## THE BROADCASTER

March 24, 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Great Plains Conference,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, who by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection gave birth to the church and opened it up to people of all ages, nations, and races.

Our Great Plains Conference counts a total of 41 Asian clergy — 36 from South Korean, one from the Philippines, one from Singapore, two from India, and one from Pakistan. They are valued members of our conference who faithfully serve our congregations throughout the states of Kansas and Nebraska. It is with open arms, open hearts, and open doors that we receive them, their families, and all the gifts they have and bring to offer us and our communities. We are blessed and thankful for their presence among us, and we stand with them and their communities as our country processes the March 16 shootings that killed eight women, six of them of Asian descent.

I urge our clergy and our congregations, especially those served by our Asian pastors, to join in supporting them and their families with appreciation for their ministries and care for their well-being. We can show care for our Asian pastors and their families by speaking out or intervening to defend them when we witness them harassed, discriminated against, hear derogatory language about them, or whenever we see them targeted because of their race, language, or gender. We can report a hate crime if we witness a person demonstrating objectionable behavior against them. We can take this shooting tragedy as the Spirit's invitation to learn about discrimination against Asian-Americans in the United States over the past 150 years. We can seek ways to become more self-aware of how racialization distorts our own identity as God's children and the identity we create for others also created in the image of God. Finally, we can reach out and show support and hospitality to our Asian parishioners and fellow citizens in our communities who may be feeling fear for their well-being in this moment.

Our country continues to struggle with stereotyping, fear of immigrants, discrimination, and hatred associated with ethnicity, skin color, language, histories, culture, and other factors associated with race. The death of George Floyd put a spotlight on the pervasiveness of racism in May 2020. Racially denigrating rhetoric associated with the coronavirus pandemic fueled anti-Asian sentiment in the U.S. last year. Name-calling, shunning, and assault were among 3,800 hate incidents reported against Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders nationwide in 2020, according to Stop AAPI Hate, a center that tracks and responds to incidents of hate, violence, harassment, discrimination, shunning, and child bullying against Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States.

We have not been immune in the Great Plains Conference. Some of our Asian clergy have reported racist remarks and acts of racism made against them and/or their families since the onset of COVID-19. As Christians and United Methodists, we are called to model and live into the new humanity made possible through the cross of Jesus Christ that reconciles people and puts to death hostilities between them (Ephesians 2:15b-16). Our Social Principles state: "Racism, manifested as sin, plagues and hinders our relationship with Christ, inasmuch as it is antithetical to the gospel itself. We rejoice in the gifts that particular ethnic histories and cultures bring to our total life."

Please join me in actively opposing hate and racism in whatever forms it presents itself and in praying for the hastening of the day when people of every nation from all tribes and peoples and languages will live in harmony and peace on earth as it is in heaven (Revelation 7:9-10).

Paz, Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr.

https://www.greatplainsumc.org/newsdetail/bishop-urges-support-for-asian-pastors-in-the-great-plains-15173856

## OUR PRAYERS FOR

#### Those Within the Church

Judy Dellinger, Crystal Henderson, the family of Angela Roth-Cossman at her passing, Christy Southards

#### 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
- TCPL Cody Blair Judy Lann's grandson
- † Dennis Burns Jr (DJ) Dennis Burns Sr& Lisa Soetebier's son

Josh & Brittany Waite

- †Lt. Col. Adam Coffman Gladys Coffman's grandson
- ☆ Kristopher Dewitt Mary Stout's grandson
- † Chance Greenhoff Army
- <sup>†</sup> James Harris (MP) − Bill & Joy Page's grandson
- Austin Kroeger
- \* Sydney Lang Navy

- <sup>†</sup> SGT Bryant Leinen − Warren & Jeanne Leinen's grandson
- † Erik Nott & family Doug & Gay Vannaman's son-in-law
- <sup>†</sup> SGT Steven Pearce Walt & Janet Southards' nephew
- Terik Ralsten
- † CPL Bethany Reeves
- David Ruckman Roy & Linda McFarland's nephew
- ↑ AIC Bradley Southards Walt & Janet Southards's grandson
- ↑ CMSAF Jeffrey Stockwell Melissa Lampe Stockwell's husband



1	Dan Luce	1	Jana Rosebaugh	2	Joe Barr	2	Kambry Kirk
2	Cooper Reeves	2	Rick Southards	3	Sammi Blumanhourst	3	Wilma May
3	Josh Neally	3	Jaycie Scriven	6	Todd McFarland	6	Lonnie Ruth
6	Phil Zivnuska	8	Glenn Jost	8	Louie Massaglia	10	Tommy Spratt
12	Dawn Stiglitz	13	Katherine Dundas	13	Gabrielle Henderson	14	<b>Bethany Reeves</b>
15	Haley Boyd	15	Chloe Scriven	16	Josh Dessenberger	17	Quentin Kirk
17	Roger Tennyson	18	Verlene Kutz	18	Jacob Williams	19	Virginia Pilcher
19	Michelle Watkins-Held	20	Ethan Hogan	20	Megan St. Clair	20	<b>Brittany Waite</b>
21	Bill Stratton	21	Kim Pritchard	22	Phil Lampe	22	Karter Hall
24	Anne Hainlen	24	Evann Shelton	24	Emery Clark	25	Jordan Seacat
27	Frank White	27	Tyler Botts	27	Brennon Petrie	27	Alexa Tormey
27	Ben Blumanhourst	28	Casey Carter	29	Kelly Richardson		



4	Greg & Deb Jaquis	9	Ron & Jane Smith	14	Kelly & Tammy Taylor
15	Harvey & Jane Diehl	26	Mike & Lin Neal	18	DeWayne & Erlene Morgan
21	Bill & Gayle Williamson	22	Russ & Tonia Sturm	23	Darrell & Crystal Henderson

29 Ed & Julie Seidl 30 Tom & Lynn Bartel 30 Jason & Emily Cowden

#### Thank You to...

Thank you to everyone for the cards, calls, and prayers during Alta's illness and passing. They were appreciated by the family.

Ed Verlin

#### Sermon Series

We will begin a new sermon series, "The Glory of God", on **Sunday, April 11**. Glory is one of the most beautiful words in the Bible, yet it is one of the most challenging words to define. The Bible talks about the glory of God more than 300 times. The prophet Isaiah says, "God created us for His glory" (Isaiah 43:7). In his letter to the Corinthian church Paul writes, "So whether you eat or drink or



whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). The Bible constantly reminds us we are all called to glorify God in everything we do. The glory of God is important to Him. But what exactly does that mean? How can we give glory to God? Join us as we explore and learn the true meaning of glory.

#### 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. April's giving is books for teen girls that will then be donated to EmberHope. We are doing this in honor of National Bookmobile Day (April 22). Please bring teen girl book donations

on **Sunday, April 11**.

Scholarship Applications for the 2021/2022 school year are now available online or on the ledge. Please note that scholarships are for undergraduates only. Applications are due back to the church office by Friday, April 30, 2021.



## 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.

## COME CELEBRATE EASTER AT FUMCVC!



## PALM SUNDAY SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Celebrated by the waving of palm branches at both worship services. We will also have a visit during the Sunday school hour on the east lawn from Jeff and Linda St. Clair's donkey.

## MAUNDY THURSDAY THURSDAY, APRIL 1

6:00P-8:00P

Join us for a memorable Maundy Thursday experience. We will have stations set-up throughout the church at which you can stop, immerse yourself, and pray. To make sure we are practicing social distancing, we are asking everyone to sign-up for staggered start times. You can sign up at the following link:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4CABAB2AA2FA7-maundy or by contacting the church office.



## GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY SERVICE

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

9:00A-11:00A

We will meet at the church at 9:00a. We will then break into smaller groups to go pick-up trash along 85<sup>th</sup> Street and 77<sup>th</sup> Street. Please contact the church office if you are interested in helping so we know how to plan.

## EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES



Traditional Worship 9:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 10:00 A.M.

EASTER EGG HUNT 10:40 A.M. – EAST LAWN

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 11:00 A.M. – SANCTUARY

#### Hi FUMCVC Family!

I will be attending Youth With A Mission (YWAM \ Maui Campus) Reformation Generation Seminar (RG) for the month of July. RG is a month long intensive seminar that will allow me the opportunity to grow my relationship with our Creator. RG focuses on equipping college age students on how to answer tough questions, apologetics, how to respond to non-Christian believers, how to understand the nature of truth, importance of the Holy Spirit, and the heart of Jesus.

Now that you know what trip I will be going on I'll tell you why. As many of you know I grew up in the church and called myself a Christian.

As I grew older I realized I was only going through the motions and that I didn't have a personal relationship with God. I wanted to have a relationship with God but knew that it would take work and lots of Faith. I started putting that work in, during high school, and felt the Holy Spirit calling me to help others and serve Him. I knew that was something He wanted me to do, so here I am working for a nonprofit! Even though I felt the power of the Holy Spirit that doesn't mean I didn't have doubts as to if He was even there at times. Last year was when I first experienced doubt and it was a very hard season of my life. Since I was having doubt it made me rethink if I even had a purpose anymore and if God wasn't here then what was even the purpose of life. After praying a lot and surrounding myself with Christians my age I finally realized that I was being silly for thinking that! After going through that hard season in life coming out on the other side it has made my heart be on fire for God. So with that being said, I think going through that, God had this plan all along and wanted me to be even more on fire for Him than I was before. That is why I want to go to YWAM because I've always felt Him calling me to do something for Him. This will strengthen my relationship with Him, by being in an environment where everyone is yearning to grow closer to Him.

I am writing to you to ask for a couple things. I am needing your prayers for safe travels and for God to work in me. I also am asking that you'd consider supporting me financially. The cost of housing, food, and classes are \$1,000. The airfare will be approximately \$900 and other miscellaneous fees that will cost around \$150. So all together I am needing to raise \$2,050! If you need any random jobs around your house that need done, grocery shopping, plants watered, etc., I'd be willing to help you out, just call me. If you don't need help with anything I'd be honored with your support. There are three different ways you can help me financially.

- Write a check to the church and put "Alex Barbour-YWAM" in the memo. Please note that checks payable to First United Methodist Church Valley Center are 100% tax deductible.
- Mailing a check to me directly at the address listed below or hand deliver when you see me.
- Venmo me @alexlaine01

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this and learn a little about my testimony and how God is working in me. Thank you for considering to support me in any way you can. If you have any questions feel free to reach out to me.

Blessings,
Alex Barbour
6130 N. Bella Rd., Wichita, KS 67204, 316-789-3694, alexlaine01@icloud.co



2021 Women's Retreat

# "Loving and trusting God through Challenging times"

Saturday, June 26, 2021

8:30A - 12:00P IN the WCC \* ONLY \$10

Speakers from our church family will share how God has walked with them through challenging times in their lives.

Registration will begin April 11, 2021. A table will be set-up in the main foyer.



## ONLINE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Our Church Software has the capability of providing an Online Church Directory.

The Online Church Directory would only show those who have opted to be included. To be included, you would need to contact the church office. If you do not ask to be included in the Online Church Directory, others will NOT be able to see your information.

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The information available for others to see includes: Email Address, Address, Home

Phone, Cell Phone, Profile Picture, Birthday, Age, and Family Tree (others in your household).

Please contact the church office if you would like to be included. At that time, you will be given a username and password. Your username and password can be changed after you login. You can update any information on your account and change pictures for those in your household.

There is also an app that is super easy to use!

Contact the church office at 316.755.1112 or <a href="mailto:amy@fumcvc.com">amy@fumcvc.com</a>

## ASK THE UMC

### WHY ARE THERE DIFFERENT COLORED ALTAR CLOTHS?

"The Christian year has two cycles: the Christmas Cycle (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany) and the Easter Cycle (Lent-Easter-Pentecost). Within each cycle are a preparatory season symbolized by the color purple and a festival season symbolized by the color white. After each cycle there is an ordinary time (see below) of growth symbolized the color green. Thus there is a sequence of seasons using purple, white, and green in that order twice each year." (The United Methodist Book of Worship)

- **Purple**, representing both royalty and penitence, is traditionally used during Advent and Lent.
- **Blue** symbolizes hope and may also be used during Advent.
- White and gold are used at Christmas and Easter to symbolize joy and festivities.
- Red symbolizes the color of fire to represent the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and times
  when the work of the Holy Spirit is emphasized. During Holy Week it represents the blood of
  Christ. Red is also used for ordinations, church anniversaries and civil observances such as
  Memorial Day and Thanksgiving.
- **Green** represents growth and is used during Ordinary Time (the season after Epiphany and the season after Pentecost.)





The Broadcaster
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