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Technology Questions? We can help!

Join Robin Cates and Tara Baxter on Sunday, June 4 from 2pm-3pm to get answers to your tech questions. Bring your device and a charger and drop in for help! No question is a dumb question!



Meal Club Dates June

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:

June 9 – 11:30am @ Perkins
June 23 – 6pm @ Perkins



Pastoral Appointment

It was announced on May 26th that Pastor Libby Themis will be the Pastor at Church of the Cross at ¾ time and will be at Roxbury, KS ¼ time. On June 4th after worship there will be a short discussion about worship time and what our best options will be. We hope you will join us in that discussion.



The next issue of The Message will be out in July. Please have all articles to the church office by June 26.

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

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

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,

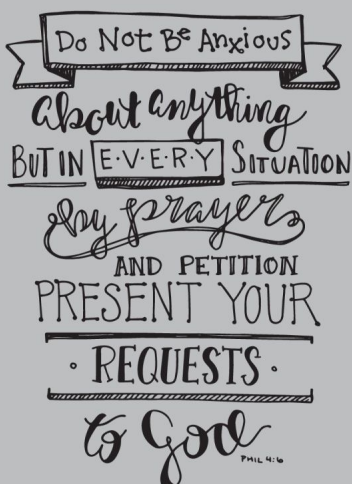
In this season of Pentecost, which extends beyond the one day we call Pentecost the Holy Spirit takes us on a journey to learn about and engage with the Holy Spirit all the way into the fall. This is the longest continuous season of the church year for as many as 28 weeks. The Holy Spirit though present from the time of creation, is rarely mentioned in the Bible until Jesus talks about the Holy Spirit coming to be our guide and our counselor. Yet the Holy Spirit is present in the Gospels before Jesus speaks his first word and is connected to Jesus "on all kinds of occasions in his life—birth, baptism, temptation, preaching, healing, exorcisms, death and resurrection," says Clark Pinnock.

I think this is an important reminder for us that the Holy Spirit is found in numerous ways in our everyday lives. Every one of the places where the Holy Spirit was at work occurred only or mostly outside of a synagogue or temple, they were parts of Jesus everyday life. Through abundant images, "Hildegard of Bingen depicts Spirit in marvelous ways: as the life of creatures, as a burning fire that sparks, ignites, inflames and kindles our hearts; as a guide in the fog, a balm for wounds, a shining serenity and an overflowing fountain that spreads to all sides." (Clark Pinnock) I love these images as they remind us that even though we often aren't aware of it the Holy Spirit is ready to meet us right where we are, guiding us in unexpected ways to live the life we are called to as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Sometimes it will look like a gathering of women at United Women in Faith who spend time together sharing a devotion or learning more about our community and world to respond through prayer and service. Other times it is our Leadership Team who share a devotion before entering our work to be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we lead the church in new directions and new ways. It can even look like a family picnic when we have a Block Party and neighbors, our new family, join us for an evening of conversation, food, games, and great music. People who didn't even realize how much they yearned for relationships with their neighbors until the Holy Spirit nudged them to come and they experienced neighbor with us.

Throughout my first two years here I have seen the Holy Spirit guiding us to see our ministry in new and expansive ways and I am so grateful we have followed our guidance that seems so mysterious yet is revealed in concrete ways of living and serving. I encourage us all to pray for the work of the Holy Spirit to be evident among us as we face changes on July 1 as the new appointive year begins and I begin serving $\frac{3}{4}$ time at Church of the Cross and $\frac{1}{4}$ time at Roxbury United Parish. When it comes to serving two churches there is always a need to adjust worship times to allow for time for a service in one location and travel time before the next service begins. Since Roxbury is a farming community and needs time to complete chores before worship, they will have worship at 11 am. This Sunday, June 4 we will have a discussion and come to a consensus about the new time for services at COC. I invite you to pray for the Holy Spirit to work among us to guide us as we determine our new worship time and create space for new ministries this year.

+ Love,
Pastor Libby



YMCA Grab N Go

Beginning Friday, May 19 Church of the Cross became the distribution site for the YMCA Grab N Go summer meal program. Each Friday from 3:30pm – 5:30pm volunteers hand out groceries for the week for each child age 3-18. This program helps support over 500 families each week. Part of this includes an activity sheet and devotion that goes to each family and is produced by Tara Baxter. She is able to put our church address, service times, and upcoming activities on these sheets.

While the groceries are at no cost and have no eligibility requirements past having a child/ren between 3 and 18 participants are required to sign up online prior to the distribution. The sign up link is: <https://form.jotform.com/231225260788154>

A program like this cannot exist without volunteers. If you would like to volunteer you can sign up here: <http://form.jotform.com/231226415106141> . Volunteer shifts are from 2pm – 4pm or 3:20pm – 6pm.



Leadership News

As our Leadership Team continues our work for visioning and being open to being inclusive of our neighbors. On Wednesday, June 21 we'll have a special training with our Great Plains Conference Director of Clergy Excellence, Rev. Kathy Williams.

She will teach us about the Intercultural Development Inventory and after the meeting our team will take the inventory. She will then meet with us again to go over the survey and help guide us on how we can be more inclusive in our church based on race, social - status, ethnicity, etc.

We are excited about this opportunity as we continue to reach out to our neighbors of culturally diverse backgrounds. We believe this will help us to live out our mission statement of "A Caring Community reaching out to transform lives by knowing, loving, and serving God.

Please be in prayer for your team as our discipleship draws us together and draws our neighbors to us.



Playground Update

You will notice a trailer in the south parking lot. This is the sign that construction will soon begin on the playground upgrade! We expect construction to begin around June 20th. Construction should take about 2-3 weeks weather permitting. Volunteers will be needed to rake back/move some of the rubber mulch as the new playground area is slightly larger than the pea gravel area. This will be done a day or two before construction begins. Please watch your email for when this will take place!

It will be so exciting to have a playground that will work great for all ages.



Some modifications will be made in the final project.

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.

Active Shooter Training

Saturday, June 24

10:30 to 12:00pm

Rev. Hollie Tapley, Great Plains Disaster Coordinator will be at Church of the Cross to talk about ways we can prepare should we have and active shooter on site.

She will give us special insights from her work with police departments and various law enforcement agencies.

PRAYER WALK

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

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

Updates available on Facebook -
United Methodist Church of the Cross

April 16

May 21

June 18

July 16

August 20



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

JUNE AT COC

Thursday, June 1

10:00 AM TLC – Webster Room

Friday, June 2

2:00 PM Grab N Go, North Lot

Saturday, June 3

4:00 PM Webster Room Reserved

Sunday, June 4

9:30 AM Adult Sunday School – Webster East Classroom

10:30 AM In-Person and Online Worship

2:00 PM Tech Assistance/Questions - Webster Room

Monday, June 5

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry – Courtyard Room

3:30 PM Bell Choir Practice

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Wednesday, June 7

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Thursday, June 8

10:00 AM TLC – Webster Room

Friday, June 9

11:30 AM Meal Club, Perkins

2:00 PM Grab N Go, North Lot

Saturday, June 10

10:00 AM Webster Room Reserved

Sunday, June 11

9:30 AM Adult Sunday School – Webster East Classroom

10:30 AM In-Person and Online Worship

Monday, June 12

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry – Courtyard Room

3:30 PM Bell Choir Practice

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Tuesday, June 13

1:30 PM United Women in Faith, East Classroom

Wednesday, June 14

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Thursday, June 15

10:00 AM TLC – Webster Room

Friday, June 16

2:00 PM Grab N Go, North Lot

Saturday, June 17

7:00 PM Music, Sanctuary

Sunday, June 18

Father's Day

9:30 AM Adult Sunday School – Webster East Classroom

10:30 AM In-Person and Online Worship

2:00 PM Prayer Walk, Parking Lot

Monday, June 19

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry – Courtyard Room

3:30 PM Bell Choir Practice

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Wednesday, June 21

6:00 PM Leadership Team

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Thursday, June 22

10:00 AM TLC – Webster Room

Friday, June 23

2:00 PM Grab N Go, North Lot

6:00 PM Meal Club, Perkins

Saturday, June 24

10:30 AM Active Shooter Training, Webster Room

Sunday, June 25

9:30 AM Adult Sunday School – Webster East Classroom

10:30 AM In-Person and Online Worship

Monday, June 26

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry – Courtyard Room

3:30 PM Bell Choir Practice

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Wednesday, June 28

7:00 PM AA Group 3 – Webster East Classroom

Thursday, June 29

10:00 AM TLC – Webster Room

June Birthdays

6/2 – Byron Norris

6/3 – Rita Northup

6/9 – Sylvia Rice

6/10 – Rich Rice

6/15 – Judy Plankenhorn

6/15 – Sara Gault

6/18 – Trista Stevenson

6/22 – Bill Burrows

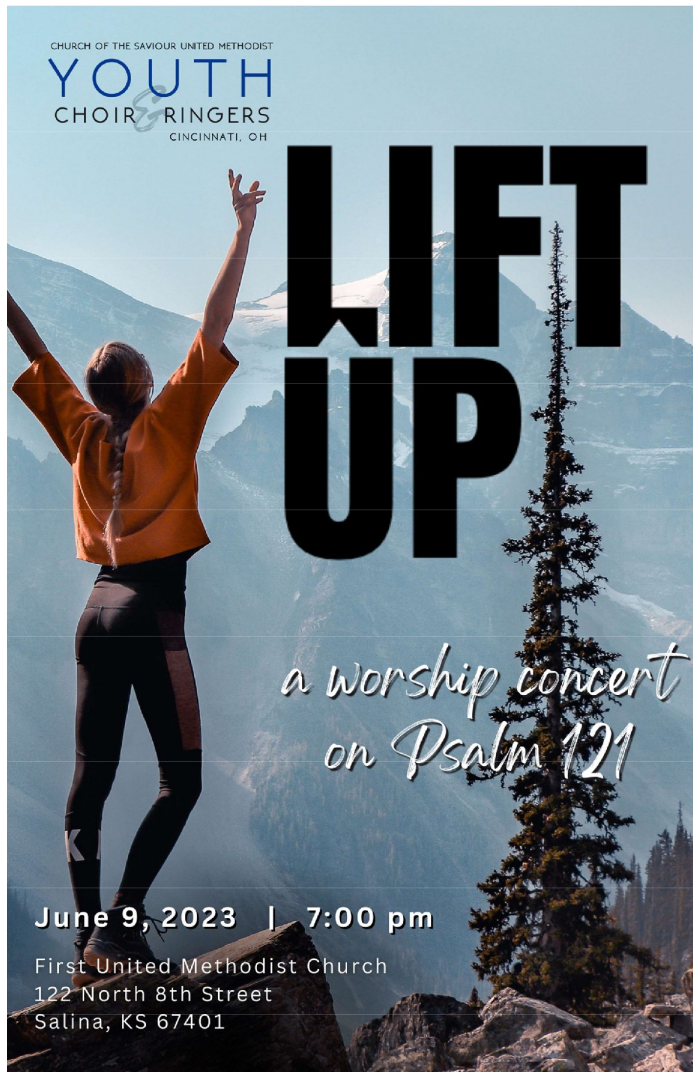
6/24 – Julie Rowe

6/26 – Sherry Cates

6/27 – Claudine Ashcraft

6/28 – Bruce Fast

6/30 – Katie Fast

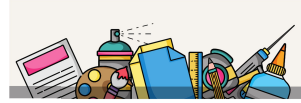


Marking their twentieth summer tour, these singers and ringers present the worship concert Lift Up based on Psalm 121. The program features choral anthems, exciting handbell pieces, and dramatic sketches. The junior and senior high students who participate in these choirs are committed to sharing their faith through music that delivers an inspiring and uplifting message of hope and assurance. Plan to attend and experience an uplifting evening of music and worship.



Discover U

Discover U has amazing events coming up!



STAMP CARVING & CRAFT TOGETHER



Date:
July 8, 2023 10AM

Location:
Webster Room

Cost: Free

Try your hand at stamp carving and make your own cards! All supplies will be available. Stamp carving and card making not your thing? Bring your own craft to work on and be in community with other makers!



Date:
July 29, 2023 10AM

Location:
Gym

Cost: Free

Gear up for the 2023-2024 school year with a new backpack and school supplies! No age limit or eligibility necessary. Come while supplies last.

Coming in August:

Adult Intro to Guitar – More information to come!
Fire Safety with Salina Fire Department – August 12

Coming in September:

OCCK Travel Training – September 16

Coming in October:

Annual Trunk or Treat and
Chicken Noodle Dinner – October 29

Do you have a talent or passion you want to share with the community?

Email Tara Baxter at tara.baxter@coc-salina.org to get signed up to teach a class!

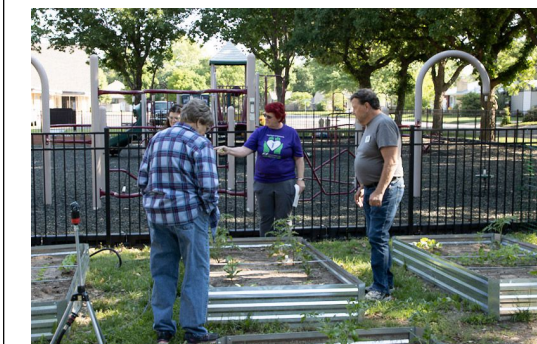
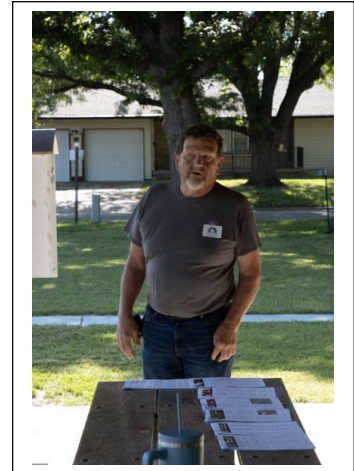
Stay up to date by visiting:
www.coc-salina.org/discover-u

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.



A great time was had at the Community Block Party! We had a many visitors from the neighborhood and enjoyed great music and games!



We appreciate Roger Plankenhorn for taking so many amazing photos for us over the last few months. He took the photos at the Garden Work Day and presentation by Master Gardener Garry Wicks. If you notice when you drive by you can see the plants are certainly growing.



Thank you to Karen Cooksey for sharing her beautiful Iris' with the church office. They have been a pleasure to have.





Church office hours:
Monday – Friday 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Church of the Cross

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

Church Staff

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Dave Musil, Custodian