

October 2026

Garden Gleanings

A monthly publication of the Garden Community Church

Youth Group

The Youth Group might have gotten a later start than normal this year but they are off to a great start. Youth Group started on October 7th with a cookout. Each evening will start with supper and fellowship followed by a time of games and concludes with a devotional. They will start off by going through a video series from RightNow Media of *Jesus in Our Generation*. The series will cover how we can adapt to cultural revolutions while remaining anchored to God's unchanging word. In this six-session series, author and pastor Ben Stuart discusses the major areas in our lives that are directly impacted by modern culture. This year six couples will be rotating nights leading the youth with at least 2 couples being there each night. The six couples are: Lindley & Kayla Harms, Rob & Tami Hiebert, Chad & Val Mason, Chris & Julie Nelson, Scott & Amy Vogt, & Delvin & Cherie Wohlgemuth.



Library News

I have always loved reading, but the saying, "so many books, so little time," is so true for me! Audio books are great for double tasking, but it doesn't help me get through the books I've accumulated on my own bookshelves! However, I have been able to read a couple **biographies** lately (from the church library) which have been such an encouragement, especially when they are about real people that have seen God working in their lives in amazing ways!

Murder, Motherhood, and Miraculous Grace: A True Story by Debra Moerke (with Cindy Lambert) tells of the Moerke family that cared for over 140 children through foster care. God provided strength and love far beyond what was humanly possible.

Running on Broken Legs by Elinor Young was a recent Book Club book. Elinor contracted polio as a child. She had to relearn how to walk, but even as a 9 year old using leg braces and crutches, she knew that God had called her to serve Him overseas as a missionary. Her determination and perseverance God used to bring the Good News to the Kimyal people of Irian Jaya. Her "broken legs" were the tools God used to bring many to Himself.

Talking about the Book Club, our next book is: *The Agents of the Apocalypse* by David Jeremiah. Each chapter begins with a fictionalized story of what could happen and then what the Scripture really says about each player in the end times. The Book Club is open to any women at Garden, even if you haven't read the book but would like to hear about it, you are welcome. Talk to Kim Kohls or myself for more details.

~Denise Goossen

Women's Ministry Service Day

The women's Ministry planned a service day for September 26. They had a small turn out but had a great time fellowshiping while deep cleaning the church kitchen. They cleaned the ovens, cabinets, countertops, and floors. Then arranged bouquets and wrote/signed cards and delivered them to 14 of our shut-ins.



All Church Picnic

This fall has been very warm, or hot, but the Lord blessed us with a beautiful cooler evening for our Annual All-Church Picnic on September 20. Along with enjoying the beautiful evening everyone also enjoyed the yummy food and great fellowship at Heritage Park in Hesston.





Garden
COMMUNITY CHURCH

MISSION CONFERENCE

PASS IT ON

"Then they said to one another, 'We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news. If we are silent and wait until the morning light, punishment will overtake us. Now therefore come; let us go and tell the king's household.'"

2 KINGS 7:9

Friday Evening, November 13

7 p.m.

Mike Rueck, Wycliffe Translators sharing his mission—Please bring a snack to share.

Saturday Morning, November 14

9 a.m.

Roundtable with Mike Rueck, Ivan & Mary Goossen, Avant, Tim & Renee Zook, SonSet Solutions, & Nathaniel & Jordana Goossen, CEF; coffee and rolls provided.

Sunday Morning, November 15

9 a.m.

Sunday School—Middle School and up meet in Sanctuary for field report from Tim & Renee Zook & Ivan & Mary Goossen. A Love offering for Ivan & Mary Goossen & Tim & Renee Zook will be taken.

Junior Department will have a special program from CYIA.

10:15 a.m.

Worship Service—Nathaniel Goossen will deliver the sermon.

REACH • EQUIP • SEND

JOINING US FOR MISSIONS WEEKEND

PASS IT ON

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Mike Rueck

with Wycliff Bible Translators

Mike served as a language surveyor for 14 years in Niger, Papua New Guinea, and then Nigeria before taking on higher leadership roles in Nigeria. Mike currently serves Wycliffe partners remotely from New Mexico. Mike is the Language Assessment Coordinator for SIL Africa Area, helping meet community research needs across sub-Saharan Africa. He also serves as a consultant to the SIL Nigeria Language Assessment Team that he founded in 2006.



Ivan & Mary Goosen

with Avant

The Goossens work in Mucambo, Ceara, Brazil and have worked with Avant Ministries in Brazil for many years. Their primary ministry is church planting through a coffee shop platform. They have also been involved in starting a radio ministry, in field leadership and member care ministry.



Tim & Renee Zook

with SonSet Solutions

After serving many years in Ecuador with Reach Beyond, Tim and Renee are now serving with SonSet Solutions in Indiana. Tim is a technician in the broadcast services division. Renee works in hospitality.



Nathaniel & Jordana Goossen

with CEF

Nathaniel and Jordana began working for CEF in January 2025. Nathaniel is the Kansas State director which oversees the mission to evangelize boys and girls with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, disciple them in the Word of God and establish them in a Bible-believing church for Christian living. They reside in Hesston, KS.



This past weekend, we went to Beaver Lake in Arkansas. It was a gorgeous weekend, with warm weather, calm winds, early colors of fall emerging, and beautiful sunrises and sunsets.

The beauty around us brought Psalm 8 to mind. I've included the psalm below, along with some photos of the beauty we enjoyed.

“O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

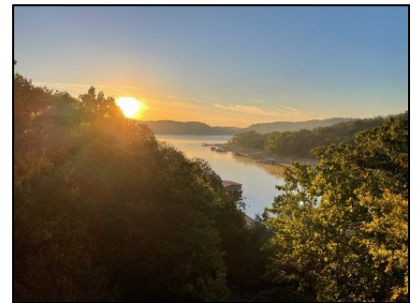
You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!”



During the weekend, we watched two adult deer accompanied by a younger deer cautiously approach the lake's edge for a drink, always alert to possible danger. At dusk, we watched a spider weave its web, then the next morning saw it catch and eat insects that flew into its web. We saw fish jumping out of the water, squirrels busily gathering nuts, and birds gathering around the birdfeeder. All of it filled me with wonder and even awe!

I encourage you to pause and notice the evidence of God's handiwork in your own surroundings. Let it remind you of His awesome majesty, His steadfast love, and the mercy He has shown us through the cross. Like David, may we stand in wonder at the beauty of His creation and ask, “What is man that you are mindful of him?”





Prayer Calendar and Memory Verse

Memory Verse: I Corinthians 15:57—But thanks be to God, which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 Thank God for saving your soul.	2 Pray we have hearts of gratitude, content with where the Lord has placed us.	3 Pray we trust the Lord even when things are difficult.	4 Thank God for those who respond in emergencies & know what to do.	5 Thank God for parents who teach their children about Jesus.	6 Pray Jesus is your heart's desire - above & before anything else.	7 Thank God for missionaries who obey His call.
8 Thank God for a church that stands firm on His Word.	9 Thank God for His comfort when we hurt.	10 Pray for the elderly & their physical struggles.	11 Thank a veteran & pray for the military.	12 Pray we have hearts sensitive to God's leading.	13 Thank God for stopping you when you got off track.	14 Thank God you're not homeless.
15 Thank God you can see, hear, taste & smell - even if its only partially.	16 Pray for kids who aren't loved & cared for as they should be.	17 Thank God for colors - beautiful colors everywhere.	18 Pray for God's protecting hand on you & those you love.	19 Thank God the Holy Spirit is our teacher & we're not left alone.	20 Thank God He is over all and His care is wise and loving.	21 Thank God for caregivers that are good at it.
22 Thank God for things we know by faith - really know to be true.	23 Thank God for plenty of food & shelter.	24 Pray for those you love most to grow in the knowledge of Christ.	25 Thank God for things to do, things to create, things to learn.	26 Thank God for the gift & promise of eternity with Him.	27 Thank God you live in America.	28 Pray for the leadership in the church - unity and clear direction.
29 Thank God we are held in His loving arms & kept by Him.	30 Pray for the opportunity to declare God's goodness to someone who needs Him.	HAPPY THANKSGIVING				