

Our theme for this Lenten season has been, “Come to the Table.” Jesus Christ, the sinless son of God, came and died a substitutionary death on the cross on behalf of humankind as an atonement and propitiation for sins before God. By his death we are delivered from the domain of darkness and transferred to the Kingdom of his beloved son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins (Colossians 1:13-14). He took your sins and mine upon himself so that we might live in the newness of life. His table has all we need to live our Christian lives. Christ is interested in hosting us at his table, there is a table for you, so come!



As reported last month, confirmation classes are going on well every Sunday morning immediately after the first service. I am excited to see the desire and the passion that both confirmands and the mentors have for the lessons. Again I thank the parents and the mentors for their commitment to help our young people learn about God. Zac and I are blessed to have the opportunity to nurture these young ones in the way of the Lord.

Our youth have demonstrated that they are leaders today going into the future. You have seen them read the Scriptures in both services, lead worship and even doing young Christian lesson. I am really impressed by their leadership and I am grateful to you all for creating a space and encouraging them to serve.

Serving in a missional church is exciting! I love seeing you all participate in missions around here and beyond. I am deeply grateful to our church’s Special Events Committee team who did a luncheon on February 26th after the second service to raise funds towards Heart of Africa to help the women in Kenya who are facing hardships. You have always been loving, generous and on their behalf I say thank you to you all. Keep praying for them.

Almost every Sunday we see new faces attend our services, thank you for your hospitality. Whenever you see a person please make them feel welcome and get to know him or her. In the coming few weeks, we will be having some join our church and together we will be a family.

Come to the Lord’s table and let’s invite others to come too!

I love you,

Rev. Reuben Langat, Ph.D.

Our Vision

Worship, Witness, Serve

Our Mission

**Worship God who loves us.
Share our faith by building relationships.
Bring hope to the world we serve.**



Celebrating God's Faithfulness



That there are several stained glass windows in the church? Can you find all of them? They tell stories from the Bible, they depict scenes described in Psalms, Matthew, John, Ephesians, and Revelation. How many did you find?

We praise You because your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies and great is your faithfulness. Lam.3:23

Celebrating God's Faithfulness October 15th, 2023.



February Budget

Receipts \$23,939.99

Expenses \$26,428.14

Mission: \$408.95

YTD through Feb 28

Receipts \$54,7401.00

Expenses \$53,447.74



On March 26th we had a Soup Supper by Special Events to raise funds for Heart of Africa. They raised close to \$5000. Thank you for the support.

Palm Sunday, April 2nd

8:45 am The Way Service

9:30 am JAM & Confirmation Class

10:30 am Sanctuary Service

6:00 pm Sing-a-long with dinner

Maundy Thursday, April 6th

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Good Friday, April 7th

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, April 9th

6:30 am Sunrise Service

@ CC Country Club 1568 Navajo Rd

Breakfast in FLC afterwards

8:45 am The Way Service

9:30 am JAM/ Easter Egg Hunt

10:30 am Sanctuary Service



Hims with Hymns

APRIL



BIRTHDAYS 85+ years &
ANNIVERSARIES 50+ Years

Birthdays 85+

Ann Appleton 04/02

Marilyn Habluetzel 04/02

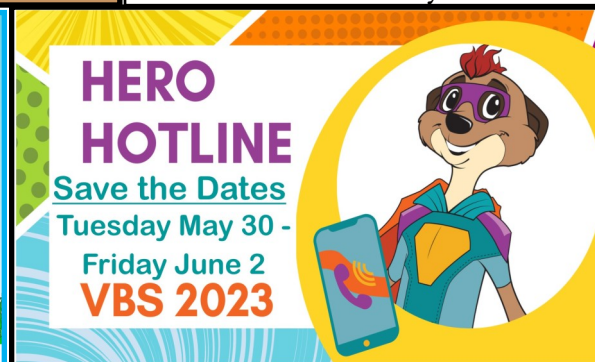
Joanne Coberly 04/08

Shirley Pfizenmaier 04/27

Anniversaries 50+

Dan & Bonnie Spellman

04/11/1970





April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
FLC – Family Life Center FEL – Fellowship Hall (basement) Confirmation Class – Room #203 FFF – Faithfully Fit Forever - FLC– volunteer lead exercise program UWF – United Women in Faith, all women are welcome Home Spun – UWF cluster - Parlor C.O.O.L. W.H.I.P. – UWF cluster– RM 2 Men's Morning – FLC/ breakfast and devotion, all men are welcome Adv. – Adventures 1st-3rd grades/ FEL Pwr Pk – Power Pack 4th-5th grades/ FEL Youth Group – HS/ High School , MS/Middle School				April Items Clothing & School Supplies		1
2 Palm Sunday 8:45a The Way Service 9:30a JAM 9:30a Confirmation class 10:30a Sanctuary Worship 6p Sing-a-long 8p AA/Al-anon	3 11:30a Harvesters 	4 9:30a Cong. Care 10a Tue. @ 10 3:30p Adv 5p FFF	5 9:15a FFF 10a WBS 5:30p Scramble 6p WBS 6p Memorial 6:15p Youth 6:30p Finance	6 5p FFF 7p Maundy Thursday Service 	7 9:15a FFF 7p Good Friday 	8
9 Easter 6:30a Sunrise  Service/ breakfast to follow 8:45a The Way Service 9:30a JAM/Easter Egg Hunt 10:30a Sanctuary Worship 8p AA/ Al-anon	10	11 10a Tue. @ 10 3:30p Adv 5p FFF	12 6:45a Men's Morning 9:15a FFF 10a WBS 5:30p Scramble 6p WBS 6:15p Youth 7p Church Council	13 10a HomeSpun 3:30p Pwr Pack 5p FFF	14 9:15a FFF	15
16 New Members Join 8:45a The Way Service 9:30a JAM 9:30a Confirmation Class 10:30a Sanctuary Worship 8p AA/Al-anon	17	18 10a Tue. @ 10 3:30p Adv 5p FFF	19 9:15a FFF 10a WBS 5:30p Scramble 5:30p Cool Whip 6p WBS 6:15p Youth	20 3:30p Pwr Pack 5p FFF 7p CCCOM	21 9:15a FFF	22
23/30 8:45a The Way Service 9:30a JAM 9:30a Confirmation Class 10:30a Sanctuary Worship 8p AA/Al-anon	24	25 10a Tue. @ 10 3:30p Adv 5p FFF	26 6:45a Men's Morning 9:15a FFF 10a WBS 5:30p Scramble 6p WBS 6:15p Youth	27 3:30p Pwr Pack 5p FFF	28 9:15a FFF	29

Marabeth's Memo -

It's been kind of a tough few days for my family. We received the call that no one wants to hear last week that my husband's mother passed away. It was one of those moments that literally felt like time stood still for a bit. Brad stepped away to gather his thoughts and I just sat there on the kitchen cupboard, not really knowing how to feel.

I met Ruth – or “Momo” as the Grandchildren call her – 33 years ago. She was a retired Home Economics teacher and we had interests in many of the same things. We both enjoyed cooking and sewing and all of the things it takes to run a home. We certainly didn't do everything the same way, and she was always quick to point that out. For instance, I like my drinking glasses faced down in the cabinets while she liked her faced up. My towels I fold in a triple fold, while she folded hers in half. Actually, the list could go on and on of our petty differences, but on the things in life that really mattered, we couldn't have agreed more!

Ruth loved God and was passionately dedicated to her church. She loved her husband dearly and was a good and faithful wife to him. She loved her two children and created a happy home in which to raise them. She loved her job as a teacher and felt joy when watching her students succeed. And, she loved her Granddaughters and spoiled them every chance she got. She lived her life in a right and pleasing way.

As a good Catholic often does, Ruth spent much of her time in her final days saying “Hail Mary, full of grace.” She was at peace.

Within hours of learning of my mother-in-law's passing, I heard a song by Casting Crowns. The chorus goes like this, “The only scars in heaven, they won't belong to me and you. There'll be no such thing as broken and all the old will be made new. And the thought that makes me smile now, even as the tears fall down, is that the only scars in heaven are on the one that holds you now.”

We, her family, rest assured that she is now with Jesus in heaven, singing with the angels, and probably teaching everyone the right way to fold a towel.

We love you, Momo. Until we meet again,

Marabeth



LOOKING TO JOIN OUR CHURCH !
APRIL 16TH @ BOTH SERVICES
IS
***SEE PASTOR REUBEN**
OR MARABETH
MEMBERSHIP
SUNDAY

Children Learning About Yahweh

From the time of Nebuchadnezzar to that of Cyrus, Alexander the Great to that of Caesar, many powerful individuals have held the position of global conqueror at some point in human history. There have been many leaders throughout history who have been responsible for the direction of key movements, conflicts, dreams, and great ideas. On the other hand, not one of these great leaders has shown to be more powerful than death and the grave. On the other hand, the Gospel recounts to us the story of those women who went to the tomb to anoint the body of their teacher and friend, but we sometimes miss the profound nature of the question that the angels asked them: **“Why do you seek the living among the dead?”** (Luke 24:5)

The question asked by the angels is a great prompt to reflect on who we are as Christians. We are people of the Risen Lord! I would like to unpack this question for us. The angels are saying, searching for meaning, purpose, and life in the world is like searching among the dead. Everything that the world claims to bring purpose and life is dead. The world we live in focuses on the here and now, the temporary, and what will pass away. Jesus tells us that he is the way, the truth, and the life. (John 14:6)



The angels are saying;
Don't you know that Jesus holds the key to death and hell?
Don't you know that the saints have been redeemed?
Don't you know that sin has been conquered?
Don't you know that the blood of the lamb has made you more than conquerors?
Don't you know Jesus is the resurrection and the life?

This is the gospel message—Jesus died on the cross for our sins and He rose again on the third day. As a result of Jesus's crucifixion and resurrection, we are in a position to openly declare that Jesus is the gospel. He is Good News. Jesus is more than just a powerful world figure. Christ cannot be likened to any other dynasty or king since he is the Lord of all and the Savior of the world. Amen.

P.S. Thank you Frances & all parents for your help and support during our Operation Christmas Child Scramble dinner which raised \$1173.00. **Zac**





KUDOS TO OUR KIDS!

GOOD
news
About Kids





Dear Member of CCUMC- We would like to thank you very much for your prayers and support you send us for Brent. It is so nice each time we hear from you and know you are thinking of Brent and his situation. Thank you also for the beautiful quilt you made for Brent. What a nice idea and so thoughtful of all of you. We know our granddaughter Rowan has chosen a loving community, which we also appreciate.

Thank you again, **Cindy & Brent Rusert**

Mom wanted me to tell you how much she loves and misses all of you. She has moved to the Nicol Home in Glasco. Thank you for the cards and prayers. They make a wonderful impact on how she feels.

Jenna Caver & Barbie Booth

Dear CCUMC- I just sat down beside Wes who is resting quietly covered with the beautiful prayer quilt delivered yesterday by Pastors Reuben and Jane. Wes loves his quilt and we both feel the love from Clay Center, even though we have never met you. May Many blessings be returned to you and this wonderful ministry. Love and blessings to all.

Wesley & Shirley Radcliffe

Thank you each for welcoming her into your church family back in 2009 from the Hayes Methodist Church and for "watching out for her" these last few months. Thank you to those who were part of her Celebration of Life Service; Tom in the booth, Cathy at the organ, Herb sharing Mom's story, Pastor Reuben for your "from the heart" message, and for each of you that attended. For the delicious meal and the hospitality shown to our family and friends. Thank you all for the wonderful outpour of cards, texts, memorial gifts, flowers, hugs, stories and prayers. **From the family of Betty Spellman: Mark & Teresa Spellman, Dallas & Linda Cunningham & Families**

CCUMC- Thank you to all the Women in Faith, family members, and friends that allow us to pull off another Rummage Sale that was a total success. We could not do it without all your help and donations.

Linda Henry and the C.O.O.L. W.H.I.P. Cluster



Women of Faith Rummage Sale- \$3,100.00 and still counting.



THE ENLIGHTENER

Clay Center United Methodist Church - Pastor Reuben Langat
921 5th Street - P.O. Box 118 - Clay Center, Kansas 67432-2509

Phone 785-632-3106 - Email: churchoffice@claycenterumc.org - Web site: www.claycenterumc.org



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Prayers and Sympathy to Brad & Marabeth Conner on the loss of his mother Ruth Conner on March 16th, 2023.

Prayers and Sympathy to David & Darla Coffman and Family on the loss of his father Lewis Coffman on March 20, 2023

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WEDNESDAY NIGHT Suppers

SCRAMBLE

Wednesday evening free-offering meal
5:30 pm—6:30 pm

April 5th— Rotary— Spaghetti Dinner
April 12th— Lion's Club— Pulled Pork Dinner
April 19th— Washington Headliners 4H Club— Pork Burgers & Hot Dogs
April 26th— World Baton Fundraiser for Gurney & Leitzel— Sloppy Joe Meal

Our Prayer Ministry

IN OUR PRAYERS: Elizabeth Carlson, Jillian Browne, Tom Skinner, Dick Ahlberg, Scott Taddiken, Virginia Modean, Shelly Bottcher, Gerald (Rick) Ricketts, Barb Booth, Reta Knitter, Pat Nichols, Julie Schulze, Joel Spence, Wes Radcliffe, Craig Bradford, Frank Kirtley, Patty Stephans.
Serving in the Military: Brenden Kolsky, Drew Sumner, Cooper Coffman, Wyatt Bowles



The April Mission of the month is the Clay Center United Methodist Blessing Box. We will be taking a monetary donation this month to help with keeping it stocked. Our blessing box is located outside the family Life Center door on Clarke Street. Help our neighbors in need.