

Grace Notes

JULY 2024

As most of you know, Teresa Tuchscherer (Crestview), Valinda Hailey (Grace), and I attended The Great Plains Annual Conference in June. On the last day, Sunday morning, we attended the closing worship service. The service was filled with great singing, preaching, the ordination of incoming pastors, and concluded with the setting of appointments.

The structure of the service varies from year to year depending on who organizes it. Sometimes during the setting of appointments, the names of pastors moving to new appointments are read. Traditionally, when a name was read the person stood up. It kind of looked like a human game of whack-a-mole.

I have found this ritual interesting to watch unfold. I especially liked to watch the individuals as they stood when their names were read. The reactions ranged from taking one's good old time standing up to bouncing out of one's seat as if it was on fire. I'm sure there are some physical issues that may cause some pastors to stand slowly, but I also know that some appointment changes occur reluctantly while others can't wait to get to someplace else.

The reading of appointments did not happen this year. But as we came to the close of this year's service and Bishop Wilson declared the appointments for 2024-2025 officially set, I reflected on how blessed I've been to be among you and how much I look forward to being with you for at least one more year. I really do thank God every day for you and for the opportunity to be in ministry together for our Savior Jesus Christ.

I've been blessed with great staff (paid and volunteer) at both churches who really keep the churches going regardless of the chaos. I've been blessed with many wonderful church leaders who put their blood, sweat and tears into serving Christ through each church's mission and ministry. I've had the pleasure of working with wonderful lay leaders, musicians, and worship assistants. I've been honored with friendships that enrich my life every moment of every day. It has been an honor and privilege to be your pastor for the past three years.

I am excited to be returning to you for another year. I don't know what will happen over the next 12 months, but I can promise you this. I will never stop praying for you and thanking God for you every day. I truly believe that God has brought us together, and together, we can transform our little part of the world through the good news of Jesus Christ.

May God bless us all.

Pastor Kevin

Phone: (785) 232-3333
Email: graceumc27@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tues, Thurs, Fri 9-2

Sunday School: 9:30am
Worship: 10:45am

Grace Notes

Announcements



Upcoming Road Work in our Area

Please be aware of the roadwork that will be taking place around the church beginning in June. Maps with anticipated start dates for the Boulevard work are available in the church office.

Message from Mission Committee

Let's talk Missions!

Sunday, June 9th we had a guest speaker, LaManda Broyles from the Topeka Rescue Mission. She had a lot of information on what they do for others and discussed how, with the help of volunteers, a lot of work gets accomplished.

The Mission Committee of Grace want you to know that we contribute to this mission. In fact, we cover 4 mission projects in Topeka including, Topeka Rescue Mission, Doorstep, Let's Help, and Campus Ministries. Every quarter each project receives \$250 for a total of \$1000 a year.

Doorstep, of course, also receives food stuff from us.

For Let's Help, we used to provide a meal four times a year, but Covid put a stop to that, so we haven't done that since 2019.

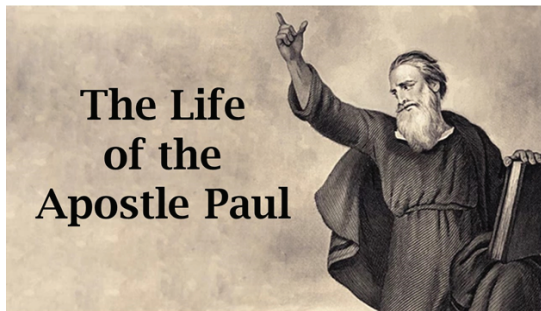
Campus Ministries is, of course, near Washburn campus. The women of Crestview and Grace have also provided several meals for the students.

Also, at the end of the year we try to add extra money to each mission. You, as individuals, are free to give on your own, and we encourage you to do that! We all need to be aware of the needs of our community, and be of good faith to continue to do so as we are able.



4TH
of July
Independence Day

Summer Worship Series



Jesus is the expert that we should listen to and by whom we should define our lives. Perhaps the second most important character of the Christian faith is the Apostle Paul. During July and August, we are taking a closer look at the life of Paul from his childhood to his early days as the zealous Pharisee Saul, through his Damascus Road transformation to Paul, and his later years as an evangelist and church planter. This series will begin on July 7th.

Guest Speaker on July 28th



Pastor Kevin has invited the Rev. Laura Guy, Congregational Engagement Director for Topeka JUMP to speak in worship on July 28th and stay after the service to share more information and answer questions about Topeka JUMP.

Topeka JUMP (Justice, Unity, & Ministry Project) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. It was established in 2012 by a group of clergy in Shawnee County, Kansas, looking for a way to live out God's call to do justice. Topeka JUMP is a coalition of 28 faith communities.

Their mission is to provide a powerful vehicle for marginalized groups in Shawnee County to fight for justice. At their annual Nehemiah Action Assembly, the coalition of faith communities stand together and call for decision-makers to make policy and funding changes that help resolve our community's most pressing problems.

Crestview VBS 2024

We'd like to invite you to "Camp Firelight", our Vacation Bible School to be held at Crestview UMC, 2245 SW Eveningside Dr. on Saturday, July 13 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Kids ages 3-12 are welcome and invited to join us for crafts, games, bible stories and more.

In addition we'd like to invite VBS attendees and their families to join us for an Ice Cream Social at 6:30 Friday, July 12 for some eats and some fellowship!



Please see Pastor Kevin for a registration form. Please help us spread the word by inviting friends and neighbors to come. See you there!!
Crestview VBS Team

GREAT PLAINS UNITED METHODISTS

TOPEKA JUSTICE ENCOUNTER

Led by the Micah Corps
in collaboration with:

- ASBURY-MOUNT OLIVE UMC
- CAFE QUETZAL
- TOPEKA FIRST UMC

SAT JULY 27 8:30-4:30



\$5 per person
Lunch included

Register at greatplainsumc.org

Micah Corps. Is a social justice and faith-based internship program for young adults sponsored by the Great Plains Conference. On Saturday, July 27, the Micah Corps interns will holding a justice encounter opportunity in Topeka.

The encounter will be from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. It will begin at Asbury-Mount Olive UMC, go to Brown vs. Board of Education, have lunch and a guest speaker at Cafe Quetzal, and conclude with group learning and a legislative panel at Topeka First UMC.

Cost is \$5 per person. If you are interested in attending, please let Pastor Kevin know no later than July 14th.

"A Tapestry of Life"

Crestview WIF invite Grace WIF to their Unit Meeting on Wednesday, July 17 at 5:30 p.m. They are providing a Taco Bar with fun and fellowship,

About their program: Imagine that your life is a tapestry. Each thread is different and represents a person in your life. Everyone is encouraged to bring an item that was made for you by a person you value and respect. Teresa Tuchsherer will share a story about "Just One Strand" and we'll talk about how we are influenced by the important people in our individual Tapestries of Life.



Birthdays

Virginia Skinner	7/1
Kim Hibbert	7/16
Remington Masters	7/16
DeNeisse O'Brien	7/16
Valinda Hailey	7/18
Lowell Johnson	7/20
Richard Taylor	7/20
Janie VanWalleghem	7/22
Emily Roth	7/24
Andrew Hastings	7/25
Leanna Stewart	7/30

Anniversaries

John & Christine Haug	6/20
Richard & Nancy Taylor	7/28

Scripture Readings

July 7

2 Sam 5:1-5, 9-10
Ps 48 (UMH 782)
2 Cor 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13

July 14

2 Sam 6:1-5, 12b-19
Ps 24 (UMH 755)
Eph 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

July 21

2 Sam 7:1-14a
Ps 89:20-37 (UMH 807)
Eph 2:11-12
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 28

2 Sam 11:1-5
Ps 14 (UMH 746)
Eph 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

July Fellowship List

July 7th:	Dave & Claire Roth
July 14th:	Chris Haug & Pam Trimble
July 21th:	Donna Larrison & Rowene Helwick
July 28th:	Taco Bar - Fellowship Team

Please plan to come & hear our guest speaker &
enjoy a Taco Bar, prepared by our Fellowship
Team ladies.

The deadline to submit information for the Grace Notes or calendar for August 2024 will be July 25th. Anything submitted after that date won't be guaranteed a place. If there is an emergency addition please let the office know ASAP.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 12:00pm: AA - #3 7:30pm: NA - #3	2 8:00am Master Gardeners 4:00pm: Grace Circle 5:30pm: AA - Parlor	3 5:30pm: AA - Parlor	4 Independance Day 10:00am: SMS Exercise 5:45pm: Women AA - #3 6:00pm: TOPS - Parlor	5 6:30pm: NA - #3	6
7	8 12:00pm: AA - #3 7:30pm: NA - #3	9 10:00am: SMS Exercise 5:30pm: AA - Parlor	10 5:30pm: AA - Parlor 6:00pm: Grace Adm. Council Meeting	11 9:30am: Coffee with the Pastor - Café Quetzal 10:00am: SMS Exercise 5:45pm: Women AA - #3 6:00pm: TOPS - Parlor	12 6:30pm: Crestview VBS Ice Cream Social 6:30pm: NA - #3	13 9:00am - 2:00pm: VBS @ Crestview UMC 9:00am - 3:00pm Grace Fellowship Hall in Use
14	15 12:00pm: AA - #3 7:30pm: NA - #3	16 10:00am: SMS Exercise 5:30pm: AA - Parlor	17 5:30pm: City of Topeka Community Meeting 5:30pm: AA - Parlor	18 9:00am: Senior Day Out 10:00am: SMS Exercise 5:45pm: Women AA - #3 6:00pm: TOPS - Parlor	19 6:30pm: NA - #3	20
21	22 12:00pm: AA - #3 7:30pm: NA - #3	23 10:00am: SMS Exercise 5:30pm: AA - Parlor	24 5:30pm: AA - Parlor	25 10:00am: SMS Exercise 5:45pm: Women AA - #3 6:00pm: TOPS - Parlor	26 6:30pm: NA - #3	27
28 Guest Speaker - Rev. Laura Guy Taco Bar Lunch	29 12:00pm: AA - #3 7:30pm: NA - #3	30 10:00am: SMS Exercise 5:30pm: AA - Parlor	31 5:30pm: AA - Parlor			