

DISCIPLES CARE NEWSLETTER

Rev. Dr. Colleen Carroll, Senior Minister

Rev. Kathryn Wilson, Minister of Mission and Outreach

FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

One never knows how much is simply coincidence and how much is movement in tandem with the Spirit of God, especially when it comes to Christian ministry. I try to listen to the Spirit when I plan worship and programmatic activities, and often I hear recurring themes or echoes that lead in the same direction. That's the birthplace of the theme I have chosen for Lent, which I am entitling, "The One Who Was, and Is, and Is to Come." It comes out of several readings and reflections of late which compare identities of Jesus as he may have been understood by his contemporaries and early followers with current recognitions and titles, and projections or outcomes for his followers as we live into the future. In the next seven weeks in worship and adult Sunday School, we will look at Jesus as Son of God, Teacher, Savior, Healer, Victor, King, and Lord, with this three-fold perspective of past, present, and future in mind.

Our worship will also combine some elements of past, present, and future. We will substitute the wooden cross and nails for the lighting of candles at prayer time, a practice we have embraced for the past few years. The elders will also be introducing a new practice of anointing with oil for those who wish to be anointed, for whatever purpose. The presiding elder will be available during prayer time to anoint with oil and offer a brief blessing without any need for explanation from the worshipper. We will sing familiar songs and hymns and learn a few new tunes. All our worship will rehearse the ancient stories of our faith, with the intent of continuing the journey into the present and future kin-dom of God. I look forward to our shared journey of faith this Lenten season, beginning on Ash Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. for the imposition of ashes. *Pastor Colleen*

NEWSLETTER CHANGE

It has been estimated that we spend in excess of \$90 per month to generate and mail our church newsletter, and our leadership has come to the conclusion that such funds could be better spent elsewhere in ministry. So we are going to suspend mailing the newsletter in bulk for the next few months on a trial basis. Those without computer or email address will receive the newsletter through first class mail, but we will not mail paper copies to those who have provided an email address. We will continue to post the newsletter and responsibility schedule to our website, and provide a few printed copies on the literature table in the narthex. We appreciate your assistance in helping to trim excess expenses from our budget as we do our very best to be faithful stewards of the resources you invest in our shared ministry.

REACHING OUT TO OUR NEIGHBORS

WITH REV. KATHRYN WILSON, MINISTER OF MISSION AND OUTREACH

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Thank you South Joplin for another successful *Souper Bowl* event led by our fantastic and awesome Youth Group. This year we collected 440 food items weighing 480 lbs. with \$100.00 in cash donations. Yes, Team South was the winning team but only by a small margin (Team South - 238 items/Team North - 202 items). But in the whole of things we are all winners when it comes to our generosity on behalf of those who are in need. Congratulations to Mark Millard, the winner of the Hurts Donuts gift card. In case you weren't here on February 12, Mark shared his donuts with us during our Sunday morning hospitality time. Thanks Mark!

We also want to send a "shout out" and a big thank you to the Irving students, teachers and staff, and Hometown Bank for another successful *Souper Bowl* event at Irving. Their collection this year totaled 717 food items and weighing in at 740 lbs. Several teachers so graciously allowed themselves to be part of a "No Hands" fun time in support of the students' efforts. It was a lot of fun watching teachers be fed baby food, have their faces made into a work of art with colored cake frosting, having make up applied or being fed those tasty Raman Noodles. They were such brave souls and willing participants.

BRIGHT FUTURES/IRVING ELEMENTARY

We are so blessed that our SJCC team of volunteer readers is growing. We welcome to the team Heather Jorgensen who joined us in February and our newest volunteer Lisa Wise. We always welcome anyone who wishes to be part of our First Friday Reading Day. Our next Reading Day is scheduled for **March 3** - 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. At the end of our last Reading Day there was a special assembly to recognize the volunteers and to announce the results of the Souper Bowl event. The Irving Student Council had Principal Mwangi recognize and introduce each of the volunteers present and thanked us for the generosity of our time and talents to the Irving students.

There are many opportunities to volunteer at Irving. Have you considered becoming a Lunch P.A.L. or TREK Coach or Tutor? It is not too late. Contact Pastor Kathryn or visit the Joplin Bright Futures website. Being a Lunch P.A.L. since the fall of 2012 has been one of the most rewarding experiences I have enjoyed. I have shared lunch with my current pal, a fifth grader, since her second grade year. We have even adopted another student as our honorary pal. It's been truly awesome to see the impact a 20 - 25 minute lunch time together once a week can make in the life of a student.

CROSSLINES

We welcome Deb Westmoreland as the newest member of our Crosslines Team. We are always glad to have new volunteers. At the recent Crosslines Friends meeting on February 13, the Team Leaders

learned that Crosslines will extend the check-in time for clients to 2:00 pm which may extend volunteer hours 15 – 30 minutes. New Monday hours will be in effect beginning Monday April 3.

Monday hours will be 4 - 7 p.m., with no morning hours. Crosslines is now fully staffed – having hired an Office Coordinator and Floater with several volunteers agreeing to serve as Donation Room Gatekeeper. The next 5th Wednesday Volunteer Training day is **March 29**. The training provides an opportunity for volunteers to receive education and information to remind us why we serve and improve how we service the clients and updates on changes at Crosslines. It's not only a learning opportunity but includes fellowship with other volunteers, food, and many times a raffle. Raffle tickets are generally earned by sharing what you have learned that day.

The Crosslines staff are excited that beginning this semester a group of senior communications majors from MSSU will be centering their senior project on helping Crosslines improve public relations and marketing. This will include event planning, videography, updating website and FB page, improving the newsletter, and completing a historic pictorial review on one wall in the building in time for the 320 Event. Mark your calendars for the big 320 Event on **March 20 at 12 noon** to dedicate the new facility. It is hoped that there will be enough people from the community to encircle the exterior perimeter of the building. There will be music, prayer and light refreshments. The Volunteer Appreciation Event will be June 2 @ 6:00 pm and will be catered by Del Rios with entertainment by the Goulds.

The **Crosslines Challenge for the month of March is 30 jars of peanut butter and 30 jars of jelly** (no overly large jars of either please). In 2016 SJCC donated 1,000 lbs. in food donations and \$1671.00 in Outreach giving to Crosslines. Way to go SJCC! Crosslines has a need for toasters, crock pots and electric skillets.

JOPLIN INTERFAITH COALITION

The Interfaith community will participate in a spring service project at Wildcat Glades and Audubon Center on Saturday **March 11**. The work day is 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon. We will be doing some grounds work to clean up from the winter and prepare for the spring. There is no age limit, so we encourage the participation of children and youth.

Bring your lunch so that we can fellowship together at the end of our work. The picnic pavilion will be reserved for our time of fellowship. Volunteers will need to bring bottled water, gloves, and wear close-toed shoes. If you have loppers or pruners, please bring them as well. Other tools and herbicides will be provided. If you are able to volunteer please contact Pastor Kathryn via email (kathryn@southjoplinidisciples.org) or by phone at 417-624-2522 or you can add your name to the sign-up poster in the Fellowship Hall.

The next Interfaith Coalition Panel Discussion is scheduled for April 1 at 10:00 a.m. and will be hosted by the Islamic Society of Joplin, 1805 W 32nd Street. The topic will be "Prayers and Liturgy."

SJCC MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

Church family and friends – we need your help. In order to raise money for our scheduled Mission Trip to Rowlette, TX, June 4 – 10, the Mission Team is organizing a fundraising event on April 29. This event will include a Garage Sale in the Quonset hut and we are asking for you to help us by donating items. We will begin accepting items immediately and storing them in the Quonset hut. Please contact the church office or talk to Pastor Kathryn to make arrangements to receive your items. This event will also include an Art and Craft Sale on the parking lot and the park. If you know any vendor who might want to rent a space to sale their products, please contact Tom Wheeler. What would any event be without food? There will be breakfast/lunch food available for sale in the Fellowship Hall. So we need all sorts of volunteers to help us. Remember the Mission Team is going to Rowlette on behalf of our congregation. See Tom Hamm if interested in helping with the Garage Sale; Jeanie Morrison if you can help in the food area; Tom Wheeler – Art/Craft Sale or Pastor Kathryn for other things that you might be able to help with. **Our goal is \$3,000.00.**

++ SJCC Classes/Events/News ++ SJCC Classes/Events/News ++

LENTEN SCHEDULE OF SERVICES "The One Who Was and Is and Is to Come"

Ash Wednesday: **March 1**, 6:00 p.m. *Imposition of Ashes*

Sunday Sermon Topics: **March 5:** Son of God **March 12:** Teacher **March 19:** Savior **March 26:** Healer **April 2:** Victor

Palm Sunday: **April 9:** King

Maundy Thursday: **April 13**, 6:30 p.m. *Worship with Communion*

EASTER: **April 16:** Sunrise Service 6:30 a.m. Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m.

Christian Women's Fellowship

CWF welcomes all women to join us on Wednesday, **March 1** in Fellowship Hall with Deb Westmoreland as hostess. Spiritual Life starts at 9:30 a.m., followed by refreshments at 10:00, business meeting at 10:30 and at 11:00. Karen Kemp will lead a study from *The Dangerous Act of Worship*. The service project for the month will be Cane Ridge Ministries.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Ash Wednesday (**March 1**) is the beginning of Lent, an important season in the life of the church and in our spiritual journeys. Join us for a unique Ash Wednesday service as we prepare to journey through Lent, toward the cross and on to resurrection. We will worship that evening at 6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY EVENING BOOK CLUB (March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30) The Book Club has started reading a new book: *Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most*, by Marcus Borg. Interested persons are invited to the Coyne's home at 3831 S. Norman Dr. at 7 p.m. on Thursdays for lively discussion and fellowship.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

March 5 at 4:00 p.m. the youth will enjoy a Progressive Dinner hosted by members of the congregation. Our hosts need to know how many people are coming, so kids, please RSVP to Pastor Colleen no later than March 1. **March 19** immediately following the congregational luncheon we will resume working on plans for Youth Sunday. All youth in grades 5-12 are welcome.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION (March 5, 12, 19, 26)

During the month of March the adult Sunday School class will be studying the lectionary scripture passages for the Lenten worship theme, "The One Who Was, and Is, and Is to Come." Bring your Bibles and join the adults **now meeting in room A-11 at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays.**

CHILDREN/YOUTH FAITH FORMATION (March 5, 12, 19, 26)

There are Sunday School classes to encourage our young people in their walk of faith that are held from 9:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. on the 3rd floor. "Where It's At" is for kids 3 years old - 4th grade with exploration, story-time, and music offered. There is a more in-depth class for grades 5 - 12, as well. The youth in grades 5-12 meet in the 3rd floor Youth Room.

FELLOWSHIP TIME (March 5, 12, 19, 26)

Did you know that we have Fellowship Time on Sunday mornings at 10:25 a.m., between Sunday School and Worship? All are welcome! If you would like to provide the snacks on a Sunday, please let Sandy Meadows know.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS (March 8, 15, 22)

We are inviting everyone to join us for our weekly Wednesday night dinner. Dinner is served from 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Please note that **we will not have dinner on Ash Wednesday (March 1)**. Donations are accepted. If you are able to help, please contact Hospitality Chairperson, Sandy Meadows.

MARCH FELLOWSHIP POT LUCK DINNER

On the 3rd Sunday of each month (**March 19**) we have a pot luck luncheon (immediately following worship). We encourage you to stay after worship and enjoy all of the yummy food everyone brings to share. If you are able, we ask that you bring food to share according to the first letter of your last name:

A-F Main Dish G-P Side Dish/Salad R-Z Dessert

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

January 22: 94 January 29: 83 February 5: 90 February 12: 99 February 19: 92

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sympathy to Family and Friends of: Ken Nash, Bill Rowe, Olen & Gladys Reding, Orville Dean York, Benjamin "David" Crum, Taven Williams, Margaret Clark (Starks), Frank Reiter (Moser)

Global Ministry Focus (Partner): Thailand (Kristin Wolf), Dominican Republic (Toni Reynolds), Ecuador (Cara McKinney), Swaziland (Stewart Barker), Mozambique (Erik Free)

All Others: Gerry Bagby, Rev. Don Baird, David & Linda Barnett, Shahida Birkhead, Chico & Nancy Bond, Chuck Brittain, Ellen Broglio, Misty Buchanan, Betty Coan, Carly Coats, Kristen Cole, Betty & Henry Coursey, Norma Cunningham, Dustin Curry, Dorothy Cutiliff, Dan Day, Alma Dent, Amy Stiles Duell, Marea Gagle, Mary Gilmore, Elizabeth Hayes, Warren Hayes, Jim Hess, Marianne Hess, Jewell Holland, Jim Holland, Mason Holleman, Alice Hughlett, Daryl Hughlett, McKenna Humphries, Sharonette Jamason,

Bethany James, Fern Jensen, Cheryl Kitchingham, Virginia Knight, Shirley Lamb, Flo Leonard, Christian Lindsey, Tom Meadows, Wilton & Betty McKelvey, Ken Miles, Missionary families (Huff, Reaves, Wilson)

All Others:

Easton Murdock, Reuben Murphy, Marge Murray, Arlene Nash, Molly Nicodemus, Jessica Plott, Josh Robb, James Roof, Martin Rooney, Michael Rooney, Dana Sanders, SJCC Ministries, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Roger Traver, Gary Wald, Joyce Wall, Will Wilkerson, Nick Williams, Charles Wilson, Birdie Woods, Lorenzo Woods, Randy Wooten, Glenn & Mary Lou York, those who suffer in silence, and all unspoken requests.

VBS DATES AND NEWS

Due to busy summer schedules, we are limiting VBS to three Thursdays this year, on **July 20, 27, and August 3**. Please mark your calendars and consider helping with this fun and energizing avenue of faith formation for our children. For one of the mission projects the kids will be making gift bags for people in crisis, so start saving hotel samples of hygiene items, combs, socks, and gently worn T-shirts in adult SM and LRG. To volunteer, speak to Jessie Faucett or Karen Kemp.

THANK YOU

I am grateful to have a caring and spiritual family in my life. Thanks for all the help you have given me.

Sincerely, Ron Harp

EQUAL EXCHANGE

Just a reminder: we offer Exchange products year-round. Check out our display cabinet in the Fellowship Hall to see your choices of coffee, tea, chocolate and cocoa. You may purchase products before or after worship. See any member of the Outreach Committee (names posted by the cabinet) or Pastor Kathryn. These items will make very special Easter gifts for loved ones.

PLANNING AHEAD

Here are the 2017 Camp Dates we know so far, we will post others as they are available.

CRY: July 17-20

CYF: June 4-9; June 29 to July 4; July 24-28

Combo Camp: June 20-24

Elementary: June 20-22

Junior: June 20-24

Junior 1: July 6-10

Junior 2: July 16-20

That Camp About God & Sex: June 25-July 1

Try-It: July 14-16; July 27-28

Chi Rho: July 11-15; July 16-21; July 24-28

123 Go: July 21-23

Faith Adventures: July 24-28

JYF: July 24-28

Intergenerational Camp at MoVal: TBD

Green Team News

The first of two bike racks to be added to our property is ready for installation. Look for it on the Pearl Avenue side of the building soon. We are half way toward our fundraising goal of \$125 for the second rack. See the poster in the fellowship hall with tear-off slips for amounts still needed, and place your donation in the offering plate or turn it in to the office, marked "Bike Rack."

The Green Team reminds you to be thankful for this beautiful planet; appreciative of its amazing creations. Recycle, reduce, reuse; our planet is very fragile!

WORLD FORESTRY DAY IS MARCH 21

Did you know:

- ◆ It's a celebration of forests and trees
- ◆ It raises awareness of their importance for generations to come
- ◆ 32 million acres of forests are lost each year to deforestation (that's equal to the size of England)
- ◆ The forests are home to over 80% of the animals, plants, and insects
- ◆ The forests play a vital role in combating climate change

March 20 is the first day of Spring. Visit a forest and plant a tree for future generations to come.