



# ONE

A publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance June 2015

## INSIDE:

- + Finding a spot to help youth grow.
- + Churches see personnel changes.

*The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of God's hands*

**Psalm 19:1**

Summer and the close of the school year bring opportunities for travel and recreation time away with families. We tend to think of summer leisure as a time for mindless fun. And yet the word recreation can also be read Re-Creation; intentional time to renew and reconnect with the beauty, joy and love that flows from God and is so abundantly visible in nature.

This month, we focus on traveling faith. While we are on vacation or in summer mode, how do we renew our faith and stay connected to the One who made us?

For some, that might include visiting other churches or hosting family services. Some families have a summer prayer and devotional practice like sharing something they thank God for from the day. In a previous congregation, we encouraged members to take photos of fun moments throughout the summer which were displayed and became part of our Thank Offering at the fall homecoming service.

The Rev.  
Celeste Lasich



Some of my friends are including "Flat Jesus" in their travel photos, a takeoff on the popular traveling "Flat Stanley" used by many schools. Flat Jesus in our vacation pics serves as a visual reminder that no matter how far we may travel, Jesus is with us. How might you stay connected to God when you're physically away from your congregation and typical worship practices?

I have just returned from an amazing two-week pilgrimage in Scotland to centers of faith both ancient and contemporary. We studied and practiced living as pilgrims in our daily lives, attentive and open to the leading of God's Spirit. Along with my pilgrim band, I worshiped in places where prayers have been offered to God for over 1,300 years, as well as

## WELCOME

hotel conference rooms and contemporary church buildings. God's Presence was everywhere.

Summer also brings new officers for the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance. Members of the executive committee begin their terms June 1 of each year. The current executive committee is made up of President Celeste Lasich, Vice President Scott Watford, Secretary Kevin Daniels, Treasurer Steve Johnson and Executive Director of First Call for Help Linda Mills

The members of ECMA hope this edition helps you and your family to think about new ways to practice "traveling faith" this summer. Being away from our regular routine can open our eyes to God's presence in profound ways, especially when we are intentional. May this summer be filled with fresh opportunities to practice traveling faith and the presence of God wherever we are.

*The Rev. Celeste Lasich is pastor at First Presbyterian Church.*

## SUBMISSIONS

ONE and the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance encourage submissions from ECMA congregations. Photographs, stories, testimonies and other submissions should be directed toward your church leaders or sent via email to [one@dailynews.net](mailto:one@dailynews.net).

The ECMA advisory board will choose appropriate and timely submissions for publication.

The columns in ONE represent the views of the author.

## ADVISERS

Pastor Kevin Daniels  
Hays Christian Church  
[rev.kevin.daniels@gmail.com](mailto:rev.kevin.daniels@gmail.com)

Pastor Steve Dinkel  
Liberty Foursquare Church  
[lcfcsd@ruraltel.net](mailto:lcfcsd@ruraltel.net)

Steve Johnson  
United Methodist Campus Ministry  
[umcmfhs@yahoo.com](mailto:umcmfhs@yahoo.com)

Pastora Lory Herrick  
First Baptist Church  
[loryseparados@yahoo.com](mailto:loryseparados@yahoo.com)

Intern Pastor Jon Brudvig  
St. John Lutheran Church, Ellis  
[sjcellis@gbta.net](mailto:sjcellis@gbta.net)



ONE is the official publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance, which guides its mission, content and theme.

It is produced by The Hays Daily News.  
Volume 8, Issue 6  
Copyright 2015

[one@dailynews.net](http://one@dailynews.net)  
Visit us at [oureema.com](http://oureema.com)  
or find us on Facebook

## RECIPE

### Spaghetti sauce

#### Ingredients:

1 pound hamburger, browned with onion (I use frozen chopped onion)  
Add: 1 can stewed tomatoes  
1 can tomato sauce  
½ cup ketchup  
Oregano (10 shakes)  
Italian seasoning (1 pinch)  
Pepper and salt (6 shakes each)

2 T. brown sugar  
1 T. Worcestershire sauce  
1 (4 oz.) can mushroom stems and pieces, drained

#### Directions:

Cover and cook over medium low heat until heated through. Reduce heat and simmer. Stir frequently.

— Submitted by Barb Jones, St. John Lutheran Church, Ellis.

## HOLY HUMOR

There was an Armenian and a Calvinist engaged in intense debate as they departed from church one Sunday morning. The Armenian kept insisting on his position that God gives us a free will to make our own choices, and the Calvinist insisted all that takes place was predestined by God.

They were so engaged in their debate they became completely oblivious to a long row of

steps they were headed for. When they arrived at the steps, they both tumbled down to the bottom. As the Armenian was laying there at the bottom of the steps, he kept asking himself how did this happen and why. The Calvinist got up, brushed himself off and said, "Thank God that's over with."

Submitted by Jerry Sprock, pastor of First Baptist Church, Hays.

**HAVE NEWS HAPPENING IN YOUR CHURCH?  
SEND IT TO [ONE@DAILYNEWS.NET](mailto:ONE@DAILYNEWS.NET)**

## PRAIRIE LAND

Prairie pak — \$28 (includes meats, fruits and veggies).

Meat only — \$15 (includes the meat that is in the regular Prairie Pak).

Fruit and veggie only — \$13 (includes the fruit and veggies in the regular Prairie Pak).

Specials — 4 different specials are offered each month plus a choice item.

Meat, fruit and veggie and Specials paks can be purchased with or without the Prairie Pak.

Order date: June 15. Order locally and pay with check, cash or EBT food stamps. Or you can order on-line at [june@prairielandfood.com](mailto:june@prairielandfood.com) and pay with your debit card or check.

Food pick up date: June 27; Hays, The Mall, south hallway, 2918 Vine, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. For more information, call Vickie Rohleder (785) 625-6291.

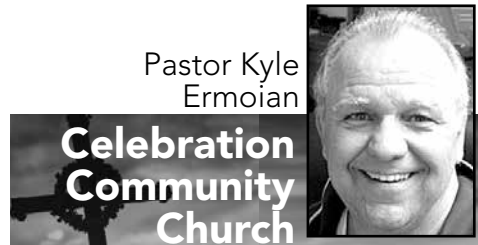
# Don't let your faith, giving slide

I'm a Chicago Cubs fan. I have been since I was a kid.

But there is the problem with being a Cubs fan; we start off every season in Spring Training full of hope and expectation only to come crashing down painfully by the end of August. For years I have been saying, "It's just a summer slump." The Cubs have been having a summer slump since 1908, the last time they won the World Series.

Summer slumps affect ball teams, businesses and they certainly affect churches.

In the summer months, churches often experience a significant decrease in attendance through vacation schedules and weekend distractions. Financial giving to churches falls off substantially beginning Memorial Day weekend and struggles to



Pastor Kyle Ermoian

recover until September. Statistically on a national basis, church contributions in June, July and August can be down as much as 25 percent from the previous three months. And when the slump is in full effect, we as church leaders can become disheartened and begin wondering, "What can we do?"

I am not suggesting you and your fam-

ily don't take your vacation; we all need those times away. So hit the road, go visit Mickey and Minnie, go to the lake, go somewhere and enjoy some recreational time, enjoy your weekend with your kid's traveling baseball team — but please remember to continue giving to your church. Your church's activities in the summer don't slow down, they actually increase with things such as Vacation Bible School, youth and children's camps, conferences, weddings and mission trips. The cost of utilities, maintenance of church facilities and salaries don't change during the summer; they still need to be funded. Your church needs you to be faithful in sending in your weekly tithes so they can continue to be faithful in fulfilling the church's mission, no matter what

month it is.

Last summer for the first time, we at Celebration Community Church introduced online giving as a way for our members to continue to give even when they cannot attend church services. Our people can make one time gifts, scheduled withdrawals from their bank accounts through our website [www.celebratejesus.org](http://www.celebratejesus.org) or by using our Celebration Community Church app on their smartphones and tablets. While you enjoy time away this summer, please remember to give to the Lord through your church family to continue to support the work of His church while you are away.

Remember: We're better together.

*Kyle Ermoian is founding and senior pastor at Celebration Community Church.*



## HAYSMED

2220 Canterbury Dr.  
Hays, KS 67601  
[www.haysmed.com](http://www.haysmed.com)

### 855.429.7633

#### To Help People Be Healthy

- Ambulatory Surgicenter
- Breast Care Center
- Cosmetic & Reconstructive Surgery
- Debakey Heart Institute
- Dreiling/Schmidt Cancer Institute
- Eye Surgery
- Imaging Center
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Orthopedic Institute
- Psychiatric Associates
- Pulmonology
- Rehabilitation
- Skilled Care
- Sleep Neurodiagnostic Institute
- Spine, Joint & Hand Center
- Urology
- Women, Infants & Pediatrics
- Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center

**KJIL**  
88.5<sup>FM</sup>

Serving Hays and  
Ft. Hays  
State University.

Listen to the Rock Show Saturday  
nights from 9-1.

*MercyMe*

*Radio For Life*

*Casting Crowns*

*tobyMac*



# When we've wronged and been wronged

We have all been wronged. We have all wronged. It's happened, and it's going to keep happening. We're not perfect, and neither is anyone else. The question you have to ask yourself is what are you going to do when it happens to you?

One of Jesus' disciples, Peter, asked Jesus about forgiveness. The Jewish law of the day required you forgive someone three times. Peter, understanding Jesus' way of living was calling them to a higher standard, suggests we should forgive someone seven times. Jesus took it even further than Peter anticipated.

"Then Peter came to him and asked, 'Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?'

'No, not seven times,' Jesus replied, 'but 70 times seven!' " Matthew 18:21-22 (NLT)

Clearly, Jesus is not teaching us we need to keep track up to 490 times. Rather, he is teaching us we are to forgive one another as many times as necessary. This is not a suggestion, by the way; this is a command. We are to forgive.

But why must we forgive? The primary answer is because God has forgiven us first.

God has forgiven all of us who call on the name of Jesus. He wipes the slate clean and counts us as righteous sons and daughters of the Father. Because of that astounding, amazing, abundant grace, we must show it to those around us — we must pass it on.

C.S. Lewis said, "To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you."

Our sins separated us from God, yet God in his love sent his son Jesus to die on the cross and pay the price for those sins, providing the avenue of salvation. If God can forgive all of the things we have ever done, then we must forgive things done to us.

God has said, "I redeem you; I forgive you." That's the greatest act of forgiveness there is in the world. If we don't under-

Pastor Kevin Daniels



Hays Christian Church

stand that, if we aren't changed by that fact, then we're missing it — we're missing the big picture.

When we have been forgiven for that much, then we need to turn and provide forgiveness to those who wrong us — no matter what.

We don't get to choose who to forgive; we must forgive everyone who harms us.

That doesn't mean we have to put ourselves deliberately in harm's way, but when we are harmed, we must forgive.

What are you holding onto? Who are you not letting off

the hook? You might say, "Well, he hasn't asked for forgiveness yet. He's never apologized."

It doesn't matter. You are still commanded to forgive.

Robert Brault said, "Life becomes easier when you accept the apology you never got."

Our forgiveness is not conditional on another person's actions. Our forgiveness is based on the personal forgiveness Jesus has given us. That is the basis — nothing else. We don't get to decide if things are fair or just. We simply follow Jesus' example and forgive.

That's right; Jesus did not only command us to do it, he modeled it perfectly.

What did Jesus say while he was being crucified on the cross by the very people he came to save? "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." Even in agonizing, unrelenting pain, Jesus still asks God to forgive his attackers. No matter our circumstance, we need to do the same.

*Kevin Daniels is pastor at Hays Christian Church.*

**"LIFE BECOMES EASIER WHEN YOU ACCEPT THE APOLOGY YOU NEVER GOT."**  
ROBERT BRAULT

# SHARE YOUR MESSAGE

Your goods and services are needed by members of the faith community.

Don't miss this opportunity to share your message of what your business has to offer with the congregations of Ellis County.

Advertise in



Call Today

628-1081 or 800-657-6017

THE HAYS DAILY NEWS VOICE OF THE HIGH PLAINS

507 Main · P.O. Box 857 · Hays, KS 67601  
785-628-1081 · 800-657-6017 · Fax: 785-628-8186  
e-mail: advertising@dailynews.net

# Traveling with the eyes of faith

There's an old adage that says, "Wherever you go, there you are." A timely reminder for busy and hurried people like many of us who yearn to escape, however briefly, from the hustle and bustle of everyday life by carving out a few days each year to take a much-needed vacation. A time during the year when we escape from the rat race of life, recharge and renew our weary souls, and spend time with those we love. However, if we're not careful, we'll bring the baggage of everyday life with us — the "woe is me mentality" that won't let us escape the problems and concerns that we desperately want to leave behind.

The phrase "Wherever you go, there you are" has taught me the importance of being fully engaged and aware of my new surroundings when I travel. Call it an orientation of the spirit that engages new surroundings with the eyes of faith by actively looking for, and then expecting to find, God in the ordinary, the unexpected, and the new. So it might come as no surprise to many of you my year in Ellis County has taught me to appreciate the beauty of windmills. Perhaps I am fascinated by windmills because I, like Don Quixote, the eccentric "mad knight" in the musical *Man of La Mancha*, find myself tilting at the windmills (real and imagined) that seem to



come my way more often than I would like them to. Life's unexpected obstacles and challenges, particularly those which follow us when we travel, are more than worthy adversaries. To complicate matters, each trial and tribulation comes armed with weapons crafted to diminish one's inner resolve and will. And though I, and perhaps some of you, have been brought to my knees on more than one occasion by the sting of barbs unleashed by the powers that be — vicious assaults devilishly designed to crush the human spirit and to ostracize — I, with God's help, have weathered life's storms.

Perhaps I have been well-served by remembering why windmills, particularly the broken and battered ones, still tower over the high plains. They have miraculously survived the onslaught of blizzards, thunderstorms, tornadoes and ever-present wind, because they have learned to let the



winds blow through them. Joseph Marshall, author of "The Lakota Way: Stories and Lessons for Living," writes: "Insults can hurt, but only if you let them. If you learn to let the wind blow through you, you will take away its power to blow you down. If you let the words pass through you, you will not feel them."

Learning to see with the eyes of faith has taught me to appreciate the beauty of antiquated country windmills. And, like

the battered and beaten windmills that dot the Kansas plains still defiantly resisting the fiercest of storms, perhaps we, too, can summon the strength necessary to survive the storms of life by acquiring the habit of the heart and an orientation of the spirit that recognizes and gives thanks for God's active presence in our lives, our communities and our world.

*Jon Brudvig is intern pastor at St. John Lutheran Church, Ellis.*

# Feeling God's presence all around us

Scroll through my recent cellphone gallery, and you will see lots of doorways, gates and paths. Faded blue door bracketed by bright flowers, rusty weed-choked gates fastened with wire and twine, intricately carved stone arches, curved wood bridges across sparkling water, trails worn by foot and hoof. In Scotland recently, I was fascinated by clever wooden V shaped swinging gates on well-worn walking paths designed to let hikers pass freely while keeping the sheep within their own pastures. I am drawn to gates, paths and doorways because they are a reminder for me of the close-enough-to-touch presence of God. They invite me to step across, to walk on and see God and the world with a new perspective and fresh possibilities.



Celtic Christianity names places of transition: doorway, gate, sea shore, as "thin places" where little movement will take you from one place to another. Thin places are physical locations where the separation between God and humanity seems to disappear. For me, photography, even with a cellphone camera, helps me slow down and pay attention to those

small and ordinary places where God is near.

For two amazing weeks in April, I walked around parts of Scotland as part of a pilgrimage experience to ancient holy places and lively contemporary parishes: Edinburgh, Earlston, the Borders, Ayr and Lindisfarne. My phone camera helped focus my attention and prayers by framing and recording small and ordinary moments which, even so, shimmered with beauty and God's presence.

Experiences with nature lead us to an awareness of creation. An Irish missionary Columbanus said, "If you wish to understand the Creator, first understand His creation." When we seek to be continually aware of God's presence in nature, God

will present to us thin places of communication — places where heaven and earth will intersect and glory revealed. Sunsets, mountains, sea waves and majestic creatures are all gifts to remind us of God's magnificent creation.

Throughout this summer, perhaps you might be attentive to "thin places" as you travel. You might use a camera, create art or keep a journal for sketching, poetry and reflections to preserve those moments. While I was in Scotland, I became eager to seek out pilgrimage thin places in north-west Kansas. I would love to hear from others about the places where you feel God's presence come close.

*The Rev. Celeste Lasich is pastor at First Presbyterian Church.*



# NEVER LOSING FAITH

By **DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN**  
one@dailynews.net

**WILSON LAKE** — The evergreen trees have grown considerably taller, almost hiding the large red-roofed shelter on the hill behind them.

But Diana Hofstetter said she still would be able to find Tatanka Lodge, standing tall and stretching along a knoll in the Hell Creek area of Wilson Lake in north-central Kansas.

For more than 30 years, a statue of St. Francis of Assisi has stood guard at the south end of the lodge, where Hofstetter attended many a Catholic Mass on Sundays at the lake with her family while growing up.

Now married with a family of her own, she lives more than three hours away in Leavenworth.

But Hofstetter will never forget the statue, or what it stands for.

"We'd all load up in the boat from the cove we were camping at and head across the lake to church," Hofstetter said.

Going to Mass as a family was a must for Leo and Carolyn Dreiling and their five children during the 1970s and '80s.

The Dreilings, owners of Dreiling's Department Store in Smith Center, went to the lake every other weekend for more than 10 years to meet up with three other families from across Kansas they had met through market.

Hofstetter, now in her mid-50s and living with her family in Leavenworth, said she well remembers her family jumping in a boat and making their way across the lake to attend Mass.

"Ski trips or whatever we did, we found a Catholic church to attend Mass," Carolyn said. "So it was really handy that they had Mass at the lake."

Carolyn says a strong Catholic faith — and the support of those lake families — is what helped the Dreiling family survive a personal tragedy in 1975.

It had been an unusually wet spring, and the ground was saturated. But it was the first weekend of camping season for the group of families, and they were looking forward to another enjoyable summer.

It was a Sunday afternoon, and while the adults were starting to pack up after the weekend, several of the children were



JOLIE GREEN, one@dailynews.net

**One end of Tatanka Lodge allows visitors to look out on Wilson Lake.**

playing near the shoreline in a cove where the Dreilings' boat was parked. An overhang on the bluff broke loose, causing a rock and landslide that crushed 14-year-old Don Dreiling and his 7-year-old sister, Dana. Both died from their injuries. Oldest sibling Diane was 15.

That was April 27, and there still was an entire summer of lake time ahead.

Following the funerals, the Dreilings continued to go to the lake with their family.

"Definitely, it was hard," Carolyn said. "But we had to go. It was important to see our friends again. Every one of them knew it could have been them."

And, the Dreilings continued to attend Mass at the lake. In fact, they decided to invest in a religious statue to put at Tatanka Lodge.

St. Francis is the patron saint of animals and the environment. So the Dreilings chose to buy a statue with their children's memorial money to put at the shelter in their memory.

"We were thinking about doing some playgrounds in Smith Center," their mother

said. "But nothing seemed quite right. Then we got to thinking we should do something at the lake."

The Dreilings contacted Hays sculptor Omer Knoll to make a statue in the early 1980s, and the concrete figure of St. Francis has withstood the test of time and weather.

"My parents thought, 'There was no place on earth that Don and Dana liked more to be than the lake,'" Hofstetter said. "What a great way to remember them."

The Dreilings also continued displaying their strong faith and became advocates of Compassionate Friends, a group that provides grief support after the death of a child.

"My parents were such a good example of faith for us, for a lot of people," Hofstetter said.

And it started early in her life, including setting the example of attending Mass every Sunday.

Mass at Lake Wilson is much the same as it was 40 years ago, at 11 a.m. at Tatanka Lodge every Sunday from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

"No matter where we were, we were going to Mass," Hofstetter said. "My parents thought it was very important that we go to church even if we weren't home."

That's how Neil Stewart feels, too. That's why he decided to provide a nondenominational church service at Lakeview Christian Camp on Sundays throughout the summer session for those camping at Webster Reservoir in Rooks County.

Stewart is an ordained minister in the Christian Church and took over as the camp's executive director about a year ago, just as the summer camp sessions were beginning. So this year, he decided to hold a service in the chapel at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday.

Also, at Cedar Bluff Reservoir in Trego County, the Catholic priest from St. Mary Church in Ellis says Mass at 11 a.m. each Sunday from Mother's Day through the third weekend of September. It is located in the storm shelter just west of the main bathhouse in Overland Park, one of the main areas on the north side of the lake.

# Taking your faith to the lake with you

My wife, Paula, and I grew up spending time at the lake, and in the last 10 years have been full-time campers on the weekends. We have built many great relationships at Wilson Lake in this time period. About eight years ago, Paula and I started getting involved in some lake ministry. We saw the need for God's message to be administered to a whole group of diverse people who live and camp at Wilson Lake on a regular basis. As we began offering our gifts to the other campers, we were approached by others who wanted to be used by God to serve as well. Four years ago, we were asked by the state park to be cabin hosts and in return we would get a camping spot fully paid. We accepted that opportunity. About three years ago, I received our daily email from Celebration Community Church (our home church) about enrollment for a leadership academy to develop ministry leaders. As I prayerfully considered this, God clearly led me to enroll. I graduated nine months later. It was shortly before completing the leadership academy that Paula informed me she was feeling led to sell our home and live in a fifth-wheel camper full-time at the lake. We began a



discussion about the opportunity to give our lives to the building of His kingdom, without being tied down by property and location so we can go where He leads. We both knew this was a leading from God. We soon purchased our new camper. Shortly after that, a young married couple looked at our home, and in less than an

hour made a verbal commitment to purchase our home.

We believed God was calling us to reach the unchurched with the message of salvation through Jesus Christ at the lake. We wanted to provide a service that was casual and relaxed, with a welcoming atmosphere of worship. It was also our

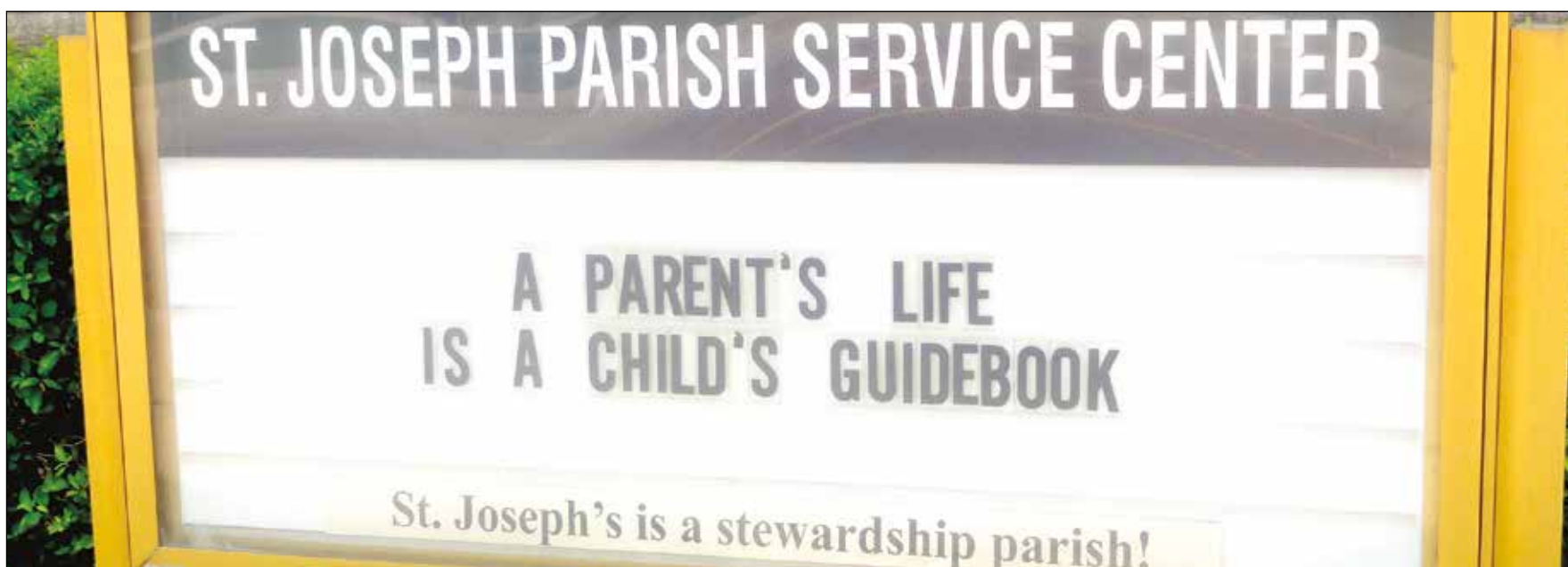
intention to encourage those who camp part-time and full-time to not only attend, but also as God leads them, to be involved as well. We launched the celebration on Memorial Day of last year, and 46 campers attended our first service. We began to see real community develop among the campers by the end of the season. God blessed us with a fantastic first year.

We encourage campers to plug into their local churches at home no matter the denomination.

We are a community church because with the diversity of denominational backgrounds, we must leave out a lot of traditions. I like to call us a camp-unity church. We stick to the basics, we celebrate Jesus in song, weekly communion and a short gospel message. We give a gift to the children and share a children's message as well. Good fellowship always follows. If you find yourself at Wilson Lake this summer, please join us under the tent in Foxtail Campground at Wilson State Park. The celebration is every at 9:30 a.m. Sunday from Memorial Day through Labor Day. You'll be glad you did.

*Randy Staab is pastor for C3 at the Lake at Wilson State Park.*

## A SIGN OF THE TIMES



A recent sign outside St. Joseph Catholic Parish.



## Youth Spotlight

# Finding a spot to help youth grow

By **DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN**  
one@dailynews.net

Trevor Henningsen credits his family involvement in church while growing up in Hays for helping shape the faith he has today.

That's why Henningsen, who just completed his third year as a student at Fort Hays State University, decided to become involved as a youth leader at First United Methodist Church in Hays.

"My family and church gave me a solid base," he said. "A lot of my morals and a lot of my choices come from that."

Henningsen, born and raised in Hays, has been involved in First United Methodist his entire life.

A group of youth leaders helped him break out of his shell, and two of those were Josh and Shauna Zweifel, who have been involved with the church's youth group more than 10 years.

"I was shy and quiet," Henningsen said, "all the way through high school."

Shauna Zweifel, like Henningsen, is a lifetime member of First United Methodist. Her husband grew up on a farm near Waldo in Russell County and attended tiny rural Amherst Methodist Church.

Josh said he and his wife got involved with the youth group when Shauna was pregnant with their first child.

"We thought we would stop (as youth group leaders) when Sage got old enough to join," he said of their oldest daughter, now 11.

But now he isn't so sure.

Both the senior and associate pastors at the church are being transferred this summer.

"Losing two pastors, that's going to be a lot of transition for the

new ones," Josh Zweifel said. "So we might have to help out for a while longer yet."

Although the size of the group is considerably larger than the four or five he grew up with, Zweifel said he has thoroughly enjoyed helping with a group



JOLIE GREEN, one@dailynews.net

From left, Trey Adams, Christian Wilert and Brandon Musil participate in a team building activity during a youth group meeting at First United Methodist Church in Hays.

of middle- and high-school aged that sometimes number more than 50.

"It's lively for sure," said Zweifel, who added it's a team effort with a large group of youth leaders.

Counting Henningsen and three other college students, there were nine group leaders this year. So the youth can see firsthand the benefits of working together as a team.

The associate pastor usually plans the curriculum the youth leaders follow throughout the school year. The youth group meets only a few times during the

summer before gearing up for the next school year in August.

Some fun and games are thrown in along the way, too, and such was the case at the group's last meeting of the spring in early May.

One could barely hear instructions being shouted above the commotion of several dozen middle- and high-schoolers trying to be the first to complete some team-building activities.

The leaders appeared to be having as much fun as the students as they planned and strategized how to accomplish their tasks together as a team.

"You all are the body of Christ," Brett Bruner, one of the adult leaders, told the group. "Think of how this relates to you."



Kari Satomi participates in a team building activity with her peers.

**"You all are the body of Christ. Think of how this relates to you."**

BRETT BRUNER, ADULT LEADER





*A Partnership of*



**Ellis County Ministerial Alliance**

*and*



*Can be picked up at the following locations:*

Liberty Foursquare Church  
Celebration Community Church  
Westview Church  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
First Baptist Church  
St. Fidelis Church

St. Nicholas of Myra Church  
Hays Christian Church  
Cornerstone Southern Baptist Church  
First Presbyterian Church  
Thomas More Prep-Marian High School  
Messenger  
St. John Lutheran Church, Ellis

Eagle Communications  
St. Michael's Episcopal Church  
HMC Chapel  
North Oak Community Church  
First United Methodist Church  
Trinity Lutheran Church

VISIT US ONLINE AT [DURECMA.COM](http://DURECMA.COM) OR FIND US ON FACEBOOK

# Make sure to water your soul with these Bible readings

Greetings Bible reader. Summer is here, and things are heating up. And as usual, to keep our yards green we need to start a watering regiment. Let's apply the same principle regarding our Bible reading: Life is heating up, and we need the water of the Word to keep us cool and nourished.

Our Old Testament readings will continue through the wisdom books. We will begin reading through the most diversely interpreted book in the Old Testament; the book of Job. The important thing to remember when reading through this



Pastor  
Steve Dinkel

book is to identify the speaker in the narrative. Many of the comments throughout the book expose our limited view of God. For me, the message of Job is: God is good, faithful and speaks to us when we listen.

Our New Testament readings continue

through Paul's Epistles. We finish Romans, read through Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon, Philippians and then begin the pastoral letters to Timothy. Don't miss a verse of these most excellent books. They are practical and revolutionary, all at the same time. Let the "water" from these books satisfy your soul and spirit as you read.

## June

1..... □ Eccles. 5..... □ Romans 14  
4..... □ Eccles. 6..... □ Romans 15  
5..... □ Eccles. 7..... □ Romans 16  
6..... □ Eccles. 8..... □ Col. 1  
7..... □ Eccles. 9..... □ Col. 2  
6 & 7.....Weekend Review

8..... □ Eccles. 10..... □ Col. 3  
9..... □ Eccles. 11..... □ Col. 4  
10..... □ Eccles. 12..... □ Eph. 1  
11..... □ Job 1-2 ..... □ Eph. 2  
12..... □ Job 3-4 ..... □ Eph. 3  
13 & 14.....Weekend Review  
15..... □ Job 5..... □ Eph. 4  
16..... □ Job 6..... □ Eph. 5  
17..... □ Job 7..... □ Eph. 6  
18..... □ Job 8-9 ..... □ Philemon  
19..... □ Job 10..... □ Phil. 1  
20 & 21.....Weekend Review  
22..... □ Job 11..... □ Phil. 2  
23..... □ Job 12..... □ Phil. 3  
24..... □ Job 13..... □ Phil. 4  
25..... □ Job 14..... □ 1 Tim. 1  
26..... □ Job 15..... □ 1 Tim. 2  
27 & 28.....Weekend Review  
29..... □ Job 16..... □ 1 Tim. 3  
30..... □ Job 17..... □ 1 Tim. 4

## FAITH BRIEFS

Several churches will be greeting new pastors and other liturgical leaders this year after retirements and transfers were announced this spring.

The following are those leaving their current positions, followed by the churches in which they have been serving, then their new assignment.

### Transfers

- Deb Harvey, pastor, two-point charge with United Methodist Churches in Ellis and Palco. New assignment — pastor, three-point charge with United Methodist Churches in Smith Center, Kirwin and Agra.

- Jerre Nolte, senior pastor, First United Methodist Church, Hays. New assignment — pastor, First United Methodist Church, Dodge City.

- Father Daryl Olmstead, pastor, St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church, Hays. New assignment — pastor, St. Boniface Church, Tipton; Saints Peter and Paul Church, Cawker City; St. Mary Church, Downs; and St. Aloysius Church, Osborne.

- Father Joseph Asirvatham, associate pastor, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Hays. New assignment — associate pastor, St. Boniface Church, Tipton; Saints Peter and Paul Church, Cawker City; St. Mary Church, Downs; and St. Aloysius Church, Osborne.

- Annie Ricke, associate pastor, First United Methodist Church, Hays. New assignment — pastor, United Methodist Church, Frontenac.

- Father Kevin Weber, pastor, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Hays. New assignment — pastor, St. Mary Queen of the Universe Church and school pastor, Sacred Heart Junior-Senior High School, Salina.

### Retirements

- Jerry Sprock, pastor, First Baptist Church, Hays.

• • •

School is out, and summer is around the corner. But at First Call for Help, we're gearing up for the 2015-2016 school year. Backpacks for Kids strives to provide all Ellis County students in need, a new backpack filled with basic school supplies and hygiene items to kick off the new school year.

Through our Backpacks for Kids program, the cost of preparing for school can be significantly reduced for low-income families. With our community's support, we can supply backpacks, school supplies and personal hygiene items before the beginning of school to those who might struggle financially, especially at the beginning of the school year. Each backpack, complete with school supplies and hygiene items, is an approximate \$50 value.

Last year, 600 backpacks were distributed to Ellis County children and youth preparing them for the new

school year. The number of backpacks provided is contingent upon the amount of monetary and school supply donations we receive. To continue our programs success and empower our students to succeed in school, we are asking the help of our community members.

During June and July, donation jars will be on counters at several local businesses. Many area churches will have a drop box for school supply donations. On July 17, employees from Nex-Tech and Nex-Tech Wireless will be at stores in Hays to collect school and hygiene supplies.

Purchase supplies on the list or make a monetary donation to support our youth in Ellis County. If you have any questions, contact First Call for Help at (785)

623-2800 or bring your donation by our office in the Hadley Center, 205 E. Seventh, Ste. 204 in Hays. Your donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you for supporting the youth in our community.

*Linda Mills, executive director  
First Call for Help*

• • •

On May 19, St. Michael Episcopal Church began a new ministry to serve those in or near poverty in the Hays community. In partnership with a national organization called Laundry Love ([www.laundrylove.org](http://www.laundrylove.org)), the St. Michael community provides an opportunity for individuals and families to do their laundry once a month — at no cost to them.

"Along with the founders of Laundry Love, we believe that every individual in our community has tremendous worth, value and possibility," said Casey Rohleder, lay leader. "We recognize that those living in or near poverty need to make hard choices all the time about how to spend their limited financial resources, and some things that many of us take for granted become a burden when under financial stress. We hope that our monthly Laundry Love ministry provides a way to help ease that burden in some small way."

Laundry Love-Hays will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. the third Tuesday of every month at the 27th and Hall Street Laundromat. Members of St. Michael provide the detergent, the quarters and a friendly face. Guests will be able to wash and dry up to three loads at no cost to them if they are single, and families will be able to wash and dry up to five loads. Guests are not required to demonstrate their eligibility. The ministry is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis.

If you would like more information, contact Casey at [caseyrohleder@yahoo.com](mailto:caseyrohleder@yahoo.com) or leave a message at the church at (785) 628-8442.

**HAVE NEWS HAPPENING IN YOUR CHURCH?  
SEND IT TO ONE@DAILYNEWS.NET**



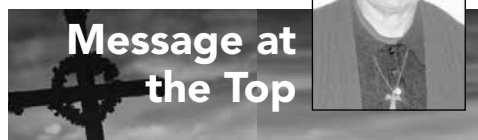
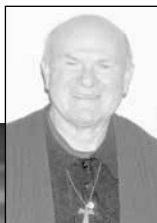
# MESSAGE AT THE TOP: THE BIGGER PICTURE A BETTER PLACE

The familiar passage from John's Gospel gives both the fact of eternal life, and the way to get there.

[Jesus said,] "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:14-16).

Jesus assures a true follower of his that if she or he truly believes in what the Lord Jesus stands for, then the gift of eternal life is theirs. What it says is that, provided the believer has accepted the Lord, then there will never be anything called "death." Death will only mean passing from this life

Father  
Mike Scully



to eternal life.

Such is the belief of the song "See You Again" from Wiz Khalifa and Charlie Pugh who sing the song as a tribute to Paul Walker. They believe their friend is in a "better place" now as they study what they call the bigger picture.

"It's been a long day without you, my friend, and I'll tell you all about it when I see you again. We've come a long way from where we began. Oh, I'll tell you all about it when I see you again. Who knew? All

the planes we flew, good things we've been through, that I'll be standing right here talking to you about another path. I know we loved to hit the road and laugh, but something told me that it wouldn't last, had to switch up, look at things different, see the bigger picture. Those were the days, hard work forever pays. Now I see you in a better place."

He is no longer with them, but his memory lives on with them while they are here on earth, and they will be together again when they are with him in heaven.

Perhaps the only way we human beings can explain "death" is by accepting "the bigger picture," that is, that life really goes beyond this life, and takes in the truth of eternal life. Considering the love God has for us, it is totally in "character" for God to give us that possibility of life that lasts forever. A good God will give what we

want with all our hearts, and the thought of living well is the one thought that every human being desires.

The one requirement the Lord gives us is we "believe in him." The question arises, of course, about the exact meaning of the phrase. The Lord spells it out in the Gospels, by giving us very direct statements about the way to conduct ourselves in today's world — the love, forgiveness, repentance, peace, and so forth he preached. That is to say we will believe in Jesus if we know what he stands for and we try to do our best to carry out the belief.

#### The Gospels in Father Mike's Top 5

- 1: "See You Again" / Wiz Khalifa f/ Charlie Pugh John 3:14-16
- 2: "Want to Want Me" / Jason Derulo Luke 13:22-28
- 3: "Earned It" / The Weeknd Luke 14:25-30
- 4: "Sugar" / Maroon 5 John 12:1-3
- 5: "Shut Up and Dance" / Walk the Moon John 21:1-3a



## St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church

2901 E. 13th, Hays, Kansas, Parish Offices:  
(785) 628-1446

Fax: (785) 623-4207, website: [www.heartlandparishes.org](http://www.heartlandparishes.org)

Rev. Daryl Olmstead  
Rectory: 656-0336

#### Mass Schedule:

Saturday at 5 PM  
Sunday at 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM  
Daily Mass - Wednesday, and Friday at 7:30 AM  
Reconciliation: Saturday at 4:00 PM

## Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



#### Weekday Mass Times:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday—6:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Spanish Mass—6:30 p.m.  
Tuesday and Thursday—8:00 a.m.

#### Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday—5:00 p.m.  
Sunday—8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Spanish Mass—12:00 p.m.

# Sponsoring Churches of **ONE**

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.  
Sun. Hispanic Services: 3 p.m.

785-625-9454/639-6181

12th & Fort 625-9454

Nursery Available

Iglesia Hispana Bautista

Pastora Lory Herrick

Sunday Domingos 3:00 p.m.

785-625-9454/639-6181

Nursery Available

12th & Fort 625-9454



Pastor Kevin Daniels

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.

Nursery

Children's Church Provided

For additional  
services and information  
call the church or 625-0094

22nd & Marshall 625-3100

[www.hayschristianchurch.org](http://www.hayschristianchurch.org)

## THE BASILICA OF ST. FIDELIS, VICTORIA

Saturday Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Mass: 10:00 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays:

7:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
in St. Fidelis Church behind the main altar

St. Ann, Walker

Sat. Mass: 6:30 p.m. Nov. thru April

Sun. Mass: 7:30 a.m. May thru Oct.

St. Boniface, Vincent  
Sun. Mass: 8:45 a.m.

Fr. John Schmeidler

735-2777

[fidelis@ruraltel.net](mailto:fidelis@ruraltel.net)

[www.stfidelischurch.com](http://www.stfidelischurch.com)

## ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

Intern Jon Brudvig

Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

Sunday Worship with Holy  
Communion: 10:30 a.m.

394 St. John-St. Andrew Rd.

Get off the Ellis exit on I-70,  
and go six miles North  
on the paved road

726-3207

## WESTVIEW CHURCH

Pastor Wes Oakley, D. Min.

Assoc. Pastor Tim Nunnery  
Assoc. Pastor Brandon Prough  
Assoc. Pastor Jeremy McGuire

Sunday Adult & Children's Church  
10:30 a.m.

Tues. R3 Live College, 8:30 p.m.

Wed. R3 Youth, 7:00 p.m.

Wed. Elevate Kids & Midweek Adult  
Service, 7:00 p.m.

3000 W. 41st St 785-625-6359

[www.westviewchurch.tv](http://www.westviewchurch.tv)

## MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

Traditional Worship: 8:30 a.m.

Study Hour: 9:45 a.m.

Contemporary Worship: 11:00 a.m.

(Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays)

Lutheran Hour: Sunday 7:30 a.m.

KHAZ FM 99.5

e-mail: [messiahsec@ruraltel.net](mailto:messiahsec@ruraltel.net)

2000 Main 625-2057

[www.messiahlutheranhays.com](http://www.messiahlutheranhays.com)

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Jerre Nolte, Senior Pastor

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Service: 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

10:45 a.m. Service Broadcast  
on KAYS 1400 AM

Wed. Afternoon Kid's Club:  
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Service: 5:00 p.m.  
(Light Supper & Informal Worship)

305 W. 7th

625-3408

## ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Pastor Harvey Hillem

Sunday Holy Eucharist  
9:30 a.m.

2900 Canal Blvd.

628-8442

[stmichaels\\_hays@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaels_hays@gmail.com)

## CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH

\* Casual Dress

\* Friendly People

\* Contemporary Music

\* Multi-Media Worship

\* Loving Nursery Care

\* Dynamic Youth Groups

\* Fun Kid's Church

\* Weekly Communion

\* Gourmet Coffee Bar

[www.celebratejesus.org](http://www.celebratejesus.org)

I-70 @ 183 Bypass (Exit 157)

## CORNERSTONE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Gary Simon

Kids/Youth/Adult  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Adult Bible Study  
6:00 p.m.

Sunday King's Kids 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Devotion/Prayer 7:00 p.m.

29th & Indian Trail 625-9500

[www.hayscornerstonesbc.com](http://www.hayscornerstonesbc.com)

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

Interim Pastor John Kreidler

2703 Fort St. 785-625-2044

Sunday 10:15 a.m.

(Holy Communion

is Celebrated Every Sunday)

Fellowship Following Worship

[www.trinityhays.org](http://www.trinityhays.org)

[tlchays@eaglecom.net](mailto:tlchays@eaglecom.net)

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Celeste Lasich

Nursery available

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Adult Study Group: 11 a.m.

Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m.

Youth Group Sun. evenings

[www.haysfpc.org](http://www.haysfpc.org)

[pastorceleste@ruraltel.net](mailto:pastorceleste@ruraltel.net)

2900 Hall

625-2847

## NORTH OAK COMMUNITY CHURCH

Pastor Ken Ediger  
Associate Pastor John Wiker  
Youth Pastor Jeff Neher

Worship Service:  
8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:50 a.m.

Nursery &  
Children's Church Available

Wed. K-12 programs

3000 Oak

785-628-8887

[www.northoak.net](http://www.northoak.net)