

STULL COMMUNITY of FAITH

1596 E 250 Rd, Lecompton, Ks 66050

MARCH 2023 – NEWSLETTER

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ.



From The Pastor

Have you read Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan? It is a wonderful book about the journey of a man named Christian as he travels on the road of life. It shares his obstacles, his mistakes, his challenges, his failures and his successes as he journeys on the road to heaven. His constant struggles are so vivid and true to life it could be realized in our present day though it was written in 1678.

Have you read the book of Job? *"Have you considered my servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil"* (Job 1:8). Job was much like Christian from the book, in that he was a good and godly man on whom the ways of the world took their toll. The situation with Christian is that he continued to fall among other people that caused problems for him as he journeyed on the pathway of life. For Job it was an encounter in the courts of heaven that caused all his problems. The similarity between them is that they were both godly men who endured much in their walks of faith, with some being self-inflicted and some not.

I guess what I am trying to say is that suffering is a natural part of our journey on this planet. We are people of faith; yet, we too must endure hardships and suffering that sometimes we don't know where they come from and why we must endure them. Some of the sufferings and hardships that some endure seems far greater than the sufferings of others, and we wonder why they must suffer so? Truly scripture says that all who follow Jesus must endure suffering. In the letter of James, we read that the endurance of Job was realized, and in the end he came to receive the compassion and mercy of the Lord. He says to count as blessed those who endure.

At the same time James says, *"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance"* (James 1:2-3). Joy is not necessarily happiness. Joy in the biblical understanding is the assurance in your spirit, in your soul, that all is well with the Lord. Circumstances do not always give us happiness, such as when we are suffering, but as followers of Christ, as believers, we can experience the joy of our faith even in the midst of trials. That joy of faith is what gives us endurance to finish the journey, to complete the walk of faith.

In the book Pilgrim's Progress, we can see that as Christian journeys he has various trials. Yet his endurance is blessed when he finally makes it to the glory of heaven. He has joy. Job also, after the ordeal of his journey, realizes blessings in being restored even more blessed than before his trials.

In the midst of our trials, our sufferings, we cannot find happiness too often, but we can experience the joy of faith even while dealing with the issues causing us to suffer. We can know that suffering is for a short time and joy will follow. *"Weeping may last for the night, but a shout of joy comes in the morning"* (Ps 30:5).

Remember, *"By your endurance you will gain your lives"* (Luke 21:19).

See you in church, Pastor Kyle

A group of harmless men and women with coffee mugs in hand will be meeting in the Faith & Friendship Center each Wednesday morning at 9:30 am starting March 1, 2023. Covid broke up the shenanigans for a few years, but we are ready to get back at it.

Seriously, starting March 1st, anyone who would like to be a part of the Muggers group just show up at 9:30 am in the meeting room of the Faith & Friendship Center. Along with coffee, cookies, and open conversation, we will have an informal discussion of Pastor Kyle's previous Sunday's sermon and scripture. Church attendance is not a requirement, and we urge you to bring a friend. We have plenty of mugs for the coffee but if you have a favorite, bring it!

Mar-Lan is almost at the completion of our church restoration! We are down to many small details and need schedules to line up just right to get back into the sanctuary. Painting of the exterior will not be completed until we have warmer days and nights this spring.

We are excited to invite the Community out on Sunday, April 16th from 2-5pm for an all-church campus open house. The whole campus will be open for folks to visit our newly restored church sanctuary after our bell tower fire in July 2022. We will have snacks and drinks in the Faith and Friendship Center. Douglas County Sheriff Department and Consolidated Fire District 1 will be on-site as well with a patrol car and a fire truck or two. Please make plans to attend!

Heartland Community Medical Center will bring on April 18th their Veggie Meter and Food Is Medicine info. The Veggie Meter can tell people if they are eating enough vegetables, it's pretty cool! They will also have COVID/flu/Tdap/Pneumococcal vaccines, pharmacy info cards and blood pressure checks. (Pneumococcal vaccines are recommended for people over 65 and those aged 19-64 with certain medical conditions such as heart and lung disease, cancer, and smokers). There are several types, and we would need an idea beforehand of who needs what type of vaccine. If people bring their vaccine record or give us their name/date of birth ahead of time we can see if they have had a vaccine before.) Heartland can be reached by phone @ 785-841-7297.

On our church website www.stullcoff.com you can now access a fluid Google calendar that you have the ability to drop into your personal smartphone calendar.

Beginning in April 2023, the Community Cupboard will be changing their hours from 6:30-7:30pm and will be back in a new renovated church basement! Please share with anyone in need of these services.

Thanks to those who contributed to our 20th annual Valentine's benefit dinner. We will be presenting LifeHouse in Topeka with a check for over \$2000!

We will no longer be streaming our worship services on our church Facebook live. We will be sharing the sermons on our YouTube channel, as well as on our church podcast. You can find both links to these media sources on our website www.stullcoff.com

Updated facility rental guidelines can be found on our church website. If you are interested in utilizing our church buildings for your personal use and/or an organization you belong to, please reach out to Brenna 785-887-6605 or Linda 785-887-6255 for scheduling.

We have established a fire relief fund to help cover any costs we encounter that insurance does not. If you would like to donate to our fire fund, please write check to: Stull Community of Faith, with fire relief

in the memo line. C/O Mary Shultz, 462 N 1600 Road, Lawrence, KS 66049; or send to the Stull Community of Faith, 1596 E 250 Road, Lecompton, KS 66050.

OFFERINGS:

We offer a variety of options for the Church to receive your offerings:

1. Use the offering plate that is currently on the table inside the door of the Faith & Friendship Center being used to enter for worship on Sundays.
2. Mail your check to the church (1596 E 250 Road, Lecompton, KS 66050) or to Mary Shultz, Financial Secretary, 462 N 1600 Road, Lawrence, KS 66049.
3. Contact either Jane Edmonds (785-224-3849) or Mary (785-331-7326) to make arrangements for pick-up of your offering.
4. Contact your financial institution and direct them to send a check to the Church (use mailing address of 1596 E 250 Road, Lecompton, KS 66050). This service is usually free to you and the church and can be set up as a recurring payment.

Please make all checks payable to "STULL COMMUNITY OF FAITH."

Monthly financial reports are generated prior to the monthly Administration Team meetings held on the 3rd Monday of each month. If anyone would like to receive those reports, please send your request to either Jane Edmonds or Mary Shultz.

Prayers: Kylie's continued successful healing after foot surgery and David and Julia Strobel family.

CHURCH CALENDAR

- | | |
|--|--|
| Mar 1, 9:30 am | Wednesday Morning 'Muggers' meets for warm drinks and caring conversation; anyone in the community is welcome to join in whenever they can. (See article). |
| March 1 st , 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th , April 5 th , 6:30pm--- | A small group study on Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws will be held in the F&FC. |
| Mar 2 nd , 7-8:30 pm | Community Cupboard and The Closet open in the F&FC for anyone in need of these services. |
| Mar 8, 9:30 am | Wednesday Morning 'Muggers' Everyone Welcome to Join In. |
| Mar 15, 9:30 am | Wednesday Morning 'Muggers' Everyone Welcome to Join In. |
| Mar 16 th , 6:30 pm | Community Cupboard and The Closet open in the F&FC for anyone in need of these services. |
| Mar 17 th , 11 am | Memorial Service for Tom Bader will be held. |
| Mar 20 th , 6:30 pm | Administrative Team Meeting in the F&FC. |
| Mar 22, 9:30 am | Wednesday Morning "Muggers' Join Us for Coffee and Conversation. |
| Mar 23, 12-1pm | Harvesters Rural Mobile on the church campus to distribute perishable food items to anyone in need. First come, First served. |
| Mar 29, 9:30 am | Wednesday Morning "Muggers' Great Conversation. |
| Apr 2 nd , 11 am | Palm Sunday Worship Service. |

Apr 5 th , 9:30 am	Wednesday Morning 'Muggers' Everyone Welcome to Join In.
Apr 6 th , 6:30 pm	Maundy Thursday Service.
6:30-7:30 pm	Community Cupboard and The Closet open for anyone in need of those services. (NOTE THIS IS A NEW TIME SCHEDULE and WE WILL BE BACK IN THE CHURCH BASEMENT.)
Apr 9 th , 11 am	Sunrise Service with details forthcoming.. Easter Worship Service.
Apr 16 th , 11 am	Re-dedication of our Church and recognition of our first responders and contactors.
2-5pm	Community all Church Campus Open House (see article).
Apr 18 th , 5-7 pm	Lasagna Tuesday Community Meal Night served with homemade lasagna, green beans, French bread, tossed salad, and homemade desserts on the menu. Available dine-in or carry-out. Donations accepted for local church ministries.
5-7 pm	Heartland Community Health Center will be on site at our meal night. (see article).
Apr 20 th , 6:30-7-30 pm	Community Cupboard and The Closet open for anyone in need of those services. (Note this is a new time schedule and we will be back in the church basement).
July 18 th , 5-7 pm	Chicken Crunch Casserole Tuesday Community Meal Night
Oct 17 th , 5-7 pm	Meatloaf Tuesday Community Meal Night.



1596 E 250 Rd
Lecompton, Kansas 66050

Be a rainbow to somebody's cloud.