

## Message from Pastor Jeff

School started today in Bartlesville with about 80% of the students back in the school buildings and we are collectively holding our breath to see what will happen with COVID19. That's what you will see on the news today.

Let me give you a quick update of things I know about our community. Of the people I know personally, and the family of those I talk to in our church, almost every person who has tested positive for COVID19 have recovered with almost no lasting issues. This includes mostly persons who are more susceptible to issues related with COVID19. This includes persons in their 90s with multiple health concerns down to youth, persons with diabetes and other health issues. I believe God is working among us to help us get through this virus. I've been praying as so many have, and I know God answers prayer.

It will be interesting to see what happens in the immediate future, but don't be shocked when you see God's protection being very evident.

*Jeff*

## CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

This week promises to be one that requires grace in every sense of the word. Many of you may not know that, along with being on staff here at the church, I also work full time for the Bartlesville school district as a technology integration specialist. My wife, Hannah, also teaches for the district. With students heading back to school this week, either virtually or on ground, everyone is preparing for the unknown and unprecedented. There will be differing opinions on all sorts of subjects, including whether or not we should be in school. Believe me, I've been a part of many of those conversations! My hope, especially for our East Cross members, is that we remember the words of Paul as he wrote to the Ephesians while in prison, specifically in chapter 4, verse 29: "Don't let any foul words come out of your mouth. Only say what is helpful when it is needed for building up the community so that it benefits those who hear what you say." (CEB). I pray that our church is one that encourages, prays for, and builds up those who are in difficult positions and have to make very tough decisions in the coming school year!

God Bless,

*Zack Michel, Contemporary Music Director*

## Prayer Requests...

Vicki Evans (Connie Black's daughter-in-law's mother), Jim Rowe (preacher Free Will Church in Vera)

## Church Office Hours

Monday—Thursday, 8am-5pm

Call 918-333-0810 to let us know you are stopping by and stay in touch.

## CALENDAR—August

- 14 8:30am-12:30pm ECC PDO/Preschool Open House
- 16 8:30am & 11am Worship // 9:45am Small Groups
- 16 2:15pm VIM Required Meeting for Camp Egan Trip
- 17 9:30am ECC PDO/Preschool
- 17 7:00pm Trustees
- 18 6:00pm Piecemaker Quilters
- 18 6:30pm Cub Scouts—Pack 15

## NURSERY MINISTRY

With school starting back, let's keep all the children, teachers, all school staff and parents in our prayers. Through this pandemic I've learned to never lose hope. Even when things seem so hopeless, God has a plan. Keep your faith in Him and cherish each day. Life is a beautiful gift.

This month the children will begin learning about the miracles of Jesus, and we will try to teach the encouragement Jesus brings during this time of going back to school.

We continue to clean and sanitize each room. Staff will continue to wear masks and children are encouraged to wash hands often.

*Liz VanDeVenter*, Nursery Director

## REQUIRED VIM MEETING SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 2:15PM

For Camp Egan Trip // October 18-23

Projects will be painting in the camp, building 10-20 picnic tables, and possibly building raised flower beds.

## Frances Willard Ministry Center Volunteers needed on August 20

Projects for this 1/2 day VIM include tearing down a shed and emptying a storage building.

Meet at East Cross at 7:45am to carpool to Frances Willard. Lunch on your own.

Contact Bill Amburn 918.607.9911 or [bill.amburn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bill.amburn@sbcglobal.net) for information.

## Ways you can give.



Website

[www.eastcross.org](http://www.eastcross.org)  
Menu tab top of page  
Click "Give Online"



App



Mail

East Cross UMC  
820 S Madison Blvd.  
Bartlesville, OK 74006

## CONNECT WITH A SMALL GROUP!

### Sundays

9:45am All Ages

6:00pm PG (Parental Guidance)  
(2nd & 4th Sundays)

### Mondays

6:30pm Young Adults (2nd & 4th)

WORSHIP → CONNECT → SERVE → WELCOME