



CIRCUIT RIDER

VOLUME 56 / ISSUE 4
APRIL 2025

COMMUNITY
EASTER EGG HUNT

**HOLY WEEK:
EXPERIENCE THE
PASSION, DEATH,
& RESURRECTION
OF JESUS**

2025 WOMEN'S GALA

NEW CONNECTION
CLUBS - JOIN ONE
TODAY!

GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL
SENIORS INFORMATION

CENTRALROGERS.COM



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AMY PENNY
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CATHY BLACKWOOD
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I have a question for you as we enter April and begin the journey of the second half of Lent. Are you ready to "Read with Us" again? Many of you read the Bible with us in 2024. It was a powerful experience for me, Pastor Dawn, and Pastor Kerry as we preached through the Bible. I have heard from many of you about the great God moments you had and the things you learned. I also heard that many of you are reading Bible Recap again in 2025! The Bible Recap is truly an amazing resource. Sara and I are reading it again as well, as it will probably become a part of my yearly study of scripture.

One thing that stood out to me, especially as we entered into reading the New Testament, was how quick we read through the material. It seemed like the gospels flew by as well as Paul's letters. Each week we would have multiple places within the books to choose to preach and I for one felt like I would have liked to slow down and spend more time in the New Testament after what seemed like a long time in the minor prophets of the Old Testament.

As your clergy team has reflected on last year we too would have like to have taken more time to reflect on the different books. We also miss preaching on a Bible reading plan. To be honest, it was a rewarding challenge each week to preach on what we had all read. We have missed doing that in 2025. So, we have decided to read the New Testament again. This time though, we want to read less chapters a day and take time to reflect on what God is trying to speak to us.

Beginning the Monday after Easter, April 21, we are asking you to read the New Testament with your clergy team. We are creating our own reading plan which will do a few things:

1.) You will read less a day.

The reading plan will normally be two chapters a day.

2.) We will read the Bible in the traditional book setting way.

This means we will not read chronologically but take each book as it comes.

3.) We will begin Acts the weekend before Pentecost.

This will give us the spring to read the gospels and the summer for the rest of the New Testament. I believe this plan, which again begins April 21, will allow us to preach on not only passages but even book themes.

I know that spring and summer are busy times for everyone. It seems this was the most challenging time period for people in reading the Bible Recap. Therefore the shorter time commitment for each day's reading should make it easier to keep up. Plus, we are taking Sundays as a break day each week, which will allow a day to catch up on reading.

I am excited about the reading plan and the sermon series, entitled Summer Reading. Please plan to join us beginning April 21. You will be able to pick up a reading plan at the Information booth in the atrium or access the plan online. What I am really excited about is the opportunity to read and reflect on scripture again with you. God really moved and honored our commitment to His Word. I am excited to see what God will do again this summer!

Pastor Rob Holifield



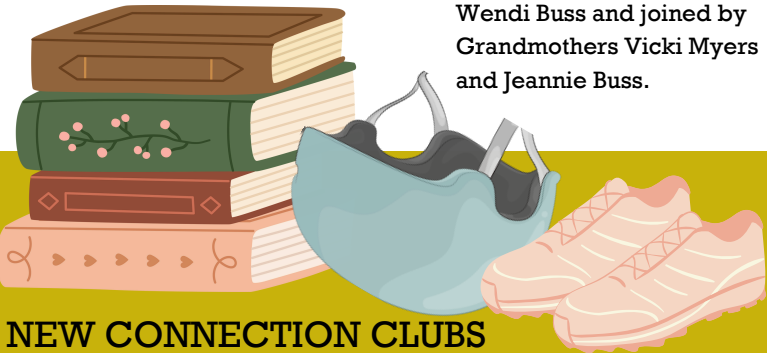
A huge thank you to instructor Tania Walls and the participants of the Painting with Acrylics - How To Series! We certainly have some great artists in this church. Some were new to painting and others wanted to learn more about the craft, but ALL had a great time. Tania taught techniques to create two choices of landscapes. The How To Series is all about making new friends and new memories while learning together.



BAPTISMS



Nolan and Connor Buss were baptized on March 16th in the Contemporary service by their paternal Grandfather the Reverend Larry Buss (retired from the Great Plains United Methodist Conference). Nolan and Connor were presented for baptism by their parents, David and Wendi Buss and joined by Grandmothers Vicki Myers and Jeannie Buss.



NEW CONNECTION CLUBS

New Connection Clubs are forming and are excited about inviting you to be a part of the fun and fellowship. If you are interested in joining a group that shares your interest, see the newest groups below and reach out to the coordinator. If you are interested in helping form a new group, please let Carole Baker know at the 479-636-1630 or cbaker@centralrogers.com. All sports, hobbies, interests, and activities could be a new group of friends!

Reading Connection Club:

Molly Pickering at molly.pickering@gmail.com

Biking Connection Club:

Mitchell Lloyd at mitchell.lloyd12@gmail.com

Running Connection Club:

Rob Holifield at rholfield@gmail.com

NEW MEMBERS



Jacob and Kasey Creel joined by transfer of membership from St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Little Rock, AR. Jacob is a Director of Practice Compliance with Walmart Health and Wellness Compliance. Kasey is an Account Manager with Biological Pharma Solution. At the 10:20 service on March 9, 2025, the Creel's joined Central and had their three children baptized! Jude, Lucy, and Max will be joining their parents as preparatory members of Central. The Creel family lives in Bella Vista, AR.



WED.
NITE
LIVE

5:30P
ATRIUM

As Wednesday Night Live wraps up for the spring of 2025, a HUGE THANKS goes out to all the many volunteers that make it happen and those of you that are part of the fun each week! There is still time to join in on the fellowship of the April meals. We will continue until April 16th! Below are the themes and menus. Dinner is fun for all ages!

April 2

True North Camping; Hamburgers

April 9

April Showers; Rainy Day Soup and Grilled Cheese

April 16

Holy Guacamole Fiesta; Taco Bar

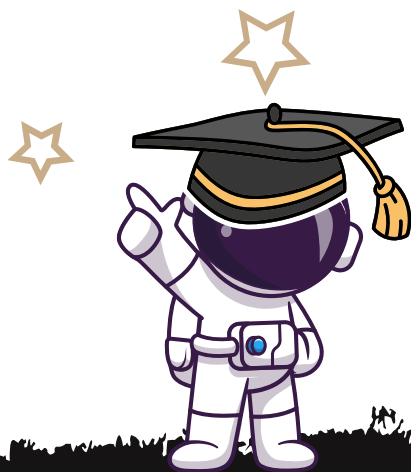


We opened up March with our infamous Gravity GUYS NIGHT! This year, thanks to a brilliant idea from amazing leaders, it experienced a re-branding. Gravity guys in 6-12th grade gathered at the church on Saturday, March 18, enjoyed Wright's BBQ, had sessions on hygiene (ie. how to shave), and car basics (they took a tire off a car and put it back on in the church parking lot), enjoyed a live auction for some sweet gifts and wrapped up the night with Andy's. A HUGE THANK YOU to our FEARLESS and AWESOME Gravity Guy Leaders who made Gravity Guys Night such a success!

Gravity Guys weren't the only ones who had all the fun. We welcomed students back from Spring Break with a Murder Mystery Night on Sunday, March 30. Not to mention FUN nights during Midweek, our Wednesday night programming, like Escape.Gravity, and March.Madness. We will be opening up our April with a Bob Ross night; come join us for a night of painting and lots of "happy little accidents!"

APRIL

- 2 Happy Little Accidents Midweek / 6-7p / Youth Room
- 6 Sunday Night / 6-8p / Youth Room
- 9 Game.Night
- 13 2nd Sunday Worship / 6p / Chapel
- 16 Last Midweek / Winner's Circle Celebration
- 20 No Youth Sunday Night / Easter Sunday
Youth Serve at Grace Soup Kitchen (check socials and email for signup link)
- 27 Graduating Senior Sunday during all 3 services
Churchwide Breakfast in Atrium 9-10:30a
Gravity Student Send Off / 6-8p / Youth Room



IF YOU ARE A GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR AND HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION FROM THE CHURCH ABOUT SENIOR SUNDAY, PLEASE CONTACT LUCY AT LSWANSON@CENTRALROGERS.COM.



@GravityYouthMinistries



Ministries



Community Easter Egg Hunt

Join us on Saturday April 12 from 2pm to 4pm on the front lawn for an afternoon of FUN! We will have bounce houses, live animals, hot dogs and of course an EGG HUNT. New this year, the kids will have 3 separate timed hunts, based on age. They will collect empty eggs, and after the hunt exchange them for a goodie bag. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to INVITE anyone you know with kids to join us!

VBS Save the Date



June 9 -13

It is time....we are already knee deep in planning for Jesus Is Our True North! Kids will journey on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and glistening glaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that he is a faithful friend we can always trust.

Kids, Youth and Adult registration can be found here:

<https://centralrogers.com/event/23919148-2025-06-09-vbs/>

If you would like to support VBS by purchasing supplies for the 300 kids we will serve for five days, you can use this link (this purchase is in the form of a gift card, which we will turn in for the supplies you select):

<https://giftregistry.group.com/?mrsearch=&mrrid=4721866>

We thank you for your prayers and support!

A note of thanks

Last month four of us were able to attend a one day KidsMin Expo in Bixby, OK. We worshipped, learned and had LOTS of laughs. Here are some of our takeaways:

- It was said during the conference that we must be diligent in our pursuit of the kids because "their souls are at stake". That really shook me because it is absolutely true, we cannot waste time.
- After attending the "Encouraging kids to ask hard questions" session, I learned how important it is to really engage with kids during Sunday School and Children's Church by allowing them time to ask their questions and have discussions that build relationships between the teacher and between each other.
- We teach for the sake of exposure not necessarily for understanding. Discipleship is a life long activity – not a destination.
- I was challenged to consider how do we support kids and families to move from a "I should read my Bible/attend church/come to WNL" to "I want to..."



TINY TOTS PRESCHOOL IS NOW ENROLLING FOR AUGUST '25.

Tiny Tots Preschool is a 3-hour/multiple days a week program designed to help each child learn with more joy, more meaning, more purpose, and more satisfaction so that they might make a smoother transition into Kindergarten. This program follows the traditional Rogers Public School Calendar. We hope to pave the way to successful learning, coupled with the sheer joy of discovering new and different concepts through reading, writing, oral language, listening, math, science, socialization, art, music and physical education. Tiny Tots is offered to three and four year olds and is based on the public school system entry birth date of August 1st.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE
EMAIL MISTY REVOIR AT
TINYTOTS@CENTRALROGERS.COM.

3 Year Old

Tuesday/Thursday Classes
8a - 11a or 11:30a - 2:30p
\$155 per month

Monday/Wednesday/Friday Classes
8a - 11a or 11:30a - 2:30p
\$255 per month

4 Year Old

Monday/ Wednesday/Friday Classes
8a - 11a or 11:30a - 2:30p
\$255 per month

Monday - Friday Classes
8a - 11a or 1:30a - 2:30p
\$425 per month

30 Pieces of Silver



During Lent - Join us as we take 30 Pieces of Silver and turn it into gold by helping others as Jesus commanded us to do. Grab a bag, fill it, then bring it to a specified location in each worship space during the month of April. All donations collected will go to the WayStation in Rogers.

HOLY WEEK

EXPERIENCE THE PASSION, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS THIS LENTEN SEASON.

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

Sat, April 12th, 2pm - 4pm

Our annual Egg Hunt on the front lawn will be a community wide event you won't want to miss! Beginning at 2pm, we will have games, crafts and events for egg hunters of all ages and abilities. While the actual egg hunt won't begin until 3pm, there will plenty to do and see. We will be serving hot dogs & chips, and there may even be an Easter bunny sighting!

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday April 13, (Kids Processional at 10:20 & 10:30 Services)

The Kids of Central will process into our services waving palm branches to commemorate Jesus' big arrival in Jerusalem. We will spend the Sunday school hour rehearsing, and kids will be seated with their families after the entrance.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Thu, April 17, 6:30pm, Chapel

This year the Chancel Choir will be leading us in a very special Maundy Thursday service. In addition to the Lord's Supper, we will be presenting a brand new Choral work by Marianne Forman, entitled TRINITY. Our choir will be accompanied by a string quintet, and this will be a beautiful service, full of passionate worship and inspiring music, as we remember the moments of the Last Supper and Jesus' time with His Disciples in the Garden.

TENEBRAE SERVICE

Fri, April 18th, 6:30pm, Sanctuary

The Contemporary Praise Team will lead a special worship experience on Good Friday. We will begin in candlelight and worship together in response to each of the final seven sayings of Jesus on the cross. We will end this powerful service in humble darkness as we reflect on the sacrifice and passion of Christ.

THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL

Sat, April 19th, 8pm, Chapel

This year the Chancel Choir will be presenting The Great Easter Vigil. This night will be a beautiful liturgical worship experience celebrating the moment when Jesus arose from the dead. Somewhere between sundown Saturday and sunrise Easter Sunday, Jesus arose from the dead. Our Vigil will begin at sundown, with everyone gathering outside of the Chapel, while we light a new fire. From it, the Paschal Candle is lit and the light of Christ will return to the Chapel, with a celebration ensuing.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

- **CHAPEL - April 20th, 8:15am - 9:15am, Chapel**
Early Traditional Service. Nursery available.
- **CONTEMPORARY - April 20th, 9am - 10am, Sanctuary**
Contemporary Worship with Praise Band. Nursery available.
- **TRADITIONAL - April 20th, 11am - 12pm, Sanctuary**
Traditional Worship Service. Nursery available.

NOTES FROM THE MINISTRY OF THE TOWEL

Kerry L. Turnbow, Pastor of Congregational Care

Acts 11:26 “The disciples were first called Christians at Antioch.”

It is recorded in the book of Acts that the Christians first acquired their name in the city of Antioch which is a city in Syria. This is recorded in Acts Chapter 11 verse 26. The term Christian in the Greek means a “follower of Christ.” The term was likely coined by non-Christian gentiles. The suffix “ian” is Latin and means “of the party of.” The term may have been used sarcastically or divisively. Whatever way it was meant the followers of Jesus decided that the name fit and adopted the name Christian or followers of Christ.

We know that names are important, and they identify us within the context of our family, our organization, and the state in which we reside. Whatever name we carry it signifies that we identify with that group in some way or another.

Lent is the season that we as Christians celebrate because we identify with the death and resurrection of Christ. It is the time for us to reflect, repent, renew, rehearse, and ready ourselves for the journey that we take towards the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday.

On Ash Wednesday we meet for a service where the cross is placed on our forehead. It is a service that reminds us of the sacrifice that our Savior made for us so that we can have a relationship with him. The cross on our forehead is an identifiable symbol recognized worldwide. It identifies our faith where we believe our Savior suffered a cruel death giving his life, so that we might have life.

During this Lenten season let us remember to not only reflect but also to renew our sense of connection as “followers of Christ.” We can do that through prayer and fasting, special giving, and through a time of repentance.

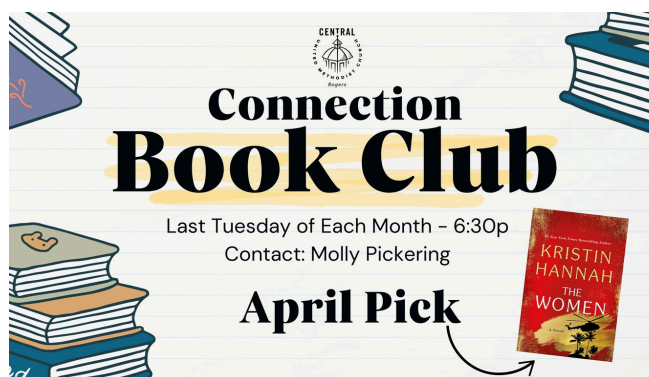
As followers, we recognize that our identity is connected to Christ through the work that He did on the cross. But also, our identity as Christians connects us to one another, brothers and sisters in Christ. We should value each other as the name implies, followers and identifiers with our risen Savior Jesus Christ our Lord.

April

Lean In.
Connecting People to Christ



- 2 Sacred Thread Quilt Mission
- 2 Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 2 Wed. Nite Live (Camping Theme - Hamburgers)
- 7 Mission Committee Meeting
- 7 Worship Committee Meeting
- 9 Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 9 Wed. Nite Live (April Showers Theme - Soup)
- 11 Confirmation Wrap Up
- 12 Community Easter Egg Hunt
- 13 Palm Sunday
- 13 New Member Sunday
- 13 Gravity Youth & Adults Worship Night
- 14 Discipleship Committee Meeting
- 14 Community Formation Committee Meeting
- 16 Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 16 Wed. Nite Live (HOLY Guacamole - Taco Bar)
- 17 Maundy Thursday Service
- 18 Tenebrae Service
- 19 The Great Easter Vigil
- 20 Easter Services 8:15a Traditional - Chapel
9:00a Contemporary - Sanctuary
11:00a Traditional - Sanctuary
- 20 Grace Community Meal (Gravity Youth)
- 21 Church Office Closed
- 23 Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 24 Priscilla Circle
- 25 Men's Camping & Float Trip
- 27 Graduating Senior Sunday & Churchwide Breakfast
- 27 Churchwide Prayer
- 28 Church Council Meeting
- 30 Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 30 Gravity Confirmation Dinner & Rehearsal



Central Women is once again raising money for ministries with women, children and youth through the Annual Women's Gala. Join us for Dinner, a Variety Show, Silent Auction & Love Me Twice Boutique. Tickets are \$25 per person and will be on sale in the Atrium April 6, 13, 20, 27 (Card, Cash, and Check accepted).

If you would consider donating an item(s) to the boutique, please contact:
Marcia Anderson at 479-295-1084
marciale9@cox.net