



# ONE

A publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance • October 2018

**INSIDE:**  
+ Shelter visit  
+ Operation Christmas Child  
+ What is love?



# The answer is love

“And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?’ And he said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.’ Matthew 22:35-40.”

In this month’s edition of ONE, we are addressing the central concepts of faith. We are asking this question: If you had to break down our faith into the one most important concept/doctrine, what would it be? This is the same question that was asked of Jesus by more than one person during his ministry. The stories of his response are told in all four of the gospels. His answer is simple and succinct: “Love God and



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love your neighbor.” For me, this is the central concept of my faith. It provides me with clear direction in how to live out my faith. It reminds me that faith is all about love which is an action verb.

What does it mean to love God? Jesus was speaking to people who would understand that loving God means expressing devotion to God in such a way that all of creation would love God. We tell the world about the nature of God when we speak of God’s love and faithfulness to all generations. Years ago, I was having a conversation with a young man who feared that he was unlovable because his life was so messed up. He asked me, “If one of your kids turned out like me, would you still love them?” Without hesitation I blurted out my response, “There is nothing any of my children could do to ever make me stop loving them!” Yes, our children may hurt us, disappoint us, or even exasperate us, especially during

those teenage years! Yet, we never stop loving them. If this mother as a flawed human being can love my children this way, how much greater is God’s love for us?

What does it mean to love your neighbor? It means to love others as God has loved us. The neighbor can be our friends, family, co-workers, as well as the stranger, a refugee in a war torn country, or the person that makes our blood boil. This will never be easy, but there is good news! Faithful living is a process that takes a lifetime. Just recently, I saw this saying on Facebook: “You will never look into the eyes of someone God does not love. Be kind.” So true! Loving others with a God kind of love begins with one act of kindness, one after another until loving becomes a way of life.

So, what is the central concept of faith? For me, it is love. God has loved all of creation with an unconditional love. Our response is to love God and others as we have been loved.

## News to know

### United Way to hold golf scramble

The United Way of Ellis County will be holding a Four-Person Golf Scramble on Sunday, Sept. 30, at the Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course.

The \$60 per person entry fee includes lunch. Golf cart rentals are an additional \$35. Registration is at 8 a.m. Tee time is at 9 a.m. The tournament features hole prizes, side games, and cash payouts.

Registration and cart rentals are available by contacting the Fort Hays ProShop at (785) 625-9949.

### Festival of Faith all about community

The 27th annual Festival of Faith will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 3, at Beach-Schmidt Performing Arts Center.

Brandon Prough, chair of the festival’s planning committee, said the theme of this year’s festival is “to

focus on prayer for our community.”

That community focus also will be reflected in the speakers and special music at the event, he added. “We have some very talented speakers and musicians here in Hays . . . We will have speakers and musicians from across the community.”

Local speakers will talk about four major themes: Faith in Service, Faith in Business and Media, Faith in Family and Education, and Faith in the Church Body.

Prough said he believes the festival’s purpose is just as relevant today as when the festival began—perhaps even more so.

“The initial organizing group wanted to come together under one common belief in Jesus. I think it is so important to continue to do that as a body of believers and think outside of our own congregations. I hope that never becomes irrelevant,” Prough

said.

“The only time outside of the Festival of Faith that you see Christians gather across congregations is in really bad times or times of disaster. I believe we should gather when times are good and pray for our community.”

Sponsors of the event are the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance and the Hays Area Chamber of Commerce. Prough said the committee is thankful to the following businesses that have provided in-kind services: Bank of Hays, Eagle Communications, Northwestern Printers, KPRD-Radio, and The Hays Daily News.

Other members of the planning committee are Nicole Ottley, Verlin Pfannenstiel, Errol Wuertz, Tammy Wellbrock, the Rev. Karen Harvester, Tom Meagher, Bill Meagher, the Rev. Marie Sager, and the Rev. Kevin Daniels.

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## SUBMISSIONS

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

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

The columns in ONE represent the views of the author.

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**On the cover**  
Students recite a prayer together during the first day of school Sept. 6 at St. Mary School in Ellis. (JOLIE GREEN, HDN)

# We are perfect in God's sight

This month's issue is about the one thing that is central to our faith. I believe that Jesus answered that question succinctly when he said to love God and love others. It was clear to Jesus that the main "job" of a Christ-follower is to love. Not only are we to love God and love others, however, we are also to love ourselves.

Now before you go and give yourself a hug, or look at yourself in your phone and say, "I love you!"; let me explain what I mean.

This world can be a nasty, evil place. Satan's influences are all around us.

While Satan is many things, he is not stupid. He knows how to get to each one of us, often using our own voice, running lies through our heads.

I am a pastor, and therefore I am in a public place of leadership and visibility. Inevitably in leadership you are going to make some people unhappy. Some people will publicly question your leadership ability, and perhaps even your character. In those moments it is easy to let those peoples' opinions fill your head, until at some level you start



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believing them. You tell yourself that those things must be true, or you think that the majority of people must think like them. Pretty soon, the voice in your head is saying that you're a failure and have nothing good to offer to society.

That is exactly what Satan wants.

He wants you to believe that other people's opinions determine your self-worth and value. He wants to make you believe the lie that your value is based on how others view

you. Often we see our value as being based on others' opinions plus our performance. If we don't perform to a high enough level, we feel that our value is nothing.

I know that's where I have been recently in my own life. I hear the naysayers and I feel that certain things aren't going as they should, and I allow Satan to fill my head with the LIE that I am not worthy and that I am a failure.

It's easy to get caught up in that lie, isn't it? Many of us find our very identity in our work, therefore when it goes wrong, we feel our whole value sinking to nothing.

The problem with thinking and feeling this way is that

this is not how God sees you and me!

God sent his Son, Jesus, to die for you and me. When we accept that gift of salvation, the Bible tells us that we are washed white as snow and that we are SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE KING.

The righteousness (goodness) of Jesus is transferred to us, and we are perfect in God's sight.

If you and Jesus were sitting on a bench and God walked by, who would God say is more righteous, more acceptable to him? He would say BOTH of you are EQUAL in his sight! That's the gift of righteousness that God gives us when we accept the gift of salvation.

Don't let the naysayers get you down. Don't let Satan run a tape of lies through your head. The only person's opinion that should matter to us is that of God. And God says that we are enough. He doesn't say that you need to do x, y, and z in order to be loved and accepted – he says you are enough, just the way you are.

If you are interested in studying this topic further, I would highly recommend the book *The Search for Significance* by Robert McGee.

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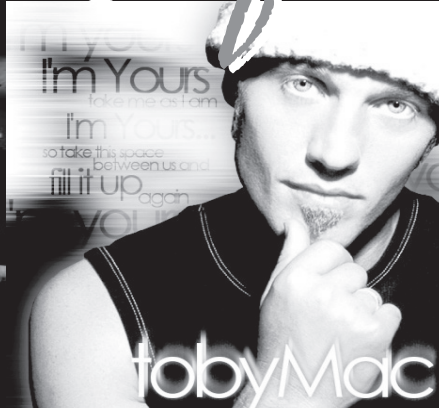
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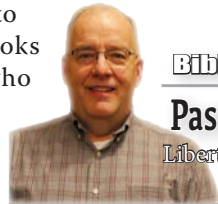


# Stay firmly planted on the Rock

Welcome to the October Bible reading plan for ONE magazine. It is an honor to read through the Bible with you each month.

Our Old Testament readings will continue through Chronicles and Ezra. These books, along with Nehemiah are all one continuous story presenting a sweeping chronicle of Israel's national history. They were written to the Jewish exiles as they returned back to their land. These books reminded them of who they were, and what God has called them to. I'm so glad God repeats His plans to us, and remind us that we are not an accident, but a part of His Divine plan.

Our New Testament readings will cover a lot of material this month. We will finish the book of Mark, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, Jude, and begin our final collection of books authored by the Apostle John. Peter's letters are rich with practical ways to live out our faith among people who try to ignore the presence of Christ in us. Peter specif-



**Bible Reading Plan**

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ically communicates that we should anticipate persecution and suffering as we make a stand for Christ. Take time to really consider and apply these texts in your life. We live in a time where shifting sands seem more like earthquakes — and Peter's writings will keep you firmly planted on the Rock! Then we transition into the Gospel of John. This Gospel is very different from the other three, because it is written in a more topical

form compared to the chronological form of the other Gospels. John can be divided into two parts. The first part describes his public ministry, while

the second part records the private instructions he gave to those who believed in Him, and then depicts his death and resurrection. More than any other Gospel, I encourage the reading of this text in a dynamic translation like the New Living, or the Message. For me, it makes John's points much clearer. May God reveal His richest and best to you as you continue to read His Word.

**October**

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5..... <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Chron. 17-18 .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 15	22..... <input type="checkbox"/> Ezra 1 .....	<input type="checkbox"/> John 1
6&7.....Weekend Review		23..... <input type="checkbox"/> Ezra 2 .....	<input type="checkbox"/> John 2
8..... <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Chron. 19-20 .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 16	24..... <input type="checkbox"/> Ezra 3 .....	<input type="checkbox"/> John 3
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16..... <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Chron 31-32 .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Peter 1		

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# Two challenges churches face

Several years ago, in a written interview with Ed Stetzer, I asked about the challenges that face the church of the 21st century. He was serving as president of Lifeway Research at the time, and so Ed was seeing a lot of statistics, and ironically, the stats that excited him the most are directly related to the challenges that face the contemporary church. Below are my questions, and Ed's responses in his own words:

**Dave:** As president of Lifeway Research you see a lot of stats, tell us about one of the statistics that excites you most.

**Ed:** Well, you might be surprised. I think that the decline of nominal Christianity, and by that I define two broad categories: Cultural Christians (people who identify themselves as Christians perhaps because they live in North America) and Congregational Christians (people who have some sort of Easter or Christmas involvement with the church) that they then call themselves Christians because of those things.

Those two categories are declining, partly because Christianity is becoming more distinct in our culture. As such I see in years to come that "Convictional

Christians" will become more clearly identifiable in culture. Nominal and Congregational Christians will be more honest about their commitment and that gives Convictional Christians the opportunity to witness without having to deconstruct a false understanding of Christianity.

Ed has written and spoken extensively about this "cultural storm." One such article can be found at <https://www.christianpost.com/voice/american-christianity-and-the-approaching-cultural-storm.html>

**Dave:** What is your take on Christians and Social Media? (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.)

**Ed:** Needless to say, that is a place where we need to be engaged consistently, and regularly, because

it is a means to communication, and as such, it is worthy of our time. I can't imagine a church not being on Facebook and having a webpage. That has become the new front door. People will look to your Facebook page or your church website before they will come to your church, and then they will look at who is engaging and dialoguing there, so as a pastor and church leader, I think you should and must be engaged in those conversations.

I have written about how to get started in Twitter, and I think that is a natural, immediate first place for people to start.

Twitter tends to be a medium that pastors can do well using and they can also look at Facebook. There are others, of course, but those are the two primary ones that I recommend.

I would also say that this is not the place to post your personal opinions about everything. I have written before that I am concerned that many Christians just post constant political rants on Facebook offending—regardless of if you are Democrat or Republican—at least half the people who watch. Our communication is too important to be using it to burn bridges with neighbors when we should be building bridges and opportunities to share the Gospel.

The church in North America continues to be shaped by cultural values and practices. This makes Christians in the U.S. indistinguishable from those who claim to have no faith at all. This is an era of challenge and opportunity for the church. Jesus will not stop building His church, and it will rise to the challenge.

*NIV Romans 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*



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## Love is easy, love is hard

The Rev. Bruce Reyes Chow, a former moderator of my denomination, Presbyterian Church (USA), frequently offers a benediction or blessing that has stuck with me over the decades, particularly the last part.

*Go forth into the world*

*With compassion and justice in your heart*

*Give strength to the weak*

*Give voice to the silent*

*See one another*

*Hear one another*

*Care for one another*

*And love one another*

*It's all that easy*

*And it's all that hard*

Love: It's all that easy and it's all that hard. Jesus constantly talks about love; God's love for the world and God's

command that people love others as fully as we have been loved by God. When Jesus is asked what is the most important commandment, the answer is always love.

Jesus after all is the revelation, the incarnation of God's outpouring love in human flesh. So it should come as no surprise that Jesus consistently points in his teaching, preaching, and healing to God's love which is the source and reason for his life. Jesus, when asked which of the 613 laws and rules listed in the Jewish Testament is

the most important, answers "Love God with all your heart and mind and spirit and strength and the second puts the first into practice- Love Others."

Love is God's message of hope, healing, peace, and reconciliation from the very beginning. Our human nature always wants to fix a narrow limit on love. "Who," we ask God "may I not love and care for?" Certainly, God,

you don't expect me to love everybody? That's just crazy talk!

And yet, when Jesus was asked that question about narrowly limiting love of others by the legal expert in Luke's

gospel, he responds with a story about a Jewish man beaten and robbed and left for dead on the side of the Jericho road. Priests and community leaders pass him by, lest their reputation or opportunities be damaged by contact with his misfortune. The only one who shows compassion, who incarnates love, is a despised foreigner from Samaria who goes out of his way to care for the beaten man. At the end of the story, Jesus asks the legal expert, "Who acted as neighbor to the one broken by the side of the road?" "The one who showed compassion" which is another way to say the one who showed love, is our still challenging answer. Jesus' instruction, then and now, is "Go and do likewise"

Love one another. It's all that easy and it's all that hard.



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# Teens work at homeless shelters

By Linn Ann Huntington  
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Eva Gaschler, 14, and Emma Boss, 15, both of Ellis, acknowledged they didn't know much about homelessness until they performed community service at two homeless shelters recently.

They both agreed it was a valuable learning experience. Eva said, "It was an eye-opener for sure. You just don't always know the scale of homelessness unless you're involved."

Eva, a 9th-grader, and Emma, a 10th grader, participated in a daylong trip to Salina shortly before school started. There they worked at the Salina Rescue Mission for men and at Ashby House for women and children. Both facilities are non-profit 501(c)3 organizations that receive no type of federal, state, or local tax dollars.

The community service was part of a mission project organized by their pastor at Ellis United Methodist Church. The two teens were accompanied by Pastor Tricia North and Eva's mother, Cindy Gaschler, the youth fellowship leader.

The Salina Rescue Mission, which opened in 1981, is the only men's homeless shelter west of Junction City and north of McPherson. It houses, on average, 60-80 men per night.

Emma and Eva mopped floors and scrubbed grout, with Emma noting she is now an expert at the latter.

The four also helped in the kitchen cutting up squash and seeding and cutting up bell peppers for the evening meal of goulash—a meal expected to feed up to 100 people.

The lunch and evening meals at the mission are free to anyone. But, as Cindy Gaschler pointed out, anyone wanting the evening meal "has to come a half hour earlier for the worship service."

The two teens said they were told that local businesses and individuals donate most of the food served at the mission. Emma said she was impressed with the fact "they don't serve the same meal twice in a month."

The teens worked side-by-side in the kitchen with residents and volunteers. "The residents were in a discipleship



COURTESY PHOTO

**Emma Boss, 15, (seated) and Eva Gaschler, 14, clean up debris in the backyard of the Ashby House emergency shelter for women and children in Salina. The two teens from Ellis took part in the community service project through their church, Ellis United Methodist.**

program," Eva said.

That New Life Discipleship program, according to the facility's director, Chad Young, is the mission's "flagship program" and is focused on helping the residents build a relationship with Jesus Christ.

According to its website, the shelter's mission is "to provide Christian ministry to persons in need of food, shelter,

clothing, or other basic needs, and to rehabilitate through teaching the Gospel of Christ."

Cindy Gaschler said, from what she observed, another main focus of the mission is "helping people to become successful."

Eva added, "The men had to leave after breakfast to go look for a job and they

couldn't come back until supper." The mission provides transportation assistance to help the residents with their job searches.

During their tour of the facility, the visitors saw the garden area, which the residents take care of, and the benches and coverings for picnic areas that the men build.

The next homeless shelter the four visited was Ashby House for women and children. It was founded in 1992.

There the teens organized a children's outdoor play area, cleaned up sidewalks covered with debris from recent storms, and organized and stored donations.

The teens said the day of their visit the residents numbered about 10 women, one of whom had a small baby.

Both teenagers returned home with a firm belief that Ellis County should create a shelter for homeless people.

Eva said, "Homeless shelters are a great thing. Everyone we talked to (at the Salina Rescue Mission) said it was a wonderful place and transformed their lives."

Currently, transients in Ellis County who need lodging are provided a bus ticket to Salina because that's where the nearest shelters are located.

The Ellis County Ministerial Alliance provides those tickets through First Call for Help. First Call recently moved into a new facility at 307 E. 13th St. in Hays. Linda Mills, First Call's executive director, said at some time in the future the ministry hopes to transform part of that facility into short-term housing for transients.

The two teens said community support for any type of homeless shelter is essential. "It should be church-based and supported through donations," Eva said.

The girls helped pay for their trip through two church fundraisers. They made and sold lanyards and sold trail mix. They are hoping to make a longer trip to help out at the two shelters in the future.

Families, church groups, or individuals interested in doing service projects at one of the shelters are encouraged to call the Salina Rescue Mission at (785) 823-2610, or Ashby House at (785) 826-4935.



# Hope and joy delivered one shoebox at a time

By Linn Ann Huntington  
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For me, the Christmas season always begins when I start shopping for items to put in my Operation Christmas Child shoebox. That way I get to spread out the joy of Christmas all through the year.

Operation Christmas Child is a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, a disaster relief organization headquartered in Boone, N.C. The Rev. Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse, said in a written statement recently that the concept is pretty simple:

"For the past 25 years, we have been collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts and delivering them to children in need around the world. Each shoebox is an opportunity for a boy or girl to experience the love of God in a tangible way and hear the Gospel.

"Many boys and girls who receive shoebox gifts also participate in our follow-up discipleship program, 'The Greatest Journey,' which teaches them how to faithfully follow Christ and share him with others."

Graham talked about one of those shoebox recipients, 12-year-old Angella, who lives in Malawi. Angella said her parent couldn't afford to buy her school supplies, but in her shoebox she found pens, pencils, a notebook and ruler.

She also found a flashlight, which she said was a real treasure because her home has no electricity.

Every time I read a story such as Angella's, it always gives me new ideas about what to put in my box.

Graham encouraged those preparing boxes to include one "wow" item, a quality toy such as a doll, a soccer ball with pump, or a stuffed animal. Then surround it with other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. A list of gift suggestions is available on [samaritanaspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanaspurse.org/occ).

There are three age groups to buy for: either a boy or girl, ages 2 through 4, 5 through 9, or 10 through 14. This year I am buying for a 5 to 9-year-old girl.

My "wow" item is a 6-inch tall doll, a reproduction of a classic doll first introduced in the 1980's. I recognized her the minute I saw her a few months ago on a store shelf—green dress, green and white striped tights, and purple shoes. What little girl could resist a doll wearing purple shoes?

I'm also including a jump rope with pink handles, a couple of washcloths, a bar of mild soap, a toothbrush, a small notebook, a box of No. 2 lead pencils, and a small pencil sharpener.

I'm still on the lookout for a yo-yo and a nice brush and comb set. And yes, this year I will probably include a small flashlight. In years past, I've bought crayons, a coloring book, hair accessories, and a small tiara. It's just so hard fitting all the things I want to include in one shoebox! So some years I pack two.

There are some items that are no-no's. Those are food or



COURTESY PHOTO

**Kamryn Daniels and Marci Lisman, right, participate in the Hays Christian Church shoebox packing party a year ago.**

any kind, including candy; toothpaste; gum; medications or vitamins; used or damaged items; war-related items, such as toy guns; seeds, aerosol cans; and breakable items, including glass snow globes.

Samaritan's Purse asks that packers include a \$9 donation per box. This covers shipping and other project costs. I just write one check and lay it on top of the items inside one of my boxes.

If you're using a standard shoebox, it's important to wrap the lid separately from the box so that ministry volunteers can add "The Greatest Gift Gospel" booklet in the appropriate language for the country where the box is headed. Samaritan's Purse delivers the shoeboxes to children in more than 100 countries around the world.

The booklet tells the recipient about God's great love for them and shares the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. For many children, this is the first time they have ever heard about Jesus.

If you give the \$9 donation online through Follow Your Box, you will receive a special tracking label so you can learn the destination of your shoebox. Graham said including a personal note and photo in your box can have a big impact on a child, who now knows that somebody far away cares about and is praying for him or her.

Can't find an old shoebox in your closet? Samaritan's Purse has preprinted shoeboxes on its website. In fact, Graham said this year Samaritan's Purse is introducing a new corrugated cardboard shoebox that is sturdier and has more room for gifts ([samaritanaspurse.org/shoebboxoptions](http://samaritanaspurse.org/shoebboxoptions)).

Some churches in Ellis County also provide free plastic or

cardboard Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. In fact, some churches even have packing parties, so check with your church!

My church has a shoebox dedication Sunday, where we all carry our shoeboxes down to the altar and pray for the children who will receive them. I always get a little teary-eyed when I see the number of families with children, who have made Operation Christmas Child a holiday tradition.

Last year, 2,933 boxes were collected from people just like you and me in Hays and the surrounding area. That's according to Rachel Albin, the ministry's area director for Northwest Kansas, who I think does a terrific job! In all of Northwest Kansas last year, 6,399 shoeboxes were collected.

This year's shoebox collection week is Nov. 12-19. Hays will have two drop-off sites, Messiah Lutheran Church, 2000 Main, and CrossPoint Church, 1300 Harvest Road.

Getting back to Angella, whom I told you about earlier, she said her favorite item in her box was "The Greatest Gift Gospel" booklet.

"When I read the booklet, it proved to me that God is there," she said. "That encouraged me to start going to church. As I learned about the Bible, I was being transformed."

Angella soon accepted Christ as her savior and began reading the booklet to her family. Now all 10 of them have decided to follow Jesus too, and they are all attending church, Graham said.

Isn't it wonderful that God is bringing hope and joy to a hurting world one shoebox at a time? The best part is--you and I can be a part of that!



## NEWS, from 2

### Day of Caring Style Show is Oct. 6

The 23rd annual Day of Caring Brunch and Style Show for breast cancer awareness will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Fort Hays State University Memorial Union.

The theme this year is "Reflections." Booths will be located in the Sunset Lounge Atrium. The style show will feature breast cancer survivors modeling clothes from area businesses.

Tickets are \$20 and are available by calling the Cancer Council of Ellis County at (785) 625-6653. Tickets must be purchased by Monday, Oct. 1.

### Hays After 5 Country Fair, Auction coming up

The Hays After 5 Christian Women's group will be having its annual Country Fair and Auction from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 8. The event will take place at the Rose Garden Banquet Hall, 2250 E. Eighth St.

The silent auction and live auction will feature baked goods, gift baskets, crafts, home décor items, and more. Jason Schneider of Schneider Auction Service in Schoenchen will serve as the auctioneer for the evening.

Proceeds will help fund the programs of Stonecroft Ministry, an international ministry serving women, which is headquartered in Overland Park.

Also on the program will be inspirational speaker Carrie Bilby of Humbolt. Bilby, a Mark Kay consultant, will share valuable lessons she has learned through laughter and pain that have helped her become a survivor.

Cost of the dinner program is \$12.50. Reservations are due by Thursday, Oct. 4, to (785) 202-1036 or to [daisymae0917@yahoo.com](mailto:daisymae0917@yahoo.com).

### Ministerial Alliance to meet Oct. 10

The Ellis County Ministerial Alliance will have its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 10, at Hays Christian Church, 22nd and Marshall Road. The ONE Magazine Editorial Board will meet at 9 a.m. The entire ECMA Board will meet at 10 a.m.

Presentations to the board must be scheduled in advance with the ECMA president at [president@ourecma.com](mailto:president@ourecma.com).

### Postpartum depression topic at meeting

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) will hear Megan Pfannenstiel, a therapist with KVC Wheatland Hospital in Hays, discuss postpartum depression and anxiety at their October meeting.

The event will take place from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, at Messiah Lutheran Church, 2000 Main.

Pfannenstiel, a member of MOPS herself, has two sons, ages 4 and 2. "It's all about the importance of self care," she said, "being OK with what you can and



COURTESY PHOTO

Runners break in the 2016 "Run/Walk to Help Children Talk" on the Fort Hays State University campus. This year's event will take place on Saturday, Oct. 13.

cannot get done in a day."

There is no cost to attend. MOPS is an organization for mothers of children from conception to kindergarten. More information is available from Michelle Venteicher, MOPS coordinator, at (515) 320-4371.

### Presbyterian women plan fundraiser

The Presbyterian women will hold their annual "Country Kitchen" fundraiser from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 13.

The women will be selling their famous apple pies, plus craft items and other assorted baked goods at First Presbyterian Church, 2900 Hall St.

### FHSU's Herndon Clinic to sponsor run/walk

The 6th annual "Run/Walk to Help Children Talk" will be on Saturday, Oct. 13, on the Fort Hays State University campus. The event is being sponsored by FHSU's Herndon Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic in partnership with the FHSU chapter of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Registration will begin at 8:15 a.m. in the Quad outside the Memorial Union. Participants can sign up for a one-mile walk, a 5K walk or run, or just for a T-shirt and breakfast at the event. The race route is wheelchair and stroller

accessible.

The race, which will start at 9 a.m., is raising money for child scholarships for speech-language-hearing services and clinic materials at the Herndon Clinic.

"Unfortunately, not all insurances cover speech-language-hearing services, or coverage is limited," said Breanna Taylor, assistant clinical coordinator of the clinic. "Scholarships can help these children receive the services they need."

Taylor said that in 2017 it rained, but the event still raised \$2,500. In 2016, when the skies were sunny, the event raised \$3,200. She is hoping for good weather again this year.

Registration by Oct. 1 is \$15 for FHSU students, \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. After Oct. 1, registration increases by \$5.

Those who cannot attend the race can still help sponsor the event or donate to the cause. More information is available from Taylor at [brtaylor2@fhsu.edu](mailto:brtaylor2@fhsu.edu) or at [www.fhsu.edu/runwalk](http://www.fhsu.edu/runwalk).

### Healing services planned at Liberty Foursquare

Alan and Sharon DeBoer, Cleansing Stream regional pastors, will be leading special healing services at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 14, at Liberty Foursquare Church, 400 E. Seventh St.



“The DeBoers travel the world proclaiming healing to those who are emotionally wounded, healing for those who are physically sick, and restoration to those who have been rejected,” said Liberty Pastor Steve Dinkel.

A free-will offering will be received for their ministry. More information is available by calling the church office at (785) 625-6245.

#### **HaysMed to offer spiritual care seminar**

Hays Medical Center will be hosting a seminar entitled “Spiritual Care in Healthcare” on Tuesday, Oct. 23. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. The sessions will run from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Hadley Conference Rooms near Entrance C.

The keynote speaker will be Al Henager, clinical pastoral education supervisor at the University of Kansas Medical Center. KU Med is also a co-host for the seminar.

“This program is designed to educate healthcare professionals and clergy in being present with patients and families during crisis and with patients of various faith traditions and their special needs,” according to a flyer about the event.

Individuals who will benefit from this training include clergy, chaplains, nurses, social workers, physical

therapists, occupational therapists, and other interested healthcare professionals, said the Rev. Dr. Karen Harvester, pastoral care supervisor and chaplain at Hays Medical Center.

Three hours of continuing education credit is available for RN or LPN re-licensure.

There is no cost for HaysMed employees, Harvester said. The fee for non-hospital employees is \$10, which includes breakfast. Registration is available at [www.haysmed.com/education](http://www.haysmed.com/education) or by calling (785) 623-5500.

The seminar is being made possible by a grant from the John Schippers Endowment for Pastoral Care at The HaysMed Foundation.

#### **Murder mystery dinner scheduled**

The Fort Hays State University Criminal Justice Club will be hosting a murder mystery dinner, “A Dinner to Die For,” on Saturday, Oct. 27, at Thirsty’s Brew Pub & Grill, 2704 Vine.

Attendees are encouraged to dress up for the 1920’s gangster themed event that features a cash bar, beginning at 6 p.m., and dinner at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50 each for individuals and \$85 per couple. There will also be silent auction items

available.

All proceeds will help club members travel to Baltimore next spring to attend the National American Criminal Justice Association meeting and competition.

Tickets can be purchased in the Criminal Justice Department in Rarick 233 on campus, or at Thirsty’s. Club members are also happy to deliver tickets in the local area. Individuals may contact Tamara Lynn at [tjlynn@fhsu.edu](mailto:tjlynn@fhsu.edu) with questions or to request tickets.

#### **Ladies retreat to be in Wichita**

The Kansas Foursquare Ladies Retreat will be Friday through Sunday, Nov. 2 to 4, at the Drury Broadview Hotel in Wichita.

The speaker will be Quinn Kelly, a licensed marriage and family therapist. Kelly, the mother of four young boys, has an Internet blog titled “Sanctification and Spit Up.”

Registration costs and other information are available by calling Liberty Foursquare Church at (785) 625-6245.



### **St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church**

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

(785) 628-1446

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

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](http://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



# Love is powerful

I believe that love is the most important concept or doctrine present in the Christian faith; Christ himself said that the greatest commands were to love the lord our God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind and to love our neighbor as ourselves. If we trust His word, then those two commands are the summation of the law and prophets, which puts love squarely in the center of concepts and doctrines that are important to us.

Love is also one of the most difficult ideas to understand in our faith. In fact, I think our understanding of what it truly means to love grows and expands as we grow in our walk with Christ. There are the simple initial ideas of it — the ‘agape’ type of love

(choosing to love someone and then committing to it and continuously executing it, sometimes in spite of how we feel — such as loving our enemies). There’s the idea of falling in love — desiring to ‘agape’ someone. There’s brotherly love, romantic love, and the idea that husband and wife (and their love) are created in the image of the Trinity.

Then there’s the slightly bigger idea that God is love—that love is more than just a choice or an emotional or life state, but that love is an entity connecting us. Love is actually alive. Scripture seems to relate the Holy Spirit to love very heavily—the Bible discusses us staying connected

in love and staying connected in the Holy Spirit. It talks of love as a way to unify and speaks of keeping unity in the Holy Spirit. This connectivity that the Holy Spirit has between us and

God and others is very much like the connectivity we all have in love.

True love usually has both a lover and a beloved, and in a fuller expression both are both

lover and beloved.

The connection between both (or between more) is very strong when love is mutual. When we really look at the way love works, we see that it (and God since God is love) connects us more fully over time to God, to oth-

ers, and even to our true selves. On the flip side, sin (when it grows to full maturity) disconnects us from God, others, and even ourselves. This idea that sin disconnects and God connects means that love is a very important part of God. This is apparent even in John 3:16 — when we find the reason that God sent Jesus for us was that he so loved the world. Indeed, Jesus was needed to allow us all to reconnect with God, others, and our true selves, while allowing disconnection/sin to be discarded.

What a powerful principle and concept love is! Thank God for His great love and may we all continue to grow in our understanding of it and in how we are able to live in it!

## Brandon Nimz

Unite Ministry

[brandon.nimz@gmail.com](mailto:brandon.nimz@gmail.com)

# At the center of it all

If there is a central element of Jesus’ doctrine, it would have to be “love,” and that which distinguishes his doctrine of love from other religious sects, is love of everyone including those who do not like us.

Jesus said, “Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount. But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend

expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as also your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:30-36).

Our human natures do not like the directive because there are people that we simply do not want to love because we do not trust them, and so even as we live Christian lives, we are not very Christian in our approach. We can call such a situation “delicate.” It is one in which I know what I should do, and if I do it, I could get hurt. Because it is difficult, it is “delicate.”

While Jesus is speaking of love in general, Taylor Swift’s song “Delicate” is speaking of a specific romantic

## THE GOSPELS IN FATHER MIKE’S TOP 5 as of Sept. 15

[see [www.frmikescully.com](http://www.frmikescully.com)]

- 1 - “Girls Like You” / Maroon 5 featuring Carli B. Matthew 20:1-7
- 2 - “Delicate” / Taylor Swift Luke 6:30-36
- 3 - “I Like Me Better” / Lauv Luke 7:36-48
- 4 - “No Tears Left To Cry” / Ariana Grande Matthew 10:12-13
- 5 - “Broken” / Lovelypeband Matthew 11:28-30

situation, one with a specific goal in mind. She sings about a relationship that seems to be good at the moment, but the lady in the relationship realizes that their time together has been for the wrong reasons. Now she’s not sure. Is it a good thing that he is in her head? So she says it is a delicate relationship—she wants the feelings of the man’s presence, but she wants it to be for the right reasons.

“I like you; this ain’t for the best. My reputation’s never been worse, so you must like me for me. Yeah I want you. We can’t make any promises now, but you can

make me a drink. Is it chill that you’re in my head? ‘Cause I know that it’s delicate, isn’t it?”

Actually any love situation is “delicate.” Speaking in general, to love everyone the way Jesus suggests is “delicate” because of what Jesus said to do. People could easily take advantage of us and hurt us. In personal lives, to love a specific person who has not loved well in the past is “delicate” because even though he/she may want the relationship, the romantic love may backfire, and the relationship will be a hurting one.

The lady is correct in saying that one must love another for the right reason. There must be an understanding of the delicacy of the situation if one is to be committed to a person forever which the song implies. Jesus’ directive goes one step further, however, saying that even if we do not feel like it, even if it is delicate, love includes everyone, whether a relationship is delicate or not.

Message at The Top

Fr. Mike Scully

[michael.scully@capuchins.org](mailto:michael.scully@capuchins.org)





# ONE COLORING CONTEST

ONE is sponsoring a coloring contest in an upcoming issue with the theme "Peace on Earth and Good Will to All People." The deadline for submission is Nov. 13. 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.

PEACE ON EARTH AND GOOD WILL TO ALL PEOPLE



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12th & Fort 625-9454



Pastor Kevin Daniels  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
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Nursery  
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For additional  
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call the church or 625-0094  
22nd & Marshall 625-3100  
www.hayschristianchurch.org

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Sat. Mass: 6:30 p.m. Nov. thru April  
Sun. Mass: 7:30 a.m. May thru Oct.  
St. Boniface, Vincent  
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Fr. John Schmeidler  
735-2777  
fidelis@ruraltel.net  
www.stfidelischurch.com

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Sunday Worship with Holy  
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394 St. John-St. Andrew Rd.  
Get off the Ellis exit on I-70,  
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726-3207



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Sunday Service: 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.  
10:45 a.m. Service Broadcast  
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WOW Worship on Wednesdays:  
Meal 5 to 6 pm

Worship 5:50 to 6:10 p.m.

Children/Youth/Adult Programs

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Tuesday Service: R3 Live  
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pastorcelestehays@gmail.com

2900 Hall 625-2847



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