



April 6, 2020



First Christian Church News

(Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 69 NO. 8

APRIL 6, 2020

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST
Maundy Thursday
Story Time
News from the Pews
Stations of the Cross
Easter Sunday

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Reflections

"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!" (Psalm 118:1)

Easter Sunday in southern California is usually a bright and warm day. I don't remember much rain at all on that day. It was a day I got to wear my brand-new Easter dress—you know, all decked out with my new Easter hat, gloves, new purse and shoes. The Easter bunny came early in the morning and my brother and I had a great time finding eggs all over our living room while our parents grabbed a few extra zzz's. After church, we hid the eggs for each other to find in our back yard. It was lots of fun! Everyone has their own traditions.

It wasn't until I was much older that I started to learn about Holy Week. I found that it was important to me to realize that there was more to Jesus' resurrection than Palm branches and Easter celebrations. It became important to experience the dark side of the story—to walk with Jesus through his Last Supper, prayer in Gethsemane, arrest, trial, beatings, bearing his cross down the Via Dolorosa, and death in order to make sense of the Resurrection. It's so easy to jump from celebration to celebration without realizing the cost.

This year, we are walking with Jesus through uncharted territory. The cost is all too real. Suddenly, schools and businesses closed. Suddenly, we're told to stay home. Suddenly, there is news of someone we know with the COVID-19 virus or at least someone we know knows someone with the virus. Yet, we are walking with Jesus. He understands what we are feeling, he has been through suffering and pain. We can count on his enduring and steadfast love to surround us in our scariest of times.

This year pull out that "Jesus" movie from the bottom of the pile and watch it. Open your Bible to one of the gospels and read the WHOLE book from birth to resurrection. Perhaps even read it out loud to the family. Walk with Jesus through his Passion as though you are there with him. Cry for him.

Then, when Easter Sunday comes, and we are locked in our own "Upper Room" along with the other disciples in our houses, the Lord's resurrection will take on a whole new meaning. Mary Magdalene's discovery will bring extreme joy!

This Easter will be different from any other year we have ever known, but this year, perhaps our celebrations will be the most meaningful of all. This week, as we continue to walk through the valleys of this pandemic, feeling all of it, let's remember the end of the story: HE IS ALIVE! Jesus Christ is risen, just as he said! (Matthew 28:6). ". . .his steadfast love endures forever!"

Peace and good health. Stay safe!

Pastor Lorraine

Join us for At Home Worship

At Home Worship on Facebook

Find us on Facebook at **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Emporia, KS** to join us for worship at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays! For our Easter Sunday service, Pastor Lorraine will give the message entitled, "Forever Changed." This week's scripture is Matthew 28:1-10.

At Home Worship via Email

You are encouraged to open your email at 10:30 a.m. to be part of our worshipping community. Just sign-in and let us know you are with us. If you would like to be added to our e-mail worship service, send us an e-mail at fccoffices@yahoo.com to let us know!

In the month of March, the Food Pantry helped **62 families**, consisting of **127 people** with food, plus **various other items**. Of those families, **26 were new** to us.

Our pantry continues to be a lifeline for those in our community.



Lonnie Atchison (*cancer*); **Lea Beers** (*medical*); **Glenn Boyce** (*medical*); **Lisa Cress** (*uterine cancer*); **Lynn Cress** (*heart surgery*); **Marilyn Dalton** (*sprained ankle*); **Wanda Davis** (*hip rehab*); **Joe Denson**, (*hip surgery*); **Brooke Franklin** (*cancer*); **Brad Jones** (*heart problems*); **Steve & Ramona Langley** (*brother-in-law and sister of Betty Richardson*); **Joe Lozier** (*brain tumor, father of Jen Dalton*); **Steve Martin** (*stem cell cancer treatment*); **Jeanice Miller** (*sciatic nerve pain*); **Betty Pierson** (*medical, no calls please*); **David Smith** (*cousin of Jeanice Miller, diabetic amputation*); **Andrea Vandruff** (*kidney issues*); and **Aubrey Wescott** (*stomach problems*).



Keeping the World in prayer

The Coronavirus continues to spread throughout our communities and states in the United States. The U.S. is now third in the world in the number of cases of the COVID-19. Please pray for the hundreds of thousands of people who are infected, the thousands who are in serious condition and for the families and friends of the tens of thousands who have already died. Please give thanks to God for God's presence as governments seek to protect their people through safety measures and please remember to give God thanks for the tens of thousands of people who have recovered. Please keep each other in prayer.

Upcoming Serving Schedule



Apr. 12, 2020—Easter

Elder ~ Robert Chatham

Worship Leader ~ Barb Gimple

Apr. 19, 2020—2nd Sunday of Easter

Elder ~ Marlene Hanson

Worship Leader ~ Robert Chatham

Attendance and Giving Record

ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

March 29, 2020 At Home Worship 20+

April 5, 2020 At Home Worship 23+

GIVING RECORD

Mar. 22&29~Offering \$3,054.00 / Building \$20.00

Apr. 5, 2020~Offering N/A / Building N/A



April Anniversaries

- 16 Reese & Breann Johnson
- 17 Nik & Sarah Roth

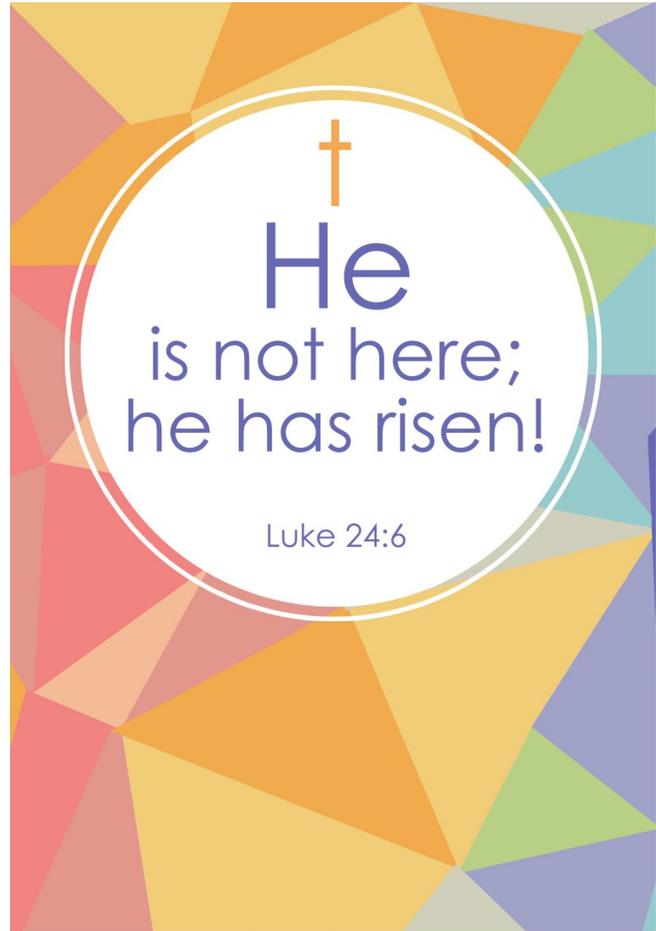
April Birthdays

- 07 Briana Becker
- 08 Debbie Davis
- 08 Porter Garnett
- 13 Dina Breckenridge
- 15 Gavin LeClear
- 18 Diana Solis
- 20 Jim Siebert
- 21 Tammie McDiffett
- 22 Kohlby Ketchum
- 24 Kara Horton (Office)
- 24 Gale Kelley
- 24 Betty Richardson
- 25 Andy Kuhn
- 30 Wanda Davis



Mark The Dates

Until further notice, all scheduled “in-person” meetings are cancelled. Alternative meeting methods such as conference calls, meetings on Zoom, meetings through email, etc. will be used.



THE SECRET PLACE

Devotions for Daily Worship
The Spring 2020
(March, April, May)
Secret Place daily devotional
books

have arrived and are located on the hall table.

Still only **\$1.00 per copy so get yours today!**



Thoughts to Ponder

Count all your blessings. Sometimes the smallest ones are worth the most!
 Don't give up—look up!
 Laughter is the music of the soul.
 Don't wait to cram for finals. Read the Bible now!
 When you are in a dark place, you might think you have been buried. Perhaps you've been planted. Bloom.



Lectionary Readings

Lectionary Schedule
April 12—May 17, 2020

Apr. 12, 2020—Easter Day

Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6
 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
 Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43
 John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

Apr. 19 2020—2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
 Psalm 16
 1 Peter 1:3-9
 John 20:19-31

Apr. 26, 2020—3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
 1 Peter 1:17-23
 Luke 24:13-35

May 3, 2020—4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47
 Psalm 23
 1 Peter 2:19-25
 John 10:1-10

May 10, 2020—5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60
 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
 1 Peter 2:2-10
 John 14:1-14

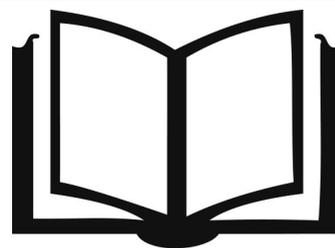
May 17, 2020—6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31
 Psalm 66:8-20
 1 Peter 3:13-22
 John 14:15-21



MaundyThursday

Find us on Facebook at **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Emporia, KS** to join us for our Maundy Thursday Service, which will be live streaming on our Facebook page on Thursday, April 9th at 7:00 p.m. If you are unable to join us then, you can always watch it later!



Story Time

Stayed tuned on our Facebook page to find exciting new videos where Pastor Lorraine will be reading different books or children's stories. There will be three different kinds of videos:

In **Story Time with Pastor Lorraine**, she will read a children's story book, sometimes with stuffed animals included.

For **Bible Stories with Pastor Lorraine**, a different Bible story will be read each video.

Reading with Pastor Lorraine will be a series of videos, as a chapter book will be read for older children to follow along with.



NEWS *from the* **PEWS**

News from the Pews

We would like to start a new series to share good news within our church community, especially to stay more connected to each other during this time. If you have some especially good news from your family that you wouldn't mind sharing, or an event or service that you would like us to know about, we would love to hear it! Please e-mail fccoffices@yahoo.com with your good news, so your church family can celebrate with you!



Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross generally consists of traveling to different churches, with each depicting a different scene from the life of Jesus leading up to his crucifixion on the cross. This year, Stations of the Cross will be celebrated via Zoom on Good Friday, April 10, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Please watch your e-mail for the invitation to join us on Zoom to celebrate this important occasion.

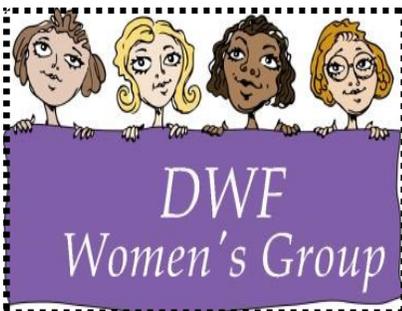
STATIONS *of the* CROSS



Easter Sunday Service

Easter is almost here, and we would love to have you join us in celebration of our Savior's resurrection! For this year's Easter Service, you can celebrate with us through Facebook Live on Sunday, April 12th at 10:30 a.m. You can also worship with us by participating in the e-mail service that will be sent out Sunday morning!

EASTER SUNDAY



DWF News

DWF is collecting recipes for a cookbook to help support the new Jones cabin at Camp Tawakoni. They will be sent in at the end of April. If you have some recipes that you would like to share for this, you can e-mail them to Judy Moore at sewjam@hotmail.com.

First Christian Church
Lorraine W. Bailey,
Transitional Minister



“The mission of First Christian Church is to inspire each other to reach out to the un-churched and to serve and share with our community by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

202 East 12th Avenue
 620-342-1582 Church Office
 Web Page www.fcemporio.org
 Email Office fccoffices@yahoo.com
 Pastor: Rev. Lorraine Bailey
 Email: pastorlorraineb@gmail.com

Office Hours

8 a.m. until Noon, Monday through Friday.
Pastor Lorraine—8:00 am to 11:00 am, Tuesday through Friday. Afternoons by appointment.



Next Newsletter Deadline
Apr. 20, 2020 & May 4, 2020



April 2020

5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Easter Special Offering Palm Sunday • 10:30am At Home Worship	Newsletter Deadline • 1:30pm Emily Prouse Cooking Class		• 9:30am NE KS Clergy-Topoka • 6:15pm Stewardship Committee Meets	Maundy Thursday • 10:30am Emily Prouse Cooking Class • 5pm Elder's Study • 7pm Maundy Thursday Service	Good Friday • 12pm Stations of the Cross	
Easter Special Offering Easter Sunday • 10:30am At Home Worship	Easter Monday • 1:30pm Emily Prouse Cooking Class	• 4:30pm Bible Study	• 5pm Worship Ministry Meets • 6:15pm Board Meeting		• 8:30am CWU Friendship Coffee	
• 10:30am At Home Worship	Newsletter Deadline • 1:30pm Emily Prouse Cooking Class	• 4:30pm Bible Study	• 5:30pm Facilities Meeting	• 5pm Elders Meeting		• 7pm St. Andrew's Concert

Amid troubled times, sometimes our worries seem like monsters . . .

The Monster in the Sun (attributed to Aesop)

An astronomer observed the sun through a telescope in order to make a drawing of the several spots that appear on its face. While he was in the midst of his task, he was surprised by an astounding appearance: A large portion of the sun was suddenly covered by a monster of enormous size and form. It had huge wings, a great many legs, and a long nose. The astronomer knew it was alive because he could see its movements.

The man made some calculations and learned the size of the animal would cover half of the earth's hemisphere and that it was seven or eight times as big as the moon. It was also astonishing what heat it could bear as it crawled upon the sun.

The astronomer gathered many of his colleagues, and they were astounded by the accuracy of his observations. Yet, there was one that was more cautious than the rest, and before making the news public he wanted to investigate further. He opened the telescope and found a small fly trapped inside. Thus the monster was eliminated from the sun.