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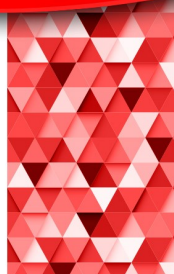


OUR VISION:

"Intentionally connecting people with Jesus Christ & each other through ministries that are: Relational, Invitational, Transformational & Missional"

OUR MISSION:

"Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World!"





a note from Pastor Jim...

This week is the week we often refer to as Holy Week. We have already celebrated Palm Sunday and are looking forward to Good Friday, and Resurrection Day. It is exciting that we will be able to celebrate this year in a way that is more familiar to us, and be together as we gather to celebrate Christ's resurrection from the grave.

As we gather, we will need to continue to be careful about keeping everyone healthy and safe. We will be asking that you wear a mask and practice social distancing due to the COVID variants that are showing up. I know, you are tired of all this, believe me I am too. But, all through this we have sacrificed and been cautious to keep people safe and healthy and now is not the time to let up.

For Easter Sunday morning, we have taken advantage of technology, to live stream our service and have that service live streamed into Thompson Hall to provide for overflow seating. We will serve communion in both the sanctuary and in Thompson Hall, and have individuals to welcome and greet everyone.

In addition to Easter, we continue our efforts to hire an Associate Pastor. We have conducted some preliminary screening interviews, and are planning second interviews the week after Easter. We have some good candidates, and are looking for the person that is the right fit for Harper Chapel.

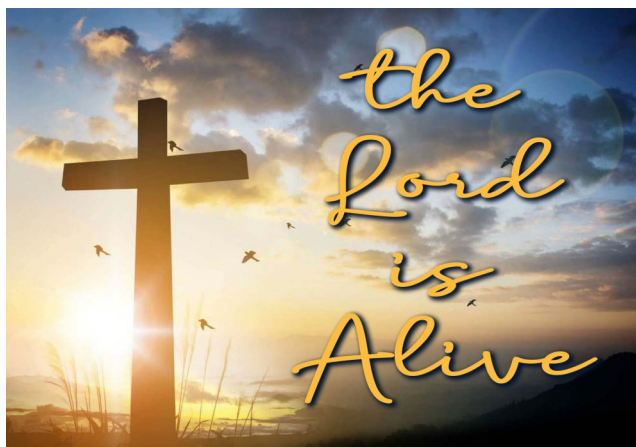
Lastly, I am planning to take some vacation time April 12-16. I will be here for Sunday the 18th for worship.

In the mean time, we can celebrate Christ is Risen, He has risen indeed.

Prayers,



Pastor Jim



Thank you for supporting God's Closet this season! We started putting items out at the end of October last year. So far we have given away over 2000 items. There was a tremendous need and we were blessed to have been able to help fulfill some of that need.

We plan to finish this season with the items we have left and then will begin again next October.

Please remember this important mission and save any warm winter clothing you may no longer need for God's Closet this fall.

Thank you again!

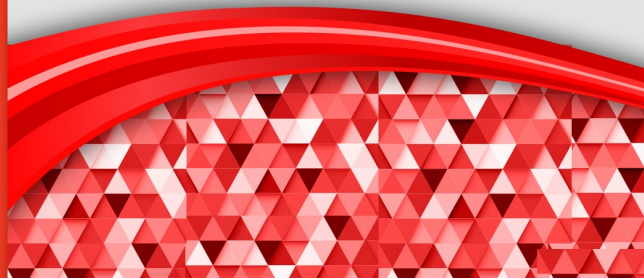
The Mission Team

God's Cupboard

God's Cupboard – what a blessing to the community. First, I want to thank all of you for your constant contributions. You are what has made the Cupboard into what it is today. Here is what we currently need:

Canned Meats
Pasta Sauce
Canned Fruit
Hearty Soups
Knorr's
Shampoo
Deodorant
Jelly
Peanut Butter
Toilet Paper

Again, thank you for your support to the Cupboard.





*Easter wishes
from
Harper Youth!*

These busy young people have made Easter cards and Easter bunnies (well, just the bottom half of the bunny as they hide their eggs in the bottom of pots of grass!)

Youth have created new relationships and grown in their time together. We have learned more about Harper Chapel and stories from the Bible. And at the end of the night, they love playing Sardines.

If you want to use some excess energy, join us on Wednesday nights from 6:00 - 7:30 pm! Or send your neighbors Kindergarten - 8th Grade to join us!

Sunday's Schedule



9:00 am Zoom Meeting
Email to participate:
office@harperchapel.org

You will receive an invite from Pastor Jim to join in on the conversation.

10:00 am In-Person Worship Service

Music has blended format with classic and modern praise songs, and is located in our sanctuary.

You can also join us from the comfort of your own home by going to our Live Facebook page!



Easter EVENTS

Good Friday
April 2 @ 6:30 pm

Sunrise Service
April 4 @ 7:00 am

Easter Service
April 4 @ 10 am

Sunrise Service will be located outside. There will be refreshments and coffee between the two Easter services.

There will be overflow seating available in Thompson Hall during the 10 am service.

We are still utilizing masks and social distancing, as well as taking safer measures regarding communion and offering.

Hope you can join us!

SHINING Stars

March was a busy month for your Shining Stars. Preschoolers made straw, stick, and brick houses for the Three Little Pigs and enjoyed acting out the story. We are appreciative of our neighbors at JC Mattress Factory for not only donating large boxes, but even delivering them right to our door! We paraded the halls of Harper Chapel waving palm branches and singing, "Hosanna" for the good news that Jesus is coming. We learned about oviparous animals and dyed Easter eggs. Together with our Reading Buddies, we explored books, created "angel" eggs (no devils around here), and got to hunt for cleverly hidden Easter eggs. Thanks, Reading Buddies! You are our heroes!

After Schoolers learned about Passover and its ties to the resurrection of Jesus. We participated in a Passover Seder with Miss Nancy, Pastor Jim, parents, and members of the congregation. After partaking in this meaningful meal, we discussed how Jesus fulfills the Passover and created empty tomb scenes to remind us of what Easter is all about. We are so thankful to Miss Nancy for working hard to prepare this wonderful experience for us. We also had lots of fun this month playing games that we learned about from Miss Judy. "Sardines" (a reverse hide-and-seek) and a photo scavenger hunt were two of our favorites. Thanks so much, Miss Judy! We were also blessed by Rykin's dad, Joey Homm, who presented each of us with a coupon good for a free treat at Andy's Frozen Custard. Thanks so much, Mr. Homm. We appreciate you! (He has also taken the time to teach us some great basketball moves!) *(cont'd on page 5)*



Prayer List: Joys & Concerns

Hazel Croy	Nigel Wood	Inez Killam & Family
Sharon Shrimp (Culver's)	Judy Jansma	Kathleen Marco's Parents
Elaine Blackwell	Charlie Saunders	Findley, Cara & Shawn
Elizabeth Neill (Wheeler's)	Emily Wheeler	Gerdiman & Family
Rick & Robert Myers	Dave Logsdon	Hannah (Mitchell's)
Kristen Turner	Sasha Rupert	Susan Robinson (Rives')
Shawn Pederson (Karen's)	Ellen Covington	Tracy "Bud" Penfield
David Culver	Allene Kroll	
Jeanne Boardman	Trudy Marco	
Marcia Murrow	Debra Penfield	
Richard Coburn (Meyers')	Sue Carroll	
Richard Moore	Louise Anderson	
Todd Frazier	Sadie Richey	
Jan Berry	Ron Miller's Mom	
Shelley Burks	Tony & Sandi Zaucha	
Eva Cannon	Maureen Buzbee & Floy	
Jan Brooks	(sister) & Family	
Graham Tatomer	Cordy Shepard	

Members & Friends facing hard times

Bahule UMC & Maivene UMC
 Mozambique churches sponsored by Harper Chapel
 All men and women serving our country
 Local families in need

Members & friends in Long-Term-Care Facilities

Elaine Blackwell
 Juanita Grote
 Mary Barber

April Birthdays

Pat Beffa (4th)	Joan Williams (28th)
Elaine Blackwell (5th)	Sydney Woods (28th)
Deanna Pottinger (16th)	Judy Smits (29th)
Michael Mister (16th)	Bonnie Carlson (29th)

Happy Birthday and God Bless



SHINING Stars



We also have two new non-human additions to our preschool class. They are two month-old guinea pig brothers, and we have fallen in love with them already. The preschoolers have come up with their names too. Beethoven and Cooper. Aren't they adorable?!



THE CENTRAL MISSOURI Foster Care & Adoption ASSOCIATION

Swimsuits and towels needed!

CMFCAA has the wonderful opportunity to host an Odyssey event at Jolly Mon Waterpark at Margaritaville on Sunday, May 16, 2021 for 30-50 children, age 5 and older, who are in foster, adoptive and kinship families.

Respite events under the supervision of CMFCAA staff and volunteers provide a structured and safe event full of child enrichment activities while giving the caregivers a chance to do things they might not otherwise get a chance to do. Besides suits and towels, goggles, arm floaties and puddle jumpers would also be appreciated. Great volunteers are also needed to interact and socialize with the youth. Please contact the church office for more info.

LRHS Parish Nurse Network Wellness Tip of the Month April, 2021

VISITING THE DOCTOR

Many people visit their doctor and then return home not knowing what the doctor recommends or why they may be on medications. Here are some suggestions for making that visit more successful.

Before your visit:

1. Think about and write down the reason for your visit.
2. Write down any symptoms you are experiencing now or in the recent past.
3. When did they start?
4. Do you see any connection between these symptoms and any food, medications or exercise?
5. Write down any questions you might have.
6. Have a current list of any medications including over the counter medications and supplements.
7. Have your ID and insurance cards with you.
8. If you need support physically or emotionally, ask someone to go with you.
9. Make arrangements for transportation.
10. Find out if you can have a virtual appointment.

During your visit:

1. Present your list of symptoms and questions to the doctor.

2. Ask for further explanations if you don't understand the directions.
3. Ask for written materials if it will help you understand better.
4. Ask for all treatment options that are available.
5. Ask for resources that would help you make lifestyle changes.
6. If tests are ordered, ask for explanations about the tests.
7. Ask for information about any new medication.
8. What is it for?
9. How long before I will be able to tell if it is working for me?
10. What side effects could I see?
11. Does it come in generic form? If not, how much will it cost?
12. When should I return for an appointment?

After your visit:

1. Do you have any questions about the instructions?
2. Monitor your symptoms to see if things have improved.
3. Call the doctor's office if necessary to clear up any questions.

Resource-www.opa.ca.gov/healthcare

Lake Regional Health System
54 Hospital Drive
Osage Beach, MO 65065
Billye Bennett, RN

AMERICA'S UNIQUE RELIGIOUS RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

A survey released by the Pew Research Center, January 2021, found that nearly one-quarter of U.S. adults (24%) say their faith has become stronger because of the Coronavirus pandemic. This data is consistent with a Gallup survey which found 19% of Americans said their faith or spirituality has grown as a result of the crisis. Additionally, 11% of adults who seldom or never attend religious services have found their faith is increasing in the wake of Covid, and 7% of religiously unaffiliated Americans—including atheists and agnostics—now similarly find themselves drawn to faith.

Experts offer several reasons for this resurgence, including a need for stability, having more time to reflect on deeper matters, and a need for strength and peace in the face of the unknown. There's probably another important factor at play in people's turn to faith: the failures of science. While we ultimately rely on medical treatment to manage all diseases, there is no certainty that we will ever completely understand the coronavirus and why some recover and some don't; find a cure for many cancers; halt the progression of Alzheimer's and other dementias. And the fluidity and ambiguity of seemingly every pandemic question (from whether masks can effectively prevent the spread to how the virus can be transmitted, as well as why some people have lingering symptoms long after the disease process has abated) have given pause to many people who have long insisted that science has all the answers all of the time.

Recent reports from Bible makers and publishers reveal that this pandemic has caused more people around the globe to buy Bibles and other faith-based literature. Bill Mandrell, CEO of Lifeway Christian Resources, the leading provider for Bibles, faith-based books, and educational materials, believes that the remarkable increase in sales proves that people see a God who is with us during trials through reading the scriptures. "The Bible, as God's words to us, is a reminder that He doesn't leave us to walk through difficult times alone," Mandrell said. YouVersion, a popular Bible application, recorded the most read passage for 2020 was: "Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand." Isaiah 41:10

Once the pandemic is behind us, there are mixed opinions about whether this increase in faith will last. Many believe religious faith and spirituality will last post Covid-19 because of its large scale and severe impact, especially high rates of mortality, which has left indelible changes in our society with a widespread realization of the precariousness of life. Pastor's wife Shannon Duke also believes the reliance on faith will outlast Covid. "However, those who have re-found faith or experienced the power of faith for the first time will have to work at prioritizing faith post-Covid to maintain it," she says.

Dr. Michelle Bengston, a neuropsychologist, does not expect long-term change. "This is not likely to last for many once things return to a more comfortable state, because that's when we feel like we can handle things on our own and put God on the back burner," she says.

There is a hope that feelings of surrender, humble faith, and calmness will last beyond the virus, but as with any inspiration -- it wears off unless you put some action behind it. If these are the times that try men's souls, they may also be the times that restore them.

Submitted By:
Billye Bennett, Parish Nurse

If you have anything you would like to be put in next month's Newsletter (prayer list update, thank you, etc.) please email your request to office@harperchapel.org or call the church office at 573-348-2617. Thanks so much and God Bless!