

This Week in History

Compiled by the Coffey County Museum, 1101 Neosho Street, Burlington. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. See their YouTube channel, Coffey Museum, for videos about the history of Coffey County.

April 25-May 1

25 years ago (1996)
 > Nearly 50 people gathered at Jones Park for an Arbor Day celebration.
 > Bill Freeman, who may be the only coach in history to have guided high school football teams to state championships in three different Kansas classes, was selected to receive the coveted Ad Lindsey Contribution to Amateur Football Award.

50 years ago (1971)
 > The first issue of the Redmond Reservoir News for 1971 is almost ready for the printer. This is printed each month April thru September and deals largely with news and feature articles about the fishing, camping, boating and other recreation on the reservoir and river.

75 years ago (1946)
 > The first of the big yellow of this season was caught by Ross Volk and Ray S. Pierson and the catfish was served at dinner. The fishermen say they had baited with soap and that a 2½ pound drum had swallowed the bait and then the 27-pound yellow swallowed the drum.

100 years ago (1921)
 > The Ten-ton Holt tractor assigned to Coffey County by the government is expected any day. The tractor has been used by the government but it is said to be in good condition and should save the county some money.

125 years ago (1896)
 > The house occupied by Charles Burnham, Spring Creek Township, was struck by a bolt of lightning that passed from the chimney to the ground. The members of the family were stunned, but not injured, and a dog that had taken shelter from the rain under the house was killed.

MENUS

Coffey County
 East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging program congregate meals are available Monday through Friday at the Burlington Senior Center (620) 364-2730, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Lebo Senior Center (620) 245-6166, and Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Waverly Senior Center. Reservation or cancellation for a meal must be made with your site by noon the day before. If you have any questions please call your local site for more information.
Monday: Chicken cacciatore, rice, Italian green beans, stewed apples, whole wheat bread and milk.
Tuesday: Sliced turkey with gravy, cornbread dressing, green peas and onions, spiced peaches, whole wheat roll and milk.
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes with gravy, carrot coins, peach cobbler, whole wheat roll and milk.
Thursday: Beef macaroni casserole, mixed vegetables, tropical mixed fruit, whole wheat bread and milk.

Friday: Pork chop, black-eyed peas, spinach, mandarin oranges, wheat roll and milk.
Lyon County
 Lyon County Congregate Friendship meals can be picked up Mon. through Fri. at Olpe, and Mon., Wed. and Fri. at Neosho Rapids. Call one day in advance for Olpe meals, (620) 475-3384 and Neosho Rapids meals, (620) 342-8232. Home delivered meals will continue as usual. Please call before 9:30 a.m. to reserve/cancel a meal at (620) 342-8232.
Monday: Ham and beans, coleslaw, peaches, cornbread and milk.
Tuesday: Beef tip with gravy, noodles, brussel sprouts, tomato salad/fruited jello, bread and milk.
Wednesday: BBQ ribette, baked potato, peas, blushing pears, rolls and milk.
Thursday: Pork pattie, mashed potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, strawberries with bananas, bread and milk.
Friday: Baked fish, au gratin potatoes, vegetable blend, cinnamon apple sauce, roll and milk.

The Coffey County Republican

Devotional Page

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Normal?

Pastor Don Haselhuhn
 Trinity Lutheran Church

their right hand and on their left." (Exodus 14:21-22).

When did it become 'normal'? Not yet, as



Pastor Don Haselhuhn

"I can't wait till everything gets back to normal!" Heard that one before? That begs the question: "What is normal?" Dictionary.com defines 'normal' as "the standard or the common type...the usual state." Merriam-webster.com defines 'normal' as "characterized by that which is considered usual, typical, or routine."

Looking at these definitions, I wanted more. Turning to God's Word, I was surprised when I typed the word 'normal' into my digital Bible. I got only one - ONE - time the word was used in the English Standard Version, which is the Bible I read on a daily basis.

Do you know where 'normal' was found? God's children were escaping slavery in Egypt. Their God-given savior, Moses, led them to the Red Sea. Then Pharaoh sent his army to get his slaves back.

At God's direction, "Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on

the enemies of God's people, "The Egyptians pursued and went in after them." (Exodus 14:23a). God saved His people as He "looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic." (Exodus 14:24b).

Not too 'normal' there. "Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared." (Exodus 14:26-27a).

When did it return to 'normal'? The Red Sea 'returned to its normal

course' as God saved His people. How 'normal' was it? The children of God were now out of Egypt, on the other side of a sea, and their captors were either dead in the water or unable to get to them. 'Normal' in this Bible event, as I hope in your life and mine, God being God, day in and day out. God saving His people. Could it be that we have lived 'normal' all along? All the way through 2020, even when we felt abnormal, God was and is still God. Now, as the world around us is searching for 'normal' God is still God.

This is how God describes Himself, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness." (Exodus 34:6). This is the normal we all need. God, the Lord, who is full of mercy and grace. Whose anger is slow, but whose love abounds as does His faithfulness. This is the same God who sent His Son, Jesus, to live, die and rise again, to take your sins away. This same God sent faith through His Spirit to you, so that you can be and are His child.

God is God, and you are His child. Life is normal, and blessed!

Why ask why?

One of the most irritating, aggravating, frustrating - and yet stimulating - questions is - "Why?" It angers parents and annoys teachers. It disturbs moments of quiet reflection when we think we have the answers to "everything," then we realize we don't. It bothers us deeply when we are asked "why" did you do this or "why" did you do that. It seems to be planted deep within the brains of children to make us defensive or angry or even feel stupid.

But "Why" is an important question. It can force us to look at what we have done or what we are about to do. It can, in all reality, keep us from doing wrong or encourage us to do what is right. David addresses the "Why" question quite frequently. In Psalm 86, however, he makes an observation and then answers it with "why."

He wrote, "I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify Your name forever." Then he adds the why for us: "For great is Your love toward me; You have delivered me from the depths of the grave."

"Praise" and "glorify" are a most important

part of our worship. When we look at these two verses together, we find an important reason to remind us why we worship God: it is because of His love and mercy.

We may not know what he is referring to when He said that "God delivered me from the depths of the grave."

And perhaps that's good. What's don't matter - God does! There are many days when we feel we are about to be "buried alive." Then, God delivers us. It's time to worship.

Visit us at SowerMinistries.org

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Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. Psalm 86:11