



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

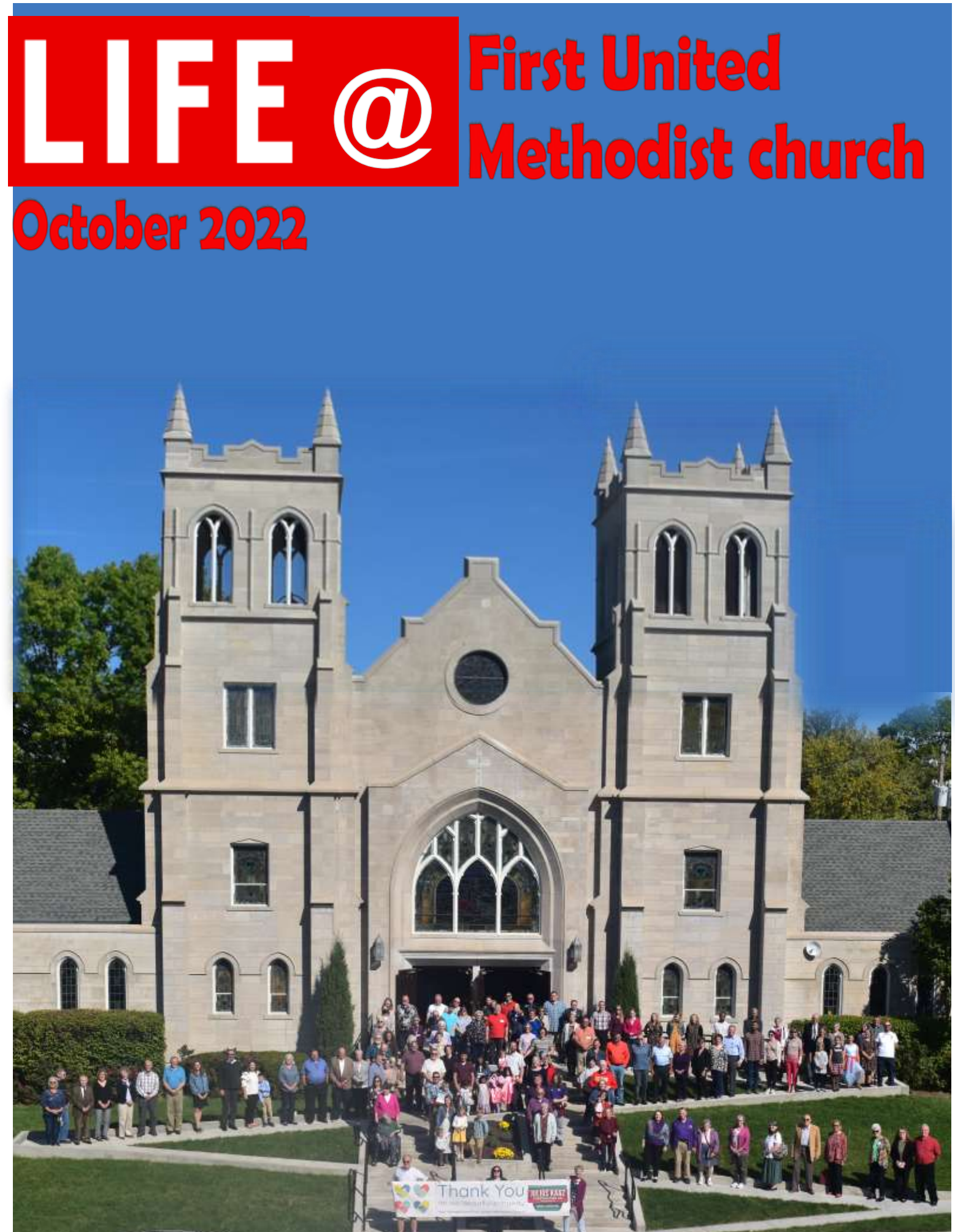


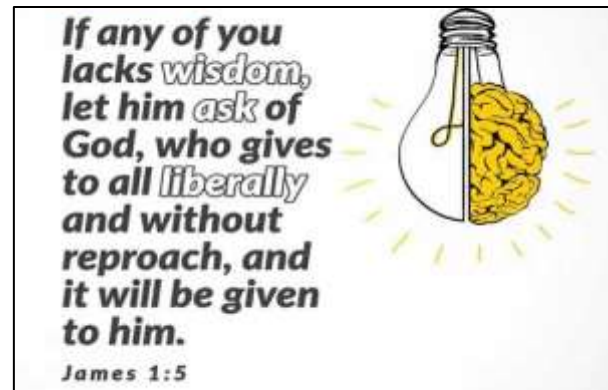
Or visit us at FUMCLVKS.ORG

Sunday services stream at either site.

October 2022

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|----|---|
| 2 10 am Worship 11 pm Potluck 4 pm Bells 6 pm Youth | 3 1 pm AIR Ministries | 4 10 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm James | 5 1:30 pm Heart & Soul 3:45 pm WW 6:30 pm Choir | 6 8:30am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study | 7 | 8 |
| 9 9:45 SS 8:30 & 11am Worship 4 pm United As One | 10 Columbus Day Church Office closed | 11 10 am Women's Bible Study 12pm Lunch Bunch 6:30 pm James Bible Study | 12 1:30 pm Heart & Soul 5pm Grief Group 3:45 pm WW 6:30 pm Choir | 13 8:30am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study | 14 | 15 |
| 16 9:45 SS 8:30 & 11am Worship Global Hope Sunday 4 pm Bells 6 pm Youth | 17 1 pm AIR Ministries | 18 10 am Women's Bible Study 2 pm Grief Share 6:30 pm James Bible Study | 19 1:30 pm Heart & Soul 3:45 pm Wonderful Wednesday 6:30 pm Choir | 20 8:30am Staff Meeting 1:30 pm Itchin' to Stitch 6:30 pm Women's | 21 | 22  |
| 23 9:45 SS 8:30 & 11am Worship 4 pm Bells 6 pm Youth | 24 1 pm AIR Ministries | 25 10 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm James Bible Study | 26 1:30 pm Heart & Soul 5pm Grief Group 3:45 pm WW 6:30 pm Choir | 27 8:30am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study | 28 | 29 |
| 30 9:45 SS 8:30 & 11am Worship Nurture & Care 4 pm Bells 6 pm Youth | 31 1 pm AIR Ministries 5 pm Fall Festival | 1 10 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm James Bible Study | 2 1:30 pm Heart & Soul 3:45 pm Wonderful Wednesday 6:30 pm Choir | 3 8:30am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study | 4 | 5  |





October is a big month in the life of our FUMCL. I'm really excited to be preaching on the letter of James. The early church struggled with being poor and persecuted by wealthy and powerful people. In their suffering, they left us wisdom on how to achieve the goal of a holy and righteous life. James is "rubber meets the road" practice of Christianity. I encourage you to read the letter each week of October. It's short and will speak to you in profound ways. Highlights of the month include:

October 2 - One service at 10:00 am to dedicate the new incline sidewalk. After focusing on hospitality for the month of September, it will be great to welcome everyone through the front doors.

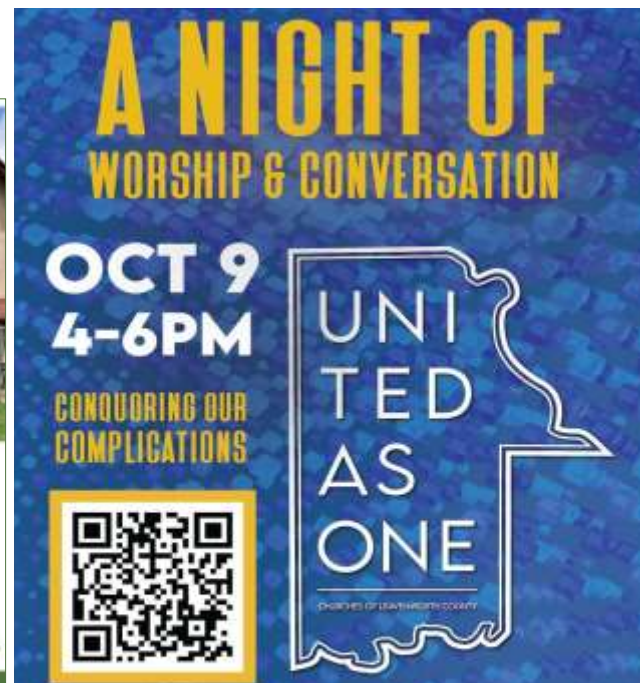
October 9 - United as One event focusing on "Conquering the Complexities". How do we interact with people of other races and ethnicities? What does the Church and the Bible have to say about it? Join us and other churches from the Leavenworth area here on our green space from 4-6 pm to worship, listen, praise and grow as a follower of Jesus.

October 16 - Global Hope representatives will join us for both services. They are the mission organization that has created a Christian home for Ukrainian orphans in Romania. These twenty-eight children are war refugees as well as orphans. See how you can help with prayers, financial support, and letters of encouragement as God parents. Perhaps a mission trip could be in the works to go and see them next year?

October 30 - Nurture and Care will come into focus as we look at how we care for one another. Our congregational care team and nurture team do so much to serve others in our church. Find out some of their story and how you might be called to care for our neighbors whether they are church family or someone you know.

October 31 - Fall Festival is our opportunity to connect with kids from our church and community. Nancy Shade and her team are already working to make this event a special time. Since the pandemic, community events have been getting more attention. What a great opportunity to practice hospitality and build goodwill among our Leavenworth County people!

Pastor Dave



| | |
|------|--------------------|
| 1st | Kathryn West |
| 2nd | Jim Glick |
| | Rick Roush |
| 4th | Scott Hastings |
| | Margaret McLaurin |
| 7th | Lou Ann Roggentien |
| 8th | Alicia Moody |
| 9th | Jacob Brandt |
| | Stacy Kent |
| | Cory Martin |
| 12th | Linda Hermann |

| | | | |
|------|-----------------|------|-------------------|
| 12th | Andi Pawlowski | 25th | Kathy McKinley |
| 13th | June Bond | 26th | Wayne Parks |
| | Kristen Dilka | | Cape Rust |
| 14th | Kathy Huskey | 27th | Austan Sargent |
| | Margaret Songer | | Blaine Weeks |
| | Valancy Varnal | | Sherri Williams |
| 16th | Steve Johnson | | Dave York |
| | Bonnie Smith | 28th | Frank Geib |
| 17th | Morgan Johnson | | Harold Poe |
| 18th | Chet Cole | 29th | Haylie Dilka |
| | Mike Mix | | Jeff Perry |
| 19th | Roy Davis | 30th | Navya Hopkins |
| 20th | Mallie Rust | | Maia Songer |
| 21st | Sherry Lauber | 31st | Kristina Edington |
| 22nd | Helen Parks | | |
| 23rd | Daniel Zeck | | |
| 24th | Roma Keller | | |



| | | |
|------|----------------------------|----------|
| 1st | Jeff & Tammy John | 28 years |
| | Steve & Trish Simms | 55 years |
| 7th | Rick & Shari Hansen | 39 years |
| 9th | Tim & Bobbi Burkett | 29 years |
| 11th | Steve & Carla Wieggers | 25 years |
| 12th | Klaus & Shannon Sanford | 20 years |
| | Grant & Amy Zschoche | 26 years |
| 13th | Matt & Laura Johnson | 7 years |
| 17th | Daryl & Amy Brandt | 30 years |
| 18th | Jeff & Jenise Mick | 36 years |
| 25th | David & Sheryl Reddell | 42 years |
| 30th | Forrest & Janette Holdeman | 29 years |



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.



Just Playin' Around

Mike Mix played three different roles in the cast of Theater Atchison's production of "Matilda" in September. This is his sixth role in Community theater in Atchison and Leavenworth. Most recently he played the Knight in "Little Women". Prior to that he performed the part of Pulitzer in "Newsies" at Theater Atchison. For River City Community Players (RCCP) in Leavenworth, he played the sheriff in "All Shook Up", the Jewish husband in "It Should have been You" and Colonel Gilroy in "Something's Afoot". Unfortunately "Something's Afoot" was scheduled to play when COVID broke out in 2020 and so the production was canceled.

Mike said, "I never thought I would be doing theater in retirement. I thought I would be fishing." But the theater found him. Several years ago, the RCCP was looking for an accompanist. Tyler Boehmer was unavailable, so he recommended Jan, Mike's wife. She agreed and the director asked Mike if he would play a male lead in the play since his wife was going to be at all the rehearsals anyway. Mike agreed and his theater career began. He found that there is a shortage of older men to play roles in community theater, so directors kept calling him for new shows. Mike really enjoys working with the younger actors and actresses. He said, "It is incredible to work with the young kids. Their energy level and talent is off the charts."

Mike does come from a talented family. His mother was an English teacher at Allen County Community College in Iola, Kansas and was active in their community theater. And recently, his grandson in Stafford, Virginia, tried out and got a part in their high school production of "Music Man". He thought, "If grandpa can do theater, so can I."

If Mike has inspired you to give acting a shot, Theater Atchison is holding auditions for "The Christmas Story" on Oct. 25-26 at 7 pm at 612 Commercial Street in Atchison.



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.

"It's not fair that my sister was killed by a drunk driver." "My husband was getting ready to retire. Why did he have to suffer and die from cancer?" "Why did God allow my child to die?" Those are fair questions. Does God really understand what you are going through after your loss? In GriefShare we unpack these questions and find our answers in the Bible. 2 Corinthians 1:3 describes God as the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort. He hears you and invites you to come to Him for comfort.

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, now is the perfect time to join GriefShare. We began with session one in September. There is still room for you in our group. Widowed spouses meet on the third and fifth Tuesday of every month from 2-4 pm. Shared experiences create a bond of understanding and credibility that forges friendships. Our group for everyone who is experiencing grief meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays from 5-7 pm. **It's a place of safety where people can speak with candor and authenticity.** Please consider joining us, especially if your grief is overwhelming you and is interfering with your ability to enjoy life. I believe that GriefShare is one of the tools that God has given us to help us through this challenging time. *Marsha*

AIR DEMENTIA MINISTRY

ART * INSPIRATION * RESPITE

FUMCLVKS.ORG/AIR

MONDAYS 1-4 PM

First choose the age and gender of the child you want to receive your shoebox. They have a handy label.

Gift Ideas for Shoeboxes

A Wow Item - a doll, a soccer ball, stuffed animal

Personal Care Item - comb, soap, toothbrush, wash cloth, lip balm, barrettes, hair ties,

School Supplies - pencils & sharpener, paper, glue sticks, crayons, construction paper

Craft Items - beads, tape, paint, play dough, small tools

Small Toys - harmonica, puzzle, yo-yo, jacks, toy car, frisbee, jump rope, kite, flashlight with batteries

Clothing - hat, flip flops, shirt, socks, mittens

DO NOT INCLUDE

Toothpaste

Liquids, Glass containers, aerosol cans,

Any type of food item including candy, gum, chocolate, seeds, drink mix, vitamins

War related items like guns, knives, or army vehicles



Go to <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/label-options/> to pay for shipping and print a label so you can track when and where your package arrives.



October Schedule



October 3 – Western Day



October 10 - NO AIR - Columbus Day



October 17 - National Chocolate Cupcake Day



October 24 – Field Trip to Weston



October 31 – Pumpkin Day





Greetings and love to everyone that reads this wonderfully incredible newsletter. The Lord is at work in FUMC of Leavenworth Kansas. Financially we are holding steady through three quarters of the year, thank you everyone. The front entrance project is finished, minus some landscaping and continuous lawn maintenance. Thank you to everyone for your contribution of treasure, sweat and prayers. Your trustees will now turn their attention to the three-year revitalization and renovation plan. Forever driving forward, we shall move to glorify Him whom has called us to be His **ambassadors in the proclamation of the Gospel; "as we go making disciples"**.

The annual Church Charge Conference happens on the Oct 27th everyone is **encouraged to participate. "Decisions are made by people that show up."**

Pledge cards are being mailed out soon, so we can forecast ministry expenditure for 2023. Please look into your heart and ask the Lord where he wants you in using your treasures for the coming year. If we sincerely want to change ourselves for the better, we must start on the inside and work our way out from there. Lasting change doesn't occur "out there"; it occurs "in here." Life is constantly changing. Our circumstances change; our opportunities change; our responsibilities change; and our relationships change. Transformation starts with God. It starts in the silent center of a humble human heart...like yours.

"The one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!"
He said, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:5 NLT

in Christ , **Ed**

Just look at the front of our church, new inclined sidewalk, new extended porch, new stairs and new handrails, all design to make sure everyone can come through the front doors. We want to extend a special thank you to our good friends and business partners Jody and Jeff Kaaz and their entire staff of dedicated construction contractors. In the past two years we have work together on three major projects at our historic church: the angled parking and sidewalk project of 2020; the west side parking lot refurbishment 2021; the front entry inclined sidewalk project 2022. Each of these projects were preformed to the highest standard and were financially beneficial to our church. Jeff Kaaz stated why Kaaz **construction is so good to churches, "church work is where our foundation is built on."**

Julius E. Kaaz, founder of Julius Kaaz Construction, began his career under guidance of his father, Julius H. Kaaz. He and his father, later, worked together on the design-build of Christ Lutheran Church in Columbus Nebraska completed in 1921. Julius E. Kaaz went on to form his own general contracting company. In 1957, J. David Kaaz (son of Julius E. Kaaz) began working for the business after serving in the military. In 1979, Stephen L. Kaaz (son of David)) joined the business. In 1984, Greg D. Kaaz (son of David) joined the business. In 1998, Steve and Greg purchased the business from their parents. In 1998, Jody M. Kaaz (daughter of Stephen Kaaz) joined the business. In 2004, Jeff D. Kaaz (son of Stephen Kaaz) joined the family business. In March 2014, Jody Kaaz obtained ownership of Julius Kaaz Construction Co., Inc. also becoming president of the company. With their leadership, the founding principles of safety, quality, integrity and honesty remain a priority. Kaaz Construction Company will continue to provide high quality construction and customer satisfaction at a fair price into the future.



This month we welcome the Williams family; Casey, Erin, Grace, Ben and Max. Erin grew up in eastern Pennsylvania, and ended up going to West Point to play basketball. From there, she joined the Army and was sent to Fort Bragg as her first assignment. Casey was born in Michigan and raised in Michigan and Indiana. He went to college in Arizona, and lived in the Phoenix valley for a few years before joining the Army through OCS. They met at Fort Bragg as lieutenants! They met in summer 2012, dated through a deployment in 2013, and then got engaged in spring 2014. Their last duty station was West Point, New York, where they were teaching at the United States Military Academy. Casey is an Engineer, and Erin is an Operations Research/Systems Analysis officer.

Casey grew up watching Michigan football, and is still a huge fan! He is also excited for the hunting and fishing here in Kansas. They both enjoy running, and Erin has a "side gig" as an online running coach.

Grace is almost 6 and in kindergarten. She loves dressing up and playing pretend, and is really excited to read and write this year. Ben is 4, and just a sweetheart. He loves being around his family, and also really enjoys sports and pretending to fight like Ninja Turtles. Max just turned 3! He is a very loving little boy, who is so content to play independently. Despite being the youngest, he really holds his own when Ben tries to use ninja moves on him.

They love the small, safe community here. It's a small town feel with great access to Kansas City. They are enjoying trips to the zoo, and look forward to doing more events now that the weather is cooling down.

They signed the kids up for VBS the first week they were in town as a way for them to meet some friends (and to get unpacked!). They had SUCH a great time! Our family had been looking for a church that fit our needs in terms of being family-friendly and welcoming, and FUMC has been all that and more. Everyone is so welcoming, and we feel like our kids are engaged in such a positive way.



The Scouting Ministry at FUMC includes Cub Scout Pack 3109, Troop 173 and 6173

We are delighted that the new school year and the Army Command and General Staff College are kicking into gear. With it some families are interested in the smaller, personalized Scouting Ministry offered here at First Church. Kids are busy and there is great competition for their time and energy. Back in the day outside **sporting activities were pretty much school activities ...the only thing my little town in Ohio had heard of soccer was some guy named Pele... but scouting was there and has been an active part of First Church for 53 years.**

We have about 40-50 youth in our Scouting ministry. The fee charged to each scout is \$ 114 and an additional \$25 first time to join. We have some with 3 and 4 kids whose families believe strongly in the values of YOUR Scouting Ministry. Just so you realize, we are not asking for money; we are **THANKFUL** that God has blessed the Scouting Ministry to remain vibrant here at First Church.

If you are looking for a place of values or want to just check out this Scouting thing, you are free to join us on Saturday, 8 October for our Family Camp out. **No, you don't need to camp out, but you are welcome to join us** for dinner, around 5 PM. After that will be a short award ceremony called a Court of Honor, followed by a Flag Retirement Ceremony where YOU can participate. If you have any flags that need to be honorably retired, please drop them off at the church office.

Oh, yeah, one more thing; dessert after the ceremony will be better than any S'more you ever had. Join us and see where The Great Scout Master instills values in the youth for tomorrow.

Kids First Worship is dismissed during the 11:00 service each Sunday on the lower floor of the Main building. In Sept. we are in the Old Testament learning about the people chosen by God to serve as leaders of Israel call Judges. **We'll see God's forgiveness as over and over, they choose to go their own way and then get into trouble!**



October 2 – Ruth
October 9 – 1 Samuel: Hannah
October 16 – 1 Samuel: Samuel and Eli
October 23 – 1 Samuel: Saul Chosen as King
October 30 – 1 Samuel: God Chooses David



Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45 – 10:40. We have two classes, one for non-readers and one for readers. With the Bible as our foundation, we will be **using science, art and activity to not just tell God's story, but learn what it means for us.** Our lessons will be a deeper dive into the books of Ruth and 1 Samuel.

Wonderful Wednesday is a fantastic way to remind children that God is not just for Sundays, he is for EVERY day. This year, your children ages 3 –12 years will access and instruction in all the tools that God has provided us to



NAVIGATE

Each week we will be discovering how God provides guidance for us in His Word, through other people, and through the Holy Spirit. At home, at school, on the playground, wherever we are: **WE NEED GOD!** To register, go to: fumclvks.org/ww



Mother's Morning out meets on the 2nd Wednesday, we provide care for children ages birth through school age. There are three groups: Nursery, Toddlers and Preschool. Space is limited, so register now by going to fumclvksorg/mmo

What: Trunk or Treat with a Twist! In addition to decorated trunks for kiddos to Trick or Treat, we will also be presenting **"Heroes Unmasked"**. Families will have a great time as they interact with Bible champions like Daniel, Gideon, Esther, and Moses. Check out the following needs to see how you **can help share God's love to our community.**

Time: Pray every evening at 5 pm through October 31. Sign up for an hour (or longer!) shift to help on October 31. Sign up to help with set up or tear down for the event.

Treasure: Donate needed supplies.

Donate candy or other treats for the Trunk or Treat.

Talent: Volunteer to lead a Station for Heroes Unmasked. Decorate a Trunk! Contact Nancy Shade to volunteer! nshade@fumclvks.org



Dear Friends,
Thank you very much for giving me the beautiful hand made walker bag. It is lovely. I'm very pleased to have it. I appreciate the work you do.

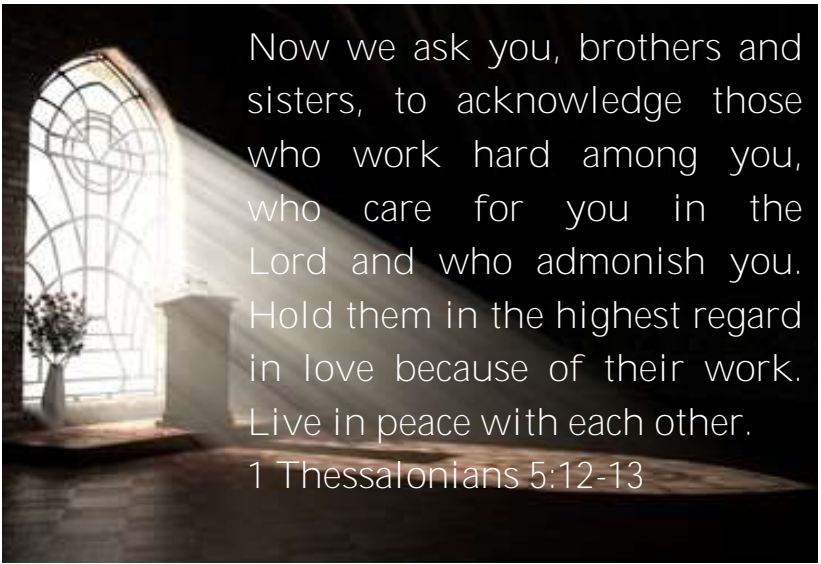
Sincerely,
Alice Hall *Thank you!*

Dear First United Methodist church,
We, at the Leavenworth Council on Aging, would like to express our deepest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for your donation to our Senior Express Transportation program.

Over the past 2 years, we have experienced unprecedented growth in the number of seniors requesting support from our programs and services. Your donation is sure to ease the burden of and bring smiles to the faces of the seniors who will benefit from your generosity and the continuation of this essential program.

Again, thank you so much for your support. We are bless by your kindness.
Connie Harmon, Executive Director

Do you love Christmas music? Join our Christmas Choir! We will be having a Community Christmas concert on Dec. 10 at 2 pm and an all music Sunday on Dec. 18. Choir rehearses on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm. Contact Kathy McKinley for more information. texmck@aol.com.



October is Pastor Appreciation month. Some people joke that pastors have the easiest jobs because they only work on Sundays. But the reality is pastors do much of their ministry behind the scenes. Pastors are the person people call when someone is in the hospital or when a marriage is crumbling or when a child is in trouble. Often times the only time a church member talks to the pastor is to criticize something. Here are some statistics from the Soul Shepherding organization.

- 75% of pastors report being "extremely stressed" or "highly stressed"
- 90% work between 55 to 75 hours per week
- 90% feel fatigued and worn out every week
- 40% report a serious conflict with a parishioner at least once a month
- 65% feel their family is in a glass house

If you feel Pastor Dave is doing a great job, why not take a moment to write him an encouraging note. Dave's birthday also happens to be this month on October 27. Why not show him in a tangible way how much you appreciate his service to our church family.

Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.
1 Timothy 5:17

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Over the years FUMC has had many wonderful staff members. But eventually God moved them on to ministry in other areas. We thought it would be fun to see how God is using them now.



Craig, Teresa, Lincoln (13) and Annabelle (10) Banner

The Banner family share aloha with First UMC Leavenworth from Hawaii! We have wrapped up three years in Hawaii, and will be staying for at least three more. Craig, who celebrated 15 years of active duty service this year, has begun a new Army assignment with a short commute into Honolulu. Lincoln is getting ready to start high school next year. A part-time Spiderman, he enjoys bouldering (rock climbing) when not playing tennis or basketball. Annabelle plays ukulele and dances jazz and ballet. Teresa works from home now teaching mental health providers best practices for supporting military families. Teresa has also been preaching once a month at their small Methodist church in the Hawaiian countryside--something she first learned to do back at First UMC Leavenworth!

We are thankful for the stability God has given us to stay in such a special place where the kids are thriving and we feel settled (for now!) We miss Leavenworth dearly, we always will! The kids sometimes joke about how when we first drove up to the church in January 2017, a preschool-aged Annabelle said that it looked like "Elsa's Castle." We enjoy staying connected to everyone on social media! May God continue to grow your congregation, your outreach, and everyone who is part of the Leavenworth community!

Tyler Boehmer

Life has definitely been in transition for me in the past few months. However, I know that God is in the details. After moving to Lubbock in May 2021, I got to have a lot of exciting adventures! Last September, I got to go to Russia once again, and it was amazing to get to play the organ there. I know it will probably be a long time before I get to return, so I am grateful I got to go.

I spent a lot of time this past year working at Texas Tech University as a collaborative pianist. I worked with a lot of singers, played for some of the classes, and even spent a week doing an opera workshop! The opera workshop was fun, but Mozart is hard! Who knew? I was involved in the community and young adult group, and I made some incredible friendships.

However, as He always does, God wants me to keep growing. This past June was quite eventful. First, I participated in the Quebec Organ Competition in Quebec City where I placed 2nd place overall! (Sidenote: If any of you make it to Quebec City to visit, it's an absolutely gorgeous city! 10/10 would recommend).

Secondly, I submitted an application for a position at Bethany College in Lindsborg, KS. They invited me for an interview, and in early July they offered me the position. So I packed up my things in Lubbock, and I moved back to Kansas this August. I just started teaching at Bethany College this week, and I love it so far! Even though it was hard to leave good friends from Texas, I know this is where God wants me. I love you all!



welcome baby



Marsali (Mar-suh-Lee) Elaine Howell was born Sept. 10 at 8:45 am. She was only 33 weeks and 5 days, so she was early. She weighed 4 pounds and 8 ounces and she was 17 inches long. She had to stay in the NICU a week before she could go home to Ryan and Kristen Howell and big sister, Junia.



Adak Troi Rolf was born September 22 at 3:09 pm. He weighed 6lbs 14oz and was 20 inches. Zach and Katie are enjoying watching big brother, Abel and big sister, Aniston interact with their new brother.

If you love to hold babies like these, we could still use volunteers in our nursery for the 11 am service. Contact Nancy Shade if you're willing to help. nshade@fumclvks.org

The Kingdom of God Belongs To Such As These

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." Luke 18:16-17.

We as a church family have decided to share God's love with two elementary school within 2 miles of our church. In August, we gave Anthony Elementary and David Brewer Elementary hundreds of school supplies donated by children at VBS. That is when we learned about another need. Sometimes young children will have an accident at school and they will have no clean clothes to change into, so we purchased underwear and pants for both boys and girls and donated them to the school nurses at both schools.

We also donated 20 backpacks for kids who can't afford a backpack. But we're not done yet! Sept. 27 we helped serve food at the Anthony Elementary Family Fun night and we'll help with the David Brewer Family Fun night in the spring. We anticipate doing teacher appreciation events during the school year, such as providing lunch for parent teacher conference and teacher appreciation bags from AIR ministry. These are just some of the quiet ways we are sharing Christ's love with the least of these.



OLD MISSION

Getting to Good

by connecting with God

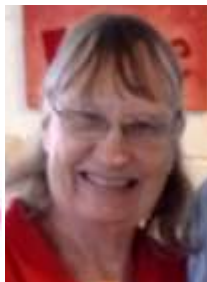
Spiritual Retreat
Oct 15 | 9-12:30 pm
Old Mission UMC

Cost \$20
Sign Up At
www.oldmission.org
All Are Welcome!

Life can be busy, hectic and it just seems like we have been carrying around an enormous amount of grief from the last two years. What if there were some spiritual practices that could help? What if there was a way you could feel less anxious, more present, right here and right now?

Dr. Amy Oden will lead us in some spiritual practices that we can use in our daily lives. This is a time to connect with God and with each other.

Dr. Amy G. Oden is a Professor of Early Church History and Spirituality at St. Paul School of Theology. She is also a spiritual director, companioning people as they listen for God in their day-to-day life. Amy was born and raised in Oklahoma and is the author of several books. She received her Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Southern Methodist University.



October is breast cancer awareness month, so you are going to start seeing pink. Schedule a mammogram, it could save your life. A regular mammogram, 22 years ago, discovered a cancerous lump in my breast. Since it was found early, stage one, no chemotherapy was needed. This even led to further events for me as nine months later stage four ovarian cancer was discovered. Surgery and chemotherapy followed. A genetic test indicated I am positive for the BRCA1 mutation. People who inherit harmful variants in one of these genes have increased risks of several cancers—most notably breast and ovarian cancer. Speak to your health care provider to determine when you should begin regular mammograms. Early diagnosis is important. It could be life saving! YOU are important, and this is too. *When you see pink, schedule an appointment.* Cheryl



OCTOBER 8, 4 - 10 PM
UNIVERSITY OF SAINT MARY

Relay for Life is a team fundraising event dedicated to helping the American Cancer Society attack cancer from every angle. October 8, starts with the Survivor's Dinner at 5 pm. Any cancer survivor is welcome to attend the dinner, they just need to RSVP at relay.org/leavenworthcoks. The opening ceremony is at 6 pm. They will walk around the track at Berkel Stadium which will be decorated with luminaries honor those who've faced the disease and provide hope for a world without cancer. Luminaries can be purchased for \$10 to honor the memory of a loved one. The relay is an amazing way for communities to team up and make a real difference.



Every dollar raised supports the American Cancer Society's. They are still accepting teams and individuals who want to participate. Even a donation of \$10 can help people find hope and support online through the Cancer Survivors Network. Twenty five dollars can connect someone with a Reach to Recovery mentor. Thirty dollars can provide answers through their 24 hour helpline. 1-800-277-2345. Sixty five dollars can provide one free night of lodging for people with cancer when their treatment is far from home.

If you would like more information about the Relay for Life here in Leavenworth, contact Carolyn at Carolyn.zeller@cancer.org or go to relay.org/leavenworthcoks.



NOVEMBER 1
1 PM



Do you enjoy reading? Join the book club! This is a small casual group that enjoys talking about what they have read. The book club will be reading James Bryan Smith's "Room of Marvels" in October. The novel is the story of three deaths in three years: His mother. His best friend. And now, his two year old daughter. In this moving story a Christian author goes to a retreat center to grieve and face the hard questions about God that he is asking in the wake of these losses. If you have ever felt alone, betrayed, abandoned—if you have found yourself asking God why—this novel may be a source of hope. And if you have ever wondered what heaven is like, this book provides a beautiful vision. Room of Marvels is a masterful, dream-like tale that speaks to the eternal in the midst of our most painful earthly losses. Finding your room of marvels will give you reason to live. Again.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? - PAST STAFF CONTINUED



Amy Brandt

Amy served as Administrative Assistant for FUMCL for many years, sharing her gift of making others feel welcome and her cheerful smile.

She is serving as the Administrative Assistant at Saint Vincent Clinic here in Leavenworth, and is currently preparing to transition to Pharmacy Coordinator. She says, "I am blessed to have a wonderful staff family. I love the interaction I get to have with them and our awesome patients."

When asked how God is working in her life, she said, "I see God working in my life through the positive outcomes our Saint Vincent patients have from simply having access to healthcare. We call them Hope Stories. I see him working through our donors who make it possible to purchase medical equipment and supplies to help our patients.

He definitely has a hand in the amazing connections our clinic has with the Shelter of Hope, Council on Aging, and The Guidance Center to work together to assist our patient population.

Bruce & Melissa Emmert

After 41 years under Episcopal appointment, I retired from full-time ministry in the local church on July 1, 2022. I now do Coaching, Mentoring, and Church Consulting through Forge CMC, a new ministry I started this year. You can check it out at WWW.FORGECCMC.NET.



Melissa and I recently moved to Topeka, our hometown. Melissa continued her vocation as a nurse and plans on returning to hospice nursing once we're settled in Topeka. Our oldest daughter, Jayna, and her husband have two daughters and live in Topeka. Suzanne and her husband have two daughters and live in Lawrence. Maribeth, is a Junior High English teacher and married Ryan, her Leavenworth High School sweetheart. They live in Topeka. Laura, who works for Champion Sports, is dating a police officer and lives in Manhattan.



Mark and Becca Paisar

Mark served here at FUMCL, first as our organist and then as our Director of Worship. His wife, Becca, served as the Director for the Youth Bell Choir. They loved their time here, with Becca saying, "We were so far from home, and the people of the church became our family."

They currently reside in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis. When they first arrived in Minnesota, Mark was working at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, with campuses in Minneapolis and Minnetonka. He was one of three organists, and also served as a choral director. When he arrived, he found that the church had handbells, but no handbell choir. In part due to his experience here with Wesley Ringers and the Celebration Bell Choir, he was able to start and is still leading an adult Bell Choir!

He has recently been promoted to the Director of Music, and continues to use his deep faith and his extensive music knowledge to serve God.

BUILDING THE FUTURE



Kaaz Construction, Geiger Cement and our volunteers worked hard to build the new entrance to our church.



All of our Children's Ministries; Kids First Worship, Wonderful Wednesday, Mother's Morning Out, and the Nursery have seen an increase in attendance as we develop the next generation of Christ followers.

