



## A FLOWERED CROSS

On Easter morning at the main entrance of **FPC Derby** all were greeted by a “Flowered Cross”. The usual barren wooden cross was transformed by the adding of flowers to symbolize the new life in the risen Christ.

References to flowered crosses began appearing in art around the 6<sup>th</sup> century. A legend is that the tears of Mary shed at the foot of the cross miraculously turned into flowers.

“Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark,” several ladies from our church came and mounted the flowers generously given by Rowan’s Flower Shop, Mulvane.

**FPC Independence** held online services for Maundy Thursday but opened their Sanctuary for Good Friday’s *Silent Meditation Time* with guided scripture reading.

Below is a picture of the children from **FPC Wichita**. Palm Sunday was the first time families were back in the building for an event. There was certainly joy in the air as they all celebrated the start of Holy Week and the waving of the palm leaves.



# On The Wind

A Publication of the  
Presbytery of Southern Kansas  
May 2021

[www.pbysk.org](http://www.pbysk.org)

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I and your PCT have been working over the past few months to consider ways forward for PSK and discern needs and callings relevant to our churches across the region. In doing this work, several of us were privileged to attend a webinar sponsored by the Synod of Lincoln Trails. The keynote speaker was Susan Beaufort, whose most recent book is entitled *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going.*

This title alone seems apropos for the times in which we live. This is a relatively short book with some compelling ideas and hope, as well as assurance that we are not the only ones experiencing the challenges we are facing.

I would commend this book to you and ask you to watch for future news. We would like to have some conversations using the materials in the book, and possibly invite Susan to speak to us either in an online format or at a future live gathering. Stay tuned...

*“A congregation that is not growing is dying. However, growth won’t necessarily be reflected numerically. It doesn’t have to involve more bodies in worship or in membership, or more dollars in the budget. It should involve growth related to the congregation’s proximate purpose: deepening spiritual practices, integrating kids with special needs into the life of the congregation, strengthening intergenerational connections, and the like. A leader trying to move an organization away from general aspirations about growth, toward a more specific purpose, can ask these questions. Growth to what end; what will growth accomplish that is central to our mission? Who will benefit from growth? Is growth possible or even desirable? Where will growth come from?”* Susan Beaufort

visit: <https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/68884811-how-to-lead-when-you-don-t-know-where-you-re-going-leading-in-a-liminal>

May you see growth in this season, *Gail*



The cross at **FPC Dodge City** was filled with fresh flowers and greens on Easter morning prior to worship. The church is located on a very busy street so the congregation reaches a lot of folks indirectly with their Lenten/Easter cross!

## Blessing Box

In April, **Trinity Presbyterian Church** installed a Blessing Box on Marigold Street in front of the west entrance to the Sanctuary and across the street from the elementary school. Contribution of food will be added as needed. This mission to the community is an undertaking of the church's Mission Committee.



**The Presbytery of Southern Kansas meets on Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. Instructions for the meeting will be sent out shortly.**

**FPC Winfield** held both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services during Holy Week in their Fellowship Hall. A lovely sunrise service was enjoyed on the lawn on Easter morning with the annual Lou MacKillop Breakfast following. This breakfast is a fundraiser for the youth of the church. After worship the children were invited to an Easter Egg Hunt.

## FPC Derby held a Day of Evangelistic Prayer

The Missions and Evangelism Committee presented a Day of Evangelistic Prayer on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Participants signed up for a time and once they arrived at the church, they were afforded as much time as they wanted. Upon arrival at the church, participants were given a Prayer Guide, each person would work through five stations in different parts of the building. At each station a person would have time contemplation with scripture, questions to prompt contemplation and then be encouraged to take time to pray. At the end of Station 5, each participant was challenged to commit to praying daily for one of the FPC Derby missionaries, one family member who needs to know Christ and one friend who needs to know Christ. There was a commitment card on the back of the Prayer Guide to fill in the names of the missionary, family member and friend. The 5 Stations focused on:

- Station 1 – Praise & Repentance
- Station 2 – Prayer for Leaders (world, federal, state, local)
- Station 3 – Prayer for Missionaries & Unreached Peoples
- Station 4 – Prayer for the Lost (in your own life)
- Station 5 – Prayer of Commitment



At a recent Synod of Mid-America Assembly meeting, the Transitional Synod Executive Nominating Committee presented the search and discernment process that led to the introduction of Ruling Elder Luis Antonio (Tony) De La Rosa. His Synod work formally begins on May 1, 2021.

*"The Search Committee is excited for this time of visioning and transition as we lean into whatever God has next for the Synod and the continued ministry and mission to which we are called. Tony's leadership and experience inspires confidence and joy within us as we begin this time together."*

