

*"Praise the LORD, my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits —  
who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases,  
who redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and compassion."  
Psalm 103:2-4*



# ENGAGED IN THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION De Soto Baptist Church

Pastor, Richard Copeland — Minister of Visitation, Jeff Hodges — 913.585.1026 — [www.desotobaptistchurch.org](http://www.desotobaptistchurch.org) — 8655 Copeland Way, De Soto, KS 66018



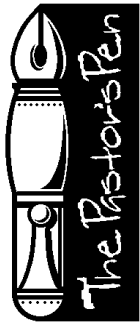
## FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

**WOW!** Where do I begin??? There are so many thoughts running through my mind and going in all directions during this time of many uncertainties. I am thinking of those of our Church Family, as well as those who are actively helping on the *front lines*. Let us *actively* thank God for each and all of these. We think of, and lift to God's provision, those trying to survive Home-schooling. . . loss of jobs . . . special health challenges . . . separation by many miles from family members . . . and the list is endless. We need to especially pray for those who are terrified, and for good reason. It goes without saying that we continue to pray for those who have and are losing loved ones during this time. And let us also be thankful for those who are following the guidelines prescribed in the interest of safety for us all.

While this time has brought unique challenges, more significantly it's brought new and expanded outreach from De Soto Baptist Church! Words of gratitude cannot adequately express the *new ministry outreach*, made possible through the gifting of Aaron Brownell with the filming and producing online of our very significant services of this Lenten Season. While this came about very quickly, as musicians would say, "We didn't miss a beat!" At the writing of this, those who've contributed to our Worship leadership include Jeff and Richelle Hodges, Jon Copeland, Rick Walker, Doug Opdycke, Caleb Martin, and Matt and Rhonda Burns, all of whom we recognize and express deep appreciation for the sharing of their God-given talents. As Pastor, I am deeply grateful for what these contributions mean for our Christian witness and outreach. And especially significant and to be grateful for God's provision in this is that we're aware of literally hundreds (no exaggeration!) outside our congregation who have watched and communicated about our services – both within the community of DeSoto and reaching to the boundaries of our nation!!!

It seems to me that this is a time of personal reflection as to what is of the utmost importance in this life. In times of difficulty or confusion or wondering WHY God would allow something as devastating as this current situation to take place in our lives I put to the test the confidence found in Romans 8:28 . . . "*We know that all things work together for good to those who LOVE the Lord and are CALLED according to His purpose.*" For some this test is much greater than for others. However, I do believe that some valuable and meaningful good WILL come out of this challenging experience. This is truly an opportunity to emerge as better people IF we ACCEPT and RESPOND to God's call on our lives, and I believe this WILL happen. I envision an increase among God's people of more gratitude and caring, as well as a greater awareness of potential to be drawn closer to Christ in LOVE and SERVICE, or for some to make first time decisions of ACCEPTANCE of the Risen Lord as PERSONAL LORD and SAVIOUR.

*continued on next page...*



## FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN... continued

As we go through this difficult time let us remember that our Lord went through a difficult time also as He faced the Cross in the Garden of Gethsemane. And what was it that carried Him through what could be described as a fearful time? It was prayer and the knowledge He knew that He was not alone. So during these difficult days, my prayer is for each of us to hold fast to this comforting truth today, as applicable today as it was those centuries ago. . . so accurately expressed in these words from a hymn often sung today . . . *"O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our Eternal home."*

In His love and promise ~

*Pastor Richard*



## WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, we are streaming our weekly worship services online. All church activities have been canceled until further notice. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any prayer requests, concerns or needs during this time. Though we cannot physically meet at the church building, we are together in prayer and seek to support each of you during this uncertain time.

**The link to view present and past worship services can be found on our church website at [www.desotobaptistchurch.org](http://www.desotobaptistchurch.org) or on our Facebook account.**



You can also find family devotions, newsletters. Under the MEMBERS tab you can find the current Church Directory with member pictures, names and contact information as well as church Business Meeting Minutes, just click on the Members tab.



## TITHES & OFFERINGS . . .

**THANK YOU!!!** To those who have been submitting Tithes and Offerings  
to: DeSoto Baptist Church  
PO Box E - DeSoto, KS 66018



## SNAPSHOT VIEWS FROM EASTER & PAST SUNDAYS

*After including excerpts from the Palm Sunday sermon in the newsletter, the request came to continue this with the Easter and post-Easter sermons as well. Thus, we're doing this for the inclusion especially of those who may not have electronic access to watch and hear what we post on the church website. So here is a snapshot view of the last two messages of April!*

### EASTER SUNDAY SERMON RECAP "EMPTY EASTER"

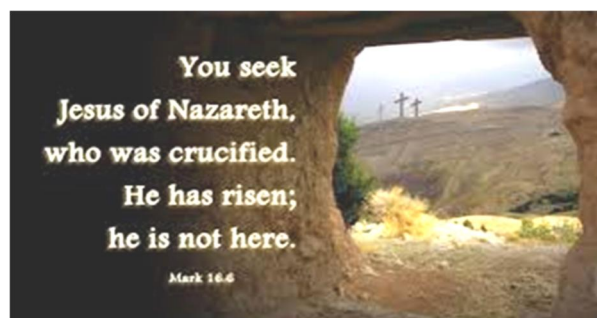
**Introduction:** Reference was made to the different kinds of Easter celebrated this year. Inclusions include empty churches, sanctuaries, choir lofts, Easter baskets from no Easter Egg hunt at De Soto Baptist! And from this comes a reminder of that first Easter.

- I. There was the empty cross, a stark reality of the death of Jesus.
- II. There were empty hearts. Matthew 28:1-6 – Mary Magdalene and the other Mary as well as the Disciples and other followers had hearts void of Hope, Joy, Peace, and Salvation in Christ. This reminds us of the emptiness referred to by the prophet Habakkuk in Habakkuk 3:17-18. Where now was the Salvation of the Lord, worthy of rejoicing?
- III. The tomb, while empty, it actuality brought the "Good News" as announced by the angel and confirmed by the appearance of Jesus to many!

**Conclusion:** This is the Good News of Easter that cannot be taken from us as we accept the Risen Lord into our lives as our personal Savior.

#### Thoughts for individual reflection or discussion with others:

- What various ways have you celebrated Easter in the past, beginning as a child?
- What could hunting symbolize? The Easter Egg? The full basket?
- What does Easter mean to you today?
- How does the meaning affect your dealing with our present crises?





## SUNDAY AFTER EASTER - SERMON RECAP

### “AFTER THE RESURRECTION”

**Introduction:** Reference to obvious changes . . .

Luke 24:44-48, Empty heart is now filled with hope, joy, peace, and salvation.

#### Other Significant Responses Which Included:

- I. Doubting and Disbelief – John 20:24-27, Other followers of Christ doubted also. If it is too good to be true, it probably is!
- II. Defiance – The rise of great persecution with Saul of Tarsus leading this Movement with great fury.
- III. Declaration – In spite of persecution, Followers of “The Way” were courageous in putting forth the “Good News” of a Risen Savior. Ironically, Saul of Tarsus was converted and then became the courageous leader in declaring the truth of the Good News.

#### Thoughts for individual reflection or discussion with others:

- Discuss the changes mentioned and other changes you might think of.
- How did you come to believe that the risen Christ was truth? What changes did this bring to your life?
- How or when has your Faith ever been challenged? Is your faith weakened or strengthened by today's crises? In what ways?



## A SPECIAL PRAYER ON MEMORIAL DAY

As we remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy every day, we think of how they have followed in the footsteps of your son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

***Please hold our servicemen and women in your strong arms.*** Cover them with your sheltering grace and your presence as they stand in the gap for our protection.

***We also remember the families of our troops.*** We ask for your unique blessings to fill their homes, and we pray your peace, provision, and strength will fill their lives.

***May the members of our armed forces be supplied with courage to face each day*** and may they trust in the Lord's mighty power to accomplish each task.

***Let our military brothers and sisters feel our love and support.***

In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Mary Fairchild  
About.Com





## A MOMENT WITH JO

And remember the words of the Lord Jesus Christ that He said...

*"It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35*

We were out of distilled water for our gold cart batteries and we needed to find some. I had a mask and gloves and went to a grocery store and a medical supplies store, before going to a Dollar General, where yes, they had it. Trying to self-distance, I went to the back of the store where a man was tearing open a heavy plastic covering of the water. I was very grateful as I do not think I could have opened it. He handed me 3 bottles, which were quite heavy, and walked to the front of the store to pay. There was a line and I asked a woman if she were the end of the line as she was around the corner of the aisle with a cart and young daughter. Yes, she was, but she told me to go ahead of her as she could see I was struggling with the water. I told her thank you, but I would scoot one bottle with my foot and it would be fine. She laughed and said they were not in a hurry and please go ahead. We had a nice visit as we waited and she went to one cashier and I to another. As I looked in my purse, there was no coin purse and I remember I had ordered online and left it on my sofa. I was embarrassed as I was holding up the line and said, "My husband is in the car, I will bring back the money.". The young woman said "No, I have it", and gave the cashier the money. Now I really was embarrassed and told her that I would pay her back for it. She told the cashier not to tell me how much it was and told me to *"Pay It Forward"* to someone else. Thank you very much, I told her, you have touched my heart and I will.

A week earlier, a friend asked if she could bring her nephew to our home as he was seeking a deeper walk with Jesus and had questions. They came and we had such a wonderful time sharing about the Lord Jesus. We prayed and I told him he could call me for prayer or to talk. The day after the woman payed my bill, the young man called me and we prayed and I told him I was going to order a book for him. He said, that would be fine, but he wanted to pay for it. Good time to *"Pay It Forward"*, so I told him the story and I said, that I was sure we would do the same thing. When the book arrived, I called him and he said he would be right over. As I opened the door and stood back, he handed me a bouquet of flower and said, "Miss Jo, these are for your help and gift, thank you so much." You can tell he is a fine southern Christian man. Our Lord Jesus Christ is so gracious and kind to His children. Remind me, Lord, to *"Pay It Forward"* more often. What a joy.

— Jo Sweatt



## Finance Report — February, 2020

Bal. Forward	\$ 25,885.78
Deposits	\$ 26,627.00
Disbursements	\$ 16,499.23
Ending Balance	\$ 35,913.55
Savings/Improvement	\$ 195,911.49

THANK YOU FOR  
GIVING BACK TO GOD!



# Congratulations

## CLAS|S| OF 2|0|2|0



**Faythe Reeves**

**Graduating from De Soto High School**  
Plans to attend the University of Kansas  
and major in Expanded Media.

*Daughter of Pat & Tami Reeves  
Granddaughter of Glen & Ruby Nelson*



**Sam McQuality**

**Graduating from DeSoto High School**  
Will attend either Kansas State or Wichita  
State to obtain a bachelor's degree.

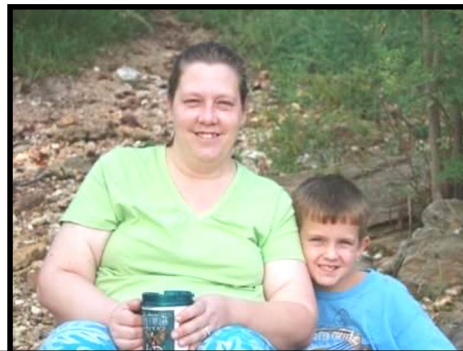
*Son of Matt & Leah McQuality*



**Ella Haden**

**Graduating from De Soto High School**  
Plans to attend JOCO in the fall with  
STEM cell research the ultimate goal.

*Daughter of Mark & Donna Haden  
Granddaughter of Danny & Dee Mandich  
Great Granddaughter of Darrel Zimmerman*



**Lucas S. Beggs**

**Graduating from De Soto High School**  
Plans on working at the Johnson County  
Sheriff's Office and becoming a Deputy.

*Son of Brian & Teresa Beggs  
Grandson of AC & Vickie Haulmark*



**Cole E. Towner**

**Graduating from De Soto High School**  
Plans to play soccer for Mid America Nazarene  
University and study psychology.

*Son of Jeremy and Jamie Towner  
Grandson of Larry & Cheryl Towner*



**Daliss Gulley**

**Graduating from De Soto High School**  
Plans to attend Pittsburg State University  
in the fall and major in Nursing.

*Daughter of Bob & Sandi Gulley  
Niece of Larry & Donna Gulley*



**If you have a graduate that you would like to honor  
email - [desotobaptistkschurch@gmail.com](mailto:desotobaptistkschurch@gmail.com)**





# Congratulations

## CLASS OF 2020



### **Morgan Blubaugh**

**Graduating from Mill Valley High School**  
Plans to attend Pittsburg State University and major in Biology/Pre-Med.

*Daughter of Joe & Dana Blubaugh  
Granddaughter of John & Julie Riffel*



### **AJ Quisenberry**

**Graduating from BasehorLinwood High School**  
Plans to attend JCCC then Pittsburg State to major in Construction Management.

*Son of Aaron & Tricia Quisenberry  
Grandson of Rick & Patti Hollingsworth*



### **Hayley Ritter**

**Graduating from De Soto High School**  
Plans to attend Pittsburg State and major in Nursing, also hoping to participate in Cheer.

*Daughter of Kevin and Sara Ritter  
Granddaughter of Bob Welch  
Great Niece of James & Reta Ellis  
Great-Great Niece of Jean Epperson*



### **Larry W Gulley III**

**Graduating from Eudora High School**  
Plans to join the Navy

*Son of Larry Jr and Amy Gulley*



### **Kailyn Grace Rodgers**

**Graduating from De Soto High School**  
Plans to attend JCCC and work part-time for an Insurance Company.

*Daughter of Karen Rodgers  
Granddaughter of Reta Jenks*

# 2020 Graduate



### **Dakota Taggart-Allen**

**Graduating from Lawrence High School**

Taking college classes in auto mechanics with the plan to one day have his own autobody/custom shop.

*Son of Dennis & Chrissy Allen  
Grandson of James & Reta Ellis*

### **Samantha Gulley**

**Graduating from Central Methodist University**  
Plans to attend Chiropractic School

*Daughter of Larry Jr and Amy Gulley*

### **Sydney Gulley**

**Graduating from Emporia State University**

Plans to become a Special Education teacher

*Daughter of Larry Jr and Amy Gulley*



## De Soto Food Pantry - Monetary Donations Needed

Due to COVID-19, the De Soto Food Pantry will no longer offer in person shopping. However, they will be handing out pre-filled bags including meat to our clients at the front door. New Hours are Wed 6:30-8 pm and Sat 9-10:30 am.

**Thank you so much for supporting this vital resource in our community!**

*The food pantry is located in the same building as City Hall and the Community Center. Anyone with a DeSoto address or a student enrolled in the DeSoto School District, and that can show proof of residency, is eligible to shop.*



## ONE DE SOTO RELIEF FUND For citizens of De Soto affected by COVID-19

The De Soto Food Pantry has created a fund called ***One De Soto Relief Fund***. This fund will help our citizens affected by COVID-19. Our greatest need at this time is for monetary donations. Citizens of De Soto affected by COVID-19 can look on the *De Soto Kansas Food Pantry* Facebook page for information on how to apply for a grant from One De Soto Relief Fund.

Donations can be specified to go towards One De Soto Relief Fund or De Soto Food Pantry. Checks can be made to either fund and mailed to 32905 W. 84th, De Soto or dropped off to Lori at Cedar Creek Pharmacy. *Thank you for your support.*



## Doers of the Word ZOOM into a new experience

Our women's bible study is now trying out the process of live group-talk from home with the use of the internet program of ZOOM. If you have a computer and you use the internet, this is really a simple process. We will be meeting via ZOOM on the **second** and **fourth** Monday in May. Please contact Mary Etta Copeland (583-1425) or Karen Wall (669-1991) if you would like to join our group. We will need your email address to have you join our discussions.

Our women's group is designed to be "doers" not just "hearers" of God's Word . . . to learn, to share, to pray for one another; to encourage one another and do good for those within and outside our group. We are studying the book From Messy to Meaningful and we have extra books for any newcomers. No worries about starting late - this is a book you can pick up in the middle with no problems.

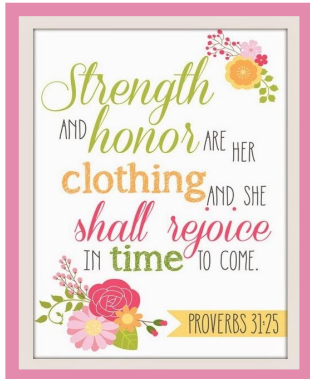


## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — The Book of ACTS 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays on each month, 6:30-7:30 pm

**Led by Matt Burns—Meeting temporarily moved to church basement.**  
*Social distancing will be observed and face masks encouraged.*

*"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17*





## A MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER



Dear Father,

We approach your throne on behalf of the mothers whom you have entrusted with the care of your most precious little ones. We thank you for creating each mom with a unique combination of gifts and talents. We thank you for the sacrifice of self each mom gives for her children. For the late nights spent rocking a colicky infant. For the hands calloused from washing, wiping, scrubbing, mixing, baking, stirring, hugging, patting, disciplining, holding, writing, erasing, painting, and pouring.

**We thank you for the gift of time moms give for their kids,** whether it's stay-at-home moms, working moms, and moms who have some combination of the two. We thank you for the flexibility of moms, for their tirelessness, their perseverance, and their devotion.

**We pray you give each mom strength.** Help her to see in every mundane task the eternal, cosmic significance that you place on motherhood. Help her to understand that the most radical, world-changing events may be happening anonymously in her home. Help her to forgive those who undermine her significance.

**We especially pray for single moms,** who must lean solely on you for the fathering of their children. We thank you that you're big arms surround children who may never know their earthly father. We also pray for mother who never had the honor of bearing children, but whose nurturing extends to the many poor and needy who cross the threshold of their lives.

**We ask you to be the daily bread of tired mothers.** We ask you to be their living water. We ask you to be their source of spiritual and physical strength. We pray that the same grace that flowed from Father to Son to us in salvation will flow from mothers to their children. We pray that each mother rejects perfectionism and instead embraces the goodness of the gospel. We pray the rhythms of repentance and forgiveness shape every home.

**Lord, give each mother a worshipful reverence of you,** the Creator and Sustainer of life. Help each mother to rest in the knowledge that they are but stewards of your children and that only your Spirit can produce change into the hearts of each boy and girl. May each mother find rest in you.

Most of all, Lord, on this day in which we honor mothers, may we love and cherish the special women who have born us, who have nurtured us, and who have prayed for our well-being. May our hearts overflow with gratitude to you, who formed and knitted each of us in a mother's womb.






Daniel Darling

<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/prayer/mother-s-day-prayers-to-encourage-and-uptift.html>



# May 2020

## De Soto Baptist Church Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	 Happy May Day!	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10  Happy Mother's Day	11 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (In Basement) & Women's Bible Study (Online Zoom Mtg.)	12	13 Pray for Central Region Churches	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25  Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30
31 Pentecost						

# May 2020

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>Chris &amp; Allison Haynes</i>	2 Marilyn Etherton
3	4 Cheryl Towner	5 Allison Haynes	6 Gary Crowley Larry Gulley Jr. Jake Miller Samantha Tush	7 Amy Culver	8 Paula Rhodes	9 <i>Terry &amp; Paula Rhodes</i> Dennis Allen Brandon Prince
10	11 Emma Brownell	12 <i>Whitney &amp; Brandi Hastings</i> River Hastings	13 Maya Huang	14 Caleb Martin Kaylynn DeRoulet Jack Miller Kyle Walker	15 Heidi Copeland	16 Kathy Hayden
17 Jennifer McDaniel Jamie Nelson Tari Thompson	18 Leland Lister	19 Corey Sipe	20	21 <i>Shane &amp; Rachel Muhl</i>	22 <i>Jeff &amp; Traci Griffin</i> Barb Beesley	23
24	25 Nicholas Cardiff Mary Jo McDaniel	26 <i>Don &amp; Tara Bartholomew</i> Brody Serigny	27 Lilly Champlain	28	29 <i>Calvin &amp; Kelly Hayden</i> Shawn & Kim Pew	30 Gene Cosby Cassandra Miller Jo Sweatt Ken Warsop Junelle Woolery
31 Rhonda Burns Paul Hughes Noah Phillips	 <i>Walt &amp; Mary Jo McDaniel</i>					 <i>Dean &amp; Karen Wall</i> <i>Dennis &amp; Diana Zwahlen</i>



Engaged in the Ministry of Reconciliation

De Soto Baptist Church  
Richard G. Copeland, Pastor  
P.O. Box E  
De Soto, Kansas 66018

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MAY 2020

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