

April 1 & 8, 2018

MARK'S MESSAGE

## WOW!

Why is God always asking us to tell Him how great and good He is? When it comes right down to it, is God as insecure as the average middle school student? Think about it. Psalm 150 contains an explosion of praise to God. Does God actually need to be reassured by worshipers who spend an hour every week telling Him how great He is?

British author and theologian C.S. Lewis pointed out that God is not emotionally unhealthy to be asking for our praise. In fact, our appreciation of something wonderful or awe-inspiring is not complete until we give voice to it.

Often tourists visiting Alaska will take a boat ride into one of the fjords along the Pacific coast where mountains of ice come right down to the water's edge. Boats safely stay at least a half-mile away from the icy edge because if a large piece of ice breaks off and falls into the water, it could create 30 feet high waves.

When witnessing a huge piece of ice falling off the end of a glacier and splashing into the Pacific, observers often gasp, "Wow!" It is just a chunk of ice hitting the water, but tourists can't help but share expressions of wonder, awe and amazement.

In similar fashion, when we perceive for just a moment God's immeasurable greatness and eternal goodness, we have to gasp too. Especially on Easter Sunday people will express wonder, awe and amazement even when they're trying to worship "*decently and in order.*" Worship on Easter catches a glimpse of God's reality and responds with heartfelt awe. To the resurrection of Christ we find our heart saying, "Wow!"

On Easter morning Jesus rose from the grave and appeared to many people. "Wow!" Was this the dawning of the long-awaited Messianic Age? When we reflect upon Jesus' goodness and greatness and praise Him for it, God is delighted. And He takes delight in us. Therefore we are blessed. Our praise of God starts in this world and goes on forever. We get to participate in a feedback loop of thanks, praise, and joy that never ends.

That's why Scripture calls us to praise our Creator, not just on Easter Sunday, but every Sunday, even every day. Most of us could use a dose of wonder on a daily basis. Between now and Easter, don't miss the chance to glimpse at God's greatness and say, "Wow!"

Happy Easter!



## INDEX

PAGE 2  
*OGHS  
BLOOD DRIVE  
CHURCH  
SOCIAL  
FUNDRAISER*

PAGE 3  
*A THOUGHT  
FROM KEITH*

PAGE 4  
*PARISH  
PERSONALS  
LAUNDRY LOVE  
FOODBANK/NEW  
BEGINNINGS*

PAGE 5  
*CHRISTIAN ED.  
YOUTH  
PRAYER  
BIRTHDAYS*

PAGE 6  
*CHURCH OFFICE  
DEACONS  
MISSION STORE*

PAGE 7  
*CALENDAR*

PAGE 8  
*GOOD FRIDAY*

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

### From the Mission Committee

Uganda Najjuma was farming an 8-acre farm to grow food for her three children and eight orphaned grandchildren. Her in-laws ordered her to leave this land her husband had inherited. OGHS supports an organization that assisted her in a legal appeal to help her keep her land. We can be proud that our presbytery assists these disadvantaged communities working to overcome poverty and injustice. Please consider your donation to our yearly Special Presbyterian Offering on or before Easter Sunday.

Baskets for fish banks will be at the east entrance and at the back of the sanctuary. Please take a bank and return it with your loose change on Easter Sunday. The donations that you put in the fish bank will go toward OGHS.

## BLOOD DRIVE

The American Red Cross blood drive will be in Calvin Hall (gym):

**Monday, April 2 — 12:00-7:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, April 3 — 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, April 4 — 7:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code: Hutchinson or call 1-800-RED CROSS (733-2767) to schedule your appointment.

## CHURCH SOCIAL

Yahoo!! The Social Committee invites you to another fun supper at "Yoder's Kitchen" just outside of Yoder (7016 E. Red Rock Road) on April 12. Come and enjoy the homemade supper and fellowship in an Amish setting. This years' menu is: **homemade bread, mashed potatoes and gravy, chicken and noodles, ham, meatloaf and pies: German chocolate, lemon and peach.**

The time is 6:15 and the price is \$18.50 in cash or a check. The seating is limited so please RSVP to Rita ([rita@fpchurch.org](mailto:rita@fpchurch.org) or 665-5549, ext. 101) by April 6. We are looking forward to seeing you!

## BEANIES FOR CANCER

### Beanies for Cancer Fundraiser

Refresh Café ~ First Presbyterian Church, 201 E. Sherman St.

**Saturday, April 7 ~ 9:00am-11:30am**

Come enjoy coffee and baked goods, and purchase from a huge collection of unique TY Beanies to help raise money for comfort baskets for children battling cancer.

**Coffee and Treat — \$3    Beanies — \$3-\$8**





What does the Easter weekend remind you of? Chocolate eggs and rabbits wrapped up in colored foil, and a bit of fun with the family. If we look back in history to the events that Easter commemorates, we see a weekend that stands out as a beacon and it was no holiday! Why all the fuss? The Easter story tells of a God, who made the world, saw it crumble and so proceeds to put it back in shape. So God sent a member of His own family — His Son, Jesus — to pay that price.

For many years I have been attracted to the story of Oscar Schindler. It's a moving portrayal of one man's attempt to rescue a doomed race of people. Schindler had made an enormous amount of money in his enamelware factory in Kraków, Poland, providing plates, mugs, pots and pans for the German war machine. He used the money to buy the lives of hundreds of defenseless Jews with no other hope. To be on Schindler's list was life. To be off the list was death!

Some may think it strange that the hero of the Easter story is the One who dies. But it is a death with a purpose, a death to pay the penalty of sin, a death that leads to life and a death that covers and pays for all of our inadequacies and problems. Easter is a time to celebrate the love of God, as well as to acknowledge the debt that we owe to Jesus Christ. It calls us to revisit the scenes of Jesus' crucifixion on that first "Good" Friday.

It calls us to recall the early morning stillness of the Sunday morning broken by the pounding of hobnail sandals on the cold, cobbled stones of the streets of Jerusalem, as the soldiers who guarded the dead body in the tomb rushed into the city with the unbelievable cry on their lips, "He's alive! He's alive!" Jesus walked out of the tomb and nothing could stop Him. So worship a risen Christ who is alive today, who is interested, who seeks His own and who wants to restore the broken relationship between God and humankind. God had accomplished His rescue mission, but it was through brokenness and suffering. And this is what Easter is all about—God has settled the score.



## PARISH PERSONALS

- Dear Faith Family,

The Deacons would like to thank all who helped us share God's love by helping with the Soup Kitchen on March 15, 2018. A total of 174 meals were served and/or delivered for a cost of \$200.33. Cooks were: Jim Cunday, Mike Taylor and Kirk Johnson. Servers were: Donna Kelley, Ann Sellers, Lydia and Winston Johnson and Mark Stacey. Deliveries were made by: Amanda Jackson and two children, Laura Harrison, Harry Smith and a friend, Shari Schuessler and Anne Sellers. Thank you for your support of this project! In Christ, Melody Cole

## LAUNDRY LOVE

### Help Needed in Building Relationships

The first Tuesday of each month Giant Laundry at 5<sup>th</sup> and Adams participates in a ministry called "LAUNDRY LOVE", a national program. Many come in the evening to wash their clothes for free.

In March, two Circle Leaders started to build relationships with participants as they wash. The Circle Leaders plan to bring cookies in April and by June hope to hand out personal hygiene items.

There is a basket by the east entrance to collect items such as travel size shampoo, lotion, mouthwash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mini brushes and combs, razors for men and women and feminine hygiene items (pads and tampons). If it is easier to give a cash donation or check (made out to Beth Southern) please leave it with Robbie in the office.

Because of budding relationships, stories have been gathered and some will be shared at a Poverty Taskforce "Frontline Training for Churches" starting May 30. Thank you for opening your hearts and for your contributions.



## FOOD BANK/NEW BEGINNINGS

It's time again for our monthly donation to the Reno County Food Bank. They are requesting **canned chicken or tuna, juice, pancake mix and syrup**. You may leave those items at any of the entrances to First Presbyterian. We will pick them up on April 1. Monetary donations to the food bank are welcome and needed, as well. We also will collect donations for New Beginnings. Suggested items are: **laundry soap, dish soap, tall kitchen trash bags, 33-39 gallon trash bags and magic erasers.**

Thanks, The Deacons

*1 John 3:17-18 "But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."*



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Sunday Morning Adult Education Opportunities — 9:30-10:15 a.m.**

Come and join us for "*The Wired Word*" in the Cornerstone Room  
 "*Witnesses of the Faith*", Facilitated by Pastor Mark Miller, Large Conference Room

**"Anxious for Nothing"**

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 3, at 1:30 p.m. at Gene & Arlene Becker's house. We will continue our discussion with chapters 9 and 10 of Max Lucado's book, "Anxious for Nothing." All are welcome.

## YOUTH NEWS

We have been enjoying our times together each Wednesday night. From movie nights, to evenings led by our young people, fun games, some really messy games and of course just creating that space to meet with God in an increasingly busy student's schedule has been so important.

We have eight young people who went through our Confirmation class and we are looking forward to Confirmation Sunday on April 8 at 10:30 a.m.

We took a group of 21 to Winter Jam on March 9 at the Intrust Arena in Wichita. It was a great night with Kari Jobe, Skillet, Building 429, Jordan Feliz, John Crist, Nick Hall and many others. This is a night we all look forward to each year.

Please pray for our young people as they try to juggle busy sports and after school activities, along with their school work and still find quality time for God.



## KEEP IN PRAYER

*For those in the hospital or hurting*

*For all FPC shut-ins*

*For First Presbyterian Church, Liberal (4/01/18)*

*For First Presbyterian Church, Cherryvale*

*(4/08/18)*



## BIRTHDAYS

1	Richard Sunner	9	Judy Manka
2	Max Stewart	11	Laura Dick
3	Rose Albright	12	Jennifer Forker
4	Margaret Kennedy	12	Kathy Small
5	Chris Showalter	12	Jon Whitlow
6	Tedd Kimmel	13	Margaret Parks
7	Joe Ontjes	13	J. C. Petitjean
8	Braxton Bobo	14	Kevin Saenger
9	Claire Fee		

## CHURCH OFFICE NOTES

### *Chimes* Note

Deadline for next issue of *Chimes* will be **10:00 a.m. Monday, April 9**, for the issue covering April 15-28.

### Chancel Flower Calendar

**April 15, 22, May 6, 13 and June 24** are open on the Chancel Flower Calendar. If you would like to provide flowers for worship one of these days, please contact Janice in the church office: 665-5549, ext. 106 (afternoons) or [janice@fpchurch.org](mailto:janice@fpchurch.org), by the preceding Monday.

## DEACONS' DOINGS

### Deacons' Doings

The FPC Board of Deacons met on Monday, March 12. Melody Cole opened the meeting with a lovely poem called "Someone". Amanda Jackson reported that she delivered several donations from our church to the Food Bank and New Beginnings. Thank you, church family, for remembering those less fortunate. Drivers for the Soup Kitchen deliveries were recruited for the following Thursday. Cooks were already in place. Plans are underway for children to attend Stay to Play at Graber Elementary School or Dillon Nature Center through summer camp scholarships. This will be a wonderful opportunity for children in our area. Speaking of children.....Keith reported that families will be meeting to discuss future programs at FPC. New ideas or thoughts are always welcome.

If you are interested in helping the deacons in any of our church programs....a little or a lot....contact any deacon. Blessings, Anne Sellers and Dianne Coons

## LOGOS MISSION STORE

### Mission Store Experience: Love God, Love Neighbors

Through the years LOGOS Five Loaves and Two Fish Mission Store has been supported by FPC Endowment and LOGOS students earning Mission Store money. Four times during the year the students "shop" in the store choosing the nonprofit they wish to support with money earned. Each year and semester the items within the store change. This year a tree was purchased for Lincoln Elementary, hurricane assistance was given to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Christmas gifts given to the children living in New Beginnings, Interfaith Housing, Graber Elementary health items bought by nurse Anne Sellers, Salthawk Community Support, toys and board games for Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Center, Reno County Food Bank and Salvation Army. Thank you for supporting our students with the hands-on opportunity to experience loving God and loving our neighbors.

## CALENDAR — APRIL 1 – 15

**Sunday, April 1, 2018—Easter** †

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Ann Sellers, 662-9510

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Luke 24:13-35**Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): Luke 24:2-3*

8:15 am	Worship service	Chapel
8:45-10:15	Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
9:00 am	Worship service/Kidz Church	Sanctuary
9:15 am	Chancel Choir	Chapel
9:45 am	Butterflies released/Fellowship time	
10:30 am	Worship service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship time	Parlor

**Monday, April 2**

8:30 am	Exercise class	Kids' Cave
9:30 am	Book study	Large Conference Room
12:00-7:00	Blood drive	Calvin Hall
4:00 pm	Music staff meeting	Conference Room
5:30 pm	Worship Committee	Conference Room
7:00 pm	Worship practice	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 301	Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, April 3**

9:00 am	Koinonia Women	Large Conference Rm
11:00-6:00	Blood drive	Calvin Hall
1:30 pm	Bible study	Becker's house

**Wednesday, April 4**

7:00-1:00	Blood drive	Calvin Hall
8:30 am	Exercise class	Kids' Cave
9:00 am	Staff meeting	Conference Room
12:00 pm	Building & Grounds	Conference Room
5:30 pm	FPC Bells	Choir Room
6:30 pm	Session/Confirmation class meeting	Large Conference Room
7:00 pm	Youth group	The Basement

**Thursday, April 5**

7:00 am	Men's Bible study	Parlor
12:00 pm	Congregational Connections	Conf Rm

**Friday, April 6**

9:00 am	Walk-a-mile class	Kids' Cave
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**Saturday, April 7**

9:00-11:30	Beanies/Cancer fundraiser	Refresh Café
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*Hallelujah!*  
HE IS RISEN

**Sunday, April 8**

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Laura Harrison, (816)589-2957

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Romans 15:1-13**Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): Acts 1:6-8*

8:15 am	Worship service	Chapel
8:45-10:15	ReFresh Café open	Refresh Café
9:00 am	Worship service/Kidz Church	Sanctuary
9:15 am	Chancel Choir	Chapel
9:30 am	Adult Christian Education	
10:30 am	Worship service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship time	Parlor
5:00 pm	Ulster Project meeting	The Basement

**Monday, April 9**

8:30 am	Exercise class	Kids' Cave
4:00 pm	Hutch Rec. karate class	Calvin Hall
5:15 pm	Mission Committee	Conference Room
6:30 pm	Deacons' mtg	Large Conference Room
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 301	Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, April 10**

9:00 am	Koinonia Women	Conference Room
4:00 pm	Hutch Rec. karate class	Calvin Hall

**Wednesday, April 11**

8:30 am	Exercise class	Kids' Cave
9:00 am	Staff meeting	Conference Room
5:30 pm	FPC Bells	Choir Room
7:00 pm	Youth group	The Basement

**Thursday, April 12**

7:00 am	Men's Bible study	Parlor
10:00 am	Finance Committee	Conference Room
4:00 pm	Hutch Rec. karate class	Calvin Hall
6:15 pm	All-church social	Yoder's Kitchen

**Friday, April 13**

9:00 am	Walk-a-mile class	Kids' Cave
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**Sunday, April 15**

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Anne Sellers, 663-4998

*Preacher Keith Neill (8:15, 9:00 & 10:30): Acts 9:31*

8:15 am	Worship service	Chapel
8:45-10:15	ReRefresh Café open	Refresh Café
9:00 am	Worship service/Kidz Church	Sanctuary
9:15 am	Chancel Choir	Chapel
9:30 am	Adult Christian Education	
10:30 am	Worship service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship time	Parlor



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## GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

### **Community Good Friday Worship Service** **First Presbyterian Church** **March 30 at 12 noon**

First Presbyterian Church will host the Community Good Friday Worship Service on March 30, 12 noon – 1:00 pm in the sanctuary. Worshipers will ponder the various “nails” people experience – the nails of betrayal, mockery, violence and injustice. A community choir directed by David Anderson and various area pastors will help worshippers to understand more fully what Christ died for. Plan to attend.

