



First United Methodist Church
 418 North Rock Street
 Minneapolis, KS 67467

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THIS ISSUE CONTAINS...

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- Birthdays and Anniversaries**
- Announcements**
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- Miscellaneous**
- Rev. Dr. Kennedy F. Mukwindidza,**
Ada/Minneapolis United Methodist Church
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THE COMMUNICATOR



Ada/Minneapolis Community UMC
April, 2017

Christ's Ambassadors by Inviting, Sharing, Nurturing and Forgiving

From the Heart of the Pastor!

Easter is full of myths and legends! Every culture and nation chooses what they want to tell their children whether they believe in those stories or not. There is the story of the Easter bunny, the story of Inanna and Damuzi (pronounced Tammuz), and in Zimbabwe, my country of origin, "Musikavanhu" to mention only a few. Unfortunately I do not have the luxury of time and space to go into details of these legendary stories about Easter. However, it suffices to say that all these stories have one thing in common – they tell the tale of life and death; rebirth and renewal.

I am a Christian and I am proud of it! I believe the New Testament Easter story! I believe that Jesus is the Son of the only living God. I believe that this Jesus died on the cross for my sins and the sins of the whole world. I believe that Jesus rose from the dead three days after burial and initiated our resurrection to eternal life. By His resurrection, Jesus changed the mathematical equation of life. Easter is the source of our victory. It is not in us, it is in Jesus. He came to this world. , lived a perfect life, died on the cross and rose again from the dead. He defeated every enemy for us. Now those who are in Jesus are free from the sting of death.

Easter is like this story of a little boy who was afraid of bees. A little boy crawled up into his mother's arms on a hot summer day, cuddling his mother lovingly and mother cuddling back. Then suddenly the little boy became tense and pulled closer to his mum and the mum said, "What's the matter , son?" And the son replied; "Oh, mum, look at that bumble bee! Look at that bumble bee buzzing all around me. I'm afraid of that bumble bee." And the mother looked at her son in the eye and said, Aw, son, you do not have to be afraid of that bumble bee." The little boy responded with crunched voice, almost crying, "Well, mum, that bumble bee will sting me." But the mother assured her little boy; no, no, no, son, that bumble bee will not sting you, you do not have to be afraid." And the mother reached out her hand and she showed her little boy her hand and in her hand she pulled out a stinger and said; " Son, you do not have to be afraid of that bumble bee; that bumble bee has already stung your mum and it cannot sting you, I have got the stinger."

When the Lamb of God entered death on the cross and rose again three days later, he forever rendered death ineffective in the lives of true believers. And now, there is no sting, just a passing from this world to eternal life. This is for me true Easter, a time of celebration. Come, let us celebrate!

Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Doris Davis
- 2 - Vicki Zadina
- 4 - Bret Henderson
- 5 - Tammy Doering
- 7 - Eula Nace
- 8 - Barb Kibler
- 10 Clayton Goddard
- 11- Brittney Meyer
- 14 - Sarah Griffin
- 15 - Nancy Robbins
- 16 - Corey and Colby Nichols
- 19 - Autumn Knox and Austin Constable
- 21 - Kennie Chapman and Veronica Campbell
- 22 - Angie Darrow
- 23 - Kimberly Baccus
- 24 - Donald Serrien, Brooke Eckart and Scott Kuder
- 29 - Gerry Plush and Charlie Lynn
- 30 - Danya Campbell

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 26 - Ray & Diana Fraser
- 30 - Dr. Ken & Darda Wedel

APRIL CHILDREN'S MESSAGES

- 2 - Jill Runnion
- 9 - Puppeteers
- 16 - Dale Parker
- 23 - Pastor Mukwindidza
- 30 - Shayla Boyer

APRIL LITURGISTS

- 2 - Lance Johnson
- 9 - Steve Baccus
- 16 - Steve Baccus
- 23 - Nick Krueger
- 30 - Lance Johnson

APRIL ACOLYTES

- 2 - Riley and Ethan Bohl
- 9 - Connor and Jordan Peck
- 16 - Braxton and Gracen Grimes
- 23 - Joel Abell and Brinley Boyer
- 30 - Paul and Kaleb Ocker

APRIL GREETERS

- 2 - Blythe Atwell & Dale Parker
- 9 - Blythe Atwell & Dale Parker
- 16 - Paul Muller & Dee Phillipson
- 23 - Braxton and Gracen Grimes
- 30 - Braxton and Gracen Grimes

APRIL NURSERY HELPERS

- 2 - Deb Pounds & Becky McDuffee
- 9 - Rosalee Tibbits & Becky McDuffee
- 16 - Becky McDuffee
- 23 - Angel Constable & Becky McDuffee
- 30 - Barb Kibler & Becky McDuffee

APRIL ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Adult Sunday School Class meets every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. Following are the lessons that will be discussed in March:

- 2 - God as Our Shepherd
- 9 - God's Saving Love in Christ
- 16 - God's Love as Victory Over Death
- 23 - God's Reconciling Love
- 30 - God's Preserving Love

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The UMW meet at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.
 April 18 at 6:30 p.m. will be the Spring Ladies Salad Supper/Spring Fling. All ladies are invited to bring a salad and a guest. Program in testimony and song will be led by Chris and Gail Coleman. Come and be blessed!

MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Donations are always welcome for the Salina Rescue Mission for men and the Ashby House for women and children. Both places need clothing and toiletries. The donation boxes are in the hallway south of the Church office.

DILLONS REWARDS

If you have a Dillon's plus account and an e-mail address: Search Dillon's Community Rewards

Sign in OR create an account
 Click on "Enroll Now"

Enter the 5-digit NPO and search:
 First United Methodist Church No. is 24771

SAVE-A-LABEL PROGRAM

We are officially registered in Best Choice "Save-A-Label" program.

Save only the UPC symbol from Best Choice products. Some products are excluded from the program:

aluminum soda cans, aerosol cans and cigarettes. Please leave labels in the box provided in the foyer. All money earned from this program will be used for youth projects. Contact Colette Henderson with questions.

FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE

April 7 - Have new items or craft items in the downstairs Sunday School Room by April 7. If possible please have the purchase price on items so that we can have a starting bid range...bids will go up by \$1.00 increments

April 9 - 2nd Sunday Dinner - grilled hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. People with last names starting with A-M bring desserts, and N-Z bring side dishes.

April 9 - April 16 - Silent Auction. Cut off time will be 11:30 a.m.

May 20 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. will be a father-daughter/mother-son (or grandparent, aunt, uncle dance on Saturday, May 20 at the John Henry Center. More information to follow.

Our church family to pray for is Mount Bellingham Church on Bellingham Avenue, Chelsea, Massachusetts...please remember to pray for them.

REUBEN ZERGER'S NEW ADDRESS

Reuben Zerger
 Westbrook Villas
 401 Platte Clay Way
 Kearney, MO 64060

FELLOWSHIP/OUTREACH COMMITTEE...

...is planning to honor graduates next month (May) with a celebration of cake and punch on Sunday, May 14 prior to the Worship Service (beginning at 9:30 a.m.) We would like to have a bulletin board with pictures and future plans of

our church family graduates. So far, we are aware of Lane Sanders and Austin Constable - MHS and Phlynn Ocker - MGS Kindergarten Graduate. If there are others, including college and Volcational Schools, please get a picture or two, with names, school name and future plans information to Tammy Krueger. ntkrueger@twinvalley.net or call (785) 826-5702. The board will be on display at the church by Sunday, May 7 and will remain in place until after the Worship Service on May 14.

There will also be a short Celebration for Mother's Day, during Worship Service, on the same day!

Thank you! Deb Nichols and Tammy Krueger, Fellowship/Outreach Co-chairpersons.

FORMAL WEAR

If you are in need of, or know of anyone (cousins, nieces, etc. male or female) who are in need of formal wear, shoes, and jewelry for the forthcoming formal school events, please call Angel Constable at (785) 392-7522 to make arrangements to view and try on used items for the events.

THANK YOU!

Thank you for the thoughts and prayers you have lifted during the time Al has been ill. The trip to Mayo Clinic and home was a success. Thank you again for all of your kindnesses. Al & Joan Miles



IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO PLAN AHEAD
YOU'RE INVITED TO CCIP-ZIMBABWE
 CCIP-Zimbabwe invites you to join an exciting Mission trip to Zimbabwe, Africa July 18 to August 01, 2017. CCIP-Zimbabwe is a 501 (c) (3) organization and a United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries approved Advance Special project, #15120N. CCIP-Zimbabwe seeks to radiate the love of God through participating in sustainable projects and programs, building relationships and learning.

The focus for the 2017 team: **CONSTRUCTION, WORKSHOPS and REVIVAL!** Our partner in 2017 is Makoni/Buhera District of the United Methodist Church. VIM team members will stay with host families selected by the District.
 The cost of this trip is \$3,600.00 covering air travel, ground travel, two nights motel, accident insurance, food, administration and project money. If you are interested in going on the 2017 VIM trip, start sending your money to Minneapolis UMC, 418 N Rock Street, Minneapolis, KS 67467 so that you are paid up by April 15, 2017. Team members are encouraged to raise funds for the construction project or any other project of their choice!

If any has questions or need more information, please contact Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza at mwaona@hotmail.com or by phone at 620 382 5480 at any time.

Below is the tentative schedule for 2017.
 July 18 Tuesday leave the USA
 July 19 Wednesday Arrive in Zimbabwe
 July 20 Thursday travel to Rusape
 July 21 Friday visit work site
 July 22 Saturday attend revival
 July 23 Sunday attend revival
 July 24 Monday work day
 July 25 Tuesday work day
 July 26 Wednesday work day
 July 27 Thursday work day
 July 28 Friday work day
 July 29 Saturday revival
 July 30 Sunday Revival
 July 31 Monday travel to Harare
 August 01 Tuesday leave Zimbabwe.

SEND YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN TO CHURCH CAMP

Although we've just entered spring, we are already planning for summer. The campers and I will be heading to Camp Horizon June 26-30. Youth from 3rd grade to 12th are all welcome. Those campers going into 3rd/4th are Young Wonders (\$245), 5th/6th are Elementary Explorers (\$255), and 7th-9th are Junior High Journey (\$265). Those in 8th-12th are part of the Canoe Camp (\$275). If you choose Canoe Camp (8th/9th graders) you will not be part of the Junior High Journey as this is a separate camp experience. The Missions committee is hard at work raising funds to send campers. Please let me know if your child is interested in going with us. The early bird registration deadline is May 1 so we need names before then. Please email me at c.c.bohl@att.net or call/text 392-0128.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Communion	3	4 9:30 a.m. – Noon Clergy Meeting	5	6	7 Creative Ministry Festival – Denver, CO---	8 -----→
9 Palm Sun. 2 nd Sun. Dinner Silent Auction-----	10	11	12 Bible Study 6:30 7:00 p.m. Admin. Council Mtg	13 Maundy Thursday	14 Good Friday	15 -----
16 Easter Sunday --→11:30am	17	18 6:30 p.m. UMW Guest Night Salad Supper	19 Bible Study 6:30 pm	20	21 Piano Guild 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	22 -----
23 Chris Coleman guest speaker OT Co. Music Club 12:30 – 3:45 p.m.	24	25	26 Bible Study 6:30 pm	27	28	29 -----
30 Gideon Speaker			Bible Study 6:30 p.m.			



by Sharla Guenther

After Jesus died, a man named Joseph (from a place called Arimathea) put Jesus in His tomb that nobody had ever used. The tombs they used then were cut out of rock, almost like a cave, they weren't buried deep in the ground like they are now. Before Joseph left, he and some men rolled a large heavy stone in front of the tomb.

Mary and Mary Magdalene had waited a day to see Jesus because they couldn't go on the Sabbath (which was a day of rest). They made spices and oils as a sign of respect to Jesus and went very early Sunday morning to go see Jesus' body.

As they were just about at the tomb, the earth suddenly shook and an angel came down from heaven. He easily rolled away the stone at the entrance of the tomb and sat on top of it. The women looked at each other and rubbed their eyes since they couldn't believe what they had seen -- plus it was very early in the morning, and they were still a little sleepy. The angel was so bright -- almost as bright as lightning! His clothes were as white as snow.

There had been guards watching the tomb so no one would steal Jesus' body. When they saw the angel, they fell over and they couldn't move or speak because they were so afraid.

Then the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus who has died. But He isn't here; He has risen just as He said He would! Come and see for yourself, the tomb is empty."

The women were confused. How could this happen? They were sure Jesus had died, and now He was alive? They looked in the tomb and the cloths Jesus had been wrapped in were lying on the ground; the tomb was empty. Then the angel spoke again, "If you want to find Jesus He's on his way to Galilee."

So the women hurried away, They were laughing and crying at the same time. They didn't know what to feel; they had been so sad that Jesus was dead and now they were so excited that He was alive! They just knew they had to find Jesus, and they had to tell the disciples the good news.

As they were running down the path, they turned a corner, and there was Jesus. "Greetings," He said. The ladies fell at His feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my disciples to come to Galilee. That is where they will see me."

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The disciples came to Galilee, having heard by this time that Jesus was alive. They were sitting around talking about it when Jesus walked into the room and said to them, "Peace be with you."

The disciples immediately stopped talking. Even though they had heard He was alive, they were shocked to see Him standing there with them.

Jesus said to them, "Why do you look at me like you've just seen a ghost? Why don't you believe what you're seeing? Look at the scars in my hands and feet. It is really me! Touch me and see, I am not a ghost but a real person."

The disciple's mouths were open in amazement because they still didn't know what to think. They were so full of joy, and yet it was so impossible. Jesus understood what they were thinking, so He said, "This is what I told you would happen, that everything must happen that has already been written in the Bible."

Jesus had told the disciples when they had the Last Supper together; they took the bread at communion and Jesus said, "this is my body which I have given to you..." but the disciples hadn't understood what it really meant.

Then Jesus told them, "You have seen these things that have happened, so stay in the city and soon I am going to give you what God has promised you: the Holy Spirit.

When we become Christians, Jesus automatically gives us the Holy Spirit to live inside of us. The Holy Spirit makes us know when we have done something wrong. We might feel sick to our stomach, or just get a bad feeling but that is the Holy Spirit reminding us that we are doing something wrong, or that we need to stop and say sorry and ask for forgiveness for what we've done.

The story is almost done, but Jesus had one more person to see. His name was Thomas, and he was one of the disciples that wasn't there when Jesus met with them. Thomas had also heard that Jesus was alive, but would not believe until he saw Jesus with his own eyes. A week later when Thomas finally saw Jesus, Jesus said to him, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Stop doubting and believe." But Jesus continued, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; but it is more amazing for those who don't see me, and believe anyway."

It's really neat, but Jesus was actually talking to us when He said this. If you believe in Him, without seeing Him, He will think you're very special! That is exactly what faith is: believing in God even though you can't see Him.



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