

RELIGION

CHURCH EVENTS

GARDEN VALLEY CHURCH

1701 N. Third St.

Sunday: Life Groups for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Worship service with Pastor Steve Ensz beginning a new series in Galatians, "True Freedom: Rescued and #Blessed", Galatians 3: 1-14, 10:45 a.m.

Monday: Ladies Life Group, 7 p.m.

Wednesday: Kingdom Kids, three-year-olds to fourth grade, 6:30 p.m.; Junior High Youth Group, fifth through eighth grade, 6:30 p.m.; Senior High Youth Group, ninth through 12th grade, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday: Ladies Life Group, 9:30 a.m.; Men's Life Group, 7:30 p.m.

For more information, visit www.gardenvalleychurch.com, www.gardenvalleychurchgck.com, www.gardenvalleyyouth.com, or call (620) 276-7410.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

505 N. Eighth St.

Sunday: Adult Sunday School in Fellowship Hall, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service in the sanctuary with Pastor Bob Bates giving the message, 10:45 a.m.

The sermon will be live on YouTube at approximately 11:20 a.m. and can be seen later by accessing the church's website.

Monday: Life Group at Carol Knaus' house, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Young Adult Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Ladies Bible Study

in Fellowship Hall, 10 a.m.; Men's lunch at Time Out Restaurant, 12 p.m.; Adult Bible Study in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group meeting, downstairs at church.

Thursday: Men's Bible Study at Time Out Restaurant, 9 a.m.; Life Group at Bob and Brenda Husband's house, 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call the church from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. on Mondays through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Fridays at (620) 276-7391, email at gccob@kscoxmail.com, or go to the church website www.gardencity-cob.org.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

306 N. Seventh St.

Sunday: Sunday School in church Parlor, 9 a.m.; Children's Sunday School in church Chapel, 9 a.m.; Worship Service with Pastor Don Warren bringing the message, "Where were you? When God Answers Our Questions", Job 38: 4-7, 10 a.m.; Board meeting in church Library, 11:15 a.m.

Tuesday: Navajo Taco meetings begin in Fellowship Hall, enter through southwest door, 7 p.m.

Wednesday: Youth Groups – Peace Out (ages four through fifth grade), Chi Rho (grades six through eight), CYF (High School), all begin with a meal in the Fellowship Hall, 6-8 p.m.; Marthas and Men's Bible Study in church Library, 7-8:30 p.m.

For more information, call

620-275-5411, or visit the church's website www.fccgardenCity.com.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1719 Texas St.

Sunday: Sunday School small groups, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.; Blended Worship Service, 4 p.m.

Tuesday: For Women by Women Support Group, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Intergenerational Small Group meeting on faith-based discussions on various topics, 6:30 p.m.; evening activities, TBA.

Thursday: Noon at the Table: Small group Bible Study, noon; Grief Support Group, 5 p.m.; Individual appointments are available.

For more information on services and activities, call (620) 275-9141 or visit www.pcusagardenCity.org.

THE COMMUNITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

(United Church of Christ)

710 N. Third St.

Sunday: New Testament classes, 9 a.m.; Everyone welcome; Worship Service with guest preacher Jan Gian giving the message "Repentance and Change", 10 a.m.; Coffee and Fellowship, 11 a.m.

Tuesday: Women's Group supper at Rib Crib, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Choir practice, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday: Search Committee meeting in Judd Hall, 7 p.m.

Friday: Men's Luncheon at Time Out Restaurant, 11:45 a.m.

For more information, call (620) 275-5623.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - HOLCOMB

(Southern Baptist)

403 Emmanuel Dr.

Sunday: Adult Bible Study, 9 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday: Evening Adult Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

Visit the church's Facebook page for more information or call 620-277-0858.

KING JAMES BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Fundamentalist)

1402 E. Fulton St.

Sunday: Worship Service with Pastor Leslie R. Wilds, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The services can be seen on the church's YouTube channel.

For more information, contact the church at 620-287-6390.

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH

(A Global Methodist Church)

1719 Texas St. (In Fellowship Hall)

Sunday: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday: Women's Bible Study at Ward's Garden Café meeting room, 9-11 a.m.; Men's Bible Study at 1511 E. Fulton Terr., 7-8 p.m.

For more information call or text Faith Community Church at 620-640-4748.

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

1608 Belmont Pl.

Sunday: Worship Service with Pastor Roy E. Dixon giving the message, 9 a.m.

For more information, contact the church at 620-275-5108.

HOLY COW! HISTORY

America's first viral 'fake news' moment

BY J. MARK POWELL

InsideSources.com

We hear a lot these days about "fake news," but it's not a new complaint. In fact, one wartime reporting blunder hit America like a bombshell. Here's the story.

Mankind had never seen anything like World War I. It featured brand-new horrors such as poison gas, bombs dropped from the sky, tanks and machine guns. More than 70 million people from 32 countries fought, and 17 million died. An additional 20 million were wounded.

Folks desperately wanted the war to end. When November 1918 arrived, it seemed peace was finally within sight.

Which is where Roy Howard enters the story. He was the president of United Press (later United Press International), a news



Powell

service locked in fierce competition with rival The Associated Press.

With the war winding down, Howard was in Brest, France, on Nov. 7, meeting with Adm. Henry Wilson, the commander of American naval forces there.

Exactly what happened next is fuzzy. Wilson had just received word (either by telegram or phone) from a friend at the American Embassy in Paris that an armistice had been signed that morning. The war was over!

Journalists spend their entire career waiting for a scoop that big. And Howard had it all

to himself.

He asked Wilson if it was OK to report the news. Sure, the admiral said.

Howard sped off to the nearest telegraph office, where he violated UP's rules. All dispatches coming from France were to be signed by Howard and William Simms, UP's foreign editor. But Simms was 375 miles away in Paris. Waiting to reach him would jeopardize the exclusive.

So Howard simply forged Simms' signature and sent these words:

"URGENT – ARMISTICE ALLIES SIGNED ELEVEN [this morning] – HOSTILITIES CEASED TWO [this afternoon] HOWARD-SIMMS."

The news hit New York like a bomb. Wall Street suspended trading at 1 p.m. Stores closed, with one merchant posting in his window, "Too happy to work. Come back tomorrow!" Traffic

stopped as crowded streets turned into impromptu block parties. And of course, alcohol flowed very, very freely.

The word Americans, and all people the world over, had longed to hear was finally being said. Peace.

Except it wasn't. Across the Atlantic, the war still raged in France. Adm. Wilson's friend had merely passed along a rumor. And Howard hadn't bothered to confirm it.

When the news reached Washington, Secretary of State Robert Lansing practically tripped over himself issuing a denial. It hit the wires at 2:15 p.m.

However, the people rejected it. They clung to what they wanted to believe, that the war was indeed over, and they weren't going to let anyone take it away from them.

Angry mobs destroyed copies of newspapers that ran the denial and

even briefly attacked the Associated Press' New York office when it couldn't confirm an armistice.

Celebrations lasted all night across the country.

Yet, by the next morning, there could be no disputing it. Men were still fighting and dying in the trenches. The UP had got it wrong.

The New York Times called it "the most flagrant and culpable act of public deception" in the history of journalism.

The New York Evening Sun gloated that it hadn't reported the "fake news" as fact.

The armistice was actually signed a few days later, "on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month."

With the war really and truly over, Americans did it all over again. The so-called "False Armistice" of Nov. 7 had merely been a dress rehearsal

for the real thing on the 11th.

As for Roy Howard, he wiped the egg off his face and soldiered on. He headed the E.W. Scripps Company in 1920, which later became the Scripps Howard newspaper and broadcasting chain. He even interviewed Josef Stalin in the Kremlin in 1936. Yet, when Howard retired in 1953, his big mistake from 35 years earlier still hounded him. And always did.

"Fake news" has been around a long time. It will likely still exist a long time from now, too. And that's a fact.

J. Mark Powell is a novelist, former TV journalist and diehard history buff. He is the author of "Witness to War: The Civil War Told by Those Living Through It"; it is available now for pre-order online. He wrote this for InsideSources.com.

ASKING ERIC

Life-long friends stop sharing life's trials

BY R. ERIC THOMAS

Tribune Content Agency

Dear Eric: I have a few longtime friends. After four years of caretaking, my mom passed away from dementia. After that, I had to arrange for the selling of furnishings and the house. My 65-year-old brother who shared the house with her has cerebral palsy and required round-the-clock care. So, I had to arrange all that.

During this

a p p r o x i m a t e l y 18-month period, one friend went through and survived breast cancer and another lost her life to a brain tumor. Sadly, none of the other friends ever let me know about these sweet friends.

I know I can't feel guilty about what I didn't know about, but I feel like I needed support and still do as I mourn.

Am I so easily forgettable to not be included in these lifelong

friends' trials? I feel terribly inconsequential. The guilt I feel is becoming burdensome.

How do I move forward? They don't include me now in anything. I know I was preoccupied, but it was with good reason.

– Feeling Lost

Dear Lost: I'm so sorry. To experience this kind of social loss after the loss of your mother and your friends is terrible. I'm curious if you've been able to talk to

your friends about what shifted in your relationship and how you feel about it. It's totally understandable if you haven't had the capacity to hash it out. But some part of this may be due to miscommunication. I wonder if your friends have pulled back on updating you on hard news or their plans because they fear becoming burdens to you.

Of course, other explanations are possible. But it's possible they're

going too far in an attempt to be sensitive to your needs.

Talk to them one-on-one about where you are, where you feel your relationship is, and what you'd like to be different. You may be surprised by what you hear from them, and they may be surprised

by what you share.

Send questions to R. Eric Thomas at eric@askingeric.com or P.O. Box 22474, Philadelphia, PA 19110. Follow him on Instagram and sign up for his weekly newsletter at erictomas.com.

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Bids for the 2026 Vacuum Excavator for the City of Garden City, Kansas will be received at the Utilities Service Center, 140 Harvest Street, Garden City, Kansas, until 2 p.m. CT, January 30, 2026 at which time the bids will be opened publicly and read aloud.

Jose Chan

City of Garden City



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