



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

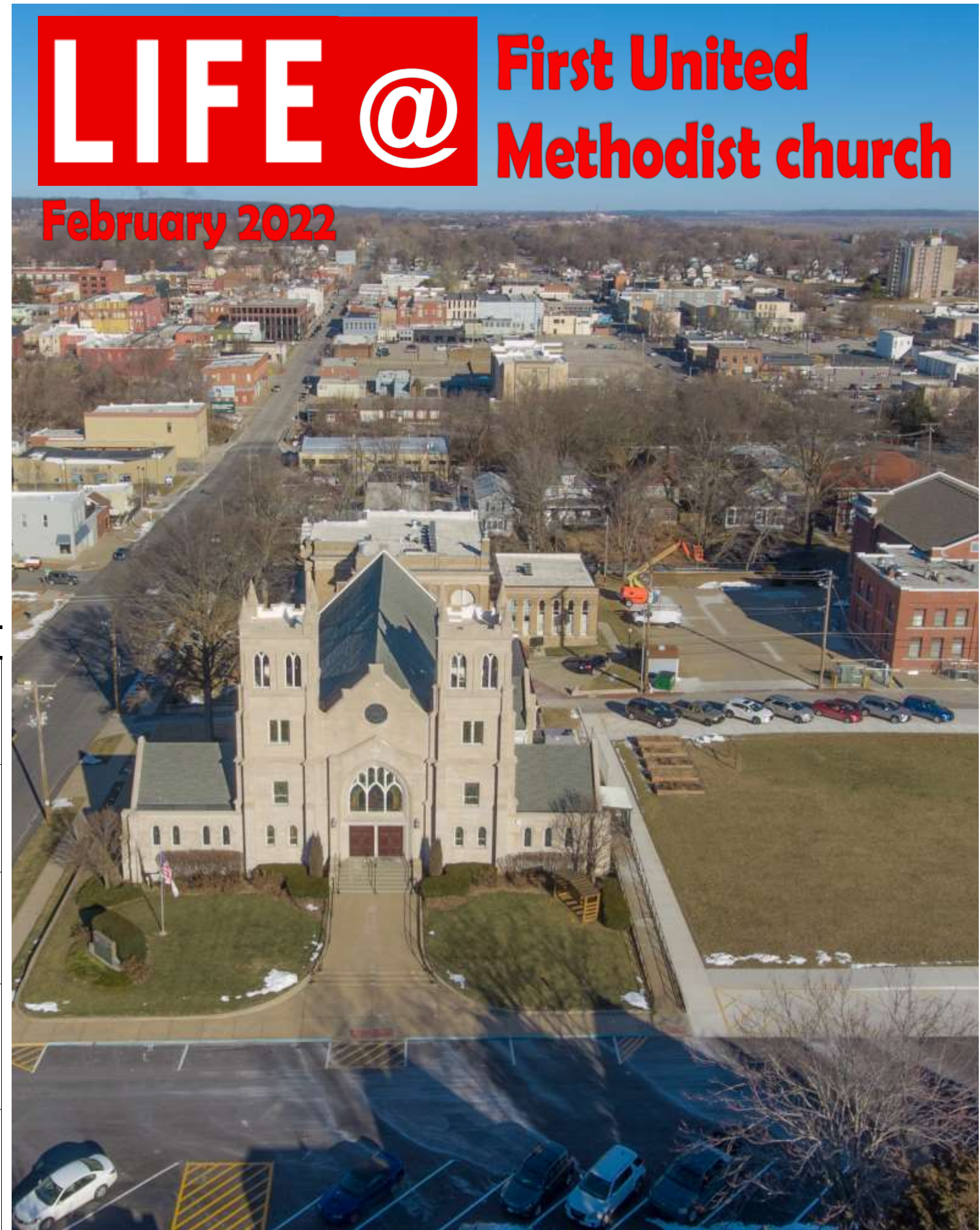


Or visit us at FUMCLVKS.ORG

Sunday services stream at either site.

February 2022

30 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 4:00 pm Wesley Ringers 6:00 pm Youth	31 1:00 pm AIR ministry	1 9:30am Heart & Soul 10am Bible Study 6:30 God on Mute Bible Study	2 3:45 pm Wonderful Wednesday 6:30 pm Choir	3 8:30am Staff 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	4	5 
6 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 4:00 pm Wesley Ringers 6:00 pm Youth	7 1:00 pm AIR Ministries	8 9:30am Heart & Soul 10am Bible Study 6:30 God on Mute Bible Study	9 3:45pm Wonderful Wednesday 5:00pm Grief Group 6:30pm Choir	10 8:30am Staff 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	11	12
13 8:30 & 11am Worship 4pm Bells 6pm Youth	14 1:00 pm AIR Ministries	15 9:30am Heart & Soul 10am Bible Study 6:30 God on Mute Bible Study	16 3:45pm Wonderful Wednesday 6:30pm Choir	17 8:30am Staff 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	18	19
20 8:30 & 11am Worship 4 pm bells 6pm Youth	21 President's Day Church office closed No AIR ministry	22 9:30am Heart & Soul 10am Bible Study 6:30 God on Mute Bible Study	23 3:45pm Wonderful Wednesday 6:30pm Choir	24 8:30am Staff 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	25	26 
27 8:30 & 11am Worship 4 pm bells 6pm Youth	28 1:00 pm AIR Ministry	1 9:30am Heart & Soul 10am Bible Study 6:30 God on Mute Bible Study	2 3:45pmWonderful Wednesday 5:30 pm Dinner 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday service	3 8:30am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	4	5





The Lord works
vindication & justice
for all who
are oppressed.
Psal m 103:6

About a year ago, I received an invitation from the Great Plains Conference to lead a project in Leavenworth. The Kansas and Nebraska Methodists planned to commemorate victims of racial terror lynchings in Kansas or Nebraska from 1865-1950s. Leavenworth County had three men who were murdered. In 1887, Richard Wood was accused of assaulting a young white woman, a mob broke into the jail and he confessed. Without due process, Wood was dragged through the streets of Leavenworth until dead. Silas Wilson was hanged in the Millwood area (little north of Easton) in 1893. In 1901, Fred Alexander's burning at the stake became a national news story. It happened near the bowling alley by the green dinosaur on Spruce St. The stunning news of a man being taken from state penitentiary, and lynched by a mob estimated from 5,000-8,000 citizens. He **proclaimed his innocence through this ordeal. Alexander's story was published from Los Angeles to New York a day later. The** fact that it happened in Kansas, by reputation a free state and abolitionist stronghold prior to the Civil War, made the story more sensational. These cases were all documented by local newspapers and were researched at the University of Kansas.

As a pastor, this invitation seemed far outside of my expected field of ministry. What do these historical events have to do with the Church especially in today's world? The more I prayed and considered it, the more I believe I was called to lead this group for the very reasons that justice, reconciliation, healing and forgiveness are God's business. Communities who are ignorant of the past or want to hide from it will never be fully healed. A tour of the Richard Allen Cultural Center helped me understand more of Leavenworth's past and the role of wicked forces like the KKK in this region. As a native Kansan, I had not understood much of this history, only a few scattered stories of the old days. While these events did not happen in our time or era, they did happen in our SPACE. The streets of Leavenworth, the county courthouse and site on which these men were violently killed are my streets, buildings and places. I was called to act on God's behalf with other community leaders to do something. After forming a group led by Marti Crow, Carla Wieggers, Edna Wagner, Joana Scholtz, Tony Majors, William Wallace and Todd Thompson, we contacted the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) in Montgomery, AL.

"The Equal Justice Initiative's Community Remembrance project partners with community coalitions to memorialize documented victims of racial violence throughout history and foster meaningful dialogue about race and justice today. The Community Soil Collection Project gathers soil at lynching sites for display in haunting exhibits bearing victims' names. The Historical Marker Project erects narrative markers in public locations describing the devastating violence, today widely unknown, that once took place in these locations. These projects and the other engagement efforts that community coalitions develop, center the African American experience of racial injustice, empower African American community members who have directly borne this trauma, and invite the entire community to use truth to give voice to those experiences and expose their legacies" <https://eji.org/projects/community-remembrance-project/>

Additionally, we are hosting an essay contest in Leavenworth and Lansing Schools grades 11-12 to help educate teens on their history and gain insight for the future. \$5000 for scholarships given by EJI is the prize money. Furthermore, we're hosting courageous conversations for our community so that issues of racism, poverty, injustice and the legacy they created can be understood and discussed by people who hope for a good, just and righteous society. These opportunities allow us to listen & learn of the past, speak into the present & hope for the future.

If you would have told me years ago that I would be leading this group, I would have seriously doubted it. It did not seem like something that I felt qualified for or have the experience to lead. God has a way of taking the most unlikely people (like me) and using them for His purposes. I'm sometimes uncomfortable, but outside my comfort zone is where God connects with me the best – it's where I grow and learn. We plan to do the essay contest in February and March 2022 and the soil collection in June of 2022. It will be part of the Juneteenth celebration on June 18. I hope you will be interested in participating in this event in order to represent God's people and build new relationships within Leavenworth County. Kingdom work is at hand!

Pastor Dave



FEBRUARY Birthdays

2nd	Jamie Brettmann	15th	Anne-Marie Short	21st	Tyler Morgan
	Daniel Kent	16th	Barbara Peiper		Dick Pieper
3rd	Mary Eleanor McCluskey		Mitchell Ray	23rd	Hannah Baker
7th	Emily Wecas	17th	Junia Howell		Sara LaMoe
8th	Kyle Sanders	18th	Steve Coats	24th	Christine Corrison
9th	Miriam Cade		Jack Walker	25th	Bob Hale
11th	Cathy Landis	19th	Chris Wecas	27th	John Short
13th	Joshua Gambrell	20th	Joyce Goss	29th	Kellie Galley
	Carl Langley	21st	Robert McKinley		



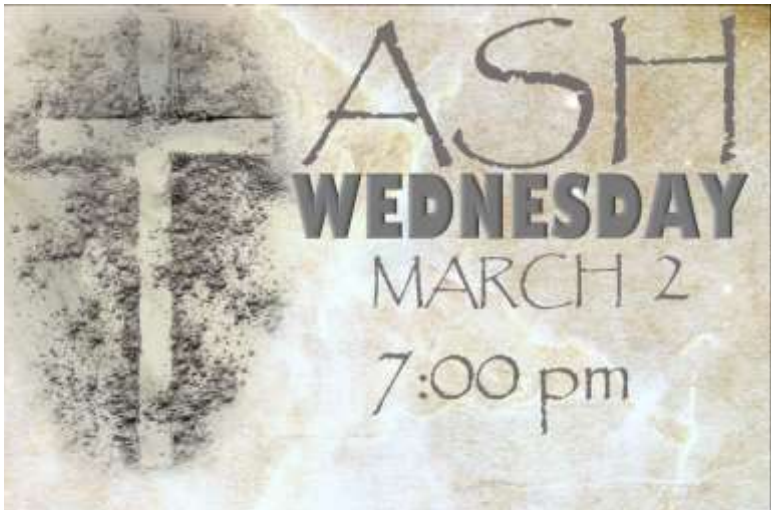
FEBRUARY Anniversaries

15th	Michael & Karen Piper	36 years
18th	Dick & Barbara Peiper	61 years



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

UPCOMING Events





LET'S DO Lunch

Tuesday, Feb. 22, 12:00 pm

Jousting Pigs (Legends)

All ladies of the church are invited.

SOUP & BREAD

DINNER

MARCH 2, 5:30 PM





I've been going through all of my old pictures. Almost all of them hold a memory for me; a moment in time from my past. Some of them are even before my time; precious pictures of my grandparents as babies, pictures of my parents while they were growing up. Some of them are not "keepers" – so blurry that I can't even tell what the picture was of, pictures of flowers or trees from some unknown location on a trip that I wasn't there for. Some of them are of momentous times; wedding pictures, newly born babies. Some are ordinary times; taking a hike at Green Mountain, holding a child on my hip. There's even a picture of my husband that one time in our 40 years together that he shaved off his mustache!

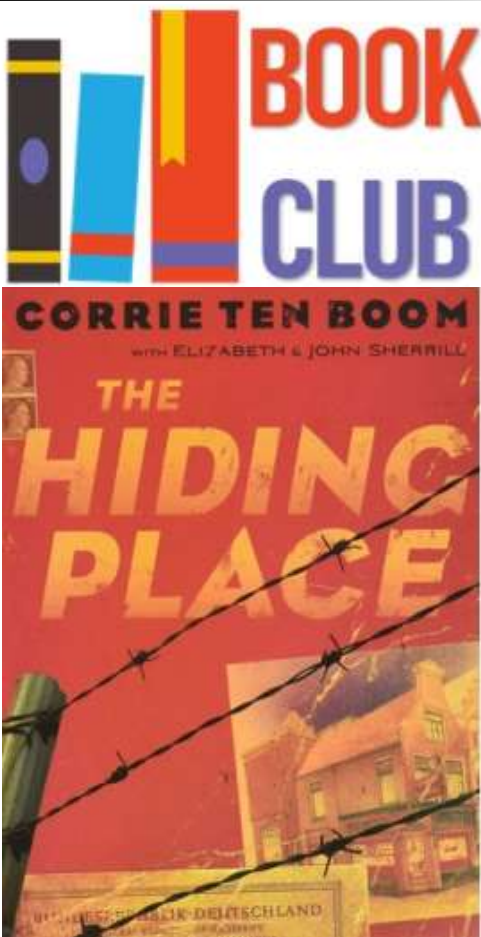
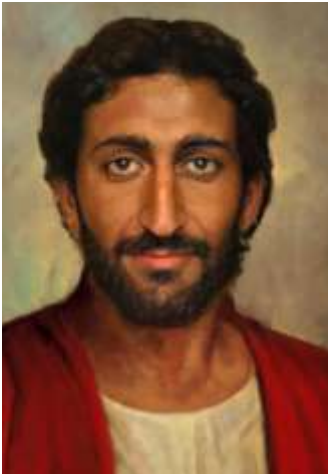
What I don't have, is a picture of Jesus. Okay, I know that I have prints of paintings that have been done, but those are just the artists idea of what he may have looked like. I don't have an actual photograph. No one does.

The kids and I have been talking about it at Kids First Worship over the last couple of months. When I asked them what Jesus looked like, I got mostly the answers I had been expecting. "He has blue eyes", said a young girl with blue eyes. "He has light brown hair", said a little girl with light brown hair. "He has this color skin", said a young boy, pointing to his own arm.

That's what we all do, isn't it? We think that Jesus looks like us. Not just here, but all across the globe. We are more comfortable with people that look like us. We can even be fearful when they don't.

I no longer believe that Jesus looks like me. Because of where and when he was born, he most likely had brown eyes, dark curly hair, and olive-brown skin. Should that make me uncomfortable or fearful of him? Of course not. Did you ever hear the phrase, "You can't judge a book by its cover,"? Of course you have. And yet, that's what we tend to do every day, with everyone that we meet. We judge them by their "cover".

If we are being conformed to the image of Jesus, that has nothing to do with our "cover" and everything to do with our "inner". I'm still working on it, and I hope you are too. *Nancy*



Have you ever read a book that impacted you so much that when you were finished you wish you had someone to discuss the book with? "The Hiding Place", by Corrie Ten Boom is a book like that. This book celebrated it's 50th anniversary last year. I read this book as a teenager and it is one of the most memorable books I have ever read. I still think of parts of it from time to time. I am looking forward to re-reading it through adult eyes.

The Hiding Place is an autobiographical memoir by Corrie ten Boom, a devoutly religious woman who lived in the Holland city of Haarlem during the Nazi occupation. Compelled by her unshakeable Christian morality, she defied tyranny to rescue her Jewish neighbors who faced annihilation during the Holocaust. She was ultimately caught and sent to the notorious Ravensbruck death camp, where she witnessed scenes of unimaginable cruelty. In the camp, it was Corrie's bedrock faith in the glory of God that sustained her. She discovered that love was a far more powerful force than hate—for God's love was truly unconquerable.

Corrie was let out of the camp shortly before the end of the war due to a clerical error. She then went on to turn her home into a rehabilitation center not only for the people that were held in the concentration camps but for the German soldiers who suffer from PTSD after the war.

This book is available through the library and in print or ebooks. We will meet on March 22 at 1 pm to discuss the book. If you need help getting a copy or have questions, contact Sandy Wood at swood@fumclvks.org.

Dear Nurture Team,
I'm so appreciative of your ongoing efforts for us older members. The holiday bag was so cute and with its practical contents. My thanks to all involved.

Maryann McAfee

Thank you!

Dear First United Methodist Church Family,

Thank you for the Starbucks gift cards. It's nice to be remembered by our church family when we are away at school. Thanks for treating us to hot chocolate and iced coffee during our Christmas break from K-State! Go Cats!

Sincerely,
Sarah & Kyle Lauber



Dear Church Family,

The Samaritans Buffet planning team thanks you for your tremendous support, not only for this year's very generous monetary offering but also your continued donations of desserts, time and deliveries to our shut-ins and octogenarians. Each gesture shares the love of Christ and brightens many people's lives. You are making a positive difference!

We especially offer our thanks to Karen Kidder, Mary Lou Anderson, Rosemary Jacobs, Marti Crow, and LeaAnn Weilbacher for their consistent and extremely appreciated help.

Jim and Cynthia Walley

Mike and Jan Mix

Linda Landzettel

Jim and Judy Wolfe.



Thank You!

Thanks to my church family for lending me the use of this scooter. I really appreciate having a lot of freedom again. God bless you all for your kindness. May He remember your thoughtfulness and kindness, and I hope someday I can pay it forward.

Pat Snow



Dear Friends,

We here at Trinity Lutheran and Trinity House rejoice in your kindness. Your generous gift will serve our community. Each week we are able to share food and clothes with those in need. Again, thank you.

Trinity Lutheran Church

Thank You!

Dear Nurture & Care,

Thank you so much for the bag of goodies. We enjoyed the treats and the reading material. A special thanks to Donna and Roy Ramsey for their visits and calls to check on us. We appreciate the thoughtfulness of all of the committee.

Fondly,
John and Virginia Hardaway

Thank you!

To Our Friends at Koinonia's Sunday School class,

Thank you SO greatly for your gift to the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign! I would like to let you all know that your donation helps families in need right here in Leavenworth. From helping to stock up our pantry to give food to those who need it, to helping families keep warm during the winter season. You guys are absolutely amazing for thinking about ways to help others! WAY TO GO!!



Most Sincerely,
Leavenworth Salvation Army Corps.

Dear Care Team & Itchin to Stitch,

Thank you so much for the beautiful red mantle I was given when my mother died. It felt like a warm hug when I put it on my shoulders. A special thanks to Jan Glick for presenting it to me.

I love my church which includes all of you.

Kathy Huskey

Please pass on my appreciation and gratitude to the church choir members who came out to Twin Oaks Independent Living to sing Christmas carols. It truly helped us to feel in the Christmas spirit.

I look forward to returning to regular church attendance once the pandemic is more under control. Efforts like the choir help make me still feel like a part of the church family.

Sincerely,
Betty Gaumer



The grace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ with each of you. The month of February upon us and we have work to do. We have some very ambitious opportunities ahead of us this year and we must all come together to manifest His will for our church, our community and ourselves – **one body in Christ**.

The inclined sidewalk project (redoing the front entrance to the church) will take monetary resources and intricate planning and execution by the church leadership. Upon completion we will have an inviting and attractive avenue for all to enter the front doors – **one body in Christ**.

We will continue to support our Mission partners both monetarily and physically thanks to your continual support of our Nurture, Outreach and Witness ministries. These unique ministries bring His love to our neighbors on almost a daily basis - **one body in Christ**.

Lastly, we have numerous small groups and Sunday school classes where you can join fellow children of God, in **learning exactly what the Lord has planned for you.** Proverbs 30:5 “Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.” - **one body in Christ**.

Our collective 2022 Mission of Bringing Kingdom continues, in Christ... *Ed*



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.

Valentine's Day conjures visions of red roses and heart-shaped boxes of chocolate, and perhaps it's a holiday some of you can enjoy and look forward to again. But for many of the participants in GriefShare, it's a holiday that brings painful memories to mind. Instead of hearts and roses, Valentine's Day brings feelings of sadness, depression, loneliness, and grief. This year, use Valentine's Day as an opportunity to minister to people you know who need an extra dose of compassion they aren't likely to get from coworkers, friends, and family.

Here are 3 ways you can help friends cope with Valentine's Day:

1. Check in! Make a plan to check in on them by phone, by email, or in person. Offer to pray for them; let the individuals know you're thinking about them especially on this day. Individuals who struggle on Valentine's Day will be encouraged to feel they are surrounded and supported by people who care about them.
2. Do something to brighten their day. Make a special dessert or a light dinner to share. Prepare a goodie bag of candy or other treats. Make a special card or send a note. Remind them how much they are loved by you and by Jesus.
3. Offer practical suggestions. Encourage your friend to have a plan in place for Valentine's Day. The plan can be anything from calling a trusted friend or reading passages of Scripture to tackling a home improvement project or taking a day trip. Plan an event where you both serve others. When we serve others, we focus our energies on alleviating others' pain and discomfort instead of dwelling on our own and focusing our thoughts inward. Serving others is a great way to show God's love and temporarily distract from difficult emotions. There are always people in our lives who need to know God's love for them.

Meditate on God's love in Christ: Perhaps the most important truth to remember on Valentine's Day is how much God loves us. It's a message that's deeper than Hallmark cards and teddy bears. He sent His Son to die for us so we could have hope for a future when all our earthly suffering is forgotten and all tears are wiped from our eyes. We have **hope as members of Christ's family**—hope for eternal healing of all pain.

GriefShare has two groups. The first group, for spouse loss only, meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 2-4 pm. The second group is for everyone who is experiencing grief and meets from 5-7pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays.

Marsha



Brendan Jamerson was baptized here at our church on January 9. Brendan is a man with many plans. He is currently working on his doctorate in Occupational Therapy at the University of St. Mary. He plans on completing his degree in 2024. He hopes to join the Air Force after graduation. He recently proposed to his girlfriend, Ellaura Foster and they plan on getting married in August of this year. She is currently a nurse for the medical surgical trauma intensive care unit at St. Luke's on the plaza.

Brendan has been a lifelong Lansing resident. He graduated from Lansing High school in 2017. Ellaura's parents were in the Army, so she has lived all over the world, but they settled in Lansing nine years ago. When he is not studying, Brendan works as an assistant swim coach for the Fort Leavenworth Lancers. He loves quail and pheasant hunting. Brendan and Ellaura love travelling with his older dog, Dyson.

Brendan said he loves FUMC because of our emphasis on community and inclusiveness.

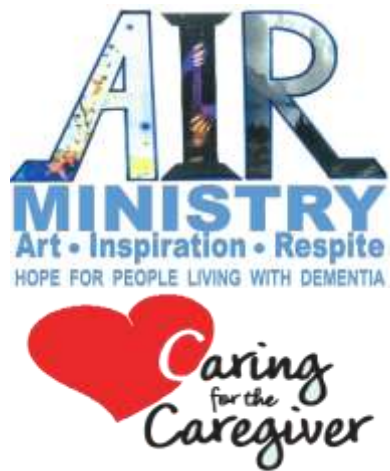


Scouting focuses on values

On January 29, the scouts visited the World War 1 museum and then camped out. In February, they are planning a tour of the Richard Allen Cultural Center. February 13 is Scout Sunday. Plans are already being made for summer camp.

Bill Koehler

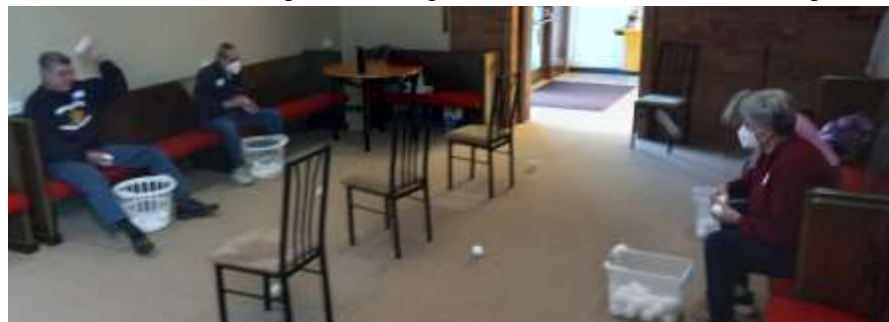





February 18th, is National Care Giver's Day. In my opinion, it should be Valentine's Day because caregivers' demonstrate selfless love every day to the people in their care. It's heart breaking to watch someone you love, often a spouse, slowly forget who you are. Care is often difficult and thankless. People with dementia don't remember birthdays, anniversaries or holidays like Valentine's day. Yet caregivers continue to show love, even if none is returned. If you know someone who is a caregiver, take a moment to write them a note or give them a small gift. Let them know that they are loved and remembered.



We had a fun snow day on January 31. We made snowman cookies, laughed at snowman jokes, sang snow songs and even had a snow ball fight.



February Schedule

 **Feb 7 – Super Bowl**

 **Feb 14 – Valentine's Day**

 **Feb 21 – NO AIR PRESIDENT'S DAY**

 **Feb 28 – Mardi Gras - March 1**

Itchin' to Stitch

Saturday, 12 February, we will take a little trip over to Eudora ~ depending on the weather ~ shopping at Bits & Pieces Quilt Shop followed by lunch. The quilt shop will be having their annual Super Bowl Sale with a 20% discount to those that are wearing any kind of sports shirt/jersey. **We'll meet at the home of Teresa Hicks, 118 Rock Creek Loop at 9:15 and depart when everyone has checked in, returning after lunch.** Shopping and lunch are on your own. Please RSVP to Teresa by February 10th by email at hickst@kc.rr.com or calling 913-727-2694.

Itchin' to Stitch will meet in Fellowship Hall on **Thursday, February 17th at 1:30m** ~ depending on the weather! **We'll discuss projects for the new year as well as have packaged projects to hand out, to be completed at home and returned in March.** Anyone is welcome to attend – Many Hands Make Light Work!

Teresa



FEBRUARY COLLECTION ITEM: TOILET PAPER & SQUARE KLEENEX

In 2022, we are going to partner with the HUB, a United Methodist mission in Argentina, by collecting supplies for their free food and necessities pantry. Each month we will be collecting a different item. In February we will be collecting toilet paper and square boxes of Kleenex. Drop donations in the wooden chest in the foyer.

REFUGE YOUTH

Since we've wrapped up another youth trip, I want to say how wonderful the youth at FUMC are. Truly, every single one of them is marvelous and they represent us well. **That's not to say that it was always fun because parts of the trip were unfathomably difficult.** But the food, company and conversation were superb.

The trip was a lot of activities and information packed into three days. On Tuesday, **we went to The Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville to learn about the vast expanse of the universe and all the ways we've** tried to understand it in our limited human capacity. It was an awesome museum that included real gear and actual rockets. It had a lot of fun hands-on activities that allowed us to experience some of the things that astronauts do to prepare themselves to go into space, as well as other simulators. This was followed by watching the new Spiderman movie in the theater.

On Wednesday, we went to Birmingham and visited the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and the 16th Street Baptist Church where four little girls were killed by a bomb that was set off during the Sunday School hour. Both were extremely sobering places to go. The museum was extremely interesting and focused a lot on the local civil rights history in Birmingham. We learned about everything from different marches and leaders to sit-ins and lunch counters and bus strikes. It was so powerful to get to spend time learning about the courageous actions that different leaders and even ordinary people performed to move our country forward in the hopes that one day all people truly would be treated with equity and justice. Because the bombing was in such a sacred place as a historic church, it was extremely meaningful and heart-breaking as a member of the Body of Christ.

There were two parts of the church that were most powerful: first, when the bombing occurred, it managed to avoid all the stained-glass windows on that side of the building except for one with a depiction of Jesus. **The only glass that broke was Jesus' face and his heart.** The second of which was a gorgeous stained-glass window that was sent to the church from the people of Wales after the bombing. It was a picture of Jesus, depicted as a Black man with outstretched hands. The right hand is pushing away hatred and injustice, the left offering forgiveness. **There is an overarching rainbow, representing diversity and the words "You do it to me", based on a verse from Mathew 25:40. It was a powerful way to show the way that Jesus** speaks directly to those who experience suffering or oppression. The church is still operational today and proud of their position as central to the Civil Rights movement in Birmingham.

Thursday was my favorite, as well as the most difficult. We went to Montgomery to go to the Equal Justice Initiative Museum. It was so difficult because it directly addressed the struggles of the African American people from their beginnings in this country as slaves stolen from their homes, all the way up to the present day with police brutality and mass incarceration. The exhibit was powerful and moving. They talked about how over 12 million people were stolen and shipped across the ocean in boats. Two million people died on the boats from various horrendous causes. The next room features the sculpted heads on the floor all around you of drowned people. On the walls are projected lights that make it look as if you are under water. On both ends, there are mirrors that make it appear as if the drowned people go on forever. They also used technology to project people into holding cells, waiting to be **auctioned. As you walk up to them, the people in the cells talk to you about what they're thinking or feeling, asking you where their children are, singing a song, etc. It's heartbreaking and really humanizes the numbers we see in history class textbooks.** I'm someone who regularly reads and learns about history, and I learned a lot and was impressed by their use of technology to connect with people. We could have spent two days there.



After this, we went to the Equal Justice Initiative monument that had a pillar for each county in the United States where a lynching had occurred and had all of the names of those lynched on each pillar. There were several counties that needed more than one pillar just to hold all the names. The result was daunting; **pillars everywhere: above you, below, beside, behind, in front.** Sobering doesn't even begin to cover it. We worked hard to find and read the pillar for our county in Kansas and found Fred Alexander, the man who was lynched in Leavenworth that the Equal Justice Initiative is working to memorialize here in town.

One of the things we had hoped to accomplish with this trip was to encourage the youth to think about what it means to be a faithful follower of Christ when we are called to stand with the people who are being oppressed. Racism is still very much a part of our lives today and I believe our faith calls us to not only resist racism within ourselves, but to resist it in exterior forces, as well. By visiting these museums, we have been **educated about the reality of oppression that has been a part of this nation's history and our nation's present. The question is, what are we going to do about it?** *Kristen*



Loving and Learning About Our Neighbors

The Richard Allen Cultural Center and Museum is a history book come to life full of stories about Leavenworth and America. Even the way the museum came into existence is a great story. In 1992, the Army National bank was inundated with foreclosed homes. They offered the Bethel AME church the house across the street from their church for \$1. Church members had a meeting to discuss uses for the house; a homeless shelter, a parsonage, a parking lot. Staff Johnson suggested they make the home into a museum. **Staff's great grandfather was one of the first African American families to live in Leavenworth. Staff had been lovingly collecting memorabilia for decades, but he wasn't sure why. Now he understood what God had planned so many years before. Research showed that the home was owned in the 1920's by Buffalo Soldier, Captain William Bly, so a museum was born.**

The name Richard Allen was chosen to honor one of America's most active and influential Black leaders. Richard Allen was a minister, educator, writer, who founded the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the first independent Black denomination in the United States in 1794. In 2016, the United States Postal Service issued a commemorative Richard Allen stamp. Edna Wagner, the executive director, holds the official stamp display.



The Richard Allen Cultural Center has expanded its collection of artifacts over the years. In 2003, a beautiful brick building was attached to the original home. In addition to displays showing what life was like when Leavenworth was founded, there's a wonderful Buffalo Soldier exhibit. The Buffalo Soldiers originally were members of the 10th Cavalry Regiment of the United States Army, formed on Sept. 21, 1866, at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.



One of the more recent museum displays is the Colin Powell exhibit. General Powell was an American politician, statesman, diplomat, and United States Army officer who served as the 65th United States Secretary of State from 2001 to 2005. He was the first African-American Secretary of State. He served as the 16th United States national security advisor from 1987 to 1989 and as the 12th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1989 to 1993. General Powell was stationed at Fort Leavenworth for the Command General and Staff College and again in 1983 when he was a one star general. He personally initiated the creation and installation in Fort Leavenworth of the Buffalo Soldier monument. He gave the museum a collection of personal memorabilia including his four star general uniform.

Brian White Awarded Choral Teacher of the Year

Brian J. White, son of Ron and Cindy White, is the choral director at Lansing High School. He was selected by his music education colleagues as the Northeast KS Music Educator's High School Choral Teacher of the Year! Musical excellence runs in the family!

Under Mr. White's direction, the LHS choirs have had a school-record number of singers selected to District, State, and National choirs. Last year, LHS Choirs singers also set school best numbers for students with a "I" (outstanding) rating at the State solo contest and also had all choirs earn a "I" (outstanding) rating at the State Large Group contest. His choirs have also performed on NBC Sounds of the Holidays television special for the past four years.

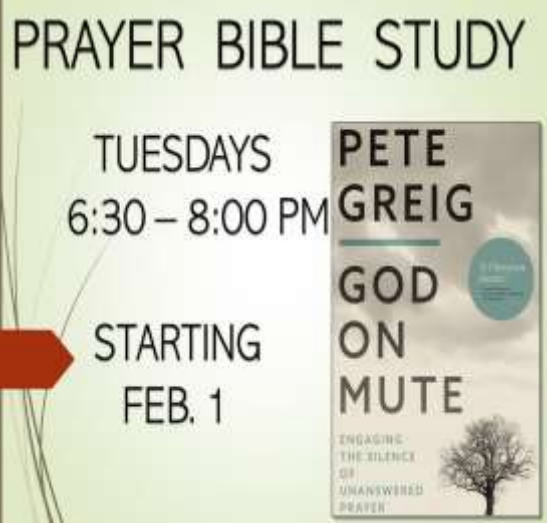
The Women's Ensemble was selected to be a featured choir at the KMEA (KS Music Educator's Association) All-State Convention. This is the highest honor an ensemble can achieve at the state level and is a first for USD 469! Alayna Parvin and Lauren Hooser are members of the ensemble. To be featured at KMEA is a monumental achievement in only three years together with Mr. White, with half of the time navigating Covid-19 shutdowns, protocols, and loss of multiple concerts. This results from an incredible classroom and program culture, a collective growth mindset of the relentless pursuit of excellence, and the joy of singing! "I am elated that the daily work in our classroom has been recognized by other music educators as some of the finest Kansas has to offer!" says director, Brian J. White. "This group of young ladies exudes our classroom concepts of extended family and the relentless pursuit of excellence. They are a pleasure to work with, and we are eager to continue our work together next semester as we prepare for our KMEA performance." Their performance is scheduled for February 25, 2022, at Century II in Wichita.



Lansing Scholar Bowl Wins

The JV Scholars' Bowl team, led Kari Anderson, competed at Washburn Rural High School and went undefeated, placing first in the tournament. Allison Muzzy, Alayna Parvin, Jacob Mitchell, Grace Seward, and Jacob Dennis, competed in 9 rounds of trivia based competition against various schools, winning each match. In 1 round, they only missed 1 of the 16 questions.

After the preliminary rounds, they advanced as the first seed in the White division into the semi-finals. The scholars beat out Olathe West during the semi-finals to advance to finals against St. James Academy. It was a tense last round, but Lansing pulled ahead, winning by two questions. The students worked really hard and worked together as a team!



February 1, Pastor Dave will start a 5 week Bible Study on unanswered prayers on Tuesday nights at 6:30 pm. Pete Greig wrote God on Mute, based on his wife Sammy's diagnosis of a debilitating brain tumor. Greig asks the timeless questions of what it means to suffer and to pray and to suffer through the silence because your prayers seem unanswered. This silence, is the hardest thing. The world collapses. Then all goes quiet. Words can't explain, don't fit, won't work. People avoid you and don't know what to say. So you turn to Him and you pray. You need Him more than ever before. But somehow...even God Himself seems on mute. In this heart searching, honest, and deeply profound book, he looks at the hard side of prayer, how to respond when there seem to be no answers, and how to cope with those who seek to interpret our experience for us. Here is a story of faith, hope, and love beyond all understanding.



Fire Safety

During the cold weather, the risk of house fires rises. A common causes of fires are combustible items too close to a heat source. **Don't store flammable materials or boxes near a furnace, water heater, or space heater.** Make sure combustible materials like beds, sofas, papers and clothes are at least 3 feet from the front, sides and rear of space heaters. Never use a damaged space heater, or run wires under rugs or carpets.

Smoke detectors are life savers. If you **don't have a working smoke detector**, there is program to give smoke detectors to families in Leavenworth that do not have them. The link for information from the Leavenworth Fire Department is: <https://www.leavenworthks.org/fire/page/smoke-detector-program>.

When Bob and Joan Atwell took their kids to Jack Stack to eat barbecue, little did they know that their grandson would one day open a restaurant that would rival their old favorite. But John Atwell has done just that. In the summer of 2019, he opened a restaurant in Liberty, Missouri. In December of this year, he opened up a new restaurant in the Legends where the old Arthur Bryant's was.

Their meat is smoked fresh daily with hickory wood in a traditional all wood fired smoker. They treat each piece of meat as if it were being turned in at a competition. Their home-style sides and desserts are made in-house with the same attention to detail as their meats.

John started competing in BBQ competitions in 2013 at the Great Lenexa BBQ Battle. He bought a smoker for the backyard and a friend liked the food and talked him into doing the competition. From there, he decided to open the restaurant.

John came up with the name Jousting Pigs because he wanted to incorporate the four BBQ competition categories in his logo; chicken, pork ribs, pork butt, and beef brisket. Burnt ends are the most popular item he sells but the brisket, ribs, and pork belly are also popular. Green chili cheesy corn is the most popular side.

It's difficult to open a new restaurant these days, but even more challenging during a pandemic. The biggest issues they've had during the pandemic has been supply chain and staffing issues. If you stop by, tell him Bob and Joan sent you.

Building Fire Safety

- ☐ Don't prop open exit or stairway doors. These are installed to slow the spread of heat and smoke if there is a fire.
- ☐ Speak to your apartment manager if you see a damaged smoke alarm, fire extinguisher or an emergency light that has burned out.



Make sure your apartment has working smoke alarms.

Have a smoke alarm inside each sleeping room. Test them every month. Replace the batteries every year. Tell your apartment manager if you think there is a problem with one of your smoke alarms.

Be Prepared

Create an escape plan. Discuss how you will get outside. Practice your plan.

- ☐ Count the number of doors there are between your apartment and the nearest fire exit. Memorize the number in case you have to find the exit in the dark.
- ☐ Know where all the exit doors and stairs are on your floor.
- ☐ Learn your building evacuation plan if you have one. Create and practice an escape plan for your own apartment.

Stay Calm

In the event of a fire, stay calm. Move to the exit as you have practiced. Call the fire department once you are outside.

- ☐ If your door feels warm to the touch, do not attempt to open it. Call 9-1-1 and tell the dispatcher your apartment number and that you can't open your door.
- ☐ Stuff the cracks around the door with towels, rags, bedding, or tape. Cover vents.
- ☐ Wait at a window and signal for help with a flashlight or by waving a white cloth.
- ☐ If your apartment door is cool to the touch, open it slowly. Stay low and check for smoke or fire in the hallway. If the hallway is safe, follow your building's evacuation plan.
- ☐ Never use an elevator to escape a fire. Always use the stairs.

Wait Outside for the Fire Department

Once you are outside, move away from the building. Give firefighters and fire trucks plenty of space.

- ☐ Stay outside. Do not go back inside for any reason.
- ☐ If you think someone is still inside, tell firefighters where you think they are.
- ☐ Wait until firefighters tell you it's safe to go back inside.

William Wallace is the museum docent and story teller extraordinaire. His love for Leavenworth and history is evident as he reveals the secrets of the museum with tales and details. In the photo, William is standing next to a display about Lieutenant Earl M. Lawson. Lt. Lawson fought in World War 1. His nickname, "Fess", was short for professor because he was so smart. He graduated magnum cum laude from Howard University and began teaching in Leavenworth. He became principal of Lincoln school which was a segregated elementary school in Leavenworth. This school was later renamed Lawson in his honor in 1999. One of his most significant contributions to Leavenworth was desegregating the public transit system, (Yes, Leavenworth used to have a public transit system) in 1925, long before Rosa Parks. But if you want to hear the story of how it happened, you will have to visit William at the museum.



The Richard Allen Cultural Center is full of antiques and heirlooms that honor the heritage of people who made our community a better place to live. This coat was made by local citizen, Emma Dixon. It is called the Freedom Coat because it is covered with symbols that slaves used to communicate with each other. These symbols could direct runaway slaves across the border or to safe houses.

The museum also houses over 150 photos from the "Black Dignity" collection donated by the David R. Phillips collection. The Phillips Collection is one of the world's largest private archives of historically important photographs. These photos were taken in Leavenworth by the Everhards in the 1800s. This is just a taste of the many treasures at the museum.

While preserving the past with dignity and recognizing the accomplishments of people who made Leavenworth a wonderful place to live is one mission of the museum, they are also passionate about assisting young people develop to their full potential and helping them fulfill their role in developing our community. The lower half of the museum is dedicated to tutoring Kindergarten through Senior students. Monday through Thursday, volunteers help kids with homework or they work on reading and math skills. Doug Lathrop (right) is working with Yasmin Cason. He is a retired officer who tutors. At first he only wanted to volunteer one afternoon a week, but now he is there four days a week because he enjoys it so much. Ret. Lt. Col. Aaron Brown (right) has a Civil Engineering degree. He enjoys helping the older students with math. He started tutoring when he came to CGSC in 2002 and has now been tutoring 10 years since he retired. About 20 kids currently are tutored. They would love be able to help more kids, but space and transportation are issues. Edna Wagner, said, "Some of my kids deal with everyday challenges in their lives and we encourage them to set goals that will lead to a brighter future. This comes with hard work and determination. We tell them to always have faith and believe and never give up."

The museum is located at 412 Kiowa and is open 11 am to 4 pm Monday through Thursday and 11 am to 3 pm on Friday. A \$5 donation is requested. If you visit the museum, you'll be surprised how much you learn about our city and the new appreciation you will gain for your neighbors.

Sandy



LIFE @ FUMC

Baptism was a common theme in January. We celebrated the baptism of Brendan Jamerson on Jan. 2 and John Thomas Pelham V on Jan. 9. We remembered our own baptism when we celebrated the baptism of Jesus.



Thomas and Andrea Pawlowski's daughter Cassie married Grady Kay on New Year's Eve.



Bellarmee Milosi, our summer intern in 2019 "came home" on Jan. 2 to preach and celebrate communion with us. He is very thankful for all the support the church gave him while he was in seminary.



Nancy Shade uses hands on activities and games to teach kids about the tabernacle during Sunday School and Kids First Worship. In Wonderful Wednesdays, kids are learning about King David and the Psalms by experimenting with different musical instruments.



Linda Landzettel, Mary Lou Anderson, Valynn Schmierer and Jim Wolfe cook up something special for Samaritan's Buffet.