

ONE

A publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance **July 2015**



INSIDE:

- + Hays CMA celebrates 20 years on wheels.
- + Youth gather at Lakeview Camp.

Hollywood has been producing movies based on Bible stories since 1897.

Depending on your age, when you think of faith based movies, scenes from “Ben Hur,” “10 Commandments,” “The Greatest Story Ever Told,” “Jesus Christ Superstar,” “Godspell,” “Passion of the Christ,” “Noah or The Prince of Egypt” might come to mind.

The Bible after all is filled with powerful visual stories of God and God’s relationship with human kind and all of creation.

As entertaining and illuminating as those familiar Bible movies might be, profound faith stories are not limited to the accounts recorded in Scripture. Mainstream movies often use Christian imagery and themes to convey their story.

Almost every superhero movie pits



good against evil with an unlikely savior. Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter tell salvation stories through fantasy based characters.

Those who view the world through the lens of Christ’s reconciling work constantly look at the culture around us to see God’s moving in our world. Jesus told of God’s Kingdom Way through parables.

The Apostle Paul observed the culture around Mars Hill and used what was familiar to his audience to tell the story of

RECIPE

Bacon and Eggs Candy

Ingredients:

Thin stick pretzels, white chocolate chips (or almond bark), yellow M&M’s

Directions

- Place pretzel sticks on waxed paper in groups of two, leaving a small space between each, touching at one end is fine.

- In a microwave-safe bowl, heat vanilla chips at 70% power until melted; stir until smooth.

- Drop by tablespoonfuls over each pair of pretzel sticks.

- For “yolks,” place one or two M&M’s in the center of each “egg.”

Yield: about 3.5 dozen.

History:

The story starts many years ago when mom found the recipe in a magazine. Like many families, we are spread out over the country, but one year we were together at Easter. Mom decided it would be fun for my five- and six-year old nieces to make Bacon and Eggs; we had a blast...a blast that has continued for more than 30 years. A few years later, mom decided to take the Bacon and Eggs to her church’s Easter breakfast. I helped her make them and brought some of them back for the Easter breakfast at Trinity Lutheran Church. It became a tradition that I make them every year...except for one when I was out of town, and boy, did I hear about it from a couple of kids when I returned. Since that missing year,

I make sure that my Bacon and Eggs are on the counter!

Things I’ve learned over the years:

- Just like us, no egg is perfect. Don’t sweat it if the “white” isn’t perfectly shaped or if the “yolk” isn’t centered.

- The longest part of this process is picking out the yellow M&M’s. I don’t like to use the pastel M&M’s because the yellow ones don’t look like real egg yolks (they are too pale.) Sometimes we are not strong enough in our faith.

- Placing the pretzels close together is key; otherwise, they spread out too far when you put the chocolate on top. Start from one side and go across the pretzels. If they do spread out too far, push the pretzel back into the chocolate and then smooth it out – refer to #1 above. When we get too far from God, we also need a push back into the “chocolate.”

- Leftover pretzels, M&M’s, and unmelted chocolate chips can be mixed with other things to make a party/trail mix. (See what type of cereal you have on hand, add some raisins/nuts, etc.) Isn’t church the mixing of all of the different groups and “flavors” within our communities? I wanna be the nut!

- One of our church members made “Green Eggs and Ham” by using the waffle pretzels and the Green M&M’s. Creativity in God’s creation knows no bounds...and when given green M&M’s make Green Eggs and Ham.

Submitted by LeAnn Stoppel

HOLY HUMOR

A pastor had just finished preaching on worry and anxiety, focusing on the futility of it, and how we are to not worry but pray about all things. Following the service, a lady came

up to him a little upset about the sermon and said, “Worrying has always worked for me, everything I have ever worried about has never happened!”

WELCOME

Jesus (Acts:17:16-34).

In this edition of ONE, we asked writers to share faith based themes they see in movies.

You might be surprised by some of the choices. Some might not be what you would think of as Christian and yet, when viewed through eyes of faith, God’s message of grace, mercy, redemption and love shine through.

On behalf of the Ellis Country Ministerial Alliance, I hope you enjoy the reflections presented. Perhaps you will discover a new favorite or see an old or familiar flick in a new way. See you at the movies.

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

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Submitted by Sabian Chaney, pastor or New Life Center Assembly of God.

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.

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

The columns in ONE represent the views of the author.

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God is good, in all situations

Greetings Bible Reader. Our theme for this issue of ONE is movies that communicate faith. Job's story would certainly make an interesting movie. As we continue to read through this Old Testament book I would like you to consider two things.

First, this is a book of poetry and wisdom, not history. This isn't necessarily a narrative of someone's actual life, but a writing that examines Job's (and our) faulty reasoning regarding suffering. Secondly, we often times pursue answers to questions that most likely won't be answered this side of eternity. At the end of the book (which we will almost complete this month), God speaks. His response seeks to bring Job to the end of his



Pastor Steve Dinkel

Bible Reading Plan

own self-righteousness, self-vindication, and self-wisdom. That's a good exercise for all of us. The best response in all situations is God is good, the Devil is bad, and Jesus is the Way forward.

Our New Testament readings will include the Pastoral Letters of the Apostle Paul. (These are my favorite!) Let these letters soak into your soul, they will produce life. Then we begin the Gospel of Matthew.

If you haven't watched the video series by Visual Bible of the Book of Matthew, do yourself a favor and do so. It is an excellent account of the book; verse, by verse, NIV Version. The series is available on Amazon if you would like to have a set. They are amazing. Read on.

- 20..... Job 31..... Matthew 5
- 21..... Job 32..... Matthew 6
- 22..... Job 33..... Matthew 7
- 23..... Job 34..... Matthew 8
- 24..... Job 35..... Matthew 9
- 25 & 26.....Weekend Review**
- 27..... Job 36..... Matthew 10
- 28..... Job 37..... Matthew 11
- 29..... Job 38..... Matthew 12
- 30..... Job 39..... Matthew 13
- 31..... Job 40..... Matthew 14

- July**
- 1..... Job 18..... Tim. 5
 - 2..... Job 19..... Tim. 6
 - 3..... Job. 20..... Titus 1
 - 4 & 5.....Weekend Review**
 - 6..... Job 21..... Titus 2
 - 7..... Job 22..... Titus 3
 - 8..... Job 23..... 2 Tim. 1
 - 9..... Job 24..... 2 Tim. 2
 - 10..... Job 25..... 2 Tim. 3
 - 11 & 12.....Weekend Review**
 - 13..... Job 26..... 2 Tim. 4
 - 14..... Job 27..... Matthew 1
 - 15..... Job 28..... Matthew 2
 - 16..... Job 29..... Matthew 3
 - 17..... Job 30..... Matthew 4
 - 18 & 19.....Weekend Review**

UPCOMING

Please join us in honoring the Rev. Jerry Sprock's time of ministry to the people of Hays and western Kansas. An open house celebration of his retirement will be from 3 to 5 p.m. Aug. 2 at First Baptist Church, Hays. If you are unable to attend but wish to bid farewell to Jerry and Nancy, send your wishes to fbchays@hotmail.com or to First Baptist Church, Box 766, 12th and Fort, Hays, KS 67601.

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Hold on to the faith

During the summer months, I preach a series of messages called "Faith on Film." I pick one of the weekend's new releases and preach a sermon about it. Then on the following Tuesday a group of us from church go to the theater to watch the film. (We go on Tuesdays because that's \$4 night in Hays.) That's similar to what we're doing this month in ONE — we're looking at movies and trying to find a faith theme in them.

Some wonder why we're doing this. In fact, I was asked not too long ago the same question about my Faith on Film sermons. The answer is quite simple, really. As followers of Christ we are to engage culture. What more effectively taps into the culture of the day than movies? Evidence: Jurassic World made more than \$200 million on opening weekend. To say Americans love their movies is an understatement.

When the Apostle Paul went to Mars Hill we read in the book of Acts that he preached a sermon to the people about their idol to the unknown god. The people had gods and idols for hundreds, if not thousands of gods. They were worried that they might have missed one, so they set up an idol to the unknown god. Paul explained to them that the unknown god they should be worshipping was Jesus. He used the culture to teach a biblical truth. That's what I do with my Faith on Film sermons, and that's what we're trying to do in this issue of ONE.

So for this article I'm going back in time a bit, to the movie Star Trek (the 2009 release). Really I could talk about any Star Trek movie, but I chose this one because it is a movie about Spock and his internal struggle between emotion and logic.

Emotions and logic are tricky things. Often these things operate independently of one another, and often it causes struggles for us.

In the film we see Spock as a young man. In his younger days Spock is filled with many emotions — it's his human side as opposed to his Vulcan side. He ultimately faces a terrible, heart-wrenching situation which serves as a crossroads for him. He must choose at that moment whether he will live in the Vulcan way, which dictates that emotions must be ignored and logic preferred above all else. He chooses the logic path based on the assessment that emotions cloud judgment and cannot be relied upon for good decision making.

Pastor
Kevin Daniels



Hays Christian
Church

Young Spock, of course, is not entirely correct in his assessment, but neither is he entirely incorrect. Think about the story of Job in the Old Testament. Job was tempted by Satan to refute God. All of his fortune, health and loved ones were taken away from him. He felt angry, hurt and betrayed. Yet instead of turning his back on God, which is what his friends told him to do, he remained faithful. His choice to remain faithful was not an emotionless choice — he still told God that he was angry — but his choice was one grounded in faith and logic. If he had listened only to his emotions, he would have abandoned God and his faith. Though his emotions were boiling over, the things he believed about God still held true.

Regardless of how we feel at a given time, we should not base our actions solely on feelings. God has given us emotions, but he has also given us the ability to think and reason. In addition, he has given us Scripture, godly men and women, and the greatest gift of all, the Holy Spirit.

To say that our emotions — how we feel — trumps all else is to fall into the opposite realm of Spock's choice. On the other hand, to say emotions should have no factor in our choices is also an extreme that we should avoid.

When we make choices, it's important that we weigh all of the available evidence, both logical and emotional. Making a choice purely on emotion or what some might call "gut instinct," can lead us down a dangerous and heartbreaking path. To choose only based on logic is to potentially miss out on the beauty God has created.

Thankfully, we have a God who is faithful and true. He has graciously given us an abundance of resources to help us make good decisions. He also loves us unconditionally — loving and forgiving us — even when we make the not-so-great choices. Decisions will come and go; what we must hold onto is our faith in Christ.

Kevin Daniels is pastor of Hays Christian Church. kevin@hayschristianchurch.org.

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CHRIST-LIKE LOVE SHOWN BY HARRY POTTER

I started reading Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone in my first year of seminary. I was immediately drawn to the fast-paced and imaginative story telling. The magical world of Hogwarts was a fun escape from the long hours of study, writing and field placement. I imagined what the wizarding world might look like on film and was prepared to be thoroughly disappointed. I find movies are seldom as vivid and compelling as the books. The Harry Potter movies however were wonderful and I was delighted to see each one as soon as it was released.

I confess I was shocked as the series was first released to hear that some Christians were condemning the books because of the magical creatures and fantasy elements. How could anyone miss the pervasive Christian themes of

good vs evil and self-sacrificing love that are the foundation of the series? Potter's story is, after all, centered in the world changing power of love that defeats even death. That is the essence of our Christian faith; God who took on human form and, in Christ, showed that death has lost its sting.

Deathly Hollows, the two-part culmination of the series is most explicit in its Christian imagery. As part of his dangerous quest to defeat Voldemort, Harry visits the family cemetery. On his parents' tombstone is this inscription from 1 Corinthians 15:26 "And the last enemy that shall be defeated is death" refers to Christ's victory over death at the end of the world. The quotation on Dumbledore's family tomb, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also", is from Matthew 6:21, and refers to knowing



which things in life are of true value.

Harry is willing to sacrifice himself so that evil in the form of Voldemort is destroyed and so others may live. Harry exhibits Christ-like love, not only for his friends, but for his enemies.

Harry showed mercy to Peter Pettigrew, the betrayer of his parents, in The Prisoner of Azkaban; to his school enemy, Draco Malfoy, in The Deathly Hallows; and, he even extends the possibility of redemption to Voldemort as the Dark Lord

is about to kill him, urging Voldemort to renounce evil and its power and repent for the sake of his soul.

Of course, parents need to use age appropriate judgment as there are also sad and scary moments in each of the films. They get more intense as Harry gets older and the struggles of his world become more extreme. Reading the books out loud with children is both fun and a good way to determine when to see the movies.

In April, I was in Edinburgh in the part of town where J.K. Rowling wrote the first books. The delightfully quirky buildings, intriguingly closed alley ways and fanciful castles around every corner clearly served as visual inspiration for Harry's world. I even found chocolate frogs and realistic looking sugar mice in the candy shops.

The Rev. Celeste Lasich is pastor at First Presbyterian Church

A SIGN OF THE TIMES



A recent sign outside Trinity Lutheran Church.



JOLIE GREEN, one@dailynews.net

ABOVE: From left, Hays area Christian Motorcycle Association members Joe Chretien, Mark and Pat Schmid, and Gary Simon get on their motorcycles to head to Russell for a meeting June 15 in Hays. BELOW: Members of the Hays area CMA chat at Doerflers' Harley-Davidson in Hays.

Motorized rolling church



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

A person doesn't have to own — or even ride — a motorcycle to be part of the area chapter of Christian Motorcyclists Association. And if you do ride a two-wheeled, motor-powered machine, it doesn't matter what name it has emblazoned on it.

"Harley, Honda, Yamaha, if there's a motorcycle existing, CMA riders are riding it," said Gary Peters from Plainville, current president of the local CMA and a charter member of the local group.

The international CMA, celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, is an interdenominational evangelistic outreach whose vision is "changing the world, one heart at a time."

Now, CMA is represented in every nation in the world.

The local Hays chapter, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, involves members from several area towns. And some don't even own a motorcycle.

Several of the wives ride with their husbands, but Jeff and Libby Miller from Plainville each ride their own bike.

"We don't care if you have a motorcycle or not," said Jeff Miller, area representative for a part of Kansas that includes the northwest portion of the state.

Each state is in one of six regions, and the area representatives assist a coordinator for each state.

Miller helped start the local chapter in the late 1990s "when our kids grew up and we were looking for something to do."

Now, he and his wife each ride their own Honda motorcycles while participating in CMA events.



The third Monday of each month, the local CMA members gather for an activity they have dubbed “ride and eat.” They meet at a specific spot and ride to a restaurant in an area town to eat.

“That’s usually our best attended (event),” Gary Simon said with a laugh.

“Typically we meet in an environment, a public setting, that exposes our organization to the witness, the expression of fellowship of enthusiasts,” added Simon, pastor at Cornerstone

Southern Baptist Church in Hays.

Members come from all walks of life and perform all sorts of volunteer work, such as serving as security at the Hays Wild West Festival and at Christian concerts, helping with parades and volunteering at prisons.

The CMA also collects animals for “Ana’s Gift: Returning Children’s Smiles” foundation.

“We help people in need,” said Joe Chretien, associate professor of applied technology at Fort Hays State Universi-

ty. “We’re there if you need us.”

The CMA’s premier fundraiser is Run for the Son, a nationwide ride in early May where members seek pledges.

It donates 60 percent of its profit to other missions, including a worldwide mission called Missionary Ventures where the local chapter donates motorcycles to missionaries in remote locations in other countries.

“Teams of CMA members take transportation to those countries,” Peters said.

The CMA sets up information tents at events, including motorcycle races in Stockton.

“We go out among the racers and pray for them and their bikes,” Simon said. “It’s like a mobile church. People who love the Lord want to minister to people and to make disciples who will glorify God.”

“People who might be uncomfortable going to a traditional church might be perfectly comfortable at a motor rolling church.”

Youth Spotlight

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

It took Kira Denny just one experience at Lakeview Christian Camp to decide it was something she needed to put on her calendar every year.

That was five years ago, when the Hays youngster had just finished third grade at Roosevelt Elementary School.

She was only 9 years old at the time, and Denny, who had just started attending Hays Christian Church that school year, spent three nights with others her age at the camp near Webster Lake in Rooks County.

Students in first and second grade spend one night at the camp, and those in third and fourth are away from home for three nights. By the time they reach fifth grade, it's a week-long experience at camp.

Through the years, Denny said she anticipated attending the camp as June drew near because it's a good way to connect with others her age, especially since there is only a handful of teenagers in the congregation of 60 to 70 members at her local church.

"I like how the stories we hear pertain to your daily life," said Denny, who will be entering her freshman year at Hays High School this fall. "It's good to see how other people view the Bible and Christianity — and I like learning about it together."

Because there are so few of the local congregation in that high school age group, camp is "an opportunity for them to interact with other people their age," said Kevin Daniels, senior pastor at Hays Christian Church.

"Lakeview Christian Camp is a great camp that reaches students at their level, to help them develop into lifelong followers of Christ," added Daniels, who also serves as president of the camp, which is owned and operated by independent Christian churches in Kansas and Nebraska.

Madison Lisman, also a freshman-to-be at Hays High this fall, has been attending camp since first grade and, like Lisman, looks forward to camp each year.

"Every night we have worship and a message," Lisman said. "It's a great way to get closer to God."

A good way to connect



Teenagers in the congregation at Hays Christian Church have the opportunity to participate in Sunday School for Teens on Sunday evenings.

And while HCC members of all ages take part in activities all year long, Daniels said the summer camp experience — which includes fun activities as well, such as canoeing and swimming, a zip line and a rock-climbing wall — is a favorite for local and area youngsters.

Approximately 80 to 90 students participate in each of the two separate camp weeks set aside for middle school students and high school students.

"Camping ministry is unique in that you are with the campers for multiple days at a time and are able to reach them in ways traditional ministry just can't do," Daniels said. "It is a fun-filled, purposeful week designed to help students grow close to Christ."



ABOVE: Hays Christian Church member Emily Quinn, far right, joins other area teenagers in a water balloon battle at Lakeview Christian Camp in Rooks County earlier this summer.

LEFT: Lisa Quinn plays one of Lakeview Christian Camp's favorite games, carpet ball.

COURTESY PHOTOS



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North Oak Community Church
First United Methodist Church
Trinity Lutheran Church

HAYS PRIEST CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

By **DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN**
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He has spent many a Father's Day honoring and saying a special prayer for the fathers in his congregation.

But Sunday was Father Daryl Olmstead's special day.

Olmstead, pastor at St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church in Hays, celebrated the 40th anniversary of his ordination into the Catholic priesthood in style — a Mass said by his diocese's bishop, followed by a meal, complete with cake and conversation.

Approximately 300 people gathered at Rose Garden Steak Haus following a special Mass celebrated by Bishop Edward Weisenburger.

It was the second milestone celebration in three weeks for Catholic priests from Hays.

Father Andrew Rockers, who grew up in Hays, was ordained into the Catholic priesthood May 30 and celebrated his first Mass the next morning at St. Joseph

Catholic Church in Hays.

It was 40 years ago when Olmstead celebrated his first Mass after being ordained June 7, 1975, and he has said numerous Masses in Hays throughout the past four decades.

A native of Hawaii, Olmstead grew up in Salina. He has served at numerous parishes across the Salina Diocese.

Coincidentally, his first assignment was parochial vicar in Hays, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. He has been pastor at St. Nicholas of Myra and St. Francis of Assisi in Munjor since 2005 and is one of several priests who will begin duties in other parishes in July.

Olmstead has been assigned to serve parishes in four communities in Osborne and Mitchell counties.

So Sunday was somewhat of a going-away party for him as well.

Family members came from New York, Oregon, Montana and Oklahoma to help Olmstead celebrate.



Olmstead

There were, of course, members of the St. Nicholas and St. Francis parishes. But several people from other local and area parishes attended the event as well.

One of those was Maxine Diederich, a former parishioner of Olmstead's when she lived in Logan and he was serving parishes in Phillips and Norton counties in the early 1980s.

Diederich, who moved to Hays in the early 1990s, is a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary and said she "definitely wanted to be here to help celebrate."

Olmstead thanked fellow priests — there were 17 in attendance — and family and friends, then thanked God for "calling me to become a priest, serving Him at the altar."

Olmstead said he never forgot some-

thing a priest said when, as a younger priest, he attended another priest's 50th jubilee.

"He said 'If I had a thousand lives to live, I'd live them all as a priest,'" said Olmstead, who said he has seen throughout his life it isn't so much him deciding to become a priest but that "God has called me."

People formed a line after dinner at Rose Garden to congratulate Olmstead. The bishop visited freely with people as well, but tried to divert attention to Olmstead.

"This is his special day," Weisenburger said.

"It's always a great joy to attend these. They are a lot like when families celebrate wedding anniversaries, a commitment made in love and service. It always gives us energy and hope for the future."

Transition for Ellis County clergy

The past several weeks have been one of transition for Catholic clergy in Ellis County.

This spring, two priests from the county announced to their parishioners they would be leaving this summer, bound for other assignments in the Diocese of Salina.

In late May, Father Andrew Rockers, who grew up in Hays and graduated from Hays High School, was ordained into the priesthood in Salina and celebrated his first Mass the following morning at St. Joseph Church in Hays.

And on Father's Day 2015, Father Daryl Olmstead, pastor of St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays, celebrated his 40th anniversary of priesthood.

Coincidentally, Olmstead is one of the priests leaving Hays. After 10 years at St. Nicholas, he will be headquartered in Tipton and serve four parishes in Mitchell and Osborne counties.

Rockers' first assignment will be as parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina and Brookville, and another Hays priest

also will make his new home in Salina.

Father Kevin Weber, who has served as pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church since 2002, will serve as pastor of at St. Mary, Queen of the Universe, as well as take over duties as priest moderator of Sacred Heart Junior-Senior High School. Weber also will continue his responsibilities as diocesan associate director of vocations.

Two other Hays seminarians are on track to be ordained priests in the not-so-distant future.

Deacon Chad Stramel from Munjor — like Rockers a Hays High graduate — just completed his fourth year of theology studies at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis. Stramel will work a year in diaconal ministry at St. Thomas More, Manhattan, and assist with Hispanic ministry in the Manhattan area before being ordained.

Andy Hammeke, a graduate of Thomas More Prep-Marian High School, is set to begin his fourth year at St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad, Ind.

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Storms in life will take the 'magic feather' out of our grasp

Dumbo, a 1941 animated film produced by Walt Disney Studios tells the story of an orphaned elephant born with really big ears. Dumbo, who is befriended by a circus mouse named Timothy, initially ignores his tiny friend's efforts to get him to open his giant ears and fly. That is, until Dumbo, who mistrusts his own God-given abilities, receives a special gift from Timothy, a "magic feather" designed to help him fly. In time, Dumbo, placing all of his trust in the "magic feather," takes a leap of faith, flies, and becomes the star of the circus.

Yet, even though Dumbo achieves fame, he still discounts his own gifts for he believes that he can fly only if he retains a tight grip on the "magic feather" secured in his trunk. That is, until one day while flying an unexpected gust of wind pulled the feather loose

from Dumbo's grasp. Discounting his own ability to fly, the terrified elephant plummets to earth. Timothy the circus mouse, who was hitching a ride in Dumbo's hat at the time, responds by trying to get Dumbo's attention. "You can fly, you can fly, you can fly," yells Timothy as he does his best to convince his friend to open his ears. Luckily, in the midst of the crisis Dumbo finally discovers the strength to trust in his own abilities. When he finally opens his ears Dumbo soars to new heights.

Looking back, I, and perhaps many of you, have collected a fair share of "magic feathers" over the years. Accolades and promises of worldly success extended by well-intentioned parents, teachers, and mentors; the ever-expanding carrots-on-a-stick designed to motivate, inspire, and push us to succeed and achieve in a cruel and heartless world.

Progress made on the ladder of worldly success that loved ones promise will be rewarded with good grades, public acclaim, a good job, a big home, and lots of material possessions.

Ultimately; however, these things are fleeting. They come and they go. Many people, me included, later learn that they have climbed the ladder of success only to discover that their ladder was leaning on the wrong wall. Though successful by the world's standards, far too many of us work ourselves ragged only to end up unfulfilled, unhappy, and deeply agitated. Yet we still cling to the "magic feathers" in our lives, don't we? Notice, however, what happens when Dumbo loses his grip on his "magic feather." Having lost that which gave him faith in an ability that he already possessed, Dumbo is stricken with fear and begins to fall.

Fear can do that. Fear saps our resolve, deceives us into selling ourselves short, and blinds us to our innate sense of worth.

When the inevitable storms of life come upon us, taking with them the external trappings of success and self-worth (jobs, status, and material possession) we lose our grip on "magic feathers." What remains is who we really are at the very core of our being and whose we are, beloved children of a God who creates, redeems, and sustains. A Living God who repeatedly comes to us in the midst of life's storms offering healing, wholeness, and restoration so that we might have life, life abundantly. Viewed from the perspective of faith, the animated film Dumbo challenges each of us to ask: "What are the 'magic feathers' in my life? In what or whom do I place my trust?" Because, like it or not, the storms of life will inevitably rip the "magic feathers" from our grasp. And, like Dumbo, we too will be called upon to open our ears and to find our strength in what matters most to us.

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



St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church

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

Fax: (785) 623-4207, website: 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.

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Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Sun. Hispanic Services: 3 p.m.

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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

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

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

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

2000 Main 625-2057

www.messiahlutheranhays.com

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

stmichaelsays@gmail.com

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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

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

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

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