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Leadership Team Updates

This past month our Leadership Team voted to approve funds to complete the bathroom/laundry and to sign the contract to begin the installation of the new playground addition for our youngest kids. Thanks to Pat Mills for all her hard work to get the necessary grant funding.

We voted to approve a \$1,000 matching grant for a 20 hour a week intern to work with mercy and justice needs during the summer months. This will include food distribution from our church during the summer months and other justice needs

Finally, the Leadership Team approved funds to have a Block Party on May 28 to help us connect with our neighbors

Meal Club Dates April

Meal Club is a chance to get together and share a meal with others. Enjoy a meal out at Perkins (at your own expense) and the conversation of your friends from Church of the Cross. The meals are currently planned for:

April 14 – Lunch @ 11:30 am

April 21 – Dinner @ 6 pm



Peck Scholarship Time



It is time to apply for the Dale and Dorothy Peck Scholarship. This scholarship honors the unselfish lifetime of giving by Dale and Dorothy Peck to Church of the Cross. Scholarships may be granted to any member of Church of the Cross attending an accredited school or completing coursework at an accredited institution.

Email Mollie for the scholarship application form at mollie.purcell@coc-salina.org. Application deadline is May 1, 2023 at noon.

How can we pray for you?

Send your prayer requests the following ways:

- Call or text Pastor Libby at 785-564-1977
- Email Pastor Libby at pastorlibbyoberdorf@gmail.com
- Email the church office at mollie.purcell@coc-salina.org
- Call the church office at 785-825-5170

The next issue of The Message will be out in April. Please have all articles to the church office by April 22.

Would you like to receive The Message by email? Email Mollie at mollie.purcell@coc-salina.org

PRAYER LIST

Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS:

Unnamed Prayer, Roberta Blakeley,
Steve Cooksey, Bobbie Brockway

FAMILY:

FRIENDS:

Unnamed Prayer
Lucas Nutter
Don and Sharon (Judy Beck's parents)

ARMED FORCES:

We pray for those who are serving in
the armed forces and for their families.

LOCAL COMMUNITY:

We pray for those who have no place to
stay this winter.

OUR WORLD COMMUNITY:

We pray for those who are incarcerated
and their families, for peace of God to
rule in the hearts of our local and
national leaders.

**Names are included on the prayer list for
one month. If the prayer request needs to
be on the list for multiple months, please
contact the church office. To submit a
prayer request please fill out a form in the
pew at church or call the church office.*

A Word from Pastor Libby

Friends,

It is hard to believe that we are already so close to Easter. Though we say each Sunday is a little Easter there is really no other day like Easter, especially at sunrise. We recall the long journey that began early in the morning on the day of the resurrection. Three gospels (Matthew, Mark, and John) name Mary Magdalene as one of the women at the tomb though it always implies there are at least two women who arrived at the tomb. Luke, however, is very general in saying the women who followed Jesus from Galilee were with him at the resurrection. What does it matter who was at the tomb? Who was the first to know the resurrection had occurred?

It matters because it is important to know who was willing to risk everything to continue to care for Jesus. These women knew there would be guards present with weapons, yet they risked everything to go and care for the body of Jesus. I believe this is a great message for us today when we consider how we are living out our faith. Are we willing to take risks to care for the body of Jesus Christ. Are we willing to be authentically ourselves and to be vulnerable enough to speak our own truth, so we are a community that is true to who we are? Are we willing to be present with one another in joys and in sorrows, knowing our presence is critical to the care of our community?

Most of all are we willing to be a witness to our community about what we experience as the body of Christ. To help others to learn to also have authentic relationships that are build on the love of Jesus Christ. The women at the tomb went and told the other disciples, who told others who became disciples, who told others so that each generation for over 2000 years has come to know Jesus Christ. Join us for Holy Week as we hear about how important it was for disciples to be present with Jesus and with one another as the greatest gift, the gift of salvation, occurred for us all.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Libby



Palm Sunday worship at 10:30 am

Holy Thursday worship at 7 pm

Good Friday worship at 7 pm

Easter Sunrise Service at 6:45 am at Church of the Cross

Easter Sunday worship at 10:30 am

**Mail Carrier's Food Drive
"STAMP OUT HUNGER"**



Volunteer Opportunity **MAY 13, 2023**

Sign Up on our website: www.salinafood.org

or scan the QR Code



"Drivers & Helpers"
- around Salina

"Lifters & Sifters"
- at Post Office

"Movers"
- from Post Office to Food Bank

"Sorters"
- at Food Bank

Trivia Night

Bring your trivia team of up to four people for an evening of general knowledge trivia!

**APRIL 13, 2023
6:30 PM
Church of the Cross
1600 Rush Street**

Tornado Damage in Alabama and Mississippi Response

The United Methodist Committee on Relief, the denomination's relief arm, has already given the Mississippi Conference a \$10,000 solidarity grant and expects to provide support for the recovery for the long haul. The Mississippi Conference is also organizing early response teams and assessing long-term needs of its communities. The conference expects to ask for more assistance from the United Methodist connection in the coming months.

UMCOR also has given permission to the North Alabama Conference to use unused funds previously awarded to the conference in 2020 to address the current disaster. The conference's United Methodist Disaster Warehouse in Decatur also is ready to distribute needed supplies. The conference also expects to work with local volunteer groups.

For now, UMCOR urges people not to self-deploy but to wait for conferences to invite Volunteers in Mission teams to serve.

The town of Rolling Fork, which is largely a farming community, faces a long-term rebuilding process unlike any in its long history.

For Laura Hollis and others, it felt right to begin that process with prayer at the church, which will celebrate its 175th anniversary in June this year.

"We're grateful, Lord, that you brought us through this storm," the Rev. Mary Stewart preached at Rolling Fork United Methodist Church's outdoor Sunday service,

Stayce Trout is the development director for the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi. She stressed that used clothes or shoes are not helpful to people in the disaster areas. Donations of food and baby supplies also aren't desired since area food pantries as well as a diaper bank started by the community foundation are already meeting those needs.

However, foundation staff have been collecting from area faith communities the supplies that are needed and transporting them to the foundation's emergency response center in Rolling Fork. But for people outside the foundation's area of service, the best way to help at this point is financial donations through Advance #901670.

VANCO Giving Online

VANCO makes giving to the church easy! Through your support and contributions, we can share the message of our faith to not only our congregation and the community, but to help support and create ministry that shares our love with everyone.

There are two ways to use VANCO for e-giving:

- Download the mobile app: Download Vanco Mobile either through the Apple Store or Google Play. Search Church of the Cross and find the one that is in Salina, KS and give.
- Visit www.coc-salina.org and easily enter your donation through our website.

If you have questions or need help, call the church (785-825-5170) and talk to either Mollie or Pat.



Blessing Box

The blessing box located in the shelter house south of the church is very frequently used. In the back of the narthex is a white cabinet for donations for the blessing box. When out shopping if each family picked up one or two items to go into the box it would help make sure people in our community do not go hungry. Donations can be left on the welcome center or put in the cabinet.



Suggestions of items for the blessing box are:

- Canned or bag tuna
- Vienna sausages
- Canned fruit
- Peanut butter
- Canned vegetables
- Crackers
- Grab and go snacks
- Macaroni and cheese.

COMMUNITY GARDEN GRAND OPENING

CHURCH OF THE CROSS
1600 RUSH ST. SALINA, KS 67401

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 2023
10AM-2PM**

Seed Giveaway (While supplies last)	Master Gardener Garry Wicks - Speaking at 10am
10 raised garden beds available for community use	Gardening tools provided and kept on site

Scan QR Code for
Application &
Agreement

PRAYER WALK

Third Sunday of the Month at 2pm
(Weather permitting)

April 16
May 21
June 18
July 16
August 20

Beginning at Church of the Cross
1600 Rush St. Salina, KS 67401

Updates available on Facebook -
United Methodist Church of the Cross

What is a prayer walk?
Walking together through the community while
briefly stopping at each home or business to pray.

Give by simply shopping at Dillons

Do you buy groceries at Dillons? Do you shop on Amazon? If you answered yes to one of those questions you can give simply by shopping! Dillons: Visit www.dillons.com and go to community rewards. COC's organization number is: XI722

APRIL AT COC

Saturday, April 1

4:00 PM Webster Reserved

Sunday, April 2

9:30 AM Adult Sunday School – Webster East Classroom
10:30 AM In-Person and Online Worship

Monday, April 3

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry – Courtyard Room
3:30 PM Bell Choir Practice
7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Tuesday, April 4

6:00 PM Scouts Pack 4 – Webster, Gym, East Classroom

Wednesday, April 5

3:00 PM Webster Reserved
7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Thursday, April 6

10:00 AM TLC – Webster Room
3:30 PM Bible Buddies – Sunset School
7:00 PM Holy Thursday Service

Friday, April 7

11:30 AM Meal Club @ Perkins
7:00 PM Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 8

2:00 PM Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 9

6:45 AM Sunrise Service
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Easter Sunday Service

Monday, April 10

Church office is closed

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry – Courtyard Room
3:30 PM Bell Choir Practice
7:00 PM Bell Choir Concert – Webster Room
7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Youth Room

Tuesday, April 11

1:30 PM United Women in Faith – Webster East Classroom
6:30 PM Scouts Pack 4 – Webster, Gym, East Classroom

Wednesday, April 12

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Thursday, April 13

10:00 AM TLC – Webster Room
3:30 PM Bible Buddies – Sunset School
6:30 PM Trivia Night

Saturday, April 15

10:00 AM Garden Opening

Sunday, April 16

9:30 AM Adult Sunday School – Webster East Classroom
10:30 AM In-Person and Online Worship
2:00 PM Prayer Walk

Monday, April 17

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry – Courtyard Room
3:30 PM Bell Choir Practice
7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Tuesday, April 18

6:30 PM Scouts Pack 4 – Webster, Gym, East Classroom

Wednesday, April 19

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Thursday, April 20

10:00 AM TLC – Webster Room
3:30 PM Bible Buddies – Sunset School

Friday, April 21

6:00 PM Meal Club – Perkins

Saturday, April 22

9:00 AM Learn CPR - Webster Room (Reg. Required)

Sunday, April 23

8:00 AM Webster Room Reserved
9:30 AM Adult Sunday School – Webster East Classroom
10:30 AM In-Person and Online Worship

Monday, April 24

8:00 AM Webster Room Reserved
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry – Courtyard Room
3:30 PM Bell Choir Practice
7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Tuesday, April 25

8:00 AM Webster Room Reserved
6:30 PM Scouts Pack 4 – Webster, Gym, East Classroom

Wednesday, April 26

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Thursday, April 27

10:00 AM TLC – Webster Room
3:30 PM Bible Buddies – Sunset School

Saturday, April 29

10:00 AM Craft Together

Sunday, April 30

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Sunday Service

April Birthdays

4/6 – Virginia Laber
4/15 – Yvette Stevenson
4/21 – Daryl Rundberg
4/24 – Anthony Brockway



LEARN CPR

American Heart Association, Heartsaver CPR/AED/First Aid

Saturday 4/22

9AM - 1PM

Church of the Cross (1600 Rush St)

Cost: \$75 per person

**Registration required - contact
Tara Baxter for more information**

tara.baxter@coc-salina.org



**American
Heart
Association®**



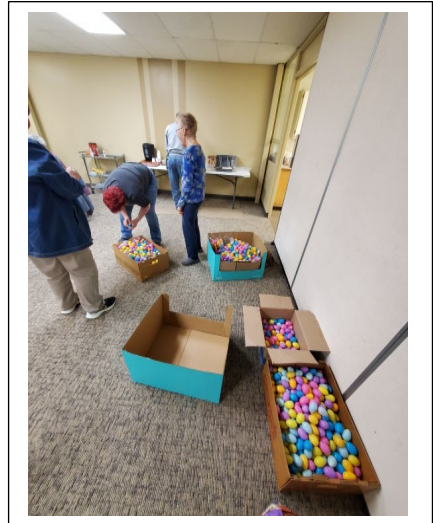
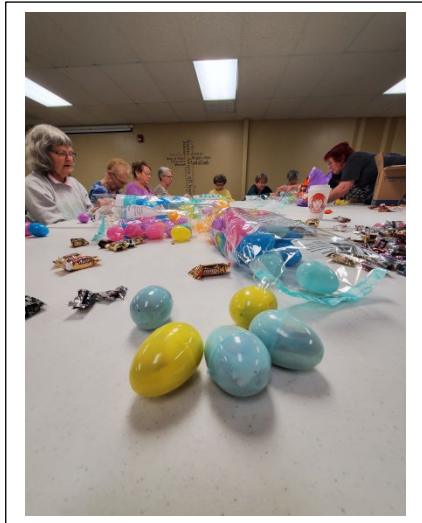
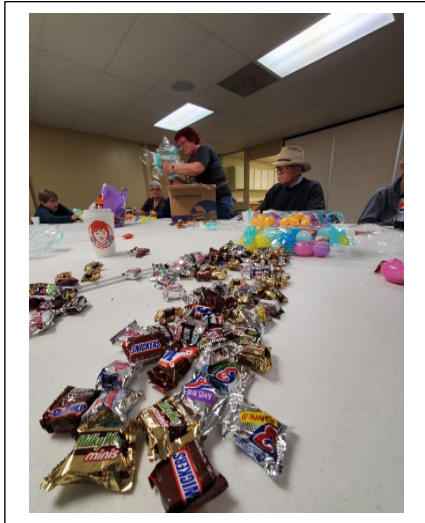
**SALINA FAMILY
HEALTHCARE CENTER**

Craft Together

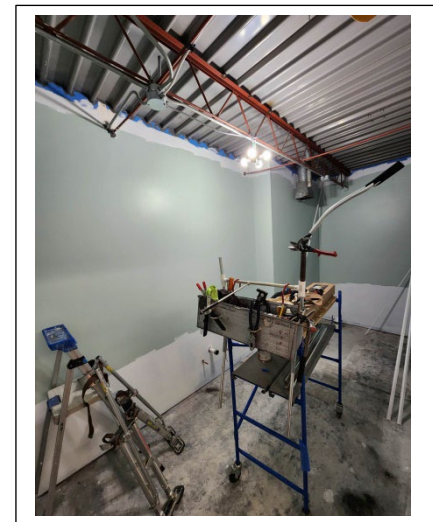
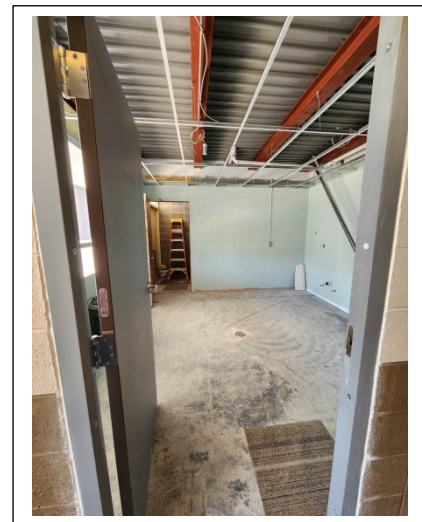
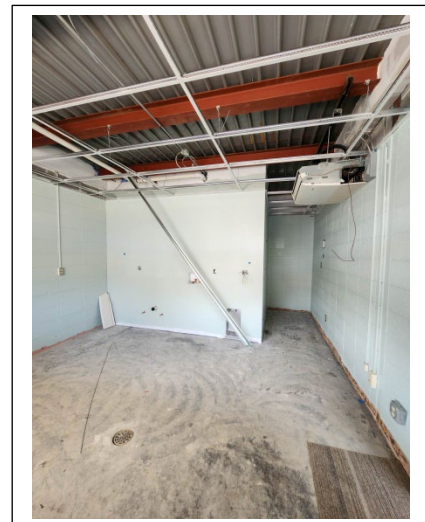
On Saturday, April 29 at 10:00am we will have a Craft Together Day in the Webster Room. Bring whatever project you are working on and enjoy fellowship and work time. Bring a snack to share if you would like and bring a drink for yourself. This is a great time to see what others are working on and show what you are working on to others. Please sign-up at the Welcome Center and let us know if you need power.

Where have you seen God?

Share your photos of where you have seen God. To submit your photos please email them to Mollie at Mollie.purcell@coc-salina.org.



Welcome Tara Baxter who transferred her membership to Church of the Cross and Carter Purcell who was confirmed into the church on Sunday, April 2.





Easter Hunt Preparations

Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt is coming up on Saturday, April 8 at 2 pm. We will need some volunteers to help with putting eggs out, handing out the egg cartons for kids to fill up and getting kids started in their area to pick up eggs. If you are interested there is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center. It is a blast to be a helper for this event!



Church office hours:
Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Church of the Cross

In-Person and Online Sunday Worship – 10:30 AM

Church Staff

Pastor Libby Themis

pastorlibbyoberdorf@gmail.com

785-564-1977

Mollie Purcell, Administrative Assistant

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Dave Musil, Custodian