

# THE PILLAR

*Stay connected with  
your church family!*

April 2019

## HOLY WEEK

*He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.*

*Mark 8:31-32*

When the time drew near to Holy Week, Jesus spoke directly to his disciples about his imminent death and resurrection. They didn't understand it. They were confused. They didn't like it. Peter even rebuked Jesus! Wow! We, too, often diminish Holy Week. It's hard for us to digest how Jesus went from the triumph of Palm Sunday to the stomach churning, life-changing moment on Calvary. The thought of false testimony, arrest, whipping, and hanging Jesus from the cross is tough to swallow.

However, when we embrace these final days of Lent, something powerful occurs! During the forty days of Lent, when we go deeper and walk closer with Jesus, each day becomes more real, more personal. This is when we start to believe that it was for us that the Son of Man suffered. We sit at the table for the Last Supper as we learn the deep history of who this prophesied Messiah is. We feel the helplessness as he is arrested, beaten, and nailed to the cross on Good Friday. Then, and only then, do we experience the power of resurrection on Easter Sunday! The celebration of the empty tomb is exponentially sweeter after tasting the bitterness of the blood and sweat on the cross.

This year prayerfully consider how you will participate in Holy Week. We will have opportunities to invite others to join us for this powerful experience. We will have opportunities to walk through Holy Week with Jesus. Pray, listen, and follow Jesus to the cross and tomb. Open your spiritual eyes to see what God has in store for you through this holy time in the life of the church.

May We Experience the Holiness of the Passion,



Pastor Eric

# Join us for Holy Week!

## FAMILY SCAVENGER HUNT, APRIL 13

Attention First Kids, friends, and family! Join us Saturday, April 13th at Salina First United Methodist for a Family Photo Scavenger Hunt. We will gather at 9:00 a.m. to enjoy a Continental Breakfast in Fellowship Hall. Then the adventure begins! Each clue will point to the story of Jesus' Resurrection.



## PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Join us for a potluck brunch on Palm Sunday, April 14th from 9:30 to 10:45 in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a dish to share: pastries, fruit, breakfast casseroles, etc. Be sure to invite your friends and family, too! This will make for a wonderful morning of worship and fellowship as we prepare our hearts for Holy Week.

## HOLY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

- 5:30 p.m. Church-wide Dinner  
*We welcome you to join us at the table as we build community, strengthen friendships, and grow together in Christ's love.*
- 6:00 p.m. Lenten Worship & Devotion 6:00 p.m.
- 6:15 p.m. First Kids, MS Youth, Small Groups, Rehearsals, etc.



## MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 18

Seder Meal & Worship in Fellowship Hall 5:30 p.m.  
On Maundy Thursday we share a meal together and reflect upon the Last Supper as we serve one another communion.

## GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Good Friday Service at Grand Avenue UMC 7:00 p.m.  
All Salina area United Methodist Churches will gather to worship and observe Good Friday together, remembering Christ's sacrificial love.



## EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21

*Celebrate resurrection, new beginnings, and the triumph of God's love!*

- 8:25 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Treats in Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS WORSHIP & DEVOTION 6:00–6:15PM

Following our Wednesday night suppers throughout April we will host a brief time of worship & devotion in Fellowship Hall and reflect on Jesus' Final Words. *First Kids, Jr. High Youth, Adult Bible Study groups, and other regular activities will begin at 6:15.* All are encouraged to join us.



**Final Words—**  
Jesus Speaks from the Cross

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDIES FOR ADULTS

**Seven-Mile Miracle Bible study with Pastor Eric Rook.** In this seven-session study we will unpack the drama, power, and deep meaning of Jesus' final hours before his Crucifixion.

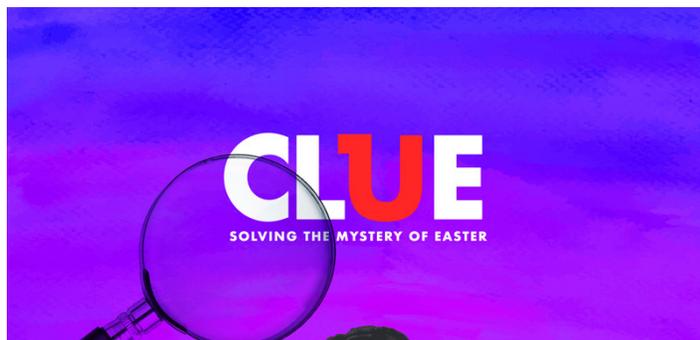
**The Red Letter Group with Aaron Miller** will resume on Wednesday nights beginning March 13. We will begin exploring the book of James together. Young adults, young professionals, and college students are encouraged to join us.

## FIRST KIDS ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS!

### "CLUE: UNCOVERING THE TRUE MEANING OF EASTER"

First Kids and friends are invited to join us Wednesday nights in April at 6:15 p.m. as we begin an exciting new series: *Clue!*

When we think of Easter, we may think of egg-dyeing, egg hunts, the Easter bunny, and dressing up in your Sunday best on Easter Sunday. But there's so much more to Easter than that. What really happened to Jesus over 2,000 years ago, and how does it affect us today? In this series, kids will become detectives to look for clues and discover the true meaning of Easter. Kids will learn about Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey, Jesus celebrating a special meal with His disciples, the crucifixion and resurrection, and Jesus ascending to heaven and giving His followers a special mission.



***To Mars and Beyond,  
Vacation Bible School***  
coming to Salina First United Methodist Church  
July 15-19 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Watch for more information on registration and ways that you can help. Those interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Rhonda Bird at [rhonda@salinafirst.com](mailto:rhonda@salinafirst.com) or call the church office 785-825-0228.

# April 2019 Calendar

## Salina First United Methodist Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
	<b>1</b> 5:30PM - Children's Discipleship 5:30PM - SPRC Meeting 6:00PM - Faith Not Food	<b>2</b> 9:00AM - Sewing Concerns 1:00PM - Bible Study
<b>7</b> 8:25AM - Worship 9:40AM - Sunday School Hour 11:00AM - Worship 5:00PM - Yoga <b>6:00PM - High School Youth Fellowship</b>	<b>8</b> 1:00PM - Bible Study <b>5:15PM - Finance Meeting</b> 6:00PM - Faith Not Food <b>6:30PM - Trustee Meeting</b>	<b>9</b> 9:00AM - Sewing Concerns 1:00PM - Bible Study
<b>14</b> 8:25AM - Worship <b>9:40AM - Palm Sunday Brunch</b> 11:00AM - Worship <b>5:00PM - SHINE</b> (4th & 5th Graders) 5:00PM - Yoga <b>6:00PM - High School Youth Fellowship</b>	<b>15</b> 4:00PM - Memorials Meeting 6:00PM - Faith Not Food <b>Adult Discipleship Team Meetings</b> 5:00PM - Share 5:30PM - Journey	<b>16</b> 9:00AM - Sewing Concerns 1:30PM - Friendship Connection
<b>21</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> 8:25AM - Worship 9:40AM - Sunday School Hour 11:00AM - Worship 5:00PM - Yoga <b>6:00PM - High School Youth Fellowship</b>	<b>22</b> 5:15PM - Foundation Meeting 6:00PM - Faith Not Food	<b>23</b> 9:00AM - Sewing Concerns 1:00PM - Bible Study
<b>28</b> 8:25AM - Worship 9:40AM - Sunday School Hour 11:00AM - Worship 5:00PM - Yoga <b>6:00PM - High School Youth Fellowship</b>	<b>29</b> 6:00PM - Faith Not Food	<b>30</b> 9:00AM - Sewing Concerns

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**(K-5TH GRADE)**  
 Every week  
**9:40-10:40AM**  
*Check in at Room 300.*

**YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
 Every week  
**9:40-10:40AM**  
*Check in at the Youth Room (1st floor).*

## WEDNESDAY

**3**

1:00PM - Prayer Group  
5:00PM - Adult Handbells  
**5:30PM - Midweek Dinner**  
6:00PM - Lenten Worship & Devotion  
followed by Wednesday Night  
activities: First Kids, MS Youth, Small  
Groups, Rehearsals, etc.

## THURSDAY

**4**

12:00PM - UMW General Meeting  
6:00PM - Yoga

## FRIDAY

**5**

## SATURDAY

**6**

8:00AM - UMM (Methodist  
Men's Group @ McDonald's)

**10**

1:00PM - Prayer Group  
5:00PM - Adult Handbells  
**5:30PM - Midweek Dinner**  
6:00PM - Lenten Worship & Devotion  
followed by Wednesday Night  
activities: First Kids, MS Youth, Small  
Groups, Rehearsals, etc.

**11**

6:00PM - Yoga

**12**

6:00PM - Crafty Friends

**13**

8:00AM - UMM (Methodist  
Men's Group @ McDonald's)

**17**

1:00PM - Prayer Group  
5:00PM - Adult Handbells  
**5:30PM - Midweek Dinner**  
6:00PM - Lenten Worship & Devotion  
followed by Wednesday Night  
activities: First Kids, MS Youth, Small  
Groups, Rehearsals, etc.

**18**

5:30PM - Maundy Thursday  
6:00PM - Yoga

**19**

**20**

8:00AM - UMM (Methodist  
Men's Group @ McDonald's)

**24**

1:00PM - Prayer Group  
5:00PM - Adult Handbells  
6:00PM - Chair Yoga  
6:00PM - Choir Practice  
6:00PM - MS Youth

**25**

6:00PM - Yoga

**26**

6:00PM - Crafty Friends

**27**

8:00AM - UMM (Methodist  
Men's Group @ McDonald's)



## *Easter Lilies*

If you would like to dedicate an Easter lily to a family member, friend, or loved one for display in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please pickup an order form from a Sanctuary kiosk Sunday morning or download and print a form at [salinafirst.com/lily](http://salinafirst.com/lily). You may place your order form and check in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office at your convenience. Deadline is April 15, 2019. \$10 each. Please designate "Lily" on the memo line of your check.

# Scott's Scribbles

## Are you ready to change Course?

*There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death. –Proverbs 14:12 (NLT)*

A battleship appeared to be on a collision course with another ship one foggy evening. The battleship's captain radioed to the unknown ship, "Advise you change course 20 degrees to avoid collision." Someone on a radio replied, "Advise you change course 20 degrees to avoid collision." The battleship's captain was not amused. He radioed back, "I am a ship's captain. Change course 20 degrees, now!" Then came another reply, "I'm a seaman, second-class, and I advise you to change course 20 degrees, now!" The captain was furious, "This is a battleship! I order you to change course 20 degrees, immediately!" The seaman radioed back, "I am a lighthouse!"

Have you ever found yourself in a situation, not unlike the ship's captain, where you just don't want to budge on your position? Everyone is stubborn from time to time, but people who live a lifestyle of stubbornness are dangerous to their relationships and spiritual lives.

When we are overly stubborn with others, we build walls that prevent relationships from growing. When those walls are high enough, they actually cause relationships to die. Relationships are based on give and take. In successful relationships no one has their own way all of the time. Both in friendships and in family relationships, the one who is never willing to "change course" damages those relationships.

Stubbornness in our relationship with God works much in the same way as stubbornness with friends and family. Being stubborn with God means that we really don't want to please the Lord. We want to call our own shots and determine our own course in life. In our stubbornness, we reduce God's role in our lives to that of a pocket genie, the "magic lamp" we rub and ask for favors when we want something for ourselves. Being stubborn with God is sin, plain and simple.

When refusing to change course we might well find ourselves, much like the battleship captain, on the verge of disaster. We may get what we want, but getting what we want can actually destroy us. My challenge for you today, both in relationships with people and God, is that you be willing to change course if necessary, in order to build your relationships instead of tearing them down.

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## WHAT ARE @FIRSTYOUTH LEARNING?

CONTINUING IN APRIL: "SINCERELY GOD"—A SERIES ON THE BIBLE

The Bible. We all know reading it is important (or at least that's what we've been told), but if we're being honest, we probably don't give it the time or attention we know we should. Sometimes we avoid Scripture because it seems boring or irrelevant. Other times we avoid it because it's too time-consuming, inconvenient, or maybe even convicting. So how do we change that? In this series, we'll encourage students to both see and engage with the Bible in a new way as we discover that the Bible is a love letter, a guide, an invitation, and something that's meant to be lived (not just read).



JOIN US:

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 6–7:30PM (MIDDLE SCHOOL 6–8TH GRADE)

SUNDAY NIGHTS 6–7:30PM (HIGH SCHOOL 9–12TH GRADE)



*We invite all women of Salina First UMC to become a part of United Methodist Women, an organization that will soon celebrate 150 years of serving women, youth, and children around the world. If you would like to learn more about UMW, call the church office at 785.825.0228, or email [rhonda@salinafirst.com](mailto:rhonda@salinafirst.com).*

The First United Methodist Women (FUMW) Executive Board and General Meetings were held on March 7, 2019. FUMW members gathered to enjoy a delicious potato bar luncheon. The program was presented by Kayla Tague-Hurde from Salina Grace which is the winter homeless shelter housed in the Grand Avenue UMC. Kayla stated the need is great for this shelter. Each evening people arriving at the shelter receive warm, dry socks and a place to sleep. In the morning they are expected to clean up their area, leaving the shelter with bottled water and a snack. On the weekends an evening meal is served since the Salvation Army is closed. The shelter will close soon because the nights are getting warmer, but donations of water, socks, chap stick, hats, mittens and snacks are still needed. We also contributed to our monthly Penny Jar Fund that supports local missions. Bev Petty, Journey in Action stated that our mission focus this month will be the restocking of our Blessing Box shelves in Mission Alley with hygiene items, water bottles, packaged and canned food items.



### **UMW SAVE THE DATES:**

Thursday, April 4, 2019 10:45 UMW Executive Board, 12:00 Luncheon and General Meeting. The program will be presented by Karen Brassens, KWU's theater department.

METour: registration due April 1, 2019 with \$50 deposit. Tour June 1-11. Contact Rhonda Bird for further information.

May 3-5, 2019: Great Plains Conference UMW Spiritual Retreat, Camp Comeca and Retreat Center, Cozad, NE. Billie Blair presenting. Contact Circle leader or Barbara Houdek for further information.

June 30, 2019: UMW Sunday

July 1, 2019: Nomination Deadline for the Eunice H. Harrington Award of Leadership, Service & Advocacy. Contact Circle leader or Barbara Houdek for further information.

## **AN INVITATION TO PRAYER FROM KANSAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY:**

**Let us Pray.** It's a powerful statement that calls all of us to join our hearts and souls together in prayer for our community, state, nation and beyond. This year, Kansas Wesleyan University will celebrate the National Day of Prayer by inviting the Salina Community to a morning prayer rally with reflection and music around the Pioneer Hall fountain from 8-8:45 a.m. on Thursday, May 2.

Our hope is that students, churches and spiritual leaders in Salina will stand together in prayer for one another. This year's theme for the National Day of Prayer is Love One Another, based on John 13:34 "Love one another. Just as I have loved you." This theme of unified love reflects our commitment to be a place that welcomes, loves and encourages all with open hearts, open minds and open doors.

Our prayer celebration continues on Saturday, May 4, when we invite members of area churches to gather by the fountain at 8 a.m. for a short prayer service and then walk around their church neighborhoods praying, or pray at fire departments, police departments, schools and other service agencies. We will conclude with a 10:30 a.m. time of worship in the Student Activities Center.

The power of prayer is extraordinary, and we hope that you and your congregation will join us for one or both of these activities as we pray with the entire nation in thanksgiving, in hope and in unity.



# April Birthdays & Anniversaries



4/1 Michael Merrell (B-day)  
 4/2 Felix Arcayan, Don Ista (B-days)  
 4/3 Mike Rectenwald (B-day)  
 4/4 Harvey Kohr (B-day)  
 4/5 Shelda Burger, Poppy Janzen, Marisa Mitchell, Gail Morrison, Delores Stenfors, Norma Wilson (B-days)  
 4/6 Larry Coates (B-day), Jerry & Amanda Gutierrez (Anniv.)  
 4/7 Debbie Jacobs, Nancy King (B-days)  
 4/8 Elizabeth Kepple, Martin Robidou (B-days)  
 4/9 Joan Simmons (B-day), James & Darlene Foster (Anniv.)  
 4/10 J.D. Garber, Alicia Morgan, Joanne Pihl, Marcia Price, Sharon Scott, Piper Shaffer (B-days), Jeff & Chris May (Anniv.)  
 4/11 Sandy Arcayan, Kyle Brown, Margaret Cooper, Jim Cott, Scott Jagodzinske, Mary McIntire, Jax Wilson (B-days)  
 4/13 Tim Geissert, Molly Martin, Kayle Wilderman, Brinley Wilson (B-days), Hugh & Dianne Cairns (Anniv.)

4/14 Rob Bird, Tom Martin (B-days)  
 4/15 Aiden Allen, Landen Potts (B-days)  
 4/18 Kyah Arcayan, Susan Borthwick, Peggy Ketron, Kemper Wilson (B-days)  
 4/19 Brad & Jeanna Byquist (Anniv.)  
 4/20 Gary Wooster (B-day)  
 4/21 Gabriel Storer (B-day), Jon & Shirley Isin, Mel & Mary McIntire (Anniv.)  
 4/22 Bridget Byquist (B-day)  
 4/23 Dan Helm (B-day)  
 4/24 Sarah Alt, Darla Hassler, Mark Mitchell (B-days)  
 4/25 Barbara Kern, Aaron Martin, Chris Snyder (B-days)  
 4/26 Marietta Gotti, Callie Robinson (B-days)  
 4/27 Katelyn Botz, Oriana Botz, Diana Geist, Avery Kinkelaar (B-Days)  
 4/28 Brea Allen, Donita Michaelson, Asher Robinson (B-days)  
 4/29 Glenn Headley, Chris May (B-days)  
 4/30 Shawn Delker, Marjorie Dossett, JaLue Smith (B-days)

Return Service Requested

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