

April 2026

G Garden Gleanings

A monthly publication of the Garden Community Church

Bridal Shower

A bridal shower was held for Macy Wohlgemuth on March 22nd at the Activity Center. Guests had the opportunity to guess what the age of the bride was in pictures scrolling through a slide show as they arrived and also got to know the Bride through answering various questions about Macy. Vonnie Fast gave a short devotional. Macy and Cooper Frey are planning a June 6 wedding.



Welcome to New Members

On March 29, we welcomed Joe & Denise Goossen as official members of Garden Community Church. Joe and Deinsie shared their testimonies during the morning worship service.



SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

On Saturday, March 28, the Senior adults gathered in the fellowship hall to enjoy a time of fellowship. The evening began with a short devotional shared by Jim Smith. The meal was catered by Carlos' Kitchen & Catering from Newton. 51 adults enjoyed a delicious taco/nacho bar and ice cream with various toppings. Following the meal, Carlos shared a little bit about his catering business. The evening concluded with The Decades Game, a game designed to include everyone and to challenge our memories concerning facts taken from four different categories over the decades from 1940 to present. The evening was an enjoyable time of fellowship and reminiscing together.



Youth Trip to Branson

Young Christian's Weekend at Silver Dollar City was once again a fun and encouraging trip for the youth group.

With 27 kids and 8 adults along for the trip, we made the decision to charter a bus to the event. It may have been a highlight for the sponsors to not drive vans in the crazy wind!

We enjoyed beautiful weather the whole weekend and a nice house to relax in at the end of the day.

At the park some were determined to ride all the roller coasters and some not so much. As a group we attended an afternoon session with Lain McCanless encouraging us to step into the purpose God has for our lives.

After a pizza supper in the park we all attended a concert with Lloyd Nicks and then Micah Tyler performing. I didn't realize how many Micah Tyler songs I already knew. Heath Kirkpatrick shared a great message of God's grace. We don't have to strive.

Sunday morning we were in our seats in the amphitheater before the park was open to hear from Meredith Andrews and a group called Page 892. Our speaker was Shay Robbins.

After Sunday morning worship we squeezed in a few more rides, especially the water ride, and then we were back on the bus to head for home.

Thank you to Scott & Amy Vogt, Chris & Julie Nelson, Drew Hiebert & Briana Busenitz for being sponsors on this trip. You helped distribute the load of details to make the trip happen and found connections with different kids throughout the trip!

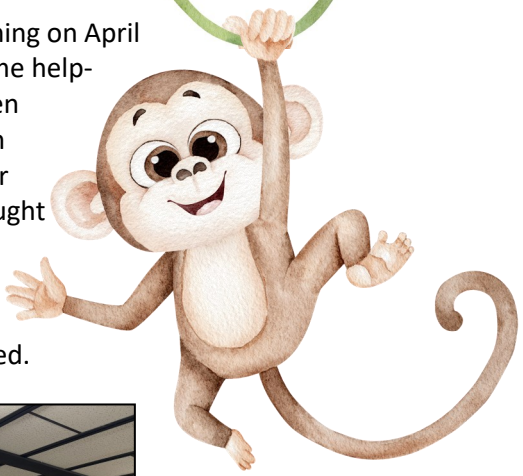
Lindley & Kayla Harms





Garden Kids Year End Program

The fall and spring semesters of Garden Kids culminated in a special evening on April 15. It all started with a delicious meal prepared by Melinda Jantz and some helpers. The meal was BBQ meatballs along with cheesy potatoes, salad, green beans, bread and ice cream sundaes. Mr. Dan and his puppet, Artie, from New Spring church provided the program on the theme of Humility. Their definition was "Putting others first by giving up what you want." They taught about Jesus, His death and resurrection and gave the plan of salvation. Several responded that they wanted to trust Christ as Savior. It was a great end to this year of Garden Kids and we are thankful for the opportunity to teach the truth of the Word of God to the students who attended.



GK Team Coordinators, Karis Mandi & Jeanette





Vonnie's Views

Have you ever come across something that stopped you in your tracks? That happened to me this morning, and I'd love to share it with you.

As you know, our family has been grieving the loss of two family members. Grief is a unique journey, and as I've been walking through it, I have looked for resources. I recently began a YouVersion reading plan called "*Grief Bites: A New Approach to Growing Through Grief*." Knowing how difficult it can be to absorb much during hard seasons, this plan is just a verse or two of Scripture each day.

About the third day into the 30-day plan, it occurred to me that copying these verses into a journal might help keep them in front of me. I've always loved the simple discipline of writing out Scripture, though it had been a while since I last practiced it. So, I pulled out a new journal, gathered a few colorful pens, and began.

Today, while waiting at an appointment, I opened that little journal and reread the verses I had copied. Two passages, in particular, seemed to jump off the page:

Psalm 147:3-5 (NLT)

He heals the brokenhearted
and bandages their wounds.
He counts the stars
and calls them all by name.
How great is our Lord!
His power is absolute!
His understanding is beyond comprehension!

1 Peter 5:6-7 (NLT)

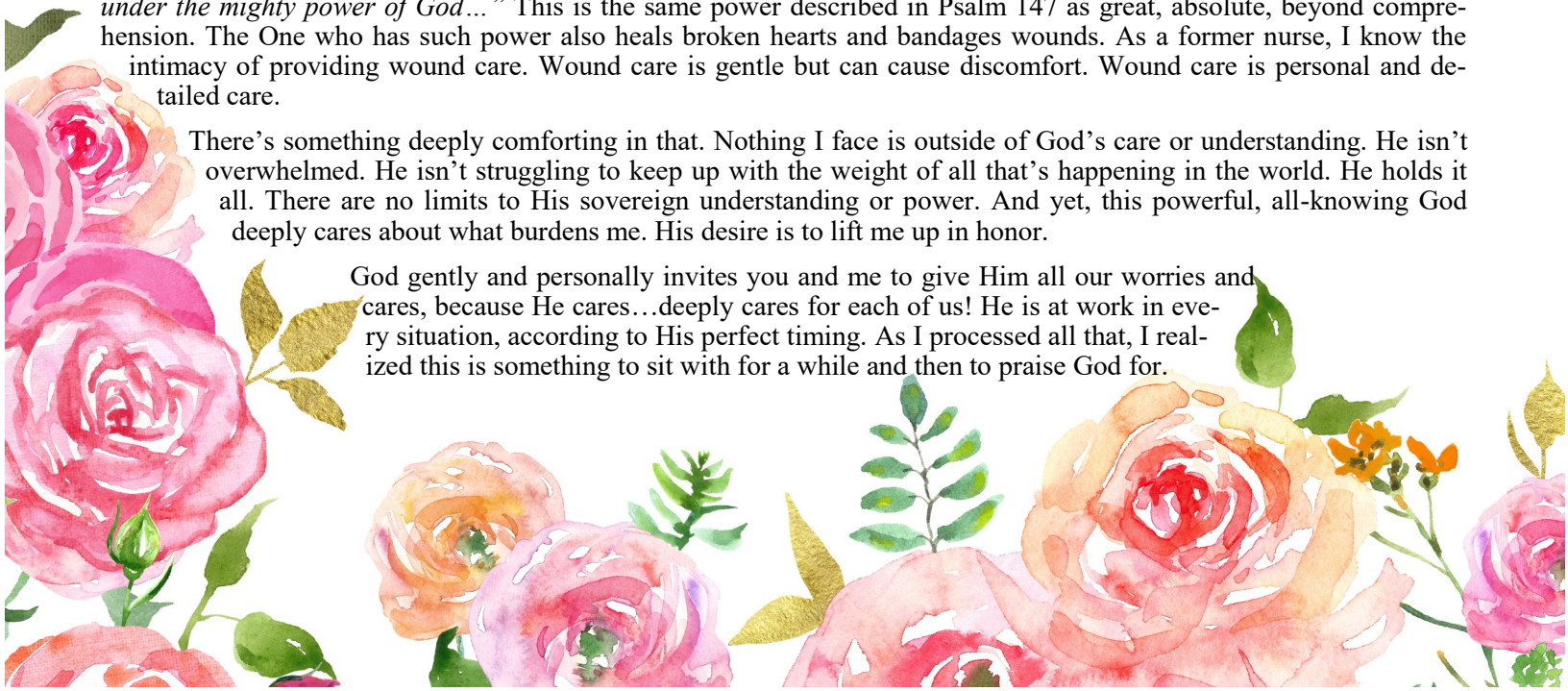
So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God,
and at the right time he will lift you up in honor.
Give all your worries and cares to God,
for he cares about you.

In Psalm 147, the Psalmist reminds us that the Lord heals broken hearts and gently tends to our wounds. To help us grasp the depth of His care, the Psalmist used this beautiful image: God knows exactly how many stars fill the sky and He has name for each one. Then, just in case we might miss the point, the Psalmist declares, "*How great is our Lord! His power is absolute! His understanding is beyond comprehension!*"

Right after that, I had copied the 1 Peter 5 verses and suddenly these two connected in a fresh way. "*Humble yourselves under the mighty power of God...*" This is the same power described in Psalm 147 as great, absolute, beyond comprehension. The One who has such power also heals broken hearts and bandages wounds. As a former nurse, I know the intimacy of providing wound care. Wound care is gentle but can cause discomfort. Wound care is personal and detailed care.

There's something deeply comforting in that. Nothing I face is outside of God's care or understanding. He isn't overwhelmed. He isn't struggling to keep up with the weight of all that's happening in the world. He holds it all. There are no limits to His sovereign understanding or power. And yet, this powerful, all-knowing God deeply cares about what burdens me. His desire is to lift me up in honor.







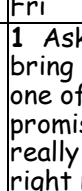
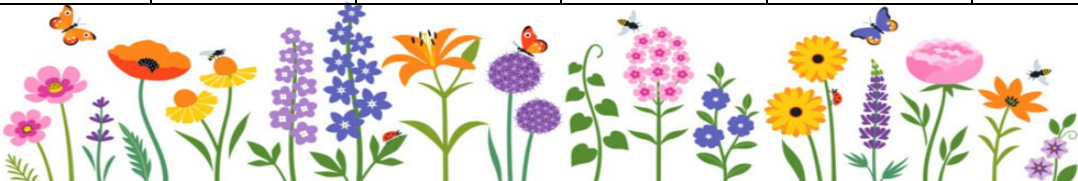
God gently and personally invites you and me to give Him all our worries and cares, because He cares...deeply cares for each of us! He is at work in every situation, according to His perfect timing. As I processed all that, I realized this is something to sit with for a while and then to praise God for.



MAY

Prayer Calendar and Memory Verse

Memory Verse: Revelation 1:8—"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending," saith the Lord, "which is, and which was and which is to come, the Almighty."

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						
3 Pray for deep roots of faith in the kids in our church.	4 Pray for farmers to be wise, diligent & for their safety.	5 Pray for caregivers to have wisdom & the strength to keep going.	6 Pray for many to receive Christ in Israel & Iran.	7 Pray we each live well and finish well to the glory of God.	8 Thank God that you can sit in His presence & wallow in His goodness.	9 Pray for open doors for Daniel & Krissy to share the gospel.
10 Pray for Pastor Dizzy to walk in close communion with God daily.	11 Pray for young believers in Brazil to stay faithful to Christ.	12 Pray for those in prison to find forgiveness & freedom in Jesus.	13 Pray New Hope Shelter is effective in reaching souls for Christ.	14 Pray for wisdom in being a good steward of all God has entrusted to your care.	15 Pray God helps you to hold on very loosely to things of this world.	16 Pray for those grieving someone they miss terribly.
17 Pray for Holy Spirit sensitivity to wrong choices.	18 Pray God's help in walking in complete obedience to Him.	19 Praise God for all the beauty He puts around us.	20 Praise God for people who touch you for the Lord & they don't even know it.	21 Pray God uses you to touch someone's life for Him.	22 Pray for the work going on in Brazil - deep roots & strong faith in the Lord.	23 Pray for the kids of our missionaries to clearly know Christ's call on their lives.
24 Pray God helps you guard your time with Him zealously.	25 Pray believers in the military shine forth the light of Christ.	26 Ask God to help you walk in faithfulness to Him consistently.	27 Pray for teachers of scripture to have wisdom, insight & boldness.	28 Praise God for leaders that know Christ - pray they are wise & obedient.	29 Pray God gives you His love for difficult people.	30 Pray we have clear minds, led by the Holy Spirit.
31 Pray family members come to know Christ's salvation.						

Dear Family and Friends,

Spring 2026

GOOD MORNING! It is a beautiful one and I (Chuck) am ready to get another day rolling. Our weather has been with record highs and lows in the same week. There is a familiar saying that "if you don't like the weather, in a few hours it will change." In some of the extreme cold nights we left our faucets dripping so that they would not freeze. February greeted us with a cold morning at church...furnace troubles, with one of them not working. It was 40 degrees so we all kept our coats on. The usual people returned for the evening service. A new furnace has been ordered so it doesn't happen again. We also have replaced the steeple on the church this month.



We have been encouraged with visitors and a new family joining us. We do ask your prayers for a five-year-old boy, Zephaniah, and his parents. Zephaniah has been coming to church but his dad has now told him that he cannot come to church anymore. The dad does not believe the Bible. God can melt the hard hearts and meet the needs of this family. "We know that with God all things are possible." (Luke 1:37) We also ask prayers for several people with illnesses and special needs. Gary and Wonda, Gloria and Gerry, Sharon, two Kathys, Jeff, Cindy and her family, Lorraine, and several others. We thank you for keeping Connie and me in your prayers and for our family.

As we are coming near to Easter Sunday, we need to keep the day with Christ at the center. He said, "I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25) "For God so loved the world." (John 3:16) "It is true, He has risen." (Luke 24:34) Without His sacrifice we would not have salvation or a celebration of Easter.

We are planning our annual outdoor Sunrise Service for Easter. Following that we serve a free, big breakfast to all who come – pancakes, bacon, eggs, sausage, biscuits and gravy, large platter of fresh fruit, several different juices, and chocolate and white milk. In the last several years we have served between 80 and 100 people each year.

Just before school ends we will again be giving out several food baskets for needy families. Hopefully that helps several families start the summer with food.

Last Friday we attended a special dinner. The Gideons had their appreciation meal for local pastors and their wives. They shared a video of a young lady's testimony along with a report of the Gideons on their amazing work worldwide. We were blessed.

We look forward to hearing from you about your family updates and prayer requests. If you have not been able to get us on the phone, it is now working again.

Because of Him,

Chuck and Connie Myers

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