



First United Methodist Church
of
Leavenworth
422 Chestnut, Leavenworth, KS 66048
913-682-5371 FUMCLVKS.ORG

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone: 913-682-5374

Educational Bldg.: 913-675-7495

E-mail: office@fumclvks.org

Office Hours—M-Th 9a-3p, Friday—9a-noon



Or visit us at FUMCLVKS.ORG

Sunday services stream at either site.

July 2021

27	28	29	30	1 8:30a Staff Meeting	2	3 Samaritans' Buffet
4 8:30a & 11a Worship	5 Church Office closed	6	7 1p Ladies Lunch	8 8:30a Staff Meeting	9	10 Serve Day
11 8:30a & 11a Worship	12 1p AIR Ministries	13 1 pm Itchin to Stitch	14 5p Grief Group 6:30p Choir	15 8:30a Staff Meeting	16	17 Phelba Wecas Celebration of Life
18 8:30a & 11a Worship	19 Youth Mission Trip 1p AIR Ministries	20 Youth Mission Trip 2p Grief Share	21 Youth Mission Trip	22 Youth Mission Trip 8:30a Staff Meeting 1 p Itchin to Stitch	23 Youth Mission Trip	24 Samaritans' Buffet
25 8:30a & 11a Worship	26 VBS 5:30 pm	27 VBS 5:30 pm	28 VBS 5:30 pm 5 p Grief Share	29 VBS 5:30 pm	30 VBS 5:30 pm	31





Thoughts from
Pastor Dave



James 5:7 – 7 Therefore, brothers and sisters, you must be patient as you wait for the coming of the Lord. Consider the farmer who waits patiently for the coming of rain in the fall and spring, looking forward to the precious fruit of the earth.

Different seasons teach us different things. I am in a season of patient endurance right now. My hope was COVID would wither and large numbers of people would return to the church for worship and ministry. The truth of the matter is we are seeing more of a trickling back. Some have been faithfully attending worship since the first time they could return. Others are every now and then. Still others have gotten out of the habit of worship and ministry so they are absent. For many reasons as various as individuals, we are at approximately 50-60% of our pre-pandemic numbers. I keep in mind that some of our faithful folks have moved away or moved upward to glory. Some opt for online. Nothing stays the same in the life of a church.

As a pastor, it is difficult to wait patiently for the coming rain because I so look forward to the precious fruit of spiritual growth. Ecclesiastes 7:8 says, “The end of a matter is better than its beginning and patience is better than pride. Maybe that is what God is teaching me in this season. I hope my pride isn’t a barrier to growth. James 1:4 tells us, “Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” I love a good full congregation on Sunday morning worship. However, I know that many people are worshipping online so the attendance is much greater than what I see. I am learning that spiritual things are often more about things I can’t see than what my senses tell me.

God’s people learn to wait. The disciples were told to wait until the Holy Spirit came. The Exile was 70 long years of endurance and suffering. God will work in his time, not mine. The precious fruit of the spirit is like the fruit of the earth. It takes time and God’s growth to produce it. Besides qualities of goodness, joy, peace and the others, I am learning patience and eagerly anticipate the return of the church family. More importantly, I am anticipating the coming of the Lord when all of our efforts will be rewarded. I long to hear the words, “Well done, good and faithful servant, enjoy your Master’s joy.” Until then, I wait and work and watch!

Dave

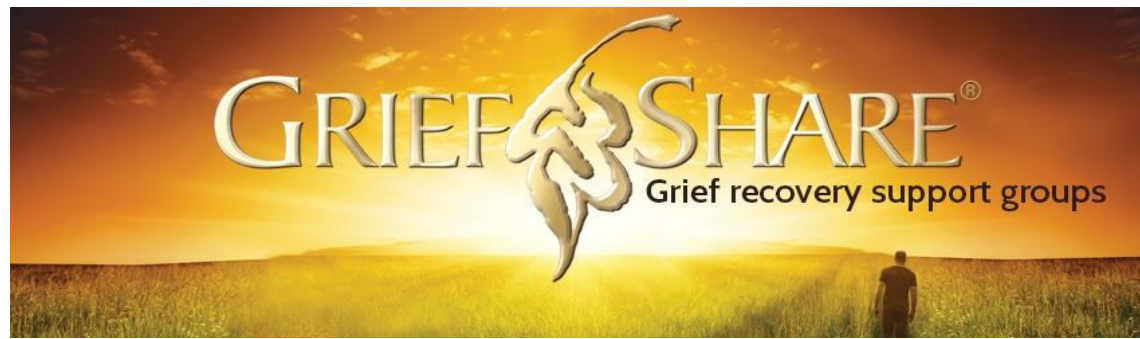


1st	Shannon Williams	13th	Lynn Goss	24th	Gary Russell
2nd	Karen Piper	14th	Jeff Eyerly	25th	Michelle Briggs
	George Short		Judy Wolfe		Elizabeth Sanders
3rd	Riley Weeks III	15th	Betty Gaumer		Rachel Sanders
4th	Jason Breghenti	18th	Corliss Fox		Tom Tish
8th	Tanner Hendrix	20th	Betty Dye	26th	Joy Defrees
9th	Vi Schott	21st	David Boyles		Cassie Pawlowski
	Cole Shepard	22nd	Andy Hall	27th	Dorothy McDonald
	Carla Wieggers	23rd	Rebecca Beasley	28th	Victor Cochran
10th	Ron Roggentien		Rodney Edington		Galen Hooser
	Rodney Yates		Ryan Johnson		Jim Walley
13th	Wyatt Brown		Lisa Shepard	31st	Sarah Smith



Did we miss your birthday or anniversary?
Please help us update our records. Send an
email with your current address, phone number
and birthdays to swood@fumclvks.org.

2nd	David & Lois Kastner	38 years
5th	Brian & Kari Anderson	18 years
6th	Steve & Margaret Songer	47 years
12th	Bill & Nancy Shade	35 years
21st	Randy & Linda Herrman	48 years
22nd	Steve & Lisa Shepard	32 years
23rd	LeRoy & Teresa Hicks	44 years
25th	Wayne & Helen Parks	40 years
29th	Kevin & June Bond	43 years
30th	Tony & Nina McNeill	38 years
	Tom & Andi Pawlowski	27 years
	Joey & Molly Sepulvado	17 years



GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone.

GriefShare support groups are led by people who understand what you are going through and want to help. Each week your GriefShare group will watch a video seminar featuring top experts on grief and recovery. This month we talked about complications to the grieving process. Witnessing a loved one's death can bring on PTSD and cause you to be unable to move forward. Another complicating factor can be when a loved one decides to end their own pain through suicide or is murdered. Whatever the reason, death of a loved one is excruciatingly painful on many levels. If you or someone you know is struggling, please don't suffer alone.

If you are interested, please contact Marsha Gaffin at 913-547-0286, marshagaffin@gmail.com, or the church office for enrollment details. Our meetings are not just for church members, they are open to anyone in the community. We currently have two groups, one is strictly for widows and widowers and meets on the third Tuesday of the month from 2-4pm. The other group is open to anyone experiencing grief and meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 5-7pm.

Dear Rev. York and Congregation,

We at the Leavenworth County Council on Aging would like to express our deepest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for your donation of \$1,500 on May 3, 2021. Donations such as this allow us to continue to offer a variety of essential services for the seniors of Leavenworth County.

This year we have experienced unprecedented growth in the number of seniors requesting support for our programs and services such as Meals of Wheels, Sr. Express Transportation to medical appointments both inside and outside of Leavenworth County and for shopping and home maintenance chores. Your donation is sure to ease the burden of and bring smiles to the face of seniors who will benefit from your generosity and the continuation of these services.

Again, thank you so much for your on-going support. We are blessed by your kindness.

Sincerely,

Connie Harmon
Executive Director.



Starting on Thursday night, Sept. 9, Pastor Dave is looking for companions to join him in growing in faith! He'll be teaching Disciple Bible Study (Short Course) for two 12 week courses. The course in the fall will be Old Testament; the course in 2022 winter/spring will be New Testament. Think of it as a two semester survey course of the Bible. In the summer of 2022, Dave will lead a 12 week course on the Absolute Basics of the Wesleyan Way. Over the course of 18 months, you'll complete a journey with other men and women who seek to grow in their discipleship. For some of you, it may be a refresher course. For others, it will be a new exploration of scripture and Methodism. Talk to Pastor Dave if you are interested in finding out more!

Pastor Dave will be preaching an overview of the Bible called, "The Long Short Story" through July, and he will start a new sermon series on the minor prophets in August.



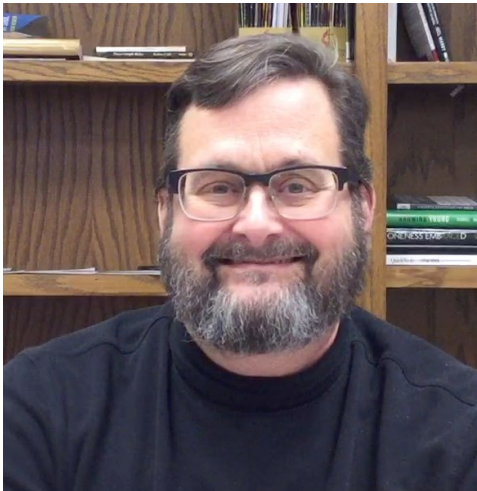
In response to a most critical blood shortage, our church hosted a community blood drive 16 June. The collection goal, set by Community Blood Center, was 35 units. Here are the final statistics from the center:

Registered: 40
Deferred: 4
First time donors: 4
Double red cell donation: 4
Collected; 40 units----5 more than goal!

Our church's volunteers included: Roy and Donna Ramsey, Sheila Bailey, Gary and Cheryl Rader, Marguerite Hilscher, Teresa Hicks, Jim Wolfe, Maryann McAfee, Margaret Songer. Kathi LaMoe remained on call the entire day. Also Grant Zschoche and Ed Garven assisted the center's crew which demonstrated the mission of all: welcoming our guests (center crew and donors) and assisting the crew. A very successful day.

KUDOS to all our involved members.

Maryann McAfee
FUMCL Blood Drive Coordinator



Greetings and blessings to each and every one of you!

July puts us right in the middle of summer, a time of respite and vacation for many. Here at your church, we are not slowing down. **Serve Saturday is July 10th**, where we are reengaging in mass to bring service and Kingdom to our community. There are three opportunities to serve. Please sign up at church or at our website, fumclvks.org/serveday

1. **Eagle Scout project.** The scout is painting the fence at the Landing Park near the Riverfront Center. The project meets at the church at 8:00 am.
2. **“Caroling” in July.** Singing hymns to our church family that can’t come to church.. The project meets at the church at 10 am.
3. **Bingo party at Lansing Care and Rehab.** We will also fill bird feeders for the patients. The project will meet at the church at 1 pm.

We serve not out of obligation or task, but out of the freedom to love our neighbor as the Lord loves us, joyfully and abundantly. Serving is part of our corporate life, it’s in our DNA. We serve as outlined in our mutual responsibility as members: Faithful discipleship includes the obligation to participate in the corporate life of the congregation with fellow members of the body of Christ. A member is bound in sacred covenant to shoulder the burdens, share the risks, and celebrate the joys of fellow members. A Christian is called to speak the truth in love, always ready to confront conflict in the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation. *Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church ¶ 219. Mutual Responsibility.*

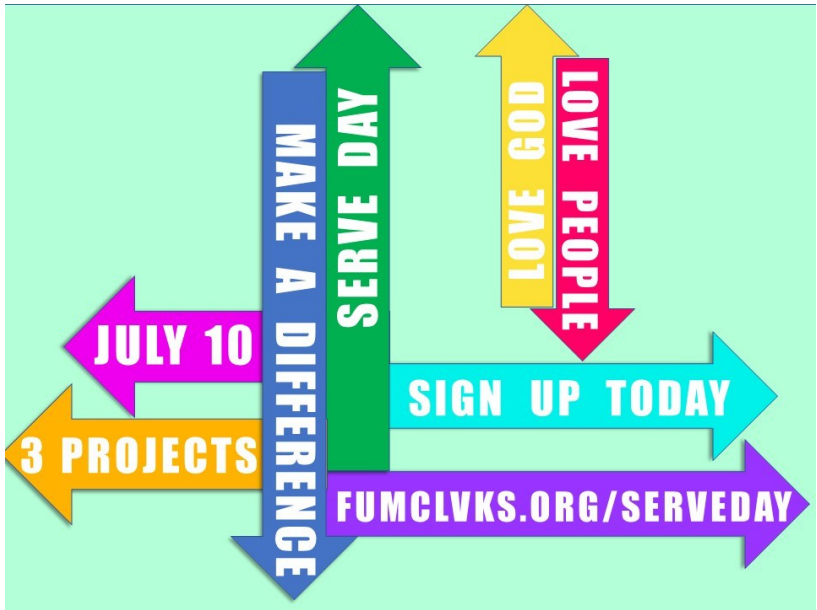
There are numerous other ways you can serve throughout the week, as we have numerous mission partners in this community. I ask that each of us pray and ask the Lord where He wants us to use our talents. Here are other opportunities to serve:

1. **The Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope Shelter** needs volunteers nightly – [contact Jim Walley at jwalley@gmail.com](mailto:jwalley@gmail.com)
2. **Samaritans Buffet** needs individuals that will serve and coordinate twice a month– [contact Jim Wolfe at jwolfe1@kc.rr.com](mailto:jwolfe1@kc.rr.com)
3. **The Leavenworth Mission** needs volunteers to load and deliver food on Tuesdays – [contact Ed Garven at egarven@fumclvks.org](mailto:egarven@fumclvks.org)
4. **Vacation Bible School** greeters and kitchen workers July 26-30 5:30-7:30pm [contact Nancy Shade at nshade@fumclvks.org](mailto:nshade@fumclvks.org).

We partner with numerous organization in the area and if you want more information on how you can serve please contact me at my cell phone, 816-805-4771.

In everything the Lord did on the earth from bread and fish; to healing ailments; to rescuing people from bad situations; to Himself – He blessed it (them), broke it (their situation) and gave it away (them)!

In Christ
Ed



Rosemary Jacobs has been a part of our church family since we reopened in March. Rosemary has spent most of her life in northeast Kansas. She grew up in Muscotah, Kansas which is 20 miles west of Atchison. She graduated from Effingham high school and lived in Hiawatha, Kansas for 34 years.

Rosemary worked for ADM for 14 years and was able to transfer from Hiawatha, Kansas, to a position locally. She moved to Leavenworth in August 2020 to be closer to her daughter, Kelley. Kelley is 26 and has an MBA from KU.

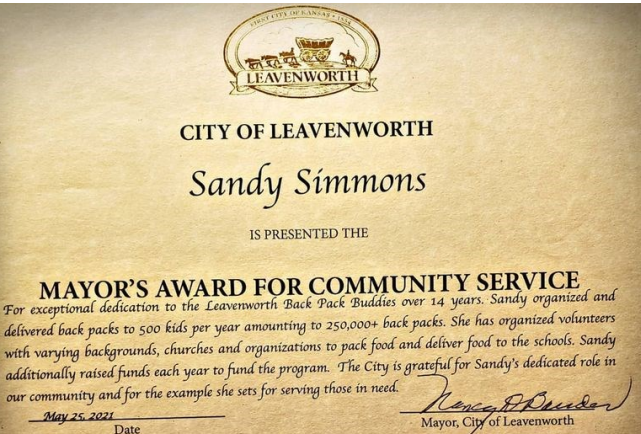
She loves her new home in Leavenworth and is busy landscaping and gardening. She shares her home with Doodlebug, a Patterdale terrier, and Zeus, a very spicy cat. Doodlebug is in charge of the house. She loves to watch sports and animals on TV. Rosemary also loves to quilt, knit and listen to books on tape. She has been volunteering with Samaritan’s Buffet and is looking forward to building lasting relationships at FUMC. Rosemary loves hugs, so feel free to give her a hug and get to know her.

Sandy Simmons Receives Community Service Award From the Leavenworth Mayor for Backpack Buddies

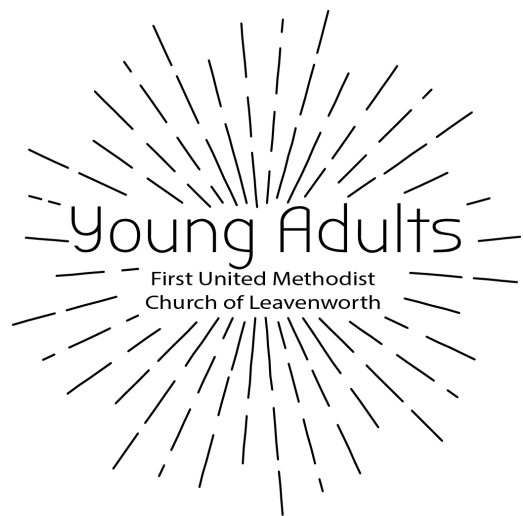


The Mayor of Leavenworth recently recognized Sandy Simmons and her work with Backpack Buddies. Backpack Buddies packs healthy food snacks for kids in the Leavenworth school district that may not have food over the weekend when school lunches aren’t available. Volunteers from the community join workers from our church to pack these bags and provide the food. Sandy has lead the volunteer efforts for 14 years.

Sandy Simmons said, “This is such a great community program, with so many incredible volunteers...being involved with Leavenworth Backpack Buddies has been life-changing for me in so many ways! I'm honored by this recognition for my part in it. I'm just feeling very thankful.”



We are a church family and we want to recognize the accomplishments of our brothers and sisters. If you have something wonderful happen in your life, please share it with the church office so we can share it with the family.

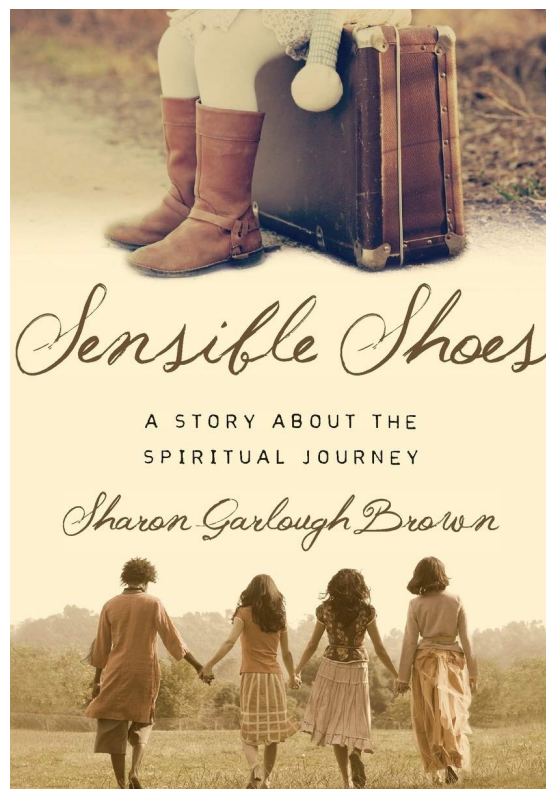


The Young Adult group is all about building friendships at church and finding a place where you are loved unconditionally. We meet two times a month on Thursday evenings for games, socializing, dinner, and occasionally outings. This past month, we have enjoyed gathering at Kristen Howell's house for dinner and games. We shared jokes and stories, played cards, Mario Kart, and a fun group game called Secret Hitler.

June 24, we took a driving tour of Kansas City called Dividing Lines: A History of Segregation in Kansas City. We learned about the different ways our local and national governments promoted redlining in Kansas City, continuing a legacy of inequality that has impacts to this day. The tour took us through Prairie Village, The Plaza, and the Jazz District.



Do you love to read? Have you ever read a book and wished you could sit down and talk with about what you read? Then, the summer book club is for you. "Sensible Shoes" by Sharon Garlough Brown, is the book chosen. This book is available digitally or in paperback. It is also available through the library. If you want to order a paperback copy, contact Sandy Wood, swood@fumclvks.org by July 5. The cost is \$12. We will meet Wednesday, August 11, at 1 pm to discuss the book and fellowship.



Sharon Garlough Brown tells the moving story of four strangers as they embark together on a journey of spiritual formation: Hannah, a pastor who doesn't realize how exhausted she is. Meg, a widow and recent empty-nester who is haunted by her past. Mara, a woman who has experienced a lifetime of rejection and is now trying to navigate a difficult marriage. Charissa, a hard-working graduate student who wants to get things right. You're invited to join these four women as they reluctantly arrive at a retreat center and find themselves drawn out of their separate stories of isolation and struggle and into a collective journey of spiritual practice, mutual support and personal revelation. Along the way, readers will be taken into a new understanding of key spiritual practices and find tangible support for the deeper life with God.



Sunday School is back! Sunday School is a great way to build relationships and become a better disciple of Jesus Christ. We have classes for all ages and all interests. You are invited to join us at 9:45 am each Sunday for these great classes.

Children - room 105 - Studying Jesus' last days on earth and his death and resurrection.

Youth - Education building basement - Studying the book of Revelations.

Koinonia - room 103 - Studying the book of Numbers

New Life Seekers - room 203 - Studying "Courage, Jesus and the Call to Brave Faith" by Tom Berlin.

Family Matters - room 105 - focusing on Families and Faith

Cornerstone - room 101 - Starting July 11 studying the book of Galatians



Koinonia Sunday School class



New Life Seekers Sunday School class

Itchin' to Stitch



Itchin to Stich has been working on fleece blankets for the Joy Meadows Foster Community. This organization helps foster families. They will be having two blanket tying get togethers coming up: **July 13 at 1 pm and July 22 at 1 pm.** These are a simple project that mostly requires cutting and tying. You don't have to have sewing experience to join them.



Summer is always a wonderful time in youth ministry because we break out of the normal routine and gather together to have fun and serve others. So far this summer, we have started up Confirmation, we've had fun outings, gathered together for Sunday School, and are gearing up for our yearly mission trip.

On June 11, the youth piled in the 15-passenger van and drove out to Shawnee Mission Park for a day on the lake, followed by pizza out and a show at Shawnee Mission Park. What seemed like it was going to be a normal day on the lake took a swift turn when it began to storm. We safely gathered up all the kids in kayaks and canoes after only 20 minutes on the water as the skies darkened and we could hear a storm on the distance. God protected us and just as the last of us got out of our boats onto the dock, there was a torrential downpour. We quickly scrapped our original plan and after waiting for the rain to let up enough to make it safe to drive, we resumed our fun at Main Event in Olathe. We were having so much fun playing laser tag, billiards, and bowling (and staying dry!) that we decided to stay for a bit longer and forgo the show at a very soggy Shawnee Mission Theatre in the Park. Instead, we had pizza and returned to the church for a movie in the youth room. It was not our original plan, but it was a lot of fun and will be one of those memories that come up as "remember that time..." for years to come.



July 19-23 – Mission Trip - We will be serving with local and regional mission agencies and will enjoy fun local activities when we are not serving. We had to make our choice of trips in March, so we planned to stay in town this year because we wouldn't know what Covid protocols were going to be in July. However, we are so excited about the opportunity to get to know our own community better and serve in a way that will benefit our literal neighbors. We would love to have your student join us, but we need to know soon, as we have to have numbers for the agencies we are serving with to know what to plan. Cost is free and food is provided! Our fun activities include art night, Worlds of Fun, a video game tournament and more.

Sunday afternoons through August 1 – We are well into Confirmation which is a course designed to help students learn about their faith and make it their own. At the end of the 8-week course, students will have the opportunity to decide whether to join the church as adult members. Though it's too late to join this year, please consider whether your student would be a good fit for this class in the future. We offer them about once per year and would love for your student to join us! We also would love it if you would pray for the students currently going through confirmation that they would know God's deep love for them and have the courage to ask questions and make their faith their own.

August 6, 6pm - August 7, 8am. We are so excited to bring lock-ins back to the youth group! We'll meet at the church at 6pm and have activities planned all night, including going to Power Play for arcade games and activities. Cost is free! We are also looking for volunteers to help in a variety of capacities from being on duty for different shifts throughout the night to preparing breakfast in the morning. Please let me know if you can help!

AIR MINISTRY

Art • Inspiration • Respite
HOPE FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

Mondays, 1-4 pm

At AIR ministry we are blessed. We enjoy each week with our friends; making crafts, doing service projects, exercising, playing games and singing.



Our friends at AIR do a service project every week. Here we were making dog treats for the local animal shelter. We also made cookies for Samaritan's Buffet and first responder appreciation kits. We have been tending the community garden and are excited for our first harvest.

We are taking a field trip once a month this summer. Our next trip will be to Union Station. If you know someone with dementia, tell them about AIR ministry. We are always looking for more friends.



for people living with dementia
and their care givers

First and Third Wednesdays
5:45-7:30 pm

729 Pennsylvania,
Leavenworth, KS, US



JULY SCHEDULE



July 5 – NO AIR MINISTRY

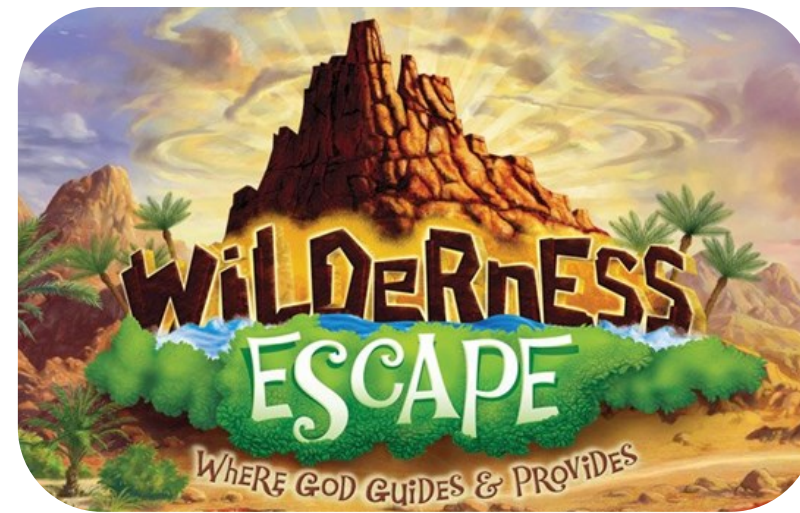


July 12 – Trip to Union Station

July 19 – Farm Day with HAB



July 26 – NO AIR MINISTRY



July 26-30
5:30-7:30 pm



Come join Moses and the Israelites as they journey through the Wilderness on their way to the Promised Land! Each day we will see, hear, touch and even taste what it was like to watch God guide and provide. We will explore the Israelite camp tents, play games, sing and dance, and meet Moses! Supper will be provided. Register at www.fumclvks.org/vbs

Tribe Leaders - Need 6: Tribe Leaders serve as guides for a small group of children as they participate in Wilderness Escape. Ideal for teens and adults.

Set Up/Take Down - Need 5+: Set Up Team is responsible for transforming our church into the "Wilderness" and Israelite camp on Sunday, July 25 beginning at noon. Take Down Team will stay after the Friday, July 30 session to de-decorate and return items to storage.

Hospitality Team - Need 4: This team will greet participants as they arrive.

Food Team - Need 4: This team will prepare, serve and clean up the meal each day.

Prayer Team - Need as many as possible!: This team will pray for the Wilderness Escape each day of July at 5:30. Each participant will receive a daily e-mail with a specific prayer request. This one can be done from your own home!

Tribe Leaders, Hospitality and Food Teams can register at www.fumclvks.org/vbs

Prayer Team and Set Up/Take Down Team – Contact Nancy Shade nshade@fumclvks.org to sign up!

Help us make it a true Wilderness Adventure. If you have any of the following items we can borrow, please contact Nancy Shade ASAP, nshade@fumclvks.org



Colorful blankets



baskets of all sizes



clay pottery



canopy tents



Mission Trip October 3-7



Tim Yenney is trimming trees.



Don Gaffin getting ready to spray.



Mike Mix working in the dormitories.



Gary Rader clearing brush.



Kathi LaMoe is cleaning up the dorm lounge.



Jan Mix and Cheryl Rader painting the camp sign.

Please give consideration to joining the work crew, October 3-7, that will be going to Camp Horizon to assist the staff there. Camp Horizon is a Methodist camp located in a beautiful setting overlooking the Arkansas River. Over the years we have accomplished such things as: stringing bows, cutting brush, planting landscaping plants, mulching, painting, electrical work, carpentry and stone work, inventory gift shop, office work, and deep cleaning of buildings to name a few tasks. It is not all work and no play, as we enjoy fellowship too. Please contact Gary and Cheryl Rader (651-6429 or gcrader66@gmail.com) if you have questions or to notify them that you will be joining the crew. Kathi LaMoe, who has attended the mission trip three years said, "It is a terrific opportunity to be in a beautiful setting and serve. There is great comradery and something new to do everyday. It's a very cool thing."



Welcome to summer in Kansas! Hot and humid, strong storms, beautiful blue skies with white puffy clouds! Lots of vacations, staycations and just taking a break from the school year rhythm of life. Here at FUMC our Children's Ministry is in full summer mode. Kids First Worship is focused on the Days of Creation. So far, we have heard and sung about the Creation story, made "the world" and even created a cloud in a jar!

June 28 – Day 4 (Sun and Moon and Stars Galore!)
July 4 – Happy Birthday America! KFW will not meet.
July 11 – Day 5 (Birds and Fish Alive!)
July 18 – Day 6 (Animals!)
July 25 – Day 6 (People!)
August 1 – Day 7 (Rest!)

Sunday School kids are "Walking with Jesus" through the last week of his life here on earth. We have prayed with him in the Garden, watched him be arrested and acted as a "judge" like Pilate. Before the summer ends, we will see his Resurrection and walk with him to Emmaus.



Scouts left for Camp Hohn, in Missouri on June 20. They will spend a week swimming, camping, and earning merit badges. Watch for more photos from camp and more information about the upcoming year soon.



JUNE @ FUMC

June was a busy month in the life of our church family. Here are a few of the highlights.



The blood drive was a great success! We gathered 40 pints. Thank you volunteers and donors!



Verity Varnal and Junia Howell were both baptized in June. Welcome to the family!



The Night of Remembrance was a beautiful service honoring those we loved and lost in 2020.



The Connection Lunch welcomed new people into our church family.



Youth had a fun day at the Main Event.