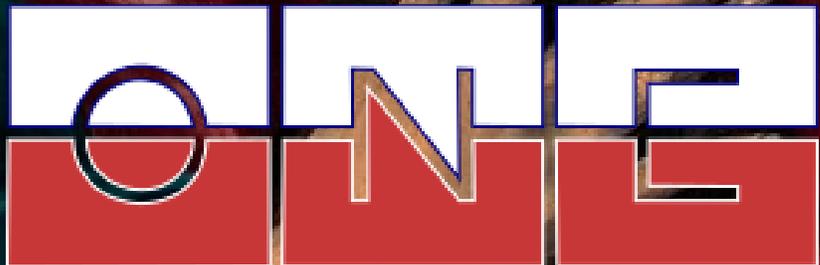




# **INSIDE:**

- + **Jesus' Road to Resurrection**
- + **Get to Know Pastor Jon Anderson**
- + **April Events**



A Publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance

April 2025



Ellis County Ministerial Alliance

ONE is the official publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance (ECMA) which guides its mission, content, and theme. The ECMA encourage submissions from ECMA congregations. Photographs, stories, testimonies, and other submissions should be directed toward your church leaders or sent via email to

**one@ourecma.com.**

The ECMA ONE Advisory Board will choose appropriate and timely submissions for publication. The columns in ONE represent the views of the author.

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### Advisory Board

Kurt Beyers  
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### Editor

Terri Braun  
terribraun91@gmail.com

## Topic Articles

***Editor's Note:** This month we asked our writers to write an Easter devotion with each one based on different gospels: Matthew 27:1-31 which consists of Jesus before Pilate, Jesus Questioned by Pilate, the Sentence of Death, and the Mockery by the Soldiers; Luke 23:26-56 which consists of the Way of the Cross, the Crucifixion, the Death of Jesus, and the Burial of Jesus; and Mark 15:21-47 which consists of the Way of the Cross, the Crucifixion, the Death of Jesus, and the Burial of Jesus.*

### **Matthew 27:1-31 (RSVCE): Be Courageous**

#### **Written by:**

**Cody Marintzer**

Pilate has gone down in history as the man who sentenced Jesus to death; however, things could have turned out differently for him. In this interaction with Jesus and the crowds, he shows us a mirror image of ourselves. Let us see how.

As Pilate is questioning Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew, it says that he wonders greatly when Jesus won't defend himself. If you look at Mark, it says the same thing. In Luke,

Pilate tries three times to have Jesus released, but the crowd's voice wins out. Pilate can sense what is right but won't order Jesus to be set free. In John, he also tries to release him and when the crowd pushes him on it, he questions Jesus again. It is in this questioning that we get some extra insight into Pilate's decision making.

When Pilate is questioning Jesus, Jesus tries to lead him into Truth. This is where Pilate shows what is holding him back from doing what is right. As

Jesus says that He has come into the world to bear witness to the truth, Pilate answers "What is Truth?" (John 18:38). This shows us that Pilate seems to have given into relativistic thought, which is the belief that there is no absolute truth to guide our actions. His decision will be based on self-preservation, not Truth.

Pilate is having an interior struggle as to what to do; unfortunately, he doesn't let this lead him in the right direction. Pilate proclaims that he finds no

## ***Be Courageous (Continued)***

guilt in Jesus but then gives in to the crowd's demands to have Him killed. Against the nagging sense that this just isn't right; the pleading of his wife to not do this and the lack of any evidence that Jesus has done anything to deserve death, the pressure of what might happen if he lets Jesus go, gets to him.

In reading this, you can feel the death of the conscience in Pilate. It is that moment we have probably all had where we have the chance to stand up for what is right, good, and true, yet we give in to pressure instead. This is the moment where we convince ourselves that whatever we are doing, "isn't that bad," "will work itself out in the end," or "is better than dealing with the fallout from society."

Pilate also shows us another mirror image of ourselves when he proclaims, *"I am innocent of this righteous man's blood; see to it yourselves"* (Matthew 27:24). He tries to pretend like he can wash his hands of this mess and somehow that absolves him from ordering Jesus' death. How

many times in our own lives have we done something we knew was sinful, but excused it away?

Pilate is the one who could stop this at any moment. He can't wash himself of the evil being done to Jesus as he is the one who has the final say. Just like him, we don't get to absolve ourselves from our actions because we are afraid of the consequences. Let us remember in the Gospel of Matthew where Jesus says, *"So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven"* (Matthew 10:32-33). Whenever we deny the truth, we deny Jesus. Whenever we don't stand up for what is right and just, we deny Jesus. We become like Pilate, and we become like the crowd who says, *"His blood be on us and on our children!"* (Matthew 27:25).

During this Easter season and continuing on, let us ask God for the grace to be courageous. When the time comes for us to

stand up and do what is right, let us not give into moral relativism, or the belief that we can wash ourselves free from our sinful actions. Instead, let us find strength in the cross of Christ, remembering His words, *"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you"* (John 15:18-19).

Let us journey with Jesus, taking courage in knowing, *"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven"* (Matthew 5:11-12).



Cody Marintzer is the parish life coordinator at St. Nicholas of Myra Church.

## ***Luke 23:26-56 (NRSVCE): Death on a Cross***

**Written by:**

***Cheryl Glassman***

I vividly recall the first time I saw the movie, *The Passion of the Christ*. I was teaching at TMP-Marian, and the movie was set to be released for the first time. I had read reviews and transcripts, and felt in my heart it was something our high school students, faculty, and staff should see. I contacted the movie theater in Hays and was able to reserve a showing for our students. I spoke with the administration. We sent permission slips home to be signed by parents.

The students were bussed to the theater, laughing, and, as high schoolers usually are, excited not to be in class. We all got settled in the theater. The lights slowly dimmed, and the theater was dark. Giggles and whispers ensued. Then...the movie began. It was riveting, and the students were quiet. As I watched the movie, I also looked around. Every person was engrossed in the movie. I remember hearing crying during some scenes, and tears fell on my own cheeks. Sometimes, I could sense students looking in my direction, to see if I was

reacting as they were. When the movie concluded, the students left silently. I recall receiving several notes from students thanking me for the opportunity to see such a powerful interpretation of our Lord's last hours on earth.

When contemplating and praying the scripture of Luke recalling the Passion of our Lord, His crucifixion and moments leading up to it, I always have a pit in my stomach. It's the same thing for me when I attend Mass on Palm Sunday, and we read the Passion. Catholics also read the Passion on Good Friday. The words open in my mind, and I can see images of Jesus, of Simon helping to carry the cross, of the women crying, of Jesus falling - and bravely pushing past the pain to carry the burdens of all mankind to the cross. I see some of the people laughing and sneering at him.

I find it so powerful that after all this time, these words describing Christ's journey still affect me. But what always stands out is Jesus' time on the cross with the two criminals at his side. I recall the words of the "bad" criminal, "Save yourself and us!" Then, the "good"

criminal replies, "Don't you fear God?"

I know I have been, at different times in my life, one or the other criminal. I have turned away from God, from our Lord and savior through actions or reactions, through words and deeds. But I have also returned to him and asked him to forgive me and let me once again know the completeness of His love, compassion, and grace. It is through Jesus' giving of himself we are, in mind, body, soul, and spirit, given new life, new vision, and new chance to love and serve in His name.

At Mass we have sung the words from this gospel, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom; Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom." May the saving power of Jesus, through His suffering and death on the cross, bring us all to new life and salvation in and through Him.



*Cheryl Glassman is the Director of Music at St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church in Hays.*

## **Mark 15:21-47 (NIV): What Are You Going to Do About Jesus?**

**Written by:**  
**Rick Claiborn**

Easter is approaching, and I am trying to think about the crucifixion of Jesus more than just on that weekend like I usually do. The older I get the more I realize what a miracle the Bible is. We get to read firsthand accounts of the most important life in the history of the world.

The following are the portions of Mark 15:21-47 (NIV) that strike me as I read.

### **Simon of Cyrene:**

Simon of Cyrene has always made me think about how this must have looked. He was an ordinary man. On this particular day, he happened to be passing by. He was forced to carry the cross for Jesus, who had already been severely beaten. I used to think Jesus must have been a superhero, like Superman. Surely, He was still strong to carry His own cross.

Now, I think differently. He had to be near the end of His physical, human strength. He was fully God and fully human, so He had divine ability but human frailty. He could have called legions of angels, but He

didn't. He knew what God's will for Him was and He was willing, but that portion of the trinity also made Him human. He had limits physically just like we do.

In my mind this looks like Simon and Jesus very close to each other. The cross was heavy so Simon may have also been struggling. What I picture is Jesus close to him trying to give help and to give Simon encouragement. Maybe Jesus was whispering to him, "You can do it," "Almost there," "Simon, I love you." I imagine sweat and blood and dirt and just like us when we help someone do anything hard, their goal was clear, just two men fully committed to the task. In my mind it would look like most of us going through tough times, with Jesus walking right beside us, whispering how much He loves us.

### **The Wine Mixed with Myrrh:**

They offered Him something to dull the pain. Crucifixion is one of the cruelest ways to die, that is why they used it. In spite of this they offered Him something to dull His pain. He refused. I read in a few places the theory that Jesus

wanted to fulfill His purpose with a clear mind. If He was numb, He would not have felt the weight and pain from all that sin. I think refusing to take it allowed Him not to just die for you and me, in general, but to die with you and I, specifically, on His still clear mind.

People numb their pain today in a variety of ways. Alcohol, drugs, relationships, work, hobbies, and many other pursuits can do the same thing as myrrh - dull your senses. Sometimes leaving our mind clear would be better, even if it hurts.

### **Joseph of Arimathea:**

I remember thinking this was just some good-hearted man who wanted to do something for Jesus... noble. But this man was a member of the Sanhedrin. In fact, he was a prominent member of the council, the very group that had just rejected Jesus and condemned Him to die. But this bible tells us that Joseph disagreed with the council (Luke 23:50-51). It was a bold act. The Bible does not tell us any more about him or how this action affected his status, but he

## What Are You Going to Do About Jesus? (Continued)

decided to act in a manner that honored Jesus in spite of the belief of his counterparts.

### The Centurian:

This man witnessed it all, from the first time that Simon and Jesus came into view carrying that cross, all the way up to verse 15:37-39 when *“With a loud cry, Jesus breathed His last. At this, he simply said, ‘Surely, this man is the Son of God!’”* I am no scholar, but that Centurian may have accepted Christ at the foot of the cross. Jesus doesn’t waste one thing, even suffering.

### The Curtain:

As a kid, our church had long velvet curtains that

concealed the baptistry. I was always fascinated by those curtains. I remember thinking about how odd it seemed to tear them. Why did God tear the curtain? Jesus accomplished what He came to do. Jesus made it possible for people to come into God’s presence. Prior to that, common people were not allowed behind that curtain. After that, anyone could approach God.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

Like Simon of Cyrene, have you ever found yourself thrust into a situation such as a friend or stranger in need? It could be a person on the side of the road. It could be your neighbor. Do you feel

forced or willing?

Would you be as bold as Joseph of Arimathea to go against your own primary group, whether at church, at work or with friends?

### CHALLENGE:

We cannot be saved without the grace Jesus offers us. Grace is available to all who accept it, so every person on earth played a part in that crucifixion. It would not have been needed if not. The question is, what are you going to do about Jesus?



*Rick Claiborn is a longtime resident of Hays who loves Jesus and attends High Plains Baptist Church.*

**“I HAVE OVERCOME  
THE WORLD.”  
– JOHN 16:33**



# Leadership Interviews

## *I Want to See What Happens*

**Written by:**

**Terri Braun**

Pastor Jon Anderson was born in Seattle, Washington and had many places that he called home. Moving was just the norm for Jon which meant learning to adapt and making new friends. Because they moved quite frequently, it did not seem possible to him that some people stayed in the same house or lived in the same town for many years.

Jon was involved in the church as a youth as he sang in the junior choir and was an acolyte. He remembers one particular day when he was 10 years old and was scheduled to be acolyte. The Pastor told Jon that he did not need assistance that day. But Jon was eager to serve, so the Pastor told him that he could come kneel with them prior to the service. When Jon knelt, he stated he had this feeling wash over him and simply knew what he was supposed to do... serve God.

After graduating college, Jon attended and graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California and his Lutheran studies were at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkley, California. Jon's clinical pastoral education was completed at California Medical Facility, a prison for people with medical and psychiatric problems and his internship was at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Saratoga, California.

He had his first call in 1985 from Zion's Lutheran Church in Trinidad, Colorado. He was ordained into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in San Francisco, California on December 1, 1985, and his installation service was on December 8, 1985. After serving there for 10 years and accomplishing goals he wanted, he then got a call from Ogallah and Wakeeney to serve as Pastor.

In 1995, Jon and his wife Laura moved to Wakeeney and told each other that they would stay there until their children grew up. But God intervened, Jon began to see churches become too small that they could no longer financially support themselves, so they began to combine with other churches. This is when the Prairie Faith Shared Ministry began to form. With all these transitions, Jon thought to himself, "I want to see what happens," so they stayed.

To this day, Jon is still there. He is currently the Pastor of Prairie Faith Shared Ministry that became official in 2003. He has three congregations he pastors... three separate church families. They include St. John's Lutheran Church in rural Ellis, Emanuel Lutheran Church in rural Ogallah, and Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the town of Wakeeney. He proudly says that these churches are "small but alive" with a "can-do attitude."

The advantage of staying so



Pictured: Pastor Jon Anderson

long in one place is that Jon gets to see the circle of life. He had the privilege of watching families grow, watching the kids change, serving at their weddings, and baptizing their kids. But it also has its disadvantages as many have died. There are times that Jon is a mourner just like the congregation but must perform the service. It is known that as of July 1, 2025, Jon will be retired.

While growing up, Jon moved to so many places and was always in awe of those that stayed in one place for years. Here he is today... one of those people. He has been in ministry for 40 years and with the same congregations for 30 of them! He states that he "is in the best place I've ever been." Jon has fond memories of the people, fond memories of all the times he shared the gospel and on June 15, 2025 at his last service, he will bid them a fond farewell.

*Terri Braun is Editor of ONE Magazine.*

# Ecumenical Events

**April 1:** Text Study, 10:30am at Trinity Lutheran Church (2703 Fort).

**April 1:** Moms In Prayer, 3:45pm at Crosspoint Church (1300 Harvest Rd).

**April 2:** Old Testament Bible Study, 12:50 pm at Epworth Towers Community Room (2800 Augusta Lane).

**April 3:** Feeding Hays, 6:30-7:00pm-to go spaghetti dinner at St. Michael's Episcopal Church (2900 Canal Blvd). To volunteer to help, contact Ben at 785-259-2851.

**April 3:** Grief Share Group, 6pm-8pm at North Oak Community Church Center Office (3002 Northridge Court).

**April 4 and 5:** Art of Marriage Conference, Friday, April 4 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at North Oak Community Church (3000 Oak St) CHILDCARE PROVIDED. *See below for additional information.*

**April 5:** HUGs for Kids Spring Sale, 9am-noon at First Presbyterian Church (2900 Hall St). *See below for additional information.*

**April 5:** Community Baby Shower, 11:00am-1:00pm at St. Nicholas of Myra (2901 E. 13th). Open to expectant and new parents. *See below for additional information.*

**April 6:** Jr CYO fundraiser, 1:00-4:00pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Hall basement (1805 Vine St). *See below for additional information.*

**April 7:** Blood drive, 12:00-6:00pm at St. Nicholas of Myra Parish Hall (2901 E. 13th). Contact parish office at 785-628-1446 to schedule an appointment.

**April 8:** Text Study, 10:30am at Trinity Lutheran Church (2703 Fort).

**April 8:** Moms In Prayer, 3:45pm at Crosspoint Church (1300 Harvest Rd).

**April 9:** Old Testament Bible Study, 12:50 pm at Epworth Towers Community Room (2800 Augusta Lane).

**April 10:** Feeding Hays, 6:30-7:00pm-to go spaghetti dinner at St. Michael's Episcopal Church (2900 Canal Blvd). To volunteer to help, contact Ben at 785-259-2851.

**April 10:** Grief Share Group, 6pm-8pm at North Oak Community Church Center Office (3002 Northridge Court).

**April 13:** Palm Sunday Potluck Dinner, 5:30 pm at Hays Christian Church (1318 E. 22nd).

**April 15:** Text Study, 10:30am at Trinity Lutheran Church (2703 Fort).

**April 15:** Moms In Prayer, 3:45pm at Crosspoint Church (1300 Harvest Rd).

**April 16:** Old Testament Bible Study, 12:50 pm at Epworth Towers Community Room (2800 Augusta Lane).

**April 17:** Feeding Hays, 6:30-7:00pm-to go spaghetti dinner at St. Michael's Episcopal Church (2900 Canal Blvd). To volunteer to help, contact Ben at 785-259-2851.

## Ecumenical Events (Continued)

**April 17:** Laundry Love by First Call for Help, 4 -6pm at 27th and Hall St. Laundromat. Up to 5 free loads of laundry per household per month.

**April 17:** Grief Share Group, 6pm-8pm at North Oak Community Church Center Office (3002 Northridge Court).

**April 17:** Maundy Thursday service, 7:30pm at St. John north of Ellis (394 St John-St Andrew Rd, Ellis KS).

**April 18:** Good Friday service, 7:30pm St. John north of Ellis (394 St John-St Andrew Rd, Ellis KS).

**April 20:** Sunrise Service, 6:30 am, Fort Hays Memorial Gardens. Breakfast at Hays Christian Church (1318 E. 22nd) to follow.

**April 22:** Text Study, 10:30am at Trinity Lutheran Church (2703 Fort).

**April 22:** Moms In Prayer, 3:45pm at Crosspoint Church (1300 Harvest Rd).

**April 23:** Men's Study on Paul: the Apostle, 6:30 pm at Hays Christian Church (1318 E. 22nd).

**April 23:** Old Testament Bible Study, 12:50 pm at Epworth Towers Community Room (2800 Augusta Lane).

**April 24:** Feeding Hays, 6:30-7:00pm-to go spaghetti dinner at St. Michael's Episcopal Church (2900 Canal Blvd). To volunteer to help, contact Ben at 785-259-2851.

**April 24:** Grief Share Group, 6pm-8pm at North Oak Community Church Center Office, 3002 Northridge Court.

**April 26:** Race to Restock by First Call for Help, 7:30am check in. *Read below for additional information.*

**April 29:** Text Study, 10:30am at Trinity Lutheran Church (2703 Fort).

**April 29:** Moms In Prayer, 3:45pm at Crosspoint Church (1300 Harvest Rd).

**April 30:** Old Testament Bible Study, 12:50 pm at Epworth Towers Community Room (2800 Augusta Lane).

**May 1:** Feeding Hays, 6:30-7:00pm-to go spaghetti dinner at St. Michael's Episcopal Church (2900 Canal Blvd). To volunteer to help, contact Ben at 785-259-2851.



**“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” – 2 Corinthians 5:21**

## Ecumenical Events: Additional Details

### Art of Marriage Conference

North Oak Community Church, 3000 Oak St., invites engaged couples and married couples to its “Art of Marriage Conference” on Friday, April 4 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Childcare will be provided.

The all NEW “Art of Marriage” is masterfully designed to inspire and equip today's couples: whether newly married, seasoned, empty nesters, or part of a blended family.

The cost is \$75 per couple, or \$37.50 per person. That includes the cost of materials/workbooks and lunch on Saturday, April 5. Childcare will be available. A portion of each registration fee will go to the North Oak Youth Group’s summer mission trip to Mexico.

Registration is available at <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/9732958>. For further information go to [www.northoak.net/marriage](http://www.northoak.net/marriage)

For more information contact Rich Matzke at (785)650-2946 or email: [richardmatzke48@gmail.com](mailto:richardmatzke48@gmail.com)



Join the First Presbyterian Church of Hays for



**HUGs FOR KIDS**

**Spring  
SALE**

### HUGs for Kids Spring Sale

The First Presbyterian Church at 2900 Hall St. invites you to the HUGs for Kids Spring Sale on April 5th from 9am-noon. Come shop for low cost, affordable gently used and new goods. Ages newborn through elementary school clothing, shoes, coats, toys, supplies and MORE! There will be free babysitting while you shop, refreshments and door and raffle prizes.

### Community Baby Shower

Community Baby Shower will take place 11:00am-1:00pm on April 5th at St. Nicholas of Myra Parish Hall (2901 E. 13th). It is open to any expectant and new parents! Explore community resources, educational opportunities and information on available services in Ellis County. Register for free crib at [bit.ly/ellis-co-communitybabyshower](http://bit.ly/ellis-co-communitybabyshower) while supplies last.



### Jr CYO Bingo Fundraiser Jr. CYO Fundraiser

Sponsored by the Daughters of Isabella Circle 254



If you enjoy BINGO and homemade desserts, then come to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Hall basement at 1805 Vine St. on April 6 from 1-4 PM. It is \$1.00 per card with homemade desserts as the prize. There will be raffle tickets, concessions, and 50/50 raffle. Proceeds help fund expenses for Jr CYO camp.

## Opportunities to Serve



### Race to Restock

Race to Restock is on April 26, 7:30am check in, at Sternberg Museum (3000 Sternberg Dr.) There will be a 10K, 5K, and 1 mile offered. Use the QR code or link below to register. This event supports First Call for Help to raise money for their food pantry. Each racer (whether running or walking) will receive a finishers medal. There will be a prize for 1st place in each age division for both male and female. All proceeds will go to help those fighting food insecurity in our community.

Whether you are a runner or just looking to walk the 1-mile with a friend, you can help make a difference in the lives of those in need! If you are looking to volunteer, you can use the link below to sign up for a volunteer ticket!

Link to register: <https://www.firstcallelliscounty.com/event-details/race-to-restock>

### Part-time Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Hays, KS

A part-time Pastor position will soon be available for the Presbyterian Church of Hays, KS. As one of the oldest churches in Hays, KS, the congregation numbers hold steady at just under 100 members. The part-time Pastor will have a desire to help and encourage the church members to continue to carry out God's mission for our community. We are looking for individuals who are self-motivated with good communication skills that will engage with and empower our members to discern God's calling.



A few of the responsibilities of the part-time Pastor will include working in concert with congregation members in leading worship, providing pastoral care and moderating session and church activities. The part-time Pastor will also work alongside our part-time administrative assistant and as needed, the part-time Pastor will perform weddings, funerals and baptisms.

For more information, please contact Melanie Hancock, General Presbyter with the Presbytery of Northern Kansas at 785-825-1654. You can send your resume to Melanie at Presbytery of Northern KS, PO Box 3287, Salina, KS 67402-3287.



# BECOME A BIG

## OUR MISSION

We match youth, ages 5-25 with a caring adult mentor. These are great kids facing a variety of challenges and in need of a little extra support.



Andrews Family & Josh  
matched 2019

## WAYS TO MENTOR

### Community-Based

- Outings in community or Big's home
- Flexible scheduling (2 times/mo.)
- Individual, couple, or family match options
- Minimum of 12 mo. commitment

### School-Based

- Big meets with Little at School
- 30-40 minutes a few times a month
- Spend time eating, reading, playing games, or talking
- Minimum of one school year (two semesters)

## BEST FIT TO BEST FRIENDS

Our recipe for creating meaningful one-to-one friendships includes matching Bigs and Littles based on personality, interests, and location.

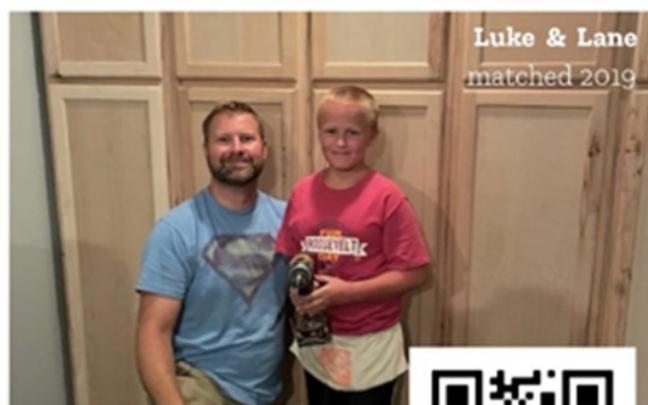
## WHY MENTORING MATTERS

Our alumni Littles say:

- 65% agreed their Big helped them reach a higher level of education that they thought possible
- 86% said their relationship with their Big has helped them make better choices throughout their adult life.
- 90% agreed their Big made them feel better about themselves.

## READY TO BE MATCHED?

- 1 Info Session**  
Sign up for a brief info session to learn more about becoming a Big.
- 2 Interview**  
We will schedule a time to sit down to get to know you and send required paperwork to be completed.
- 3 File Showing**  
You'll receive information on a youth who we believe are a best-fit match for you, and have the opportunity to read about them and ask questions.
- 4 Match Meeting**  
We will contact your selected Little and family to inform them they have been chosen. Your first match meeting will be set up to break the ice, and then you are free to start spending time together!



Luke & Lane  
matched 2019



SCAN TO VOLUNTEER  
KANSASBIGS.ORG



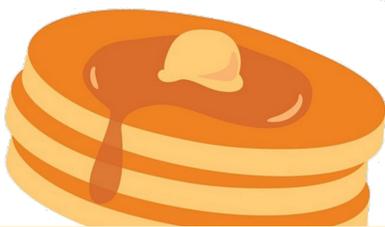
1200 Main Street, Suite 102  
Hays, KS 67601  
785.625.6672



A big thank you to the STUCO group at Hays Middle School for their kindness and ambition to make a difference! They arranged a food drive and collected lots of goodies for First Call for Help.



St. Nicholas of Myra hosted the tri-parish mission this year on March 9-11. Joel Stepanek is an international speaker, author, and youth minister. He was the featured speaker and proved to have very dynamic sessions over the topic of "Trust and Freedom." Reception followed with a surprise cake for Fr. Damian Richards', Pastor at St. Nicholas of Myra, 60th birthday.



The Lions Club had a sausage and pancake feed on March 11, at the Hays National Guard Armory. Proceeds support Hays community organizations and projects. (Did you notice the pancake at the top of the picture...And in case you are wondering...yes, he caught it!)