

Quick Updates from TUCC July2020

### KS DISCIPLES WOMEN'S "DINING WITH DISCIPLES" COOKBOOK

Would you be able to help with the current new cabin building fund for our church camp at Tawakoni?

Would you be interested in the KS Disciples Women's "Dining With Disciples" cookbook? Purchase price is \$17, and additional funds are always accepted. It will be a nice 3-ring format with info and photos as well as over 640 recipes.

Bring or mail a check to the church office with a note stating how many cookbooks you would like... for yourselves, for gifts, etc. Checks to Christian Church in Kansas, Memo line: cookbooks

Thank you! KDW Women and Tawakoni

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Affiliated with
The Christian Church (DOC) &
The United Church of Christ

Pastor Travis Smith McKee, Editor SECRETARY VOLUME 33 NUMBER 7

CAROLYN RALSTIN, JULY 2020

The mission of TUCC is: Connecting people with Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, and service.



Wading in the Water

When I was growing up, my parents had this set of songs for me called Wee Sing Silly Songs. And there were some funny songs like "I'm Bringing Home a Baby Bumblebee" or "The Ants Go Marching One by One," but the one I'm thinking of right now goes "She waded in the water and she got her toes all wet..." The song continues adding in feet, ankles legs, knees, until she finally gets her bathing suit wet. Like I said, they are called silly songs!

But I'm thinking of that song because of how silly it seems to get in the water but not all the way. We think of the woman in the song as silly for using her way into a pool or a lake that is probably quite cold. She needs to get used to the water, and if I'm being quite honest that's how I act when I'm getting into a pool.

However, I'm still not talking about water temperatures, I'm talking about how we have been returning to some version of in person worship. Our first week we had just a few people who were "wading in the water"... They came for some connection, they came to be together for worship, but we were just sticking our toes in, getting used to it.

But part of it is that we have to feel a little bit guarded in gathering together. Being inside, in closer quarters, breathing the same air for an extended period of time... It's inherently risky. We don't entirely know everything about this virus and so we have to gather taking on a little bit of risk. All the sudden, that silly song about a woman using her way into a pool doesn't seem so silly...

But as we do ease back, I think it shows that we are not simply trying to act like nothing is different. We have a new format to our worship, and it takes a little bit of getting used to. We still aren't singing, but we are participating through some dialogue and shared Bible study. We are learning what it is to be comfortable and going in depth with one another. And there are parts of our body that won't get in ...yet. People who have found some comfort in worshiping from home or maybe people who are still being appropriately cautious about the virus... These are people who are still part of our congregation, and people we still care for.

As we do ease back into some familiar spaces, how is God speaking to you in new ways? How are you seeing grace through caution? How are you finding new opportunities to practice care for one another? I think we're all in a time of learning, and it all means we are a little bit uncomfortable. Remember that God is with us in these transitions, and that God will continue to be with us as we love and care for each other, our congregation, and our community. - Travis



 Total June General Giving
 \$10,662.00

 (June Online {Vanco} giving
 \$5,940.00

 June Building Fund
 \$460.00



I am so thankful to have students back in the classroom again!

We have been having preschool on Wednesday mornings this summer for our students who are entering Kindergarten in the fall. It has given us the opportunity to review our academic skills, get reacquainted with a classroom routine, and have fun!

It was so neat to see their excitement the first day as they saw their friends again! They were so excited! A big thank you to Pastor Travis, the TLC Board, and the congregation for its continuous support!

There are a few openings for the 2020-21 school year! Call Becca Burdick at 316-680-8152 for details!



#### MEDICAL DEBT RELIEF

So very much has changed since February 26<sup>th</sup> when the Medical Debt Initiative was first launched. It was Ash Wednesday and we were still having in person worship in our buildings!

In the end, you gave. \$38,200 for medical debt relief! WOW! That is way more than anticipated that we raise in KO; and that was even BEFORE the pandemic. Instead of having clenched fists, you had open hearts and generous spirits. You are amazing!!

The dollars raised will go to the national setting to work directly with RIP Medical Debt. RIP Medical

Debt is located in New York, so they are just beginning to return to some sense of normalcy and ongoing operations. They will identify the medical debt that is available to be purchased and will send that information to us with the zip code information and we will have the opportunity to sign off the debt purchase recommendations.

## PARTICIPATING CONGREGATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

Central
Congregational,
Topeka

Community UCC, Carbondale

Fellowship, Tulsa First Congregational, Manhattan First

Congregational, Topeka Midland UCC, Sterling Rolling Hills, Salina

St. Paul's UCC, Eudora Trinity United

Christian, Cheney United Church Funds Colonial UCC, Prairie Village

Community
Congregational, Garden
City
First Congregational,

Great Bend
First Congregational
Norman

Mayflower Congregational UCC, OKC

Plymouth Congregational UCC, Lawrence

St. John's UCC Baldwin

St Peter's UCC, Inman

Wichita UCC, Wichita
Conference Council KO
Council

### South Central District of the Christian Church in Kansas (DOC)

# 5th Wednesday Women

TUCC Women, Have you had a chance to be a part of this ministry? You are most welcome to explore the opportunities of fellowship of other Christian women.

It has been many, many months since the women of the SCD in Kansas have been able to meet together. We are feeling the disconnectedness this has given us.

We are aware we have not been able to greet, share stories, hug one another, worship together, share a meal, see each other's smiling faces, and hear the news from our sisters in Christ yet in this year of 2020. We miss this connection!

That said, we want to remain sensitive to the feelings of each of you in this time as we all have varying levels of tolerance for wearing masks, safe distancing and staying home. Your health and safety has to come first.

Please tell us in the following survey how you feel about meeting in July and beyond. Complete the online survey at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/62PRPFP">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/62PRPFP</a> or the attached PDF (below) and mail to the South-Central Office, 8492 SW Tawakoni Rd, Augusta 67010.

Jessica Marston
Regional Communications Specialist
SCD Office Assistant





### CHENEY REC SOFTBALL

Interest in Cheney Rec Softball?
It's been a lot of staying indoors and we're starting to ease out in the community.
Cheney Rec is offering several programs this summer with safety first. The Adult Co-Ed Softball League is getting started and Trinity has been asked if we'd like to get a team going. Players need to be current high schoolers or older and games are on Wednesday evenings, July 15-Aug 26. If you're interested, please contact Pastor Travis or the church office to get on the list.

**TUCC Contact Information** 

Pastor Travis Smith McKee, 816-548-9911

TravisTUCC@gmail.com

**Board President – Jenny Miller** 

Jennill528@gmail.com

**Board Vice-Pres – Ryan Ingram** 

(ryan.ingram@icminc.com)

Web Page: www.CheneyTUCC.com

**Facebook: TUCCCheney** 

### **ONLINE BOOK STUDY**

UCC Partner Church Hosting Online Book Study on Race Topics

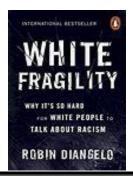
With so much discussion on race and its impact in our lives, it's hard to know which voices to learn from. Learning with fellow churches, especially in our Kansas-Oklahoma Conference of the UCC, we can help each other and keep the church's mission as a guide.

Colonial UCC in Prairie Village is hosting a book study on the book "White Fragility" by Robin DiAngelo. It will be online, and we've been invited to participate. It will be a difficult read, and we'll be asked to humbly approach the topic seeking to grow together, but we'll benefit from learning in a group.

Gatherings are Thursday mornings, July 9, 16, and 23 at 10am. If you're interested, please order the book and signup at

https://colonialucc.breezechms.com/form/d2371f53.

Thanks for prayerfully considering how to learn and grow with God's grace on such an important issue. See Pastor Travis for any questions.





Kansas Disciples Virtual Camp July 15-17th Are you missing camp this summer? Looking for a way to encourage faith growth at home? The Kansas Disciples' usual camp schedule was upended with the COVID-19 pandemic, but we're offering an online camp experience in July!

High School and Middle Schoolers can join in the morning from 9-10:30am Wednesday-Friday, July 15-17th. We'll have small groups, keynotes, and some fun with fellow campers from around the state. 4th and 5th graders are invited to join on Wednesday from 10:30-Noon for a special one-day camp. Your own Pastor Travis will be part of this unique camping experience.

And everyone is invited to an evening campfire each night of camp to share in the magic of camp together. Special songs and messages from our camp seniors will be shared on the Christian Church In Kansas Facebook page (and TUCC Cheney).

Please contact the church office for the registration information and look forward to sharing a unique camp experience with you!

### **Worship Volunteer Signup**

We need your help with Sunday worship! You can help in the following ways:

- We need people to lead the responsive readings, read scriptures, or tell how they've witnessed God's grace in our community. You can do this recorded or at in-person worship. Please contact Pastor Travis to see what we can do.
- We need ushers to hold the door for people coming in (so 50 people don't touch the same spot every week), hand out supplies as people come in, and prepare communion for those present. If you're interested in helping, please see our signup sheet at

https:/www.signupgenious.com/go/9040b4d aaaa22a6fc1-worship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	JU	Ly 2	020			
			July 1	2	3 Lizzy Wallace	July 4 <sup>th</sup> AJ Quick
			Juliana Quick Laurel Quick			As Quick
			No TLC		Office Closed	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Kelly Caswell	Cory Miller	Steve Gile		Elton Long	Dylan Morris Debbie Henson	
			TLC Summer			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Mary Jane Haden	Meredith Beavers Sean Wallace	Pete & Wanda Bledsoe	Travis Scott McKee	
			TLC Summer	Roger & Peggy Gregory		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Susan Kohler		Terry Voth	Greta Rosenhagen	Taylor Overlees	
			Last day of TLC Summer	Renard & Patty Rosenhagen		
26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1
	Jordan Stoehr	Bronson & Vanessa Kampling	Lacy Luehrs	Garrett Higgins Paula Sears	Richard & Ashley Oliver	Susie Bolinger