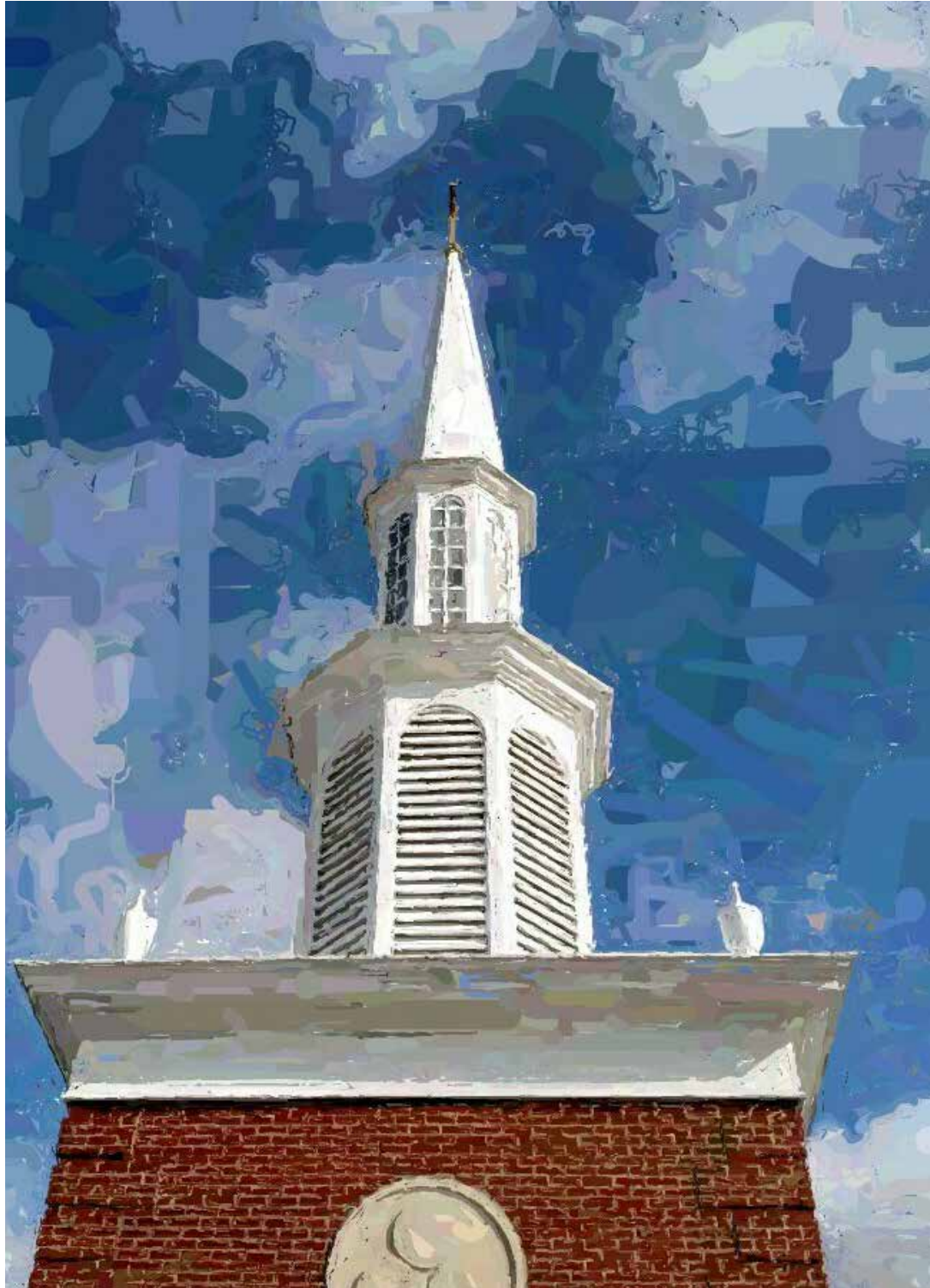


# THE SPIRE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
IN PRATT, KS

137TH YEAR OF MINISTRY

SEPTEMBER 2021    NEWSLETTER



## The New Beginning

Our faith is in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As Christians, people who follow his teachings and ultimate promise of eternal life in heaven with God, we have all had new beginnings. When we chose to believe in and invite Christ into our hearts and lives, we chose a new beginning. When we sin against God we ask forgiveness, God gives us a new beginning, a chance to reconcile with him through Jesus. These are the best examples of our Christianity and walk with Jesus that I can think of. Spring is a new beginning, green grass and leaves appear and it turns into summer. As summer fades we look to a new beginning with the start of Fall. The start of school and church activities begin to fill our time.

As the new Director of Children and Youth Ministries I have an opportunity to offer a new beginning to our youth ministry services. It is a new beginning for me of sorts. I have been a teacher and coach at many levels for the past thirty years. I have led Fellowship of Christian Athletes huddles in the past and have been involved with various youth activities in various churches. However, this is my first opportunity to truly lead a congregation of youth. Along with our wonderful volunteers I am excited for this opportunity. Fall offers a new beginning for our church, and I hope you will join me and Pastor Nicole as we kick off a new adventure and our Fall ministries starting on Wednesday September 8th. The schedule will be:

4 p.m. Grade School programs and Puppet Ministry (Grades 5 and up)

5 p.m. Snack Suppers (Offered by various groups)

6 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (New name coming soon)

7 p.m. High School Youth Group (New name coming soon)

Hope to see everyone soon!

Mike Manderino

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## Puppets

Puppets are starting Wednesday, September 8, 4:00 to 5:00! 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

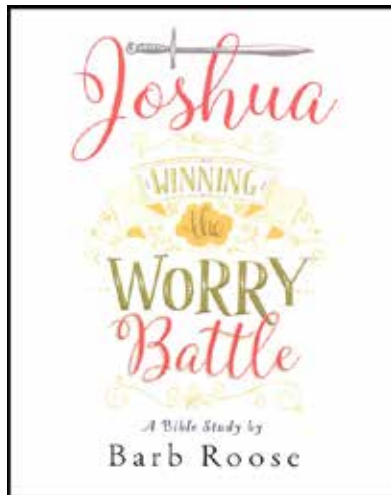


we have. Looking forward to getting started:

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

Debbie, Linda, Lynda & Charmaine

## BIBLE STUDY



One study reports that the average person spends 55 minutes per day worrying. Discover how God paved the way to victory for Joshua and the Israelites when they showed up and fought in faith. Barb Roose applies these principles and offers practical tools to use for victory as we show up and fight in faith the worry battle.

Joshua

*Winning the Worry Battle*

Bible Study for Women

Mondays at 5:30 p.m., Heritage Room

Questions to Melanie Black 388-6920

## Men of Faith

Fellowship Hall  
Breakfast, Devotions, Discussion  
September 4 & 18

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



## Education Partnership

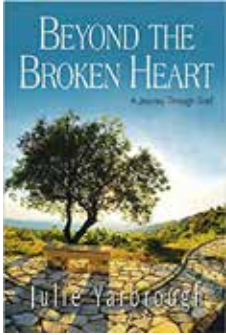


At Pratt First United Methodist Church, we have made a commitment to our local schools. This has stemmed from both the commitment the Great Plains Annual Conference (Kansas and Nebraska) of the United Methodist Church made entering into partnerships with public schools in their communities to support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

## BEYOND THE BROKEN HEART: A JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF

Pastor Nicole's next short term study will be a Bible study using *Beyond the Broken Heart: A*



*Journey Through Grief* on Wednesdays at 1:30p.m. Books are available through Cokesbury or Amazon. A daily devotion companion to the study, *Beyond the Broken Heart: Daily Devotions for Your Grief Journey*, is also available.

From the study's description: "How does the heart understand grief when it is broken by the death of a loved one? To survive and live forward, those who grieve must find answers. *Beyond the Broken Heart* is an eight-week support and ministry program for those who are grieving the

loss of a loved one.

Author Julie Yarbrough chronicles her personal experience combined with a deep love of Scripture and years of leading grief support groups to create an authentic and deeply personal exploration of the grief journey. Previous participants have found this study to be powerful and to help them during their journey through grief.

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### Pastor Nicole requests feedback— All Church Children/Youth Ministries Survey

Pastor Nicole would like some feedback in regard to children/youth ministries. Questions in the survey include what do you see as most important for these ministries, how will you support these ministries, what traditions in these ministries have you enjoyed. There are also questions about Confirmation as Pastor Nicole making plans for it. This survey is not only for parents, everyone can take it! Go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XX8SVV7>

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One of the best ways to know God's true character and grow closer to Him is to study His names. In *The Names of God*, Melissa Spoelstra leads women on an exploration of the many names of our triune God. By the end of this video study, we will not only know more about God but will know Him better—because through the discovery of God's names, we will discover Him!

*The Names of God*, Melissa Spoelstra

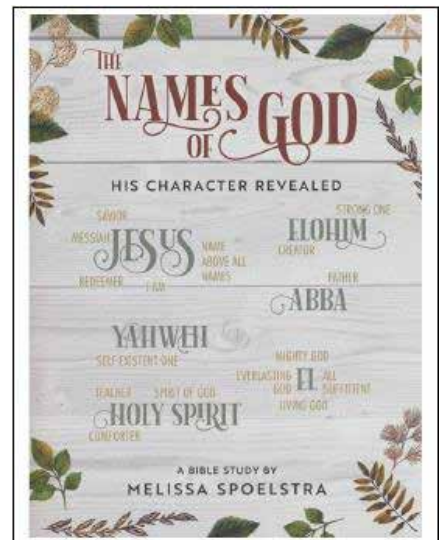
Beginning Sept 14

Tuesday 6:00pm, The Parlor

Melanie Black 620-388-6920 for more information

Promo link

<https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/video/unitedmethodistpublishinghouse/35890-the-names-of-god/35894-previews-and-more/114835-the-names-of-god-promo>





## OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

The Greeter Committee is planning to begin anew once covid precautions can be lifted. We need you to help make our church a welcoming congregation. If you are interested in serving as a greeter, please contact Pat Schwartz: 620-388-5474 or donpat.schwartz@gmail.com

1 Peter 4:8-9 New International Version (NIV)

Above all, love each other deeply,  
because love covers over a multitude of sins.

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## United Methodist Women News

A big thank you to Ruth Ann Barker and Kay Sewell who keep the kitchen clean so we don't have to have a clean kitchen work day. Thank you so much.

UMW Executive Board meets in Fellowship Hall on September 2 at 10:30. Karen Smith has devotions and Helen Bailey has the prayer calendar.

At noon we will have a general meeting for all members in Fellowship Hall. Bring your own lunch. Tea, water, and cookies will be provided. Jane Biles will provide a musical program for us.

The Nominating Committee will have a new slate of officers.

On Thursday, October 21, all guilds will meet in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. to assemble health kits.



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

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**Attending College/ University/Technical School?  
2021-2022**

Our church is asking all Pratt First United Methodist Church members or friends, who plan to attend college/university or technical school to complete the information below and return it to the church office, to Eunice Proctor or to Brenda Fowler as soon as possible. Please provide the information no later than the start of the semester. If you live in a dorm you may not be able to provide that address until you move in.

We also wish to display your photo with other college students in the hallway south of fellowship hall. We are asking students to provide a portrait billfold size photo (2 5/8 in. wide x 3 5/16 in. high) on photo paper for this display. This size is necessary for placement in the display board. Please leave the photo in the church office, give to Eunice Proctor or give to Brenda Fowler. Or you may email a portrait photo to Brenda Fowler @brenfowler@sctelcom.net.

To keep our college students in our thoughts and prayers, a church member will be designated as a prayer partner for each student who provides the requested information. The prayer partner will pray for the student daily and contact them by mail or e-mail. They may also remember you on your birthday and during final exams. We are interested in you and wish you well. You are encouraged to answer contacts from your prayer partner.

Eunice Proctor, 1326 E. Third St., Pratt, 672-5464, ek-proctor@sbcglobal.net

Brenda Fowler, 20351 SE 20th Ave., Pratt, 450-7517, brenfowler@sctelcom.net

**Student Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of College/University/Technical School \_\_\_\_\_

School residence address \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number where you can be reached this school year: cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name \_\_\_\_\_



Circles of Hope has started a new classes for 2021! Circles of Hope is part of a national organization that works with people experiencing poverty. Class members are called Circles Leaders because they are encouraged to lead and direct their own lives with the financial education and caring support they receive from the meetings.

Circles meets every Monday at First United Methodist Church from 5:30-7:30 pm. The evening starts with a family style dinner provided by organizations, churches, families, & businesses in our Pratt community! RuthAnn Barker of FUMC is the Circles meal coordinator. She is supported by help from Kay Bishop.

Free childcare is also provided.

For more information, please contact: Kate & Mike Cummins, Circles of Hope coordinators at [circlesofhopekc@gmail.com](mailto:circlesofhopekc@gmail.com) or 620-388-0647

Thank you, Billie Blair

## Are you tired of living paycheck to paycheck?

### Break free with Circles of Hope!

#### How can Circles help?

- Helps people to live a healthier financial life
- Teaches how to use your gifts and skills
- Offers a place to share your story and be understood
- Shows how to become a better role model for your kids
- Be recognized and respected for who you are
- Allows you a bigger voice in our community
- Set goals, make progress and achieve results



**Circles of Hope** works with folks experiencing financial hardships who are seeking to learn how to manage their finances. They look at their income and outgo, learn about budgeting, goal setting, consider how to improve their credit score and learn helpful resources in the Pratt area. Building supportive relationships with others in Circles is an additional benefit.



For more information about the starting date for the next class or to learn more, contact:

**Kate & Mike Cummins at**  
**[circlesofhopekc@gmail.com](mailto:circlesofhopekc@gmail.com)**  
**(620)388-0647**

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

|                             |                                     |                              |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| September 1 Jace Uphoff     | September 9 Brenda Riffey           | September 20 Eva Riffey      |
| September 2 Nancy Neelly    | September 10 Rachel Fowler          | September 21 Jack Barker     |
| September 2 Owen Wilson     | September 10 Jonathan Reimer        | September 21 Danielle Demuth |
| September 3 Rachel Mardis   | September 11 Bryan Bailey           | September 21 Karen Pinkall   |
| September 3 Stacey Mardis   | September 11 Brian Moore            | September 22 Mason Jones     |
| September 3 Dorothy Trinkle | September 12 Avery Blasi            | September 23 Richard Smith   |
| September 4 David Ellison   | September 12 Whitney Briggeman      | September 25 William Keller  |
| September 4 Payton Hoeme    | September 12 Tyra Swinney           | September 25 Clayton Kessler |
| September 4 Laura Kendall   | September 13 Tyleigh Rose Adelhardt | September 26 Alison Peissig  |
| September 4 Tyler Reimer    | September 13 Brezlin Battin         | September 27 Rhett Kessler   |
| September 5 Adison Hampton  | September 14 Diane Rea              | September 28 Kris Dover      |
| September 7 Kelli Barker    | September 14 Barbara Sangster       | September 28 Flo Parsons     |
| September 7 Raymond Thome   | September 15 Brooks Wilson          | September 29 Jaila Renner    |
| September 8 Robert Smiley   | September 17 Kyler Barker           | September 30 Kelsie Eck      |
| September 8 Ani Uphoff      | September 17 Austin Black           | September 30 Dena Henke      |
| September 9 Barbara Prater  | September 19 Larry Belcher          |                              |

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| September 2 Chuck & Linda Buchmueller | September 17 Scott & Tonya Younie       |
| September 2 Jerry & Karellen Larrison | September 20 Scott & Kristi Nicholson   |
| September 6 Mike & Becky Mc Fall      | September 30 James & Makala Fitzsimmons |
| September 6 Richard & Karen Smith     |   |



Avis Mardis is turning 90! Please come and help us celebrate her birthday with a come and go reception in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, October 3 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Light refreshments will be served.

## FUMC Worship Service each Sunday at 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and 10:00 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 10:00 a.m. Worship Service is recorded and uploaded to the church's Facebook page,

<https://www.facebook.com/PrattFirstUMC> and at the church website,  
<https://prattumc.org/sermons.html> as soon as possible following the service.

**Sunday School Classes are meeting!**



# September 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.

| August 2021                    | September 2021           | October 2021         |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| S M T W T F S<br>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | S M T W T F S<br>1 2 3 4 | S M T W T F S<br>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                   |

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday | Saturday   |
|--|---|--|---|--|--------|--|
| 29   | 30  | 31   | 1   | 2  | 3      | 4  |
|  |   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30 AM UMW Executive Committee, FH</li> <li>12:00 PM UMW Meeting, FH</li> </ul>  |  |        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 AM Men of Faith</li> </ul> |
| 5  | 6   | 7  | 8   | 9  | 10     | 11   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 AM Church in Fellowship Hall</li> <li>9:00 AM Sunday School</li> <li>10:00 AM Church in the Sanctuary</li> </ul> | <p>Labor Day, Office Closed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30 PM Circles of Hope</li> <li>5:30 PM Ladies Bible Study</li> </ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 AM Ladies Bible Study</li> <li>9:30 AM Community Office Hrs</li> <li>1:00 PM Sewing for the Soul Quilters</li> <li>4:00 PM J.A.M.</li> <li>4:00 PM Puppets</li> <li>5:00 PM Snack Supper</li> <li>6:00 PM Middle School Youth</li> <li>7:00 PM High School Youth</li> <li>8:00 PM Trustees Committee Meeting</li> </ul> |  |        |  |
| 12   | 13  | 14   | 15  | 16   | 17     | 18   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 AM Church in Fellowship Hall</li> <li>9:00 AM Sunday School</li> <li>10:00 AM Church in the Sanctuary</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30 PM Circles of Hope</li> <li>5:30 PM Ladies Bible Study</li> </ul>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:00 PM Women's Fall Bible Study</li> </ul> | <p>HS Youth to News Boys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 AM Ladies Bible Study</li> <li>9:30 AM Community Office Hrs</li> <li>1:00 PM Sewing for the Soul Quilters</li> <li>4:00 PM J.A.M.</li> <li>5:00 PM Snack Supper</li> <li>6:00 PM Middle School Youth</li> <li>6:30 PM Rebekkah Guild</li> <li>7:00 PM High School Youth</li> </ul>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 AM Sarah Guild</li> <li>9:30 AM Naomi Guild</li> </ul> |        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 AM Men of Faith</li> </ul> |
| 19   | 20  | 21   | 22  | 23   | 24     | 25   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 AM Church in Fellowship Hall</li> <li>9:00 AM Sunday School</li> <li>10:00 AM Church in the Sanctuary</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30 PM Circles of Hope</li> <li>5:30 PM Ladies Bible Study</li> </ul>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:00 PM Women's Fall Bible Study</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 AM Ladies Bible Study</li> <li>9:30 AM Community Office Hrs</li> <li>1:00 PM Sewing for the Soul Quilters</li> <li>4:00 PM J.A.M.</li> <li>5:00 PM Snack Supper</li> <li>6:00 PM Middle School Youth</li> <li>7:00 PM Senior High Youth Group</li> <li>7:00 PM High School Youth</li> </ul>                             |  |        |  |
| 26   | 27  | 28   | 29  | 30   | 1      | 2  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 AM Church in Fellowship Hall</li> <li>9:00 AM Sunday School</li> <li>10:00 AM Church in the Sanctuary</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30 PM Circles of Hope</li> <li>5:30 PM Ladies Bible Study</li> </ul>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:00 PM Women's Fall Bible Study</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 AM Ladies Bible Study</li> <li>9:30 AM Community Office Hrs</li> <li>1:00 PM Sewing for the Soul Quilters</li> <li>4:00 PM J.A.M.</li> <li>5:00 PM Snack Supper</li> <li>6:00 PM Middle School Youth</li> <li>7:00 PM Senior High Youth Group</li> <li>7:00 PM High School Youth</li> </ul>                             |  |        |  |

## SUNDAYS

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

## MONDAYS

Ladies Bible Study, Heritage Rm 5:50p.m.  
 Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m.  
 every other Monday

## WEDNESDAYS

Ladies Prayer Group, FH 8:00 a.m.  
 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 a.m.  
 Pastor's Grief Study, Conf. Rm 1:30 p.m.

Join  
**DEVOHUB**  
provided by  
Pratt FUMC

**5**  
EASY STEPS  
to your daily  
devotionals

created by  
LifeWay

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

Quietud SIANOFIRM  
-ft OmJOURNEY EESrenewdaily  
DOWS ESSENTIAL CONNECTION

**DIG IN**

## Purchase copy of *Don't Miss It*

Marilyn Kennedy donated the book, *Don't Miss It* in memory of Carter Barker to the church library. It was written by David Dalke (Deacon Dave—Carter called him). Dave was a minister at our church years ago, and he was loved by all. This is a book of short stories that is really special and has wonderful stories with great messages. Dave sent Deb Goyen a dozen so if anyone wants to buy one, she has some. They are \$11.00—since there's no shipping. Those who remember him, might like their own copy. Contact Deb.

## New text, email system

We have a new text and email system to share information about things going on at the church. If you would like to keep updated on things going on here, text CONNECT to (620) 254-8885. You can also follow this link:  
<https://textinchurch.com/groups/familyform/MjA4Mjkw> to get set up.

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](mailto:jjohnson@prattumc.org)  
Web site: [www.prattumc.org](http://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](mailto:jjohnson@prattumc.org) or Jane Bolen at [jane.bolen@yahoo.com](mailto:jane.bolen@yahoo.com)

## Staff

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

