

THE BROADCASTER

February 24, 2021

Pastor's Piece

Recently I watched a movie called "Sister Acts" on Disney Plus and I believe it was my at least fourth time watching the movie. I'm sure many of you have watched the movie as well. In the movie there is a song called "I'll Follow Him" sang by the sisters. The song goes like this:

I will follow him
Follow him wherever he may go
And near him, I always will be
For nothing can keep me away
He is my destiny
I will follow him
Ever since he touched my heart I knew
There isn't an ocean too deep
A mountain so high it can keep
Keep me away
Away from his love
I love him!
I love him!
I love him!
And where he goes
I'll follow!
I'll follow!
I'll follow!



It seems that the song that sisters sing make us feel excited and dancing and make people think that following Jesus is easy, happy, and joyful. However, when you read the Bible, Jesus did not make following him easy at all. Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." That is right. If you want to be a follower of Jesus Christ this is what you ought to do. You must deny yourself and pick up your cross." Jesus is basically is saying, "If you are really serious about following me, you've got to consider your life as if you are going to an execution on a hill and dying on the cross. Carrying your cross where you would be hanging to die and in that manner follow me."

So if you think about it, there is high probability of many of us would turn away from following him because it might be way too difficult. So if you are a member of FUMCVV and if you are serious about following Jesus Christ, if God is significant in your life, you must take it seriously and apply into our lives to be the follower of Jesus Christ.

As we continue our Lenten journey let us remind ourselves that carrying cross involves death, death of ourselves, humiliation, and pain. Jesus asks us, "Do you want to be a Christian? You want to be a disciple? You want to follow me? Carry your cross and follow me." I hope and pray that all of us would be able to answer "Yes, I'll follow you."

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Ji

OUR PRAYERS FOR

Those Within the Church

Jerry Browning, Judy Dellinger, Eldon Fike, June Fike, Jodi Lewis's brother George Maskrid, Chuck Potter, Roxanne Richerson and family at the death of her mother, Christy Southards, the family of Alta Verlin at her passing

Our Leaders

Law Enforcement Officers in our community and in the nation, the persecuted Christians around the world. God's Guidance and Strength for President Biden, Our Troops and their Families

Our Military

- † Michael Barbett – Darryl & Val Wall's son-in-law
- † CPL Cody Blair – Judy Lann's grandson
- † Dennis Burns Jr (DJ) – Dennis Burns Sr & Lisa Soetebier's son
- † Lt. Col. Adam Coffman – Gladys Coffman's grandson
- † Kristopher Dewitt – Mary Stout's grandson
- † Chance Greenhoff – Army
- † James Harris (MP) – Bill & Joy Page's grandson
- † Austin Kroeger
- † Sydney Lang – Navy
- † SPC Bryant Leinen – Warren & Jeanne Leinen's grandson
- † Erik Nott & family – Doug & Gay Vannaman's son-in-law
- † SGT Steven Pearce – Walt & Janet Southards' nephew
- † Erik Ralsten
- † CPL Bethany Reeves
- † David Ruckman – Roy & Linda McFarland's nephew
- † AIC Bradley Southards – Walt & Janet Southards' grandson
- † CMSAF Jeffrey Stockwell – Melissa Lampe Stockwell's husband



1 Dan Seacat	1 Julie Seidl	1 Elnora Waller	1 Amanda Stauffer
1 Drew Ellington	2 Larry Clark	3 Bruce Campbell	3 Miranda Dessenberger
3 Easton Reffner	4 Erlene Morgan	4 Jennifer Salas	5 Mike Hogan
5 Ed McCormick	5 Tucker Ingle	7 Nancy Anderson	8 Marilyn Hammond
8 Debbie Edwards	8 Niki Miles	9 Gavin Reeves	10 Doug Vannaman
12 Don Pearson	12 Andy Spratt	12 Emma Girtz	14 Del James
15 Bryce Burdick	17 Larry McHughes	17 Benjamin Stiglitz	18 Mike McNow
18 Ande Armstrong	19 Kirk Stanley	19 Tim Lipke	21 Bret Rogers
21 Fred Held	21 Janine Ingle	21 Leslie Bauguess	22 Jennifer Youngers
23 Annalise Stockwell	25 Kim Dellinger	25 Ethel Bartel	25 Colten Ingle
28 Vicky Gooch	29 Breanna Sayers Bartels	29 Phyllis Neaderhiser	30 Vickie Wilkerson
30 Braeden Potillo			



5 Dennis & Goldie Robinson	14 Don & Susan Sayler	20 Lonnie & Dorene Ruth
20 Bowe & Penny Wingerd	22 Ted & Donna Schupp	31 Dale & Arlene Guthrie

Thank You to...

To Our Church Family,

Thank you so much for all the prayers and acts of sympathy our family received after Pat's passing. Thanks also to Pastor Ji for his many visits to Pat before the pandemic. Pat always enjoyed the cards she received from people in our church. Thanks again for all your kindness.

The Kirkland Family

Rev. Ju, Leaders, and Congregation of Valley Center,

I want to thank you for your faithful support of the 2020 Great Plains Mission Shares. This past year has presented numerous challenges for us all, but I am proud of the way you have remained committed to Christ's larger church. May you have a blessed 2021.

In Christ,

Mitch Reese, Wichita District Superintendent



Thank you to Mike and Jana Hogan's son-in-law Seth Worstell for making the cross on our east lawn. The cross will be displayed throughout the season of Lent and Easter.

Sermon Series

MEETING JESUS – During Lent we will work from Matthew's Gospel to learn more about Jesus. The series will help us recall the key events of Jesus' life and ministry here on earth and it will eventually lead us to ponder the reason why Jesus came to die—to forgive his people of their sin. I invite you to join us as we prepare to walk and meet with Jesus through Lent and Holy Week.



Fasting for Healthcare Workers Project



FUMCVC has partnered with Big Larry's Burgers in Valley Center for the Fasting for HealthCare Workers Project. During Lent, we are asking congregants to fast at least one day each week and then donate the money they would have spent on food that day to our Fasting for HealthCare Workers project. At the end of Lent, we will donate that money to Big Larry's Burgers and they will provide a meal (or meals) for HealthCare Workers at Ascension Via Cristi (where Big Larry's wife is a registered nurse). Donating is

easy! We will have a special collection box for your donations next to the offering box. Not sure fasting is for you? Maybe you are planning on giving up for Lent pop or sweets or some other treat on which you normally spend money? You could donate the money you would normally spend on those goodies. ****CAUTION**** While fasting can be healthy for many people, you should speak to your doctor first if you have certain medical conditions or are pregnant, breastfeeding or trying to conceive. Fasting is not recommended for people who have had an eating disorder.

https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/how-to-fast#TOC_TITLE_HDR_12

Monthly Mission



UMYF High Schoolers and Middle Schoolers are going to participate in a Monthly Mission. The first Sunday of most months, we will have a table set-up in the main foyer to accept donations for that month's mission project. Those donations will then be taken to the organization the next day. All of the organizations are local. Some are even in Valley Center. Please help as you feel led. March's giving is Easter Candy for the FUMCVC Easter Egg Hunt.

Please bring Easter candy donations on **Sunday, March 7**.

Snow Removal

If we get snow again (and I hope we don't!) and you need someone to clear your drive, you can contact the church office and we can put you in touch with someone that might be able to help you.



First United Methodist Church Valley Center Emergency Contact Information



Our church community cares about you. If something were to happen to you or your family, it is important for those in your community to know how to reach your emergency contacts. Whether you are single or married, live near family or live many miles away, please consider providing FUMCVC with information on how to contact the people who know you best. Be assured that all of your information will be held in strict confidence. It will only be accessed in case of emergency. For an Emergency Contact Information form, please contact the church office. Information requested includes name, address, pets at home, those with access to your home, and emergency contact information. Once completed, return to the church office where it will be kept.

WHY GIVE UP THINGS FOR LENT

Some people give up chocolate for Lent. Why?

Lent.

Ah. The time of year when we, Christians, conveniently rely on our faith to help us stick to our diets!

While that was typed tongue-in-cheek, I do think that we sometimes make too much light of the Lenten Season, *especially* when it comes to figuring out what we should give up. Some people treat the 40 days as a quick diet scheme: No carbs or no caffeine or no sugar or no chocolate— which is good and all. I don't want to be the Lenten Police and belittle what people are giving up. It's just that sometimes we say we're giving up those things without any rhyme, reason, purpose or intention.

I once had my youth group students write their names on the wall and what they were going to give up during Lent season to hold us accountable. It was then I realized I never really explained what the Lenten Season was about nor why we fast from things during this season.

The things my kids were giving up:

- “Doing homework. What’s the point?”
- “Sweets and chocolate — Prom season is right around the corner.”
- “Being nice to my siblings.”

The responses on the wall taunted me every time I walked in that youth room.

We give up things during the Lent season to remind ourselves of the suffering and pain that we know Jesus will experience at the end of the season. We also give up things to be reminded of our dependence on God. Caffeine shouldn't be the thing that compels us to live. God's love and grace is what should compel us to live and love. Giving up coffee is not trivial at all. When that dull headache starts rolling in, we reflect on our mortality, our weakness, and our dependence on coffee (it's only 9am — how am I getting a caffeine headache already?) which should remind us of God's mercy and grace and presence.

Lent can also be understood as some sort of house cleaning. Just like how we may clean our house in preparation for a guest, we take time to examine our lives and in clean our hearts to prepare to encounter the Risen Christ at Easter. So we clean out the things that hinder our relationships with God and with others.

The main purpose of “giving up” things in Lent is to bring us closer to God; to prioritize God; to put God in the center of our minds and lives; to make God the focal point.

So if you're thinking about giving up chocolate — do it! But also ask yourself “how will that bring me closer to God?” One way it could bring you closer to God is that every time you start craving for chocolate, you take that as a cue to be in prayer; to confess your weakness, to confess your need for God's grace, to be reminded that God is with you and that God has always been with you.

May this Lenten season bring you ever so closer to God.

Rev. Joseph Yoo is a West Coaster at heart contently living in Houston, Texas with his wife and son. He serves at Mosaic Church in Houston. Find more of his writing at [josephyoo.com](https://www.umc.org/en/content/why-give-up-things-for-lent). <https://www.umc.org/en/content/why-give-up-things-for-lent>

Valley Center Preschool

PRE-ENROLLMENT

For the 2021-2022 School Year

Monday, March 8

5:30-6:00 pm – Current Students

6:00-6:30 pm – New Students



Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we ask that only one parent attend enrollment and that children remain at home. The Methodist church requires masks be worn inside the building and we will be practicing social distancing.

Enrollment forms are available at the preschool or can be found online at <https://www.fumcvc.org/valley-center-preschool>.

TUITION

\$200/Month	5 Sessions Per Week
\$130/Month	3 Sessions Per Week
\$100/Month	2 Sessions Per Week

(Tuition is paid monthly Sep – May)

CLASSES OFFERED

<u>3 Year Olds</u>	<u>4 & 5 Year Olds</u>
MW AM	MWF AM
MW PM	TTH AM
TTH AM	TTHF AM
TTH PM	M-F PRE-K



Morning Sessions 8:45 – 11:30 AM
 Afternoon Sessions 12:45 – 3:30 PM

School year begins the week before Labor Day
 and ends with USD 262 Schools in May



Located at the First United Methodist Church
 560 North Park Avenue, Valley Center, Kansas 67147 (316) 755-4343
vcpreschoolks@gmail.com

Celebrating 46 years of learning, laughter, and love!

OPEN DOOR IN-KIND DONATION NEEDS

Food Box Items – The following items make up the most distributed food items in the food boxes at Open Door’s Community Food Ministry. This is not all we have in the box, but these are the most needed items; however, any nonperishable items are welcome.

- Canned Meats, Salmon or Tuna
- Canned Vegetables
- Boxed Macaroni & Cheese
- Peanut Butter
- Canned or Dried Soup
- Canned Fruit
- Cereal or Oatmeal
- Baby Food

Health & Hygiene Items – These items are needed on an on-going basis and are given out at Open Door’s Community Food Ministry, or used at the Drop-In Center for the homeless.

- Bath Soap
- Combs
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene items
- Floss
- Hairbrushes
- Laundry detergent
- Socks (Women and Men’s)
- Razors (disposable)
- Shampoo
- Toilet paper
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Towels
- Washcloths
- Lotion

The homeless, when showering at the Homeless Resource Center, use travel sized soap, shampoo, conditioner, and lotions. So, as you travel, please consider bringing home those complimentary hotel items to share with those in need.

Baby Items

- Baby bottles w/nipples
- Diaper safety pins
- Plastic pants
- Blankets
- Disposable diapers (3s, 4s, 5s, 6s, and pull-ups are needed)
- Baby powder and oil
- Formula (regular & soy)
- Sleepers
- Receiving blankets
- Quilts/heavier

Clothing & Household Items – Our Klothes Kloset, accepts the following women’s, men’s, children’s and infant clothing for distribution, free of charge, to those in need. Since we do not have laundry facilities, we respectfully request that you only bring items in clean and good condition. Please limit clothing donations to items that we can distribute during the current season. A rule of thumb, we distribute summer clothes between February and July, and winter clothes are distributed between August and January.

- Shoes (*matching pairs only please*)
- Underwear
- Hats & Scarves, Gloves
- Winter coats, hats & mittens
- Bath Towels
- Small Housewares & Appliances
- Curtains
- Toys, Stuffed Animals
- Infant Car Seats
- Puzzles & Games
- Books (*please no encyclopedias or textbooks*)
- Socks (*matching pairs only please*)
- Purses, Belts, Ties
- Men’s Suits & Sport Coats
- Dresses
- Bedding
 - Sheets
 - Blankets
 - Bedspreads
 - Pillows & Pillow Cases
- Pictures, Lamps
- Tools
- Craft & School Supplies
- Kitchen & Dining
 - Dishes
 - Glasses
 - Pot Holders
 - Placemats
 - Silverware
 - Pots & Pans
- Strollers, High Chairs & Booster Seats
- Medical Aids
 - Walkers, Canes & Crutches
 - Batch Benches
 - Luggage & Backpacks

Food Bank Ministry Thoughts:

- Canned foods should be pop tops OR donate can openers
- Overlooked Needs:

Cooking oil – Spices, Salt, and Pepper – Tea Bags and Coffee – Sugar and Flour
Dishwashing Detergent – Feminine Hygiene Products



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