

Pastor Peter's message notes from April 18, 2021

David's Truth: Saul and David

When I was on the 8th basketball team, we faced a giant. One of the players we faced was a scoring machine. Coach Adams put me in the game with the one goal of playing two-man defense on the giant. I didn't think this was a good strategy. Probably because if I was focused on defense, I wouldn't have the opportunity to be the star and score a bunch of points. I didn't follow the play that coach Adams called, and we ended up losing the game.

In the complicated life of David, we learn that jealousy undermines what we can accomplish for God.

After David and Saul defeat Goliath and the Philistines, we see them shift their focus away from God's mission to their own self interests. Instead of working together for the common good, both men seek the throne of Israel.

The story climaxes when Saul tries to kill David with his spear. David flees to the wilderness of Israel where he forms an army and eventually joins the service of the Philistines. These two men become so embattled with each other, that they lead their country into civil war as they fight for the throne.

When we are honest, we often behave like Saul and David. We get jealous of other people's success. We struggle to celebrate when God's purposes require that others lead, and we surrender control or preference.

I think that the story of David and Saul has captured our imagination for so many centuries because it invites us to consider a different way. David's story invites us to ask the question, "**What if we put God's will first?**"

David's relationship with Jonathan is like a breath of fresh air. Jonathan loves David and speaks to his father Saul to try to help them put aside their differences.

⁴Jonathan spoke well of David to his father Saul, saying to him, 'The king should not sin against his servant David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his deeds have been of good service to you; ⁵for he took his life in his hand when he attacked the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a great victory for all Israel. You saw it, and rejoiced; why then will you sin against an innocent person by killing David without cause?' --1 Samuel 19:4-5

Jonathan's message invites us to put God's purposes first and to put ourselves second.

When we ask for God to guide us. When we let go of our personal preferences and focus on uniting together to accomplish Jesus's mission nothing can stop us. Not even Goliath.

We can reach the 60% of our county who are not actively engaged in a community of faith for Jesus.

Every year our church participates in the CROP walk to fight food insecurity here in Johnson County and around the world. CROP walk began after World War 2 with the vision that Christians across many denominations and backgrounds could help more people if we worked together than we ever could individually.

When we put Jesus first and don't worry about who gets the credit we can accomplish anything.

Preparing For Worship

Scriptures for the coming week

Monday, April 26	2 Samuel 11: 1-5; Psalm 58
Tuesday, April 27	2 Samuel 11: 6-13; Psalm 61
Wednesday, April 28	2 Samuel 11:14-27; Psalm 55
Thursday, April 29	2 Samuel 12:1-15; Psalm 51
Friday, April 30	2 Samuel 12:15-23; Psalm 53
Saturday, May 1	2 Samuel 12:24-31; Psalm 62

Church Worship Services

Upcoming Worship Messages

- April 25: David's Truth: The Promise
- May 2: David's Truth: Sin and Sorrow
- May 9: The Family of Faith: Mom and Dad
- May 16: The Family of Faith: Aunts and Uncles
- May 23: The Family of Faith: The Church Family

Service times for in-person and online worship

9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

****Masks are required.****

Celebrating our church

Birthdays for the coming week:

Sunday, April 25	Alex Schumacher
Monday, April 26	Benjamin Woodson
Tuesday, April 27	Carris Cummings
Wednesday, April 28	Chase Farmer, Chloe Ridenhour, Fran Waller, Ivan Rogers, Linda Baker, Novella Perrin, Ron Holmes
Friday, April 30	Alice Repp
Saturday, May 1	Kinsly Wiltse, Olivia Harrison

Prayers for our church family

Linda Riddle, Irene Miller, Nancy Walters, Michael Smith (Hubert Neth's son-in-law), Jim Hudson, Alice Hanrahan, Waneta Lane, Genevieve Case's son Mark Case, Michelle Schubert, Bob Boyd's stepson Douglas Sparling, Hallie Wilson, Pete Blaszczyk, Jana Miller, June Mellinger's nephew Nathan, Kim Lambert, Jeff Stark, and Wilma Bushmeyer, on the death of her brother-in-law, Ralph Staib; the family of Delores Kitterman

Funeral Arrangements for Bernie Haldiman

There will be a celebration of life at the Church of the Resurrection in Leawood April 24 at 10 a.m. for Bernie Haldiman. He will be buried at Sunset Hill Cemetery in Warrensburg near his parents in a private ceremony.

Johnson County CROP Works Year-round To Address Needs In Our Community

While the CROP Walk takes place once a year, members of the Johnson County CROP administrative team have made it their goal to address the needs of food insecurity in Johnson County all year long.

Johnson County CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty), which is now in its seventh year, came about when Doug Christie, a member of the CROP Walk committee, proposed the idea of doing monthly food drives and adopting a stretch of highway. The rest of the members agreed, and JoCo CROP was born.

While CROP Walk money goes to Church World Services, with 25 percent of that raised coming back to Johnson County, all the food donations and money raised from the Johnson County CROP monthly events stay in Johnson County.

Currently, the team, which is a collaborative representation from the community and local churches, includes Doug Christie, Christi Riddle, Colleen Reed, Scott Reed (UMC-Burg), Erica Collins (Mt. Calvary Apostolic), Kathy Ramser (First Christian Church), Robert Ferguson (Latter Day Saints), Janis Russell (Church of the Brethren), and Beth Tiller (Northside Christian Church).

According to Erica Collins, each month JoCo CROP organizes a highway cleanup, a hygiene drive or a food drive. The group has adopted a stretch of highway located at the roundabout south of town on 13 Hwy. Local groups help with the cleanup four times per year.

Erica said she learned from the Johnson County Food Center that those who are food insecure also have self-care needs, so JoCo CROP holds a quarterly hygiene drive at Dollar General.

Food drives occur the second Saturday of the month; each month a different organization works the drive. On May 8 the First Presbyterian Church will host the food drive at Bi-Lo from 10 a.m.-2 pm. Shoppers are provided a list from the Food Center with current needs; the food and cash donations are delivered to the Food Center the same day. People are welcome to drop off items from another store with the volunteers. To get the list ahead of time, watch the Johnson County CROP Facebook page.

Cash donations for the Food Center are always welcome because, as Erica explained, "You get a bigger bang for the buck. For instance, the Food Center can buy four cans of soup for a dollar through Harvesters."

One of the biggest events hosted by Johnson County CROP is the community Thanksgiving meal, which takes place at UMC-Burg. In 2020, 370 meals were provided, and the event was sponsored by five churches, three local businesses and numerous community members.

JoCo CROP is always looking for people or groups to partner with to help with their events or to join their committee. Sunday school classes could help with highway



Members of Johnson County CROP invite you to join them for the CROP walk and to support events all year to help our community. Pictured are, left or right, Scott Reed, Colleen Reed, Doug Christie, Christi Riddle, and Erica Collins.

cleanup, for example, or a group could take on a special project, such as collecting a certain hygiene item.

For more information on donating or volunteering, contact Doug Christie at doug@umcburg.org.

It's Not Too Late! Join UMC-Burg CROP Walk This Sunday Afternoon At 12:30 p.m.

Join us Sunday, April 25, beginning at 12:30 p.m. as we walk through Warrensburg to bring attention to food insecurity in Warrensburg, in the United States, and around the world.

We will walk a 2 to 2 1/2-mile path from the church through the UCM campus and back. Not up for 2 miles? We can arrange a shorter walk.

If you have a UMC-Burg mission t-shirt, such as CROP or Jamaica, please wear it to help identify our group.

Feel free to collect donations, but you do not have to fundraise to walk. You will have to sign a medical waiver form.

Afterward, join us for a tailgate lunch outside. We will provide pre-packaged sub sandwiches, chips, cookies and water.

To donate to CROP, send a check to UMC-Burg with CROP in the memo line or go to the church website at umcburg.org



BAPTISM

Celebrate the baptism of James Logan Culp Sunday, April 25, at the 9:30 a.m. service. James is the son of Dayln and Taylor Culp, the grandson of JD and Stephanie Culp, and the great-grandson of John and Cathy Culp.

Nominations For Church Committees Due May 31

Each year new members are nominated to serve a three-year term on church leadership committees: Trustees, Pastor Parish Relations, Finance, Nominating. Committees meet once a month; most meet on Zoom.

Nomination forms are available on our website and at our church office. You can nominate yourself or someone else. Nominations can be turned in to the church office in person or via email at contact@umcburg.org.

Your nominations are welcome and much appreciated.



Position Available: Praise Band Director

UMC-Burg is looking for a praise band director who loves Jesus and music. The praise band director will recruit and train the praise band to accomplish the church's mission. The praise band director will be self-motivated and able to prioritize duties. He/she will be able to coach a band to lead life-changing worship.

Resumes and references can be emailed to contact@umcburg.org or mailed to the church office at 141 East Gay St. Warrensburg, MO 64093

Nursery and Children's Church Available

The nursery is open both services for children ages birth to 3. We also offer Children's Church during both services for children age 4 to 5th grade. We still need volunteers to help with both. If interested, email contact@umcburg.org or vada@umcburg.org

A Celebration of Service at The Rock

Who: College age

When: 6 p.m. Monday, April 26

Where: The Rock's lawn

305 S. Holden (weather permitting)

What: Prepare hygiene packs while enjoying free BBQ and live music

Why: Planning for the Jamaica Mission, January 2022

Reserve your spot for the Meal and the Mission

RSVP to Steve Mills by calling 660-441-8309 or emailing smills@ucmo.edu



One example of how the Helping Hands ministry helped one of our congregation members occurred April 11 when Doug Christie, Beth and Bryan Hunt, and Scott and Colleen Reed helped Debbie Brown move items from her basement to the curb for the city-wide pick up.

Church Council Approves Helping Hands Ministry

Thanks to your generosity, in March for our monthly mission, \$3,582.51 was raised, which will be split between UMCOR and our new Helping Hands ministry.

On April 15, the Church Council approved the Helping Hands ministry, which encompasses a variety of ways for UMC-Burg to help members of our congregation, our community and beyond.

Helping Hands is in the beginning organizational stage as we look at reestablishing the Job Squad and Ramp Crew, having members complete Emergency Response Team training for UMCOR, creating a group to provide meals for families with newborn babies, and getting more people involved helping with funeral dinners. These are only a few ideas; we are always looking for more ways to expand this ministry.

These are only a few ideas of ways to help others. If you are interested in volunteering in one of these areas, helping establish guidelines for the ministry, or have another idea to add to Helping Hands, contact Doug at umcburg.org or Larry Bryan, who is heading the ministry.



Lend a helping hand Saturday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to noon to do some spring cleaning inside and outside the church

BLOOD DONATIONS

ARE
Essential



Blood Drive
First United Methodist Church

Family Life Center
141 East Gay St
Warrensburg, MO 64093

Wednesday, April 28, 2021
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: WarrensburgCommunity to schedule an appointment.

Schedule a blood donation appointment today:

Download the Blood Donor App | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

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