



May 2025

Sharon Springs Methodist Church
Pastor Rokovasa "Zac" Vakadewatabu
529 W. 6th Ave. / P.O. Box 339
Sharon Springs, KS 67758

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <i>May Day</i>	2	3
4 Holy Communion	5 Girl Scouts meet from 3:15 to 5:15	6	7 No Midweek Manna Service This Week SSMW Salad Luncheon 12:00 P.M.	8	9	10
11 Happy Mother's Day No Basket Dinner	12	13	14	15 SSMW Birthday Party @ Hope Springs Care Center	16	17
18 Administrative Council meeting	19 VBS 8:30—11:30	20 VBS 8:30—11:30	21 VBS 8:30—11:30	22 VBS 8:30—11:30	23 VBS 8:30—11:30	24
25	26 	27	28	29	30	31

IN HONOR OF MOTHER'S DAY

Question: "What does the Bible say about Christian mothers?"

<https://www.gotquestions.org/mothers-Christian.html>

Answer: Being a mother is a very important role that the Lord chooses to give to many women. A Christian mother is told to love her children (Titus 2:4-5), in part so that she does not bring reproach on the Lord and on the Savior whose name she bears.

Children are a gift from the Lord (Psalm 127:3-5). In Titus 2:4, the Greek word *philoteknos* appears in reference to mothers loving their children. This word represents a special kind of "mother love." The idea that flows out of this word is that of caring for our children, nurturing them, affectionately embracing them, meeting their needs, and tenderly befriending each one as a unique gift from the hand of God.



THE SECRET OF CONTENTMENT

I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation.

Philippians 4:11-12

Learning the secret of contentment helps us endure life's challenges and keeps us in the race for the long haul. Paul learned to be content in the midst of trials, "in any and every situation."

But contentment didn't come naturally to Paul any more than it comes naturally to us. Paul had to learn contentment—and some of the classrooms where he was tutored were brutal. From being imprisoned, shipwrecked, bitten by a snake, to being stoned and left for dead, Paul endured and learned to be content.

True contentment comes when we choose to depend on Christ and to trust that He is doing a good work inside of us despite all of the external challenges to our faith. It's trusting Jesus that He gives us what we need when we need it to endure and overcome.

True contentment is in the presence of Jesus, not in the absence of difficulties. "Be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you'" (Hebrews 13:5).

*I find contentment in Your presence, Lord Jesus, and
I know You are trustworthy. Your presence is more*

THE LOVE OF GOD

Like a cradle, rocking, rocking.

Silent, peaceful, to and fro,

Like a mother's sweet looks dropping

On the little face below.

Hangs the green earth, swinging, turning,

Jarless, noiseless, safe and slow;

Falls the light of God's face; bending

Down and watching us below.

And as feeble babes that suffer,

Toss and cry, and will not rest,

Are the ones the tender mother

Holds the closest, loves the best;

So when we are weak and wretched,

By our sins weighed down, distressed,

Then it is that God's great patience

Holds us closest, loves us best.

O great Heart of God! Whose loving

Cannot hindered be nor crossed;

Will not weary, will not even

In our death itself be lost—

Love divine! Of such great loving

Only mothers know the cost,

Cost of love, which all love passing,

Gave a Son to save the lost.

—Saxe Holm
From Tapestries of Life



Note from Pastor Zac

I am currently on my way to Charlotte, NC, to speak at the Samaritans Purse/Operation Christmas Child National Connect Conference, and I'm excited to write this month's newsletter. It is a true privilege to represent our church on the national stage, and I feel deeply grateful for your continued support as I embark on this journey.

April was a month filled with blessings for our church family. I had the joy of preaching at Hope Springs on Palm Sunday, where I connected with the residents and spent valuable time with Pastor Paul McNall, whose wisdom is always a blessing. I also want to thank Bev Elder for her beautiful piano playing during the service. On Holy Monday, I led a devotion at the Senior Center, and I'm grateful to Emily Bolen and the Methodist Women for providing a delicious breakfast, as well as to everyone who joined us for a wonderful morning of fellowship.

Holy Week was truly a highlight for us, as we moved from Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday, followed by Good Friday's Tenebrae Service, and

culminated in the joy of Easter Sunday. Our Easter morning began with the Sunrise Service at the Fort Wallace Museum. I want to thank everyone who participated; hearing the organ in the old chapel was a soulful way to start Easter Sunday! I also appreciate those who contributed breakfast that morning—it was a sweet time of fellowship. Our Easter service overflowed with joy! We enjoyed a meaningful Children's Time lesson, listened to the beautiful performance of "You Raised Me Up" by the Garcia girls as our special music, and had a fantastic time during our Easter Egg Hunt. Furthermore, we celebrated the baptisms of my children and the confirmation of Kathryn and Jaelyn, officially welcoming them into our church family.

I have also cherished the opportunity to connect with our members who could not attend in person. Being able to talk on the phone and visit them to deliver communion has been a blessing. Another highlight of the month was concluding our Sunday evening Bible study on "Jesus the Stranger." I have enjoyed the fellowship and learned so much from everyone involved—thank you for being a part of that Lenten journey with me.

Looking ahead, May will be a busy month. I will attend a GMC conference in The Woodlands, TX, and I eagerly anticipate the learning and fellowship there. At the end of the month, Debra Fischer and I will represent our church at the Annual Conference in Claremore, OK. May also brings Mother's Day, and I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the mothers in our congregation for the love and care you provide to your families and our church—truly, you are such a blessing! This day reminds me of the incredible women who shaped my faith. My mother gifted me my first and only Christmas present from OCC as a child and was my Sunday school teacher, planting seeds of faith that grew over the years. My grandmother, one of the first Methodist preachers in the church where I grew up, was another pillar in my life. They were powerhouses of prayer, and I know I am here today because of the countless prayers they raised on my behalf. I am profoundly grateful for the mothers and grandmothers in our church who continue that legacy of faith.

Thank you all for making April so special with your participation and love. I want to leave you with an encouraging verse from Philippians 1:6: **“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ”** (ESV). God is at work in each of us and in our church. Let us continue to serve together in May, trusting that God is guiding us every step of the way.

Zac Vakadewatabua

Pastor, Sharon Springs Methodist Church





On April 10, 2025 the Sharon Spring Methodist Women honored the Sharon Springs High School class of 2025 and one homeschool student. A delicious meal of smothered steak, cheesy potatoes, green beans, salads, and chocolate dessert was served. A graduation mug with their picture was given to each student. Pastor Zac opened with prayer. After the meal Dalton Walker former graduate of Wallace County High School spoke to the students. He encouraged the student that no matter what path they chose to be ready for life to change and to find a church home. Class member and Sharon Springs Methodist member, Jaelyn Daily thanked the women of the church for the meal and the church for their support throughout the years. Other guests besides the students, Dalton Walker and his wife Hailee were the class sponsors, administrator and Pastor Zac and his wife Shawna. We wish these students the best in their future endeavors.

