

VOICE

A publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance November 2015



INSIDE:

- + New pastors arrive in area.
- + Passions in ministry.

WHAT MIGHT GOD BE CALLING YOU TO DO?

Before I went to seminary to become a minister, I was a rehabilitation consultant and case manager for more than a dozen years. Part of my job was working with people who physically were not able to return to their job or profession and needed to figure out a new way to make a living or a life. I learned to begin that process by first finding out about their passions. What were the things that gave them joy? When did their face light up when they talked? How might they connect what they already enjoyed to transition to a new way of living? I loved that moment when people began to imagine a new future connected to something they had a passion for; a future with hope and promise. I still am thrilled when I get to be part of a new beginning — that blessed shift that comes when we can imagine a new and better future rising out even of the rubble.

Have you ever wondered what your church leader really enjoys doing? Pastoral ministry can be a complicated job description. Preaching and leading worship are the most visible, but like an iceberg, with 7/8th below water, there is always more that is of-



The Rev.
Celeste Lasich
First
Presbyterian

ten not seen. In this edition, members of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance will share some of their personal passions for ministry. Frederick Buechner, whose writing I so often turn to, puts it this way “The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.”

In this edition of ONE you will learn some of the places of “deep gladness” for area ministers and leaders. You will also be introduced to some of our newer ministers in Ellis County. We are so grateful that they are here among us responding to God’s call and claim on their life.

Ellis County Ministerial Alliance includes ministers, church leaders and staff

of helping organizations throughout Ellis County. On behalf of the Executive Board and members of ECMA, we hope that you enjoy learning more about some of our area ministers. And yet, we know that God calls each of us, not just pastors and ministers, to a variety of ministries all for the purpose of building up the body of Christ. We hope and pray that in reading this edition you might consider your own places of deep gladness. Where does your heart respond to our area or the world’s deep needs? What might God be calling you to do and be in this season of your life? Perhaps you might share your interest or passion with your church and see how God might use you to see a new thing grow. You don’t have to go it alone. In this turn of the season, may you take time to listen for where God is speaking in your life.

RECIPE

Plantain Chips

Recipe: 2 green plantains (very green)

garlic salt
oil for frying

Directions: First, the plantains have to be peeled. Cut off both ends of the plantain. Make a lengthwise slit on the skin. Using the tip of a dull knife pry the skin off by sliding the tip of the knife into the slit and pushing the peel away from the plantain. Wash the plantains after peeling.

Using the slicer end on a metal grater slice the plantains into thin slices. Your hands will now be kind of sticky. Wash them using a little water, soap, and salt. The salt helps to take what Puerto Ricans call “mancha de plátano” off.

Fry the plantain slices over medium heat until golden brown. Remove from the oil and place over paper towels to soak up any excess oil. Sprinkle with garlic salt. Yum!

Submitted by Lory Herrick, pastor of First Baptist Church Hispanic Ministries.

HOLY HUMOR

How many Christians does it take to screw in a light bulb?

Charismatics: Only one. Hands already in the air.

Pentecostals: Ten. One to change the bulb, and nine to pray against the spirit of darkness.

Presbyterians: Can’t say. First it must go to the appropriate committee to discuss the proposed change.

Roman Catholic: None. Candles only.

Baptists: At least 15. One to change the light bulb, and three committees to approve the change and decide who brings the potato salad.

Episcopalians: Eight. One to call the electrician, and seven to say how much they liked the old one better.

Methodists: Undetermined. Whether your light is bright, dull, or completely out, you are loved — you can be a

light bulb, turnip bulb, or tulip bulb. Church-wide lighting service is planned for Sunday. Bring bulb of your choice and a covered dish.

Nazarene: Six. One woman to replace the bulb while five men review church lighting policy.

Lutherans: None. Lutherans don’t believe in change.

Submitted by Celeste Lasich, pastor at First Presbyterian Church.

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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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On the cover: New Trinity Lutheran Pastor Marie Sager

Transformation is the key to being a follower

This month we're talking about our passions in ministry. For me, to describe my passion in ministry, I'd have to talk about transformation. In my opinion transformation is the key aspect of any effective ministry. Put simply, when one comes to Christ he or she should then be transformed or changed by the power of the Holy Spirit into a more Christ-like person. Paul says this:

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think." – Romans 12:2 (NLT)

The world encourages us to do certain things, think certain ways, and believe certain viewpoints. But God wants us to set aside the ways of the world and focus on his ways. His ways include caring for the sick, poor and orphans. His ways include serving those who are

in need. His ways include sharing the life-giving message of the gospel with others. His ways include prayer and Bible study. His ways include attending and participating in a local church.

Yet these values, "Kingdom Values" if you will, are not what the world teaches us. In order to truly follow Christ, we have to set aside the worldly values and focus on the Kingdom Values.

My passion in ministry, therefore, is to help people align more closely to the values of Jesus. Every time I share a message from God's Word, I try to bring it to the point of, What am I going to do as a result of hearing this message? How should the truths being learned change me as a follower of Christ? What change do I

need to make? If you can't answer those questions, then I don't think you have a very good message to share!

After all, we are supposed to become more like Christ. Therefore everything we do should help us along that goal. If we're not working toward becoming more Christ-like, then we are not fully living the Christian life.

Personally, I feel that I have a long way to go toward living like Christ. There are characteristics of my personality, behaviors and thoughts that keep me from hitting the mark. I have to pray about those things and ask the Holy Spirit to do his work in me. But in the same breath that I'm lamenting my lack of progress, I can look back and see real progress throughout my life. Seeing that

progress, however, does not cause me to sit back and feel proud — rather, it encourages me to keep moving forward.

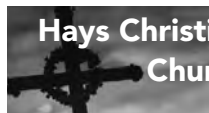
While becoming more like Christ may seem at times like a losing battle, it is helpful to know that my battles in these areas are not conditions for my salvation. My salvation in Christ is secured by his death, burial and resurrection. I am still a sinful person, and the only chance I have is to rely on Jesus' grace that was given to me through his work on the cross. That same grace is available to all who ask.

So if you're struggling with transformation, don't be discouraged. God loves you the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. Through prayer, Bible study and perseverance, you can live a life more like Christ. Transformation is never easy, but it is a necessary part of following Jesus.

Pastor
Kevin Daniels



Hays Christian
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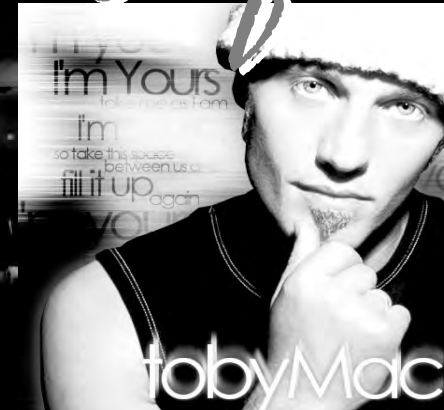
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Casting Crowns



TobyMac

Gaining wisdom from the Christian Community in Hays

Last year about this time, I started an ongoing article about “knowing you belong to a good church when...”, and I was having so much fun hearing from the ONE readers, and learning a few lessons on my own. Unfortunately after Jan. 5 and 6, I got too busy to continue writing, but it was for two wonderful reasons. Our first granddaughter was born Jan. 5 and then Jan. 6, our church (Liberty Foursquare Church), purchased and remodeled a new building. That’s where the rest of my year went.

Previously we had established though, some good ideas along the lines of knowing you belong to a good church, and had even expanded our thoughts to knowing we belong to a good Church Community (the corporate body of believers who reside in Hays together). This report is from that position: I belong to a great Church Community, who live and serve in Hays, Kan. and Ellis County!

About a year and a half ago, the First Call for Help staff did a study on the homeless population in Hays, and then The Hays Daily News wrote an article discussing the discoveries that were made. Part of the article was about the folks who

stand by the stop signs or stop lights surrounding Walmart, to ask for donations. As I read, I was reminded of how uncomfortable I am when I drive next to the folks at the stop sign, because I’m so uncertain about what to do.

They had interviewed a young man from one of these locations, and he was disgusted with Hays, disgusted with people in general, and actually really disgusted with the Christians. Especially the ladies driving past him “in their nice looking sedans with a cross hanging from the rear view mirror.”

Ouch! I resented and resembled that comment. During his previous statements, I was defensive. Hays is a nice community. The people here are wonderful, and the Christians are particularly generous and nice. He had simply run into the wrong people! But when he described “the ladies driving past him. ...” I knew that was because of me. (I drive a shiny sedan and I have a leather cross hanging from my mirror that one of our

kids brought back from church camp years ago). Yikes! He was disgusted with Christians because he had run across my path.

Honestly, my initial response was to be disgusted with him. I was. At the same time, I was mortified. I was caught in my own selfishness, my own self-protection and Christian/American comfort. I had turned someone’s opinion away from Jesus rather than toward Him.

Truthfully, I was humbled and literally stopping for a time of questioning my motives before God. God knows why I drive past needy people. The core reason is that I don’t know what to do. I’m uncomfortable because I’m caught off guard, and I don’t really think on my feet very well. How am I supposed to show my concern and yet not contribute to their situation? If I give them money will they provide themselves with food and shelter, or will they spend it on more pain for themselves in the form of drugs or alcohol?



IN ORDER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE, YOU NEED TO HAVE PASSION

The motivation behind all great art, music, literature, the driving force behind all great drama and all great architecture is passion. Passion is what makes things great. Passion is what drives scientists to find new cures to dreaded disease. Passion is what equips athletes to break records. Passion is what sustains you in reaching your goals as you go through life. Nothing great is done without passion. Passion turns the impossible into the possible. Without passion in your life, your life is dull, drab, boring. In America, we are passionate about a lot of things.

We are passionate about sports. We are passionate about movies we watch. We are passionate about fashion, the clothes we wear. We are passionate about certain kinds of cars. Yesterday I was on the Internet and I looked on

amazon.com, to find every book that had the word “passion” in the title. There were hundreds and hundreds of books with the word “passion” in the title.

The amazing thing in our culture is it’s OK, even appropriate, for you to be passionate about anything as long as it’s not God.

I can go to any sporting event and yell, jump up and down, raise my hands in the air and when we lose I can cry and when we win I can dance around and people would say, “There’s a fan!” But if I came to church and did any of that, they’d say, “That guy’s a fanatic!”

It’s as if it’s appropriate to get excited, be enthusiastic, have a passion for anything in life but

when it comes to faith.

The Bible tells us many times about God’s passion. When we talk about Jesus’ death on the cross that is called Christ’s passion. Whenever they do a re-enactment of the crucifixion, they call it a Passion Play. Mel Gibson’s “The Passion of the Christ.” Jesus was passionate about his purpose.

He came to seek and to save the lost. I have come that you may have life in all its fullness now and for all eternity. Jesus says you want to know how passionate I am about my purpose? I’m passionate this much!” and he spread out his hands to die on a cross for us. Jesus was passionate about his purpose.

God wants you and I to live

purposeful passionate lives.

In Mark 12 He tells us how we are to do that.

“Love the Lord your God with ALL your heart and with ALL your soul and with ALL your mind and with ALL your strength. (And) Love your neighbor as yourself. There’s no greater commandment than these.” - Mark 12:30-31

The Bible says we’re to seek God passionately, with all our heart. We’re to love God passionately, to serve God passionately, to trust God passionately, to obey God passionately.

Jesus said, “If you’re going to follow Me, if you want to be like me you’ve got to do it with passion. With all your heart.”

When you look at the people who’ve made the greatest impact, they were not the smartest

So, my Heavenly Father and I had a “daddy daughter” talk during my prayer time that day. He helped me come up with a plan in advance so I’m ready every time. Here’s what I do:

When I drive up next to a needy person at the Walmart stop sign, I allow my heart to be tugged. I know that I need to do something because I’m obviously representing the Kingdom of God and the Christian Community in Hays.

I usually drive past the person, but then pull into the nearest, and safest parking area. I get into my trunk and grab a food item, remember, I’ve just been to Walmart. Then I drive back to the person, I march out there, greet him or her, hand them the items, say God bless you, and shake their hand. I have just acknowledged that they are a precious human life, and deserving of care, respect and a smile.

Am I contributing to their sad situation? I hope not. Am I properly representing God’s Kingdom, and His generous people? I hope so. Am I happy with my choices and settled in my heart. Yes. This is all thanks to the influence of a great Christian Community that I am a part of in Hays, Kansas.

people, the wealthiest people, the best-educated people, the most beautiful people. They were people of passion. Passionate people are world changers. Think of Mother Theresa, Martin Luther King, Billy Graham, Apostle Paul, King David — passionate men and women who said, “There’s a burning in me that really matters.”

If you’re going to make a difference in your world, in your family, in your community, for the kingdom you’re going to have to be passionate.

C.S. Lewis once said, “The only thing Christianity cannot be is moderately important.” The casual Christian is a contradiction of terms. You’re either passionate about loving God with all your heart and soul and mind and strength or you’re not.



Finding deep joy in building, maintaining relationships

"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet" — Fredrick Buechner

Those who have been around me for a while know that I am a "both/and" rather than "pick one" kind of person. So when asked to write about a personal passion for ministry, I have a hard time narrowing it to one. I have written at least 6 versions on this topic of passions and I am pretty sure I could write a dozen more. I am pretty sure this tells me that I have passions and deep interests in many different areas that shift with seasons and where I am at that time in my life.

In this season of my life in Hays, I am particularly grateful to be able to be actively engaged in efforts and activities that seek to see and know our neighbors. I love to sing with the Smoky Hills Chorale

and have recently enjoyed connecting with the Hays Community Theater through the Haunted Hays October Fundraiser.

I serve on the executive board for the United Way of Ellis County, as president of the ECMA, the executive board for the Center for Life Experiences, on the Hays Housing Coalition, Sunrise Rotary and the planning team for this year's Festival of Faith.

This Thanksgiving will be my third as co-coordinator of the Thanksgiving Day Feast. I love how these diverse community events bring together longtime residents, business people, FHSU staff and students and even newcomers like

me. For me, all those connections and relationships are a source of deep joy and satisfaction.

The connection point between these and so many of my passions is the first and greatest commandment, "Love the Lord Your God with all your heart, mind,

soul and strength" The second is like it "Love your neighbor as yourself" How can I love and care for my neighbors when I don't even know who they are or hear from them about their hopes and visions for the future?

I know it is not my job or calling to fix all the problems and sorrows of the world. I have learned to live by the prayer "God is God and I am not. Thanks be to God!"

And yet, I believe we were made and formed for community and that each person bears the image of God.

I am grateful to see the grace of God at work within this community and so much of what I am blessed to do. A quote that has been speaking to me recently about my passions comes from Presbyterian minister Eugene H. Peterson from his book, *The Contemplative Pastor: Returning to the Art of Spiritual Direction*. "My job is not to solve people's problems or make them happy, but to help them see the grace operating in their lives."

The Rev.
Celeste Lasich

First
Presbyterian



St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church

2901 E. 13th, Hays, Kansas, Parish Offices:
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Fax: (785) 623-4207, website: www.heartlandparishes.org
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New to

Rocco Mallardi, the new pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church in Hays, goes over the answers to a test on church services during a confirmation class at Messiah Lutheran.

JOLIE GREEN,
jgreen@dailynews.net



the area



Courtesy photo

By MIKE KESSINGER
one@dailynews.net

As overwhelming a new start might be, pastors at Messiah Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church, both in Hays, have begun settling into their position.

Pastor Rocco Mallardi's first day at Messiah Lutheran was Sept. 13, and Pastor Marie Sager made her start into Trinity Lutheran Sept. 27. This is the second stop in the Lutheran church for Mallardi, who moved with his wife Janine and their four children to Hays from Oswego. He spent four years in southeast

Kansas as a pastor at the Lutheran churches in Oswego and Parsons. Mallardi was placed at the churches after finishing seminary in Indiana, where he received a masters in divinity. He is working on a doctorate in divinity from St. Louis University.

"These are some of the nicest people I've ever met," Mallardi said of his first impressions in Hays. "I have been totally blown away by (the congregation's) love and generosity toward the kids and toward each other. It's just been amazing. I'm very pleased with that, and I'm excited to see it."

Sager comes to Hays with a little

bit of familiarity to the area. She did her internship through the Kansas Prairie Faith Shared Ministry in 2013-14 before completing her degree at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago in May. This is Sager's first call as a full-time Pastor.

"I'm excited to get to know more about Hays," Sager said. "I did a lot of the community aspects on internship in Ellis or WaKeeney. I'm excited to see what Christmas holds and see the special things that happen here in Hays."

While neither Mallardi nor Sager are from Kansas, they each have been adjusting to their new home



FRONT ROW (from left): Pastor Christopher Leech, Pastor Marie Sager and Pastor Sally Hanson. **MIDDLE ROW:** Diane Solmonson, Pastor Karen Sue Greimel, Pastor Nate Luong, Pastor Karen Geisendorfer-Lindgren and Pastor George Wieland. **BACK ROW:** Pastor Peter Geisendorfer-Lindgren, Bishop Roger Gustafson, Pastor Randy Gibbs and Pastor Todd Buegler.

and congregations.

Mallardi and Sager have been working to meet and know the families in each of their congregations. They have each gotten themselves involved in the groups and programs that are connected to each of their churches.

Mallardi has been able to step right into being a part of Messiah Lutheran's youth programs. It's something he said he has always tried to be involved with and is impressed with the large group the congregation in Hays has. He said the church has approximately 70 children preschool through high school. Mallardi teaches in the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade class.

"I'm amazed with how many classrooms we have around here and every single one of them will be filled," he said. "My kids are separated by their ages and there's a class for each one of those ages.

"I'm excited to get to know more about Hays. ... I'm excited to see what Christmas holds and see the special things that happen here in Hays."

- Pastor Marie Sager

I've never seen that before. That is just awesome. My last two congregations together was five, six kids."

Sager, who was ordained as a pastor Sept. 19, was to have her installation into the Trinity Lutheran church Nov. 1. While she is just beginning to be familiar with Trinity's youth group that is combined with First Presbyterian, Sager has been able to take part in some of the community groups the church is a part of. She has been a lending hand in the start of the church's college outreach program at Fort Hays State University. Trinity is working with St. John Lutheran Church in Russell being a part of the program called Us 4 U.

"We were just a part of the Swipe Out Hunger that Fort Hays just did, and we did a bible study about food justice and what that means," Sager said. "We're trying to do service-oriented things along with a biblical, faith-based thing."

Johnson ready for the next phase of life

By **MIKE KESSINGER**
one@dailynews.net

Steve Johnson has been the director of United Methodist Campus Ministry at Fort Hays State University for 18 years.

He's spent many hours a day as a minister, teacher and mentor to a large number of students at Fort Hays. He's even been a student in some ways when it has come to learning new games and activities he takes part in. It was all a challenge he was ready to take on after he and his family came from Sterling, where Johnson was a Christian education and youth director at United Methodist Church.

"You get a new mix of students every year, almost every semester," Johnson said. "When I first came we had lots of people who were all into ping pong and disc golf. We went through a phase when it was more about board games and coffee."

Johnson has adjusted to the changes that have come with the job, especially since most of it consists of staying up with what's new, and now he's ready to take on something else — retirement.

His last day at Fort Hays was Oct. 31. It was a decision Johnson made so he can finally spend more time with his family — something that has been a little bit of a challenge during the last nine years since Johnson's home is in Oakley with his wife Sheryl. That's also where their two

children and grandchildren live. Johnson's schedule has had him in Hays from Monday through Thursday, then the rest of the week he is in Oakley.

"We had just kind of decided that at the point in life we're at that we wanted to spend more time together," Johnson said. "My retirement has to do with living in the town where my wife lives. We have two grandkids under the age of 3. So, I'm just ready for that next phase."

Working at Methodist Campus Ministry office has been something Johnson has enjoyed over the last 18 years. The chance to help students lead themselves and develop into Christian leaders has been fun for him to see, and helping the young adults find their gifts through the ministry.

With Johnson's departure, a new director will be named for the United Methodist Campus Ministry, which is located one block East of Sheridan Hall at 507 Elm. Student leaders and local board members will continue running the ministry through the end of the semester.

Now that he will have more of an opportunity to spend time with his family, Johnson plans to take advantage of the things he enjoys outside of work. One of them being traveling around the state with his wife and educating himself more on Kansas history. That has been one of his interests.



Johnson

Youth Spotlight

Churches' youth come together

By MIKE KESSINGER
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Joined together as one, members of the Trinity Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church youth group have the common bond of giving back.

With just a small number of members, sixth grade through high school, the group meets once every other Sunday at the Presbyterian Church. But it's far from the only time they meet for activities. In fact, whatever way they can lend a hand in the community, go on a mission trip or take part together in a live Nativity, they all like to do it together.

"I view it as a good way to be able to have kind of have a direct channel to give back to people that are either in your church or through out the community," youth group member

Hannah Norris said. "We're a really close group. Some of us have been doing this for four or five years. We have done a lot of stuff together. It's a good group."

Along with taking part and helping around the community with volunteer events like a clothing drive, food pantry, Operation Christmas Child, or the Special Olympics, the group has been able to find ways to help outside of Hays. A couple years ago, the youth group took a mission trip to Lyons, Colo., to help victims of the flood waters that damaged the town.

"I think a goal of every group has always been to be very mission involved," said youth leader Megan Hopp. "Every year we always find something to do. Whether it's collecting items and physically delivering them to whoever they need to go

to — hanging Christmas lights — we always try to be active in the community as much as possible. Giving back, I always think that's something the kids can do after youth group. Show them different ways to get involved."

As far as the group members learning from taking part in the volunteer work, Hopp said she believes they have really taken the initiative to be a part of these things outside of the youth organization.

"I think (this group) has a lot of advantages over standard Bible study class," Norris said. "It's not really focusing memorizing Bible verses and learning scripture. It's more about how you can be active doing things."

While one of the main things the group focuses on is volunteering and helping in other ways, they've also found ways to have fun. As a fund-

raiser for a trip to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium this summer, the group joined together to take part in flocking flamingos. The point to flocking flamingos is where the group sets up a number of plastic flamingos in a yard after dark and leaves a note reading "Who did it?," with a ransom note saying whomever's yard they are in has to pay to have them removed and sent to someone else. It was a group effort that they took part in sometimes up to six nights a week during the summer. The Triennium is a youth event every three years on the Purdue University campus in West Lafayette, Ind.

"(The youth group) allows you to be open and be yourself and not worry about what others will think," youth group member Zachary Hopp said. "It's a group where it will just stay in the group."

SIGN OF THE TIMES



A recent sign outside of the New Life Center Assembly of God, 1701 E. 22nd

Message at the top: What do you mean?

The truth was always very important to Jesus. He used the phrase "I tell you the truth" continually throughout the Gospels. At the end of his life as he was preparing to offer the supreme sacrifice of his death, he lectured his executioner about truth, saying that the truth was the reason why he came from God the Father. He came to speak the truth--such was his mission and what his presence with us was all about.

Jesus answered [Pilate], "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Pilate said to him, "What is truth?" (John 18:37-38a)

Sometimes human beings do not give themselves to the truth as readily as they should. Pilate would ask the rhetorical question of "What is truth?" It is a question that is echoed in much of the music of

today. People in life and especially people in romantic relationships often do not understand other people because they are confused about whether the other people are telling the truth or not.

Justin Bieber's song "What Do You Mean" is exactly that.

The man in the relationship is confused because his friend is telling him one thing, and the actions do not seem to match the words that are spoken. And so, he asks "What do you mean?"

"What do you mean? When you nod your head yes, but you wanna say no, what do you mean? When you don't want me to move, but you tell me to go, what do you mean? Said we're running out of time, what do you mean? Better make up your

mind. What do you mean? You're so indecisive of what I'm saying, trying to catch the beat, make up your heart. Don't know if you're happy or complaining, don't want for us to end. Where do I start? First you wanna go to the left and you want to

turn right. First you up then you're down and between. I really want to know. What do you mean?"

In effect, he is saying "What is truth, what is it that you are trying to

say, why are you not being honest with me?" The truth will never be clear if the actions do not follow from the words.

Every relationship deserves to be a relationship rooted in truth. In fact, there will be no relationship at all if the people involved are not completely dedicated to what is true. In our world today, com-

Father
Mike Scully



Message at the Top

munication is often very difficult, but the more we are resolved to tell the truth in every situation, the better will our personal worlds be. And, the better will the whole world be.

Good and gracious God, You have said to us that Your entrance into the world was simply bringing about the truth. At times, we are not as honest and truthful as we should be, thus destroying many relationships. Give us the grace to be dedicated to the truth at all times. Be with us, we pray.

THE GOSPELS IN FR. MIKE'S TOP 5 [as of 10/15/15]

- 1 - "What Do You Mean" / Justin Bieber John 18:37-38a
- 2 - "The Hills" / The Weeknd Matthew 23:23-24
- 3 - "Stitches" / Shawn Mendes Luke 22:39-44
- 4 - "Wildest Dreams" / Taylor Swift Matthew 26:26-30
- 5 - "Locked Away" / R City f/ Adam Levine Luke 23:27-28

FAITH BRIEFS

The Ellis County Ministerial Alliance is continuing to meet the needs in our community by hosting the annual Thanksgiving Day Feast at noon Nov. 26. Again this year it will be served at the new Rose Garden Banquet Hall at 2350 E 8th. Pam Burgardt and her Rose Garden Banquet Hall staff have for the last 8 years provided the meal for the day. Since 2007 a partnership of cooperating Ellis County Churches and other community volunteers helped feed those who did not have a place to enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. Last year over 800 turkey and fixin's dinners were served. This year ECMA Co-chairs Celeste Lasich, Kyle Ermoian and First Call For Help's Linda Mills who serve as hosts believe there will be even more guests.

Organizations who help pay for and promote the meal are The Hays Daily News, Eagle Communications, The Hays Area Chamber of Commerce, Fort Hays State University, First Call for Help, Hays Medical Center and the United Way of Ellis County. Ellis County Abstract, and Great Plains Dermatology, have supported the event for years by helping to make the ACCESS van available to pick up people who need rides. The ACCESS offices are closed on Thanks-

giving Day so those needing a ride will have to make arrangements beforehand.

Volunteers will again be collecting food from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday Nov. 21 at Dillon's East, Dillon's West and Wal-Mart. The food collected will be sacked on Wednesday night at 5:30 pm at the Banquet Hall and passed out on Thanksgiving Day after lunch.

With the cooperation of a generous public, last year ECMA passed out nearly 500 bags of food for people in need not only on Thanksgiving Day, but for weeks ahead.

Many other service clubs, churches and individuals also help to financially support the event whose expenses are going up due to the rising costs of food, especially turkey.

If you would like to contribute to this event please make your tax deductible donations payable to E.C.M.A., P.O. Box 173 Hays KS. Please memo your checks "Thanksgiving Dinner" Any extra proceeds there will go into E.C.M.A.'s Second Mile Fund which assists Ellis County needy people with food throughout the year.

Over 100 volunteers are needed so if you would like to volunteer to help with the event call First Call for Help at 623-2800

Volunteer your time, call First Call for Help 623-2800



THANKSGIVING DAY FEAST

ALL ARE WELCOME

Thursday, November 26th
12 noon
Rose Garden Banquet Hall
2350 E. 8th St.

Send your tax-deductible donations to ECMA · P.O. Box 173 · Hays, KS 67601
Proceeds to benefit ECMA's 2nd Mile Fund
(Through First Call for Help)





















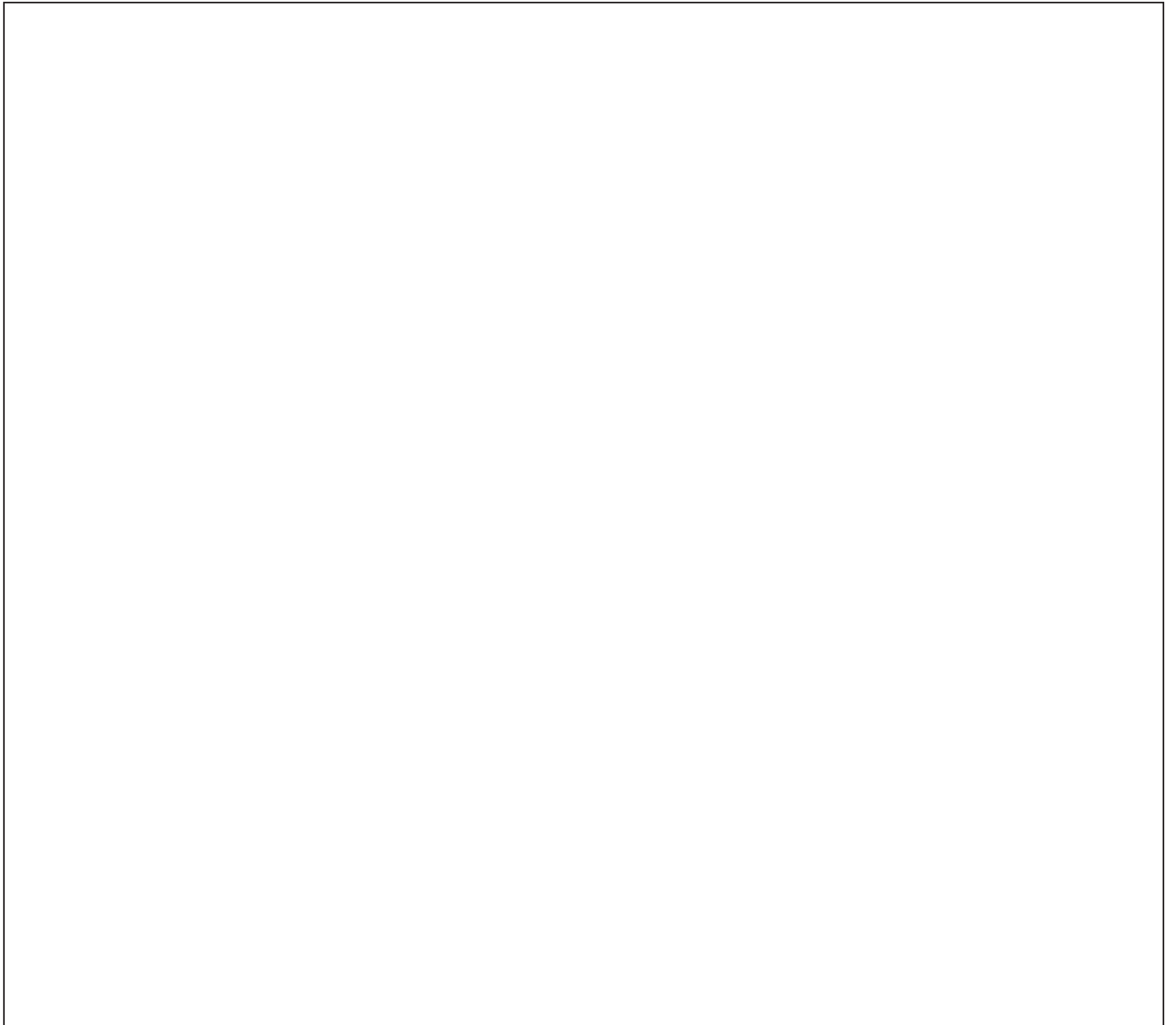




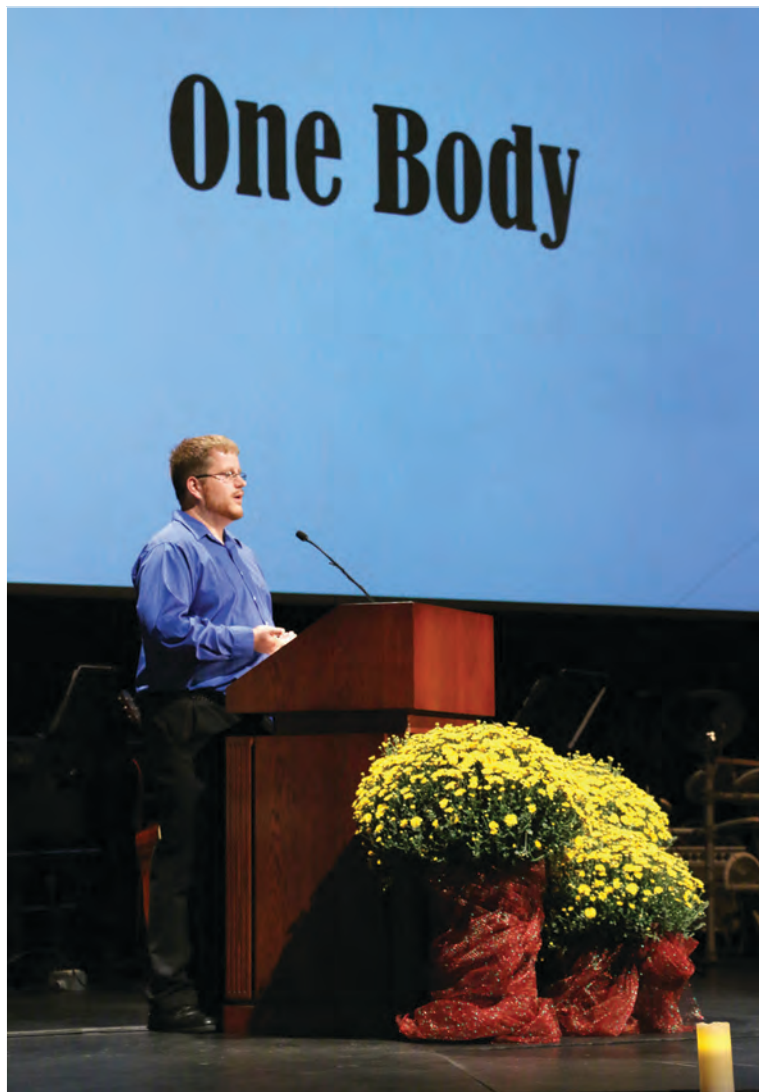


CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST

Christmas is right around the corner, and once again ONE is hosting a coloring contest for children. The theme for this year's contest is "Follow the Star." The deadline for submission is Nov. 9. The winner of the contest will have the artwork appear on the cover of the December issue of ONE. Participants should put their name, age, grade and church on the back of their submission. They can be dropped off at your church or at The Hays Daily News, 507 Main.



Festival of faith



FAR LEFT: Unite Ministries' Brandon Nimz gives part of the message surrounding the theme of "One Lord, One Body, One Community" during the 24th annual Festival of Faith on Oct. 11 at Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center in Hays.

LEFT ABOVE: Johnny Matlock directs the community choir as it sings during the Festival of Faith. **LEFT BELOW:** Loren Groening plays a piano solo.

JOLIE GREEN
jgreen@dailynews.net

Re-reading helps grow a solid understanding

Greetings Bible Reader. Thank you for continuing to read through the Bible with me. The finish line is in sight!

Our assignment for this month's One magazine is to communicate something that we have a passion for in ministry. Bible Study would be one of my major passions. I dedicated my life to Christ during my late teens (39 years ago last month), and was introduced to a wonderful discipline by a great Bible teacher; Marilyn Hickey. That discipline was to read through the

Bible every year. She furnished a monthly magazine that included a Bible reading plan, much like the one I furnish to this magazine. That passion has never left me, and I continue to practice it. Perhaps I'm a slow learner, but God has something new for me, every time I read and study. Hebrews 4:12 (NIV) reads that the "word of God is living and active". So, simply put, something that is living continues to grow. (I'm not suggesting that we add books to the Bible) Every time I re-read the Bible, my understanding grows a little

Pastor Steve Dinkel,
Liberty Foursquare
Church

**Bible
Reading Plan**



NOVEMBER	
1	17.....□ Nemeiah 2 □ John 19
2.....□ Ezra 1	□ John 8
3.....□ Ezra 2	□ John 9
4.....□ Ezra 3	□ John 10
5□ Ezra 4	□ John 11
6.....□ Ezra 5	□ John 12
7&8.....Weekend Review	
9.....□ Ezra 6	□ John 13
10.....□ Ezra 7	□ John 14
11.....□ Ezra 8	□ John 15
12.....□ Ezra 9	□ John 16
13.....□ Ezra 10	□ John 17
14&15.....Weekend Review	
16.....□ Nemeiah 1	□ John 18
	17.....□ Nemeiah 2
	□ John 19
	18.....□ Nemeiah 3
	□ John 20
	19.....□ Nemeiah 4
	□ John 21
	20.....□ Nemeiah 5
	□ 1 John 1
	21&22.....Weekend Review
	23.....□ Nemeiah 6
	□ 1 John 2
	24.....□ Nemeiah 7
	□ 1 John 3
	25.....□ Nemeiah 8
	□ 1 John 4
	26.....□ Nemeiah 9
	□ 1 John 5
	27.....□ Nemeiah 10
	□ 1 John
	28&29.....Weekend Review
	30.....□ Nemeiah 11
	□ 3 John

bit, and it produces a little more change in my life.

As we continue through our Old Testament and New Testament readings this month, expect God to show you new

things, things you've never seen before. We are blessed to have the Bible so available to us. May God bless your Bible study time in a special way, as you continue to read!

Sponsoring Churches of

ONE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
12th & Fort 625-9454

Iglesia Hispana Bautista
Pastora Lory Herrick
785-639-6181
Sunday Domingos 3:00 p.m.
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)

Pastor Rocco Mallardi
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

Rev. Mike Rose, Sr. Pastor
Rev. Dr. Alice Koech, Assoc. Pastor & Youth 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
WOW Worship on Wednesdays: Meal 5 to 6 pm
Children/Youth/Adult Programs
6:15-7:15 pm
305 W. 7th 625-3408

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rev. Harvey Hillin
Sunday Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Evening Prayer
Wednesdays 5:15 p.m.
2900 Canal Blvd. 628-8442
stmichaelshays@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
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

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

The Rev. Marie Sager
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

The 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
pastorcelestehays@gmail.com
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