

THE SPIRE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
IN PRATT, KS

135TH YEAR OF MINISTRY

APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER





Love Outside of Our Comfort Zones

“We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28) I keep telling myself that. I keep trying to stay positive. But this pandemic thing is hard.

It's taking me out of my routine. It's totally done away with my comfort zone. It's made me want to quarantine myself and turn off all my electronics so I don't have to deal with all the different and new ways of doing things. But I don't think that is the purpose to which I have been called. I don't think it is the purpose to which any of us have been called.

The first and most important call on our lives is to love God and to love one another. Love requires expression. Love is not real meaningful if we just keep it to ourselves. We need to let people know we love them. We need to let God know we love him. Right now, and for a while to come, that expression will require us to get familiar with different and new.

I've always talked a lot about how being the church calls us out of our comfort zones. And now, life is calling us out of our comfort zones. While we're out there, let's look for the good. Look for the good in finding new ways to communicate and connect with people you miss seeing at church. Look for the good that comes from spending more time with those you love. Look for the good that comes from having more time to notice and appreciate God's creation as Spring is arriving.

During this time that we are asked to stay at home, we may not get everything we want. But I believe God will give us what we need, as II Corinthians 9:8 says, “And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

In these trying times, let's focus on God's goodness and recognize that we have all that we need to work together to show the world God's goodness, and fulfill the purpose to which we have been called as God's people.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Marvin

Pastor Nicole hopes to find ways to make disciples of Jesus Christ



Rev. Nicole Schwartz-Eck comes to First United Methodist Church in Pratt, Kansas from First United Methodist Church in Coffeyville, KS. She has served churches in both Kansas East Conference and the Great Plains Conference. Pastor

Nicole grew up in Atchison, KS, received her Bachelors of Science in Elementary Education from Baker University in Baldwin City, KS and her Master of Divinity from Saint Paul School of Theology. She considers herself a “cradle-roll” United Methodist, growing up in the Atchison United Methodist Church and the Kansas East Conference.

She participated in in the UMW Southern US Study Tour, the Israel Study Tour, the UN/DC Tour, and Institute (a high school camp at Baker University). She values youth and youth ministry because through these ministries she first heard her call to ministry.

Previous to her time serving churches, she spent time working at McDonald’s, in the classroom teaching, in AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (N.C.C.C.), and as a Community Mental Health Case Manager which gives her a depth and breadth of experience in addition to pastoral experience to bring into ministry.

She is excited to find new ways to help disciples live out the Great Commission and the mission of the United Methodist church, to “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

Her community ministry has included police & fire Chaplaincy, hospital chaplaincy, ministerial alliance participation, community health and wellness task forces, the board of Boys & Girls Club of Southeast Kansas, and the board of the Genesis Food Pantry. She has also been a member of Kiwanis and P.E.O.

With Pastor Nicole, comes her husband Jeremiah Eck and their young son, Cole. In their spare time, they enjoy sports, golf, grilling, and family time.

Church Activities Cancelled Until Further Notice

YOUTH and CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Jesus and Me, Middle School and High School YOUTH Group

J.A.M. 4 years old through 4th Grade	4:00 P.M.
5th and 6th Grade Middle School Group	6:00 P.M.
7th and 8th Grade Middle School Group	6:00 P.M.
High School Group	7:15 P.M.



Continue to PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN, OUR TEENS, OUR TEACHERS, OUR LEADERS, AND OUR FAMILIES AS WE MAKE THIS FAITH JOURNEY TOGETHER.



Bring a sack lunch
(finger foods)

\$5 for each child

from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

No Mom's Day Out
on March 13 & 20

Ladies Bible Study Group

On Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.
in the Heritage Room, a video study
by Priscilla Shirer, *The Armor of God*

Contact Peggy Ellison at 620 770-0469. Leave a message.

PRISCILLA SHIRER

The Armor of God



QUILTING GROUP

The Methodist Quilters are almost caught up. If you have a quilt top you would like to have finished, please call Jean Bailey, June Daughetee, Marilyn Kennedy or Priscilla White.



Men of Faith

Fellowship Hall
Breakfast, Devotions, Discussion

Bible Study Will Resume Soon

WHAT WOULD CHANGE IF YOU REALLY UNDERSTOOD ALL THAT GOD HAS DONE AND IS DOING FOR YOU?

Sure we know in our head that God is for us, that there's great hope in his relationship with us and salvation for us, but sometimes these truths can be hard to believe in the midst of exhaustion, busyness, and a world of spiritual and physical opposition. *If God Is For Us* is a devotional Bible Study on Romans 8 designed to cement in your soul the great truths of our salvation and an understanding for how the Holy Spirit guides our new life in the Spirit, all found in this beloved chapter of Scripture.

Find out why so many Christians list Romans among their favorite books of the Bible—that Romans is packed with profound truth after profound truth which are then followed up with life-changing promise after life-changing promise.

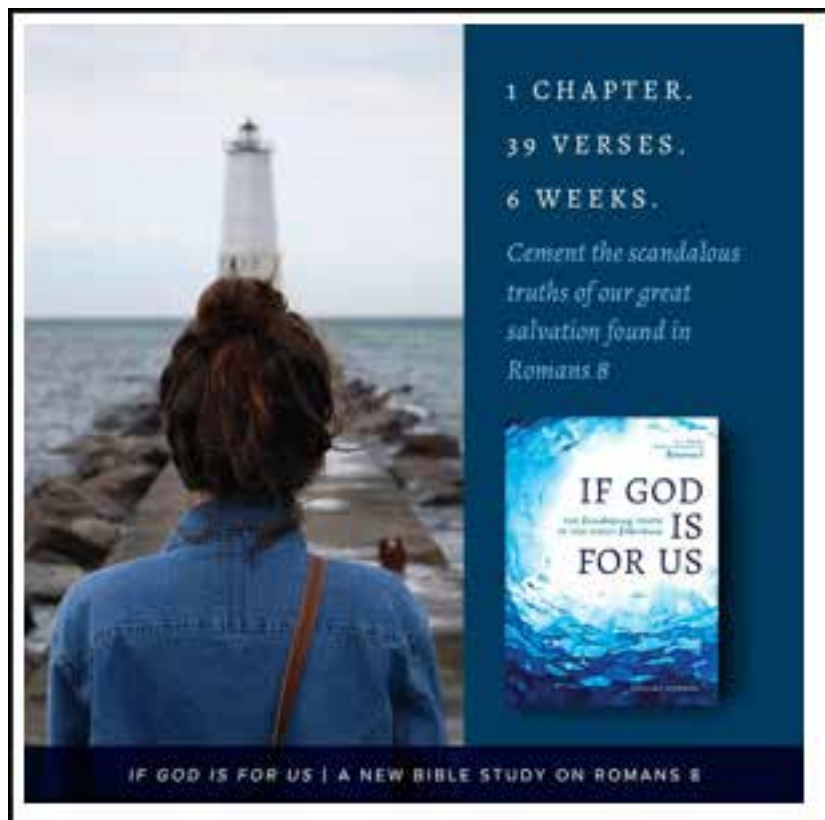
See you there...

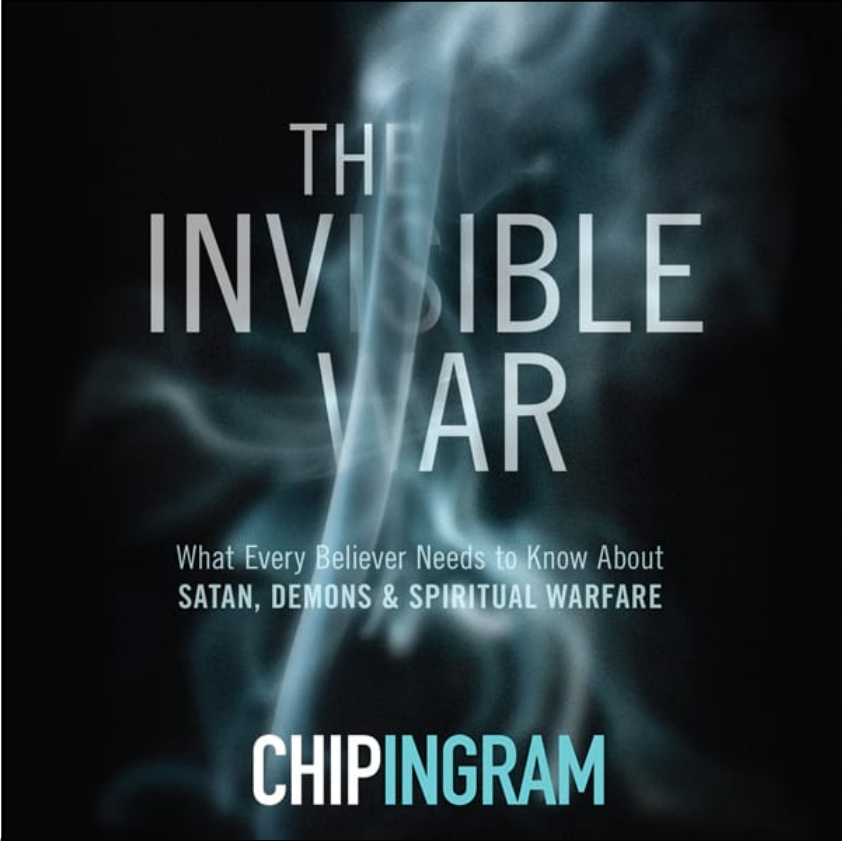
Wednesdays

6:00-7:00pm

First United Methodist Church Parlor.

If you have questions, contact Melanie Black 620-388-6920.



 <p>THE INVISIBLE WAR</p> <p>What Every Believer Needs to Know About SATAN, DEMONS & SPIRITUAL WARFARE</p> <p>CHIP INGRAM</p>	<p>Beneath our tangible landscape lurks an invisible spiritual realm where unseen battles rage.</p> <p>It's real and it's dangerous.</p> <p>Are you prepared to uncover Satan's cunning deceptions, and resist his schemes?</p>
	<p>Wednesday 6pm</p> <p>Basement Come As You Are Room Tom Black 672-8000</p>
<p>Men's Group Study - Starting Soon</p>	



MOTHER
DAUGHTER
FRIEND
BANQUET



The UMW would like to give a big thank you to the men who helped serve and clean up from our banquet.

You were great. We had an enjoyable evening.



VIM Project Calendar 2020

(Revised 12/17/19)

Contact Team Leaders for more information. All skill levels needed.Cost: \$150 individual/\$300 couple

- KANSAS, Arkansas City – Camp Horizon**.....**April 19-24, 2020**
Team Leaders: Bill & Janet Ward RV/nonRV
(H) 620-221-2973/ (C) 620-229-1393 / wgward@ispkansas.com
- NEBRASKA, Chadron – Camp Norwesca**.....**May 10-15, 2020**
Team Leaders: Rick and Annette Holbrook nonRV only
Rick: 316-765-4363 / imreholbrook8@gmail.com Annette: 316-648-4083 / imaholbrook8@gmail.com
- NEBRASKA, Fairbury – Camp Jefferson**.....**May 31-June 5, 2020**
Team Leader: Bob Moore RV/nonRV
712-789-1084/ bobmo509@netins.net
- KANSAS, Newton – Youthville**.....**June 21-26, 2020**
Team Leaders: Chuck & Linda Buchmueller RV/nonRV
Chuck: 620-770-0410 Linda: 620-770-0411 / clbuch@sbcglobal.net
- COLORADO, Bellvue – Buckhorn Camp**.....**July 5-16, 2020**
Team Leaders: Bill & Janet Ward RV/nonRV
(H) 620-221-2973/ (C) 620-229-1393 / wgward@ispkansas.com
- KANSAS, Ottawa – Camp Chippewa**.....**August 9-14, 2020**
Team Leaders: Rick and Annette Holbrook RV/nonRV
Rick: 316-765-4363 / imreholbrook8@gmail.com Annette: 316-648-4083 / imaholbrook8@gmail.com
- KANSAS, Scott City – Camp Lakeside**.....**September 13-18, 2020**
Team Leaders: Chuck & Linda Buchmueller RV/nonRV
Chuck: 620-770-0410 Linda: 620-770-0411 / clbuch@sbcglobal.net
- KANSAS, Perry – Alpha Christian Children’s Home**.....**October 4-15, 2020**
Team Leaders: Chuck & Linda Buchmueller RV/nonRV
Chuck: 620-770-0410 Linda: 620-770-0411 / clbuch@sbcglobal.net

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

[www.Facebook.com/VIMTeamKansasandNebraska](https://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 10 Suzanne Hageman	April 20 Gene Stotts
April 3 Michael Bonham	April 11 Sydney Henke	April 21 Blake Blasi
April 4 Shannon Sterling	April 12 Lewis Hearn	April 21 Ruth Anna Stotts
April 5 Rebecca Stone	April 13 Kelli Smiley	April 21 Brynn Wilson
April 6 Jake Garrett	April 14 Jane Biles	April 22 Nita Lesuer
April 6 Kevin Gates	April 15 Heather Winklepleck	April 23 Norma Carlson
April 6 Jason May	April 16 Jimmy Lee	April 24 Morgan Trinkle
April 6 Velma Simmons	April 16 Kevin Younie	April 25 Kylie Riffey
April 8 Rose Ann Lunt	April 18 Tom Jones	April 25 Samantha Snell
April 9 Makenna Blasi	April 18 Elly Sneath	April 25 Shelby Stevens
April 9 Joan Clark	April 19 Keagan Davidson	April 26 Justin Bailey
April 9 Betty Heape	April 19 Elly Fowler	April 28 Colby Barradas
April 9 Erin Kirby	April 20 Kasi Stelzer	April 29 Jami Battin
April 9 Austin McClain		April 30 Rose Wehling

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

April 6 David & Lu Kramer

April 8 Clinton & Heather Skaggs

April 8 Alan & Marie Hanson

Seeking a Master's of Divinity?

The Pratt First United Methodist Church Endowment Committee would like to help you financially in reaching this goal. This committee is very aware of the need for additional ministers in our Great Plains Conference and of the cost of seminary education. Each year this committee places funds in a Seminary Scholarship. This fund continues to grow until a member of our church makes the committee aware that they are in seminary and requests funds to help them. A person interested should contact the church office at (620) 672-6473. Please leave your name, phone number and address. The office will notify Joyce Frazier, Chair of the Endowment Committee.

The Endowment Committee was pleased to award the Seminary Scholarship to Chelsea Shrack while she attended Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. She received the Master of Divinity Degree and has returned to the Great Plains Conference serving K-State Wesley as campus pastor since July 1, 2017.

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.

March 2020	April 2020	May 2020
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4	S M T W T F S 1 2
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	3 4 5 6 7 8 9
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23
29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30
		31

29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5 Palm Sunday	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Easter	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

All church events cancelled until further notice.
Stay safe and healthy.



ENJOY THE
EASTER SEASON
WITH YOUR FAMILY

John 3:16

16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

WORSHIP/FELLOWSHIP HALL AT 8:15 A.M.

WORSHIP/SANCTUARY AT 10:30 A.M.

Join us for Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

MONDAYS

Quilters 9:30 a.m.
Monday Morning Moms 10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Ladies' Prayer Group 7:30 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
J.A.M. 4:00 p.m.
Youth-5th & 6th Grade 6:00 p.m.

Puppets 5:30 p.m.
Snack Supper 5:00 p.m.
Men's Bible Study 6:00 p.m..
Ladies' Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Youth Group-7th & 8th grade 6:00 p.m.
Praise Band 6:30 p.m.
Youth Group (High School) 7:15 p.m.

FRIDAYS


Mom's Day Out 10:00 a.m.





Join
DEVOHUB
provided by
Pratt FUMC


5
EASY STEPS
to your daily
devotionals

created by
LifeWay



COME TO CHURCH
Come to church with your favorite mobile device


GET THE APP
Go to the Apple, Google Play, or Kindle Fire app stores, search for "DevoHub" and download the app


SELECT ACTIVATE
The app will discover where you are - all you have to do is select "activate"


FULL ACCESS
You now have access to daily devotional content from multiple sources any time, anywhere

Quietud **SIA**OfIRM
-ft OmJOURNEY EE3renewdaily
DOWS **ESSENTIAL**
 CONNCTION


DIG IN

**ENJOY NEW BOOKS
IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY**

We have more new books in the Church Library that we hope you will enjoy.

Two of them are by Pratt authors. *The Dream* by Dr. Shirley Ibeawuchi and *Simple* by Amy Clarkson donated by Mildred Riley.

The 50-50 Sunday School class has donated *A Silken Thread* in memory of Marge Gillig. This is a novel by Kim Sawyer who is a Kansas author.

We also have *Angels* in memory of Shirley Boots and Dave Ramsey and *Finances* in memory of Helen Lake.

Sarah Guild has donated *Lies Women Believe* in memory of Helen Lake and *We Are the Gardeners* in memory of Helen Miller.

If you have a type of book that you would like to have in our library, please call Marilyn Kennedy or Ginny Houdyshell.

NOW AVAILABLE!

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Click on the **ONLINE GIVING** tab and create your profile. Mobile app also available. "GivePlus" is the free download on Google Playstore / Also available at I Phone App Store

GIVE ONLINE

First United Methodist Church

The Spire
P. O. Box 316
100 N. Jackson
Pratt, KS 67124

Phone: (620) 672-6473
Pastor Marvin's cell (316) 655-1716
email: jjohnson@prattumc.org
Web site: www.prattumc.org



Temporary Office Hours:
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 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 jjohnson@prattumc.org or Jane Bolen jane.bolen@yahoo.com of your address.

Staff

Pastor.....Marvin Ewertt
Business ManagerJacqueline Johnson
Facilities Coordinator..... Louis Keeling
Audio/Video Coordinator.....Sherri Ewertt
Organist/PianistJane Biles
Praise Band Director Don Buhler
Nursery.....Georgie Fowler