

FIRST LIGHT

April 2017
Vol. 162 No. 49

Join us for inspiring worship at 8:15 a.m., 10:50 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. every Sunday • Church School and small groups for all ages meet Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

THIS SUNDAY

This April we continue our Lenten series, "Into the Darkness, Finding the Light" and then the events of Holy Week concluding with Easter Sunday! We hope you will join us for worship Sundays at 8:15 a.m., 10:50 a.m., or live at 11:00 a.m. on KAKE TV and live on the web at firstwichita.org. and at 5:00 p.m. at Mead's Corner.

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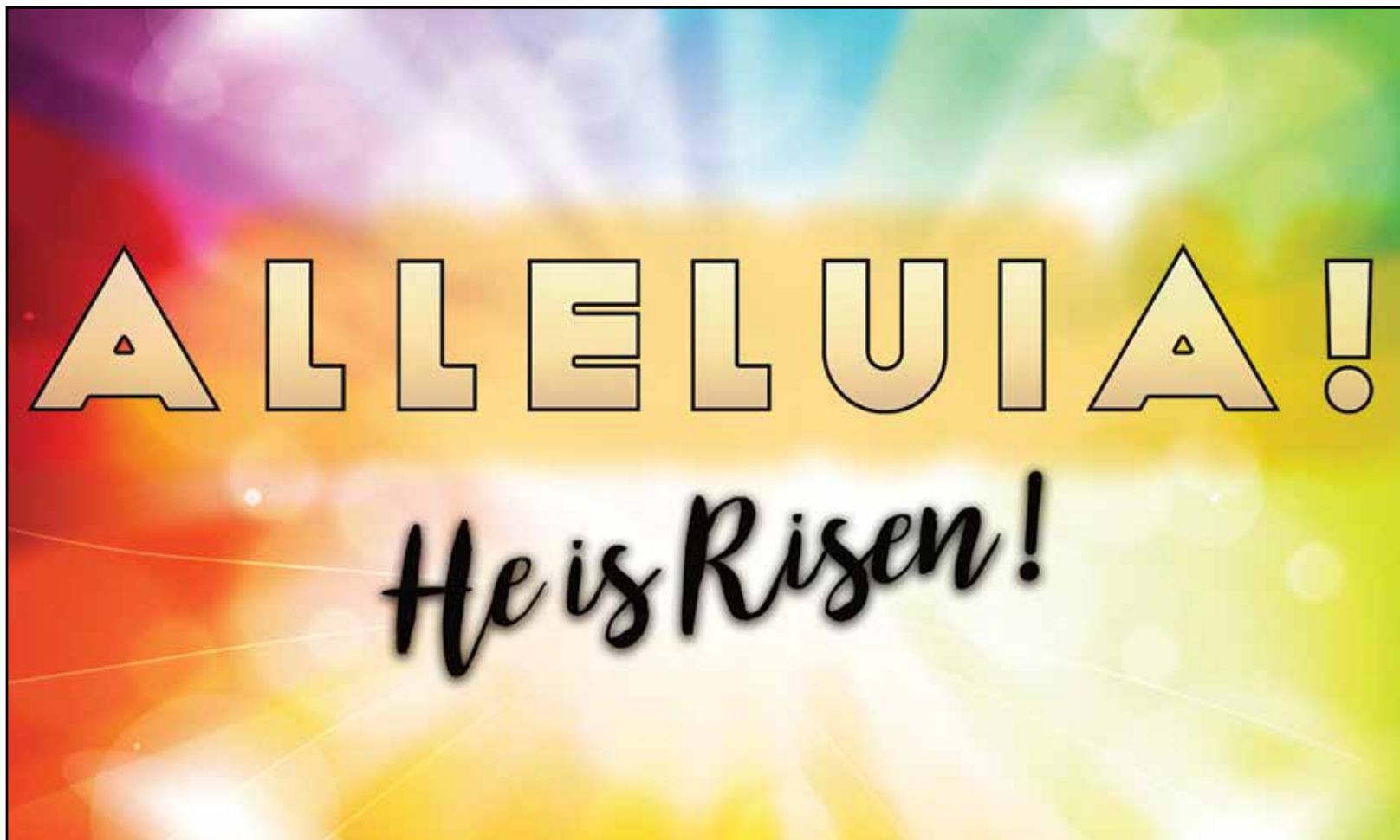
FEED THE HUNGRY

Food collected in the A/B entrance goes to United Methodist Open Door.

April: Canned Vegetables

FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Life. Downtown

www.firstwichita.org
330 N. Broadway • 316-267-6244
On Broadway between 2nd & 3rd Streets
in downtown Wichita.



"Easter Encounters: Life Lessons from the Games We Play" Series Begins following Easter

Sometimes life can seem like a cruel game where we don't the rules, or how to play and even understand the game board or pieces. We hear it said that we have been dealt a terrible hand or it is an awful roll of the dice. Albert Einstein's favorite quote was said to be, "God doesn't play dice with the universe." Isn't it interesting that a person who had no real faith could believe such a thing. Yet, the Easter moment and the Easter experience is all about a God who doesn't deal bad hands, but a God who knows and understands human beings and the worst that they can offer and responds with a resounding YES! Yes to Love, Yes to grace, Yes to God overcoming evil with good. During the fifty days of Easter we will explore the Easter stories and encounters and see what lessons new LIFE in Christ offers. Join us for worship and the series, "Easter Encounters: Life Lessons from the Games We Play".

April 23 "Blind Man's Bluff, Seeing is Believing" John 20: 19-31

April 30 "Apples to Apples, If this then that" John 14: 1-14

May 7 "Ticket to Ride, Seeing Jesus Along the Way" Luke 24: 13-35

Holy Week at First Church

April 12: Road to the Resurrection
6:30 p.m.
C and D Buildings

April 13: Maundy Thursday
6:00 p.m.
Wilke Family Life Center

April 14: Good Friday
7:00 p.m.
Sanctuary

April 16: Easter Sunday
6:30 a.m.: Sunrise Service: Mead's Corner
8:15 a.m.: Heritage Service-Chapel
10:50 a.m.: Downtown Alive- Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.: Easter Egg Hunt- Front lawn/ playground
5:00 p.m.: The Gathering- Mead's Corner

PLEASE PRAY FOR

The hospitalized, our members and attenders with long-term and terminal illness, their caregivers, the homebound and those who are in nursing homes. Pray for our Guardian Angels and Stephen Ministers.

Articles for the next edition of *First Light* are due April 15, by 9 a.m. Material should be submitted to the appropriate ministry director for approval. Questions can be directed to Erin Davis, 267-6244 ext. 300.

Prayers

Email prayer@firstwichita.org to ask for prayer from the people of First United Methodist Church.

Email pastoralcare@firstwichita.org to ask for a visit, call, or private prayer from the congregational care team.

The Congregational Care Team,
Rev. Cindy Watson,
Rev. Dr. Tal Tittsworth,
Leslie Coates

OUR FAMILY

We grieve the deaths of:

Winifred (Winnie) Ira

Twila O'Dell

Maurice Hendershot,
husband of Glenna Hendershot

Mitch Butler,
husband of Betty Butler

Duane Ramsey,
husband of Carol Ramsey

Joan Cary

Transition in Ministry Associate Appointed to First Church

In December, Staff Pastor Parish, in conjunction with the Church Council, applied for a Transition Into Ministry (TiM) Associate. This program through the Great Plains Annual Conference, pairs young adult clergy (just graduating from seminary) with mentoring congregations and senior pastors. It is an honor to announce that First Church has had a TiM associate pastor appointed, who will begin, July 1, 2017. Through this program an associate is appointed for two years and then they are appointed as solo pastors for three years. During that five year program, the associate is supported and mentored so they can explore and deepen all the gifts they have for ministry.

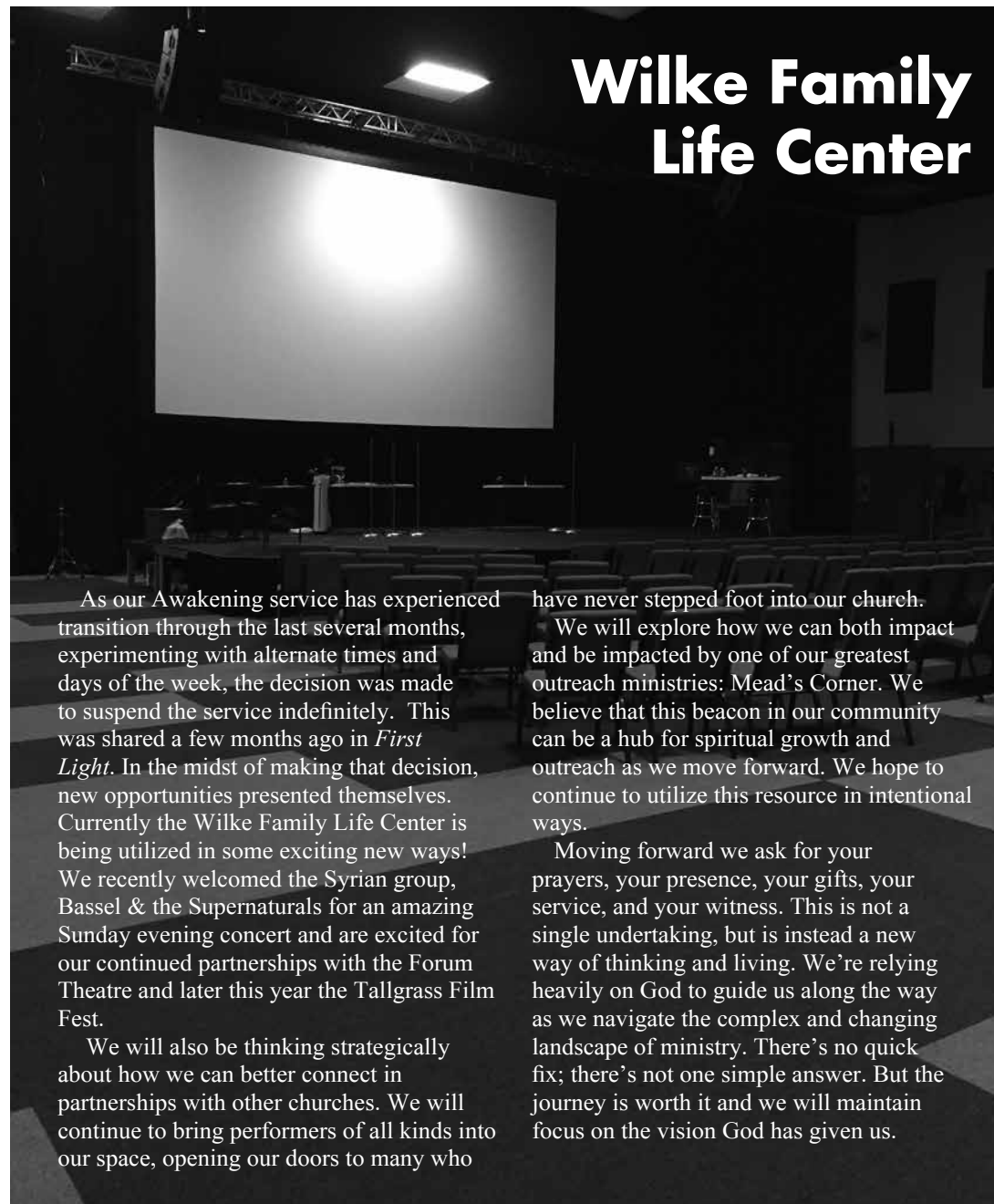
Rebecca Goltry Mohr will begin her two year appointment with us on July 1, 2017. She grew up in Wichita (at East Heights UMC) and is a K-State graduate with a Bachelors in Science in geography with minors in urban planning and American ethnic studies. She is currently a student at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C. She will graduate in May and



Rebecca Goltry Mohr will begin her two year appointment at First Church on July 1, 2017.

be commissioned as a provisional elder at Annual Conference in June.

There will be more information about Rebecca in the future, but we are excited to welcome her to our staff and to First Church!



Wilke Family Life Center

As our Awakening service has experienced transition through the last several months, experimenting with alternate times and days of the week, the decision was made to suspend the service indefinitely. This was shared a few months ago in *First Light*. In the midst of making that decision, new opportunities presented themselves. Currently the Wilke Family Life Center is being utilized in some exciting new ways! We recently welcomed the Syrian group, Bassel & the Supernaturals for an amazing Sunday evening concert and are excited for our continued partnerships with the Forum Theatre and later this year the Tallgrass Film Fest.

We will also be thinking strategically about how we can better connect in partnerships with other churches. We will continue to bring performers of all kinds into our space, opening our doors to many who

have never stepped foot into our church.

We will explore how we can both impact and be impacted by one of our greatest outreach ministries: Mead's Corner. We believe that this beacon in our community can be a hub for spiritual growth and outreach as we move forward. We hope to continue to utilize this resource in intentional ways.

Moving forward we ask for your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness. This is not a single undertaking, but is instead a new way of thinking and living. We're relying heavily on God to guide us along the way as we navigate the complex and changing landscape of ministry. There's no quick fix; there's not one simple answer. But the journey is worth it and we will maintain focus on the vision God has given us.

Pastor Cindy to Speak at St. John's Wichita Lenten Lunch Series

April 5 @ noon



Pastor Cindy Watson will be the guest speaker on Wednesday, April 5 at St. John's Episcopal Church's Lenten Lunch series at 402 N. Topeka. All are welcome at noon for lunch (\$5 suggested donation) and then at 12:30 for the message, "Real Hope for the Human Soul" from Pastor Cindy.

Chris Edmiston Submits Resignation

Chris Edmiston recently submitted his resignation, effective March 12. Chris expressed his thankfulness for the opportunity and time spent at First Church, as well as, the energy, love, and support of the congregation. Chris and his family will remain in the area, where he has taken a position with Restoration Church Wichita as Youth and Worship Pastor. We wish Chris and his family the best in their new ministry position. Please join us in thanking Chris for his ministry at First Church.

Informational Meeting for Greeters and Ushers

**Rescheduled for
April 6 at 6:00 p.m.,
107B**

Calling all greeters, ushers, and hosts of worship! We are getting together to review a few old items and introduce some new ones. If you are in any way involved in welcoming people to our worship experiences at First United Methodist Church please join us for a one hour meeting.



Downtown Alive Webcast Viewers

In addition to the many people worshipping with us through our live broadcast on KAKE-TV is a growing number of online worshippers! For the month of February, Downtown Alive had the following live viewers online.

February 5: 21
February 12: 20
February 19: 26
February 26: 26

During the month of February, a total of 352 in Kansas viewed Downtown Alive online either live or through the archived services. During the same time, 589 viewers from 36 states joined us for worship online! We also have viewers in Germany, the United Kingdom, Australia and the Republic of Georgia!

Remember if you are unable to attend worship, you can catch DTA live, Sundays at 11 a.m. Central Time at <http://sundaystreams.com/go/firstwichita> and you can also access past services any time at this same site. Don't forget, you can now text your donations to 913-270-0303.

Mug Shots: Another Repeat Caregiver Sighted!

Have you seen Stephen Ministers in the act of their ministry? Probably not, since giving is one on one Christian caring done in a confidential manner, it's hard to document. Let's just say that reporting on their acts of love and compassion is a story worth telling. Since we can't share it all, we are going to share about our Stephen Ministry Team as being some of the MOST WANTED caregivers around and ask that when you spot them, please thank them for what they do, and ask about how you can join their notorious ranks.

Culprit #5

Lark Erlene Anton

*has been seen in various ministry settings
at First Church for decades.*



Eyes: Hazel

Known Associates:

Greg Anton (spouse) and fellow Stephen Ministry Leadership Team member. Bosco and Ralph, canine members of her household and protectors of their gang. Also reported to be seen with the CORE 56 kids, and the Hand in Hand Sunday school class. A weekly prayer group provides alibis and spiritual support when Lark reaches out to others with God's love.

Training:

Completed Stephen Ministry Training about 30 years ago by Rev. Jim Matson. She took a hiatus to serving in other capacities until the Lord lead her to Stephen Ministries again last year.

Language/travel:

Has professional experience teaching that she will apply to teaching Stephen Ministers. Known to be a regular sponsor on "Free"

Tours in the 80s and 90s. As well as trips to Europe and Hawaii visiting family living abroad.

Please contact Tal Tittsworth at the church, or any of the Stephen Ministry Gang, if you are interested in being in cahoots with this ministry that provides, "Christian Caring for People, Through People".



Day of Service

Keep Saturday, April 22 free for a day of mission and fun. The United Methodist Women are sponsoring a service day and invite all women of First Church to join.

Gathering in Meredith Hall at 9:45 a.m. we'll learn about our chosen service project, grab some coffee and get started by 10:00 a.m. By noon we'll be enjoying a potluck salad and dessert luncheon followed by a short, fun skit about the founding of United Methodist Women. They were compassionate, determined, faithful and generous women, our foremothers, led us to a mission organization of 800,000 members strong today. We'll dismiss before 2:00 p.m.

There will be a choice of four projects:

1. Sorting clothes at the Open Door Klothes Klostet across the street from our church. Learn more about who uses this mission.
2. Mead's Corner. There will be a project there and we'll learn more about the people and

ministry at Mead's Corner.

3. Making casseroles and freezing them for the homeless at Open Door. These will be served to about 100 clients the first Friday in May.

4. Inventory of kitchen items. This needs to be done as we do not know the exact count of silverware, etc. This is basically a sit down job.

Please sign up by April 15, registering in person at the church receptionist desk, or by e-mailing Lois Stewart at loisstewart444@yahoo.com or calling Betty Hodson, 943-2963. Let us know what project you wish to do and if you will be bringing a salad or dessert to share.

This will be a day of mission and fun. A day to meet new people. A day to enjoy the company of others over lunch. A day to learn more about UMW in a fun setting. Sign up and join us!

OUR GIFTS

FEBRUARY 2017 OFFERING
\$84,145.79
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$299,093.99

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS
MISSIONS
\$4,690.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$4,760.00

CAPITAL FUNDS
\$120.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$250.00

VAN MAINTENANCE FUND
\$25.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$50.00

ORGAN MAINTENANCE FUND
\$0
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$0

TELEVISION MINISTRY
\$11,956.35
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$48,875.35

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS
\$100,937.14
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$353,029.34

UMW Expanded Executive Committee

Wednesday, April 5
10:30 a.m.
Room 101B First Church

Church Women United

Friday, April 7, 1:00 p.m.
Inter-Faith Ministries,
829 N. Market
Program: Human Rights
Celebration

Saturday Mission Event

Saturday, April 22, 10:00 a.m.
Meredith Hall

From 10:00 until noon, we will work at Open Door or at the church. Then we will gather back in Meredith Hall, from 12:15 to 1:15, to enjoy a salad luncheon and skit, "That Group of Women."

There will be no Saturday Morning Circle in April.

Spring Fling **APRIL 29, 2017**

Breakfast will be served in Meredith Hall at 8 a.m. and you can meet your team there before heading off to work. All the projects are scheduled to be over by 12 noon.

One of the best feelings in the world is that feeling that comes from helping someone! Spring Fling '17 gives you that opportunity! On April 29, ten teams of people will go across the city doing tasks that will help make life easier or more fun for lots of people.

Families with children can work together. Grandparents can teach their grandchildren the valuable lesson on giving time to someone else.

Sign up online at firstwichita.org or get a paper registration form at the front receptionist desk. Make new friends, learn about an agency in Wichita and give three hours of your spring to others that need your help.



This year's Projects:

- First Church Maintenance Projects
 - Deep clean 107B kitchen
 - Deep clean Meredith Hall kitchen
 - Clean pews in Sanctuary
 - First Church Kids' Discipleship
- Mead's Corner
 - Clean windows, inside and out
 - Polish all the wood
 - Deep clean the bathrooms
- House of Grace – sort donations
- Raise My Head – work on the house
- Ronald McDonald House – bake cookies and bread
- ICT SOS and Children's Advocacy Center
- Park Elementary
- Washington Elementary
- City of Wichita Code Enforcement



Emergency Response Training

Saturday, April 8, 2017
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- What does a Early Response Team do?
- Provide a Christian presence, being part of the caring ministry of "listeners"
 - Take steps to prevent further damage to a family's personal property: tarps, flood clean-out, debris removal
 - Help manage donated materials, gather information, or do other things needed in the community
 - Observe survivor's needs and report those to the local disaster operations

Join us on Saturday, April 8 in Room 107B for this important training. You may sign up online at the link on our website, firstwichita.org. Cost of this class is \$25.00 and includes course materials, snacks, lunch and instructor travel costs.

You will need to have completed the Safe Gatherings Training or complete it within 10 days of this training.

Do you have questions? Contact Annette Schmidt, Director of Missions.

Lake Michigan Family Work Team Meeting

Sunday, April 2, 2017 | 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Room 308B

Come find out about the Lake Michigan Family Work Team! The team will be travelling to Lake Michigan UMC Camp in Pentwater, Michigan, on the shores of Lake Michigan. There is a dune wilderness, kayaking and we will have daily beach time!

We will be prepping the camp for campers arriving in July. Some activities may include painting, pressure washing, building a lifeguard tower, sewing and cutting trees down.

Come find out more on Sunday, April 2 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 308B. Contact Annette Schmidt if you have questions.

Mission Lunch to Benefit Lake Michigan Family Work Team

Sunday, April 23, 2017
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Meredith Hall

Menu:

- Creamy Ham and Potato Casserole**
- Peas and Pearl Onions**
- Salad**
- Roll**
- Pineapple Upside Down Cake**



CORE Kids



For more information on any of these opportunities, contact Patricia Tristan, Director of Kids' Discipleship, patriciat@firstwichita.org, 316-267-6244, ext.318.

**Road to Resurrection
An Easter Event for Everyone**
Wednesday, April 12
6:30 p.m.
C & D Building

Family-friendly event that gets families talking and walking with Jesus! Scripture from the Gospels guide families through the events surrounding Jesus' death and resurrection. Children will experience the Triumphal Entry, The Passover Meal, The Prison, The Cross and much more. Join us during Holy Week and celebrate that Jesus is not dead...He is Alive!

A family Event sponsored by Kids' Discipleship, Youth Discipleship and RNC.

Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, April 16
Noon
Front Lawn

All children invited to our Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday following the Downtown Alive service.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be on the front lawn for children K-6th grade and Pre-K and younger will be on the children's playground 200C

(Kids' Discipleship Ministries is collecting wrapped candy; please bring your donation to either door).

Volunteer for CORE-56

The Kids' Discipleship team is looking for energetic, fun and adventurous volunteers who are willing to lead a class on Wednesday Nights! We need your help to continue this growing program of tweens!! The future of this program depends on you!

Training is available; if you are interested but shy please contact Patricia Tristan at 267-6244 ext. 318 or patriciat@firstwichita.org



CORE Youth Update

Spring is here! Warmer temperatures and the end of the school year are on the horizon. Holy Week and Easter are coming up, and Core Youth have a busy month ahead!

Our Sunday morning small group Bible study is following a great curriculum called "The Thread". This study helps students to see how the "thread" of the gospel is weaved throughout the Bible and the Old Testament. We wrapped up our study of Genesis in March, and will be working through Exodus and the story of Moses this month.



On Wednesday evenings, the youth group is taking a look at "Jesus at the Movies," where we explore the biblical themes of movies and popular culture, and how those themes apply to our lives today, the same as they applied when Jesus taught them.

Dates for your Calendar:

April 12: The youth will be assisting with the Core Kids Easter event "Road to Resurrection." Bring your family and come experience this great night of Easter teachings!

April 23: Our Sunday small group will be joining the adult Sunday school classes in the Wilke Family Life Center to hear the guest speaker from Africa University. She will be sharing her knowledge and experiences with the refugee situation in Chad.

For more information about the youth, please contact Caleb Fouse, Director of Youth Discipleship at calebf@firstwichita.org

Attention First Church 2017-18 College Students

Every year the Scholarship Committee of First United Methodist Church awards scholarships to church members who wish to pursue a post-secondary education. This includes, but is not limited to, graduating high school seniors, those already attending college, and seminary students.

Scholarships are funded through named endowments and other gifts to the church specified for scholarships. Students are eligible to receive a scholarship from the church for up to five years, provided they meet the scholarship requirements. A new application is required each year.

Scholarship Application forms are available at the information center in the A/B entrance. Completed Scholarship Applications with all supplemental materials are due by Monday, May 1, 2017. Applications received at the church after 5 p.m. on May 1 will not be accepted.

If you have any questions regarding the scholarship process, please contact Donna Fisher, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, at 393-6486, or at dhpyp@cox.net.

***Deadline for applications is May 1, 2017**



Please join us on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for any of the classes listed below.

Double Ring 106B

Our hearts are saddened at the death of our class member, Mendell "Mitch" Butler on March 14. Sympathy and prayers go to Betty and their family. Mitch, a long-time advocate for the homeless and a valued class member, will be greatly missed by family and friends.

The good news is that Jack Focht will be back teaching Double Ring as of March 26. Filling in for Jack on February 26, Polly McMillan gave us a lesson from the Archives. Emily Rude and Betty Moore spoke about ICYE and their children who participated in that organization. Polly showed dresses and shirts the "Free" wore, along with other memorabilia.

Our March 5 lesson was chaired by Terry Klein and included family history stories from Phelan's, Hogg's and Aronis's. Terry encouraged us to put in writing our heritage for future generations. Vicki Bond spoke to us on March 12 about Raise My Head Foundation, of which she is the founding director. Evelyn Fisher was back with us on March 19. We appreciate all of these folks for sharing their time and experiences.

Our next class social will be on April 7 when we visit Yoder Farmhouse for a meal at 1:00. Debs will meet on April 19 at 1:00 at the church. Visitors are always welcome to our class and special events.

50/50 107B

Another blast of winter has arrived, so we enjoy that nice aroma of hot coffee as we enter our 50/50 classroom to enjoy friends. New people are always welcome to visit us too.

We are sorry to learn of three more deaths in our class. Twila O'Dell passed away recently. Her funeral was March 17 at First Church. She had been living in Colorado near her family. Joan Cary passed away on March 10. Joan was a long time member of our class, but had resided in Bartlesville, OK. No service is planned. Maurice Hendershot passed away on March 13. He was a member of our class since 1953. His funeral was at First Church on March 17.

MaryLou Roedell presented a very interesting history of the 50/50 Class on Sunday, March 12. The class was organized in 1948. We learned by hearing the history, that our members have worked in many areas of the church.

We will be having our banquet in April and new class officers will be installed. Paul Ackerman's humor and great lessons are always interesting. We appreciate Paul!

Hand in Hand 101B

We continue our study of "Who is This Man" by John Ortberg. Thanks to Cliff Bertholf and Donna Fisher for leading class. Greg and Lark Anton presented the lesson on March 25, telling us about the First Church Stephen Ministry program.

We are sad that Duane Ramsey, husband of class member, Carol Ramsey passed away with services held on March 18. We also grieve with the families of Maurice Hendershot, Twila O'Dell and Mitch Butler. We rejoice with Gail Reynolds as it appears her surgery was successful! Several of us that are in Hand in Hand are also in Apple Core with Gail.

We are looking forward to Spring Fling as many of our class members enjoy participating in this local mission project.

Thanks to Carolyn Mayfield for hosting a Mexican Train Party on March 25.

Open Doors 300D

Open Doors Class has moved into a "New Beginning" by joining together with People's Bible Study. We are very grateful as a class to share our new faith journey in Christian fellowship and leadership with their class. Open Doors appreciates very much the invitation to join in with their membership.

Eight years ago, Open Doors Class, began their fellowship, with the approval of First Church Administrators. The class initially was started by Bud and Karen Hudson, as others joined in to assist in creating the close knit class it became. Past recognized leaders were Rev. Linda Stewart, Dr. Harold and Vicki Popp, Renee Cristiano, and Libby Eaton. We are very grateful for their outstanding talents that were shared with us.

The class consisted of a mixture of ages, singles and couples. In place was an open sharing discussion style of lessons on biblical topics and DVD and book studies, as well as social issues from a United Methodist perspective. Open Doors Class has brought to First Church and Community Involvement, many areas of leadership. The class would like to take this opportunity to share where the leadership took place. Examples: Chairman of Diabetes Community Support Group, Big Brothers/Big Sisters Volunteer, Wichita Wagon Masters, First Church Chairman Love Wichita, Train Ministry for RNC, State and Regional Chaplain for USMC, Open Doors Ministry, Volunteers for First Church UMW, Hospitality, Boards, Committees, Councils, Church Maintenance and Construction, and many more places of service in ministry.

The time has come for Open Doors Class to continue their spiritual growth and seek God's leadership by becoming an extension of People's Bible Study, as we experience our faith journey together.

People's Bible Study 300 D

The People's Bible Study Class was pleased to have Open Door merge with our class in January. It is great to have others bring their thoughts and experiences to our study of God's word. We completed a 6 week study led by Larry Harris following In the Dust of the Rabbi and have now launched a new study on prayer in the Bible with our initial focus on Old Testament prayers.

Pneuma 302D

After concluding our study of Paul, we have begun our Lenten study with lessons taken from the book, "Gifts of The Dark Wood – Into the Darkness finding the Light".

Pneuma members helped provide cookies for the workshop Bishop Saenz held at the church. We were also involved in helping providing refreshments for two open houses held at the Raise My Head Foundation house.

Pneuma Ladies gathered at the home of Deb Seely in February. We were happy to welcome Pastor Cindy to our evening of food and fellowship. Jennifer Ream will be our March hostess.

Congratulations to Deb and Tal Tittsworth on the birth of two grandchildren within a week of each other. Our prayers are with the family, as their granddaughter was flown to Kansas City for the first of two heart surgeries.

RNC 100D

For the month of April our Sunday school lessons will focus on the life, miracles, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We will celebrate this season with interactive lessons around Palm Sunday and Easter.

We have been enjoying the benefits of our new kitchen cabinets to serve refreshments and drinks as well as our newly handicapped accessible bathrooms (toilets and sinks). The RNC has been fortunate to be so blessed by the members of First Church. Our activities for April include a joint Easter activity with the youth and children departments, concert and BINGO.

Calendar

April 2017

2 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:50 AM 1:00 PM 5:00 PM	Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D CORE-Kids Sunday School - 106C, 108C, 110C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School Classes - Church Wide El Mesias UMC Worship - 200D Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary Lake Michigan Family Work Team Meeting - 308B The Gathering @ Mead's Corner	11 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM 12 9:30 AM 11:00 AM 12:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM	Tuesday DTA Planning - Media Suite Board of Trustees -308B Kids Discipleship Council- 310C Wednesday Stephen Ministry II Supervision - 302B Daytime Quilters - 308B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D Easter Event CORE-Kids - 106C, 108C, 110C, 111C, Wilke FLC Core Youth - 200D El Mesias Bible Study - 301D DISCIPLE Fast Track - 204A United Methodist Men Bible Study - 101B	6:30 PM 6:30 PM 21 6:00 PM 22 10:00 AM 23 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:50 AM 11:00 AM 5:00 PM	Harmony Guitar Lessons - 200D God and Dogs - Parking Lot Friday El Mesias Praise Band Practice - 200D Saturday UMW Saturday Mission- Meredith Hall Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D CORE-Kids Sunday School - 106C, 108C, 110C, 200C, 311C Sunday School - Missions Guest from Africa - Wilke FLC Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Pneuma Easter Tide Brunch - Meredith Hall Adult Sunday School Classes - Church Wide El Mesias UMC Worship - 200D Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary Mission Lunch - Meredith Hall The Gathering @ Mead's Corner
3 6:00 PM 6:30 PM	Monday NCAA Championship Watch Party - Wilke FLC Church Council Meeting - 101B	6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:45 PM 7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A Maundy Thursday Service- Wilke Family Life Center Harmony Guitar Lessons - 200D God and Dogs - Parking Lot	24 9:00 AM 5:00 PM 5:30 PM	Monday Caring Comforts - 106B, 110B Executive Committee - 204A Finance Committee - 204A
4 1:00 PM	Tuesday DTA Planning Meeting - Media Suite	13 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM	Good Friday El Mesias Praise Band Practice - 200D Good Friday Service- Sanctuary	25 1:00 PM	Tuesday DTA Planning- Media Suite
5 10:30 AM 11:00 AM 12:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:45 PM 7:00 PM	Wednesday UMW Expanded Executive Committee - 101B Daytime Quilters - 308B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D CORE-Kids /CORE 56 Small Group - 111C, 200C, 311C Core Youth - 200D El Mesias Bible Study - 301D DISCIPLE Fast Track - 204A United Methodist Men Bible Study - 101B	14 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 15 10:00 AM	Saturday One Spark Homeless Meal - Parking Lot/ Meredith Hall	26 9:30 AM 11:00 AM 12:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:45 PM 7:00 PM	Wednesday Stephen Ministry II Supervision - 302B Daytime Quilters - 308B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D CORE-Kids / CORE 56 Small Group - 111C, 200C, 311C Core Youth - 200D El Mesias Bible Study - 301D DISCIPLE Fast Track - 204A United Methodist Men Bible Study - 101B
6 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 11:30 AM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM	Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A Social for 50/50 Class - 107B Informational Meeting for Greeters/Ushers - 107B Harmony Guitar Lessons - 200D God and Dogs - Parking Lot	16 6:30 AM 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:50 AM 5:00 PM	Easter Sunday Sunrise Service- Mead's Corner Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D CORE-Kids Sunday School - 106C, 108C, 110C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School Classes - Church Wide El Mesias UMC Worship - 200D Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary The Gathering @ Mead's Corner	27 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM	Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A Investment Meeting - 204A Harmony Guitar Lessons - 200D God and Dogs - Parking Lot
7 11:00 AM 6:00 PM	Friday Open Door Lunch Prep. - Meredith Hall Kitchen El Mesias Praise Band Practice - 200D	17 5:30 PM 18 1:00 PM 5:30 PM	Monday Homeless and Low Income Meeting - 107B	28 6:00 PM	Friday El Mesias Praise Band Practice - 200D
8 8:30 AM	Saturday Early Response Training (ERT) - 107B	19 11:00 AM 12:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM	Tuesday DTA Planning - Media Suite TV Ministry Committee - Media Suite	29 8:00 AM	Saturday Spring Fling - Meredith Hall
9 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:50 AM 5:00 PM	Palm Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D CORE-Kids Sunday School - 106C, 108C, 110C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School Classes - Church Wide El Mesias UMC Worship - 200D Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary The Gathering @ Mead's Corner	6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:45 PM 7:00 PM	Wednesday Daytime Quilters - 308B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D CORE-Kids/CORE 56 Small Group - 111C, 200C, 311C Core Youth - 200D El Mesias Bible Study - 301D DISCIPLE Fast Track - 204A United Methodist Men Bible Study - 101B	30 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D CORE-Kids Sunday School - 106C, 108C, 110C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School Classes - Church Wide El Mesias UMC Worship - 200D Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary The Gathering @ Mead's Corner
10 9:00 AM 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM	Monday Caring Comforts - 106B, 110B Archives - 208B SPRC - Pastor Cindy's Office Adult Council - 204A Hospitality and Integration Commission - 107B	20 9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A	10:30 AM 10:50 AM 5:00 PM	

COMING IN WORSHIP

April 2
Into the Darkness,
Finding the Light:
"The Gift of Getting Lost"
John 11: 1-45

April 9-Passion/Palm Sunday
Into the Darkness,
Finding the Light:
"The Gift of Emptiness"
Philippians 2: 5-11
Matthew 26: 14-27:66

April 16-Easter

April 23
"Blind Man's Bluff,
Seeing is Believing"
John 19: 19-31

April 30
"Apples to Apples,
If this, then that"
John 14: 1-14

FIRST LIGHT

First Light is published monthly by the First United Methodist Church of Wichita, Kansas. It is produced by First Impressions, the Production and Creative Arts Team at First Church, and is provided at no cost to our members and friends.

ARTICLES FOR FIRST LIGHT

We welcome content and story ideas for First Light. They can be submitted to First Impressions at firstlight@firstwichita.org. Please include your name, phone number and e-mail address when submitting material.

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www.firstwichita.org
 330 N. Broadway • 316-267-6244
 On Broadway between 2nd & 3rd Streets
 in downtown Wichita.



**Welcome
 New Members**

Terry, Dena, Jacob and Mark Davis joined First Church by transfer during the Heritage service on Sunday, March 5, 2017.

Welcome!

School Ministries in Action



In late February, children at Park Elementary who attended parent-teacher conferences were each encouraged to select a free book. These books, provided by the First Church School Ministry Fund, were new, colorful, and covered a variety of topics and reading abilities. Each child was so excited to choose a book of their very own to take home!

On March 2, First Church partnered with Washington Elementary, inviting neighborhood families to their annual Literacy Night. The theme this year was Super Hero Readers, and the students went through a variety of fun centers to try to solve a riddle. Super hero capes made from plastic table clothes were worn by each child. Near the end of the evening, a super sub sandwich meal was provided by First Church for every student and their family members. Over 300 people enjoyed this dinner.

Thanks to those who make generous donations to the Mead's Corner tip jar which underwrites these activities for children living in the downtown Wichita area.

Washington child works with her parents on an activity at Literacy Night event.

Easter Lily Ministry



Once again, the Lenten season is upon us. This means it is time to prepare for our annual Easter Lily ministry, a First Church tradition, sponsored by Senior Saints. You can participate by giving a donation to honor or remember a loved one, or by being part of a delivery team. If you would like, you may want to consider doing both!

If you want to make a donation toward the purchase of the lilies, please complete the attached form and return it with your check to the church business office by April 15. Forms are also available at the AB desk. Donors along with honorees/memorials will be acknowledged in the May First Light.

If you would like help with deliveries, lilies will be available to pick up Wednesday, April 5 through Sunday, April 9. We request deliveries be completed by Friday, April 14. Additionally, as part of the First Church updated Safe Gathering guidelines, two persons are required for each delivery, and at least one must be Safe Gathering certified. For more information about becoming Safe Gathering certified, please contact Libby Eaton.

For our homebound members this ministry is a very special way to express how much we care for them, and it also strengthens their connection to First Church.

Enclosed is a \$_____ towards the purchase of lilies for homebound members.

Donor Name _____

Address _____

Zip code _____

Phone Number _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

YES, I'm Safe Gathering certified and I would like to be a part of the delivery team

Please complete the form along with your donation and return it to the First United Methodist Church, 330 N. Broadway, Wichita, Kansas 67202. Make your check payable to F.U.M.C. with 'Easter Lily Fund' in the memo.