow effect, and the word "SERVICE" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font directly below it.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

B&G have been busy with the help of Val Carter getting the phone system back in working order for the whole church after the pipes froze. The emergency phone in the elevator is connected to this new phone system and it is getting hooked up too. The elevator is up and running again. Linda and Bob Reece are working hard for in-person services which started March 28 and in time for Easter, April 4. Thaine found a valve that wasn't working in the boiler room where the pipes froze. After checking the valve, I got it working. I found that the hot water pipe wasn't hooked up to the sink and repaired it. The faucet still needs some attention. Thaine found out when the pipes froze that the Fire Dept didn't have all the keys to the exterior doors, so he has been getting the doors

rekeyed and making sure the Fire Dept has the correct one for next time. Thaine picked up leaves on the North parking lot area, north garden area and the drainpipe area by the UCD stairs. Mary worked on the leaves, etc. in the west memorial garden, getting ready for spring!!! We might be able to put the glider in the north memorial garden area this year....

Bob Bearce, B&G Team Chair



Dear University Friends,

Thank you for all of the birthday wishes! You made my birthday a joyous one by your beautiful cards, flowers, delicious baked bread and phone calls.

Thank you,
Love
Peggy Harrison





BOY SCOUT TROOP 10

DRIVE THRU PANCAKE FEED

Saturday, April 10, 2021

7AM - NOON

UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
17TH & COLLEGE

To-Go packaging with pancakes, sausage
patty and a bottle of water or juice.

Served by Troop 10

Children under 5 and Cub Scouts in uniform
eat free with an adult purchase

TICKETS \$5.00

Covid-19 Precautions are being taken

For information regarding Tickets, contact Troop 10 Scout Master at 233-4360

SEE YOU THERE

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



Thrift Sale 2021

It is that time of year again – Spring Thrift Sale at University United Methodist Church – Covid19 Style. We know many of you have been saving your gently used items for over a year and we want to be able to help relieve you of those items. Having said that, there will be a new protocol. We want to proceed as we did for the summer, allowing folks to bring their items to the church but with a couple of caveats.

- We are going to need assistance from church folks so the workload may be spread among many rather than solely on a couple of shoulders. This will require 2-3 folks be available at the church to meet consumers to pick up specific items.
- Items will be sold via Marketplace on Facebook. Items will be available for the public to pick up on Saturdays between 10:00 and noon at the church.
- **No clothing or books or magazines.** We have not figured out a safe way to handle these items at this point.
- **Please do not bring any items to the church without an appointment.**
- We will request people to bring items to the church in small groups. This will allow us to let the items sit for a couple days before we handle them to put into groups.
- Items to be sold remain the same: gently used furniture, kitchen items, toys, tools, suitcases, etc.
- If items need to be picked up during the work week, give the church a call (235-2331) to make arrangements.
- If there are large items like dressers, tables, chairs to be sold, we are requesting pictures be taken by the owner or one of the chairpersons. We will then advertise the item and either plan for the potential item to be picked up at the home or we can make arrangements to bring the item(s) to the church.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

- Depending on how many people respond to providing thrift, beginning March 1, we will take in as much thrift as we feel comfortable in organizing. We will advertise these items and sell through the month of April and then begin again in May. We will try to do this throughout the summer until September and re-evaluate.
- Please call the church to make arrangements to drop off items or to make needed arrangements.

The date to start selling the thrift has not been determined. Much will depend on how many assistants sign up to support us in the endeavor. It will only require a couple of hours on a designated Saturday between 10-noon. Please prayerfully consider joining us in the Altered 2021 Spring Thrift Sale.

If you do not have any thrift for the sale (or even if you do), monetary donations are greatly appreciated so we may continue to support the missions of the UUMW.

Altered Thrift Sale Rules

1. Gather your gently used thrift.
2. Call the church (235-2331) to be sure we have room for more thrift.
3. Schedule a time to drop your thrift at the church.
4. If needed, schedule assistance with pick-up and delivery.

Thrift Sale Coordinators
 Linda Benton
 Carol Hoffman
 Linda Reece
 Dar Smith
 Diana Whitney
 Mary Winans

Spring Thrift Sale Alert
 We have had very little response to the request from the congregation to bring in their "thrift" for our Facebook Marketplace Thrift Sale. Please call the church and make arrangements to bring in your "thrift" anytime now. We were hoping to get enough "thrift" to get started by March 19-20, the usual time we have our thrift sale, but that has not happened yet. We need clean furniture, bedding, working kitchen items, ladders, tools, pictures, lawn equipment, dishes, pots and pans, TV's, etc. Just **NO** clothing, shoes, books or magazines. Please bring in your "thrift" now, call and set up a time to bring it in.

DOORSTEP

It is a little hard to believe that for over a year now we have been in the middle of this pandemic! We now have volunteers we have not seen for a year or longer! Our services continue to be over the phone, except for the clothing bank. We have certainly felt that loss of contact with people here at Doorstep, just as everyone has in their personal and/or work lives.

The month of April traditionally brings Doorstep's Annual Banquet honoring our volunteers, and the quilt drawing. With COVID still going on, we do not have plans yet for this event. It won't be in April, but hopefully later in the year we can gather again and celebrate Doorstep and our volunteers!

Most of our events are "up in the air" at this time as we see how the year goes but, you can mark your calendars for Doorstep's **4th Annual Neighbors Helping Neighbors Walk/5K Run** at Lake Shawnee. The big day is **Sunday, October 3rd at 2pm!** Come out and support Doorstep and get some exercise at the same time! We made just under \$7,500 last year with the pandemic virtual event and have a goal of \$10,000 for our fourth year!

POSITION AVAILABLE

We are currently looking to fill the Intake/Volunteer Coordinator position at Doorstep, Inc.

Call Doorstep at 357-5341 for a job description.

The preferred way of applying is through www.indeed.com to answer some questions and fill out assessments.

Thank you,

Lisa Cain



DOORSTEP

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

UMW 2021 SPRING MEETING

This year the Topeka District United Methodist Women will have their Spring Meeting via zoom on April 10, 2021, 9:30 am to noon. The title of the meeting is "Climate Justice—a Hot Topic". The guest speaker will be Reverend Juliet Kent-Hempill, of the St. John AME Church. There is more information for the Spring Meeting on the Topeka District United Methodist website under "Up Coming Events". Information on registering for the event is also on the website.

LADIES LUNCHEON TO-GO

Due to COVID we are unable to have our annual Ladies Luncheon at the church. This year we will be offering a Box Lunch that can be picked up at the church or delivered to those that can not pick them up. You can pick up your boxed lunch on **Saturday May 1st, between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.**

The cost of the lunch is \$8.00 with \$5.00 from each lunch going to UUMW missions.

The lunch includes:

- Chicken salad on a croissant**
- Pasta salad**
- 2 pinwheels, savory tortilla roll ups**
- Bag of chips**
- Grapes**
- 2 White chunk Macadamia nut cookies**
- Small bottle of water**



Please call the church office at 235-2331 or email univumc@sbcglobal.net to place your order.



TO OUR MEMBERS & FRIENDS WITH SPECIAL CONCERNS:

Jo Miller's son - John, Pam Campbell, Lisa Eiben, Jane Noble, Pam Land, Norma Pike, Michael Springer, Steve & Jan Kendall, Ed Querbach, Dave Schaffer, Gary & Jenay Weekly, Jo Miller's sister-Darla, Kathy England, Evie Unkefer's granddaughter -Ettie, Marlys Aune, Richard Brown, Debra Hayes & Family. Our Police Officers: Randy Bailey and Wendi Winans and our devoted caretakers, the essential/front line people who face COVID-19 daily, our enemies, peace for our world and prayers for our country.



Our congregation members in the Retirement Centers: Gayle Dick, Joanne Armstrong (Plaza West); Peggy Harrison, Jerry Hinton, Sue Holm & Dave Wexler, Marie Culver and Maxine McDaniel (Brewster Place); Ann Fredrickson (Lexington), Ardith Granger (Aldersgate), all nursing homes and all the essential people taking care of the residents.

TO THESE DISTRICT CHURCHES:

April 4	April 11	April 18	April 25
Stull	Tecumseh	Topeka: Asbury Mount Olive	Topeka: Countryside
Marshall Larson Chris Lesser	Lorna Boden Heather Rake	Harry Christian Glenn Blue	Paul Wilke & Christine Potter Gary Robbins



Prayer Requests

Please contact the UUMC office if you know of someone who should be included or removed from our prayer list.

If you would like to be notified by e-mail when there are new prayer requests, such as church members in the hospital, surgeries, births, deaths, etc., or if you have a prayer request you would like others to know about, contact Mary Winans at mewinans1950@gmail.com or phone 785-224-4155 and leave a message. If you do not have email and would like to be notified by phone, please call the office at 235-2331.



April Birthdays

- 1 George Carter
- 4 Rev. Jay Henderson
- 4 Josh Wilder
- 5 Diane Potter
- 6 Ed Marchant
- 7 Norma Pike
- 7 Maurine Wenger
- 8 Shannon Cooper
- 10 Hannah Whitney
- 12 Harold Wilder
- 15 David Wexler
- 17 Bill Rogers
- 17 Gary Weekly
- 18 Bob Smith
- 22 Lillia Potter
- 25 Doug Knisley
- 29 Carol Hoffman
- 29 Jen Stadler

Happy Belated Birthday
Tanner Bailey!
March 10th

If you know of a birthday
or anniversary
that has been omitted
or is not correct on this list,
please call the office and let
us know.

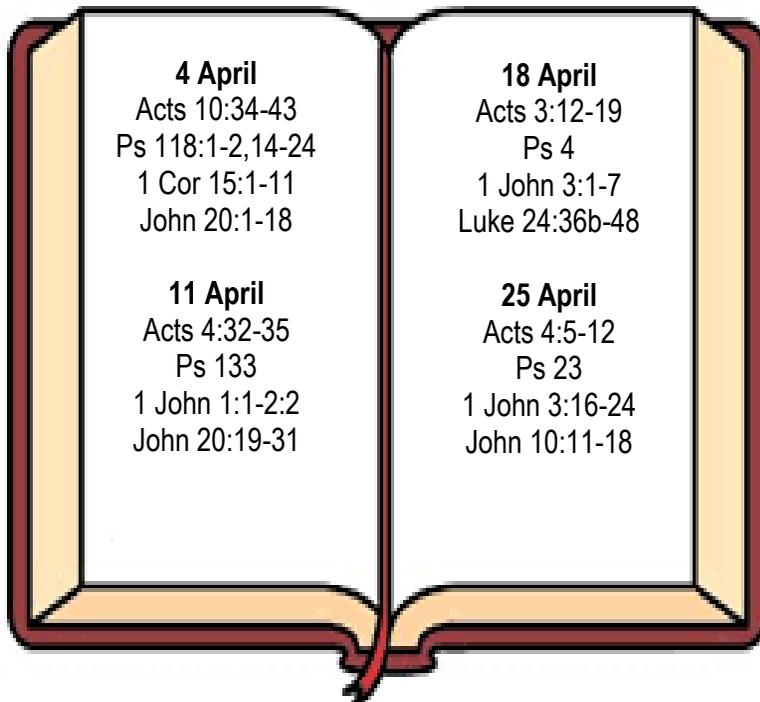
Milestone Birthdays

Wait until next year there will be a
bunch



April Anniversaries

- 21 Gary & Joyce Ward 42
- 29 Adam & Dianne Whitney 13



University UMC
1621 SW College Ave
Topeka, Kansas 66604-2761

The Beacon is published
monthly for the members
and friends of University
United Methodist Church.

*** SUNDAY SCHEDULE ***

**9:15 a.m. Worship Service
VIA Facebook**

**You can also view on YouTube
Links found on our website listed on
the front page.**

