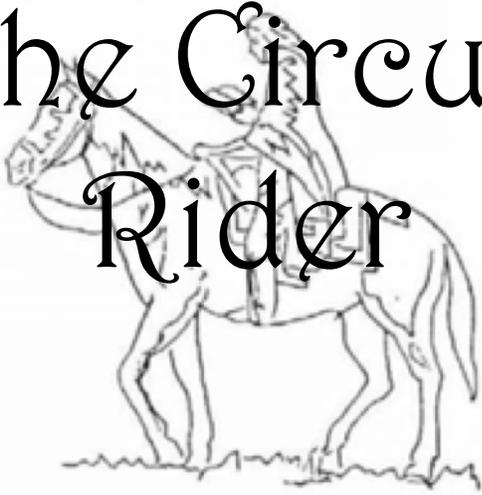


# The Circuit Rider



Vol. XXII, No. 19 *Where experience and tradition are welcome - where faith and reason are in dialogue* May 3, 2017

Grace and peace to you!

While I might be tired of all the rain, I have nothing to complain about when I see the reports of snow in western Kansas. It is with sadness I saw photos of many trees unable to maintain the weight of spring snow when blizzard winds kicked up. One friend posted side-by-side pictures of her yard last week with beautiful tulips and flowering trees in full bloom and this week's broken trees and the snow-buried flowers. We will pray for all areas affected by this storm. Parts of Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas experienced severe spring storms. Thank you to all who contributed to the offering for United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Our gift of nearly \$850 will be of great help as the agency prepares to respond to places around the world needing help in the time of disaster.

Rev. Kalaba Chali, coordinator of the Great Plains Mercy and Justice team, blessed us with a powerful message on Sunday, April 30. Rev. Chali challenged us to hear the message of the unnamed woman responding to Elijah. Elijah had been sent from the place he knew into a place where he wasn't prepared to live. But God had assured Elijah provisions would be made for him in this new place. Elijah encountered a woman and asked her for a drink and bread. She said she only had a small amount of oil and flour which she intended to use to make the last meal for her son and then they would die of starvation. But God provided for the family as well as Elijah. This is the hope for today-that God provides for us in ways we cannot anticipate. God stands with us and offers opportunities for giving hospitality and receiving hospitality.

I am amazed at how the Spirit works among us. To have Rev. Chali bring this message just as we are trying to understand our own mission in ministry this summer. Thank you to the many who have volunteered to assist with the new ministry. Prayers have been answered in the many who have suggestions and ideas of how we can formulate this ministry in just a few weeks! **Camp ACTS** (All Called To Serve) will start the first week of June. We hope to offer a morning once a week for children to continue their educational achievements over the summer break. Camp ACTS will offer opportunities to learn in unexpected approaches. Reading and math skills may be enhanced by a baking project to make muffins. Physical activities may include large and fine motor skills with hands on activities. Computer skills will be achieved with the help of a mentor.

Is it possible to open our church not only to children seeking provision but also their parents? If given the opportunity to engage in the lives of our neighbors could we also offer an English as a second language class? I feel the Spirit is calling us to engage in real relationship by getting to know our neighbors. During the time the children are here we may have the opportunity to learn together in helping the families.

Contact the church office if you are willing to help. We will need a rotation of adults and youth willing to make this a success. We will need conversation partners. We will need funds to purchase needed supplies. We will be applying for a grant through the Great Plains Conference Mercy and Justice team. Pray for this ministry to meet a need in the community as we live into the kingdom here and now.

Join us Sunday for a great morning of worship as we celebrate the high school graduations of Karla Portley and Ian Herren. We will honor them with a coffee fellowship after worship. Another student completing studies this spring is Joel Findley as he graduates from Kansas State University. Blessing to all in this time of celebration for achievements in your education.

Shalom,  
Pastor Jo

2220 N Yale Ave Wichita, KS 67220

Jo's e-mail: [pastorjo@uumc.net](mailto:pastorjo@uumc.net) Church Office e-mail: [uumc2220@uumc.net](mailto:uumc2220@uumc.net) Church phone 316 686-6765

Campus Ministry Connect: <http://www.wichita.edu/cmconnect>

## Calendar May 3 – May 10

### Wednesday

10:30 a.m. – Line Dancing  
6:00 p.m. – Snack Supper  
6:00 p.m. – Youth Group  
6:30 p.m. – B\*L\*A\*S\*T\*  
6:30 p.m. – Creation Care  
7:30 p.m. – Chancel Choir  
7:30 p.m. – Nursery

### Thursday

### Friday

Office closes at noon

### Saturday

### Sunday

8:00 a.m. – Biscuit Breakfast  
9:15 a.m. – Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. – Worship

### Monday

Circuit Rider articles due at noon

### Tuesday

11:00 a.m. – Read & Eat Book Club  
1:30 p.m. – Knit Wits

### Wednesday

10:30 a.m. – Line Dancing  
6:00 p.m. – Snack Supper  
6:00 p.m. – Youth Group  
6:30 p.m. – B\*L\*A\*S\*T\*  
6:30 p.m. – Creation Care  
7:30 p.m. – Chancel Choir  
7:30 p.m. – Nursery

### **Youth Senior Day**

On May 7th please help us honor two of our youth who are graduating from high school, Karla Portley and Ian Herren. Karla and Ian will share their plans with us during church. Following the service, you will be able to visit with them as we share a special coffee fellowship in the Gathering Place. We hope you can be present to help congratulate our Seniors on this day!  
-Cathy Fooshee

## Please Remember in Prayer:

Roger Williams, Tiffany Dick  
Mary Ann Deskins, Curt Terflinger  
Raymond Downs, Lance Dixon  
Susan Daniel-Brey, Dakota Bass  
Connie Shepherd, Amos Nsabimana

**Attendance**  
**April 30**

**Worship**  
154

**Sunday School**  
70

**General Offering**  
\$3424.00

**May 7**

**Acolytes**  
John Obama  
Haiden Tilley

**Ushers**  
Dot McNicol  
Jack Greene  
Barbara Carlson  
Dennis Duell

**Administrative**  
**Ministry**  
Lucy Scott-Pierce  
Ricki Emery

### **Prayer for the week**

God of presence and love, help us to be mindful of the impact we can have on the lives of people elsewhere. In our purchasing, in our using natural resources, in our stewardship of your creation, make our choices good ones. Choices that do no harm, offer opportunity and love to our world companions.

God, be with the many students and faculty members of educational institutions as they finish another term. Bless those who graduate from one place and find their next place. All of this is asked in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**Reading ahead Luke 24: 13-35**

## New Additions to the Church Library

***The Women in the Castle*** by Jessica Shattuck  
This book is on the list of many reviewers as a top read for 2017. The time is post WWII and Marianne von Lingenfels decides to uphold the promise she made to her husband. The book is all about choices and the results of living in the aftermath of the devastating war.

***The One-in-a-Million Boy*** by Monica Wood  
This was such a good book. An eleven-year old boy dies suddenly. His father decides to finish the requirements for a Boy Scout badge that the boy was working on at the time of his death. A 104-year-old woman leads the father to understand his son. There were many profound moments for me in this novel.

***Creed: What Christians Believe and Why*** by Adam Hamilton  
Adam Hamilton is senior pastor at the Resurrection United Methodist Church in Kansas City and is a prolific writer. His newest book examines the Apostles' Creed and what it says to Christians about why we believe. Study group, anyone?

***Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy*** by Anne Lamott  
In this little gem, Anne Lamott explains the importance of mercy and why it is important to share that mercy with others. Lamott writes like she is talking to her best friend, and I always walk away with many 'aha' moments when I read her books.

***Hidden Figures*** by Margot Lee Shetterly  
This is the untold story of African-American women mathematicians who were hired at the beginning of the aeronautics industry. The author grew up in Virginia and knew many of the women in *Hidden Figures*.

### New for children:

*When God Made You* by Matthew Paul Turner  
*If You Give a Mouse a Brownie* by Laura Numeroff  
*Creation* by Cynthia Rylant  
*Be the Change: a Grandfather Gandhi Story* by Arun Gandhi and Bethany Hegehus  
-Lucy Scott-Pierce

**It is end of the semester for schools and colleges.** Would you like to provide some homemade goodies to share with the students of WSU? WSU Connect ministry will offer these goodies to the students who come into the office during finals week. Offer a prayer for the students and faculty during these last weeks when stress is compounded by deadlines. Contact Katie in the office for more information.

## Youth Mission for Opportunity Zone

On June 7th the youth will once again be making and delivering home-made cookies to OZ (Opportunity Zone). We are in need of another adult to assist with the cookie baking. We would like to ask the congregation to help by picking up a couple of Hormel Completes the next time you are grocery shopping and drop them off in the church office to donate for the kids at OZ. We will deliver any donations of the Completes along with the cookies on June 7. OZ always appreciates the donation of cookies and Hormel Completes.

**Church Spring Cleanup Day** is scheduled for Saturday, May 13 starting at 9:00 AM. Please bring tools and materials you'll need for the cleaning. Usual tasks include trimming and cleanup in the yard and parking areas, vacuuming and cleaning of pews in the sanctuary, window washing, etc.

This year, in preparation for the Garage Sale, Trustees and the Garage Sale organizers ask that all storage areas be cleaned out. Unneeded items suitable for the Garage Sale can be placed in University Hall (Gym). Other items may need to be thrown out, but the end result should be better organized storage areas. Morning coffee and treats will be provided. Hope to see you there!!

### Coffee with Mary

April was busy for many of us and we're hoping to catch up a bit with a Saturday morning "Coffee with Mary" on May 20 at Copper Oven Café & Bakery, 2409 W 13<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to attend, please let Mary Horn know at 773-9840 by May 18. Hope to see you there! - Mary

### Children's News

*Sunday School teachers needed*  
If you would like to lend your talents to help teach Sunday School, please contact Shelley Oldham at 686-6765.

### Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be held July 24-28. We had an amazing turnout last year with over 40 children. This year we hope to have just as many as we celebrate God with our Lego theme. Contact Shelley Oldham at 686-6765 if you would like to help with VBS this year.

#### **E4 – Energy, Environment, Economics, and Ethics (5/1/2017)**

Wind energy creates jobs, boosts economy, and enhances energy security.

“Wind energy creates hundreds of thousands of well-paying US jobs, boosts rural economies in the heartland enhances our energy security,” writes American Wind Energy Association CEO Tom Kiernan. (Wind Energy Smart Brief, 27 Mar 2017)

The American Wind Energy Association, Advanced Energy Economy, the Business Council for Sustainable Energy and other clean energy groups are working together to tour clean energy’s role in creating well-paying jobs and driving economic growth. The clean energy industry already employs more than 3 million Americans. (Wind Energy Smart Brief, 1 Mar 2017)

Wind, birds can live in harmony.

“A transition to clean energy...protects birds from the worst effects of carbon pollution, which is already impacting where birds can live and thrive...” writes Heather Hahn, executive director of Audubon North Carolina. (Smart Brief, 27 Mar 2017)

Coal industry black lung victim costs often paid by taxpayers.

Thousands of workers or former workers in the coal mining and transport industry suffer black lung and other diseases related to exposure to coal dust. The companies which employed these workers are often closed or bankrupt. The U S Department of Labor oversees federal benefit payments to Black Lung victims and their surviving family members, including payments from the federal treasury when the companies do not pay. We, the taxpayers, bear the burden of providing assistance for decades to those in need, under the “Black Lung Benefits Act.” (Source: US Dept. of Labor)

*Wentz view: “**Cheap**” coal is a falsehood. If industry were required to pay the true health expenses related to mining, transporting and burning coal, the cost of coal-generated electricity would be higher than wind or solar. Re-opening or expanding coal as an energy source would be an economic, health and environmental disaster.*

**Coal advocates must be held accountable for the health costs as well as the environmental impact of proposed expanded coal use.**

“A GIFT TO THE PLANET...100% Renewables by 2050”

**UUMC CREATION CARE (GREEN) GROUP: Meets Wednesdays 6:30PM - 7:20PM**

*Reminder: The views expressed in this column are strictly those of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Pastor or the UUMC Administrative Council...Bill Wentz, UUMC environmental guru*

#### **Drop-Off Dates for Garage Sale Donations**

We will begin accepting donations for the church-wide garage sale in May. A list of the dates and times is printed below. A pick-up service has also been scheduled for two Saturdays in May (see below) for anyone who has large items or for anyone who would have difficulty transporting their items to the church. **Donations will only be accepted during these scheduled times on these specified days. If you cannot bring your donations or you cannot have your items picked up on any of these days, you must call the office and arrange a time for someone to be at the church to accept your donated items.**

Please refer to the list of items that are acceptable for donation and items that will not be accepted. **Donation items should be taken to the gym located in the education building.**

Thank you for your support of this event which will benefit the Opportunity Zone. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Fugate (519-5438) or Amy Taylor (729-0173).

#### **DROP-OFF DATES:**

Sunday, May 7—after worship service

Wednesday, May 10—6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 13—10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 14—after worship service

Wednesday, May 17—6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 20—1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 21—after worship service

**\*\*LAST DAY TO DROP OFF DONATIONS IS SUNDAY, MAY 21\*\***

#### **PICK-UP SERVICE:**

Saturday, May 13—10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

(Please schedule this on the sign-up sheet in the narthex or call the church office).

Saturday, May 20—1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

(Please schedule this on the sign-up sheet in the narthex or call the church office).

**Items acceptable for donation (all must be in working order):**

- Small appliances -Kitchenware -Jewelry
- Home Décor -Flat screen TVs (no box TVs)
- Toys in good or excellent condition
- Furniture in good or excellent condition
- Miscellaneous items
- Holiday items/decorations
- Bedding—comforters, bedspreads, sheet sets (no mattresses or box springs)

**Items that WILL NOT be accepted for donation:**

- Clothing of any kind -Computers or printers
- Mattresses or sleeper sofas
- Bed Pillows -Baby Cribs
- Large exercise equipment