

Newsletter

Arkansas City



April 2024

Spring officially began on Monday, March 20, at 4:24 PM, our time. The hours of sunlight and the hours of darkness roughly match at about 12 hours. The days will continue lengthening until the Summer Solstice, on June 20 or 21, when they will decrease through the Fall or Autumnal equinox on their way to the shortest day of the year, the Winter solstice. And we will have made one more trip around the sun.

It all feels very familiar to us. Spring is “springing.” Flowers are blooming. Grass is growing. For some, eyes are itching, and noses are sneezing. People are planting gardens and getting ready for the new growing season. It happens every year. I can feel the joy and anticipation of some of you gardeners with the arrival of spring.

A similar familiarity sets in with Easter traditions. It starts with Holy Week, of course. A special focus on the last week of Jesus’ life. Extra services. The sunrise service. The Easter egg hunt. Millions upon millions of Christians following the same patterns of worship and celebration. The familiarity is good. That we do the same things every year marks a good habit, an important rhythm.

That old familiarity with nature’s cycles as we enter Spring may overshadow our Christian sense about Easter. I say “Christian” because Easter, like Christmas, is a peculiarly Christian holiday, made useful to popular culture for selling things. There is no judgment in this observation (well, maybe a little), only recognition of what is happening and a desire to help us focus where we need to focus.

Easter is, of course, about Jesus’ resurrection (and the hope of our own) and that first one, two thousand years ago, was truly shocking. Even though Jesus forewarned his disciples repeatedly that he would die and rise again on the third day, they didn’t understand him until after the fact. And the shock of realization must have been tremendous. Matthew states it so matter-of-factly: “Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.” When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.”

Some doubted. Well, yes. Their whole understanding of history had been upended. Good and faithful Jews that they were, they believed in resurrection. They just thought it would happen at the end of days, when God brings to completion all he intends for creation. They certainly believed in resurrection. They just didn’t think it would happen now. But it did. And now they have to re-think everything they thought they knew about God, about history, about their own lives.

I hope we can feel the shock of Easter this season. I am glad for the familiarity of our practices, all of them. But Easter coming around every year reminds us that history is going somewhere. Time is less like a circle and more like a spiral. While we orbit the sun, we are moving toward the divinely-ordained goal, toward God’s desire for creation.

Soon we will say, “Jesus is risen! He is risen indeed!” May we feel the world-altering newness of this great day.

From Pastor Steve’s Desk



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- CPR Training
- Library Highlight
- Camp Horizon Work Day

SAVE THE DATES!

LIFESAIVING TRAINING

Brandy Rice of the AC Fire/EMS Department will be returning on Sunday, April 14, for the church's security team annual training on the IED, CPR, tourniquet use, and general recognition of a medical emergency. This will be held in the Gathering Room immediately following worship (11:15 a.m.) and is open to anyone who is interested, wants to have their memory refreshed, or needs updated on technique.

It is important that two people in every group or organization who meets at the church at any time be knowledgeable in life saving techniques and know where the equipment is located within the building. Calling 911 is important, but knowing what to do until the ambulance arrives could save a life, even at home.

Cards of Thanks

*Dear church friends,
Thank you all for thinking of me and sending the nice cards. I have a nice, small apartment here and they take good care of me. My laundry, housekeeping, meds, and meals are all done for me and they check on me often. Always nice to hear from friends.*

*Your friend,
Barbara Branson*



Dinner Theater & Art Auction

The Kingdom of Pleasure & The Lord of Gratification

Presented by WCF Chapel

Money raised from this event will be used to build the Winfield Spiritual Life Center

When: 6:00 PM Saturday May 4th

Where: WCF Auditorium

Ticket Price: \$25

Dinner served with the show will be lasagna, mashed potatoes, corn, salad, bread, and a dessert. Beverages will be iced tea, coffee, and water.

There will be an art exhibit that guests will be able to view prior to the show, and a live auction where guests will have the opportunity to purchase art that was created by WCF residents. A portion of the proceeds from this auction will be donated to the WSLC.

Contact Chaplain Grady Osborn by phone (620)705-6026 or by email Grady.Osborn@ks.gov to reserve your tickets **by April 26**. Tickets must be purchased by check or money order.

National Day of Prayer Observation
Thursday, May 2, 2024, noon
Wilson Park Rotunda (lunch provided)

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

“I recommend Fearless to anyone who is tired of the doom and gloom and ready to step out of fear once and for all.” Dave Ramsey

Wouldn't it be great to escape fear? According to Jesus, this is possible. In Max Lucado's book, Fearless, he invites the reader to consider Jesus' invitation to courage. Lucado clearly states in his book the promise of Christ and the contention of the pages are simple: We can fear less tomorrow than we do today.

Please join me in reading the many Max Lucado books and so many other collections in our church library.

Peggy Musson

CAMP HORIZON WORK DAY



Vernon Goertz
Memorial
Work Day

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH

Join us in honoring the life of Vernon Goertz by volunteering! Vernon led numerous projects, including the construction of the Welcome Center and Sanctuary.

Projects suitable for all ages and skill levels.

Schedule

- 8:30 - Welcome @ Dining Hall
- 9:00 - Work Projects Begin
- Noon - Lunch
- 4:30 - Clean Up

Lunch & Camp t-shirt provided by **Vernon Goertz Memorial Fund.**

Free Will Donation to cover costs of materials.

Register **HERE** by April 8th.



30811 Horizon Dr. Arkansas City, KS 67005

620-442-5533

<https://www.horizoncenter.org/upcoming-events/volunteer-workday>



LOCAL SERVICES

MEALS

Mondays—Northside Baptist Church; 5-6 p.m.
Wednesdays—Arkansas City United Methodist Church St. Paul Campus; 5:30 p.m.
Thursdays—Shepherd's Grace 5-6 p.m.

FOOD

Angel's Closet (CC Outreach)
Food Pantry, First Assembly of God Church
Manna Ministries, First Baptist Church

BLESSING BOXES

Central Christian Church
Arkansas City United Methodist Church, Edgemont and St. Paul campuses
Hog Mob Ministries
Private Home, 15613 N. 6th
Shepherd's Grace Church
Trinity Episcopal Church
VFW Post 1254

Bulldog Grooming (for pet supplies)

HOUSEHOLD

Angels in the Attic Thrift Store
Cowley County Outreach—Angel's Closet
Community Laundry Resource Service

Rent and Utilities

Salvation Army, 800.336.4547 ext. 0

CLOTHING

Rooted Women's Ministry
AC NAZ Free Clothes Closet

LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

Inside City Hall
Inside Northwest Community Center
Pershing Park
Ark City United Methodist Church
St. Paul Campus
Wilson Park

FAMILY LIFE SERVICES

305 S. Summit

SHELTER

Arkansas City Ministerial Alliance
(620) 393-0060

Winfield House of Hope
(620) 983-6464
cowleyhouseofhope@gmail.com

TRANSPORTATION

Twin Rivers General Public Transportation (620) 442-3575 or (620) 221-6140
General Public Transportation: (620) 221-7020

Check flyers posted on church bulletin boards for details.

FINANCE REPORT

COMMITTEES NOTES

FINANCE/TRUSTEES

- North door entrance to the narthex will be replaced (as the south doors have been).
- Edgemont campus mowing schedule is posted in the south hallway near the church office door. Contact Lynda Arnett with questions.
- Overhead garage door on the shed (where mowers are stored) has been repaired and is operational.
- Icemaker and dishwasher both have been repaired and are working properly.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

- Approved the February financial statement.
- Developed a plan for contacting members who have not attended worship in more than a year.
- Began the process of forming a memorial gifts committee.
- Started the study process for developing a marriage policy.

If you are unable to attend church on Sundays, search for Ark City UMC on Facebook and worship with us Sundays at 10 a.m.



February 2024		2024 Year to Date
Income	\$18,055	\$54,814
Expenses	21,972	54,540

SHARE MEAL SERVED

2024	Wk 1	Wk 2	Wk 3	Wk 4	Wk 5	Total	Avg
SHARE							
Jan.	107	109	125	125	125	591	118
Feb.	118	105	105	103		238	119
Mar.	100	88	117	108			

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SUMMER CAMP





2024

Prices will go up \$25 after April 1st

Camps	Weeks Available	Grade <small>*Incoming Grades</small>	Price
Main Camp	2, 4, 6, 8	3-8	\$400
Leaders in Training (LITs)	2, 4, 6, 8	9-11	\$300
Middle School Camp	Week 3: June 17-21	6-8	\$400
High School Camp <small>(5 nights in 2024)</small>	Week 7: July 14-19	9-CF	\$500
Preview Camp	Week 1: June 5-6	1-8	\$100
Mini Camp	Week 5: July 1-3	2-8	\$200
Day Camp Wednesday	2, 4, & 6	1-3	\$45
Dates	Week 1: June 5-6 Week 2: June 10-14 Week 3: June 17-21 Week 4: June 24-28	Week 5: July 1-3 Week 6: July 8-12 Week 7: July 14-19 Week 8: July 22-26	

Let us pray for each other. Contact Pam Archer at (620) 446-2456 or at parcher@cox.net to add your request to the prayer chain. Let Pam know if you'd like to receive the e-mail list as a reminder to pray.

APRIL 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	F/S
	1 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Small Group	2 10:30 am Seeking Sisters	10 5:00 pm Prayer + 5:30 pm SHARE Meal @ St. Paul; 5:30 Handbells 6:00 pm Kid's Club/Youth Group 6:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm Scouts	4 5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 SMP Live	5/7
7 8:30 am Adult Study 8:30 am MS Bible Study 9:30 am Fellowship Coffee 10:00 am Worship, Communion Sunday 11:15 am Communion Delivery to Shut-ins 4:00 pm Lenten Study, at the Rankins	8 5:30 pm WV Quilt Guild 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Small Group	9 10:45 CC Ext: Dining with Diabetes	10 5:00 pm Prayer + 5:30 pm SHARE Meal @ St. Paul; 5:30 Handbells 6:00 pm Kid's Club/Youth Group 6:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm Scouts	11 5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 SMP Live	12/13 
14 8:30 am Adult Study 8:30 am MS Bible Study 9:30 am Fellowship Coffee 10:00 am Worship; Bucket Sunday 11:15 am Safety Meeting 6:00 pm Faithbuilders	15 6 pm Soroptimists 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Small Group	16 10:30 am Seeking Sisters	17 1:00 pm UWF 5:00 pm Prayer + 5:30 pm SHARE Meal @ St. Paul; 5:30 Handbells 6:00 pm Kid's Club/Youth Group 6:30 pm Choir 6:30 Scouts	18 5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 SMP Live	19/20
21 8:30 am Adult Study 8:30 am MS Bible Study 9:30 am Fellowship Coffee 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Meal, hosted by Seeking Sisters 12:15 pm Finance Trustees 6:00 pm Faithbuilders	22 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Small Group	23	24 5:00 pm Prayer + 5:30 pm SHARE Meal @ St. Paul; 5:30 Handbells 6:00 pm Kid's Club/Youth Group 6:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm Scouts	25 5:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 SMP Live	26/27 
28 8:30 am Adult Study 8:30 am MS Bible Study 9:30 am Fellowship Coffee 10:00 am Worship 11:15 Administrative Council 6:00 pm Faithbuilders	29 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Small Group	30			

**ARKANSAS CITY
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is to help people become deeply committed Christians who live authentic lives modeled after Jesus Christ to make a difference in our community and the world.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

April 4	Stacy Wells Mark Dykes	April 22	Maggie Green Deborah Vaughn
April 5	Nicole Dawson	April 23	Mindy Blatchford Carol Owens
April 5	Dusty and Betty Rhodes	April 24	Tiegan Rogers
April 6	Helen Gibson	April 28	Juarese Marker
April 7	Alexander Hernandez	April 30	Chloe Parks Hannah Parks Doris Miller
April 8	Owen Bannister		
April 10	Wyatt Paton		
April 11	Dave Geisler		
April 12	Gary Howell		
April 14	Mykaylee Goff		
April 17	Emmerson Allen		
April 18	Marcia Childers		
April 19	Ralph Keefe		
April 20	Scarlett Rogers		
April 21	Andrew Musson		

CONTACT US

Edgemont Campus
2448 Edgemont Dr.
Arkansas City, KS 67005

St. Paul Campus
220 E. Washington Ave.
Arkansas City, KS 67005

Phone: 620.442.4530
E-mail:
office@arkcityumc.com

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

