

Prairie Breeze

A Publication of Prairie Baptist Church

Summer 2026

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Opening the Pulpit to a Summer of Shared Voices

"Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story"

(Psalm 107:2 NIV)

By Rev. Dr. Kathy Pickett

For 13 years, my preaching has followed a familiar rhythm—following the lectionary, preaching specific topical series, or listening to the Holy Spirit's movement in response to the challenges in our society and congregation. But culture has changed, society has shifted, and new generations of faithful followers are emerging.

I find myself asking: *What if we made space for new voices to be heard? What if we invited our young people—and our not-so-young people—to share the good news? What are we missing by not being open to new ways of hearing God speak?*

This August, I am excited to explore this movement deeply. I have registered for the **Creativity in Preaching Project**, a Lilly Endowment-funded initiative at the Green Lake Conference Center. This program equips leaders to experiment with imaginative, fresh, and intergenerational approaches to preaching. As Heather Henson writes in her article, *Let Them Preach*:

"Creative, impactful, and transformational sermons cannot happen unless we trust in the compelling work of the Holy Spirit, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the power of God the Father. We must stop guarding the pulpit and let them preach."

I don't know exactly where this path will lead, but I want to be open to the Spirit's movement as we journey faithfully into the future. That journey starts right now, with two special invitations for you this summer.

1. What Do You Want to Hear?

It is time to hear from you, the listeners. What would you like to hear, question, or have answered from the pulpit? Is there a scripture passage or a tough topic you want to know more about? While launching this feels a bit vulnerable, I feel strongly led in this direction.

(Continued on pg 2)



Audrey Lennard sharing her Senior Sermon on Youth Sunday – May 3, 2026

As theologian Leonora Tubbs Tisdale reminds us, the task of interpreting the Scriptures belongs to "the whole community of faith, not just to the pastor."

How to submit your ideas: Please email me, text me, leave a note in the offering plate, or fill out one of the Pew Cards available in the sanctuary and hand it to an usher.

2. Summer Testimony Sundays

We love hearing your personal stories of faith and ministry. On each Communion Sunday this summer, we are dedicating time during worship for you to share how you are experiencing God on your journey.

Mark your calendars for these special sharing Sundays:

- **June 7:** Open for congregational sharing
- **July 5:** Our youth will share their stories from camp
- **August 2:** Open for congregational sharing
- **September 6:** Open for congregational sharing

If you feel called to share your story on one of these dates, please reach out to me. Let's step into this summer with open hearts, ready to listen to how God is speaking through *all* of us.

Blessings,
Kathy



Giving Reminders

Thank you to all our faithful givers and special gift donations. Your offerings support the ongoing work of ministry & mission, and together with PECC provide a wonderful pre-school program. We don't often think of administrative expenses and building costs as ministry, but they are. Without a place to gather, learn, share, sing and pray together, we would be doing and being church in very different ways.

Gifts over and above your pledged amount are always welcome. There are numerous ways you can share your financial gifts:

- Set-up automatic payments through your bank. I do this and it works great! However, you need to remember to make changes to the annual amount as needed.
- Online, myEoffering is available on our website, prairiebaptist.org/Give
- Mail your check to Prairie attn. Finance
- Leave a check on Sunday morning when you are here.

I am grateful for your faithfulness and the many wonderful ways your financial gifts continue the work of God's kingdom here on earth. - Kathy

Summer Out of Office Dates

- Kathy and Regan Out – June 28 – July 3
- Regan Out – July 16 – 21
- Sara Out – August 9
- Kathy Out – August 17 - 21
- Standard Summer Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday: Nine A.M. till Noon
 - Available remotely by email on Mondays

Home: Nadine Clawson, Kay Lopez, Dianne Shumaker.

Brookdale in Shawnee: Martin Wollenburg.

Westchester Village of Lenexa: Maxine Cook.

Church Thank You!

Thank you all for your love and support of Prairie Baptist Youth in both the Cake Auction and Youth Sunday. We are very lucky to have all of you helping guide us into adulthood. - Abby, Audrey, Autumn, Connie, Isaiah, and Micah

The next Breeze deadline is Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2026, Please send your information to office@prairiebaptist.org.



It is that time of year, Bethel Neighborhood Center is gearing up for the summer program which ends with backpack donations for the children’s new school year.

We look forward to providing this annual support for Bethel and the children in their program. The involvement in this project enables the children to build on the quality support they receive from the programming at Bethel.

When we have the full list of supplies and our goal number of backpacks, we will send out a special email!

Sign Up to Participate in Worship This Summer!

Reading scripture is an easy way to get involved with Sunday morning services. Use this Google spreadsheet to sign up (or if you have trouble, email Sara at prairiesara@gmail.com with the Sundays you are available).

If you would also be willing to read announcements from a printed sheet, that would be great, but is not necessary.

Open the sheet here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1bIWAut6u6Xse6FWZ_OeAFoJjyY5Mv-S7nud4GwN5_0Y/edit?usp=sharing

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June Birthdays:

June 3 Isaiah Grummon
June 6 Jeanne Reeder
 Erik Sharp
June 9 Gloria Nixon
 Ruth Rosell
June 14 Gary Hamilton
June 19 Elizabeth Rix
June 23 Doris Cook
 Morgan O'Rourke
June 26 Marilyn Shaw
June 27 Connie Dedon

July Birthdays

July 7 Andrew Hallin
July 11 Michael Templer
July 12 David Maughan
July 13 Rachel Pruett
July 16 Autumn Anderson
July 19 Jaime Myers
July 20 Tony Cosby
 Frank Fuller
 Becca Nash
July 24 Cindy Herman
July 26 Kay Sharp

August Birthdays:

August 6 Bob Southard
August 7 James Lightner
August 9 Virginia Fortner
August 11 Cynthia Jarrold
August 12 Mary Sue Kelly
 Ifechukwu Obi
August 13 Bev Cosby
August 17 Kent Workman
August 18 Helen Obi
 Kevin Wilson
August 19 David Grummon
 Emily Hays
August 20 Terri Chow
August 22 Lori Blalock Greer
August 26 Xander Williams
 Joy Freeman
August 27 Ben Gardner
 Turner Lennard
August 29 Ron Fenton
August 30 Chuck Templer
August 31 Carroll Morony
 Carl Riggs

What's Been Happening This Spring at Prairie?





Check It Out!

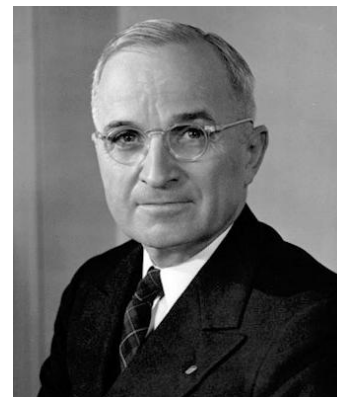
The PECC playground has two new basketball hoops, chalk boards, and line up spots thanks to Shawn Liljegren and his Eagle Project for BSA Troop 284 of Overland Park.

Shawn went to preschool at PECC (Becky Humphrey was one of his teachers) and his mother, Marueen is a PDO1 teacher now! Shawn is a Junior at SM East. Thank You, Shawn!



DID YOU KNOW?

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering began seventy-seven years ago in response to the devastation of World War II. On Saturday evening, March 26, 1949, a national broadcast titled "One Great Hour" featured a remarkable assembly of national leaders and celebrities. The 33rd U.S. President, Harry S. Truman's, radio address during the broadcast included the following:



"There are thousands of children in foreign lands today who have no memory of their parents, no knowledge of the meaning of the words "home" and "family," and who have forgotten what it feels like to have enough to eat. There are hopeless thousands who wander among the shattered towns seeking a place to rest, seeking security and a chance to begin their lives anew. There are many who pray to God only in secret, fearing persecution if they profess their beliefs openly. It is hard for us to comprehend grief and distress such as this because we in America are so much more fortunate. Our country has been blessed with material riches. Our homes are secure. We can go to our churches and worship God as we desire. We know that we enjoy these great blessings not because of any special merit on our part, but because of the bounty of God. It is to His Providence that we owe the richness of our country and our heritage of freedom. Since these good things come to us from Him, we know that we must use them for the good of others in accordance with His will."

The broadcast concluded by asking Americans to give generously the next morning in their churches. More than 75,000 churches responded. Today, One Great Hour of Sharing serves people in over 80 countries around the world.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING 2026 – SUMMER SPECIAL OFFERING

ONE GREAT HOW OF SHARING: OUR LOVE OFFERING TO THE WORLD

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7

OGHS has been an offering of love to the world for over 77 years. Each year you are invited to give for the sake of sisters and brothers around the globe. Our collective giving to OGHS shows up around the world in tangible acts of love, compassion, and care:

- Comfort and hands to help rebuild after natural disasters
- Shelter, nourishment, and safety in places where war rages and poverty prevails
- Tools and expertise to establish sustainable agriculture, clean water, and livelihoods
- Advocacy for the dignity of those who are marginalized and most vulnerable

Simply put, OGHS shows up when immediate and long-term help is needed. We may never personally witness the results of our help—but that’s what a love offering is: giving from the heart, believing that our gifts make a difference, trusting that our gifts bear hope and light and love in the lives of those to whom we are connected.

You may make your gift online using Prairie’s myoffering site, or by writing your check to “Prairie Baptist Church” and putting OGHS in the memo line.

One Great Hour is being emphasized during the month of June.



PBYF&F Summer Plans

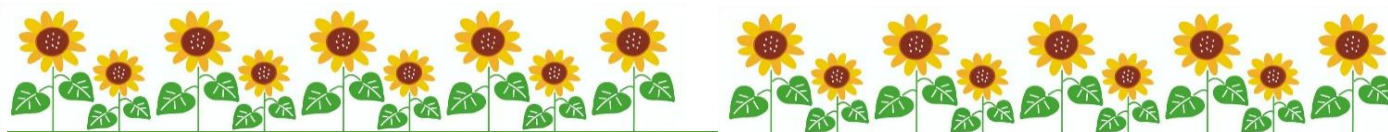
The Prairie Young Friends and Families group will be meeting each Monday Morning in the summer for a time of fellowship and play. This is a time for parents and children to connect with one another and get out of the house. There is not child care for these events, it is a time for families with flexible summer schedules to parent together.

No Sign Up Needed! A meeting place will be shared on the Group Me each week. Most events are free or low cost. These are paid by the individual family when there is a fee associated.

More information about individual events will be posted on the PBYF&F Group Me message.

Please talk to Regan Jones with any questions.

JUNE 01	OP ARBORETUM WALK & READ 9:30 AM <small>ADULTS AND CHILDREN OVER 6 NEED TICKETS UNDER 5 FREE!</small>	MONDAY	JUNE 29	HARMON PARK 9:30 AM
JUNE 08	GARRETT PARK IN SHAWNEE 9:30 AM	MADNESS	JULY 6	KIDSCAPE [A+] JOCO MUSEUM 9:00 AM <small>\$4 FOR CHILDREN \$6 FOR ADULTS AT DOOR</small>
JUNE 15	KANSAS CITY ZOO 9:30 AM <small>TICKETS ONLINE OR IN PERSON UNDER 2 FREE</small>		JULY 13	KALEIDOSCOPE AT CROWN CENTER 9:30 AM
JUNE 22	WILDER BLUFF PARK AND SPLASH PAD 9:30 AM		JULY 20	ROE PARK AND SPLASH PAD 9:30 AM
			2026	



Children's Summer

Sunday School

This summer we are looking for volunteers to help in the Children's Sunday School class!

Carol Stagner and Kathi Cook are taking a well-deserved break from their teaching duties for the summer. Several of the Young Families members are stepping in to help and have already planned out the curriculum, we just need a few extra volunteers! If you would be willing to be an extra set of hands for the Sunday School hour this summer, even if it is just once, we would love to have your help! Reach out the Regan in the office if interested or if you need more information!

Dates open for help: June 14, 21, and 28; July 12 and 26



PBC CHOIR
SUMMER REHEARSALS
 7: 30 PM in the Sanctuary
 June 10 and 17
 July 15 and 22
 August 12 and 19



Summer Choir

Join the choir in worship this summer! We will sing on the following Sundays:

🎵 June 14 and 21

🎵 July 19 and 26

🎵 August 16 and 23

If you've considered joining us, now is the time to give it a try; no experience necessary! If you can't be there every Sunday, that is no problem.

Please contact Sara (prairiesara@gmail.com) with any questions!

A note from the music director...

Thank you to everyone that has helped keep worship rolling while I have been out so much this year, with my knee surgery, judging high school music ensembles in Alaska, and then the second Dr. McClure's Musical Tour. Shout-outs to Kathy, Regan, Melody, and the whole tech team, particularly! I will be much more present during the second half of 2026. Here is our whole group during our tour of the Golden Hall at the Musikverein in Vienna, before we got to hear two wonderful concerts there. (The next trip to Italy in early March 2027 is shaping up now, so please reach out if you're interested!)

- Dr. Sara McClure

Prairie Takes the Park

@ Gladstone Theater in the Park

See Isaiah Grummon in Bye Bye Birdie

August 7-9

FREE - Donations Welcome



Prairie Takes the Park!

Join us at Gladstones Theater in the Park this summer for a performance of the classic musical "Bye Bye Birdie". Our own youth, Isaiah Grummon, has been cast in this performance showing August 7-9 at the Oak Grove Park Amphitheater. The show is FREE but donations are welcome on site.

Read more at:

<https://gladstonetip.com/come-to-a-show/>

Upcoming Calendar Dates

For a Full List of Calendar Dates, see the Google Calendar Link in the Get Connected Weekly Email or reach out to office@prairiebaptist.org to request a copy.

June:

- 6/1 – PBYF&F: OP Arboretum Walk and Read
- 6/2 – PECC Summer Session Start
- 6/2 – Church Guidance Team (Open to All)
- 6/8 – PBYF&F: Garrett Park
- 6/14 – Church Game Time with PBY @3pm
- 6/15 – PBYF&F: KC Zoo
- 6/22 – PBYF&F: Wilder Bluff Park
- 6/28 – 7/3 – PBY: Quest Camp
- 6/29 – PBYF&F: Harmon Park

July:

- 7/5 – No PBY
- 7/6 – PBYF&F: Kidscape @ JoCo Museum
- 7/9 – PECC Summer Session Ends
- 7/11 – Ad Astra Duo Concert
- 7/12 – Trinity Jazz in Worship
- 7/13 – PBYF&F: Kaleidoscope at Crown Center
- 7/20 – PBYF&F: Roe Park
- 7/26 – PBY Pool Party
- 7/27 – PBYF&F: Sar Ko Par Pool Splash With Me

August:

- 8/2 – Children's Choir in Worship
- 8/4 – Church Guidance Team (Open to All)
- 8/17 – PECC School Year Begins
- 8/23 – Quarterly Business Meeting
- 8/30 – PBY Guardian Meeting for Fall 26
- 8/31 – Medical Arts Symphony Rehearsals Resume

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