## A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR



Now that Easter is past, we continue, as the song says, to "Serve a Risen Savior." THANKS to all who helped make the March celebrations meaningful. Special thanks to **Dale and Kathy Arnold** for planning and preparing the Easter Breakfast! Also to **Anita Baird, Lori Schroyer, and a great Children's Ministry team**, for a delightful Easter Egg Hunt. The team who did visitation on Palm

Sunday afternoon was one of the most enthusiastic and effective I have seen, and we welcomed newcomers from the neighborhood we visited. Eager hands joined together to beautify the facilities inside and out, and a surprise gift of tulip bulbs from the **Eagan family** bloomed just in time for Easter! Pastors **Jeremy Smith and Pete Miller** coordinated the traditional Foot-Washing Service, and Pastor **Jim Gillis** opened the Word for us in the (indoor!) Sunrise service.

What a joy it is see new people coming to trust in Christ as Savior! Each new believer can thank many others who have shared Christ by example, by teaching or sharing Scripture, or by gentle words of encouragement. In recent weeks I have been praying every Sunday, "Lord do something among us today that none of us 'pastors' can take credit for," and He is answering this prayer.

On March 31 Nina and I will be leaving for two weeks, a combination of "business" and vacation. I will be involved in the twice-yearly meeting of the Free Methodist Historical Commission in Indianapolis on the weekend, and from there we will fly to Virginia to visit friends and historic sites, and to relax a while. I am thankful for a great team who will minister while we are away, Superintendent Jeff Johnson and Pastor Jeremy Smith on the Sunday mornings, and Ron Borgers and Bonnie Hartzell sharing the Word on the two Wednesday evenings. And of course Erin keeping everything coordinated!

You will see in this newsletter many opportunities for worship, fellowship and service. Look it over carefully, for we are sure there is something here for you. I want to encourage you especially to attend the 11:50 AM worship time on April 17, for an inspiring concert by the choir from Central Christian College of Kansas. And be sure to join us for the pot-luck dinner after!

In the Love of Christ, Pastor Dwight T Gregory

#### **BREAD OF LIFE FOOD BANK**

Each week our church serves many families through the Bread of Life Food Bank. We provide bags of food, based on family size, to everyone who comes on Thursday afternoons, between 4 and 6. Unlike many other food banks, we do not limit our service based on ZIP codes, income, or whether they have come previously during the month. We have people here to pray and counsel with *each* one who comes, and we often refer people to pastors or other agencies for special spiritual or physical needs. A number of people have come to faith in Christ through this counsel. On the third Thursday of each month we offer a short worship service, including communion, for all who wish to participate, though no one is required to attend in order to get food. *We know of no other food bank in our area with the same combination of spiritual emphasis and commitment to serve ALL who show up*!

For a number of years Bread of Life was a separate appointment through the Mid-America Conference of the Free Methodist Church. As of this year, the ministry is again completely under the administration of the Midwest City church. Tamara Bingham serves as coordinator, along with volunteers who prepare the bags of food on Wednesday and serve those who come for food on Thursday. Some who first came to receive food now come regularly to volunteer their services. More volunteers are needed! *Call the church office to learn how you can serve!* Our largest source of donated food ended last year, through policy changes at the corporate level. We are seeking new sources of food, but in the meantime, most of our food comes from donations of food, or designated cash gifts, from the congregation. *Pray for this important ministry of our church, visit a Thursday service some time, and ask God what part you might play in making Bread of Life more effective!* 

# Church and Youth News

**Senior Adult Luncheon** The Senior Adults will have a fish fry with sides and a dessert catered lunch Ariday, April 8 at noon. The cost is \$7.

> Gor more information, contact Lori Schroyer at 361.0734.



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE 405.732.0648.

## PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Dwight and Nina Gregory will be out of town March 31-April 13. If you are in need of pastoral care you may contact: Rev. Jeremy Smith at 821.8575 Rev. Pete Miller at 570.2322 Rev. Jim Gillis at 201.5150



## LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The Ladies Bible Study is on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10AM at the church. If you are interested in being a part please call Martha Borgers at 590.9792.

### SERVICE TIMES

Sunday School for all ages Sunday Wednesday Bible study, Youth and Children

9:45AM 10:50AM 7:00 PM

Contact Pastor Jeremy Smith to learn of a Community Life Group at a time and place that works for you!

## CTI 14:21

We are excited to have Carpenter's Tools International Team come spend some time with the youth. CTI 14:21 will be here April 7-9.



There will be an all-church worship night Friday, April 8th at 6:30PM. Following the worship time there will be pizza and fellowship with the team.

Everyone is invited.

## **CENTRAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE CHOIR**

We are very excited to be hosting the Central Christian College choir of McPherson, Kansas, on April 16-17. They will arrive Saturday evening at 7:30PM and will leave following lunch on Sunday. We are in need of 16-17 host homes. Please contact the Church office if you are interested in hosting two boys and/or two girls in your home. The host home is only responsible for breakfast Sunday morning.

The Sunday morning service at 10:50 on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> will be the choir concert. Please be sure to participate in the potluck meal following the concert.

## SAVE THE DATE-saturday, APRIL 2 AT NOON. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BRINGING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS' LOVE TO SPECIAL KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS? WE ARE IN THE BEGINNING STAGES OF PLANNING THIS SUMMER'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO JOIN US AS WE DISCUSS POSSIBLE DATES AND TIMES, ETC. THIS WILL BE ONLY AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT ANITA BAIRP AT 659.3322.



