

# The Tower

First United Methodist Church

Tenth & Millington, P.O. Box 270, Winfield KS 67156

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*Ministers by baptism  
Every Christian*

*Senior Pastor by ordination  
Rev. David Brian Smith*

*Executive Pastor  
Pastor Beth Wilke*

*Associate Pastor  
Pastor Rachelle Speer*

*Associate in Youth  
Ministry, Education  
and Technology  
Bill Podschun*

*Assistant Minister and  
Children's Director  
Jessica Bates*

*Office Administrator  
Nancy Finley*

*Administrative Assistant  
Madeline Norland*

*Director of Maintenance  
& Property  
Randy Vanderpool*

*Music Director  
Julie Woodring*

*Organist  
Chance Alquest*

*Nursery Director  
Mandie Speegle*

*Sunday School 9:45 am  
Worship: 8:30 & 10:45 am,  
5:30 pm*

April 10, 2019

## LEAPING DEER AND WILD GEESE

Deborah K. Cronin has written a book about Celtic Christian Spirituality entitled, **Holy Ground**. There is a chapter in her book in which she writes about “leaping deer and wild geese.” The ancient Celts knew nothing of temples because they were enclosed structures that “might confine and limit the Divine.” Celts found God present in all of creation. Even animals reminded them of the holy: a fish symbolized Christ – who called fishermen to become fishers of men; a snake also symbolized Christ because it is an animal that sheds its skin to live again; a lion reminded Celts that Jesus was “the Lion of the tribe of Judah.”

Deborah tells a story about her father who was an expert shot with a gun. He liked to hunt and would repeatedly come home with rabbits, pheasants, and ducks. Each year, however, he went deer hunting but never returned with a doe or a buck. The family teased him about this. One year, Deborah’s dad asked her to go deer hunting with him. They hiked deep into the woods, found a log, and sat for hours...watching rabbits, birds, and deer. At the end of the day, Deborah’s Dad invited her to shoot the gun. She aimed at a tree and squeezed the trigger. “He took back the gun, put on the safety, and we hiked out of the woods to the car in silence. I never teased Dad about not getting a deer after that day. Without a word, he had shared something with me that was mystical and very intimate. Only recently have I realized that what he shared was also deeply spiritual.”

According to Deborah, the Irish Celts had a name for the sudden experience of God in their lives: “the leap of the deer.” How long has it been since you have had an experience of the “leaping deer?” I really appreciated knowing that a symbol for the Holy Spirit was the “wild goose.” Geese fly so beautifully and they are busy and noisy. I see geese on my morning fitness walks. They have taught me so much about God, our Creator.

Jesus asked us to look at birds, lilies, seeds, fields ripe for harvest, fig trees...Jesus was clearly aware that nature was the product of God’s hand... “sacred and holy because it belongs to God.” God is not a pantheistic deity. But God is revealed in creation and can use all of nature to teach us; to save us; and to redeem us. “O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.” (Psalm 104:24)

I invite you to go deer hunting with Deborah’s Dad. He didn’t shoot any deer. But something else happened that felt like the deep and abiding Presence of God. May the wild goose lead you to the leaping deer!!!

*Pastor Dave*

## Mark Your Calendar

April 14 Palm Sunday  
 April 18 Holy Thursday Meal & Worship  
 April 21 Easter  
 April 22 Church Office Closed



### Holy Land Pilgrimage October 28

A pilgrimage is a spiritual journey to a special place, and ours includes a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and a visit to Jesus' hometown of Nazareth. It continues at the traditional site of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem. Stand in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed on the night before his crucifixion. Walk the Via Dolorosa where Jesus struggled to carry his cross. Offer your prayers at Golgotha, where Jesus died, was buried, and rose on the third day. At every stop, deepen your spiritual life with moving devotions. You will return having experienced with all your senses places that are holy to Jews, Christians, and Muslims. This trip will expand your knowledge, deepen your faith, and lift your spirit.

The cost of the trip includes international airfare, all travel in Israel, hotels, and delicious breakfast and dinner buffets each day. Contact Rev. Kent Melcher if you would like to know more.



Early Bird registration for Camp horizon is May 1!  
 Click link

<https://horizoncenter.campbrainregistration.com/>.

Also, if you would like to apply for a scholarship from our church, go to the website: [www.winfieldfumc.org](http://www.winfieldfumc.org).



The Summit Youth Academy is July 21-27, 2019 at Southwestern College. The Summit is a week-long experience in growing in faith for rising juniors and seniors in high school. We'll have daily classes, Bible studies, and small group covenant groups, and will practice spiritual disciplines with contemplative practices. We'll spend time at Camp Horizon, Circles, & SoCe Life with team-building, serving, missional immersion, and poverty simulation. Connect with God, one another, and Christian leaders. Be educated in Wesleyan theology. Be mentored in God's call to serve. For more information, visit [www.summityouthacademy.org](http://www.summityouthacademy.org) or contact Wendy Mohler-Seib: [summit@sckans.edu](mailto:summit@sckans.edu) or 620-229-6246. Registration: <https://www.greatplainsumc.org/eventdetail/11729392>



### 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Car Show

Mark your calendar for the first Annual FUMC Car Show which will be Sunday, June 9. More details will be forthcoming about this fundraiser for the youth of our church.

#### Prayer List

##### Winfield First Family

Joan Bair	Merrilee Morse	Allan Norton
Pat Davis	Everett Newman	Kathryn Schuster
Braylon Homan	Oscar Peterson-Veatch	Larry Schuster
Kent Melcher		Bob Spears

##### Extended Family and Friends

Valerie AladiEFF	Jasmine Graves-Vaught	Jeff Morris
Alicia Brinlee	Julie Harris Harden	Mike Niederee
Matt Burroughs	Curstin Jenkins	Mitch Potucek
Gary Courtney	Jason Jenkins	Taegen Shogren
Kim Estabrook	Terry Johnson	Marsha Spangler
Peggy Everett	Jim McPherson	Katrina Tamsen
Ari Gerber	Carla Mohlstrom	Brantley Taylor
Jill Halcomb	Lee Moorman	Aaron Toney
Buddy Hendrix	Blake Morgan	Rob Totino
	Lynn Mork	Jack Wilson

Caroline Martin Snyder Blakeslee

##### Grief and Loss

Friends and family of Lewis Gilbreath

##### World Concerns

Military & first responders and their families,  
 peace for all nations, flooding in the Midwest;  
 people affected by natural disasters worldwide.

## A Look at Our Loyalty

	March 24	March 31	April 7
8:30 Worship	52	65	61
10:45 Worship	143	163	123
Evening Worship	46	45	55
Total Worship	241	273	246
Sunday School	96	136	106
Offering	\$8,972	\$7,319	\$53,219
Needed Weekly			\$12,050
Needed as of March 31			\$156,644
Received as of March 31			\$109,487



### New Mobile App

We now have a mobile app that can be downloaded to your phone! This is an exciting new way to submit prayer requests, listen to previous sermons, or make a one-time or recurring gift from wherever you are, through the Giving module. To download our app, go to the giving page at [http://winfieldfumc.org/giving\\_](http://winfieldfumc.org/giving_)

### Church Ladies

The "Church Ladies" group meets the second Saturday of each month at 9:00 am at College Hill Coffee. Each month we share a devotion, discussion & prayers. All women are invited to join this fun and informal group. The next meeting is this Saturday, April 13. Speak with Pastor Beth for more information.



### Saturday Morning Women's Brunch:

Join in on April 13, from 9-11 at Molly Just's House – 502 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. Winfield (right behind Braum's) for brunch. Bring a breakfast item to share. Though we are reaching out primarily to the women of the Sunday Evening Service, this is by no means exclusive, so feel free to bring friends along for a good morning of food and fellowship. If you have questions,

please email [molly.just@sckans.edu](mailto:molly.just@sckans.edu) or call/text 620.260.5858.



### Habitat for Humanity Sends Thanks

The Winfield Area Habitat for Humanity would like to thank Winfield First United Methodist Church for their continued support. Habitat has been active in Winfield for 27 years and provided 26 homes to families who otherwise would not be able to afford their own home. This continued success is due to the many volunteers and constant support from this community, but is also due to a great number of Methodists who volunteer their time and other resources. Specifically this congregation provides space for meetings, celebrations and fundraisers at numerous times during the year. Your support of First United Methodist Church is changing lives in your community, and we thank you!

### School Supplies Needed

Part of the experience our youth will be involved with at Youth 2019 in Kansas City this summer is providing school supplies to children literally all over the world. If you would like to donate, there will be a box in the foyer of our church. The following items are needed:

- unsharpened pencils
- 12" rulers
- box of 12 colored pencils
- box of 24 crayons
- student rounded scissors
- spiral notebooks of 8½" x 11" lined paper

If you have any questions, please call Bill Podschun.

### Blood Pressure Checks

Join us the second Sunday of each month to have your blood pressure checked by one of our friendly nurses in Fellowship Hall from 9:00-10:30 am. The next date is this Sunday, April 14.

## Extending Thanks to . . .

Bill & Debbie Bridges and Julie & Dennis Rice for delivering commodities in March!

## A Thank You from Angel House

To the wonderful people of Winfield FUMC,

*I am so grateful for your invitation to come and share about Angel House two weeks ago. I was especially touched that you all invited several other churches to join us for the morning. What a wonderful turnout and what wonderful food you provided!*

*It is always a privilege for me to share about what God is doing in Tanzania, and you all asked such great questions afterwards! Thank you for being interested in our work at Angel House, and thank you in particular for your generosity towards the mission project. I am so thankful for the love offering that was taken up that morning, and humbled by your giving.*

*We promise to be diligent in using your gifts; God bless you for contributing to all the plans that He has for the future of Angel House.*

*Love to you all. Can't wait to come back to Winfield. I'm bringing Lawrence and Sam with me next time, so that we can worship with you on a Sunday morning.*

*Blessings to you all as we prepare our hearts for Easter.*

Holly Heyroth Opundo

**Angel House Children's Home**

**Tarime, Tanzania, East Africa**

[www.grassrootsangelhouse.org](http://www.grassrootsangelhouse.org)

Phone: (254) 784-9020

## Thank you

*Starting this new chapter of my life has been so crazy and so amazing. With that, it hasn't always been the easiest. I face new challenges every day, and the support coming from all of you and my hometown church means so much. I know I am never alone. Thank you endlessly for the prayers and everything you do.*

*In Christ, With Love, Annie Kaufman.*

## Happy Birthday

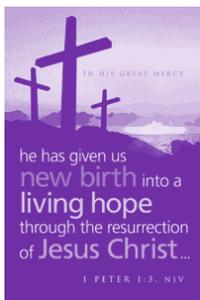
to all who are celebrating birthdays in May! The birthdays of the members and friends for whom we have records are listed below. If you have additions please call the office so we can update our records. Send a card, make a phone call, or do a little something to help recognize these birthdays when you can.



- 5/1 Amy Lance, Rheegyn Richert, Richard See
- 5/2 Anne Rising
- 5/3 Jessilyn Parsons, Preston Richert, Terri Stoabs, Tina Sturm, Caleb Wilson
- 5/4 Sarah Storm
- 5/5 Peggy Craig, Brian Pekarek
- 5/6 Bill Wagner Jr
- 5/7 Carter Humphreys, Collin Johnson, Dared Price
- 5/8 Adrian Colonnese, Steen Danielsen, David Parsons, Luke Rankin
- 5/9 Margaret Neal, Mercedes Nihart, Josh Reid
- 5/11 Jabari Harrod, Thomas Pipes, Chance Price
- 5/12 Thad Pekarek, Glen Sandbulte, Teri Spengler-Andreas
- 5/13 Delcia Allison, Sharon McFarland, Michael Norton
- 5/14 Leigh Bradbury, Easton Johnson, Hayden Lewis, Mark Olney, Chelsea Stark
- 5/15 Luanne Warren, Zena Williams
- 5/16 Lee Byerley, Nathan Golay, Jerry O'Neil
- 5/17 Phyllis Hearn, Clyde Vasey
- 5/18 Micael Dean-Stanton, Jerry Stine
- 5/19 Trisha Smith
- 5/20 Gordon Bosie
- 5/21 Luc Adler, Luke Wilke
- 5/22 Nathan Bosie, Gracie Mugler
- 5/23 Alicyn McGinnis
- 5/24 Luke Arneson, Ely Behrhorst, Jacob Behrhorst, Nancy Finley, Noah Hunt, Breckyn Lindenman, Braden Mugler, Hannah Podschun
- 5/25 Jacob Dennett, Abigail Reid, Jason Speer
- 5/27 Dorothy Fisher, Sam Podschun, Boyd Pugmire, Jo Ann Tasker
- 5/28 Kyle Bryant, Vernon Goertz, Isabella Hunt, Meredith McCoy, Kinley Pond
- 5/29 Korban Benavides, Caroline Golay, Derek Hammer, Urna O'Neil, Bob Warner
- 5/30 Lydia Bumgarner



# Youth News



**This spring middle and high school youth groups will continue studying the journey of Jesus to the Cross and Resurrection.**

### Change of Schedule

Youth Praise Team and High School Youth group will NOT meet on Sunday, April 21. Enjoy your Easter Sunday with family activities.

### Welcome Back, Erin!!

Erin Hall will be our summer intern and we are very excited that she will be staying with us this summer to help with all our ministries with youth and children! Erin will also assist with our Sunday night worship service. Welcome back, Erin!!



### Thank You:

- to Laura Podschun and Erin Hall for organizing and putting together a great Girls Retreat for our high school youth.
- AND a special thanks goes out to Marjorie Snyder for loaning us her house for the event. It was awesome!
- Thanks to all those who supported our youth for the Taco Salad Luncheon and Auction. We were able to raise over \$2500 for our youth to attend Youth 2019 in Kansas City. Your support means the world. Look for a report from our youth when they return.





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### Holy Week Activities

Please join us for these exciting events and worship services during Holy Week, April 14-21.

† **Sunday, April 14 is Palm Sunday!** This will be a wonderful Sunday with lots of special music, palm branches for everyone and a children's palm processional. Don't miss this special Sunday as we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem!

† **Holy Thursday is April 18.** At 6:00 pm there will be a special worship service including a family meal and the drama "In Remembrance of Me" in Fellowship Hall. Everything for the meal will be provided, and a love offering will be received to cover the expenses of the meal. All ages are welcome and childcare is available, if desired, for children ages 4 and younger.

**Good Friday is April 19.** You are invited to join Grace United Methodist for their "Doing Good Friday" day of service. Contact Grace UMC for more information. That evening there are a number of worship opportunities in the community including a Cantata at First Presbyterian

Church, 1101 Millington, at 8:00 pm, or the Good Friday worship service at Burden UMC at 6:00 pm, or Rock UMC at 7:00 pm.

† **Easter is April 21!** Three worship services will be offered including a  
† 6:30 am SonRise service at the new Island Park performance venue. In case of rain, we will gather under the Lions Club Pavilion, just north of the entrance. Music-filled services will be held in the Sanctuary at 8:30 and 10:45 am. The children, youth and families are invited to the Empty Tomb Celebration in Fellowship Hall at 9:45 am. Also, remember to bring back your Lenten Prayer Calendar offerings! Gifts this year go to Missions.



### Help Deliver Lilies?

If you could deliver an Easter lily on Easter Sunday, April 21, to one of our precious homebound folks, please call or email Pastor Beth.