

Rose Hill UMC

NEWSLETTER

March 2025 / Vol 3

Remember to Go

BY LACEY WHEELER

I remember the first Ash Wednesday service I went to. It was at a United Methodist Church in Wichita. I had not grown up knowing the liturgical year and the rhythms and nuances of Lent, Advent or Pentecost, and was strangely drawn to them. Growing up, we primarily celebrated the big two: Christmas and Easter! When I participated in this first Ash Wednesday service, I didn't know what to expect, and held such curiosity and wonder around this ancient ritual.

As a person who grew up in the Church, varying religious experiences intrigued me rather than scared me. I grew up trusting the church because overall, I had positive and nurturing experiences within the Church, and so to participate in this new kind of service was beautiful in my eyes, and I felt God inviting me into this sacred space.

That Ash Wednesday evening, as I soaked up the traditional liturgy, beautifully woven prayers and somber music, we entered into the Imposition of Ashes. I was anxious not knowing what to expect.

As I sat through the fairly traditional service with spoken liturgy, beautifully woven prayers, and somber music, I became aware that this is how we begin Lent, the journey we have begun.

We arrived in the service to the time that ashes would be smudged on our foreheads—a strange and peculiar tradition.

As I walked slowly toward the minister who would place these ashes on my head, my eyes lowered as tears filled began to cloud my vision—something that happens to me often when the Holy Spirit is doing something—as I looked up to receive the ashes, I heard the words:

***“Remember you are dust,
and to dust
you will return.”***

As I slowly walked back to my seat, and eventually back to my apartment, the holiness and sacredness of that moment felt palpable. Later that evening, I hesitated to wash my forehead, removing these sacred black smudges as I wanted to hold on to this experience as long as I could.

Remember where you have come from, remember your mortality, remember the God who has made you from the dust loves you and will breathe life into that dust, and remember—there are seasons of dust—and you are not alone in them.

All of this was wrapped up in this moment, something that would go with me long after the ashes were removed.

A moment I was privileged to experience all because I had felt safe, nurtured, and loved in the Church.

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Remember to Go Cont...

This beautiful experience of venturing into a new ritual and religious experience happened because I had wholesome and kind experiences overall with the Church.

However, not everyone shares my story.

There are some who have been injured by the Church.

There are some who have been shut out.

There are some who have endured more harm than healing from God's people.

There are some people who have been the brunt of violence in God's name.

There are some who, quite honestly, don't see the relevance of organized religion in general.

And for many—the sheer energy it would take to enter into an unfamiliar, potentially triggering space, is simply more than many want to endure.

Perhaps this might be what we grieve and confess this Ash Wednesday.

And—we have opportunity to bring a loving, kind, and Christ-filled presence outside of the spaces of church.

Maybe this Ash Wednesday, we are invited to remember, not only that we are dust, but to remember a lasting invitation from Jesus:

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20).

Jesus said “Go”.
Jesus did not say, “Stay”.

John Wesley spoke of taking sermons to the streets, a practice he was not comfortable with. Wesley said, “At four in the afternoon I submitted to be more vile, and proclaimed in the highways the glad tidings of salvation.”

He submitted to be more vile.
And we will too.

This Ash Wednesday, we are doing as Jesus said, we are going—not staying. We are following in John Wesley's footsteps and submitting to “be more vile”, as we take Ash Wednesday to the streets, to offer this sacred and beautiful experience to the community—trusting that God will work outside the walls of our church.

We will be taking ashes and blessing to Wee Rockets parking lot from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM with coffee, doughnuts donated by Faith Home Health and Hospice, and snacks for everyone. We will mark the foreheads of our neighbors, the parents of the kiddos at Wee Rockets, strangers, and community members.

And we want you to join us.

Yes, we will also have a traditional Ash Wednesday service that evening at 6:30 PM—and—we are invited to take this to the streets. Come to love on our neighbors, to say hi to folks, to share the peculiarity of this Ash Wednesday ritual.

Many have not experienced the awe, holiness, the space of grace that is this ancient ritual—and many never will because they will not come to a service in the church.

But maybe, just maybe, we can bring this sacred moment to them.

Maybe on this Ash Wednesday, we can change a life, invite someone who is struggling with their mortality, their finitude, grappling with habits that bring death and not life, maybe they will find life in the ashes. Maybe they will experience the grace of God in a peculiar and inexplicable way that lingers long after the ashes are gone, and opens up their hearts to encounter the God who has made us of this dust and a God who is transforming us into life from this dust.

Maybe, just maybe, our neighbors, community members, parents of sweet and energetic children, will experience the God of love because we chose to “Go” instead of “Stay” this Ash Wednesday.





Leadership Board Meeting; It's Not your Average Meeting

By Cathryn Schulle

"Leadership Board meetings are boring."
"Leadership Board meetings aren't for me." "Those people on the Leadership Board are nuts for volunteering." "You couldn't pay me enough to sit through a Leadership Board meeting." "If I go to a meeting, they're just going to rope me into doing something."

If one of these thoughts has ever crossed your mind, rest assured, they have crossed the mind of each member of the Leadership Board as well. You might think that leading the business of the church is mind numbing, all about the numbers, and not for the faint of heart. However, not completely wrong, you would also be missing out on a great ministry of the church. Now, I'm not going to try and sell you on joining the board, but I am going to tell you why you should get to know your Leadership Board.

This past meeting on February 11th was super exciting! We had the opportunity to center ourselves in the Word as Roger Miller, our Board Chairperson, shared a short devotional centered around Romans 12:12: "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer".

Then our pastor, Lacey Wheeler, often leads us in a bible study that will better equip us as leaders and Christians. Most recently we studied the books, Pursuing God's Will Together by Ruth Haley Barton. Now we are using the lessons learned in that book in application to be more discerning for God's will in our board leadership of the church.

And that just started the meeting! Ok, there were a few moments where we had to review the numbers and discuss things like furnaces and insurance. But that didn't take long. No one fell asleep or zoned out.

If this was a movie, we would be reaching the exciting climax! We got to nominate and unanimously approve Delaney Redifer to the Wee Rockets Board as the RHUMC representative from the Board. What a great representative to this ministry where we care for and guide our children in loving Christ! Ok, I know there are a lot of exclamation points but I think they are warranted and more are coming.(!)



And now, the moment we have all been waiting for . . . Miranda Shackelford has come to the Board to ask to be recommended to the church for pastorship! !!!! After sharing her testimony and the Board asking a few pointed questions, the board, with a resounding unanimous vote, recommended Miranda Shackelford to the charge conference "as one who has the potential for ministry in the United Methodist Church."

Jessie Poston gave Miranda some great advice that I think can apply to all of us about feeling guilty for choosing a spirit led path that makes you share your time between God and your family. She said to follow John Wesley's mom and her example to spend a few quality minutes with each member of your family and stop feeling guilty. Those few minutes of quality, one-on-one time are more important than simply being present in the room.

The Board gathered around Miranda and, laying hands on her, each member prayed for her as she began this great adventure.

The meeting wrapped up with a short update about how we need to go about getting approval from the conference to sell the vacant land the church owns should we have the opportunity.

And then Pastor Lacey, prayed us out into the world to wreck our Leadership Board havoc. Just kidding but it seems almost anticlimactic to just say, "we prayed and left." But it was very cold and we had accomplished, at least for the night, the mission of Rose Hill United Methodist Church. We connected. We loved, And we served.

P.S. These meetings are open to everyone and you are more than welcome to join us at any time. And we promise not to rope you into anything.



United Women in Faith

Mark Your Calendars for
Two Special Events!

**Fabric, Yarn & Craft Sale –
March 8, 9 AM–2 PM**

Rose Hill United Methodist Church
Browse a huge selection of quilting fabric, yarn, books, and craft supplies! Proceeds support youth and children's programs. Plus, shop extra craft and quilt items from local sellers. Find your next hobby treasure!

**Mother-Daughter Banquet:
Stitch Your Heart Full of Love" –
April 9, 6 PM**

Join UWFaith for this cherished annual event, now in April to welcome more women. Share an evening filled with love, laughter, and connection. Don't miss it!



February was pretty quiet and cold. We had lots of soup to give out thanks to the food drive from the Elementary School. Our goal this month is to update our resource book so we can try to help people find organizations that can help where we can't.

Thanks for all your support as we do our best to connect, love and serve.

-Meggin DeMoss

Ronald McDonald Service Project



On Saturday February 22, we took a group of kids from the children's ministry and youth group on a tour of the Ronald McDonald House in Wichita. During the tour, the group learned about the impact the Ronald McDonald House has on families by providing support when loved ones are hospitalized for extended periods. After the tour, the kids had the opportunity to cook a delicious meal for the families staying there. It was inspiring to watch the kids dive in and work together to prepare chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, corn, and chocolate chip cookies. We were so proud of their eagerness to make a difference for families facing tough times. The evening was filled with laughter and a sense of fellowship, and we wrapped up the night with a trip to McDonald's for our own meal. A BIG thank you to CJ Bextel and Evan Black for helping me by assisting the kids with the cooking, and helping get the kids to and from the Ronald McDonald House. It truly takes a village to make these activities happen, and I'm so grateful to be part of a team and a church that is dedicated to teaching our kids to have generous hearts like Jesus.

-Stacie Fox

Children & Youth Spotlight



SUNDAY MORNING

@RHUMC

CHOIR



BOYSCOUTS



RHUMC'S CHILDREN



FEBRUARY 2025



Coloring Contest

WINNER!

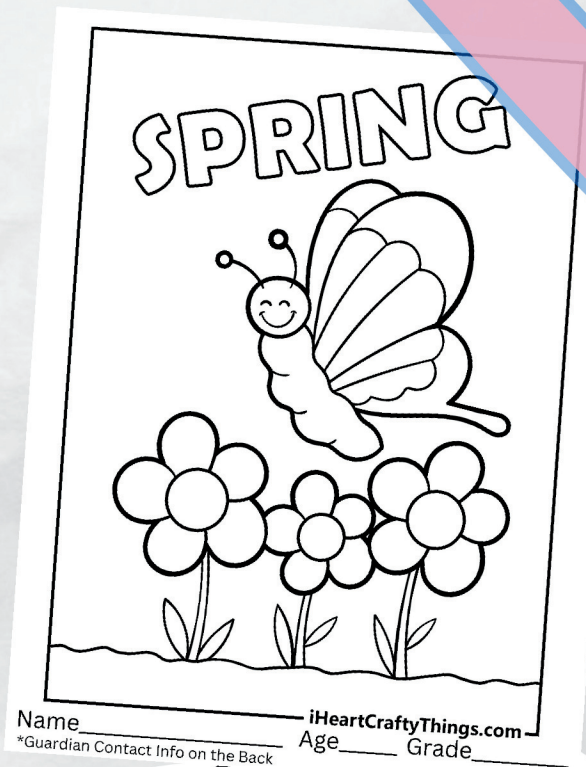


LITTLE MISS

Sophia Leis

MARCH COLORING CONTEST

🎨🌟 Calling all young artists! Our new Monthly Coloring Contest is here! Each month, pick up a fresh coloring page from the greeters' table in the lobby, let your creativity shine, and turn in your masterpiece to the same spot. Every entry will be proudly displayed on our hallway board! Be sure to fill out your name, age, and grade at the bottom, and have a parent/guardian add their name and contact info on the back. The winning artwork will earn a special prize and be featured in next month's newsletter! Let's get coloring! 🎨🌈



RHUMC's very own Mandy Olson has been sculpting since graduating from college in 2001. What began as a simple hobby quickly blossomed into a thriving artistic journey when her early sculptures posted on eBay caught buyers' attention. With each sale, Mandy continued creating, blending her passion for art with the flexibility to stay home with her children while contributing financially. As her talent gained recognition, customers began sending her photos of their beloved dogs, inspiring Mandy to craft custom sculptures that capture the unique spirit of each pet. Nearly 25 years later, she's still at it—bringing joy to dog lovers through her remarkable creations. Working with polymer clay and meticulously hand-painting each piece with acrylics, Mandy's sculptures are a testament to her dedication and artistry. For her, the greatest reward is connecting with fellow dog enthusiasts and delivering handcrafted pieces that celebrate the special bond between humans and their furry friends.

ARTIST'S CORNER



MANDY OLSON
SCULPTOR

Check out her full gallery at www.claydogz.com

OFFICE@RHKSUMC.COM



DO YOU EXPRESS YOURSELF THROUGH ART?
WE WOULD LOVE TO CELEBRATE YOUR WORK!
PLEASE E-MAIL US WITH YOUR WRITING, OR A PHOTO OF YOUR ARTWORK TO BE FEATURED IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER!

FEATURED YOUTH

CAIDEN GRUNDER

Caiden is an incredible human! Any time Caiden is around you know there will be funny side note here or there and will absolutely liven up the conversation! Don't ask Caiden what he thinks unless you really want to know! And we suggest you do because he is filled with an incredible heart, passion for others, dedication to his values and sharing about God's love. Caiden is an evangelist at heart—whether he knows it or not! He draws people to participate in youth by his friendships. Caiden's competitive nature makes him so much fun to play games with, so if you ever need a board game buddy, definitely give Caiden a shout! Thank you, Caiden for your incredible heart, passion, dedication, fun, and just being who you are! Your presence is a gift to all of us!!

-LACEY WHEELER (PASTOR)



NOTE FROM THE YOUTH DIRECTOR



Outside of church Caiden is active in sports like rugby, football and golf. He plays the trumpet in band. He's an asset to youth group and regularly invites different friends thereby spreading Christ's message to others.

He does invite a lot of different youth which is so appreciated! He enjoys hunting with his dad and family trips to Colorado.

-EVAN BLACK

IN THE KNOW: GOINGS ON AT RHUMC

RHUWFaith is hosting **SELL YOUR STASH FOR CASH!**

FREE ADMISSION

8 MARCH | SATURDAY | 9AM-2PM

UWF has an abundance of craft supplies, fabric, yarn, quilt books, and hobby materials they are eager to sell! Come shop their stash and find some great deals. Have extra supplies of your own? Reserve a table and join the fun!

RESERVE A TABLE FOR JUST \$10

SHOP FROM UWF and SELL YOUR UNWANTED SUPPLIES to refresh your collection- all in one fun event!

EVENT DETAILS

Tables are available for \$10 each with payment collected during setup on:

MARCH 7TH FROM 3PM-7PM

To reserve a table, call the Church Office (316) 776-2212, or e-mail office@rhksumc with your name, phone number, and number of tables needed.

Rose Hill United Methodist Church
19551 SW Butler Rd.
Rose Hill, KS 67133

SPECIAL GUEST COMING MARCH 2ND

ROSE HILL UMC IS HONORED TO INTRODUCE

JONATAS MATHIAS



Jonatas Mathias, a Brazilian singer with a deep passion for the healing and soulful power of music, began his journey in his church choir as a child. His love for music blossomed into a career, leading him to perform with orchestras, TV shows, and take the stage across Brazil. Now based in Wichita, Jonatas has become a vibrant force in the local music scene, performing with the Grand Opera Symphony Chorus and Opera Kansas. In 2025, he's set to spotlight Brazil's most iconic genre, bringing the smooth, timeless rhythms of Bossa Nova to center stage. Please give a warm welcome to Jonatas Mathias.

UWFaith is Hosting the 2025 *Stitch Your Heart Full of Love* Mother~Daughter Banquet April 9, 2025

Punch & Pictures: **6:00PM** Dinner: **6:30PM**

Cost: Full Portion-\$8.50 ~ Half Portion-\$6.00 ~ 4yrs & Under-Free

Reservations: Before/After Service March 23/30 or April 6.

OR Call the Church Office

@ 776-2212

RHUMC
YOUTH GROUP

DROP LOCATION
RUBBERMAID TUB OUTSIDE OF
THE YOUTH ROOM

SOCK DRIVE



**MOST
NEEDED
ITEMS:**

**BRING A PACKAGE OF
ADULT SIZED SOCKS FOR
MALES AND FEMALES.**

RHUMC YOUTH GROUP IS HOLDING A SOCK DRIVE TO HELP SUPPLY OUR CHURCH'S HOMELESS MINISTRY. THERE IS A YEAR ROUND NEED FOR SOCKS THAT WE WILL DISTRIBUTE IN DOWNTOWN WICHITA. OUR YOUTH GROUP WILL BE SPENDING A COUPLE OF SATURDAYS THIS SPRING ASSISTING WITH DISTRIBUTIONS. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

ITEMS NEEDED BY:
MARCH 10TH

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT EVAN BLACK
☎ 316-305-6728

Upcoming



Ash Wednesday *from the ashes: God Remembers*

What is Ash Wednesday?

THIS IS A DAY IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH WHERE WE REMEMBER "WE ARE DUST, AND TO DUST WE WILL RETURN." **MORBID, RIGHT? EXCEPT, IT'S KIND OF BEAUTIFUL TOO.**

REMEMBERING OUR MORTALITY IS A GIFT FROM GOD, GIVING US THE FREEDOM TO TREAT LIFE WITH PRECIOUSNESS - SAVORING EVERY MOMENT.

Drive-Thru Ash Wednesday at Wee Rockets Parking Lot
March 5th, 7:00AM to 9:00AM

Traditional Ash Wednesday Service at RHUMC
March 5th, 6:50 PM



Lenten Series

Sundays March 9th - April 15th

From the Ashes: God Remembers

Palm Sunday
April 15th - 10:00 AM

Good Friday
April 18th - 6:50 PM

Easter Sunday *April 20th*

7:30 AM - YOUTH SUNRISE SERVICE WITH FOOD AFTER!
9:00 AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
10:00 AM - EASTER WORSHIP CELEBRATION & EASTER EGG HUNT!

We are a family friendly church--all are welcome here!

ROSE HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CONNECT. LOVE. SERVE.

Share Your Special Moments!

Do you have a birthday, anniversary, wedding, engagement, or other exciting news to celebrate? We'd love to share it with our church family! While we cherish all our friends and loved ones, space will be prioritized for church members first, followed by extended family announcements as space allows.

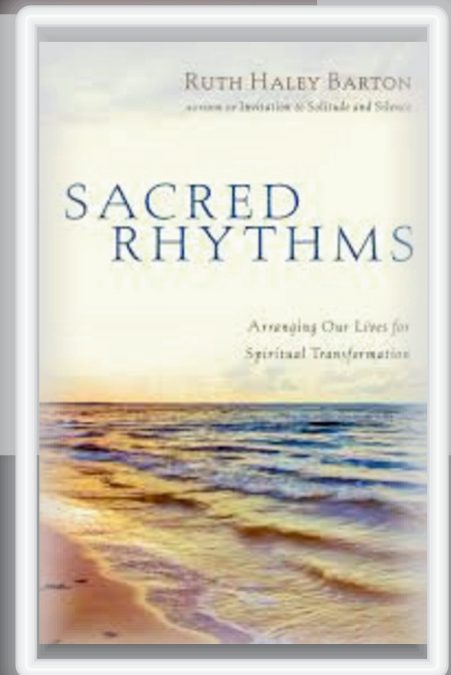
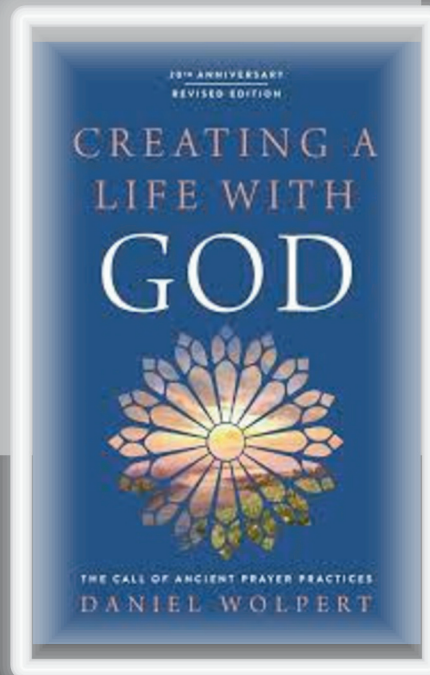
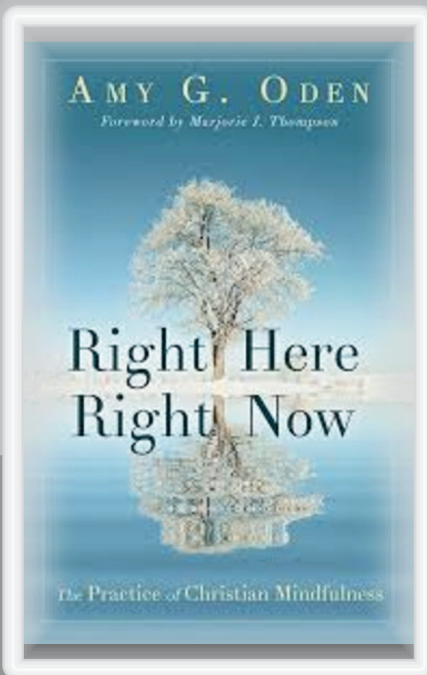
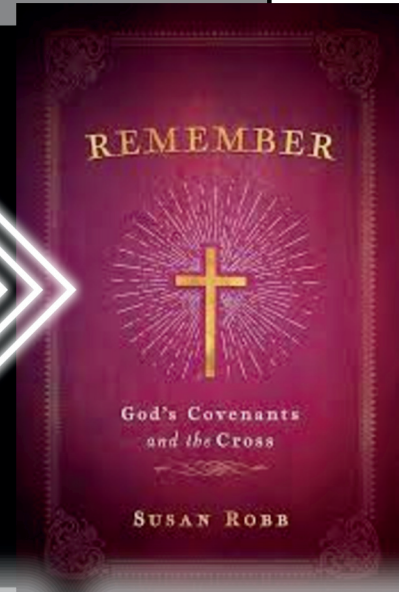
To submit your news and photos, email office@rhksumc.com—we can't wait to celebrate with you!



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

FROM LACEY WHEELER

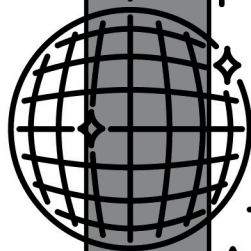
This Lent we are journeying together as we remember God's love as expressed through covenants throughout scripture. Beginning with Noah and ending with Jesus, we will explore the ways that God continues to pursue us, love us, and extend God's grace toward us, even when we have chosen another. We will be utilizing the book **Remember: God's Covenants and the Cross** by Susan Robb as a resource. If you are looking for an incredible Lenten book, look no further!



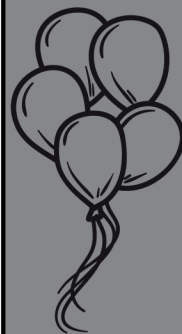
As we explore the Lenten journey, we often examine ways for us to participate in spiritual practices such as lectio divina, contemplative prayer, but also some unconventional practices such as nature walks and expressions of art. If you are looking to explore spiritual practices, these resources are incredibly helpful on our spiritual journeys!: **Right Here Right Now** by Dr. Amy Oden, **Creating a Life with God: The Call of Ancient Prayer Practices** by Daniel Wolpert, and **Sacred Rhythms** by Ruth Haley Barton.

celebrations

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO PASTOR
LACEY WHEELER
MARCH 1ST



(Photo by Shannon Murphy)



Anniversaries



MARCH 8TH

Rob & Sharon Alliband

MARCH 24TH

Ken & Pat Beran

MARCH 28TH

Darrell & Cathryn Schulle



Birthdays



MARCH 1ST

Lacey Wheeler

MARCH 2ND

Dimitri Farmer

Ella Nelson

Lori Webster

MARCH 8TH

Caden Webster

Colton Webster

MARCH 9TH

Jenna Anderson

MARCH 10TH

Kimberly Konecny

MARCH 31ST

Matthew Anderson

MARCH 11TH

Becky Wilson

MARCH 12TH

Jenna McCulloch

MARCH 13TH

Meggyn DeMoss

MARCH 18TH

David Weihe

MARCH 27TH

Jeff Koch

Scott Rowles

John Wyssman

Tiffany Solorio

MARCH 30TH

Barb Nelson





ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Please notify the church office when your request can be taken off the list. Thank you!

- 1/26:** Diane Mann: Donna Scheelze 64yr old niece-in-law had surgery on 1/24 and will be going to rehab.
- 2/2:** Carol Huckins: Neighbor, Don Patterson (health issues)
- 2/9:** Amber Wyssman: Raymond Smith (Amber's Dad) had quadruple bypass 2/11; Dale & Kay McNerny: Jamie L is home and slow road in healing; Greg & Priscilla Rinehart: Prayer for grandson Ben as he faces knee surgery again. They see the doctor in KC Feb 14th; Carol Huckins: Greg Jensen- health (Carol's Cousin); Kimberly Konecny: Co-worker Adam's sister Melanie had surgery 2/3 for a brain tumor. Now, please pray for vision in her right eye.
- 2/23:** Greg & Priscilla Rinehart: For Greg as he continues radiation treatments; Christine & Riley McKee: Christine's father, Harry's surgery went well. Prayers for healing and recovery.

Please keep these in your prayers: Our church; our country; our troops; people of the world; our government leaders; law enforcement officers (safety); our community; students; teachers; Americans overseas; those suffering with mental illness; Nursing home/rehab residents; Loss of life/lives; Loss of Beloved Pets.