

SOUTH JOPLIN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

DISCIPLES CARE NEWSLETTER April 2018

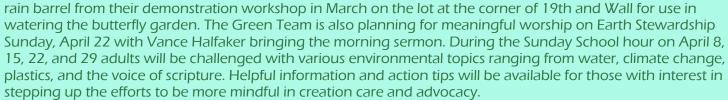


WELCOMING AND ACCEPTING ALL PEOPLE ALONG A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND SERVICE.

"Welcoming and accepting all people" – is a reminder of our Welcome Statement and genuine hospitality, in the present tense so it is always relevant. "along" – is an invitation to join together side by side. "journey of faith" – implies that arrival is a myth; we are always growing. "service" – is a natural outcome of faith and inseparable from our commitment to discipleship.

From Our Senior Minister

With the resurgence of spring vegetation and the celebrative shouts of Easter still echoing in our hearts and ears, we turn our attention this month to the gifts of mother earth in our year-long focus on stewardship. The Green Team is advancing on plans for a butterfly garden, now in partnership with one of our Eagle Scout candidates in Troop 103. Thanks to the Scouts, we will be installing the rain barrel from their demonstration workshop in March on the lot at the corner of 19th and Wall for



On April 17, 2016 SJCC adopted the Alverna Covenant, representing a commitment to change our lifestyle in order to reduce our contribution to pollution, to support recycling efforts and sustainable lifestyles, and to work toward public policies which lead to a just and sustainable society. We join hundreds of other congregations and faith groups in this covenant, in hopes that our personal and corporate efforts will make a positive change for the sake of all creation. Although most of the benefits may not be immediately visible to us, we are undeterred in our resolve to make a positive difference and reduce the footprint we leave behind. Thank you to each and every one of you who is helping to make a difference. Blessings along the way, Pastor Colleen

INTENTIONAL FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Drury University in Springfield will host a series of talks by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, a Jewish New Testament scholar who teaches at Vanderbilt Divinity School. These events are sponsored by the Drury School of Religion, the Drury Matthew 25 Project, and the Mary and William McKinnell Fund.

Thursday, April 5 at 7 pm: "Of Pearls and Prodigals: Hearing Jesus' Parables as Jewish Stories" at Stone Chapel; no cost. Friday, April 6 from 7-9am: "Understanding Jesus Means Understanding Judaism: A Workshop for Clergy, Sunday School Teachers, Bible Study Leaders and Anyone Who Wants to Get the History Right."; \$10 registration; in the Hoblit Suite of Freeman Panhellenic Hall. Friday, April 6 from noon – 1 pm: "My Experience Teaching in Prison" (Life Talks Series); \$8 registration; in the Hoblit Suite of Freeman Panhellenic Hall. To register, go to www.drury.edu/history-philosophy-and-religion/guest-speaker-professor-amy-jill-levine

Newcomers' Chat & Chew

The Elders and Pastor Colleen are hosting an informal dinner on Saturday, **April 14** at 5:30 pm for anyone who is new to SJCC in the last year or so. This includes new members, visitors, and attendees with a desire to become better acquainted with one another and with the congregation, and who might want to know more about the church. All we need is an RSVP (*to Colleen*) in order to have sufficient food. Help us spread the word!

STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

(APRIL 20-21)

Several SJCC people are planning to attend, and transportation is now being coordinated. Go to www. mid-americadisciples.org to register or pick a brochure from the bulletin board in fellowship hall.

MID-AMERICA MEN OZARKS GETAWAY & RETREAT MAY 4-6; \$75.

For 15 years, Mid-America Men have discovered Shannondale as a special place to get away and rest awhile. It is an opportunity to spend time with other Christian men and reflect on life and our spiritual gifts. For more information you can contact Paul Koch, Regional Minister at paul.ccma@sbcglobal.net or 636-221-7065. There are also brochures posted on the bulletin board in fellowship hall for your convenience.

EASTER MORNING



Please join us on **Sunday, April 1** to share in the celebration of Easter. We will launch our celebration at **6:30 a.m.** with a **Sunrise Service** beginning in the downstairs chapel. At **9:30 a.m.**, we will gather for a **Potluck Breakfast** in Fellowship Hall. There will be no Sunday School classes on Easter morning, However, Faith Formation will have an activity for the children in place of Sunday School.

We will conclude the Easter celebration with our **10:45 a.m. Worship** Service and the

We will conclude the Easter celebration with our 10:45 a.m. Worship Service and the Flowering of the Cross. <u>Please bring fresh or silk flowers for the flowering of the cross, if available</u>. The sermon will be "Impossible Stories" from Mark 16:1-8. We hope to see everyone in church as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!





REACHING OUT TO OUR NEIGHBORS



Are you a grateful person? Thankful for the good things, big and small, in your life? In the hustle of to-do lists and work deadlines, sometimes it's (*too*) easy to block out the details of the day, forgetting that each and every day holds precious gifts. From the air we breathe to the friendships we hold close, there is always something to be thankful for.

"Thankfulness is the beginning of gratitude. Gratitude is the completion of thankfulness. Thankfulness may consist merely of words. Gratitude is shown in acts." —Henri Frederic Amiel

Save the Date

The Joplin Interfaith Coalition is pleased to announce the next activity; a panel discussion on music and chanting in worship practices of our respective religions. It will be held Saturday, **April 21, 10 a.m.** and will be hosted by the Islamic Society of Joplin, 1805 W 32nd St. Refreshments will be provided.

Please feel free to share this announcement. We hope for a good turnout on April 21.

Paul Geverow on behalf of the Joplin Interfaith Coalition

Support SJCC Outreach SmileAmazon

As you shop online throughout the year, bookmark this link http://smile.amazon.com/ch/44-0574395

All of your eligible shopping will benefit SJCC. Thanks to everyone who is supporting Outreach through this program. In 2017 we received donation disbursements from Amazon in the amount of \$116.32.

Easter Offering Sunday, April 1

"God's love overflows at Easter" is the theme for this year's offering. Your generous donation to the Easter Offering will support these General Ministries' commitments to being the hands, feet, voice and heart of Jesus through countless servants all around the world. With our Giving, we model the life of the One who gave the gift of Living Water that transforms the world.

The General Ministries of the Christian
Church Disciples of Christ serve across
the U.S. and Canada and around the world.
General Ministries are partners in ministry
serving through far-reaching and unique
organizations. Learn more about Disciples
Mission Fund and the Easter Offering at
disciplesmissionfund.org

FYI: While Pastor Kathryn is away on sabbatical responsibility for some essential ministerial duties have been assigned to specific members of the congregation. This information is available in the Church Office or you may contact Pastor Colleen, any of the Elders if you have questions.

CROSSLINES

SJCC's Volunteer Team works on the 4th Thursday of the month, 9:45 am to 2:00 pm. Join us for our next work day at Crosslines on Thursday, April 26. Both Kathryn and Karen will be absent on that day, so if you have ever volunteered or never volunteered at Crosslines, this would be a day when your help would be especially appreciated. Team members please let Tom know in advance if you will not be able to volunteer.

If you want to volunteer on the SJCC Team, contact Tom Fortson. Volunteer help is always needed. If you want to volunteer any time other than on our regularly scheduled team time, contact Crosslines directly at 782-8384. Crosslines hours are Monday evenings from 4 pm to 7 pm and Tuesday through Friday from 9:45 am - 2 pm. Even if you can only help out for an hour, your service will be greatly appreciated. Just ask for Lynn, the volunteer coordinator when you arrive and she will get you started. The need for volunteers is great. If you can't make it during the regular daytime hours Tuesday - Friday, then consider volunteering on any Monday evening and invite a friend to volunteer with you or take your family and serve together.

Crosslines Challenge for April will be 100 pounds of flour

Office needs at Crosslines are clear tape, sticky notes, and Avery labels (5160-30/page.)

The pantry needs sandwich-size Ziploc bags.

The sorting room needs masking tape.

If you are willing to donate any of these, they can be placed on either the table in the basement or the cart in the narthex where the monthly food challenge is collected.

For distribution to clients, Crosslines needs inexpensive flip flops, hand held can openers, small appliances, adult extra-large sized clothing, men's shoes and underwear, and feminine hygiene products.

If you would like to donate, but the Crossline hours are not convenient for you, give your donations to Karen Kemp at church. She will be happy to convey your donations and return a tax receipt if you wish.

Visit their website and view the new video highlighting the ministry https://www.crosslinesjoplin.org/

Classes

ADULT FAITH FORMATION Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Room A-11

There will be no Sunday School classes on Easter Sunday. The remaining Sundays in April will center on Environmental Stewardship, and will include videos, scripture exploration, workable action plans and problem solving. Bring your ideas and contribute to the outcome!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

The children and youth meet each Sunday morning from 9:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. We work to encourage our young people in their walk of faith.

"Where It's At" is for those 3 years old through 4th grade and uses crafts, games, and songs centered around a particular Bible story each week. There is a more in-depth class with discussion for grades 5 - 12. Both classes meet on the third floor and parents are always welcome to attend with their students.

This quarter "Where It's At" students are studying the parables of Jesus. People often asked Him what He meant when He said "the Kingdom of God." Jesus told many parables explaining what God's Kingdom is like.

Looking for Volunteers

To enhance the safety of our members and visitors while on the church premises, the Safety Team is now looking for eight or more able-bodied volunteers who would be willing to serve once a month on Sunday mornings as Safety Coordinators in teams of two. While all the responsibilities have not yet been finalized, most importantly the job would entail careful observance of the entrances and exits, ensuring safe evacuation or shelter in the event of severe weather, fire, or intrusion, and coordinating with safety officers upon their arrival. These individuals will not be armed, and are not expected to place themselves in harm's way for the sake of others. Some training will be involved, and sincere commitment to being present when assigned is expected. For questions or to volunteer, please

contact Darryl Coit

Groups



Youth News

Our youth will be joined on April 13 at 6:30 pm by Cynthia Torres, MSSU student and motivational speaker on DACA – Differed Action for Childhood Arrivals. She will share her personal experiences and help us to better understand the complexities of students even in our own community and state.

MID-AMERICA CHURCH CAMPS ANNOUNCED

July 16-19: CRY Festival at Culver Stockton College for youth who have finished 8-12th grades; July 19-22: West Central Regional Youth Event (with UCC) at Grinnel College, IA for youth who have completed 6-12 grades; Outdoor camps for campers from K - 12th grade at several locations throughout the state. SJCC offers 50% assistance on registration fees to all our participating youth. For camp Information/registration go to www.mid-americadisciples.org/ summer, or see our church secretary or Pastor Colleen for printed forms.

GREEN TEAM NEWS

During the month of April, the Green Team will be collecting used/new bedding and towels, dog/cat food, pet toys, collars, and leashes for the Joplin Humane Society. There will be drop off boxes in the Narthex and in Fellowship Hall. Please do your part for humankind's best friends by donating generously. Monetary donations can be given to Susan Wolfenbarger.

GREEN TEAM MESSAGE

As people of faith, Earth Day calls us back to the creation story where the first human beings were put in place as caretakers of the rest of creation. We are reminded that God asks us to be partners in caring for the land, animals, water, plants, and air around us. Enjoy the beauty of nature and remember you are it's caretaker.

Let's make *everyday* Earth Day! You can start off simple and plant a tree or recycle paper, glass, plastic, or tin cans.

EASTER BLESSINGS

His Spirit brings us joy, His presence brings us hope, His love brings us together. It means so much to share Christ's gifts of love and grace with you, And to know that Easter's meaning lives within your own heart, too. Wishing you a blessed Easter.

Norma Cunningham

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Come and enjoy fellowship and food at our open dinner <u>each Wednesday</u> evening at 5:30.

Invite your friends and neighbors. All the food is prepared for you. Monetary donations are welcome. We hope to see you there!

You are also welcome to stick around after the meal and help out with small tasks around the church. Darryl Coit can give you more info on helping around the church.

MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

The next luncheon will be **Sunday**, **April 15** at Noon in Fellowship Hall. All attending are asked to bring a dish to share according to the first letter of your last name:

A-6: <u>Side dish</u> H-M and T-W: <u>Main dish</u> N-S: <u>Dessert</u>

REGIONAL ASSEMBLY APRIL 20 & 21

Let's take a bus load of people from SJCC to Hannibal, Missouri this April to attend the Mid-America Regional Assembly. We will meet and listen to our new General Minister and President, Rev. Terri Hord Owens on a dinner cruise, have a guided tour through Jim's Journey Museum of African-American History, enjoy a variety of workshops, worship, and entertainment, AND connect with Pastor Kathryn on her sabbatical in Chiapas, Mexico via livefeed! The cost for the two-day registration is only \$75 and includes lunch and the Riverboat Dinner Cruise on Friday as well as the All Assembly lunch on Saturday. (Lodging suggestions available.) Registration forms are available on the bulletin board outside the church library or online at www.mid-americadisciples.org



SAVE THE DATES FOR VBS 2018

We are excited to announce our plans and dates for summer Vacation Bible School! Through "Embrace the Fruits of the Spirit," children ages 3 years old - 5th grade will discover the *Fruits* of the Spirit and how to apply them in their daily lives while learning about the Caribbean and our Global Ministry partners. Mark your calendars for Tuesdays in July (10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st) from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Now is the time to volunteer your assistance in making plans and preparations, so please see Karen Kemp or Jessica Faucett with your enthusiastic response!





Other Important Stuff



REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m. Sunday School (age 3 – adult) **10:25 a.m.** Fellowship time for everyone

10:45 a.m. Children Worship & Wonder (ages 3 ½ yrs - 1st grade)

10:45 a.m. Worship

Clipboards are available for kids 2nd grade/up in the sanctuary. A nursery is available from 9:30 a.m. - Noon for those too young to participate in other ministries.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MARCH 13 BOARD MEETING

Treasurer: noted billing only slightly greater than income; Cathy Gray worked with Church Pro (software manufacturer) to archive reports from 2014 - 2017 noting no way to correct past reports due to issue caused by software glitch; she was able to reconcile accounts and present accurate January/February reports.

Pastor Colleen: pleased to hear Pastor Kathryn had enjoyed attending Black Ministers Retreat; offered thanks she was able to enjoy a wonderful vacation; reminded all of upcoming Regional Assembly/encouraged attendance; informed Board she is working with current Child Protection Taskforce to reassign duties; noted receipt of registration packets for DoC summer camps and recommended we create policy delineating Summer Camp Scholarship funds.

CWF: pleased most of apple pies sold as result of BOGO sale. mentioned CWF's intentional use of SJCC's Five Faith Practices.

Diaconate: noted resignation of Judy Schneider from Diaconate and seeking replacement for the vacated position.

Faith Formation: noted concern over low attendance in children and youth Sunday school classes.

Hospitality: thanked CWF for donation to pay for kitchen coffee.

Property: noted Rental Account not showing recent rents and will check to see if there is a problem in getting monies deposited; informed Board two new security cameras installed covering front exterior and one in Narthex area; said Dorcas room cleaned and latches installed for use as another storm shelter; mentioned all emergency kits refurbished; passed out "temporary" copy of Safety and Security Plan (originally adopted in 2010) stressing it needs updating and asked for suggestions on changes/updates. Once Plan has been updated and approved by Board, it will be available to congregation.

Youth: expressed gratitude and pride of our well mannered and hard working youth during their volunteer duty at Crosslines; noted Adara Soderstrom raised \$280 with Hot Chocolate booth fund raiser and delivered money to Crosslines; stressed need for adult volunteers to help with youth group during Kathryn's sabbatical.

Full copy of financials/minutes available in church office.

STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Due to changes in the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of* 2017, donors who are, or soon will be, over 70 ½ years old with tax-deferred assets such as IRAs, 403(b) or 401(k) accounts should learn more about the advantages of giving directly from an IRA. The benefits of IRA gifts have increased for many seniors. Planning is required if your tax-deferred assets are not held in an IRA. Giving this way may reduce taxes on Social Security benefits and Medicare costs. Every individual over 70 should become familiar with this excellent giving opportunity!

Christian Church Foundation can help. Email them at info@ccf.disciples.org or call (800)668-8016.

CHURCH STATISTICAL INFORMATION

General Operating Budget February 1, 28, 2015

(General Operating Budget February 1-28, 2018)

Anticipated Income: \$18,179.61 Actual Income: \$17,586.92 Actual Expense: \$17,613.91

You can give online at www.southjoplindisciples.org Your commitments can also be mailed. Thank you!

Attendance

2/25: 80 3/4: 84 3/11: 68 3/18: 59

WE LIFT THESE UP IN PRAYER

Global Ministry Focus: Israel/Palestine (Victor Makari), Guatemala (Ricardo Mayol), East Timor (Monica Liddle), Indonesia (Karen Campbell-Nelson)

Sabbatical: Rev. Kathryn Wilson

All Others: John Asher, Gerry Bagby, Rev. Don Baird, Linda Barnett, Phyllis Battin, Nancy & Chico Bond, Ellen Broglio, Betsy Chamberlin, Betty Coan, Carly Coats, Kristen Cole, Teri Conklin, Henry Coursey, Michael Crofford, Norma Cunningham, Randy Cunningham, Dorothy Cuttliff, Dan Day, Lois Demeree, Alma Dent, Niki Disney, Gordan Duncan, David Fitterling, Tom Fortson, Denny Frieze, George & Marea Gagle, Mary Gilmore, Harry Guinn, Elizabeth Hayes, Shirley Holford, Jewell Holland, Jim Holland, Alice Hughlett, Daryl Hughlett, McKenna Humphries, Corey Irwin, Sharonette Jamason, Bethany James, Fern Jensen, Jean King, Danielle La Plante, Shirley Lamb, Laura Lamley, Christian Lindsey, Valerie Lucero, Tom Meadows, Wilton & Betty McKelvey, Ken Miles, Missionary families (Huff, Reaves, Wilson), Easton Murdock, Chris & Andrea Nauser, Avery Neill, Nicodemus Family, Sean Nicodemus, People of Syria, Josh Petty, Jessica Plott, Alexis Prater, Dean-Reaves, Josh Robb, Martin Rooney, Michael Rooney, Dana Sanders, Jillian Schuler, SJCC Ministries, Ashley Starbuck, Avis Stiles, Lanny Stiles II, Ferne Traver, Roger Traver, Martha Tucker, Gary Wald, Karen Watson, Will Wilkerson, Charles Wilson, Birdie Woods, Lorenzo Woods, Glenn & Mary Lou York, those who suffer in silence, and all unspoken requests.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Prayer changes things

3 Flo Leonard

4 Judy Schneider

5 Lou Starks

6 Pat Wolfenbarger

. 7 Kenan Booe

8 Rachel Eckhardt

15 Anita Frieze

19 Becky Martino

21 Stephanie Castlebury

24 Cyndi Cogbill

25 Dia Curry

30 Jeanie Morrison



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

13 Tim & Carey Prater

23 Troy & Heather Jorgensen

8:00 am Elders

9:00 am Praise Team Practice 9:30 am *Sunday School

10:25 am *Fellowship

APRIL 2018



10:45 am Children Worship & Wonder						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter Sunday 6:30 am Sunrise Service 9:00 Praise Team Practice 9:30 am Potluck Breakfast No Sunday School	2	3	9:30 am CWF Gen and Spiritual Life	5 11:30 am Clergy Cluster at Ashgrove	6 12:30 pm Irving Reading Day	7
Craft for kids at Breakfast 10:45 am Worship and Flowering of the Cross	5:30 pm Security Team	6:00 pm Child Protection 6:30 pm Committees	5:30 pm Dinner 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm Praise Practice	6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Book Club		
8 Regular Sunday Schedule	9 Church Office Closed	10 Office Opens 2 pm	9:00 am VBS Planning 10:00 am Prayer Partners	12	13	14
		6:30 pm Board Meeting	5:30 pm Dinner 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm Praise Practice	6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Book Club	6:30 pm Youth	5:30 pm Newcomers' Chat and Chew
15 Regular Sunday Schedule 12 noon Fellowship Lunch	16	17	9:00 am VBS Meeting 10:00 am Prayer Partners	19	20	21 Regional Assembly 10:00 am Interfaith Panel (music/chanting in worship)
		6:00 pm Families 4 Families Meeting 6:30 pm Green Team	5:30 pm Dinner 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm Praise Practice	6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Book Club	Regional Assembly	Islamic Society 1805 W 32 nd
22 Earth Day Regular Sunday Schedule	23	24	25 10:00 am Prayer Partners	9:45 am Crosslines	27	28
		6:30 pm Colleen's PRC	5:30 pm Dinner 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm Praise Practice	6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Book Club		
29 Regular Sunday Schedule	30					Pastor Kathryn on Sabbatical March 5-June 2

"WHERE IT'S AT!" SUNDAY SCHOOL (3 YRS - GRADE 4)

- Apr 1: No Sunday School
- Apr 8: Jessica Faucett/Sandy Meadows
- Apr 15: Darlene Coit/Karen Kemp
- Apr 22: Rocky Eckhardt/Jessica Faucett
- Apr 29: Leanna Carrol/KC Brockman

PRAISE TEAM

- Apr 1: Judy Akeman, Kenton Foster, Lisa Wilcox
- Apr 8: Judy Akeman and Rocky Eckhardt
- Apr 15: Judy Akeman, Kenton Foster, Betsy Wheeler
- Apr 22: Rocky Eckhardt, Betsy Wheeler, Lisa Wilcox
- Apr 29: Judy Akeman, Kenton Foster, Betsy Wheeler

COMMUNION AT THE TABLE

- Apr 1: Sue Sterrett, Don Smith, Patt Hinds, Shirley Martin
- Apr 8: Susan Wolfenbarger, Chad Peterson-Sloan, KC Brockman, Lisa Wilcox
- Apr 15: Patt Hinds, Monica Bailey, Shirley Martin, Rachel Eckhardt
- Apr 22: Sherry Crumbliss, Donna Fuller, Julia Foster, Karen Kemp
- Apr 29: Carolyn Thiel, Tom Hamm, Sarah Coyne, Emma Eckhardt

HOMEBOUND

- Apr 1: Mark Millard/Don Smith
- Apr 8: Margie Fitterling/Chad Peterson-Sloan
- Apr 15: Betsy Wheeler/Monica Bailey
- Apr 22: Rocky Eckhardt/Donna Fuller
- Apr 29: Leanna Carrol/Tom Hamm

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

- Apr 1: Children in Big Worship
- Apr 8: Sarah Coyne/Laney Reaves
- Apr 15: Karen Kemp/Judy Schnieder
- Apr 22: KC Brockman/Cathy Gray
- Apr 29: Jessica Faucett/Rachel Eckhardt

SOUND BOARD/PROJECTION

- Apr 1: Raymond Reaves/Judy Schneider
- Apr 8: Ken Moser/Jennifer Reaves
- Apr 15: Darryl Coit/Sandy Meadows
- Apr 22: Raymond Reaves/Judy Schneider
- Apr 29: Ken Moser/Jennifer Reaves

INPUT **OPERATOR**

- Apr 1: Sherry Elliott
- Apr 8: Sherry Elliott
- Apr 15: Sherry Elliott
- Apr 22: Sherry Elliott
- Apr 29: Sherry Elliott

COMMUNION PREPARATION

- Apr 1: Sue Sterrett
- Apr 8: Susan Wolfenbarger
- Apr 15: Patt Hinds
- Apr 22: Sherry Crumbliss
- Apr 29: Carolyn Thiel

ELDER IN WORSHIP

- Apr 1: Margie Fitterling
- Apr 8: Betsy Wheeler
- Apr 15: Rocky Eckhardt
- Apr 22: Leanna Carrol
- Apr 29: Mike Fitterling

ACOLYTE/ALTERNATE

- Apr 1: Lauren Coyne/Reese Prater
- Apr 8: Reese Prater/Mia Coyne
- Apr 15: Mia Coyne/Laney Reaves Apr 22: Laney Reaves/Taylor Reaves
- Apr 29: Taylor Reaves/Carly Garrison