



ONE

INSIDE:

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- + Vacation Bible School

A publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance July 2018

How do we teach children about faith?

Welcome to the July edition of the ONE magazine. Allow me to introduce myself. I am a chaplain and supervisor of Pastoral Care at Hays Medical Center.

My husband, Robert, and I are the co-pastors of the Gorham Community Church. As of June 1, I am the new president of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance. Other officers include: Vice President — the Rev. Mike Rose (Hays United Methodist Church); Secretary — the Rev. Kevin Daniels (Hays Christian Church); and Treasurer — the Rev. Steve Dinkel (Liberty Foursquare Church). I look forward to working along with the other clergy and ministries of Ellis County in the coming year. Together we are the hands and feet of God's love at work in our communities.

Another witness of our unity is the annual Festival of Faith that will be held this year on Wednesday, Oct. 3. Please mark your

calendars now and plan to attend. More details about the event will be coming in future editions of the "One."

As I write this article, I am preparing to attend church camp in just a few days. This is a special camp for grandparents like me to bring along our young grandchildren. Together we will study Bible stories, sing songs, swim, make crafts, and meet new friends. My husband and I are looking forward to this opportunity to pass along our

faith to our grandchildren, Samantha and Michael. I know that church camp was an important component of my faith development, and I treasure many lasting memories of my experiences at camp. Church camp was a yearly event for our children, and we hope that our grandchildren will come to love camp as much as the rest of us. Most pastors I know will say that camp

experiences had an important influence on their call to ministry. I know the same is true for me.

Other experiences also had a great impact on my faith development. I can still recall learning the story of the Good Samaritan as young grade schooler when we acted out the parable. I remember how excited I was to receive a Bible from the church when I was promoted from third to fourth grade. Many Sunday evenings during my high school days were spent with my friends in the church youth group as the youth pastor led us in song on his guitar.

Proverbs 22:6 reminds us to "train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray (NRSV)." The theme of this month's edition is teaching our children about faith. We all have a responsibility to pass along the teachings of our faith to the next generations, as well as be an example to them of how to live out what we profess. I look forward to hearing the thoughts of others on this theme, and I hope you are too.



WELCOME

Karen Harvester

Hays Med Chaplain
karen.harvester@haysmed.com

News to know

Messiah Lutheran service times to change

Messiah Lutheran Church, 2000 Main St., has announced changes in the times of some of its Sunday services this summer. On the following Sundays, there will be one combined worship service at 9:30 a.m.: July 1, July 15, Aug. 5, and Aug. 19.

All other Sundays this summer the church will hold its normal two services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Liberty Foursquare plans special series of services

Liberty Foursquare Church, 400 E. Seventh St., will be having a series of special Sunday services during the month of July around the theme, "Telling His Story."

Pastor Steve Dinkel said the theme is based on Malachi 3:16: "Then those who feared the Lord talked with each other, and the Lord listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the Lord and honored his name."

At the 10 a.m. Sunday service each week, "a variety of special speakers will

share about the unique and wonderful things God is doing in their lives," Dinkel said.

On July 1, Jerome Conner, a Fort Hays State University graduate and manager of the Tiger Book Shop, will be sharing his story. Conner is married and has two children.

On July 8, Layton Hein, associate pastor at Liberty, will be speaking. Hein, a father and grandfather, is an account executive for Angels Care Home Health.

On July 15, Doug and Linda Bayse of Great Bend will be speaking. The Bayses are members of Faith Community Church.

On July 22, Grey and Susie York, singers and evangelists from Southeast Kansas will be returning to Liberty by popular demand. "The Yorks' country style Gospel music entertains and heals, all at the same time," Dinkel said.

On July 29, Ric Gordon from Oklahoma City will share his own stories of the faithfulness of Jesus.

The public is invited. More information is available by calling the church office at (785) 625-6245.

Local family musical group to perform

The Shawn Henderson Family of Hays will be performing and singing for the Hays After 5 Christian women's group in July. Henderson is the Bell Choir director at First United Methodist Church in Hays.

The dinner program will take place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, July 9, at the Rose Garden Banquet Hall, 2250 E. Eighth St.

Also on the program will be inspirational speaker Tiffany Barbee of Emporia. Barbee is a former Las Vegas performer and one-time member of a Gospel trio. She will take her audience through milestones and memories of music that shaped her life in her presentation titled "You Can't Judge a Barbee by Its Cover."

Cost of the program is \$12.50. Reservations are due by Thursday, July 5, to (785) 202-1036 or to daisymae0917@yahoo.com. Hays After 5 is affiliated with Stonecroft Ministry of Overland Park.

Salvation Army sets up Paper Pantry

The Salvation Army has established a Paper Pantry and is distributing items out of its office at 203 E. Seventh St., Suite A.

SEE NEWS, 10

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.

ADVISERS

Pastor Kevin Daniels
Hays Christian Church
rev.kevin.daniels@gmail.com

Pastor Steve Dinkel
Liberty Foursquare Church
lfcfsd@ruraltel.net

Pastor Marie Sager
Trinity Lutheran Church
pastormarie15@gmail.com



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

It is produced by The Hays Daily News.
Volume 12, Issue 5
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ON THE COVER

From left, Len Melvin, Travis Cassity and Jason Murray wrap their arms around each other as they pray during the National Day of Prayer service in May at the Ellis County Courthouse in Hays. (Photo by Jolie Green, HDN).

Parents have a ready helper to teach their kids faith

When we begin to think about teaching “faith” to our children, the task might seem daunting at first. Most of us do not have a seminary degree, many of us are not teachers, and spiritual things are hard to put into words, much less teach to the next generation.

Rest assured you are in good hands. The Bible teaches us in John 14:26, “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.” (ESV) We have help when it comes to teaching our children at home.

The first thing to consider is your own faith. Do you have faith in Jesus and is it visible to those around you, including your children? This must be a priority. Do you know Jesus as your Savior and Lord? Are you in your Bible regularly? Do you take the time to pray and really talk to God about the things going on in your life? Do you praise and worship the Lord by tuning your ear to music or media that honors and glorifies the Lord?

You cannot pass down vibrant faith if you do not possess it. There are some simple ways to put your faith into action and begin teaching faith at home.

Read your Bible in *front* of your kids. When I read the Word in the living room, my children will come by and ask what story I am reading about, what book in the Bible I am reading and various other things. When they see me, this motivates them to read their own Bible and then “report” what they are reading to me. It opens conversations and an opportunity for me to ask them what they are reading about, too.

Get a picture Bible and add that to your daily book reading time with your kids. My youngest daughter has a pink, brightly illustrated Bible storybook we read almost every night. This book appeals to her age level and has short portions of scripture to fit her attention span. There are so many great children’s Bibles that you can make a part of your daily routine and feed your children with the Word of God.

Talk about the Bible. “These commandments that I give

you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them, when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.” (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

We must talk about God with our kids. It can be as simple as, “Look at that beautiful sunset; isn’t God a wonderful painter?” Or it can be a longer conversation with your kids about forgiveness, kindness, or praying through a hard situation they are facing. Remind your children of who the Bible says they are. And, it’s a good reminder for parents, too.

You are a child of God (1 John 3:1)

You have a mighty God who is for you . . . not against you. (Romans 8:31)

You are loved. (John 3:16)

You are Jesus’ joy (Hebrews 12:2)

You have a God who hears you (1 John 5:14)

As you discover more in the Word and share those things with your children, it will build your faith, your family, your marriage and build your children’s faith.

May you be blessed as you obediently press into raising your family of faith and passing it on to the next generation.



Karen Rigler

North Oak Community
krigler@northoak.net

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New dad trying to focus on doing, not just saying

How can we teach children about faith at home? As a new father of a 10-month-old, this is a very live question for me, and my go-to person on questions such as this is a theologian named James K. A. Smith.

Smith works as a professor in the Reformed Tradition at Calvin College, but he works hard to make his work applicable across Christian traditions. In one of his latest books on the topic, “You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit,” Smith’s approach to teaching the faith is not revolutionary, but it is a wake-up call.

Too often when it comes to Christian formation, Smith argues, we treat our kids (and one another) as what he calls “brains-on-a-stick” in need of certain information to become “better” Christians. (1) More than focusing on what we “think,” we should be focusing on what we do, what we want, and what we trust.

Furthermore, rather than Bible study, or a good sermon, or a class, Christian worship more than anything else forms and shapes our habits and desires. The big players in mainstream culture, Smith argues, have caught onto this well: Places such as shopping malls, sports stadiums, and colleges in America all target our hearts, not trying to argue us into a certain perspective, but instead playing on our desires to convince us that we want or need certain things to experience the good life.

Rather than go too in-depth into Smith’s argument, I’ll



Hayden Kvamme

St. John’s Lutheran

kvamme@wartburgseminary.edu

jump to some of his conclusions about what this means for how we can form (not just inform) our children as disciples of Jesus, especially at home. Daily Bible study and prayer as a family may be a part of how we do this, but we would do well to pay attention to some of the more subtle ways we can form our kids, as well as the ways they are already being formed without us realizing it.

For instance, how can we simply set an example for our kids of what “home” means? From a Christian perspective, in many ways our “first family,” as Smith calls it, is the church, not our nuclear family. Historic rites of Christian baptism and marriage both remind us of this in different ways. At home, living this out might mean opening our doors when we can to the stranger, the sick, and the poor. (2) My wife’s family, for instance, routinely hosts friends and distant family who need a place to stay for awhile, a practice that formed my wife’s faith as much as any Bible study or prayer ever could have.

As Smith writes, “You might have Bible verses on the wall in every room of the house and yet unspoken rituals reinforce self-centeredness rather than sacrifice.” (3)

Thinking about the calendar may also spark inspiration, organizing the colors and images of art in your home around the liturgical calendar rather than just the secular calendar. (4) This might include having an advent wreath, but the possibilities are endless.

Celebrating baptismal birthdays would be another idea. Simply eating a meal together on a regular basis may also prove more powerful than we realize. (5) For another example, Smith’s wife cultivates practices around a garden she keeps, but any number of practices could reinforce in our children the importance of community, friendship, and hospitality.

Above all, simply bringing our kids to worship will be the foundation of any of these other practices, all of which are meant to intersect with and draw meaning from weekly, communal Christian worship.

Whatever practices you discover or create for your home, take comfort that the Spirit promises to work through worship and worship-based practices to form us as Jesus’ disciples. We’ll be far from perfect, but then perhaps practicing confessing our sins and forgiving one another at home could prove about as powerful as anything we do as we form our children as disciples of Christ.

1. See James K. A. Smith, “You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit” (Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2016).

2. Smith 118.

3. Smith 127.

4. This is as good a reason as any for a church that doesn’t utilize the liturgical calendar to consider doing so: Practices such as this get into our bones in ways that merely intellectual conversations just can’t.

5. Smith discusses this (p 132), but research in other disciplines corroborates his approach. See, for instance, Laura E. Berk, “Development through the Lifespan,” Sixth Edition, (Boston: Pearson, 2014), p. 26.

Songs, prayers combine to teach children

Then little children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” And he laid his hands on them and went on his way. Matthew 19:13-15

Greetings in the Name of the Risen Christ!

Children were, and are, very important to Jesus. As we consider how to teach children the Christian faith, it’s important for us to consider how important children

are to the Risen Christ. The One who said, “Follow me” to his disciples long ago echoes that admonition to his disciples today.

The disciples of Jesus in Judea didn’t realize how important children are when they tried to shoo them from his border, speaking sternly to the children and their moms.

Jesus responded with compassion, saying, “Let the little children come to

me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” And then Matthew tells us, “He laid his hands on them and went on his way.” Most

Christians know the song below affirming his love for children everywhere:

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the

world!

Red, brown, yellow, black, and white, they are precious in his sight.

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

As we teach our children to sing the songs and hymns of the faith, they learn who we are called to be as followers of the One who said, “Follow me.” As I consider my own household and how our children and now grandchildren have learned the faith over the years, I can’t help but think of our family singing “The Johnny Appleseed Prayer” — all with great joy — as we “pray” before our family meals. It goes like this (sung with great joy and enthusiasm):

Rev. Mike Rose

First United Methodist
mikerose994@gmail.com



Cacao teaches bitter lesson about sin

Teaching kids about having faith in God can be tough to do in a way that they'll understand. It can be hard enough for us to trust God to be true to Himself and to trust that He really does love us and others. It is a difficult, lifelong process, and many of the best examples we can share with others don't translate well to kids.

Thankfully, some barriers to understanding make us look at different ways of explaining things, which can help us not only share with others, but which can also help us gain a clearer understanding of ways that we, ourselves, can continue to grow.

It was a hot day in the classroom in the second story of the children's home in Juarez, Mexico, and we had all the

kids over near the windows where the air was moving. Most of the kids spoke only Spanish, and only a couple of the adults in our group spoke Spanish, so we had to teach the kids in a

very simple way to get the idea across.

Near to us we had some regular chocolate and some 100 percent cacao for baking (which still looks like regular chocolate). The chocolate bars near us created immediate excitement.

We started out asking the kids if they trusted us—they said we did. We told them all that they could have some of the good chocolate and that it was tasty and normal. The kids all lined up and quickly snatched small squares of it to

eat.

We again asked if they trusted us — they said they did. We then told them that they could have the other chocolate, but that it was bad tasting and they wouldn't like it. If they trusted us, they shouldn't eat it, but it was their decision.

A few quickly ran up and grabbed squares, stuffing them into their mouths. It was pretty funny to watch their expressions go from anticipation and greed to confusion and then to extreme disgust as they ran up to the trash can we'd set out in advance, and they spit the chocolate into it.

Several more tried the chocolates at this point, because no one could believe it was really that bad. They too, were disgusted, and they spit it out. This drew in the last of the kids who also wanted to see if it was really that bad. Once they'd all tasted the chocolate that we'd told them not to taste, due to their own human nature, we went ahead and gave them the analogy of how this related to faith.

The kids said they trusted us, but their actions demonstrated that they didn't truly — or they wouldn't have eaten that which we told them was bad. We really did have their best interests

in mind.

We then asked how many of them trusted God. They all said they did. We explained that the good things of life and sin in life are often usually similar looking. They are both wrapped in the same attractive packaging, just like the candy bar and the baking cacao. However, God tells us what is good and bad. If we really trust Him, we won't eat the bad and will eat the good.


Unfortunately, just like the chocolate, some of us will try the sin — and when we do, others will also be curious since it looked so good but seemed to get such bad results. They too will try, and the sin will spread even further still. This is how the sinful nature works — basic distrust in God.

The kids already knew Christ had paid for their sin from previous discussions, but we used this to point out that if we really have faith or trust in Christ, then we eventually start listening to Him about what is good and bad, even if what He says is bad looks attractive to us.

This illustrated that faith was not an intellectual assent to a dogma, but that it was actually a trust in a real, living God who actually loves us and others.

Brandon Nimz

Unite Ministry
brandon.nimz@gmail.com



CLEANSING STREAM
MINISTRIES

**Liberty Foursquare Church will be hosting
Cleansing Stream Classes
starting Sunday evening July 1.**

These classes teach the basics of Christian Discipleship
in effective and practical ways.

Topics include "Learning to Hear God's Voice",
"Understanding the Power of Your Words"
and "How to Dedicate Everything to God".

Registration is required.
The cost is \$50.00 and includes a workbook.
Classes are Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m.
through July and August,
400 East 7th Street.

For more information and to register,
call 785-625-6245.

Rose, from 4

Oh, the Lord's been good to me,
and so I thank the Lord!

For giving me the things I need; the
Son and the rain and the apple seed,
The Lord's been good to me!

Amen! (foot stomp) Amen! (foot
stomp) Amen! Amen! Amen!

We also have a plethora of prayers
that we say before eating, each of us
remembering the One who said, "Do
this in remembrance of me," thanking

God for food, family, friends, and the
provision God has provided.

I could go on and on about how
song and prayer spontaneously com-
bust with joyful and meaningful
instruction in our home. You probably
have spontaneous combustible family
faith memories too. I pray we might
continue to share them, as individuals,
as families and as a nation.

**Have a news item or story idea for ONE? Submit
ideas to tolhunting@fhsu.edu or one@dailynews.net**

North Carolina native chooses Hays for new ministry

By Linn Ann Huntington
lhunting@fhsu.edu

The books were still spilling out of boxes in the Rev. Jason Murray's office at Cornerstone Southern Baptist Church, 1605 E. 29th St., during a recent interview. Murray, who became the church's new pastor on April 22, had brought in another empty bookcase to hold them all.

Still, as he stood back and eyed the jumbled array on the floor, he wondered aloud if they would all fit.

Transitions aren't easy, he acknowledged. Murray was born and raised in North Carolina and for 12 years served as the pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Kernersville, N.C., a town about the size of Hays, he said.

He and his wife, Penny, have been married 24 years. She also is a North Carolina native.

That raises the obvious question: Why did the Murrays decide to leave North Carolina and come to Hays, Kan.?

"I've had a longtime desire, even in seminary, to be outside the Bible Belt, to reach the lost and disciple believers," Murray said. There are dozens of Southern Baptist churches in the area of North Carolina he just left, he added. There are two Southern Baptist churches in Hays.

"It's been a process of God growing me and getting me ready for this and growing my wife and getting her ready for this," he said.

The third member of the Murray family is daughter Erin, 12, whom the Murrays adopted from China when she was 11 months old. She is home schooled and, her dad said, is eager to check out clothing stores in the area.

Jason Murray was a biology major initially at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with the idea of practicing medicine. But he left college after his junior year, deciding that career path was not for him. Uncertain about his future, Murray returned home to Eden, N.C., to work at his dad's car dealership.

Several years later, when his dad began talking about making his son a partner, Murray broke the news to his family that he felt called to the ministry.

That became a turning point in Murray's life and in his relationship with his dad, he said. He enrolled at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest University, finished his Bachelor's Degree, and began pastoring in Virginia while working on his Master's.

He finished his graduate degree at Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary in Lynchburg, Va. He continued pastoring in Virginia five more years before



LINN ANN HUNTINGTON

North Carolina native Jason Murray is the new pastor at Cornerstone Southern Baptist Church, 1605 E. 29th St.

going to Hillcrest. In the past few years, Murray has done church planting work in Montana and Zimbabwe, among other places.

Murray believes Cornerstone "is ready to go and reach the community and make disciples. The first step for me," he said, "is getting to know the people of the church and discipling them. I am going to listen and follow God. God will determine how he is going to use his church for his kingdom."

While he misses the green hills and tall trees in North Carolina, Murray said, "God has very quickly made this home. I appreciate the discipleship of these people before I got here." Cornerstone's

longtime pastor, the Rev. Gary Simon, left about six months ago.

Murray also said gathering weekly for prayer and fellowship with other pastors in the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance "has been a real blessing."

Cornerstone has the following service times:

9 a.m. Sundays, a light breakfast; 9:30 a.m., Sunday School; 10:30 a.m., worship service; 6 p.m. Sundays, evening worship service; 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, prayer meeting, followed by "Recharge" worship and devotions at 7:30 p.m.

Murray can be reached at the church at (785) 625-9500 and at jpemurray3@gmail.com.



LINN ANN HUNTINGTON

Austin Lahman, new pastor at First Baptist Church in Hays, stands at the pulpit of the historic church at 12th and Fort Streets.

First Baptist pastor describes his role as 'lead sheep'

By Linn Ann Huntington
lhunting@fhsu.edu

When Austin Lahman (Lay-man) talks about his role as the new pastor at First Baptist Church in Hays, he laughingly refers to himself as “the lead sheep.”

But he grows serious when he explains that Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, is the head of the church. “I am one person,” Lahman says, “and we have a very dedicated community.”

That church community was without a pastor for more than two years before Lahman was called and assumed the role in April.

While the church, located at 12th and Fort, had interim pastors off and on during that two-year period, the church members themselves delivered sermons on a rotating basis. The members also gathered every night at 7 to pray for a new pastor, he says.

“They’re not dependent on me; they are dependent on Jesus. There’s a community feeling here, not a clique, but a genuine love and compassion for each other,” he adds.

That genuine feeling of love and the church’s commitment to seeking Jesus were his two biggest reasons for coming to Hays, Lahman says.

Born and raised in Minneola, Lahman graduated from

Tabor College in Hillsboro with a Bachelor’s Degree in Biblical and Religious Studies. He has spent the past two years as associate pastor at First Baptist Church in Louisburg. He plans to start seminary this fall at Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Shawnee, through an interactive online program.

He married his wife, Olivia, on March 24. She is the sales and marketing director for a firm in Kansas City, and her position will allow her to work from home.

Another recent major change in Lahman’s life was his completion on June 26 of a six-year commitment with the Kansas Army National Guard. He joined while earning his Bachelor’s Degree and initially had a shot at a position in military intelligence, he says. However, a friend convinced him that volunteering for a combat unit would be “much more fun.”

So, Lahman spent his entire time in the Guard as a tank driver. He was never deployed overseas. He sees no conflict between his service in a combat unit and his role as a pastor.

His fellow service members were aware of his “other job.” Even though he was not a chaplain, he says, “I was able to grow and minister to people. People (in my unit) would turn to me for prayer and counseling.”

Lahman says he learned “some valuable lessons

during his time in the Guard: loyalty, duty, respect, service, honor, integrity, personal courage, and leadership.”

Being in the military “is a bonding experience,” Lahman says, especially the five weeks of training his unit did in the Mohave Desert in summer 2017. “I got to see people for who they really were and love on them anyways, because that’s what Jesus does.”

That same attitude is one he sees at First Baptist Church. “People want to feel loved and appreciated, and they want to learn about Jesus and get close to him.”

Lahman says he sees a lot of potential at the church, which is affiliated with the American Baptist denomination. He hopes to focus on growing the children’s ministry and programs for young adults, college students, and senior citizens.

“I think our biggest goal is to impact Hays and surrounding areas with love and compassion — let them know they are cared about.”

The church has Sunday School at 9 a.m., church service at 10:30 a.m., and a potluck lunch following the service every Sunday.

Lahman can be reached at the church, (785) 625-9454; his cell phone, (620) 794-7260; or at austintlahman@gmail.com.

Message at the top: Using our talents

In John the Evangelist's Gospel, Jesus was in charge of what he did and why he did it. It is evident that John the Evangelist meant to say to the followers of Jesus that even though Jesus was a true man, he was also true God. In John's mind, everything that Jesus did on earth was another proof that Jesus was in charge of anything that happened. Consequently, when Jesus knew that he had accomplished everything that he needed to accomplish here on earth, he could say "It is finished."

At his crucifixion, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I thirst." There was a vessel filled with common wine. So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to his mouth. When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, "It is finished." And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit" (John 19:28-30).

We believe, of course, that Jesus redeemed us by his Passion, Death and Resurrection. Theologically, we know that

Jesus could have redeemed us in any way that he wanted, but he chose what happened in the course of his life to be the means to do it. It was something that was not at all easy, and something that went far beyond what he needed to do, but he chose to do it while working with the way his Father had designed.

In the song "Whatever It Takes," the group Imagine Dragons say that they will try to do good even if they are thinking differently from others. The man loves the adrenaline in his blood, that is the energy that he has, and he will not think the way that the others will think, that is the "typical" way. He wants to accomplish something and he wants to do it his way.

"I was born to run; I was born for this. Whip, run me like a racehorse, pull me like a ripcord. Break me down and build me up, I wanna be the slip, word upon your lip, letter that you rip, break me down and build me up. Whatever it takes, 'cause I love the adrenaline in my veins. I do

whatever it takes, 'cause I love how it feels when I break the chains. Whatever it takes. Always had a fear of being typical."

You and I have certain talents that no one else has in exactly the same way. As Christians, we are called to use those talents the best that we can so that at the end of our lives here on earth, we can say with the Lord that "It is finished." That is, we have accomplished what the Lord wanted us to do. We are therefore called to do whatever it takes to determine the best way to use those talents.

Good and gracious God, You have given us certain talents as we live in our world. Give us the grace to develop those talents in such a way that we will always do Your will. Be with us, we pray.

Message at The Top

Fr. Mike Scully

michael.scully@capuchins.org



THE GOSPELS IN FR. MIKE'S TOP 5

(as of 6/15/18 • see www.frmikescully.com)

- 1 – "The Middle" / Zedd featuring Grey and Maren Morris Matthew 8:5-13
- 2 – "Whatever It Takes" / Imagine Dragons Matthew 5:13-16
- 3 -- "Never Be the Same" / Camila Cabello John 14:1-6
- 4 -- "Wait" / Maroon 5 Luke 23:27-28
- 5 – "In My Blood" / Shawn Mendes Matthew 16:14-16



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

Time to catch up

Greetings Bible reading plan friend! How is your summer going? Are you keeping up with your Bible reading? If not, this is a great month to catch up, or restart.

Our Old Testament readings will almost complete one of the most read books in the Old Testament, the book of Proverbs.

If you were to pick up one of my Bibles, it would fall open to Proverbs. I read it through each month, and have done so for over 40 years now. Hebrews 4:12 reads that the word of God is "living." For me, that means that it is growing and developing in me as I read and reread it. Since there are 31 chapters in this book, and 31 days in most months,



Bible Reading Plan

Pastor Steve Dinkel

Liberty FourSquare Church

lcfcsd@ruraltel.net

it's an easy strategy to develop. I challenge you to start your day with the chapter of Proverbs that matches the date. You will find, like I have, that the truths found in the Bible grow each time we study and restudy them.

For our New Testament readings we will finish Paul's writings and begin in the Gospel of Matthew. This Gospel has the most covenant language in it.

Most theologians agree that it was written to the Jewish-Christian audience to highlight the prophecies that were fulfilled by Jesus Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to inspire the truths found in this excellent narrative.

Have a great July, and keep reading!

July

1.....Weekend Review		17.....□ Prov. 19.....	□ Matt. 3
2.....□ Prov. 8.....	□ 1 Tim. 5	18.....□ Prov. 20.....	□ Matt. 4
3.....□ Prov. 9.....	□ 1 Tim. 6	19.....□ Prov. 21.....	□ Matt. 5
4.....□ Prov. 10.....	□ Titus 1	20.....□ Prov. 22.....	□ Matt. 6
5.....□ Prov. 11.....	□ Titus 2	21&22....Weekend Review	
6.....□ Prov. 12.....	□ Titus 3	23.....□ Prov. 23.....	□ Matt. 7
7&8....Weekend Review		24.....□ Prov. 24.....	□ Matt. 8
9.....□ Prov. 13.....	□ 2 Tim. 1	25.....□ Prov. 25.....	□ Matt. 9
10.....□ Prov. 14.....	□ 2 Tim. 2	26.....□ Prov. 26.....	□ Matt. 10
11.....□ Prov. 15.....	□ 2 Tim. 3	27.....□ Prov. 27.....	□ Matt. 11
12.....□ Prov. 16.....	□ 2 Tim. 4	28&29...Weekend Review	
13.....□ Prov. 17.....	□ Matt. 1	30.....□ Prov. 28.....	□ Matt. 12
14&15....Weekend Review		31.....□ Prov. 29.....	□ Matt. 13
16.....□ Prov. 18.....	□ Matt. 2		

Couple donates to Divine Mercy Radio

Special to the HDN

Leon and Janet Frank donated a broadcasting tower, located 5.5 miles north of Hays, to Divine Mercy Radio. The paperwork to make this transaction official was completed June 7.

Leon Frank was an original board member of Divine Mercy Radio and helped to build the station, quite inexpensively in 2010. He is an entrepreneur, patented inventor and businessman.

Leon said God has been good to him and Janet with successful business ventures, and he wanted to give back.

"Janet and I want to scale back," Leon said. "We're slowing down, and this is just one of those feel-good things."

The 320-foot, self-supporting tower constructed in 1963 was formerly a Southwestern Bell tower.

Leon said it was part of the civil defense plan for the United States government in the early '60s to work with Southwestern Bell in building the towers. With the age of computers, the internet and cell phones, the towers

were no longer needed. In 1997 Southwestern Bell contacted Cyril Schmidt since the tower was located on his land, and they gave it to him. He then contacted Leon, who purchased the tower and land from Schmidt.

Earlier this year, Divine Mercy Radio had the tower inspected, and there were a few improvements that the inspector suggested be made. Shortly after this inspection, Divine Mercy Radio was offered a grant from the Eternal Word Television Network who had some funding to help rural Catholic radio stations with improvements. Divine Mercy Radio was awarded \$15,000 from EWTN to make the needed improvements to the tower and the building that houses the equipment.

"Everything fell into place," Donetta Robben, executive director of Divine Mercy Radio, said. "From the donation of the tower, to the inspection and the grant. As many times as it has happened, God continues to amaze me through the generosity of other people."

"We will forever be grateful for all Leon has done for this station, and his and Janet's generous gift of this tower!"

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News, from 2

Julie Smith, the Salvation Army's Ellis County coordinator, said the organization received a grant, which is allowing it to distribute toilet paper, facial tissues, paper towels, women's products and cleaning supplies, including laundry detergent.

The distribution is taking place from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays and 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursdays. Those who qualify can receive the commodities once every three months. To qualify, individuals must be able to provide proof of income, proof of family size, and either a driver's license or state ID, Smith said.

Monetary donations are welcomed, she added. More information is available by contacting Smith at (785) 621-2794.

Backpacks for Kids deadline coming up

Families have until Monday, July 23, to reserve backpacks for their children for the 2018-2019 school year through First Call for Help's Backpacks for Kids Program.

Each year volunteers fill donated new backpacks with school supplies and hygiene bags to help students whose families reside in Ellis County and struggle financially or are going through a hardship.

Last year 633 backpacks were distributed to Ellis County students in grades pre-K through high school, "and we would love to be able to assist as many families again this year," said Linda Mills, First Call's executive director.

Each backpack, including supplies, averages \$50-\$55. The reservation form is at firstcallelliscounty.com/Backpacks-for-kids.

"Of course, parents can also give us a call at (785) 623-2800 with all the pertinent information, and we will be happy to put them on the list," Mills said.

Backpack distribution will be 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 2, at the Hays Armory, 200 Main St.

"As supplies come rolling in, we will need volunteers to sort supplies, pack backpacks and hygiene kits," Mills said. "We will also need volunteers on Aug. 1, 2 and 3 for setup and distribution." Those wishing to volunteer may call Laura Shoaff, Backpack for Kids

Churches schedule Vacation Bible Schools

Churches across Ellis County have scheduled Vacation Bible Schools this summer. The following are listed in order by date:

Hays Christian Church, 22nd and Marshall, will offer "Summer Fun" VBS from Monday through Friday, July 9-13. Children age 3 through those entering 5th grade in the fall will meet from 6:30-8:45 nightly. Those entering grades 6 through 12 will meet from 9 to 10 p.m. Registration is available at hayschristianchurch.org. A closing program and free barbecue will take place at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, July 15.

First United Methodist Church, 305 W. Seventh St. in Hays, is getting ready for "Rolling River Rampage" VBS from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, July 16 to 19. Classes will be offered for pre-schoolers through incoming sixth graders. A light supper will be served each evening. Registration is available at www.haysfumc.com.

Children attending VBS at Cornerstone Southern Baptist Church, 1605 E. 29th St., will be exploring a "Time Lab." Classes for age 3 through grade 6 will meet from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday, July 22 to 25. A closing ceremony will take place during the church's worship service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, July 29. Registration is available at the church or by calling (785) 625-9500.

coordinator, at (785) 623-2800.

FHSU picnic reservation deadline is Aug. 15

Churches and other organizations wishing to reserve a table at the Fort Hays State University Back to School Picnic are invited to do so at <https://tigerlink.fhsu.edu/submitter/form/start/178990>.

On-campus departments and student groups pay no registration fee. But off-campus groups and individuals must pay \$50. Picnic guidelines are available at <http://www.fhsu.edu/csi/picnic>.

The picnic will be from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20, in the FHSU Quad.

The deadline to reserve a table for the picnic is noon Wednesday, Aug. 15. The Center for Student Involvement said, in a

written statement, "The Back to School Picnic is a great opportunity to raise awareness for . . . the services you provide." More information is available from the center at (785) 628-4664 or at csi@fhsu.edu.

Imani Milele Children's Choir to perform

The Imani Milele Children's Choir will be performing in concert at 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 2, at CrossPoint Church, 1300 Harvest Road.

Imani Milele is a Christian organization dedicated to rescuing, educating, and improving the lives of Uganda's 5,000 orphaned children, according to its website, www.imanimilele.com.

Since 2013, the choir has held concerts

Messiah Lutheran Church will offer "Flash Canyon—God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride" VBS from Sunday through Friday, July 22 to 27. Classes will run from 5:30 to 8:10 p.m. for ages 4 through incoming 6th graders. Supper is included, along with a pool party, on Friday, July 27. Registration forms are available at the church, 2000 Main St., or at MessiahLutheranHays.com.

On Saturday, July 7, church volunteers of all ages will ride and walk during the Wild West Fest Parade through downtown Hays to highlight the church's upcoming VBS. Walkers will hand out VBS fliers and candy. Those wishing to help decorate the float are asked to call the church at (785) 625-2057.

First Presbyterian Church, 2900 Hall St., will feature its VBS for all ages, "Walking With Jesus," from Monday through Wednesday, July 23 to 25. Activities, including a meal, will run from 5 to 7:30 nightly. Those wishing to participate are asked to call the church by Friday, July 20, at (785) 625-2847.

First Baptist Church, 12th and Fort in Hays, will offer VBS from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 23-27. Classes will be available for ages pre-K through 5th grade. The theme this year is "You Are One in a Minion." Registration is available by calling (785) 625-9454.

in churches, schools and at festivals in various cities across the United States. The two-hour concert will feature dances, songs, African drum routines, and much more. The children will use art to narrate some of Uganda's culture and history.

"Imani Milele is a Swahili phrase meaning, 'Always believe.' This is the message we give to our children, encouraging them to never give up. Imani carries this motto with them as they perform for people across the United States. We believe that every child is special, and we are dedicated to changing the world, one child at a time, through education," the website stated.

The choir will also be performing a few songs at the church's 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services that day, said CrossPoint Pastor Micah Sanderson.



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Celebration Community Church
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Messiah Lutheran Church
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St. Fidelis Church

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Hays Christian Church
Cornerstone Southern Baptist Church
First Presbyterian Church
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Pastor Kevin Daniels

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.

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For additional
services and information
call the church or 625-0094
22nd & Marshall 625-3100
www.hayschristianchurch.org

**THE BASILICA OF
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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
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Pastor Steve Dinkel
Pastora Lory Herrick Assoc. Pastor
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Wed. Services: 7 p.m.
Adult Bible Study
High School Youth Group
Royal Rangers and Mpart Girls
Clubs (Aug. - May)
400 E. 7th 625-6245
www.libertyis.com

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CHURCH**

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Pastor Rocco Mallardi
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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



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**WESTVIEW
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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

**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
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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



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