



First United Methodist Church
of
Leavenworth
422 Chestnut, Leavenworth, KS 66048
913-682-5374 **FUMCLVKS.ORG**




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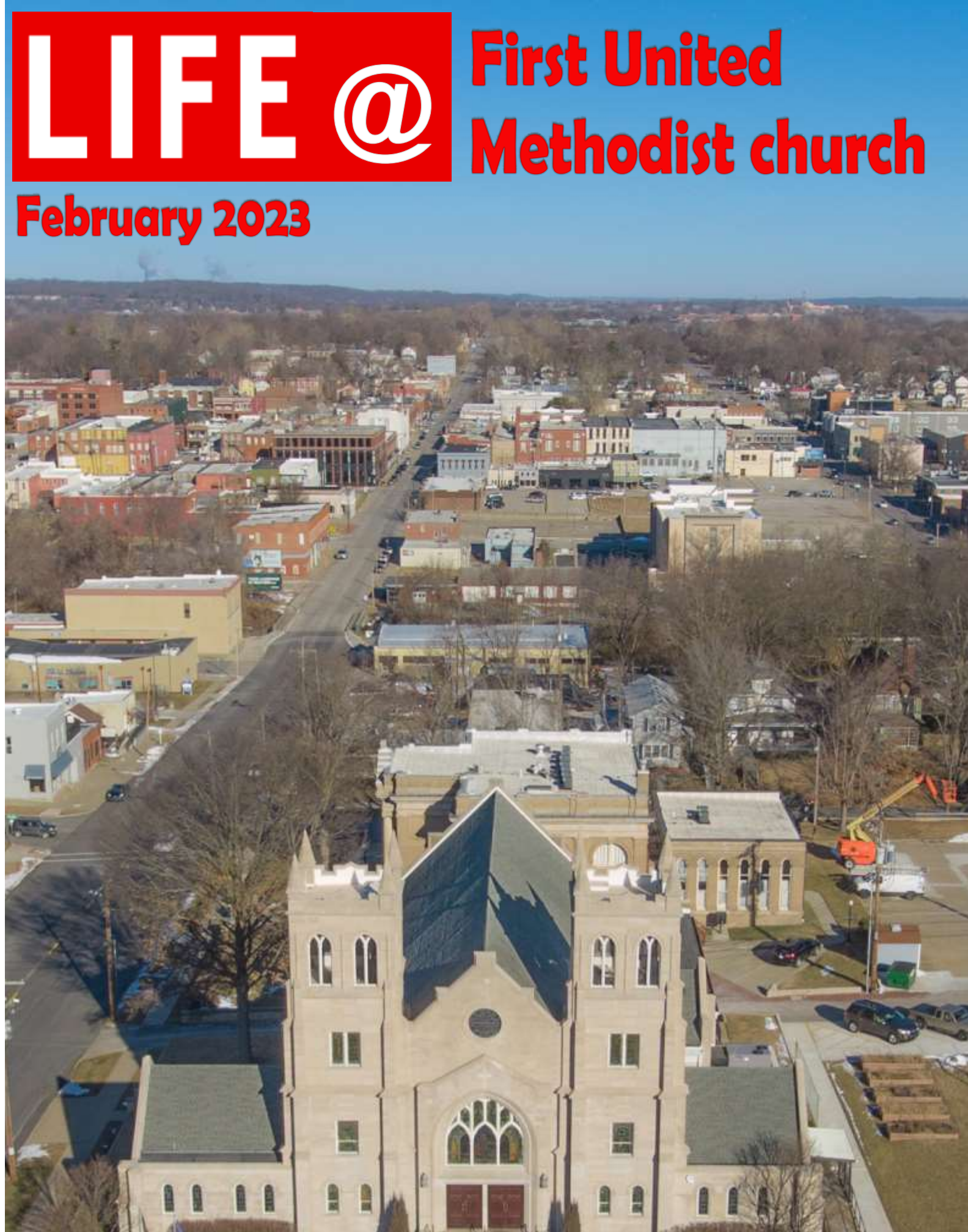
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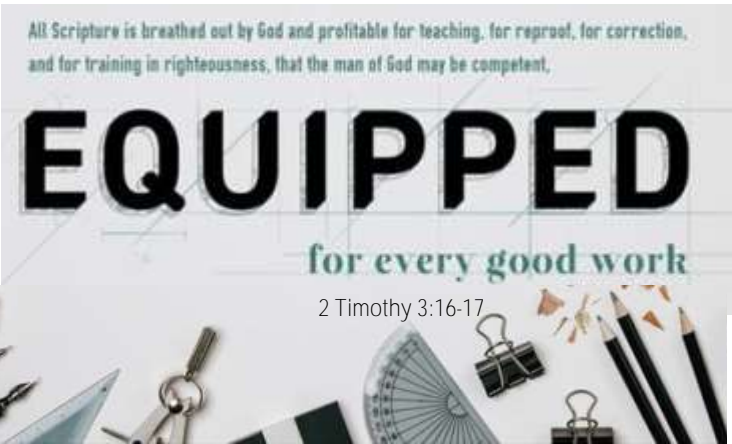


Or visit us at [FUMCLVKS.ORG](https://www.FUMCLVKS.ORG)
Sunday services stream at either site.

February 2023

29 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 4:00 pm Wesley Ringers 6:00 pm Youth	30 1:00 pm AIR ministry	31 10am Bible Study 6:30 Pastor Dave's Bible Study	1 3:45 pm Wonderful Wednesday 6:30 pm Choir	2 8:30am Staff 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	3	4 
5 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 4:00 pm Wesley Ringers 6:00 pm Youth	6 1:00 pm AIR Ministries	7 10am Bible Study 6:30 Pastor Dave's Bible Study	8 8:30 MMO 3:45pm WW 5:00pm Grief Group 6:30pm Choir	9 8:30am Staff 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	10	11
12 8:30 & 11am Worship 4pm Bells 6pm Youth	13 1:00 pm AIR Ministries	14 10am Bible Study 2pm Grief Share 6:30 Bible Study	15 3:45pm WW 6:30pm Choir	16 8:30am Staff 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	17	18
19 8:30 & 11am Worship 4 pm bells 6pm Youth 6pm Family Game Night	20 President's Day Church office closed NO AIR ministry	21 10am Bible Study 6:30 Pastor Dave's Bible Study	22 3:45pm Wonderful Wednesday 5:30 pm Dinner 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday	23 8:30am Staff 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	24	25 
26 8:30 & 11am Worship 4 pm bells 6pm Youth	27 1:00 pm AIR Ministry	28 10am Bible Study 12pm Ladies Lunch 6:30 Pastor Dave's Bible Study	1 3:45pm Wonderful Wednesday 5:30 pm Potluck 6:30pm Choir	2 8:30am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	3	4 





Story telling is a big part of who we are. Stories passed on to us by our family, nation, culture and religion shape our identity and purpose. No wonder Jesus used stories called parables to teach his audience (including us). Often, the story that Jesus tells and the stories told to us by others conflict. For example, our cultural/religious story may tell us that we have to earn God's grace. His favor is based on what I do like read my Bible or pray more or give generously. Jesus' story tells us that grace is God's generous gift to everyone. It's not based on your performance whether you do well or poorly. God loves you because God loves you. Sometimes we think God is always angry with us or God blesses me when I am good and punishes me when I am bad. These stories are false and do not reflect the heart of God. Jesus came to set the record straight with his story!

As we start our Lenten season, we'll be focused on some parables Jesus told as recorded in the Gospel of Luke. Some are example parables, others are about Israel, and a couple involve money. I hope you'll join us in several different ways.

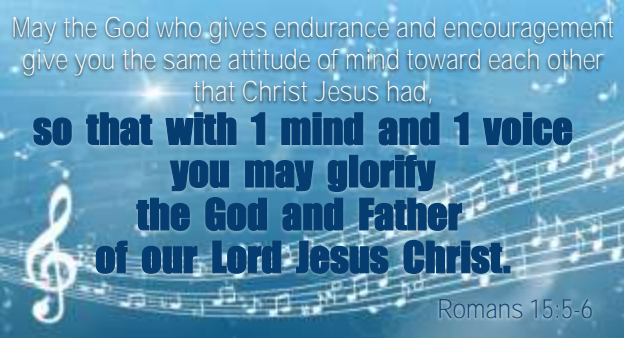
- * Attend worship services during Lent. Invite someone to attend with you either online or in person.
- * Participate in the Gospel listening plan so that you can hear all four gospels during this time.
- * Download YouVersion or Bible.is apps for audio translations.
- * Use your driving or chore time to saturate yourself in God's word.
- * Serve outside of the church or within a church ministry if you don't already.
- * Build relationships with people through your time and energy so you can be Christ's messenger. Kind and caring words along with generous actions show the love of God, displaying his compassion and grace.

Our history is part of God's story. Allow God's love for you to be heard in His words, not what others think or say about you. We have a story to tell of Jesus and his love.

Pastor Dave



One of the great opportunities of OneKC is the opportunity to worship with fellow churches from other denominations and styles of worship. Sunday, February 26, we will have a night of praise and prayer with other area congregations participating in OneKC. It will be at Sunflower Baptist church, 1708 5th Ave AT 6 pm. The night will include praise, prayer and communion. Make plans to join us.



2nd	Jamie Brettmann	13th	Carl Langley
	John Hersey	15th	Anne-Marie Short
3rd	Mary Eleanor McCluskey	16th	Barbara Peiper
4th	Hunter Resnick	17th	Junia Howell
7th	Emily Wecas	18th	Steve Coats
8th	Kyle Sanders		Jack Walker
9th	Miriam Cade	19th	Chris Wecas
10th	Claudia McAllaster	20th	Joyce Goss
11th	Cathy Landis	21st	Robert McKinley



21st	Tyler Morgan
	Dick Peiper
23rd	Hannah Banker
	Sara LaMoe
24th	Christine Corrison
25th	Bob Hale
27th	John Short



14th	Bill & Annette McCollum	23 years
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.



TUES, FEB 28, 12:00 pm
Metropolitan Steakhouse





Kids First Worship meets during the 11:00 service each Sunday on the lower floor of the Sanctuary building. While Jesus was on earth, he did a lot of miracles. Every day, no matter what he said or did, he was proving that he truly was the Son of God!

February 5 – MIRACLES: Water to Wine
February 12 – MIRACLES: Feeding the 5,000
February 19 – MIRACLES: Walking on Water
February 26 – MIRACLES: Healing the Blind



Wonderful Wednesday is a fantastic way to remind children that God is not just for Sundays, he is for EVERY day. 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! February will be filled with LOVE, for God and Jesus, for each other and for ourselves.



February 26, kids in 5th – 8th grade will meet for a taco bar from 12-1:30 pm. We hope that you will join us for good food and tons of fun!



Get ready to take off for Cosmic fun in July! Kids will be learning about the light of the world, JESUS! Mark your calendars for VBS!



January Mother's Morning Out was filled with SNOW! Except for outside...it was almost 50 degrees! All of the groups made a Melted Snowman – they were all different – just like snowflakes AND kids! Our younger groups enjoyed Feeding the Snowman while our oldest group actually made SNOW! We talked about the two things God created to make snow – Water and Cold. We finished off the day with the Winter Hokey Pokey. I am so thankful for all the volunteers that give of their time and talents each month. It is a special thing to allow moms to have some time to themselves, knowing that their children are safe and loved.

So much of the time we jump from Jesus as a baby in a manger to Jesus as an adult. Even though there are not many stories about child Jesus, the ones we do have are so important. In Children's ministry last month, we not only read the stories, but through art, activity and videos we discovered so much more than just words. Some of what we learned: wise people still look for Jesus, young Jesus went on a very dangerous journey with his parents to get away from leaders that were trying to get rid of him, Jesus was baptized in a river by his cousin, and he knew God was his Father at a very young age.

I am so thankful that God forgives us when we make mistakes. Wonderful Wednesday in January, we found out that it didn't take people long to start making mistakes. Both Adam and Eve couldn't even keep the one rule God had given them. Nancy Shade

Dear FUMC church family,
Steve and I, and our family thank you for your kind sympathy card, thoughts and prayers, for our mother, grandmother and great grandmother, Norma Bray.
God has been very comforting and loving. We feel His presence with each passing day. We thank the church for ministering to mother in her home and at Twin Oaks. The funeral service was so special. May God bless you ministries.
Sincerely,
Marcia & Steve McCearrinon
And family

Thank you!

COMING SOON



Children Church Camp Scholarships



COVID shut down children's church camps but they are back and better than ever. We have several options near us for quality Christian summer camps.

- Why? Camp is an opportunity to explore the world and their personal faith in a safe setting. Many people look at their camp experiences as foundational to their faith.
- What? There are different options for camp depending on the child's interest. There are camps that focus on horses or sports or STEM or the arts. Each camp has a faith basis for their activities.
- Where? There are many choices for church camps in our area. The United Methodist church sponsors Camp Chippewa near Ottawa. Institute is at Baker University in Baldwin City.
- Who? Camp Chippewa has programs for third through eighth grade students. Institute is for ninth through twelfth graders.
- How? Every child wanting to go to camp can have their full admission paid for by the church. Simply submit the scholarship form to the church office.

Last year Lucy and Natalie Heim went to the Boots and Bible session of camp at Camp Chippewa. They loved it so much, they plan to go back for two sessions this year! Lucy said, "My favorite thing about camp was making new friends." Natalie said, "I really enjoyed nature because we were outside a lot."

Camp sessions are offered weekly throughout the summer. Sessions should be shown on the Camp Chippewa website in March. Go to campchippewa.org for more information.





Greeting and love to all.

In 2023, the newest event on the horizon, is a global mission trip to Nehemiah House Orphanage in Romania. We are planning for June 2023 and need to have this plan finalized by the end of this month. The group, hopefully will include both adults and youth. The estimate cost of the trip is \$3000 for travel, lodging and food.

The trip to Romania may include helping with summer garden projects, making crafts, helping older children with simple carpentry, and small maintenance projects. The kids love to play indoor and outdoor games so be sure to hone your Uno and matching game skills before going, or be prepared to join them in a game of soccer or volleyball! Learn more about Nehemiah House at <https://globalhope.org/category/nehemiah-house/>.

New and exciting things are happening for our children this year from confirmation class with Pastor Dave, to VBS, to the restart of Fusion 56(fifth and sixth graders), to the Bridge Ministry (for middle schoolers) to the Youth Ministry, please **feel free to contact the office to learn more. As a staff we'll plan, prepare, rehearse and be ready for a glorious new year.**

The love this congregation brings on a daily basis is surging ahead this coming year. Feeding the hungry (*Samaritan's Buffet, Leavenworth Mission Volunteers, Backpack Buddies*), housing the homeless (*Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope*), and loving unconditionally on our neighbors not for individual/collective recognition but to bring glory to our Lord Jesus (*Itch'n to Stitch, Grief Share, AIR, Youth Mission, Kids First Worship, Bible Study Groups, Sunday School, Scouts and Music*) are all opportunities for you to serve and love.

If you would like more information on these service ministries or you have an idea or other area where you believe we need to serve, please contact me at egarven@fumclvks.org.

Your staff's primary means of communication to inform the congregation is as follows:

1. The next steps announcements by Pastor Dave and Kathy McKinley at the end of each sermon.
2. This incredible magazine.
3. Mass emails weekly of the upcoming service with announcements on the back.
4. Mass texts weekly.
5. Our Facebook postings.
6. Our website.

If you're not receiving announcements in a timely matter, please call (913-682-5374) or email me (egarven@fumclvks.org) directly. We want you to know that you are loved, appreciated, and known.

In Christ, *Ed*

There will be a meeting on February 5, after the second service in Wesley Hall. There will be information about passports, cost and what **events are planned. If you're not able to attend** you can contact Ed about any questions you may have.

GLOBAL
HOPE
Mission Trip
June 12 - 22
Approx. \$3,000



Scouting Celebrate 50 years at FUMC

Who doesn't appreciate two holidays in a month? With one meeting under our belt, the Scouts are making plans for the next six months, which will take us into the Camping Season with our first campout planned for Feb. 18.

Scout Sunday on Feb. 19 will recognize the over 50 years of the Scouting Ministry, and the Scouts will help with **Samaritan's Buffet on Feb. 4.**

The Cub Scouts will receive some weather safety and community law enforcement instruction. On March 6 we have an appointment with the Sheriff to tour the Justice Center. On March 27 the Emergency Management dept. will be giving a presentation on flood and tornado safety for the beginning of spring.

Bill Kiebler

Welcome
to the family



Heidi Eaton grew up in Leavenworth, attending St. Paul Lutheran School, East Junior High, and Leavenworth High School. She grew up in St. Paul Lutheran Church, where her parents still attend. She earned her degree in Biology at Kansas State University and then moved to Colorado Springs, CO where she became a zookeeper for Cheyenne Mountain Zoo. For 26 years she worked with the great apes; gorillas and orangutans. When she started, the job mostly involved prepping their food, feeding them, and cleaning up after them. By the time she left, the job involved those things plus doing keeper talks and shows to educate the public, training the animals, and creating and providing enrichment to keep the animals happy and healthy. Gorillas and orangutans are incredibly smart and very similar to us in many ways. They each have their own personality, and really become like family, so she does miss working with them and seeing them every day. She has been back to visit once so far, and most seemed happy to see her. She could go on for hours about this part of her life. :)

Heidi is an amazing artist. Her main medium currently is called scratchboard where the artist starts with a black canvas and makes tiny scratches to reveal the white. Several of her pieces are shown on this page.

She is also an avid birdwatcher. Her earliest memories are seeing fields full of swans and a snowy owl on family drives in the countryside in Michigan. She moved from Michigan to Kansas when she was six. Growing up, her family would take drives in the country or in the bottomlands on Fort Leavenworth to look at birds. She took ornithology as part of her biology degree and learned more about birdwatching. In Colorado, she and her husband were active in the local Audubon chapter.

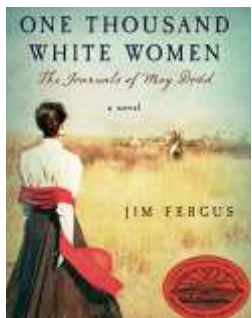
About 15 years ago, Heidi started getting into macro photography, noticing and photographing insects. That new interest eventually led her to meeting her husband, through an insect Facebook page called BugGuide. He started messaging her, which escalated to nightly phone calls. A friend of his invited him to come to her parents' beach house in New Jersey and told him he could invite others, so he invited Heidi. That week in Jersey was their first date. Her favorite memory is hundreds of Black Skimmers flying around them on the beach. They love to spend time in nature looking for insects, reptiles, amphibians, birds, and whatever else they can find. They like to travel to places where they can do that. They have been married about 10 years and do not have any kids.

Heidi is an aide at Anthony, and enjoys seeing kids "get it". She mostly works with kids that are behind where they should be, so when that light bulb comes on and they understand something, it's really cool. There are lots of disadvantaged kids there, so she tries to be a positive in their lives for that little bit of time that she spends with them.

Heidi's parents still live here and are getting older. Housing costs in Colorado were skyrocketing, so they bought a house in Leavenworth about 4 years ago, with the plan to move here eventually to be closer to her parents. The pandemic probably accelerated that plan a bit, as it made Heidi miss her family more, so in late 2020, they started planning the move.

When she first moved back, she returned to her old church, St. Paul Lutheran. She eventually wanted her own community of people rather than all her parents' friends. She also was longing to be a part of a choir and bell choir again, as that was a big part of her church life in Colorado. She loves how welcome she was made to feel right away here. The emphasis on helping the community and social justice really appeals to her.





BOOK CLUB MARCH 7

Every 6 to 8 weeks the book club reads and discusses a new book. We choose different genres and different authors. This month our book is **"One Thousand White Women"** by Jim Fergus. Based on an actual historical event but told through fictional diaries, this is the story of May Dodd—a remarkable woman who, in 1875, travels through the American West to marry the chief of the Cheyenne Nation.

"One Thousand White Women" begins with May Dodd's journey into an unknown world. Having been committed to an insane asylum by her blue-blood family for the crime of loving a man beneath her station, May finds that her only hope for freedom and redemption is to participate in a secret government program whereby women from "civilized" society become the brides of Cheyenne warriors. What follows is a series of breathtaking adventures—May's brief, passionate romance with the gallant young army captain John Bourke; her marriage to the great chief Little Wolf; and her conflict of being caught between loving two men and living two completely different lives.

We will meet on March 7, at 1:30 pm in Wesley Hall to discuss the book. You're welcome to join the conversation.

Itchin' to Stitch



The annual Itchin' to Stitch road trip will be Sat., Feb. 11. They will car pool from Teresa Hick's house, 118 Rock Creek Loop. If you're willing to drive, please let Teresa know. They'll go to Quilters' Paradise in Baldwin City and continue to Quilting Bits and Pieces in Eudora. 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. They will have lunch afterward. Please RSVP Teresa by Feb. 9th hickst@kc.rr.com or 913-727-2694. This will be their only meeting in February.

In January, the group met to make cloth stars. They also gifted three quilts to a family that has relocated to the Kansas City area from Ukraine.

In 2022, Itchin' to Stitch completed these projects:

- 3,012 Mother's Hearts for Children's hospital
- 206 Baby quilts
- 176 Walker bags
- 35 Community fleece blankets
- 4 Fire Dept. fleece blankets
- 12 Veteran's honor quilts
- 1 Baby hat

Teresa Hicks



FEBRUARY ITEMS: TOILET PAPER VEGETABLE OIL, RAMEN & HATS

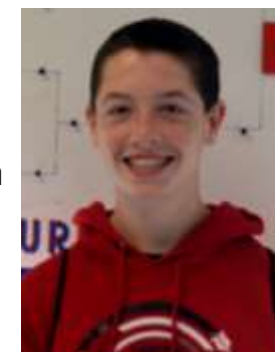
REFUGE YOUTH

Our FUMC church family has many talented youth. This month we are shining a spotlight on four student athletes. Lindsay McKinley and Anya Anderson have played basketball against each other for ten years. They started in the youth community leagues in grade school. Now Lindsay plays for Leavenworth and Anya plays guard for Lansing High School. Her brother,

Jonas, is the manager for the girls basketball team. January 10, Leavenworth played Lansing and a group from our church went to watch the girls play. Leavenworth won. Anya said, "It's fun to play with a friend, even if they're on the other team."

Wyatt Brown has been wrestling for Lansing since middle school. He is a Varsity wrestler in the 157 weight class. He's vice president for the team. He doesn't plan to wrestle in college but is considering becoming a referee to stay involved with the sport. He enjoys the hard workouts at practice and the friendships with his teammates. Lansing's wrestling match is Feb. 2.

We'd love to highlight other students, please tell us about your student and their pursuits.



FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Taylor York is studying English at the University of Kansas. He is going to be practicing his skills with us as our special correspondent. Below are two of his articles.

With Black History Month in view, and Martin Luther King Jr. just past, the role of race is being brought up again. The NAACP is always active in the community, but they get a special spotlight here. Some people think of the NAACP as radical, but is it really radical to work towards what is just and equal? Casting light on misdeeds of the past and inequalities of the present is not an easy task, but it is one that needs to be done to keep our society moving forward.

There is growth and areas to improve for everybody. I had the pleasure to interview Joana Scholtz, the president of the Leavenworth branch of the NAACP. The simple act of having an open and honest conversation about race is the very thing that nurtures growth. When we were discussing the importance of MLK day and the continued movement of the NAACP she had this to say, **“I really believe it matters, people just don’t know it matters.” We have moved forward in the open hostility of racism in America, but the wounds and consequences are still very present. “Crime”** is a term that has become weaponized against minorities. Whether we know it or not, we are still living under the old injustices of the past, and silence on the topic continues to perpetuate the circumstance. We are making a lot of progress, but there is still room to grow, and having open conversations that come from a place of wanting to understand our neighbors will break down the barriers that race has wedged between us.

A date to mark this year is the celebration of Juneteenth. Joana Scholtz told me that Juneteenth is not just to acknowledge independence from slavery, but it is to acknowledge the existence of those who came before. On June 17th at Haymarket Square, the Juneteenth celebration will be from 3-11 as a festival under the stars. The Twilight Parade is going to start between 6 and 7, and like last year, there will be plenty of vendors and food trucks. Everyone is welcome to celebrate. A common misconception is that different events are solely for one group and not for all, but **Juneteenth is a celebration of our society’s progress to freedom for all and everyone should celebrate that.**

Bethel AME, founded by Reverend J.M. Wilkenson is the oldest AME church in Kansas founded in 1861. It served as a station in the underground railroad as well as the AME church, as African-Americans looked to escape the slave state of Missouri and find freedom across the river, in the free state of Kansas. In the first iteration of the building, there was a bell tower where they would light up the cross to let the people know when it was safe to cross over the Missouri River, either **by train or by wading through the river itself. The underground railroad station was under the ladies’ room, still there today** in Bethel.

In 1992, the Richard Allen Cultural Center was opened up. It was the home of Buffalo Soldier, Captain William Bly of the U.S. Army. The building was bought for only one dollar. The church was worried that so much history was slipping away, so they decided to transform the old home into the Cultural Center. When coming up with a name for the Cultural Center, Bethel chose to name the center after Richard Allen. But who is Richard Allen?

Richard Allen was born into slavery on February 14, 1760. His family was separated through the slave trade. At age 17, he became a Methodist convert, and by age 22 he was preaching. He ended up buying his freedom for \$2,000 dollars **and moved to Philadelphia where he became a minister at St. George’s, a church that served both black and white parish-**ioners, however, the church was still segregated. Allen wanted a place where the African American population could worship for themselves. He became the founder of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church and was the first minister. His congregation would form the church of Mother Bethel AME, in Philadelphia, the oldest AME congregation. Allen may have never come to Kansas, but his legacy as the founder of the AME church is far reaching, and he is more than worthy of having his namesake on the Richard Allen Cultural Center here in Leavenworth, Kansas.

Taylor York



Samaritan’s Buffet Anniversary continued

coats and hats and gloves. Linda Landzettel remembers helping one young man looking for a very long and thin pair of pants. It was an unusual size and **she wasn’t sure they would have it, but she was able to find a pair.**

Mary Eleanor McCluskey went to Dillons and talked to the manager. For a year they donated all sorts of breads and desserts. Those were also put on **the give away tables. But Dillons is not our only community partner. Sis’ Sweets often blesses Samaritan’s Buffet with trays of cookies that are left over for their store. Denney’s Produce has been a supplier of fruits and vegetables** needed for the meals. They take our order and fill it at a deep discount.

I asked a couple of volunteers how they got started with Samaritan’s Buffet.

Jim and Cynthia Walley said Linda Martin recruited them because she said they knew how to look at what was



available in a cupboard and make up a meal. Their first time to **volunteer was in August. The next month Samaritan’s Buffet was on** Labor Day and all the volunteers were going to be out of town, so the next meal was theirs alone! They decided to make chicken pot pie, so that Wednesday they baked 100 pounds of chicken which they had to de-bone by themselves. It took them the entire afternoon.

When Jack Walker started volunteering, his job was to put 4 baby carrots into a baggie. That sounds like an easy job, but there were **75 pounds of baby carrots! That’s a lot of baggies! Mike Mix said he** started volunteering because family meal time was always an important time. Samaritan’s Buffet felt like a meal in his home. One of his favorite jobs was as a greeter or a bus boy because he loved to sit down and have talks with guests. He said guests were starved for personal interaction. Mike **said the hardest part of being a cook for Samaritan’s Buffet is to take a** recipe for 4 people and expand that to 400 with ounces, and pounds, etc.

When COVID hit in 2020, it caused a lot of changes in Samaritan’s Buffet. They were no longer able to serve the meals in the Fellowship Hall. They switched to pick up service only. Volunteers switched to **green recyclable take out containers and bags so they don’t create as** much trash. There was another local church that could no longer afford to provide the monthly meal, so our church took on two meals a month - on the first and fourth Saturday of the month. The volunteers would like to reopen the monthly meals, but it would take more volunteers to staff it.

Each of the volunteers love the work they are doing. They said it is **very intense work, but as Jim Wolfe said, “We like being here. We talk and joke and laugh and still manage to prepare a meal.”** Volunteers also have the benefit of knowing they are truly helping their community. In the ten years since they started serving meals, they have served 55,930 meals. Last year they served over 10,000 meals. The



need for community meals has increased over the years, **In January, Samaritan’s Buffet served over 1,000 meals.**

The volunteers would like to thank the church for their tremendous support through volunteers, desserts, Christmas offering and overall encouragement.

One final legacy of Samaritan’s Buffet. Chris and Crystal Straeger used to volunteer here. After they retired and moved to Pittsburgh, PA, they started a similar community meal at their new church. You never know what one Bible study can do.





Happy 10th Anniversary

What difference can a Bible study make? In 2012, Mollie Foster led a Bible Study called “Being A Good Samaritan”. At the end of the study, it asked, “What can you do to be a good Samaritan?” Some of the people in class said that St Paul’s Lutheran church had begun giving free meals to the community. So eight people decided to start making a meal once a month to take to St. Paul’s to be served. This group of people funded the meal themselves. They each paid \$20 to buy hot dogs, buns, baked beans, cookies and the cheapest fruit they could find. They started serving 230 meals. They cooked the meal at the church and then transported everything to be served at St. Paul’s. Once they ran out of hot dogs, so they ordered 15 pizzas from Little Caesars.



After 2 years of funding the community meals themselves, the church voted to fund the meals with \$200 a month. There were **more changes on the horizon. Connie Van, the then pastor’s wife** was a dietician. She challenged the volunteers up their game and to create well balanced and healthy meals. Linda Martin, **Sandy Simmons and Sister Vickie were able to get Samaritan’s** Buffet connected with USDA Commodities. The Commodities program is run by the state of Kansas. It has been a huge blessing because it helps provide a free quality protein and sometimes fruit or vegetables for each meal. But you must keep detailed records and prove that you have used everything you received.

Commodities have also created some interesting dishes because you must use what is available. “Salmon Surprise” was one such dish!

Over the years, the church has upgraded our facilities to make the work of cooking a little easier. UMW (United Methodist Women) raised money to purchase two freezers to **hold the commodities. Bill McAfee’s memorial gift purchased a food processor. In 2019, Marjorie Krattli’s memorial gift helped to fund a kitchen remodel which added a new commercial stove and hood and triple sinks. Linda Lanzettel said, “You had to come in extra early if you wanted to boil water on the old stove because it took so long. The new renovation was a great help.”**

In January 2016, the church decided to start serving the community meal here at the church instead of traveling to St. Paul’s each week. The serving time was 11 am to 1 pm, but guests would start arriving at 9:30 am to drink coffee and eat dessert. It became an important social time for many of the guests. The volunteers got to know the guests by name and built relationships with them. Nancy Shade remembered one older gentleman named Bingo who brought his grandchildren, Malcom, Malaysia and Malichi. **While they were waiting for their meal, Sonia Wiley taught them the song, “1 2 Buckle My Shoe”. They would sing the song for Nancy every time they came back for another meal.**

Jim Wolfe remembers a man named Hector who was a trained architect from Argentina. He and his friend, John Kozak would come and drink coffee and talk. One day Jim Wolfe found out Hector had been diagnosed with cancer. He would pray for him **during his chemo treatments. Hector told his friend, “This is the church I was telling you about. It’s about more than the food.” That has always been the prayer of the volunteers. They pray before the meals that they not only serve stomachs but their guests souls. When Hector was on his deathbed, Jim went to visit him. Hector grabbed Jim’s hand and wouldn’t let go. Later, Jim and Nancy attended his funeral.**



Volunteers decided they could do more than just feed their neighbors, they could help with other needs as well and so the give away tables were born. The tables were filled with clothing, toiletries and stuffed animals. They also gave away seasonal items such as



Music Note

February is designated as Black History month, and while we shouldn’t limit our appreciation of music by African-American composers to just one month, it’s a nice time to explore and highlight some of their contributions to church music. In January, I introduced some composers who contributed two well-known songs to the culture of America. James Weldon Johnson, with his brother Rosemond Johnson, initially wrote “Lift Every Voice and Sing” in 1900 to be sung by the children at his segregated school’s celebration of Abraham Lincoln’s birthday. It later became the official song of the NAACP, often called the “Black National Anthem,” and is included in our United Methodist Hymnal.

Thomas A. Dorsey, a successful jazz musician in the 1920s, had a spiritual conversion and dedicated the rest of his life to composing songs for the church. In 1931, he wrote “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” as a way to deal with the grief of losing his wife during childbirth and their newborn son shortly after. He became an ordained minister in Atlanta, GA, and is often referred to as the Father of Gospel Music, having written over 800 gospel pieces by the time of his death in 1993 at the age of 93.

In continuing to explore and include music from African-American composers throughout February, I was very intentional in finding pieces that were not just “spirituals,” but were more contemporary pieces. On February 12th, the choir will sing “Welcome” by Mark A. Miller. Miller is a Minister of Music at Christ Church in New Jersey, and an Assistant Professor of Church Music at Drew Theological Seminary. Since 1999 he has lead United Methodist and other denominations around the globe with his hymns and anthems and he passionately believes that music can change the world.

The anthem on February 26th, “Understanding Love”, was written by Wisconsin native Judith Baity, a successful accompanist, piano instructor, and organist and music director at St Stephen’s Episcopal Church in Santa Clarita, CA. She is a prolific composer of music for choir, orchestra, solo piano, solo voice and children’s voices. These selections are by no means exhaustive, but are meant to spark an interest in the rich tapestry of sacred music that African-Americans have created, inspired and fostered.



From left to right; James Weldon Johnson, Thomas A. Dorsey, Mark Miller and Judith Baity

LEAVING A LEGACY....

The Richard Allen Cultural Center is more than just a great 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 11 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.” Sandy Wood**





SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

FUMC has four different scholarship programs available to our active members/participants attending an institution of higher learning in the fall of 2023.

Leavenworth FUMC College Scholarship Fund: recipients must attend a United Methodist related college or university beginning the fall semester of 2023. Must be a member of FUMC. These scholarships are funded through an approved special fund drive. The actual scholarship amount is based on contributions received each year.

Leavenworth FUMC Youth Scholarship Fund: recipients must begin their freshman year in fall of 2023 at a college, university, community college, or trade school.

Leavenworth FUMC Continuing Education Scholarship Fund: recipients must be a member of the class of 2022 or earlier who is attending a college, university, community college, or trade school in the fall of 2023.

Leavenworth FUMC Non-Traditional Scholarship: recipient must be planning to take the GED assessment or attend some form of post-secondary education, such as a cosmetology school, technical school, two-year, or four-year school in fall 2023. Student must be considered non-traditional (someone who is pursuing a degree or certificate and meets one or more of the following: has delayed entry to post-secondary education, is returning to complete an unfinished degree/certificate, works a full-time job while enrolled, is married, and/or is a parent). Recipient must be living in Leavenworth County and/or attended two or more years or graduated from a high school (or completed a GED certificate) in Leavenworth County.

FUMC also has the following scholarships available to the community:

Leavenworth FUMC Non-Traditional Scholarship: recipient must be planning to take the GED assessment or attend some form of post-secondary education, such as a cosmetology school, technical school, two-year, or four-year school in fall 2023. Student must be considered non-traditional (someone who is pursuing a degree or certificate and meets one or more of the following: has delayed entry to post-secondary education, is returning to complete an unfinished degree/certificate, works a full-time job while enrolled, is married, and/or is a parent). Recipient must be living in Leavenworth County and/or attended two or more years or graduated from a high school (or completed a GED certificate) in Leavenworth County.

Leavenworth FUMC Community Scholarship: recipient must be a graduating senior from one of the following high schools in Leavenworth County: Basehor-Linwood, Lansing, Leavenworth, Pleasant Ridge, or Tonganoxie who is planning to attend some form of post-secondary education. Student nor his/her immediate family may be a member of the First United Methodist Church, Leavenworth.

If you (or someone you know) are interested in applying for one or more of these scholarships, you may obtain an electronic copy by emailing Kari Anderson at tork99@hotmail.com or the Church Office. All applications must be received by the church by mail, e-mail, or hand-delivered by March 31st. Note: GED completion scholarship has an ongoing deadline.

Camp Scholarships Available

FUMC has camp scholarships available to our active members/participants planning to attend a camp in 2023. Camps in Kansas affiliated to the United Methodist Church. If you desire to attend a camp not on this list, please contact the Discipleship Work chairman to discuss possible eligibility.

Camp Chippewa, Ottawa, KS

Camp Horizon, Arkansas City, KS

Camp Lakeside, Scott City, KS

Institute, Baldwin City, KS

If you're interested in applying for a camp scholarship you may obtain an electronic copy by emailing Kari Anderson at tork99@hotmail.com or the Church Office. All camp scholarship applications should be e-mailed or received in the church office by the priority deadline of March 31st.



OneKC Listening Plan

February 22	Matthew 1-2	March 10	Mark 6-7	March 26	Luke 17:1-18:30
February 23	Matthew 3-4	March 11	Mark 8-10	March 27	Luke 20-21
February 24	Matthew 5-7	March 12	Luke 10:2-11:54	March 28	Luke 22-24
February 25	Matthew 8-9	March 13	Mark 11-13	March 29	John 1-2
February 26	Luke 5:12-39	March 14	Mark 14-16	March 30	John 3-4
February 27	Matthew 1-12	March 15	Luke 1-2	March 31	John 5-6
February 28	Matthew 13-14	March 16	Luke 3-4	April 1	John 7-8
March 1	Matthew 15-16	March 17	Luke 5-6	April 2	Luke 22:1-Luke 24
March 2	Matthew 17-18	March 18	Luke 7-8	April 3	John 9-11
March 3	Matthew 19-21	March 19	Luke 14:1-15:32	April 4	John 12-14
March 4	Matthew 22-23	March 20	Luke 9-10	April 5	John 15-16
March 5	Luke 7:36 - 8:18	March 21	Luke 11-12	April 6	John 17
March 6	Matthew 24-25	March 22	Luke 13-14	April 7	John 18-19
March 7	Matthew 26-28	March 23	Luke 15	April 8	John 20-21
March 8	Mark 1-3	March 24	Luke 16-17		
March 9	Mark 4-5	March 25	Luke 18-19		

Sundays are bolded. That is the text for the sermon on Sundays.

January 25, our church provided milk and cookies for the students and staff of Anthony Elementary school. Jan. 29, the kids sang "Father, I Adore You".



But Jesus said,
"Let the little children come to me
and do not hinder them,
for to such belongs the kingdom
of heaven."



LENT IS A FAMILY AFFAIR

The Passover is designed to teach children about the Jewish faith. A child asks a series of questions that answered by the adults. Following their example, this year celebrating Lent will be a family affair with opportunities to share our faith with our children, our friends and our neighbors. Each week during Lent we will be joining with churches across Kansas City and the world in studying the book of Luke with OneKC. Pastor Dave's sermons and the children's ministry lessons will

focus on the parables of Jesus. There will be a daily gospel reading plan and each week there will be a video to bring the scripture to life.

Starting with Ash Wednesday, Feb 22, we will have a soup and bread potluck at 5:30 pm with an Ash Wednesday service to follow at 7:00 pm. Then every Wednesday through Lent there will be a church family potluck at 5:30 pm.



During the potluck, there will be a "watch party" as we watch the weekly Bible video and discuss our scripture reading from the week. There will be children's activities and a nursery provided.

Our weekly meals will culminate with a catered meal on Maundy Thursday, April 6, that will include foot washing, music and a special worship service.

We will have a special Kids Event on April 7, called TGIGF (Thank Goodness It's Good Friday) from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. The day will be filled with crafts, games and other fun activities as they learn about Jesus' last week on earth. The day will include lunch and Easter egg hunt. Visitors are invited to join us.

We will have a traditional Good Friday service on April 7, at 6:30 pm that will feature the choir and dramatic elements.

Our Easter celebration on April 9 will be a grand traditional service for both the 8:30 and 11:00 worship.

OneKC is the basis of our Lenten season. This is a world-wide initiative to engage with the words of Jesus everyday for 40 Days—together. There are over 32 cities in different countries joining us. We invite you to download the app and invite a friend to join you. Check out OneKC.Bible to download the listening links from the YouVersion of the Bible. They are excerpts from the four gospels that only take ten minutes a day to hear. If you prefer to read from your own Bible, the scriptures are listed on the opposite page. There are weekly videos which bring the scriptures to life. You're encouraged to invited your friends and family to watch the videos at your home or at our weekly potlucks. There are also online opportunities to share with your friends and family live far away.



THERE IS ONE BODY & ONE SPIRIT. JUST AS YOU WERE CALLED TO ONE HOPE WHEN WERE CALLED; ONE LORD, ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM; ONE GOD & FATHER OF ALL, WHO IS OVER ALL & THROUGH ALL & IN ALL. EPHESIANS 4:4-6



FEBRUARY 17, IS NATIONAL CAREGIVER DAY

The day honors individuals who selflessly provide personal care, and physical and emotional support to those who need it most. Many caregivers are elderly themselves and often in poor health themselves.

AIR ministry not only provides social and mental stimulation for people with dementia, it provides respite for their caregivers. We think the special kindness and patience of caregivers should be celebrated year-round. Their importance is especially honored on National Caregivers Day when we should be there for them just as they are there for our loved ones.

February Schedule



Feb 6 – Super Bowl



Feb 13 – Valentine's Day



Feb 20 – NO AIR PRESIDENT'S DAY



Feb 27 – 1960s Day



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.

Usually, I write about the profound grief we experience when a loved one dies. But today, I want to focus on another source of grief, watching a loved one slowly deteriorate because of dementia. We just finished the Christmas season, and now Valentine's Day is around the corner. A friend whose spouse has Alzheimer's said to me, "I've never been so lonely in my life, and the holidays have made it even worse. I feel so isolated."

The feelings of loneliness, despair, loss and grief are as hard on caretakers of dementia loved ones as they are for those whose loved ones have died. In some ways, the living pain of watching your spouse/mother/brother/etc become a shell of themselves can be overwhelming, especially when they no longer remember who you are. Add onto the caretaking duties all the other things that they used to be responsible for which are now your responsibility too. It's a never ending stressful situation that you can't possibly understand unless you are living it.

If you know someone who is in this situation, please, please, please reach out to them. They don't have time to seek you out, they are living moment by moment. What can you do? I'm glad you asked.

- * Call them and ask how they are doing. Be an empathetic listener.
- * Offer to sit with their loved one so that they can take a break. Even an hour is long enough for them to get a shower or a nap. If possible, take their loved one for a drive or to a movie or for a walk to give them an even longer break.
- * Take over a simple meal occasionally. It will be most welcome.
- * Help with yard work or housework if that's your gifting. Or pay someone to clean their house/mow their yard.
- * Offer to take their loved one to AIR (our dementia ministry at the church on Mondays from 1-4pm) and bring them home. Leavenworth also has Deeper Windows dementia ministry.
- * Ask them how you can help. Then be willing to follow through.
- * Pray for them. This is a lonely road that no one wants to travel.

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.

HISTORY @ FUMC

This month we are looking back at some good memories from the past.

