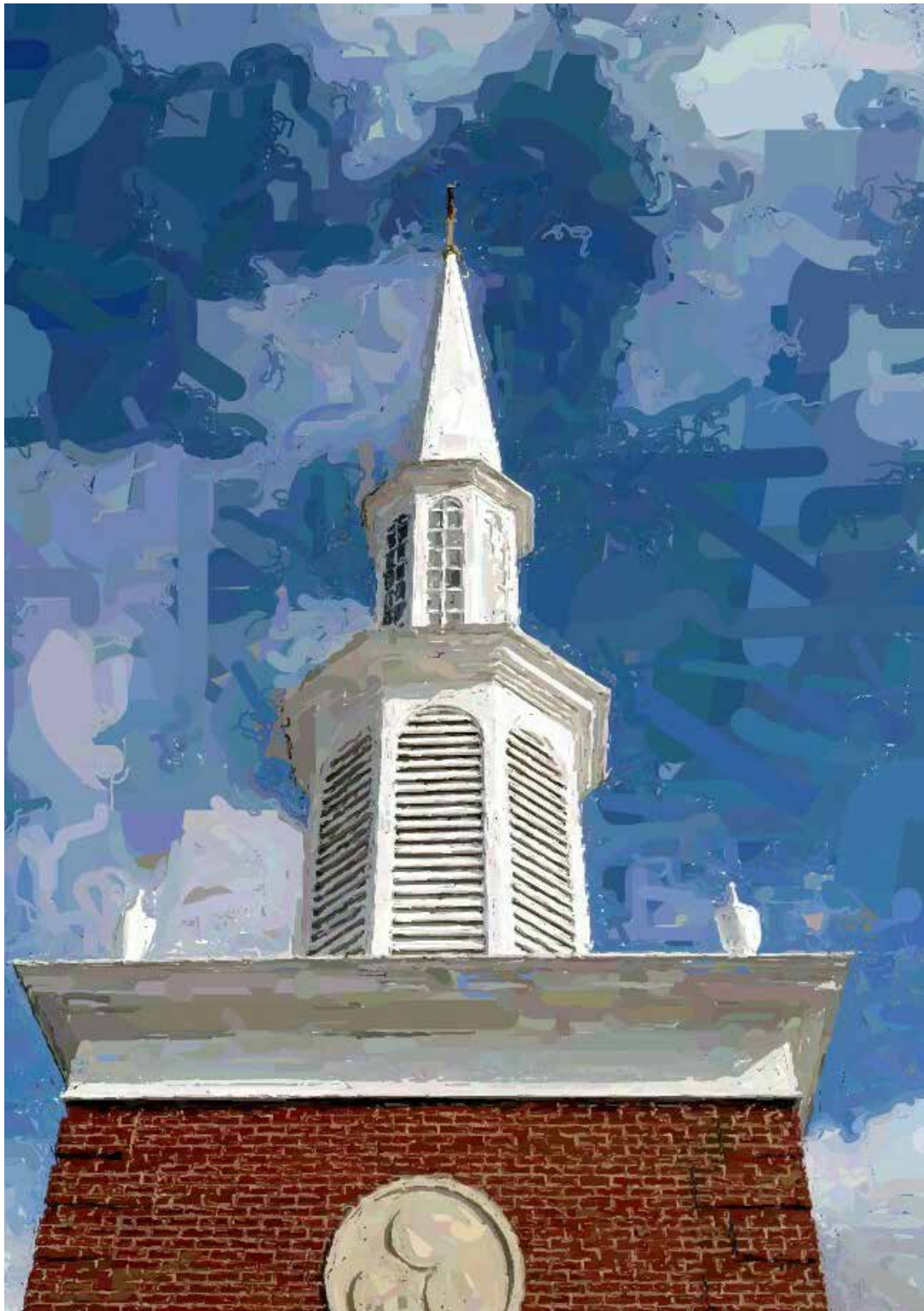


THE SPIRE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
IN PRATT, KS

138TH YEAR OF MINISTRY

APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER



Christ Follower or Christian

There are many of our youth that are involved in sports throughout the school year. As a coach and former student/athlete I still get excited when I walk onto a field or arena and take in the sights and sounds of an athletic contest. While the spectators enjoy watching the game it is only the coaches and players that can participate and determine the outcome, the fans cannot influence the final score.

What is the difference between a spectator and a player? The answer is that there is a difference between the commitment. As a player and coach, you are all in, you have committed your time and energy to your sport and that can make a difference. As a fan, you have no skin in the game, you can not influence the outcome, only watch helplessly as your team wins or loses based on their performance which is determined by their efforts prior to the game and during the game. This is true also of our spiritual commitment. Are you a fan of Christ or a follower of Christ? Jesus died for our sins, and we have a gift of salvation. "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast." The difference is between having religion and having a personal relationship with Christ. Being a Christ follower comes at a great cost, just like the athletes who sacrifice their time, energy and devote their lives to a sport, Jesus devoted and gave his life for us. He suffered and died a brutal death for us. A Christ follower is 100% committed to walking in obedience to Gods word every day. Their daily priority and purpose is focused on God's plan, they are willing to sacrifice their time, treasure and talent for Gods Kingdom work. In the game, on the field or following the coaches' instructions, they are not in the stands looking on, they are in the game and looking to bring glory to God in every play they make in sport and in life. Even when counting the cost, Christ followers will be blessed beyond measure and used by God and his Kingdom.

Don't be a fan of Christ, get in the game and be a follower. The sacrifice and cost is a game and life changer. See you at the Church!

Puppets



Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Open to kids 4th grade and above. Puppeteers do not have to be members of our church. Friends who might enjoy puppets are welcome to visit to see how much fun we have. Looking forward to getting started:

Debbie Withers 620 672 8237 and Charmaine Swanepoel 620 388 3149.

Debbie & Charmaine



THE LITTLE CHILDREN AND JESUS



Mark 10:13-14

13 People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them.

14 When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

Humble Scholarship

The Pratt First United Methodist Church Endowment Committee encourages members of our church to apply for the Humble Scholarship. Two scholarships of \$1,500.00 per semester are available for undergraduate or graduate students who meet the requirement of a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Submit the application by May 1 and recipients will be selected by the committee.

The application and scholarship information are on the church Website: www.prattumc.org. Go to Youth, Scholarship and Humble Endowment Scholarship. Complete the application and submit.

College and High School Graduates

Graduation Sunday will be coming up soon. Please submit names of graduates and where they are graduating from along with a photo for the Spire to the church office by May 6 so no one will be missed. Thank you!

Education Partnership



At Pratt First United Methodist Church, we have made a commitment to our local schools. This has stemmed from both the commitment the Great Plains Annual Conference (Kansas and Nebraska) of the United Methodist Church made entering into partnerships with public schools in their communities to support schools, teachers, and students and our own desire to support the schools, teachers, and students to see our community and world transformed in positive ways.

Pratt First United Methodist Church has several ways that we fulfill this commitment and we strive to find new ways to partner with Pratt USD 382, Skyline USD 438, and Cunningham USD 332. This year, our congregation is praying for the teachers, administrators, and staff of these districts. We will pray for every teacher, staff member and administrator by name, each for a week. We will also pray for the schools and students.

Wednesday April 6 and
Friday April 15
Lenten Luncheons
at 11:45 a.m.



Graduate Breakfast
Confirmation Sunday

Youth Sponsored Palm Sunday Dinner – Sunday, April 10th
Palm Sunday Ham Dinner
Free-will donations
To-Go meals Available



The church has ordered lilies for the Sanctuary for Easter. If you would like to purchase one, in memory or in honor of a loved one, the cost is \$15.00. Notify the church office if you would like to participate!

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
APRIL 15 AT 7:00 P.M.



PRAYER VIGIL
APRIL 15TH 6:00 A.M.-7:00 P.M.



EASTER EGG HUNT 10:00



Forgiving What You Can't Forget by Lysa TerKeurst



Forgiveness is a major part of the Christian faith. But how do we actually put it into practice when we're the ones who've been hurt? In *Forgiving What You Can't Forget* bible study, Lysa TerKeurst shares a plan to free yourself from hurt, disempower triggers that hijack your emotions, deal with difficult relationships, and discover life-giving freedom our souls desperately need.

Beginning: Tuesdays

When: 6:00 p.m.

Where: Heritage Room

Contact Melanie Black 620-388-6920 for more information

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The apostle Paul didn't plan to go to Galatia. God used a physical ailment to direct him there, carrying the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. The relationship Paul would build with the Galatian converts, and his determination for the truth of the gospel to be preserved among them, led to one of the most passionate letters in the New Testament. Paul would not sit quietly by and let those who'd been liberated by Christ's glorious gospel submit again to a yoke of slavery. He'd send a letter with the volume turned up, calling believers to stand firm in the truth, stay bold in love, and walk by the Spirit. He'd remind them what it looked like to live for God's approval rather than human approval. The eternal words God entrusted to Paul for the churches of Galatia are as needed today as they were when the ink was still wet on the ancient pages. Join Beth and Melissa Moore for a six-week deep dive into Paul's captivating letter to the Galatians. Come to know the letter's original recipients. Discover, or perhaps rediscover, what makes the gospel of Jesus Christ revolutionary to those who choose to believe.



Women's Bible Study

Contact: Peggy Ellison

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

Conference Room

(620) 770-0469



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMW Executive Board will meet in Fellowship Hall
on April 14 at 10:00 a.m.

A “Brunch” of Tablescapes

BEAUTIFUL TABLES,
DELICIOUS FOOD,
AND GOOD COMPANY!



Men of Faith

Fellowship Hall
Breakfast, Devotions, Discussion
April 2 & 16

Meet each first and third Saturdays at 7:30 a.m..



Health kits delivered to UMCOR

The 205 health kits that our women assembled in November have now been delivered to UMCOR Sager-Brown in Baldwin, Louisiana.

The campus usually is bustling with activity, but for the past 2 years, due to Covid, it has been closed to everyone except by appointment only. When we arrived at our appointed time, we placed the boxes containing the health kits inside the big box on the loading dock at the Depot and then went to the administration office and delivered the envelope containing the



check to cover the cost of the toothpaste that will later be added to the kits.



Miss Betty Foulcard, who has worked on this campus since it was opened right after Hurricane Andrew in 1992, shared that this has been a very tough two years and she is looking forward to when they will be able to reopen the campus to volunteers.

There will be need for lots of volunteers to help get all of the donations ready to be sent out. During the past two years, requests continue to come in for health kits, cleaning buckets and school kits and they have been able to ship them out. There still are some items in the Depot ready to be shipped out, but the supply is dwindling.

She wanted to be sure that our church knew how much they appreciated this donation.

VIM Project Calendar 2022

The VIM team of the Great Plains Conference ended up with an abbreviated project list for 2021. We feel very blessed that we were able to participate at Camp Horizon in April, Camp Chippewa and Camp Lakeside in May, Alpha Christian Children's Home and EmberHope-Youthville in June, Camp Buckhorn in Colorado in July and returned to Camp Lakeside in September. The 2021 January, February, March and October projects were all cancelled due to Covid.

The project list for **2022** has now been set. All projects have good accommodations. Consider joining us on one of the projects being the hands and feet of Christ helping in situations that need support and assistance to better continue on in their ministries. Serving Him,

Contact Team Leaders for more information. All skill levels needed Registration Fee: \$150/person/project

Chuck: 620-770-0410 / Linda: 620-770-0411 / clbuch@sbcglobal.net

KANSAS, Arkansas City – Camp Horizon..... April 3-8, 2022

Team Leaders: Bill & Janet Ward RV/nonRV

(H) 620-221-2973 / (C) 620-229-1393 / wgward@ispkansas.com

KANSAS, Scott City – Camp Lakeside #1..... April 24-29, 2022

Team Leaders: Rick and Annette Holbrook RV/nonRV

Rick: 316-765-4363 / imreholbrook8@gmail.com Annette: 316-648-4083 / imaholbrook8@gmail.com

KANSAS, Ottawa – Camp Chippewa.....May 15-20, 2022

Team Leader: Bob Moore RV/nonRV

712-789-1084 / bobmo509@netins.net

KANSAS, Newton – EmberHope-Youthville..... June 19-24, 2022

Team Leaders: Chuck & Linda Buchmueller RV/nonRV

Chuck: 620-770-0410 / Linda: 620-770-0411 / clbuch@sbcglobal.net

COLORADO, Bellvue – Buckhorn Camp July 10-21, 2022

Team Leaders: Rick and Annette Holbrook RV/nonRV

Rick: 316-765-4363 / imreholbrook8@gmail.com Annette: 316-648-4083 / imaholbrook8@gmail.com Team

KANSAS, Scott City – Camp Lakeside #2..... September 11-16, 2022

Team Leaders: Rick and Annette Holbrook RV/nonRV

Rick: 316-765-4363 / imreholbrook8@gmail.com Annette: 316-648-4083 / imaholbrook8@gmail.com

KANSAS, Perry – Alpha Christian Children's Home.....October 2-13, 2022

Team Leader: Bob Moore RV/nonRV

712-789-1084 / bobmo509@netins.net

To see pictures of our past projects and follow our current projects:

www.Facebook.com/VIMTeamKansasandNebraska

OR On your own Facebook page – In upper left search bar, key in: VIM Team of the Great Plains UMC

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 1 Jeremy Demuth

April 1 Bob Moore

April 3 Michael Bonham

April 4 Shannon Sterling

April 5 Rebecca Stone

April 6 Jake Garrett

April Kevin Gates

April 8 Rose Ann Lunt

April 9 Makenna Blasi

April 9 Joan Clark

April 9 Erin Kirby

April 9 Austin McClain

April 10 Suzanne Hageman



April 11 Sydney Henke

April 12 Lewis Hearn

April 13 Kelli Smiley

April 14 Jane Biles

April 15 Heather Winklepleck

April 16 Jimmy Lee

April 16 Kevin Younie

April 18 Tom Jones

April 18 Elly Sneath

April 19 Keagan Davidson

April 19 Elly Fowler

April 20 Kasi Stelzer



April 20 Gene Stotts

April 21 Blake Blasi

April 21 Ruth Anna Stotts

April 21 Brynn Wilson

April 22 Nita Lesuer

April 23 Norma Carlson

April 24 Morgan Trinkle

April 25 Kylie Riffey

April 25 Samantha Snell

April 25 Shelby Stevens

April 26 Justin Bailey

April 28 Colby Barradas

April 29 Jami Battin

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



April 6 David & Lu Kramer
April 8 Alan & Marie Hanson
April 8 Clinton & Heather Skaggs
April 16 Daryl & Tracy Trimpe



THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone for their kindness and prayer during my time of illness.

Betty Norrish

FUMC Worship Service each Sunday
at 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Each Sunday here at First United Methodist Church, we provide a unique worship experience. Whether you are a life-long member or a first-time visitor, we welcome you to our congregation!

Our 10:30 a.m. Worship Service is recorded and uploaded to the church's Facebook page,

<https://www.facebook.com/PrattFirstUMC> and at the church website,

<http://prattumc.org/sermons.html> as soon as possible following the service.

Sunday School Classes are meeting at 9:15 a.m.

April Calendar

If you have something that you would like to put in The Spire, please email Jane Bolen jane.bolen@yahoo.com or call her at 620 770-2110 by the 20th of the month before the next Spire.

Month 2022	April 2022	May 2022
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	29 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
					7:30 AM Men of Faith	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Church in Fellowship Hall 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Church in the Sanctuary 11:45 AM Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 	5:30 PM Circles of Hope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Youth , N'Cahtoots 6:00 PM Ladies Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Ladies Prayer Group 9:30 AM Community Office Hrs 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 11:45 AM Lenten Luncheon 3:45 PM J.A.M. 4:00 PM Puppets 5:00 PM Snack Supper 6:00 PM Middle School Youth 6:00 PM The Study 7:00 PM High School Youth Group 	10:00 AM UMW Executive Committee		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>Confirmation Sunday</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>Only one service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Church in the Sanctuary with Puppets 11:30 AM Youth Sponsored Ham Dinner 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 	5:30 PM Circles of Hope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Youth , N'Cahtoots 6:00 PM Ladies Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Ladies Prayer Group 9:30 AM Community Office Hrs 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 3:45 PM J.A.M. 4:00 PM Puppets 5:00 PM Snack Supper 6:00 PM Middle School Youth 6:00 PM The Study 7:00 PM High School Youth Group 	<p>Maundy Thursday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Quilts of Valor 10:00 AM UMW Executive Committee 	<p>Good Friday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:45 AM Lenten Luncheon 6:00 PM Prayer Vigil 7:00 PM Good Friday Service 	7:30 AM Men of Faith
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>Easter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Church in Fellowship Hall 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 AM Church in the Sanctuary 	Church office closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Youth , N'Cahtoots 6:00 PM Ladies Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Ladies Prayer Group 9:30 AM Community Office Hrs 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 3:45 PM J.A.M. 4:00 PM Puppets 5:00 PM Snack Supper 6:00 PM Middle School Youth 6:00 PM The Study 7:00 PM High School Youth Group 7:00 PM Rebekah Guild 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Sarah Guild 9:30 AM Naomi Guild 		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Church in Fellowship Hall 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Church in the Sanctuary 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 	5:30 PM Circles of Hope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Youth , N'Cahtoots 6:00 PM Ladies Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Ladies Prayer Group 9:30 AM Community Office Hrs 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 3:45 PM J.A.M. 4:00 PM Puppets 5:00 PM Snack Supper 6:00 PM Middle School Youth 6:00 PM The Study 7:00 PM High School Youth Group 			

SUNDAYS

Church Service 8:00 a.m.
 Church Service in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

MONDAYS

Circles 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Ladies Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
 Youth, NCahoots 7:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Ladies Prayer Group, FH 8:00 a.m.
 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
 J.A.M. 3:45 p.m.
 Puppets 4:00 p.m.
 Snack Supper 5:00 p.m.
 The Study 6:00 p.m.
 Youth-Middle School 6:00 p.m.
 Youth-High School 7:00 p.m.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU all for trying to keep the Little Free Pantry stocked with food for whoever might need it.

The 50/50 Class has discussed the items that are being put into the Little Free Pantry. We have been finding caned goods that are 5 years old being put into the Pantry as well as many as ten dried egg packets, several large sacks of dried peas, big quantities of instant potatoes, many bags of rice and spaghetti. These items are not being taken and they take up room in the Pantry that could be for items



that folks use. We thank all who do help keep the Pantry stocked!

Blessings on you!!

For information: Ed Boots. 620-388-3480 or <esboots@cox.net

ENJOY BOOKS
IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Kay Sewell donated two new books for the UMW reading program.

She Persisted by Chelsea Clinton and *Cinderella Liberator* by Rebecca Sel it .

Sarah Guild has donated *Jesus Calling* in memory of Jean Brown

First United Methodist Church
The Spire
P. O. Box 316
100 N. Jackson
Pratt, KS 67124

Phone: (620) 672-6473
Pastor Nicole's cell (913) 360-4500
email: jjohnson@prattumc.org
Web site: www.prattumc.org

Office Hours:
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.



You may pick up your copy of *The Spire* at the church. If you wish to have your name added to the email list, please advise Jacqueline Johnson at jjohnson@prattumc.org or Jane Bolen at jane.bolen@yahoo.com

Staff

Pastor.....Nicole Schwartz-Eck
Youth Director.....Mike Manderino
Business ManagerJacqueline Johnson
Facilities Coordinator.....Louis Keeling
Organist/Pianist.....Jane Biles
Praise Band Director Don Buhler
Audio/Video Coordinator..... Jeremiah Eck