

March 2024

Garden Gleamings

A monthly publication of the Garden Community Church

Women's World 2024

Eight women from Garden went to Manhattan Christian College's Women's World Conference on February 23 & 24. The ladies stayed at an Airbnb in Manhattan not far from K-State University and enjoyed time together hearing from God's Word. The theme of the conference was Devoted—Acts 2:42—They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. The keynote speaker was Ellie Lofaro. Throughout the conference there were also several breakout sessions on various topics ladies could chose to attend.



Search Chat



Since the beginning of our assignment as a search committee, we have made part of every meeting a focused prayer time for each candidate, for our church, and for this process. With the Psalmist our prayer is, "Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. Psalms 25:4-5 (NIV)

We have had an initial interview with a candidate—we are moving forward with the process with this candidate, leaning on God for guidance. Even as we do this, we continue to evaluate other candidates and listen to sermons. Please join us in praying for the Lord to:

- Show us His ways
- Teach us His paths
- Guide us in His truth
- That our Hope would be in the Lord all day long



Senior Adult Ministry

Nearly 50 seniors attended the Saturday, March 9. Senior Adult Breakfast in the Garden Room at the Water's Edge Restaurant in Hesston. After a delicious meal of eggs, sausage, fruit and muffins and great conversation around their tables, attendees then turned their attention to the program.

The Journey to Hope team shared HIStory (God's story) of this ministry. It started in 2015-2016 when the leadership at Garden started praying for God's guidance as to a ministry that should be started. God used Larry and Dot Rowe's experience with divorce recovery and other support/recovery groups at another church, to lead them, as they became members of Garden in 2021, to offer to oversee GriefShare and DivorceCare. Garden accepted.

In the fall of 2021 a team of GriefShare facilitators were trained including Carolyn Wohlge-muth and LaVerne Schmidt. The facilitators for DivorceCare are Larry and Dot. The ministry is doing its 5th 13-week seminar since January, 2022. Participants Julia Renich, Debbie Orpin and Jim Smith have joined Carolyn and LaVerne as GriefShare facilitators. The 2 ministries meet on Thursday nights in separate rooms and have their own participant guides, DVD's and discussions. Of the 40 people who have participated, 7 are from Garden and 33 from other churches or no church. Indeed it is HIStory, God's story that is.

The program included clips from the DVDs and each of the facilitators sharing an aspect of the ministries.



Vonnie's Views

Earlier this month I read through the Gospel of John in two days as part of reading through Bible in 90 days. As I finished John, I wondered why only eight miracles were recorded. John disclosed, “The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in addition to the ones recorded in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.” John 20:30-31 NLT

So, there it is—John carefully chose eight miracles so that his readers would continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. The miracles are symbolic and full of meaning. Here are the eight miracles:

1. Turning water into wine (John 2:1-11)
2. Healing the official’s son from a distance (John 4:43-54)
3. Healing a man paralyzed for 38 years (John 5:1-14)
4. Feeding the 5,000 (John 6:1-15)
5. Walking on the water then stilling the storm (John 6:16-24)
6. Giving vision to a man blind from birth (John 9:1-34)
7. Raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-44)
8. Miraculously causing a huge catch of fish (post-resurrection miracle) (John 21:1-14)

Each of these miracles reversed hopeless situations that had no human solution:

- The embarrassment of running out of wine at a wedding reception.
- The impossibility of a sick boy being healed by someone who wasn’t even nearby.
- Have you seen legs that have had no movement for decades? Legs like that are atrophied and the bones are osteoporotic.
- Food for thousands in the middle of nowhere with no funds and without a caterer.
- Walking on top of storm-whipped waves then, with a word, making the storm instantly calm.
- Congenital blindness instantly reversed.
- A man, dead for 4 days (decay was already beginning) began walking, talking, and breathing!

Matthew, Mark, and Luke use the Greek word *dunamis*, which means “power, strength, violence, mighty or wonderful work” to describe the miracles of Jesus. The word that John chose to describe Jesus’ miracles is *semeion*, which means “sign, token, wonder.” John chose these specific miracles to make known something. What did these miracles make known?

John wanted his readers to know that the miracles are signs that Jesus was who he claimed to be: the promised Messiah. The prophets foretold the miraculous acts of the coming Savior—he would reverse the curse of sin!! Creation submitted to him, demons obeyed him, all the sad things that plague humans were becoming untrue! Jesus was the great the I AM who appeared to Moses in the burning bush. Jesus was not an ordinary man—he was God in the flesh. He was able to accomplish salvation promised in the Old Testament.

The Bible is one unified story of God. It is a magnificent book of suspense and mystery. It is a book in which God reveals Himself as creator, redeemer, and restorer of his good and beautiful creation—especially of human beings, created in God’s own image. God promised that if we search for Him, we will find Him (Deuteronomy 4:29; Acts 17:26-27). He is not playing hard-to-get. “Our God is near us whenever we pray to him” (Deuteronomy 4:7; 2 Peter 3:9).

What do you find yourself thinking about frequently? What is your heart’s desire? Are you satisfied with what you’re pursuing? What lesser things do you need to abandon so you nourish your soul with real food? I hope you are feeding your soul on things of eternal value! The Bible is satisfying beyond measure!! Spend even more time than you currently are in this beautiful book that God gave to us, preserved through the ages for us, and makes powerful in our lives.



Prayer Calendar and Memory Verse

Memory Verse: Ephesians 4:31—Be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
 <p>1 Pray for Marlo & Wilda Becker, Barb Beesley, Kerry Britton, Elaine Brown, Laverle Busenitz.</p>	<p>2 Pray for Milton & Tonia Busenitz, Stan & Imogene Carlisle, Steve & Mandi Crist.</p>	<p>3 Pray for Ben & Pat Dirks, Gerhard & Vonnie Fast, Cody & Lana Forester.</p>	<p>4 Pray for Dale & Shelly Friesen, Kyle & Karis Friesen, Larry & Jeanette Friesen.</p>	<p>5 Pray for Mary Friesen, Norm Friesen, Ernie & Florene Goering, Jenny Goering.</p>	<p>6 Pray for Verne & Ruth Goering, Elaine Goossen, Joe & Denise Goossen, Susanna Goossen.</p>	
<p>7 Pray for Nathaniel & Jordana Goossen, Mel & Leda Graybill, Kyle & Katie Hanzlicek.</p>	<p>8 Pray for Lindley & Kayla Harms, Rob & Tami Hiebert, Donna Hostetler, Les Hubin.</p>	<p>9 Pray for Art & Cindy Huxman, Ethel Huxman, Bryson & Grace Huxman.</p>	<p>10 Pray for Gary & Marci Huxman, David & Lynette Janzen, Gary & Kathy Janzen.</p>	<p>11 Pray for Karma Kitto, Derik & Chantelle Klaassen and Cyndi Koehn, Ryan & Erin Koehn.</p>	<p>12 Pray for Kevin & Kim Kohls, Betty Krehbiel, Ken & Kimberly Kropf.</p>	<p>13 Pray for Scot & Jenny Loyd, Chad & Val Mason, David & Tayna McCloud.</p>
<p>14 Pray for Terry & Darla McCloud, Darren & LuAnn McMannis, Bill & Sharon Mierau.</p>	<p>15 Pray for Craig & Julie Miller, Leo & Sheryl Miller, Dennis & Diane Morrison.</p>	<p>16 Pray for Barb Nelson, Chris & Julie Nelson, Eldon & Eva Pankratz, Roger & Donna Pfaff.</p>	<p>17 Pray for Simon & Danae Pyle, Caleb & Cynthia Quick, Jim & Mary Regier.</p>	<p>18 Pray for Theo & Joan Rempel, Julia Renich, Larry & Dot Rowe.</p>	<p>19 Pray for Naomi Rutschman, Abe & Judy Schmidt, LaVerne Schmidt, Betty Schrag.</p>	<p>20 Pray for Norv & Ev Schrag, Jasper & Evelyn Scott, Aaron & Elisabeth Smith.</p>
<p>21 Pray for Donald & Rose Smith, Jim Smith, Lila Smith, Sharon Smith.</p>	<p>22 Pray for Karen Smithson, Sheila Snow, Betsy Snow, Justin & Melisa Sommerfeld.</p>	<p>23 Pray for Larry & Donna Sperling, Dennis & Teresa Stahl, Ben & Jan Stucky.</p>	<p>24 Pray for Steve Stucky, Twilla Stucky, Ron & Emily Sundquist.</p>	<p>25 Pray for Arnold & Shirley Vogt, Gerald & Arlene Vogt, Lloyd & Sue Vogt.</p>	<p>26 Pray for Scott & Amy Vogt, Stan & Marcy Vogt, Kathryn Vogts.</p>	<p>27 Pray for Verne & Janet Voth, Polly Weesner, Larry & Suzanne Wiens.</p>
<p>28 Pray for Ashley & Julia Williams, Odell & Keshia Willis.</p>	<p>29 Pray for RUBY Winsky, Carolyn Wohlgemuth, Delvin & Cherie Wohlgemuth.</p>	<p>30 Thank God for good church family to grow, worship and serve alongside.</p>				

New Hope News

Happenings at New Hope Shelter

STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART

As of January 27, we have moved into the new Shelter at 308 South Meridian Road. We saw God's hand in the whole process. Let me share a few examples. We asked for boxes and packing materials so that we could make the move. We had more than enough. We didn't have to buy any.

We had to pack and sort the contents of the Shelter. A very efficient and dedicated group came together on the morning of January 13 and handled that job.

We needed to move over our shelving units to the new building so that we would be ready to receive what we were moving. A group of retired men with trucks and trailers volunteered, and several residents teamed up with them to move the shelving.

On January 27, moving day, it was cold and there was a coat of ice on everything. Volunteers started arriving at 900 West Broadway by droves including most of the Bethel College Football team. The first pickup backed up to the front door and the move began. Pickups, pickups with trailers and a 27-foot U-Haul type truck assisted us, along with over 150 volunteers. It moved so fast that it was like trying to get a drink out of a fire-hose. In 2 hours and 45 minutes we were moved.

We are so Thankful for those of you who prayed and helped in so many ways. There were tech people who came in and disconnected our systems and saw that they were working in our new facility. Our staff were troopers in this whole process and pitched in so many ways. I am so grateful.

We Love You, Brian Bisbee

An Update

A couple of months ago we mentioned in our newsletter that a man had walked from McPherson KS to the Shelter to seek help. 28 Miles. He got a job in Newton as a construction worker. He is in his own place now and came to see us recently on his electric bicycle. He is doing great.

In this month of Love show the New Hope Shelter some love with a check, or by giving online at newhope-shelter.org. We need your continuing support.



Volunteers Needed

We are looking for a volunteer each weekday morning to answer the telephone and to monitor the front desk at the new Shelter from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you are be interested in helping, please call Marilyn at 316-283-7711.



ARE YOU HANDY WITH A HAMMER?

We have a bunch of pictures that need to be hung throughout our new facility.

If you would like to volunteer to help please call Marilyn at 316-283-771.

Don't give money to panhandlers at Dillon's or Walmart. Give us a call at the New Hope Shelter and we will offer them help.

Did You Know?

We have a Food pantry that is open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.. We accept donations of canned goods, fresh produce, frozen meat, bread, and pastries, etc. If we get surplus food, we share it with other organizations. We won't let it go to waste. Call Brian at 316-283-7711 for more details.

*Current
Needs
List*



Milk
Ranch & Other Dressings
Ibuprofen
Walmart & Dillon's Gift Cards

Napkins
Paper towels
Laundry pods
All-purpose cleaner

Our mission at New Hope Shelter, Inc. is to provide a sanctuary for those experiencing homelessness in Harvey, Marion, McPherson and Butler counties by uniting the local church into a nurturing community which restores hope through a growing relationship with Christ.

It is through the love of Christ we share with those in need of hope.

Executive Director - Brian Bisbee
brian@newhope-shelter.org
316-283-7711



You Are Invited!



New Hope Shelter, Inc.
Following Christ, Building the Community

DEDICATION & RIBBON CUTTING

— “ —
Come celebrate with us in our new home that will continue to serve those in need for many years to come. After helping people for 19 years, in a few different spots, we finally have our forever home!

— ” —
**SUNDAY
APRIL 7 | 3:00PM**

**NEW HOPE SHELTER
308 S MERIDIAN | NEWTON, KS**

Please park in the lots North of the property and bring lawn chairs.

Following some brief remarks, tours will be given and light refreshments will be served.

— “ —
We are excited to say that we are settling in and ready to celebrate what God has done!



Feedback

...from the
Zooks



Pictured are some of those who helped with the tower work in Tuba City, Arizona. Several local men joined the team. And you prayed! Thank you for your prayers.

In early November 2023, a team from SonSet Solutions traveled to Tuba City, Arizona, to perform maintenance on a tower for our ministry partner, Across Nations. We had great weather each day that there was tower climbing. There were no close calls of any kind. All the equipment worked well. We did not forget anything. We were even able to find a replacement for a wrong part in a city just an hour and a half away. Other miscellaneous pieces and tools were available in the local hardware store.

God allowed us to change all the guy wires and anchors. The FM antenna was moved from the temporary pole to the tower. This expanded the outreach of the FM signal. We changed the tower light bulbs. We were able to connect the tower sections together electrically for the AM signal. We anticipate that this will stabilize the signal that was shaky because of poor connections between the tower sections.

Everyone worked long days. Whenever someone did not have a specific job, they were part of the ground crew. They kept the tower climber, Dan, working, and not waiting, by sending up supplies and tools in a bolt bucket on a rope. They even sent his lunch up in the bolt bucket.

Prayer for travel was needed. Renee and I drove from Elkhart, Indiana, hauling the 800 pounds of parts and tools to Tuba City, Arizona. We had to change vehicles in Kansas when the clutch went out in the mission truck. The rest of the team from SonSet Solutions and the tower climber from Minnesota flew into Albuquerque, New Mexico, and took the train to Gallup, New Mexico, where they were met by someone from Across Nations who drove them 30 minutes to the mission.

We ate well and slept comfortably in a local church guest house. We used the large kitchen in the church and the local grocery store had everything we needed. God went before us and met each need. We are praising Him for all the work that was completed.

Tim & Renee

Praise & Prayer

- Praise God for the good weather, safety and provision for the Tuba City project. It is so good to have this maintenance finished.
- Pray for the many souls who will hear the radio from the Across Nations transmitters. We know God is using radio to encourage believers and to share His love with all who listen.
- Pray for Tim as he works on building four new transmitters for partner ministries. These are the suitcase shortwave transmitters designed and built here at SonSet Solutions.
- Praise God for YOU, our supporters and partners. You make it possible for us to continue serving God here.



Newsfeed:

*Snapshots of our lives...
inside and outside of
SonSet Solutions*

Changing the guy wires required many hands. We appreciate the willingness and hard work of this crew.



This photo was captured by Dan, our tower climber. He came with the tools, knowledge and skill for the project. We thank God for his expert work and for a new friendship.



See the three 'chicken feet' near the top of the tower? That is the FM antenna. The FM signal reaches farther being up on the tower than it did on the pole.



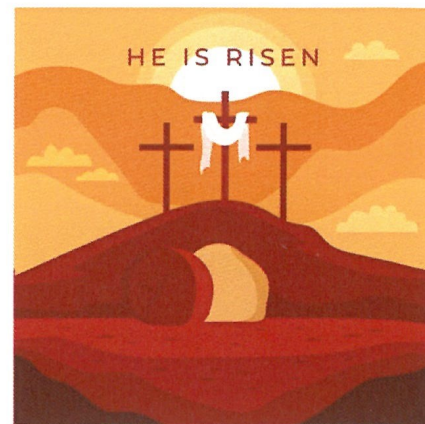
Technology for Abundant Life



GOOD MORNING TO YOU.

Spring 2024

Spring is starting to show. On Valentine's Day, the daffodils, hyacinth, and surprise lilies were coming up ... much earlier than it was when we lived in Nebraska. Spring also brings the season of Easter blessings when we celebrate the gift that Jesus came and died for our sins – HE IS RISEN, HALLELUJAH. Because He lives we can face tomorrow because we know of His promise to be with us.



We just had a Sunday full of blessings as we continue to minister to our group of people at Hill Top Chapel. I have been bringing a series of messages from the book of Philippians, finishing up with verse 19 in chapter 4, "But my God shall supply ALL your NEEDS according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." We have a wonderful promise here and it is for every one of God's people.

- We PRAISE THE LORD as He meets our daily needs.
- We PRAISE THE LORD for His WORD, the BIBLE, as He gives us directions for our ministry here in Southern Missouri.
- We PRAISE THE LORD as He helps us be "patient and understanding" as we work with those in need.
- We PRAISE THE LORD for the medical services available to us here in West Plains. I am just now getting relief for an inner ear problem.
- We PRAISE THE LORD we have each other, as it seems like we lean on each other more as time goes by. You might want to check Ecclesiastes 4:9-10.

What are some of your PRAISE THE LORDs for what He is doing in your life today?

The song GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS is a favorite. He meets our needs even before we ask. We do request special prayer for Gary and Wanda with serious health needs, and for Nancy – a lady who has recently lost a daughter to cancer, her husband died last week, her adult son living with her has a serious illness, and she also has a granddaughter that is in a coma from a car accident. Nancy will be having hip replacement surgery March 12.

We PRAISE THE LORD for you and your faithful prayer and financial support. God has been so faithful. We want to express our thankfulness to HIM and to you. THANK YOU. We enjoy hearing about you and your families and we do remember you in our prayers. Please let us know how we can pray for you and your family's needs.

We ask the Lord in this season of remembering the death and resurrection of HIS SON to help us deeply remember the full meaning of HIS salvation. He has purchased for us life with HIM for all eternity. It is our prayer that we all take this time to grow closer to HIM.

Easter Blessings to you,

Chuck and Connie Myers

Guaraciaba News

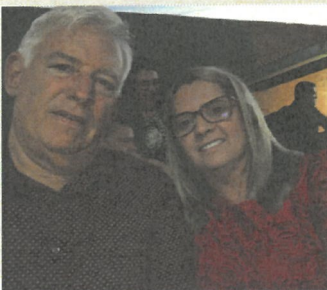
James & Angela Goossen

Fun & Fellowship for the ladies

On February 24, Angela invited the ladies from two local churches to spend the day here at Point of View. The cooks had great food and Angela had a Bible study directed to their needs and edification. They also enjoyed hiking on the trail and seeing a couple of water falls and just enjoying the beauty of nature and relaxing away from their daily routines.

Progress report on the cabins

Work continues on the two cabins to host Christian workers. We are now working on flooring, painting and furnishings. We are also waiting on the windows to be installed. The summer calendar is almost all scheduled in so we are excited about beginning to bless these families!



HAPPY WITH WEDDED LIFE



CHURCH

After wonderful Christmas and New year celebrations, we received the new year with the beginning of the rainy season, which is always a relief from the dust and heat!

We are working on our church building lay-out. It has been so good to see all the excitement and creative ideas that every one has as they dream about the possibilities! Pray that we figure out a floor plan that is practical for gathering together as well as out reach.

Angela has started a bible study for the ladies of the congregation. From the start she is sharing the responsibility so it is not dependent just on her, the ladies are very participatory.

Since the pandemic the children's Bible club had been cancelled, however, the kids who participated pre-pandemic are now teenagers. These teens are now highly motivated to help restart the kids club, they now want to bless just as they were blessed! Pray that many other kids will be reached with the Gospel thru this effort!

Pray for all the routine activities of church life: evangelism, discipleship, preaching and counseling.

Thanks for your partnership!