



The Messenger



PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF
SAINT ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TOPEKA, KANSAS

May 2021

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Changes in Worship Guidelines



This Spring, with the vaccine available for all who desire it and many institutions changing the social-distancing from 6 to 3 feet, Session has decided that we can change our seating in the sanctuary to every other row and return to singing the hymns, as long as masks are worn. Masks are still necessary as we move among each other in the interior spaces.

The Fellowship committee will be looking into how we can begin gathering together for visiting and sharing refreshments. With good weather, visiting outside is an option. Having a spacious fellowship hall might help us to gather and still maintain spacing. Activities will be announced as they are worked out.

Continuing to provide a safe and meaningful worship service is our goal and with everyone's help, understanding, and prayer, we will share and celebrate our relationships together in Christ.

Pentecost – May 23rd

On the Day of Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the church's proclamation of Christ's rising and to empower its mission and ministry to the world.



According to the Day of Pentecost story in Acts 2:1-13, God gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower witnesses to the resurrection. Sounds from heaven, cosmic language, the rush of a mighty wind invaded the house in which the apostles gathered and appeared to them as a burning fire. Tongues of fire touched their

nerve centers. A power — the unseen power of God — moved among them and gripped them. The Holy Spirit is unseen, like the wind. The Spirit is the “unseenness of God” working among us.

On the Day of Pentecost, we celebrate God’s gift of Holy Spirit which draws us together as one people, helps us to comprehend what God is doing in the world, and empowers us to proclaim, in word and in deed, God’s plan of reconciling all people in the name of Christ.

Without the gift of the Spirit, Christ’s church dries up and withers away, and we are left with only our broken selves. With the gift of the Spirit, all things are possible. A spirit-filled community of faith opens eyes to needs in the world and sees its mission as God’s new people. The Day of Pentecost is the climax of the Great Fifty Days of Easter, celebrating as it does the gift of the Spirit to the body of Christ — the church.



Doorstep

Doorstep has been assisting with clothing and hygiene items needed for the new state of the art trailer that will provide showers, laundry, and restrooms to Topeka’s unsheltered populations and other individuals. This is the first component to the Mobile Access Partnership (MAP) which is the collaboration of Valeo Behavioral Health and the Topeka Rescue Mission. Later this year, there will be a mobile food pantry and mobile health service unit. This is truly a collaborative effort of many agencies and churches in our community coming together to help the unsheltered and at-risk families and adults. Doorstep is happy to do what we can. While we have helped stock the trailer with clothing so people can have a clean outfit after their shower, and smaller sized hygiene items, we

are also keeping on hand what we need to help those coming to our doorstep for assistance.

The ribbon cutting for the new program and trailer will be May 4th at 11am, St. John AME Church at 701 SW Topeka Blvd.

There may be times in the future when we might request specific items as the project needs them, if we don't already have them here at Doorstep.

This is a big community effort, and we are proud to be a part of it!

Easter Celebration



As a part of our Easter Celebration, Ainsley Jones played "Majesty" as a violon solo with accompanist Francene Beall on the piano. What a fitting selection for our Easter worship. Thank you both for providing inspirational music for this occasion.

May 2021 Lectionary

Fifth Sunday of Easter—May 2- Acts 8:26–40 Psalms 22:25–31 1
John 4:7–21 John 15:1–8

Sixth Sunday of Easter—May 9- Acts 10:44–48 Psalm 98 1 John
5:1–6 John 15:9–17

Ascension of the Lord—May 13- Acts 1:1–11 Psalm 47 or Psalm 93 Ephesians 1:15–
23 Luke 24:44–53

Seventh Sunday of Easter—May 16- Acts 1:15–17, 21–26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9–13
John 17:6–19



Day of Pentecost—May 23- Acts 2:1–21 or Ezekiel 37:1–14 Psalm 104:24–34, 35b
Romans 8:22–27 or Acts 2:1–21 John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15

Trinity Sunday—May 30- Isaiah 6:1–8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12–17 John 3:1–17

Communion will be celebrated on May 2nd.



May Birthdays



Virginia Starr, May 4th
Ainsley Jones, May 26th

Richmond & Sharon McDaniels May 1, 1976

Alan & Stephanie Reynolds May 11, 1985



In unsettling times, God reminds us of his presence with the beauty of spring.

Photo by Francene Beall

Caring for our Members and Friends



In Our Prayers

Keep these folks in your prayers: Mary Ottiwell, Matthew Reynolds), Mary Jane and Junior Elder, Norm Schiesser, Rita Kelly, Cheryl Kelly, Karl

Wilmers, Dolores Wilmers, JR McDaniels, Helen Jackson, Francene Beall, Jerry Barton, Marlene Watson John McCready, Andy O'Neill, Steve Richmond, Eric and Monna Lainsou, Seamon Schools.

Remember all those who serve -our active duty and veteran personnel, firefighters, EMTs, police officers, and those on the front lines of service during this pandemic, the hungry and the homeless.

Prayers of thanks for the vaccines available, and prayers for those with concerns about receiving the vaccines.

Pray for peace and calm for our nation and our community as conflicts and social unrest still continues. Pray for cooperation and respect among our government officials on all levels.

If you or anyone you know of who will be going to the hospital or is in the hospital, or needs prayers, please let Care of Members, Betty DeShazer, or the church office know.

~ May 2021 ~						
◀ April						June ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Richmond and Sharon McDaniels – Anniv.
2 Communion	3	4 Virginia Starr B'day	5	6	7	8
9 Mother's Day	10	11 Alan and Stephanie Reynolds-Anniv.	12	13	14	15
16 Session	17	18	19	20	21 11:30 – Men's Ladies Lunch	22
23 Pentecost	24	25	26 Ainsley Jones B'day	27	28	29
30	31 Memorial Day	Notes:				

SESSION



Present: Dianne Deuser, Janet Schiesser, Claudia Hamer, Jan Rice, Betty DeShazer, Bill DeShazer, Charles Franks, Linda Ozaki

Absent: Sharon McDaniels, Jo Ann Miller, Matthew Reynolds, Stephanie Reynolds
(Absences due to medical or medically related issues)

No Financial Report.

Letter from Presbytery indicating that session is to determine how we handle our worship service regarding the Covid-19. Session determined that we would go to every-other-row seating in the sanctuary. Masks required. May resume singing with masks on.

Poll of choir members will be taken to determine resuming choir anthems.

Discussed establishing a blessing box. Will get estimates for the cost of building one.

Rescue Mission has a trailer set up for showers, laundry and restroom service for the unsheltered.

Discussed getting the sign at the street repaired and back in operation. Will make decision at next session meeting.

Next Communion will be on May 2nd.

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
1821 SW 37th Street, PO Box 5122
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May, 2021



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**WELCOME TO
SAINT ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Worship-Sundays 11:00 AM

