



A publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance April 2018

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News to know

Easter prayer vigil scheduled

The Hays First United Methodist Church, 305 W. Seventh, will be holding a Good Friday Service beginning at 7 p.m. Friday, March 30. At the culmination of that service, a prayer vigil will be held in the chapel until 7:30 a.m. Easter morning, Sunday, April 1. Individuals will be in the chapel continuously during that time, praying and giving thanks to Christ for his sacrifice.

At 9:45 a.m., pre-schoolers through third graders will participate in Easter Egg Hunts on the west lawn.

Easter Sunday worship services will be held at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. in the church sanctuary. The choir will present the second half of the Easter Cantata, "Jesus, the Resurrection of the Messiah." The sermon by the Rev. Mike Rose will be entitled "Unafraid: Living with Hope and Courage in Uncertain Times" based on Adam Hamilton's study of the same name.

Church to host Easter Egg Hunts

Messiah Lutheran Church, 2000 Main, will be holding Easter Egg Hunts immediately following its 9:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 1. The hunts are for preschoolers through fifth graders, said Ben Venteicher, the church's director of Christian education.

One hunt will be held for the younger kids; at least one adult needs to be present with each child participating. A second hunt will be held for the older kids, Venteicher said.

Also the middle school youth, sixth through eighth graders, will be hosting an Easter breakfast at the same time. Proceeds will benefit their "summer servant event."

The breakfast will feature pancakes, sausage, breakfast casseroles, fruit, milk and coffee, Venteicher said. A goodwill offering will be taken. The youth will be traveling to Wichita in early June, he said, to partner with Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the servant project.

Easter Cantata to be presented

The Chancel Choir at First Presbyterian Church, 2900 Hall St., will be presenting an Easter Cantata, "The Power of the Cross" by Mark Hayes, at 10 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 1. The community is invited.

Trinity announces Easter events

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2703 Fort St., will be having a "Good Friday Service of Light and Darkness" at 7 p.m. Friday, March 30. On Easter Sunday, April 1, a potluck breakfast is scheduled at 9 a.m., followed by worship service at 10:15 a.m. and an Easter egg hunt at 11:30 a.m.

Cavetime men's retreat is April 6 to 7

Pastor, author and professor Jeff Voth will be leading a Cavetime men's retreat in Hays on Friday, April 6, and Saturday, April 7.

The event will run from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the 12th Street Auditorium in Hays.

Roth will be teaching about the life of King David and how the king and 400 of his men were able to retreat to a cave and draw closer to God. "This unique experience will help men rediscover who they are as a man and redefine biblical manhood," Cavetime's website states. Cavetime is a men's ministry based in Tulsa, Okla.

Cost of the retreat is \$60. Registration is available at facebook.com/cavetime-hays.

5K to benefit Messiah Lutheran

Leadership Studies students at Fort Hays State University are teaming up with Messiah Lutheran Church, 2000 Main, for the Dust Devil's 5K Run/Walk to be held on Saturday, April 7.

Proceeds from the race will go toward the purchase of a response trailer that the church will use to house supplies for disaster relief in Western Kansas, including Hays. Church officials said the trailer will be used during tornadoes, fires and other natural disasters.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m., and the race will start at 9 a.m. at 300 Main near the Hays Aquatic Park. Advance entry fees are \$25; on the day of the race, entry fees are \$30. Area businesses have donated prizes for the race; in addition a cash prize will be awarded, said Jenny Parker, one of the student organizers.

Individuals may sign up at <https://runsignup.com/Race/KS/Hays/Hays-5KRunWalk> through Friday, April 6. Those wishing more information may contact Parker at (620) 295-0332 or

jrparker3@mail.fhsu.edu.

Other students on the organizing team are Samantha Ward, Wyatt Habiger, Nathan Toft and Michael Saint.

North Oak youth plan tasty fundraiser

The youth group at North Oak Community Church, 3000 Oak St., will be holding a fundraiser brunch following the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 8.

The brunch, which will be held in the church's youth center, will feature egg bake, biscuits and sausage gravy, coffee-cake, cinnamon rolls and fruit. Freewill donations will go toward the youth's mission trip to Pine Ridge, S.D., this summer.

Hays After 5 to hold style show

Women are invited to put a "spring" in their wardrobe at the Hays After 5 Style Show on Monday, April 9. Christopher and CJ Banks, located in Big Creek Crossing, will be displaying their latest spring fashions.

The dinner program will run from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Rose Garden Banquet Hall, 2250 E. Eighth.

Also on the agenda will be inspirational speaker Rae Kary Staab of Mayetta. Staab an EMT and a cancer survivor, has a degree in geological engineering and grew up on a ranch in South Dakota.

Staab says that even though she has made it through several storms in her life, she would rather run from storms than chase them—thus the title of her talk, "Not a Storm Chaser."

Cost of the dinner program is \$12.50. Reservations are due by Thursday, April 5, to daisymae0197@yahoo.com or to (785) 202-1036. Hays After 5 is affiliated with Stonecroft Ministry of Overland Park.

Drive will aid sex trafficking victims

Students in the Criminal Justice Department at Fort Hays State University have launched a drive to help victims of sex trafficking.

The Victim Advocacy Class is partnering up with ICT SOS, a non-profit group that works with organizations who aid victims of human trafficking. The class will have a table in FHSU's Memorial Union from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 10, where individuals can

drop off donations to help create Fresh Start Bags.

Fresh Start Bags are given to trafficked youth to provide them with personal hygiene items, clothing, and other products. The full list of needed items is available at <http://ictsos.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/fresh-start-bags.pdf>.

Items will also be accepted during normal business hours in the Department of Criminal Justice in Rarick Hall 233. More information is available from April Terry at anterry2@fhsu.edu.

ECMA Board to meet April 11

The Ellis County Ministerial Alliance Board of Directors will meet on Wednesday, April 11, at North Oak Community Church, 3000 Oak St.

The editorial board for ONE Magazine will meet at 9 a.m. The full ECMA Board will meet at 10 a.m.

Anyone wishing to make a presentation to the board must schedule it in advance with the ECMA president at president@ourecma.com.

SEE NEWS, 8

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Meeting the Risen Christ on the mountain

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." -Matthew 28:16-20 (NIV)

I love the story of the Great Commission. It comes in the final account of Matthew's gospel, when the Risen Christ appeared to the Disciples on a mountain in Galilee, just where he told them he'd be. It had been quite a time ... Jesus was crucified, dead and buried ... and then the strangest thing happened: He came back to life ... resurrected! We don't know where the Galilean mountain was

exactly, but we do know that the Disciples did. They met the Risen Christ on that mountain, and, Matthew tells us, they worshipped him. But the scriptures also tell us that "some doubted" (Matthew 28:17). What an unusual thing for Matthew to state. Here we have the Risen Christ, appearing alive after his death and "some doubted." When I first read this, I thought of John's gospel and his account of "Doubting Thomas" (John 20:24-29).

But Thomas believed and worshipped him after his appearance, and any doubt was totally set aside. Thomas believed, along with the other Disciples.

But in Matthew's account, "some doubted." Curious, I checked in the New International Version, the New Revised Standard,

and the New King James Version they all use the phrase "some doubted." Still curious, I went to my copy of Barclay's Commentary on Matthew's gospel, checked Matthew 28:17, and there I had an "Aha!" moment. Barclay described the "some doubted" text

as "some were uncertain." This was the understanding I'd been hoping to find. Those were uncertain times, and the uncertainty of what was going to happen next to the Disciples

had to be palatable. Jesus, The Risen Christ, would address this uncertainty by giving them a "great commission." He first established his authority, and then followed it by giving the Disciples the task of spreading the good news to all people, by first baptizing them and then sharing his teachings and commands. To fur-

ther address their uncertainty, the last words the Risen Christ tells them is, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." That promise of certainty certainly would change the world.

For many today, these are also uncertain times. As Disciples of the Risen Christ in the world today, I believe we are to set aside our own uncertainty, realizing that "all authority in heaven and earth" still belong to the Risen Christ, and that he still calls his Disciples to "therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing and teaching to obey" all that Jesus said and did and commanded.

Still feeling uncertain in today's chaotic world? The last sentence that the Risen Christ left for us in Matthew's gospel remains for us today as clearly as it did back then: "And remember I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Certainly it is certainty we need to recall in these uncertain times.

Rev. Mike Rose

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Doubting Jesus?

The Great Commission in the book of Matthew is one of the most well known and most-preached sections of the Bible. It gives us our marching orders; Jesus tells us what we are to do with our lives: make disciples of all nations. That seems like an overwhelming task! Thankfully, Jesus says that he will never leave us as we do this.

When studying the Great Commission, however, I like to start a few verses prior to verse 18, the traditional beginning of the passage.

“Then the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted!” — Matthew 28:16-17 (NLT)

When Jesus rose from the dead, there was much doubt amongst the people. After all, who rises from the dead? What’s fascinating to me is that even among the disciples there was doubt. Even among those who followed Jesus closely for the three years of his ministry had doubts about Jesus and his resurrection.

If the disciples, who now are seeing Jesus face-to-face, had doubts about Jesus and his claims, how much more can we expect people today (including



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those in the church) to have doubts about Jesus?

When people think of doubt, they often link it to a lack of faith. But in fact, the definition of doubt is to feel unconvinced or uncertain about something. So, is it necessary for followers of Christ to be completely doubt-free? I don’t think so.

When Thomas doubted Jesus, did Jesus rebuke him? No! He gave him evidence so that he might believe. I believe God still works that way today.

When we have doubt, it shows that we are thinking critically about things. It shows that we are not blindly following. So instead of hiding out doubt, we ought to use that doubt to motivate us toward researching our faith and getting to know more about it, thereby getting to know more about Jesus.

There are certain things that we are guaranteed as followers of Christ, and things we need not doubt. One is our salvation. We can have assurance of our salvation. If we have placed our faith and trust in Christ, we can be assured that Jesus will not leave us. 1 John 5:13 says “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.” Our eternal destiny is not something that we need to wonder about — the Bible is written to give us

assurance.

But what about our other doubts? I would argue that the best way to deal with your doubts is to share them with other followers of Christ. We have been united in a community of faith, and we are to help one another learn and grow in the faith. One way we do that is by being honest with others about what we’re struggling with. Sharing your doubt is not a sign of weakness — rather, it shows that you are always learning and thinking and willing to admit that you may not have all the answers.

One author who does a phenomenal job answering doubts is Lee Strobel. He has written a number of books, beginning with *The Case for Christ*. Strobel started as an atheist who set out to discredit Christianity. As he studied the facts, however, he became convinced of the truth of the gospel and gave his life to Christ. As a result, he has shared his story and evidence with millions, and has helped many people overcome their doubts.

So today, if you have doubts, don’t worry — you are in good company. Share your doubts with other followers of Christ and lean on each other during these seasons. Don’t silently suffer and allow your doubt to eat away at you and your relationship with God. Think of your doubt as a gift from God, inviting you to know him more and more. Doubt is only wrong if you don’t allow it to motivate you to action.

Watch God do something miraculous

“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” (NIV Mark 1:17)

Ask 100 people what it means to follow Jesus and you will receive more than a few variances. People, even Christians, have different opinions about what it means to follow Jesus. But Jesus himself gives a very clear promise to His followers: they will fish for people.

Recently Billy Graham died. Many have spoken about the tremendous influence that Graham had as a speaker and evangelist. He drew crowds of tens of thousands of people. I remember the first Billy Graham crusade that I went to in Fresno, California. It was powerful to watch as hundreds of people made their way forward during the altar call.

They knelt before God, confessed their sins, and accepted His free gift of salvation. As a pastor, I have asked the Lord, who are you raising up in our congregation to fish for people? His answer is simple: “Everyone who follows me.”

Jesus gave every one of his followers — including all those living today and those who have yet to believe — instructions about what He wanted them to do: Fish for people.

This is why people like Billy Graham, Bill Faye, Count Nikolaus von Zinzendorf, J. Hudson Taylor, and orga-

nizations like Perspectives and the US Center for World Mission, MB Mission, and Movements.net, have devoted their lives, resources, and every breath to training up believers who will train others to be disciples.

Jesus has called you to fish

for people. Are you doing it?

What strikes me about Luke 10, is that Jesus not only trained his disciples, but He also gave

them intentional events in which they were to go out on mission. Churches should teach a lifestyle of “fishing”; but, following the example set by Jesus, it is evident that planned intentional mission events should be part of our

strategy.

I recently led a group of 30 people in a “sharing your faith” class. The second week, I invited them to join me in one hour of intentionally sharing our faith with people in our city. We did it each week for the rest of the class. It was awesome to watch as people went out in groups of twos and threes — faithfully being “fishers of people” just like Jesus commanded. More than one said, “We have heard these teachings before, but actually doing mission is a new experience.” Live Acts 14:47. Be a doer of Matthew 28:19-20.

Put it on your calendar. Make plans to live on mission. Watch God do something miraculous. It is time for the church to care about those who don’t come into the building.



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God's promise to be with us day by day

Eugene Peterson's translation of the Bible The Message puts the Great Commission this way:

Meanwhile, the eleven disciples were on their way to Galilee, headed for the mountain Jesus had set for their reunion. The moment they saw him they worshiped him. Some, though, held back, not sure about worship, about risking themselves totally. Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his charge: "God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

Hays First Presbyterian Church is committed to the life-long challenging practice of Jesus' way of life; a way that is marked by welcoming, cross generational community, deeply immersed in the story of God and God's people, practicing hope and healing,

and following in the Way of Jesus our Savior and Lord. Jesus' new commandment calls us as disciples to love others in the Way Jesus radically showed love.

Following in that practice of boundary breaking love, we offer support and community for people throughout western Kansas, regardless of faith tradition or religious identification. Through our outreach ministry, the Center for Life Experience located at 2900 Hall St., we offer practicing communities of healing and hope for those who are struggling with some of life's most difficult challenges. Healing after Loss, for those who are dealing with the loss of someone close to them meets on the first and third Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Healing Hearts, for those who have experienced the heartbreaking loss of a child of any age meets on the second Thursday



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of each month, at 7 p.m. Healing after Loss of Suicide (HALOS) meets on the second Monday and fourth Wednesday at 7 p.m. Recognizing that children are the often forgotten grievers, this year will mark our 3rd Healing Kids Hearts Camp Saturday April 14th at Sternberg Museum. Preregistration is required for that event.

We are honored to partner with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) as the host for NAMI Hays with

recovery support groups and separate family support groups beginning at 6 p.m. on the first Monday.

Our building is lively and full almost every night with the many other community groups we partner with and host. We partner with churches and community groups throughout western Kansas to seed locally run communities of healing

and hope. For more information about any of those groups or events, contact Ann Leiker through the website www.cflehope.org or call/text (785) 259-6859.

We welcome people of all ages in worship so that together we grow in the practices of faith, of prayer, singing, hospitality, joy and consolation. Our Pray Ground area for infants and toddlers and their families recognizes that God designed little ones to learn with their whole body. In our congregational baptismal vows for little ones, we promise to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ until they come to claim Him for their own. We believe that regardless of age or background, we all have something to teach and to learn.

I love that Jesus' commission does not depend on our sometimes reluctant willingness to risk ourselves fully. God's promise is to be with us, day by day, no matter what. May you trust and live in Jesus' Way of life: a Way of hope and healing, of community and grace, of radical welcome and love.

How do we live out our mission?

At the end of the gospel of Matthew, we read that Jesus gave his disciples instructions to "go forth and make disciples of all nations." The "Great Commission," as this passage is often called, might be considered the mission statement for the church today. However, if we are truthful, this call to action may make us nervous. Perhaps we have images of going door to door evangelizing our neighborhoods that make us uncomfortable. But is this really what Jesus is asking us to do?

Wherever he went, Jesus spoke of God's love, grace, and mercy. Jesus often associated with the outcasts of society. The religious leaders criticized his choice of friends and his message was controversial as he spoke of God's

care and concern for the poor and the oppressed. This is the mission God has called us to as disciples of Christ. This is the message we are called to share with others.

So, how do we live out our mission? Hospitality is a theme throughout Scripture. We are to welcome others in our churches as we would wish to be treated.

We need to be as caring and hospitable in our everyday lives as the beliefs we profess on Sunday. Many find it hard to trust Christians because of prior negative experiences in churches. We are to love as Christ has loved us.

In the early history of the church,

Christians were well known for their compassion and care for the poor and the sick. This included non-believers, as well as members of their faith communities. We have to ask ourselves, "Do WE stand out?" When others experience the

church and we who call ourselves, "Christians," are they met with judgmental attitudes or welcoming grace? My husband

and I co-pastor the Gorham Community Church. On the front of our worship bulletin, we have this statement: "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." (United Church of Christ). We are in a continual conversation about what it

means to be a welcoming congregation.

In my work as a pastor and chaplain, I have met so many people who have never truly known love. They are broken and hurting because they have only heard of a vengeful God. They have never been told of God's love and the desire God has to be in a relationship with all God's children. They have never been told that they are precious in God's sight. So, how do we live out the Great Commission? We remind others that God loves them. We show them God's love through our own acts of hospitality. We who have made the decision to follow Jesus are called to be the hands and feet of Christ at work in a hurting world sharing the message of God's love, mercy, and hope.



Karen Harvester
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The Rev. Dr. Karen Harvester is shown in her office at Hays Medical Center. (LINN ANN HUNTINGTON)



Q & A

as told to
Linn Ann
Huntington

Vice president of the ECMA

Editor's Note: This is the second part of a multiple-part series titled "Get to Know the Officers in the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance (ECMA)." In this article we meet ECMA's vice president, the Rev. Dr. Karen Harvester. She is the Pastoral Care Supervisor and a chaplain at Hays Medical Center, 2220 Canterbury Drive. She is also the pastor of Gorham Community Church.

Personal Information:

Born: I was born and raised in El Dorado, Kan., and graduated from high school there.

Please tell us a little about your childhood.

My father worked in one of the oil refineries in El Dorado all his adult life. He also had a business on the side in our home – bookkeeping and income tax. My mother was a piano teacher. She taught lessons after school and on Saturdays in a piano studio in our home. I have an older sister, Sandy; my older brother, Steve, is now deceased.

My parents were very involved in our lives. My mother was a Girl Scout leader. My dad coached all three of us in summer league baseball and softball. I was also a swimmer. Swimming was taught as part of physical education from sixth grade on in our school system. I was a teaching assistant in those classes. I also worked as lifeguard at the city pool during the summer in high school.

In school, I liked biology. I loved anything related to music. I played the piano, violin, and organ. I sang in school and church choirs and participated in high school musicals.

I considered lots of professions as I went through school: doctor, biology teacher, ministry, and eventually I decided on nursing.

Marital status: Please tell us a little about your husband, children, grandchild-

ren, etc.

I was married to Loren Ault (originally from Hays) for 26 years. We had three children – Sondra, Jason, and Susan. Loren passed away in 2007. I said I would never remarry, but God had other plans when he brought Robert Harvester into my life. We have been married for nine years. His children are Joel, Bethany, Liesel and Elizabeth. All our children are now married, and we have five grandchildren – Samantha, Michael, Eleanor, Charlotte and Lucy. They range in age from 1 to 4 years old. Another grandson, Denver, will be arriving around Easter. Another grandchild will arrive at the end of May. We love being grandparents, and most of our travel involves going to see our children and grandchildren.

How long have you lived in Ellis County?

Five years while attending Fort Hays State. I moved back here in 2009 for the Hays Medical Center job.

Please list your hobbies and interests outside of work.

Playing the piano, singing, reading, and I'm a sports fan. I love the Denver Broncos, New York Yankees, Kansas City Royals, and Wichita State University men's basketball. We try to attend games each year. We also enjoy traveling. Last year we went to opposite corners of the country — Juneau, Alaska, and Orlando, Fla. We are planning a trip to California and Oregon this summer. I also collect teddy bears and angels.

Academic Information:

Please list degrees/certificates held and from where.

- Fort Hays State University, B.S. in General Sciences.
- Butler Community College, El Dorado,

Associate Degree in Nursing.

- Phillips Theological Seminary, Enid, Okla., Master of Divinity.

- Phillips Theological Seminary, Tulsa, Okla., Doctor of Ministry in Pastoral Counseling.

Career Information:

Please list your current job title(s).

Pastoral Care Supervisor/Chaplain at Hays Medical Center, 8 ½ years.

Pastor of Gorham Community Church, 4 years.

What does your work at Hays Medical Center involve?

Providing spiritual support to our patients, families, and staff. We attempt to see all new patients at least once. Those who are more seriously ill we will see daily or as needed. We respond to all code blues and contact other clergy in the community when requested by the patient or family members. We record a prayer line each day that has scripture or a devotional thought and prayer. We also provide worship services on special days during the year such as Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

I also provide information and support to patients and families regarding decisions about end of life care, and I serve as the chaplain of the Hays Med Palliative Care team. As a notary public, I assist patients to complete Medical Durable Power of Attorney and Living Will documents. Each semester I teach a class in our nursing residents program about spirituality and care of the dying. I represent Hays Medical Center in the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance.

How many chaplains do you supervise?

Currently four. We have a weekend position open.

What aspect of your position at Hays Medical Center do you enjoy the most?

I meet and talk with so many interesting people every day, and I love working with the other chaplains in our department. We all believe that to be present with a patient or family in a crisis situation is a sacred trust. Our goal is to assist others to draw upon their personal spiritual traditions and beliefs as they cope with whatever illness, injury, or surgery that they are facing. The patient or family beliefs are the priority, not the beliefs of the chaplain. In the midst of sadness, tragedy, or chaotic situations, the pastoral care staff strives to provide a calm and listening presence to everyone present, including the patient, families, and staff. On the days when I have witnessed a lot of sadness, I often make a round through OB (the birthing center). The babies, the new parents, and the doting grandparents bring a smile to my face and remind me of the joy that new life brings.

Please list previous positions held and where.

- Before going into the ministry, I was a nurse at St. Joseph Medical Center, Wichita, in a medical and diabetic teaching unit.

- Allen Memorial Hospital, El Dorado, surgical floor.

- St. Francis Medical Center, Wichita, cardiac care and

cath lab.

- While in seminary, I was pastor at Hunter Christian Church, Hunter, Okla., 3 years.

- Then, pastor at Stafford Christian Church, Stafford, 7 years.

- Chaplain, St. Catherine's Hospice, Garden City, 1 year.

- Senior pastor, Kingman Christian Church, Kingman, 6 ½ years.

- Currently, Hays Med Chaplain, 8 ½ years; supervisor, 4 ½ years.

- Currently, Gorham Community Church pastor, 4 years.

Please describe when/how you received the call to go into the ministry.

I thought about ministry in my teen years. However, while our denomination (Christian Church – Disciples of Christ) was ordaining women, I was not encouraged to pursue ministry. As someone who played the piano and sang, I was told I would make a “lovely minister’s wife.” So, my interest in the sciences and the desire to help others led me to nursing.

However, the thought of ministry never really left. After getting married and having my children, I was active in the ministries of my church--teaching Bible studies, music, and Stephen Ministry, a one-to-one lay ministry that provides care to people who are hurting.

While I enjoyed my work as a nurse, I especially liked the conversations I had with patients and the comfort I could offer to families during times of crisis. Others affirmed that I had a call to ministry. So, the year my youngest child went to kindergarten, I started seminary.

I originally thought I would be a chaplain but I got the opportunity to pastor the church in Hunter, Okla., while I was in seminary. I found I loved parish ministry and continued in churches for nearly 17 years. However, after the long illness and death of my first husband, I again felt called to be a chaplain. My work here at Hays Med allows me to combine my nursing experience with pastoral ministry.

In the fall of 2013, I was approached by the Gorham Community Church to be their pastor on a part-time basis. I had missed preaching and the long-term relationships pastors have within a congregation. My husband and I share in the pastoral duties, and we have been excited to see the renewed sense of mission within the life of the congregation.

I have been blessed to see God at work bringing the right people into my life when I needed it most through teachers, pastors, coaches, counselors, and friends. Because I have experienced God’s love and grace through them, I want to share the same with others through my ministry.

What was the most unusual job you had before you became a minister?

At Fort Hays, I was an accompanist for some of the music majors. While in seminary, I was the campus nurse (office in the dorm) at Phillips University. It was never dull! I have also been the nurse at church camps. That was great fun!

You hold a position that traditionally has been held by men. Have you ever personally received any negative comments or feedback about being a “woman pastor”? What is your response to people who very sincerely believe women should not be pastors?

Yes, I have had my share of negative feedback being a woman in ministry. In my early years of ministry, I was sometimes mistaken to be the “minister’s wife.” While visiting in a hospital, a family member once asked me to leave because “women aren’t supposed to be preachers.” In Oklahoma, I preached at a community Thanksgiving service, and one of the churches in the town refused to attend the service since a woman was preaching. In my work as a chaplain, I have had patients request a male chaplain instead of myself or the other women in our department, but it is extremely rare.

I am respectful to those who do not believe women should be in ministry. It is their issue, not mine. I just know what God has called me to do in my life, and others have affirmed that calling. I accepted my call only after much struggle, prayer, study, and counsel. Someday I will answer to God for how I responded to God’s call on my life. I could never make the excuse to God, “I did not answer your call as a woman in ministry because others told me I should not.”

ECMA Information:

Current ECMA Position Held: Vice President

How long have you been involved in ECMA?

Since coming back to Hays in 2009.

Why do you believe ECMA is important to our community?

Working together as churches and other community ministries, we are able to accomplish more by combining our resources and coordinating our assistance to people in need. It allows area clergy to come together, to become better acquainted, and to be of support to one another in our individual ministries. It is also a witness to the community that Christians who may have some differences in doctrine can work together to be the hands and feet of God’s love at work in the world.

You will become president of ECMA in June. Are there certain goals that you hope to achieve as president? Please discuss these.

My main goal I think would be one that has been a goal of previous presidents. I hope that we will continue to encourage more participation from all the churches and ministries of Ellis County.

What do you envision ECMA to be 10 years from now?

I think the ECMA will still be actively involved in the county in assisting those in need and being an example of “oneness” among God’s people in Ellis County.

Contact information: karen.harvester@haysmed.com; (785) 623-2284.

News, from 2

Options sets dinner, auction April 21

Options Domestic and Sexual Violence Services will be having its sixth annual "Eat, Bid, Save a Life Dinner and Auction" from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at Smoky Hill Country Club, 3303 Hall St.

Options is a non-profit organization that helps victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and sex trafficking. It provides services to men, women and children in 18 Northwest Kansas Counties, including Ellis.

The fundraiser will feature both live and silent auctions. Ticket prices are one for \$30, two for \$50, eight for \$200, and 10 for \$250. Tickets are available at the Options Office, 2716 Plaza Ave., or by calling (785) 625-4202.

Child Advocacy Center on Prairie Angels agenda

Women are invited to attend the

WELCA Prairie Angels Cluster Meeting beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 21, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2703 Fort St.

Registration is \$5 and includes lunch. Pastor Marie Sager will discuss Martin Luther and Katherina Von Bora Luther. Jon Folkerts will discuss the Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center.

The advocacy center works with children ages 2 to 18 who have been removed from their homes by the courts.

Folkerts said, "When a child is abused, it is most often by someone in the home. When children come to the center for help, they often times cannot return home, and this can mean that the child has nothing but the clothes on their back."

Every child who is brought to the center receives a bag containing a blanket, a stuffed animal, personal hygiene items and educational/prevention information, depending on age. That bag goes with the

child when he or she leaves.

According to an informational flyer, the center is especially in need of backpacks, small duffel bags and purses to hold each child's items. The center also has a difficult time obtaining items for teenagers, both male and female.

The full list of items on the center's wish list is available at <https://www.wk-cac.com/our-wish-list>.

More information about the event is available at tlchays@eaglecom.net.

Bake sale to help send kids to camp

The Children's Advisory Board at Hays First United Methodist Church, 305 W. Seventh, will be holding its annual Camp Sunday and Bake Sale on Sunday, April 22.

Every baker in the church is invited to bake and bring goodies. The bake sale will be held in the Welcome Center/Par-

lor area following both the 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. worship services. All free will donations will be used to pay for half of the children's summer camp registration fees.

Pie auction to benefit missions

Messiah Lutheran Church, 2000 Main, will be holding a pie auction on Sunday, April 29, with proceeds to benefit missionaries in Lima, Peru.

The auction will start at 5:30 p.m. in the church's indoor courtyard and will last until all the pies are gone.

'I Can Only Imagine' film showing in Hays

The film "I Can Only Imagine" will be showing at the AMC Classic Hays 8 Theatres, 2918 Vine, through Sunday, April 29.

SEE NEWS, 9



St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church

2901 E. 13th, Hays, Kansas, Parish Offices:

(785) 628-1446

Fax: (785) 623-4207, website: www.heartlandparishes.org

Fr. Jarett Konrade

Mass Schedule:

Saturday at 5 PM

Sunday at 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Daily Mass - Wednesday, and Friday at 7:00 AM

Reconciliation: Saturday at 4:00 PM

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



1805 Vine Street - Hays, Kansas

Fr. Barry Brinkman, Pastor

Parish Office: 785-685-7339

Website: www.ihm-church.com

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday 5 PM - Sunday 8 AM - 10 AM - 6 PM

Sunday Spanish Mass - 12 PM

Weekday Mass Schedule:

MWF 6:45 AM - TTh 8 AM Tuesday Spanish 6:30 PM

Reconciliation: Saturday 4 PM and Thursday 5 PM

News, from 8

The film brings to life the true story behind the song, "I Can Only Imagine." A transformed relationship with his troubled father (Dennis Quaid) inspired Bart Millard (J. Michael Finley), the lead singer of the Christian band MercyMe, to write what is now the most-played radio single in Christian music history.

The film is rated PG and runs 1 hour, 50 minutes. Show times and tickets are available on the theatre's website, <https://www.amctheatres.com/movie-theatres/wichita/amc-classic-hays-8>.

Kelly Center brings new veterans services to Hays

The Fort Hays State University Kelly Center has partnered with the Manhattan area Vet Center to bring new veteran services to FHSU and the Hays community.

A staff of counselors and military veterans is offering free services, including counseling, benefit referrals, Veterans Affairs disability claims assistance, alcohol and substance abuse assessments and referrals, military sexual trauma counseling and referrals and information about community resources.

In order to serve the entire community, the Kelly Center is offering these services to all veterans, as well as all active military service members, their dependents and survivors, regardless of whether they are FHSU students.

The services are available at the Kelly Center, located in Picken Hall 111, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the first Monday of each month. Appointments are required and are available by contacting Seth Kastle, one of those instrumental in setting up the services. Kastle may be reached at (785) 628-4693 or at sdkastle@fhsu.edu.

"The core purpose of the partnership is to promote access to care by helping veterans and families overcome barriers that impede them from using those services," said Kastle, assistant professor of Leadership Studies.

The partnership, developed by Kastle and Shawn Martin, director of the Manhattan Area Veterans Center,



Courtesy photo.

The Salvation Army's summer camp for youngsters ages 8 through 12 will be at Three Trails Camp in Kansas City, Mo.

addresses a need in western Kansas. Many rural areas lack veteran care or services.

Currently, veteran services in Hays are limited to a Community Based Outreach Clinic. Veterans seeking healthcare at the clinic must qualify for VA health benefits. Kastle believes this partnership will increase services and accessibility for the entire Hays-area military community, including veterans, service members, dependents, and survivors regardless of eligibility for VA benefits.

"This partnership opens the door for people in the military community to get help and receive services that they otherwise wouldn't be eligible for or have access to," said Kastle, noting the new services will be available year-round.

"The biggest obstacle that we face in this partnership is making the commu-

nity aware of its existence. There are many people in need; we just have to make them aware of their options."

Salvation Army gearing up for summer camp

The Salvation Army is accepting registrations for its summer camp through Friday, May 11.

The camp, for youngsters ages 8 through 12, will take place Tuesday, June 26, through Friday, June 29, at Three Trails Camp in Kansas City, Mo. The 40-acre camp will offer activities involving arts and crafts, nature, the Bible and recreation.

"All activities are Christian centered," said Julie Smith, the Salvation Army's Ellis County coordinator.

Cost of the camp is \$20, which includes round-trip transportation, lodging, activities and meals for all four

days, Smith said. A bus will pick up youngsters in Hays. More information about the camp is available at <https://threetrailscamp.org/>.

Scholarships are available, Smith said. Registration is available by contacting her at (785) 621-2794 or Julie_Smith@usc.salvationarmy.org.

See your news in the next issue of ONE Magazine. Ideas can be submitted via email to Linn Ann Huntington at lhunting@fhsu.edu

A Quarter's Worth: First Call for Help of Ellis County

Not only is this the end of the first quarter but it is also the first article of four that will be published in ONE during 2018. First Call for Help is an organization that churches and the community have supported for over 20 years to provide assistance to those who are experiencing crisis in their lives. Many of you may not know where First Call for Help is located, what type of services are offered, how First Call for Help is funded, or ways you can help. These quarterly articles will inform readers on those topics and will share the latest news.

For the past 15 years First Call for Help was located on E 7th St in the Hadley Center. The move to 607 E 13th was the result of our 2015 strategic

planning process and the need to spread our wings. We initially just painted and carpeted office areas of the building so that the move could happen. This year we are working to finish the distribution room and have had several groups in to help with many projects. The property offers more street visibility, flexible use of space, and the possibility of expanding services in the future.

One of the most important services we provide is Transient Aid. This assistance can include fuel, bus transportation to the shelter in Salina, or possibly one night shelter in a local motel. We work in

partnership with local law enforcement, volunteers, and several local businesses to provide these services to people who are stranded in Hays for a variety of reasons. Churches and other community groups often donate travel sized hygiene items, individually wrapped snacks, and bottled water for our staff and volunteers to pass along to the travelers. It is important to provide this type of assistance in a community, especially where shelter services are not available.

Individuals who are interested in being a part of the on-call team for Transient Aid are encouraged to call us

at (785) 623-2800. Volunteers need to be at least 21 years of age, have a working cell phone, and be available at least one week each month to respond to assistance calls. Volunteers take calls from law enforcement dispatch during the hours of 4:30PM to 10PM on weeknights and from 8AM to 10 PM Saturday and Sunday. A small stipend is paid to the volunteer for the week and training is provided.

Latest News: The Amazing Race First Call Community Challenge was held in March. This event raises needed funds for services provided in Ellis County. Teams of four individuals came together from area businesses and organizations to compete against each other to com-

plete 12 challenges throughout the City of Hays. Teams were put to the test on memory, agility, composure, history, aim, and painting, and all of it was wrapped up in a race for the fastest completion time. Fun and shenanigans ensued throughout the morning as teams tried to slow their competitors down. Congratulations go out to the Ellis County Sheriff's Office for their first-place victory! We are looking forward to having this event again next year and hoping you can be a part of it too.

For additional information about First Call for Help visit our Facebook page or website: facebook.com/firstcallelliscounty, firstcallelliscounty.com



Linda Mills

First Call for Help
lmills@firstcallelliscounty.com

A deeper understanding

Greetings Bible readers. Happy Resurrection Day! This month's edition of One Magazine should arrive in most of our hands on Easter weekend 2018. If you haven't been to church for a while, let me invite you to attend church this weekend. Most area churches will have special services that celebrate the greatest victory in human history; the victory over sin and death, won by Jesus Christ on your behalf. Come and party with one of the congregations listed on the back of this publication, we would love to have you!

Jesus established a New Covenant with us on Easter Sunday; a Covenant where He writes His law on our hearts and minds (Jeremiah 31:33, Hebrews 10:16). That is why I study God's Word, it is His law. As I study it,



Bible Reading Plan

Pastor Steve Dinkel

Liberty Foursquare Church
lfcfsd@ruraltel.net

He writes it on my heart. Psalm 119:11 promises that His Word will keep me, protect me, and transform me. That's one of the

benefits of Easter!

We continue through the book of Psalms in our Old Testament readings. This month we will read one of my favorite Psalms; 91. Let our Father God write the words of this Psalm on your heart this month; it will give you peace

and confidence in such a crazy world.

Our New Testament readings continue through Paul's Epistles; some of the most instructive writings in the New Testament. I enjoy the Corinthian letters because of their practical instruction about the Holy Spirit.

Take time to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of 1 Corinthians 15. Here the Apostle Paul discusses the importance of the Resurrection of Jesus. May the Father also write these words on our hearts and minds. Amen.

March

1	17.....□ Psm. 103	□ 2 Cor. 1
2.....□ Psm 89	18.....□ Psm. 104	□ 2 Cor. 2
3.....□ Psm 90	19.....□ Psm. 105	□ 2 Cor. 3
4.....□ Psm. 91	20.....□ Psm. 106	□ 2 Cor. 4
5.....□ Psm. 92	21&22.....Weekend Review	
6.....□ Psm. 93	23.....□ Psm. 107	□ 2 Cor. 5
7&8.....Weekend Review	24.....□ Psm. 108	□ 2 Cor. 6
9.....□ Psm. 94	25.....□ Psm. 109	□ 2 Cor. 7
10.....□ Psm. 95-96	26.....□ Psm. 110-111	□ 2 Cor. 8
11.....□ Psm. 97-98	27.....□ Psm. 112-113	□ 2 Cor. 9
12.....□ Psm. 99-100	28&29.....Weekend Review	
13.....□ Psm. 101	30.....□ Psm. 114-115	□ 2 Cor. 10
14&15.....Weekend Review		
16.....□ Psm. 102		

'Searching for Jesus'

On Sunday, April 1, at 10:45am, Hays Christian Church will be celebrating Resurrection Sunday by starting a new message series called, "Searching for Jesus." Through the series, Pastor Kevin Daniels will help discern what we know to be true about Jesus versus what many in our culture believe about Jesus. The series begins on Easter and runs through the month of April.

Immediately following the worship service there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children of all ages, along with cookies and snacks. The church will also be unveiling their newly redesigned Children's Church space.

Hays Christian Church is a non-denominational, independent Christian Church, seeking to meet people where they are at and introduce them to the joy of a relationship with Jesus. The setting is casual — come as you are, wear what's comfortable, and bring your whole family.

ONE COLORING CONTEST

ONE is sponsoring a coloring contest in an upcoming issue with the theme "What If Jesus Played Sports." The deadline for submission is Tuesday, May 8. The winner of the contest will have the artwork appear on the cover of the June issue of ONE. Participants should put their name, age, grade and church on the back of their submission. Participants will portray "What If Jesus Played Sports" with their artwork. Submissions can be dropped off at your church or at The Hays Daily News, 507 Main.

WHAT IF JESUS PLAYED SPORTS

Sponsoring
Churches of
ONE



**LIBERTY
FOURSQUARE
CHURCH**
Pastor Steve Dinkel
Pastora Lory Herrick Assoc. Pastor
Sunday Services: 10 a.m.
Wed. Services: 7 p.m.
Adult Bible Study
High School Youth Group
Royal Rangers and Mpat Girls
Clubs (Aug. - May)
400 E. 7th 625-6245
www.libertyis.com

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

Iglesia Hispana Bautista
Sunday Domingos 10:30 a.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:
10:00 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 Hayden Kvamme
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.
Associate Pastor Tim Nunnery
Children's Pastor Jeremy McGuire
Sunday Service: Adult & Children's
Church, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service: Elevate Kids,
R3 Youth & Midweek Adult Service,
7:00 p.m.
Thursday Service: R3 Live
College, 8:00 p.m.
3000 W. 41st St 785-625-6359
www.westviewchurch.tv

**MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
(LC-MS)
Christ Centered, Family Strong,
Mission Minded

Pastor Rocco Mallardi
We gather around Christ's gifts
every Sunday @ 8:30 & 11:00
Wednesday evening education
classes for all ages
Starts @ 5:00

2000 Main 625-2057
www.messiahlutheranhays.com

**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**
Rev. Mike Rose, Sr. Pastor
Matt Dumler, Youth Ministry Dir.
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
Worship 5:50 to 6:10 p.m.
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**

No matter where you are
in your faith there's
a place for you at C3.

Welcome home.

For more info on service times
and styles, visit us online at
celebratejesus.org
or download our app C3hays.

**CORNERSTONE
SOUTHERN BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Kids/Youth/Adult
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study
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 Dave Buller
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