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Crossroads Christian Church—Hutchinson, KS

March & April 2019

Wayne A. Pittman, Editor

## **WELCOME HOME!**

***“While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him.” -- Luke 15:20***

When we were going through a particularly challenging time with our son, a friend pulled me aside after a church meeting. “I want you to know that I pray for you and your son every day,” he said. Then he added: “I feel so guilty.”

“Why” I asked. “Because I’ve never had to deal with prodigal children,” he said. My kids pretty much played by the rules. But it wasn’t because of anything I did or didn’t do. ‘Kids,’ he shrugged, make their own choices.”

I wanted to hug him. His compassion was a reminder, a gift from God, communicating to me the Father’s understanding for my struggle with my son.

No one understands the struggle with prodigals better than our Heavenly Father. The story of the prodigal son in Luke 15 is our story and God’s. Jesus told it on behalf of all sinners who so desperately need to come home to their Creator and discover the warmth of a loving relationship with Him.

Jesus is God in the flesh seeing us in the distance and looking on us with compassion. He is God running to us and throwing His arms around us. He is Heaven’s kiss welcoming the repentant sinner home (v. 20).

God hasn’t just left the porch light on for us. He’s out on the front porch watching, waiting, calling us home.

We ask again today, Lord, that our prodigals would come home.

-- James Banks

“Our loved ones may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments, despise us as persons-- but they are helpless against our prayers.” --

J. Sidlow Baxter

## **A SENTENCE SERMON**

***“No day is dark when the SON is present.”***

### JUBILEE CONFERENCE; HERE WE COME!

The 2019 Jubilee Conference in Branson, MO for Seniors is on the horizon. The dates are April 8-10. We will leave our CCC parking lot on Monday morning, April 8 at 8:00 AM. We will return on Wednesday, April 10, around 8:00 PM. Attendees need to bring money for meals and for personal spending. The registration fee of \$199. needs to be paid in full by April 1st. Please pray for our group as we travel and are away from our homes and families.

### TO ENHANCE YOUR WORSHIP AT CCC, HEARING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SOUND BOOTH EVERY SUNDAY!

### EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE

The Seniors at Crossroads join together in expressing our gratitude to our CCC youth and coaches for the good food and great fellowship extended to us at this year's Sweetheart Banquet. We tip our hats to the Crave youth and coaches for their wonderful hospitality.

Also, our thanks to all the Crossroads' Seniors who helped with our Valentine's Project of Love effort as we visited our Homebound members and friends sharing greetings, candy and love. What a blessing to join together is this effort.

### THE KEENAGERS CLASS MEETS EVERY SUNDAY @ 9:15 AM IN THE SPECIAL "K" ROOM. OUR CURRENT STUDY IS "FULFILLED: ENJOYING GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU!"

### KEVIN GUFFEY ACCEPTS "LEAD PASTOR" ROLE

To the majority of you who receive our *MAPS NEWSLETTER*, *this announcement is not "new" news. But, as of January, Kevin Guffey was declared our Lead Pastor at Crossroads by an overwhelming vote of confidence from the congregation. He succeeds Brother Lee who resigned to join the staff of Mentor Leaders stationed in the Nashville, TN area. Kevin is already in "high gear" after accepting the new position. Please pray for him and for his family. Also pray for the Keele's, and for our Youth and Discipleship Minister, Daren Lugafet and family. Daren has just begun a much deserved Sabbatical. In unison we urge everyone to lift up the name of the Lord in praise!*

### CHUCK SANKEY LAID TO REST

Maj. Charles (Chuck) Sankey was interred with full military honors in the Arlington VA National Cemetery on February 1, 2019 following his passing on January 25, 2018. Such year-long waits are standard at Arlington. Chuck served in the Vietnam War and was awarded a number of medals for gallantry and meritorious service including a purple Heart for extensive wounds he received in April 1969. Chuck served faithfully at Crossroads along with his wife Elma who survives. He was very involved in our Seniors activities and provided leadership in several projects at CCC. We salute Chuck as our friend in Christ!

### GREETERS ARE NEEDED

We are in need of people who will serve as greeters for our Sunday worship services. Greeters serve for a month of Sundays on a rotation schedule. Welcoming members and guests with kindness and a smile is a very important ministry. If you are interested in serving in this capacity or getting more information, contact Colleen Paine by phone or e-mail.

### PRAY FOR 11-YEAR- OLD PIRAPAT OF THAILAND SPONSORED CHILD OF THE KEENAGERS CLASS

### MORE DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

*Thursday, March 7, Fireside Chat @ 10 am*  
*Sunday, March 10, Daylight Savings Time Begins*  
*Tuesday, March 12, KeenAgers Class Dines @ Carriage Crossing--5 pm*  
*Thursday, March 21, Seniors Singspiration @ 2 pm*  
*Sunday, March 24, All Church Covered- Dish Dinner at 12 Noon*  
*Tuesday, April 9, KeenAgers Class Dines @ Dutch Kitchen-- 5 pm*  
*Sunday, April 14, Children's Easter Program*  
*Thursday, March 18, Maundy Thursday Service @ 7 pm*  
*Sunday, April 21, EASTER SUNDAY @ CCC*  
*April 26-28 - Spring Women's Encounter*