



Spring 2026

A NEW SEASON

Celebrating Easter... and Seeing It Take Root

What an amazing and beautiful time it is each year when believers across the world gather to celebrate the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus!

Across our neighborhoods, the “on-property” Easter celebrations hosted by our Neighborhood Teams were once again so special, fun, and inviting. Kids filled the spaces with excitement during Easter egg hunts. Families gathered for food and fellowship, building meaningful connections with one another. And through large, engaging storyboards, the Easter story was shared in a way that captured attention and hearts. At several locations, we were especially grateful for Pastor Brahian Ramon from Iglesia Renuevo, who shared the story in Spanish—helping even more neighbors hear and understand the good news. It is truly the greatest story ever told.



Because of Jesus, there is hope.
We are forgiven and made new.
We have the certainty of eternal life – for all who believe!
All thanks and praise to our gracious and glorious God!

And That Story Is Taking Root...

Recently, one of our volunteers—who also reads with students at a local elementary school—experienced a moment she didn’t expect. While reading together, a young boy suddenly asked her, “Do you know the names of all of Jesus’ disciples?” Surprised, she asked if he went to church somewhere.

He replied, “No... but there are people who come and read the Bible with us and teach us about God at the apartments. I love it.” What he was describing was one of our Neighborhood Team Bible Clubs—happening right where he lives.

A simple conversation.
A powerful reminder.
The seeds of the gospel are being planted in young hearts—right in the neighborhoods. And by God’s grace, those seeds are beginning to grow.



Steve Friesen
Spiritual Development Director



Lunch Bus

For many years now, Mission Southside has served meals to the Olathe community during the Olathe Schools Spring Break week. The goal of the Lunch Bus program is simple: provide meals to those in need, especially when school is out of session and students on free or reduced lunches have the possibility of struggling to eat three meals a day. However, at a second glance, the success of the Lunch Bus is not found in the food, although Chick-Fil-A sandwiches are fantastic, but rather in the connections being made. Our Lunch Bus serves as one of the first connecting points for Neighborhood Teams coming out of winter. From serving food to playing games to sharing Bible stories, the Lunch Bus's importance goes far beyond bringing food to people... it is more about the new and revived relationships we are able to make with those in our community, so we can better extend help through the hope found in Christ.

Idalia Morales
Big Events Resident



Cielo Groups

The women of the Mission Southside community know how to love one another well. They have created a community of love, compassion, and sharing one another's burdens. Through a once a month Women's Reunion, a group of strong, Spirit-filled women have risen to desire a community group that meets more than once a month for a meal and devotional study. Thus, the idea of "Cielo Groups" was born. Cielo, meaning "sky" or "heaven" in Spanish, is designed to build a growing network of women disciples that seek to make more disciples of Christ within our women's ministry. I have the privilege of leading the first Cielo Group that launched with 8 women. Each lady in the Cielo Group is then encouraged to find 2-3 women they can pour into, creating a true exponential, multiplying network of disciples making disciples. Please pray that these Cielo Groups will continue to take root and become a staple in the Mission Southside community for years to come!

Litzi Bautista
Women's Ministry Resident





Faith Explorers

Over 80 Elementary-age kids have attended our Summer Camp over the past 4 years at Mission Southside. It is a huge hit, and it has begged the question: how can we better harness this spiritual curiosity among the kids of our community? The question has been answered through the start of our Faith Explorers program. In development for 4 months, our Student Ministry Residency Team has launched a new program that meets on the 4th Thursday of every month with the simple goal of providing the space, leaders, and curriculum to allow elementary students to explore, learn, and grow in their faith. So far, we have seen over 25 students attend this new program, and we are excited to see how God continues to grow each group. There is an evident hunger and curiosity in our Neighborhood Team communities that is like an untamed wildfire, especially with young children.



Angie Espinal
Student Ministry Resident

Mission Southside Partners with F.O.R.G.E. Ministries

We are excited to welcome into our “space” a new ministry partner that will be serving out of our Headquarters and Ministry Center. Forge Ministries is a Christ centered non-profit whose core values are evangelism and discipleship through 5 areas of focus:

- * Men’s Bible Studies
- * Women’s Bible Studies
- * Prayer
- * Motorcycle Outreach
- * Homeless Ministry



If you are interested in plugging in with their amazing team, click the link on our homepage at www.missionsouthside.org.





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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May

Friday, May 15 – Noon - Registration opens for the Mission Southside Charity Golf Tournament

July

Monday, July 27 - Mission Southside Charity Golf Tournament

www.missionsouthside.org



JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM

Receive updates each month with key ways to pray for Mission Southside programs, teams, staff, volunteers, and neighbors. God hears and answers prayer!



2026 VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Mission Southside's relationship with DonorPerfect allows faithful donors like you to give cash or non-cash gifts simply by visiting our website at: www.missionsouthside.org All donations to Mission Southside are tax deductible under IRS rules since the ministry is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization in the State of Kansas.



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