

# Garden Gleanings

April 2022

A monthly publication of the Garden Community Church

## TEAMKID Family Night

On March 30th TeamKID hosted their first ever Family Night. Preschoolers and their families met in the Fellowship Hall to share a meal and experience what a typical TeamKID night is like. Every Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m. the church hosts a meal for TeamKID through Youth Group aged students as well as their families. After the meal, TeamKID preschoolers were able to participate in an engaging lesson led by Karis Friesen and Jordana Goossen about not letting weeds grow up in our spiritual life. The Bible verse was, "So repent and return so that your sins may be wiped away." Acts 3:19. After singing songs we moved on to game time. Jenny Loyd said that, "Our preschoolers enjoyed acting out a pretend airplane adventure and participating in fun activities with a parachute ( a large sheet). The TeamKID parents joined the kids for a rambunctious game of "Guard Your Castle"! Then we went to the TeamKID classroom to plant bean and pea seeds in small planters to be a visual reminder to students about planting good seeds in our hearts. After watering the plants, we returned to the Fellowship Hall to watch a short video on missions and to learn about how missionaries work diligently to translate the Bible into one's 'heart language'. We ended the evening with a take-home delicious Easter snack mix, a take-home seed growing kit, and a seed package. "We loved the family night at TEAM Kids. My son came back so happy and excited to see the little plants grow. He learned that it doesn't matter how pretty the weeds look like, if we want to enjoy that safe and lush green lawn, we gotta get rid of them, specially the ones that grow in our hearts, we gotta make sure, that through forgiveness and faith in Christ, we ought to be the safe, beautiful, lush person, God created us to be. We're so looking forward to the next one," said Jordana Goossen.

-Chantelle Klaassen, Administrator Assistant for TeamKid



# Sr. Adult Breakfast

The Senior Adults met for Breakfast at the Water's Edge in Hesston on April 2. Following the breakfast Larry Sperling read the true Story of Aggie Hurst.



Saturday morning at 10 a.m. on March 26 the church had the opportunity to shower Ethan Loyd and his fiancé, Katy Patterson with gifts. The fellowship hall was decorated with a "Kansas" theme and each table had a quiz to challenge our Kansas history knowledge. Theo Rempel shared a challenge to the couple. Ethan and Katy are planning a April 23<sup>rd</sup> wedding in Oklahoma and will make their home in Wichita.





# Library News

## ADULT LIBRARY NEWS

May is Mental Health month. Our library focus for the month of May will be presenting books and resources that address this very sensitive subject. Matthew 22:39 tells us to love our neighbor as ourselves. As believers, we are called to serve, but no one can pour from an empty cup. This month might be a perfect time to evaluate the areas in our lives which need a little help and attention. God wants to be invited into every part of our lives, including the struggles. Let's give our struggles to Him and welcome the healing and health He brings.

On the feature table you will find a variety of books dealing with different topics from anxiety, fear, worry and death. Other topics that are often hidden in regards to healthy minds and bodies will deal with Addiction, Homosexuality and Sexual Abuse. Browse the table. Hope might just be a page away!

\* *Make it Happen* by Lara Casey Surrender your fear and take the leap and live on purpose.

\* *Your Mess Matters* by Luke Lezon. Trusting the God who creates from dust and redeems by Blood.

\* *A Perfect Mess* by Lisa Harper Why you don't have to worry about being good enough for God

\* *Addiction Nation* by Timothy King. What the Opioid Crisis reveals about us

\* *Healing the Wounds of Sexual Wounds* by Elaine Heath. Reading the Bible with survivors

A Scripture prompt plan will also be on the table on the topic of Anxiety/Fear.

## CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

The Fruit of the Spirit for the month of May is GOODNESS. Jesus reminds us in Matthew 5:16 that . . . "we are to let our good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise our Heavenly Father." The fruit of Goodness is excellence of character. It combines our attempts to *do good* with God's character of *being good*.

Our room setup and books will reflect a Spring theme. . . Rain, Rainbows, Flowers and Umbrellas. The rainbow symbolizes God's goodness in keeping His promises to His children. As we celebrate Spring, may we always be mindful of the visual gifts of God's goodness to us.

Several recommended Parenting books will be on display on the **top shelf in the Children's Library**. This will make it easy for parents to pick up a quality book while their kiddo is choosing their own book choice. Our Library staff continues to work towards discipling parents and offering quality resources.

# Vonnie's Views

This year I am reflecting on my readings as I journey through the Bible with two friends using a YouVersion Bible-reading plan. YouVersion has whole-Bible plans, topical plans, and book plans. Browse the options—you can start a Bible reading plan at any time during the year.

We are reading I Kings now—having journeyed through the life of Samuel, Saul, and David. Today we read about Solomon building the temple. It was interesting to read how Hiram and Solomon collaborated on materials for the temple, how the stonework was done remotely so no noisy tools were used at the temple site, and of all the precious gold used in the temple. It must have been quite the project and quite the building!! The splendor of the temple reflects the glory of the God. Everywhere a person looked there was beauty and precious gold!! The furnishings were large and reflected the awesomeness of God.

In 1 Kings 6:11-13. God acknowledged the massive temple Solomon was building. But God stated his true desire: that Solomon and all Israel would wholeheartedly follow God's laws and commandments by obeying them. God promised his very presence with them if they obeyed.

It seems so simple, right? And yet, Solomon failed to heed the urgent warning and his heart was drawn away from God. Indeed, Israel (dating all the way back to Abram) had had a history of disbelief and disobedience. In the end, Israel systematically abandoned God to worship created things.

Solomon's glorious temple stood until 586 BC when it was looted and burned to the ground by Babylonian forces (2 Kings 25:8-9; 15-17). It was destroyed as a judgement of God due to Israel's repeated disobedience, idol worship, and disregard for God.

The three of us reading these chapters in I Kings discussed parallels between the temple and we, who are living stones in God's living temple (the church). We looked at Peter's thoughts (see text box) as we discussed the living temple.

- Christ Jesus is the cornerstone of this living temple—we are built together based on his death and resurrection. Wiersbe says, "[Jesus] is a *living* stone because he was raised from the dead in victory. He is the *chosen* stone of the Father, and he is *precious*." (NT commentary, p. 902). "Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?" (I Corinthians 3:16 NLT)
- Just as the temple was built with meticulous precision, so we need to keep our hearts with diligent priority. "My child, pay attention to what I say. Listen carefully to my words. Don't lose sight of them. Let them penetrate deep into your heart, for they bring life to those who find them, and healing to their whole body. Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. (Proverbs 4:20-23, NLT)

May each of us, as living stones in the temple of God's Spirit, keep this in mind as we consider the way in which we live and choose our daily priorities. Some self-diagnostic questions: Does the way in which I obey God reflect a believing heart or ritualistic legalism? Am I making choices that allow me to draw nearer to the one who loved me and gave himself for me? Is my life a reflection of overwhelming gratitude to my Savior and Lord? May God give us grace and strength to follow Him wholeheartedly!!

You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.

And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God. As the Scriptures say,

"I am placing a cornerstone in Jerusalem, chosen for great honor, and anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced."


I Peter 2:4-6 (NLT)





## Prayer Calendar and Memory Verse

Memory Verse: Psalm 150:6—Let everything that hath breath  
praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

| Sun   | Mon  | Tues  | Wed   | Thurs  | Fri   | Sat   |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| <b>1</b> The Lord. Holy, righteous and true.                                  | <b>2</b> Bow before Him in silence and let Him minister to you.      | <b>3</b> Pray for refugees from Afghanistan & Ukraine to find help and peace in Christ. | <b>4</b> Pray for TAG kids - Cole, Joshua, Trey and Ethan.                                | <b>5</b> Pray for Harvest Radio & Café Grace and the work in Brazil. (Goossens)        | <b>6</b> Pray we have hearts sensitive to the Holy Spirit & quick to obey.                | <b>7</b> Pray for Across Nations and the radio ministry among Native Americans.                                 |
| <b>8</b> The Lord. Omnipotent - mighty and over all.                          | <b>9</b> Search your heart & confess any sin before the Lord.        | <b>10</b> Pray for believers who are hated & reviled by those around them.              | <b>11</b> Pray for youth - Rylee, Juliene, Jaden, Alec, Regan, Christian, Aubrey & Haley. | <b>12</b> Pray for ministry to prostitutes and youth in Ecuador. (Zooks)               | <b>13</b> Pray for the elderly - to have God's peace.                                     | <b>14</b> Pray that when we go to church we leave worldly things outside and come to worship God <b>alone</b> . |
| <b>15</b> The Lord. Omniscient - all wise, like no other.                     | <b>16</b> Thank God for all the blessings of the weekend.            | <b>17</b> Pray for believers in dangerous places.                                       | <b>18</b> Pray for youth - Brayden, Meg, Kendall, Josh, Logan W., Logan G, & Macy.        | <b>19</b> Pray for 2nd Blessings and sharing of gospel in Wichita. (McClouds)          | <b>20</b> Pray God's help for those who have made poor decisions and are in a hard place. | <b>21</b> Pray for a heart hungry for God and His word - don't settle for less.                                 |
| <b>22</b> The Lord. Omnipresent - He is never not with me.                    | <b>23</b> Ask God to show you what He wants you to do for Him today. | <b>24</b> Pray military chaplains speak only the truth of God.                          | <b>25</b> Pray for youth - Josh, Finn, Rylan, Matt and Brody - and all the parents.       | <b>26</b> Pray for kids of missionaries to grow in their own relationship with Christ. | <b>27</b> Seek to be aware of God - constantly, in every place, in every situation.       | <b>28</b> Pray you go to sleep praising God & wake up praising Him.   |
| <b>29</b> The Lord. My Father - the one who loves me beyond my comprehension. | <b>30</b> Praise God for His faithful care of you.                   | <b>31</b> Pray pastors are kept from being deceived and leading others astray.          |       |  |   |   |



Dear Friends and Family

April 2022

We are headed into the home stretch of our first fundraiser for 2<sup>nd</sup> Blessing, and the excitement is growing. Enclosed you will find our formal invitation. I know that many of you will not be able to attend due to distance. If you all would be praying these next days for this event.

I will tell you all, I have never faced such satanic opposition on anything I have ever done, until now. It has been so disappointing and hard to stay focused as the road blocks by the enemy were beyond anything I would ever imagine. I found myself many times per day going to

Philippians 3:13 & 14. My brothers, I do not consider myself to have fully grasped it even now. But I do concentrate on this: I leave the past behind and with hands outstretched to whatever lies ahead, I go straight for the goal- my reward, the honor of my high calling of God in Christ Jesus. I also went many times to

Ephesians 6:12 for our fight is not against any physical enemy: it is against organizations and powers that are spiritual. We are up against the unseen power that controls this dark world, and spiritual agents from the very headquarters of evil.

Here is an age old hymn we should all be singing

**Master, the Tempest is Raging**

**Mary Ann Baker**

*Master, the tempest is raging! The billows are tossing high! The sky is o'er-shadowed with blackness, no shelter or help is nigh; "Carest Thou not that we perish?" How canst Thou lie asleep, when each moment so madly is threat'ning a grave in the angry deep?*

*Master, with anguish of spirit I bow in my grief today; the depths of my sad heart are troubled; O waken and save, I pray! Torrents of sin and of anguish sweep o'er my sinking soul! And I perish! I perish, dear Master; O hasten, and take control!*

*Master, the terror is over, the elements sweetly rest; Earth's sun in the calm lake is mirrored, and heaven's within my breast. Linger, O blessed Redeemer, leave me alone no more; And with joy I shall make the blest harbor, and rest on the blissful shore.*

*"The winds and waves shall obey my will. Peace be still!" Whether the wrath of the storm-tossed sea, or demons, or men, or whatever it be, no water can swallow the ship where lies the Master of ocean and earth and skies; They all shall sweetly obey My will; Peace, be still! Peace, be still! They all shall sweetly obey My will; Peace, peace, be still!*

So as we round the bend on this event, please pray we finish well and that many people are encouraged And blessed. Please help us spread the word the food as well as the program are going to be a great blessing. Go to 2<sup>nd</sup> Blessing Thrift Store page on face book, like and share the ad for the fundraiser and help us have a great old fashioned hymn sing together

Awaiting HIS Return

David and Tayna McCloud



## Travel Plans!!!

A month from now we will be flying into Wichita on April 28 to begin reconnecting with all of you! Although we did not buy round trip tickets, we plan on staying Stateside for about six months. We are so grateful for God's provision. Most of the "bigger" logistical items have already been resolved for us to travel.

These include:

- We are expecting baby #4, who will arrive in July while we are in the US, so we needed to get a new car here in Brazil with more passenger space. A couple weeks ago we purchased a Dodge Journey.
- A family friend has offered a Honda Odyssey for us to use while we are there.
- Since we have the privilege of working with a team, ministry will continue here while we are gone. (But we sure are going to miss "our kids").

We have a place to stay in Hesston and will love the opportunities to have friends and family over for meals and fellowship times.



Our new car

We already have so many details sorted out that we praise God for, but would you please keep a couple items in your prayers:

- Preparing and packing up our house to be unused for the time we are away. Keeping mold from taking over in our humid climate is always an issue.
- We are preparing to celebrate Easter as the last event we are part of here before traveling. Pray for opportunities and boldness to share during this special time of celebration.
- If you haven't noticed from this e-mail, everything for us, right now, is boiled down to lists. Lists for ministry. Lists for domestic to-dos. Lists for "misc things." As always for a big move like this, there are many small details to get done before traveling. Pray that we can manage our time wisely.

We look forward to seeing you!

Josh & Camila Goossen



# ***Greetings from the Goossens in Mucambo, Brazil.***

April 8, 2022

As you know we are using a coffee shop to share the Gospel and direct people to Christ. We appreciate your partnership in prayer and would like to provide you with names and faces to help you pray more specifically. We will be regularly sending you emails about people we are sharing the Gospel with. Please pray for them specifically. Thank you and God bless!



## **Please pray for Isael**

**AGE: 13**

**IS A BELIEVER: NO**

**VERSES MEMORIZED: 3**

Isael has been coming to Café & Graça for at least the last 6 months. He has been showing a lot interest in reading the Bible and studying it in the boys' Bible Study each Saturday. A couple weeks ago he started memorizing verses and told us that he hasn't accepted Jesus as his Savior yet, but has been thinking about it. We think he is very close! Pray that the Spirit will convince him!

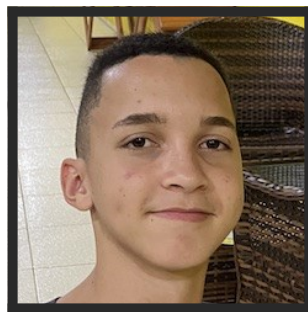
## ***Celebrate with Us!!***

April 13, 2022

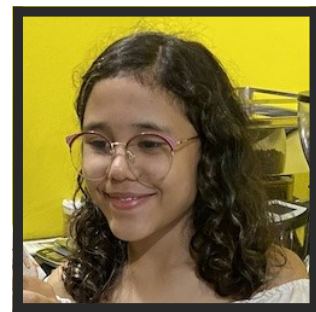
A few days ago we asked you to pray for Isael because we thought he was close to making the decision to accept Jesus Christ as his Savior. He did tonight! But not only he did. Three others also placed their faith in Christ!



**Letícia**



**Vitor**



**Bianca**

We celebrated communion tonight. It was a very special time remembering Jesus' sacrifice. The two girls (who are sisters) participated with us because they made their decision before the service. The two boys were there, participated in the service as usual, but just watched as we celebrated communion. After we were done they both approached us saying they wanted to accept Jesus too.





## Sharing years of experience.



The young man pictured, between Allan and Tim, is Trevor. Trevor is a missionary with our partner ministry, Reach Beyond. He will soon be moving overseas to help maintain and repair transmitters for several radio stations.

Trevor is spending two months at SonSet Solutions getting additional training on specific transmitters. He has repaired many transmitter modules that he brought back from a recent trip to where he will be serving. He is taking test equipment when he goes, as well.

Praise God for this provision of another tech to keep many existing partner radio stations on the air giving more opportunity for people to hear about and believe in Jesus.

Thank you for helping to provide an electronics lab at SonSet Solutions with tools for repairing transmitters, and helping to keep all the parts available.

**Tim Zook**, *Broadcast Services Department Technician*

**SonSet Solutions**

+1 574.970.4252 Ext. 236

<http://sonsetsolutions.org>

*Technology for abundant life!*

# The impact of one obedient servant.



"Lord, what am I doing here?" a Navajo woman often ponders. Jenna never planned to move back to the reservation. Since childhood, all she longed for was to move away, breaking free from the poverty and hopelessness on the "rez."

Jenna's parents were believers in the Lord Jesus and pastored a church among the Native Americans. The message of the "white man's God" was not well received by all. Jenna would sometimes come home from school bruised and bleeding by fellow classmates.

"I knew I had to get straight A's to get out of the reservation," Jenna recalls. By the time she graduated high school, Jenna received academic scholarships from several colleges including Harvard University.

"Mom wanted me to go to Bible college," Jenna muses. This was her mother's dream, not hers. But sensing the Lord's leading, she attended Bob Jones University. Following college, Jenna was married and became a successful business woman in Dallas, Texas, working in economic development, accounting and insurance litigation.

Jenna's mom continued to pray, telling her daughter that the reservation was where the Lord wanted her to serve. Although she resisted, Jenna once again sensed the Lord's nudging and went into missions on the reservation following her mother's death.

Jenna didn't realize the impact this decision would make.

Jenna's daughter-in-law is a Navajo woman who was hardened to the gospel. It took many years for her heart to soften to Jenna's witness before she responded in faith. Her dad, a medicine man, was so impressed by the changes in his daughter that he sent his son to live with Jenna. This son also received the Lord as his Savior.

Jenna has had opportunity to share the gospel with her daughter-in-law's father. With no electricity or running water, his request was for both a Bible and a radio. Jenna gave him a solar-powered SonSet® radio, and he is picking up the gospel programming broadcast by SonSet Solutions' partner ministry Across Nations.

Deep down, Jenna knows why God brought her back to the reservation. Life is challenging there, but through her influence and the ministry efforts of Across Nations, a Navajo family is finding lasting hope beyond the "rez."

Written by Erica Simone, April 2022

**Tim Zook**, Broadcast Services Department Technician

**SonSet Solutions**

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