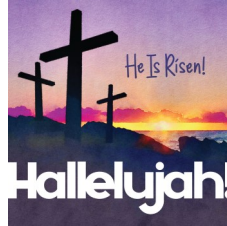


March 17 & 24, 2024

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

"HE IS NOT HERE: FOR HE IS RISEN." – MATTHEW 28:6

When I was in high school, I had a good friend who was cripplingly shy. She would look down at her feet when anyone but her closest friends talked to her, she never raised her hand in class, and if the teachers would happen to call on her, she'd answer in a voice barely above a whisper, her face bright red.



But she would always take part in the all-school musical – usually in one of the starring roles. None of us could ever figure it out. The girl we all knew as quiet and shy was transformed once she got on stage and started to sing. After the first time I saw her perform, I asked her about it and she said that being in character as someone else helps with the shyness, but even more than that, singing just makes her so happy, she can't help but burst out of her shell.

In the Gospel of Matthew we read how an angel appeared to the women at the tomb early that first Easter morning. The angel explained to them that Jesus was not there because he had been raised from the dead, just as he said! Matthew tells us that the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy.

That's what the resurrection does. It takes our fear, our worry, our hurt, our sadness...and it puts it all into perspective.

The fact that Jesus is risen from the dead, that he was victorious over death and sin, is reason to celebrate. It's that fact that gives us joy despite our circumstances and through whatever we may face. What happened on that first Easter day still brings us joy and it still changes lives today.

I hope you will join us on Easter Sunday to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, that you will be filled with joy no matter what your circumstances, no matter what you face. Rejoice and sing as we celebrate how Jesus still changes lives today.

Blessings and joy,  
Pastor Christy

## INDEX

PAGE 2

CONNECT  
OFFICE NOTES  
JOB OPENING  
PLEDGE DRIVE

PAGE 3

A THOUGHT  
FROM KEITH

PAGE 4

EARTH  
MATTERS  
PRAYER  
BIRTHDAYS  
ENDOWMENT

PAGE 5

OGHS  
PARISH  
PERSONALS  
EASTER LILIES

PAGE 6

EARTH  
MATTERS  
BLOOD DRIVE  
OFFICE HOURS

## CONNECT WITH US

We want to encourage you to make church a priority and join us in person on Sundays at 8:15, W@9 or 10:30 a.m. If you are unable to attend, we have our:

**RADIO MINISTRY Sundays at 10:30 a.m. on KHUT 102.9, and  
W@9 ONLINE at fpchutch.org.**

Your prayers and financial support are vital to our work and ministry. God is still at work! Offering boxes are positioned in the sanctuary, or you can mail in your offering or sign up to give online at fpchutch.org.

**We are the Church!**

## CHURCH OFFICE NOTES

### *Chimes* Note

Deadline for next issue of *Chimes* will be **10:00 a.m. Monday, March 25**, for the issue covering March 31– April 13.

### Chancel Flower Calendar

**March 31 and April 7, 14, 21 & 28** are open dates on the 2024 chancel flower calendar. If you would like to provide flowers for worship one of these days, please contact Brittany in the church office: [brittany@fpchutch.org](mailto:brittany@fpchutch.org) or 620-665-5549, ext. 1, by the preceding Monday.

## JOB OPENING



Urgently Hiring!! Do you have a passion for working with kids? FPC is looking for a Nursery worker. Hours are be 9:00—11:30a.m. on Sundays. This is a paid position.

If you are interested, please contact Keith:

[keitheneill@yahoo.com](mailto:keitheneill@yahoo.com) 620-899-8412 620-665-5549 ext. 4

## GIFT TO GOD PLEDGE DRIVE 2024

The Pledge Glasses are filled and close to overflowing. The church has received \$607,000 in pledges for 2024 compared to \$573,000 in 2023.

Thank you for your generosity. This enables us to continue our service to God. To balance our Budget we still need an extra \$45,000 in pledges so if you have not returned a pledge Card we want to encourage you to do so as soon as possible.

Butch Dillon, Finance Committee



this changes  
**EVERYTHING.**

In our sermons a few weeks ago, Christy and I spoke about Jesus clearing the temple and Jesus speaking about how the new temple would be raised in three days. Jesus was speaking about a new temple, His body that would be raised to new life following His death on the cross. A point that those listening to Him did not grasp what He was really saying to them. As I thought about this, I came to the conclusion that if I had been present then I reckon it would have gone over my head as well. Through His resurrection, this temple, His body would be raised and made glorious, not the building that they spoke about and imagined. The physical building that had been the Temple in Jerusalem is now replaced by the body of Christ, and it is in Him we find a home and redemption. He paid the price to set us free.

Now I am well aware that for many people all this talk of becoming members and children of God is utter nonsense. But as Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 1:22-25: *22 Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, 23 but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 24 but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength,* that there is no foolishness found in the cross. During Lent we focus on the journey to the Cross and the victory of the empty tomb.

Too many people rely on the power of the world to make their lives right and we know that it is the power of God that saves. Let us tell the Easter story to family and friends and introduce them to the hope that is found in Jesus. May we come close to Jesus through this Lenten season and in doing so, may we realize that it is God who guides us. You can rely on His wisdom! All that the world tells us is important and vital, fades into insignificance in the light and power of the cross. Jesus won the battle with sin and death and when we walk closely with Him, we will have the strength to endure life's struggles and we will thrive and enjoy a blessed life by being in the presence of our risen Savior.

## EARTH MATTERS

As we celebrate Earth Week 2024, let's learn and teach reverence for the miraculous planet we have been given and preserve it for those that follow us. Help e-waste to be recycled and not go into the landfill. Bring your old, worn-out electronics to the church starting Sunday, April 14. All will be collected by Sunday, April 28. Collection boxes will be at both the east and south doors. All electronics will go Sanford's Computer Works, 20 S. Main to be taken apart, recycled, and reused.

Recycled electronics are: cell phones, I-pads, computers, calculators, power activated tools with batteries (building tools and garden tools) stereo systems, DVD players, video game players, flat screen TVs, microwaves. EARTH MATTERS appreciates the larger items be transported to Sanford's individually and not collected at the church.



Thank you for keeping the faith and God's green earth!

## KEEP IN PRAYER

*For those in the hospital or hurting*

*For all FPC shut-ins*



## BIRTHDAYS

17	Keith Schuessler	24	Billie Elliott
18	Bill Southern	24	Mike Nevius
19	Patty Crews Parker	26	Patrick Fluck
19	Larry Trimmell	27	Jim Gilliland
19	Jacob White	27	Robin Swanson
20	Gage Horbotowicz	28	Shae Horbotowicz
22	Nikolus Penka	29	Xander Anderson
23	Makenzie Meggers	29	Libby Schultz
24	Harold Ryan	30	Ken Gamber

## ENDOWMENT FUND

Have you considered leaving a gift to the First Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund in your will or trust? This is another way you can help ensure the sustainability of our church, in addition to your annual pledge. Talk to your attorney and discuss making a gift in your estate documents to be distributed to the First Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund, Hutchinson, Kansas, to be used for the general fund (or one of the many funds held in the Endowment Fund). Your legacy will allow the church to continue its mission for the benefit of others well into the future.



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

“The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters.” They receive 32% of funds raised.



“The Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) receives 36% of funds. It takes action to alleviate hunger, and address the causes of poverty so all may be fed.”

“ Self-Development of people (SDOP) invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues.” Thirty three percent of funds raised go to SDOP.

Please carefully consider a gift to One Great Hour of Sharing to support these programs. The offering will be received on Easter Sunday, March 31.

## PARISH PERSONALS

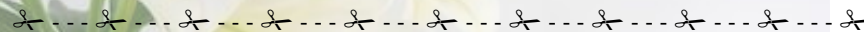
- Thank you so much for your continued support. We are blessed to have a caring community that is dedicated to supporting the youth in our community.

Thank you, Boys & Girls Club of Hutchinson

## EASTER LILIES

Easter lilies are again available for you to purchase in memory of, or thanksgiving for, loved ones. The cost is \$9.00 each. Simply fill out the form below, designate if you would like to pick up the plant or have it delivered to a shut-in, and return the form and payment to the church office. Easter lilies create a beautiful church for Easter services and brighten the day for many others! Thank you for participating in this ministry.

**Deadline is Monday, March 25.**



*(Return with payment to the church office)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Easter lilies \_\_\_\_\_ at \$9.00 each    Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** In thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

# EARTH MATTERS



Did you know that every three months, Americans throw enough aluminum in the landfills to build our nation's entire commercial air fleet?

# BLOOD DRIVE



**American Red Cross**

**Hutchinson Community Blood Drive**

**Fri., March 29**

Park Place Church

**Mon., April 1 - Wed., April 3**

First Presbyterian Church

**Schedule your appointment today!**

RedCrossBlood.org | Blood Donor App

Sponsor Code: **Hutchinson**

## Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:30am - 3:30pm

Friday 8:30am - 12:30pm



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
201 EAST SHERMAN  
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501

phone: 620-665-5549  
e-mail: [fpchutch.org](mailto:fpchutch.org)  
web site: [www.fpchutch.org](http://www.fpchutch.org)

