The LORD is near to all who call upon Him,

To all who call upon Him in truth.

Psalm 145:18, NKJV

January 31st
Annual Potluck & Congregational Meeting

January-February
Salina Souper Bowl of Hope

January 18th
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
Church Office Closed
During my middle year at Austin Seminary, I applied to be a seminary participant at the National Conference of Christians and Jews in Chicago. I remember the trip well; it was my first visit to Chicago! (I also made my first visit to the Art Institute on that trip) There were about 20 Christian and Jewish seminarians from around the country. In small groups and over dinner, we got to know one another and learned about each other’s faith traditions. Before that conference, I did not know much about the breadth of Jewish faith traditions. I was surprised to learn from my new friends that their traditions spanned the same range that Protestant faith traditions do. For me it was the beginning of a long engagement with interfaith dialogue.

For several years following that conference, I participated in a smaller NCCJ conference at Laity Lodge in Texas. About 25 students from across the spectrum of our traditions would gather and discuss theology, scripture and share worship with one another. I learned a great deal from the rabbis who attended each year. I discovered that leadership in congregations is pretty much the same for Christians and Jews.

Across the years of my ministry I have drawn from these inter-faith experiences. I learned to listen carefully to others, ask questions to clarify what I did not understand, and state where I agreed or did not agree with my partners. God’s Spirit was present and my faith grew. I learned to look for God in places outside the confines of “my” church.

In the past month, I’ve been thinking about these inter-faith experiences. I wish Muslims or Hindu participants could have joined us because I would have liked to have learned from them. Given the events of the past month and the growing unrest concerning Islam in our country, I would really like to learn more about their practice and their faith.

My experiences taught me that not to judge a faith tradition from one aspect or small group of it.

Presbyterians have a long history of inter-faith dialogue. I encourage you to read through the Presbyterian Principles of Interfaith Dialogue (I was on the committee which helped to write these) found at this link: https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/interfaithrelations/pdf/principlesforinterfaithdialogue.pdf

I also encourage you to seek out other denominational sources to learn more. I have many of these in the office, and others are available on-line. It’s easy to take the actions of a few and condemn an entire group. I urge us to look for God’s presence in other faith traditions – in other people – indeed in the entire world. We never know what grace we might find!

Love,

Martha

My Sermons Available Online

Missed church but want to know what the sermon was about? We’ve recently started posting Martha’s sermons on the Sunrise website. Each week on Monday morning, we will post the previous Sunday’s sermon on the front page of our website.

sunrisepresbyterian.com
Christian Education

Sunday School and Wednesdays

God’s Kids is back in swing after the Christmas holiday. If your kids or grandkids would like to attend there is always room. It starts at 3:40’ish and goes until 5:30. The kids eat a snack, learn a story, do a craft, play games and sing.

Youth is going great. We have around 14 kids attending regularly and we have been learning about each other, playing games and studying different views on the bible. Youth starts at 6:15 and lasts until 7:15. Immediately after Youth, we have Youth Choir. We hope you will send your kids and grandkids.

Please come and join us for spiritual development, fellowship and fun!

Blessing Bags!

Our little ones are making Blessing Bags to be given to the less fortunate through the Salina Food Bank. The kids are collecting toiletries and food items.

If you’re able to donate, please put your items in the container beside the Hunger Barrel. Thank you!
Session Highlights for 17 December 2015

TREASURER’S REPORT was approved.
Discussion on Sunrise to Publicize 211 as a New Beginnings Project. Approved the go ahead with the 211 project by forming an organizing group composed of a volunteer from each of the 6 New Beginnings groups.
Received Introducing the Missional Church handout to review.

SESSION BUSINESS

Reminder; Annual Reports are due by Jan. 4. Elders rotating off Session are responsible for 2015 reports.
Reminder: The Annual Congregational Meeting is Jan. 31
THANK YOU!!! to Mindy Johnson, Jennifer Hewitt, Sharon Hauser and Deena Horst for their faithful and good service on Session.
Request from Melanie Hancock that Session commit to praying the birthday calendar for Sunrise members during 2016 was APPROVED by consensus.
Request from Melanie Hancock that Sunrise create a “Humbled Servant” Award was discussed.

PRESBYTERY BUSINESS

Sunrise will host PNK on Jan. 23. The Evangelism/Nurture Committee and Presbyterian Women will help with meeting details.
Elder Ken Miller was elected to be commissioner to this meeting

CONSENT AGENDA

CLERK
Motion to approve Minutes and Statistical reports for the Stated Meeting on 19 Nov 2015 and Called Congregational Meeting on 13 Dec 15.

PASTOR
Motion to set January 10 for ordination/installation of deacons and elder

MISSION
Motion: The mission committee recommends to Session that Sunrise become the administrator for commodities distribution in Salina beginning in the spring of 2016.
Reports from the following committees:
BUILDING AND GROUNDS, FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP, MISSION, WORSHIP
The Consent Agenda was approved.
The Salina Souperbowl of Hope will be collecting soup from all three Dillons stores on Saturday January 23rd, Sunday January 24th, Saturday January 30th, Sunday January 31st and Saturday February 6th. Our goal is to raise 50,000 cans of soup to be divided between the Salina Food Bank, Salvation Army, Salina Rescue Mission, Ashby House, and DVACK. Please mark your calendars for this special event. We thank you in advance for your caring and sharing.

For further information, please call Dean Atteberry at 785-452-5008. Dean will be available after the service today if you’d like to sign up to help collect soup on one or more of these dates. Thank you!

Volunteers will work to package 100,000 meals for distribution to hungry children in 70 countries.

To volunteer: Go online to fundraising.fmsc.org/SalinaKansas. Click on "Volunteer to Pack", then find a two hour session that you would like to work. Volunteers can be as young as 5 years old.

To donate: Go online to fundraising.fmsc.org/SalinaKansas. Click on "Donate" then click on "Give Now"

If you need help signing up, please call Carol Viar at 827-7401, and Carol will help you get signed up.

UPDATE:
Sign-up is mostly full, but if you REALLY want to work, please check periodically during the week as spots are always opening up.
Presbyterian Women

Jan. 7    9:00 AM    PW Board
Jan. 14   10:00 AM   Leader Training; Patti Breeding and Betty Rassette
Jan. 28   9:15 AM    Morning Circle; Hostess-Betty Abbott and Pat Tomlins
                      Lesson-Patti Breeding
                      7:15 PM    Evening Circle; Hostess-Mary McCall and Jean
                      Lesson-Betty Rassette

PW will be helping with the PNK meeting here at Sunrise on January 23. We will be responsible for morning snacks and the noon meal.

PW helped the following organizations with a Christmas gift of $200.00 each: Morrison House, Circles of the Heartland, Campus Ecumenical at K-State, Salina Animal Shelter and The Salina Christmas Fund.

We also have given $500.00 to help with the recovering of the sanctuary pews.

Beth Miller, Moderator

Mariner’s News

The annual Chili and Soup Supper will be Saturday February 27 from 5pm to 7pm. Cooking will start between 7am and 7:30 am. Watch the E-news and bulletins, tickets will go on sale in early January.

Want to save the soup for the next day? We hope to see you in February!

Admirals:
Pat Tomlins & Paul McAfee.

Take-out will be available if you can’t stay and eat or you just want to save the soup for the next day!
Prayer Notes

May we see each person we meet not as inferior or unworthy of attention but as a person of immeasurable worth whom God created.

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Have you Prayed about it as much as you’ve talked about it?

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Books on Prayer Available from the Presbytery Resource Center

Sacred Breath: Forty Days of Centering Prayer by J David Muyskens
Praying the Movies II, more Daily Meditations From Classic Films by Edward N McNulty
A Praying Congregation by Jane E Vennard
Pray All Ways by Edward Hays
Praying with the Body, Bringing the Psalms to Life (Book and CD)
Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference? By Philip Yancey

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Ashby House - Thank you Sunrisers!

Thanks for making Ashby House Christmas brighter!

Many thanks to all church members who participated in Christmas events for Ashby House: to the Mariners for providing funding for gifts; to those who helped shop and wrap gifts; to cookie bakers; to Ann Zimmerman for singing; to open house helper; to worship helpers; to Christmas dinner helpers and clean up helpers; and to breakfast casserole bakers.

Christmas can be a very bleak time for someone without a home, who may have severed ties with their families.

What a blessing each small thing can be to someone who does not have much hope!

Thank you SO much!

“What a blessing each small thing can be to someone who does not have much hope!”
Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

A Heusner Thank You

Adopt-A-Family Christmas

This Christmas season, Sunrise responded with love to 4 families of Heusner School by donating wrapped presents and money for Dillons gift cards. They were received with enthusiasm and thankfulness. Also, the Youth Group was responsible for 1 of the 4 families.

To the right is a handwritten note from Lori at Heusner School.

Thanks from Kylee Ayres

Thanks from Cassidy Coberly

Dear Sunrise,

Thank you so much for thinking of me during finals week. It was a pleasant surprise to get such an array of treats from all of you. It is nice to know I am still thought of. It was a great pick-me-up when all I wanted was for the week to be over 😊. ONE MORE SEMESTER!!! I hope everyone is doing well, and have a wonderful holiday!

With love,
Cassidy Coberly
Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

Thanks from Tyler

Thank you for the finals care package. It came in handy while studying.
From
Tyler McEwan

Thanks from Ashby House

Thank you for your wonderful donations of Christmas gifts! Your support really makes a difference.
Best Regards,
Emily Walker

Thanks from Salina Rescue Mission

Dear Friends,
Thank you for your gift of $2,500! Your continued faithfulness and support provide hope for the men who enter our doors.

These men come from all walks of life. Some, young and old, with addiction, some poor, healthy, and medical issues, yet they are all trying to break free.

Through our programs, men receive many opportunities to succeed in positive ways, some rebuild their lives and work their way into an apartment, others obtain the medical treatment needed, and one bright star is rediscovering a man in recovery. Pardelling Christ as Jesus’ Servant.

Thank you for your partnership.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

[Signature]
In Service of The Church - January

January Lay Leaders

03  Lewis Reid
10  Linda Tysen
17  Don Hamilton
24  Pat Breeding
31  Tessa Bolen

January Acolytes

03  Ushers
10  Ashlynd Merrill
17  Allen Johnson
24  Ashlynd Merrill
31  Allen Johnson

January Ushers

January 03
Bruce & Marilyn Benyshek
Scott Lee & Leslie Mangrum-Lee

January 10
Lewis & Gladys Reid
Jim Price & Randy Week

January 17
Jim & JoAnn Gile
Jack & Kim Gillam

January 24
Lewis & Gladys Reid
Jerry & Rosie McKee

January 27
Gordon & Deena Horst
Jerry & Rosie McKee

January Greeters

East:  Kurt Braun
South:  Dean & Janet Atteberry

East:  Don & Noreen Slaughter
South:  Sharon Anderson

East:  Kevin & Melisa McElwee
South:  Gene & Sue Fuller

East:  Roger & Sharon Herrington
South:  Perry Hunsley & Shirley Lang

East:  Bob Hagen & Marilyn Griffith
South:  Betty Rassette & Carolyn Eland
January Birthdays and Anniversaries

2  Joey Soltis
   Jill Werner
5  Bill Alsop
   Ben Sebree
6

10  Dale & Jean Reed Anniversary

11  Jeff Merrill

12  Ariel Nothern

13  Steve Ewing

14  Kim Cerny

15  Nancy Thompson
    Ann Zimmerman

17  Larry Justus
    Nancy Klostermeyer

19  Kurtis Crawford
    Sylvia Phillips

20  Mike Jensen
    Betty Rassette
    Carol Viar

22  Gene Fuller

22  Gordon & Deena Horst Anniversary

24  Susan Olson
    Mildred Sebree

25  Tom Phillips

Did we make a mistake?

Please don’t hesitate to let us know if we’ve left out anything such as birthdays and anniversaries, or if we have made a mistake or omission in the newsletter. We want to correct it! Thanks!

Do you have news?

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have newsletter items to share, or with any comments about the newsletter! Have a great January everyone!

Angie Koshgarian,
Newsletter Editor
Sunrise Presbyterian Church

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Salina, KS  67401

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We’re on the Web!
www.sunrisepresbyterian.com

**Sunday Mornings**
9:30 a.m.  Worship  
(Communion-  First Sunday of Each Month)  
10:30 a.m.  Fellowship  
10:45 a.m.  Sunday School for All

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**General Office Hours:** 8:00 am-12:00 pm, Mon-Frid  
**Financial Office Hours:** 10:00 am-12:00 pm,  
  Monday & Thursday

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Martha Murchison  
Youth Leader: Dylan Brumley  
Dir. Of Music: Leslie Mangrum  
Organist: Sue Will  
Church Office Administrator & Newsletter Editor:  
  Angie Koshgarian  
Church Treasurer: JoAnn Gile  
Financial Secretary: Karmel Spencer  
Custodian: Greg Kerr