

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone: 913-682-5374

Educational Bldg.: 913-675-7495

E-mail: office@fumclvks.org

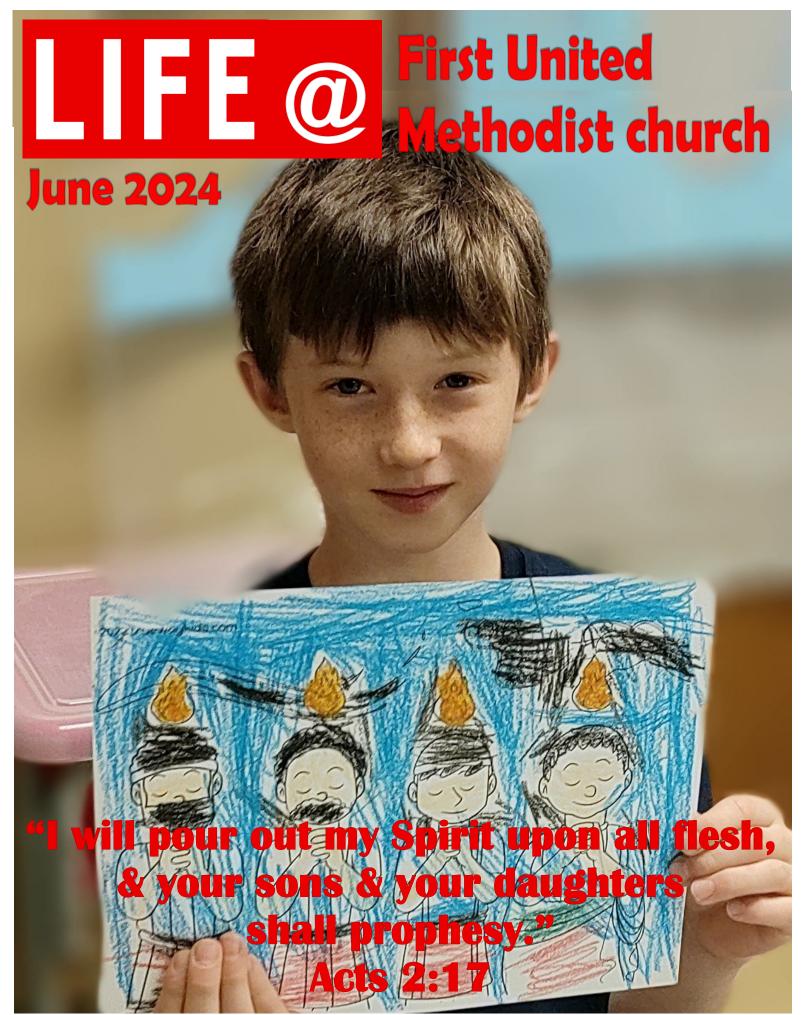
Office Hours—M-Th 9a-3p, Friday- 9a-noon



Or visit us at FUMCLVKS.ORGSunday services stream at either site.

June 2024

26 10:00 Worship	27 Memorial Day Church office closed	28	29 6:30 pm Choir	30 8:30am Staff	31	Samaritans'
9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	3 5:00 pm Virtual Grief Share	4 1:00 pm Book Club	5 Annual Conference	6 8:30am Staff 6:30 pm Bible Study Annual Conference	7 Attainable Housing Dinner Annual Conference	8
9 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	10 5:00 pm Virtual Grief Share Mission trip leaves	11	12 5:00 pm Grief Group 6:30 pm Choir	13 8:30am Staff 5:30 pm AAFV Community Meeting 6:30 pm Bible Study	14	15 Juneteenth Sweet Exchange Bake Sale Music Academy Recital
16 Father's Day 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	17 Juneteenth Church Office closed 5:00 pm Virtual Grief Share	18 2 pm Grief Group	19	8:30am Staff 6:30 pm Bible Study	21 5:30 pm Wingtips Dinner	Samaritans' Suffet
9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	24 5:00 pm Virtual Grief Share	25	26 5:00 pm Grief Group 6:30 pm Choir	27 8:30am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Bible Study	28 Monarch's Game 6:30 pm	Samaritans' Buffet







I'm excited to be starting a new sermon series for this summer, Acts – Making the Church Road Worthy! When Jesus ascended into heaven and the Holy Spirit came down upon the people at Pentecost, the Church was created. The people of God were not bound by ethnicity or nationality but by the confession of "Jesus as Lord." The promise of the crucified and resurrected Christ is that all who call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Acts 2:21). Peter and the other disciples were called apostles because they were being sent out as witnesses to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the world (Acts 1:8). The Spirit made them worthy to hit the road!

To become the Church, the followers of Jesus began to live as a community of believers practicing five core values. They are listed in Acts 2:42-47. In February, our Church Council, staff, and others decided to make these five core values our highest priority for First UMC of Leavenworth. We'll focus on these five areas in the life of our church knowing that sometimes there is a primary and secondary function to events. For example, a Bible study may primarily focus on teaching but have a secondary function of fellowship, too. We believe the Church focused on doing God's mission is becoming a church that God works in and through. Our attention is on Jesus.

"Let us run the race with perseverance the race marked for us by focusing on Jesus, the author and perfector of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2). We focus on Jesus "so that we will not grow weary and lose heart" (Hebrews 12:3). In these days of strife, distraction, and conflict, let us agree that the Church's work ahead of us is the work Jesus gave to his first disciples – proclaiming Jesus as Lord and witnessing the love of Jesus through his life, death, and resurrection!

Dave







Let's go to the ball park! June 28, we'll meet at the KC Monarch's field at the Legends on State Ave. We will start with a buffet and then watch a game. The Monarchs won the American Association championship last year.

The name Kansas City Monarchs honors the legendary Negro League franchise that played from 1920 to 1965. The team featured numerous notable players over the years, including Hall of Famers Satchel Paige, Jackie Robinson, Hilton Smith, Willard Brown, Ernie Banks, and Buck O'Neil. Today's Monarchs carry on the legacy of those that came before them. A portion of all Monarchs proceeds are given back to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum.

De Norma Maora

4th	Norma Moore	0	13th	Marguerite Hilsch
5th	Debbie Gebhardt			Mirinda Lowery
6th	Brenda Sheumaker	1	14th	Jeff John
7th	Hank Keller		15th	Patti Edington
	Dale Roller			Scott Glick
8th	June Baker		18th	Libby Frashier
	Shirley Nyhart			Kelsi Ko
9th	Steven Glick			Alyssa Wiegers
	Jim Kinard		19th	Carolann Perry
10th	Karyn Dawson		20th	Bill Bay
11th	Virginia Perry			Gene Pepper
12th	Sophie McNeill		21st	Jackson Kobe
	Zack Short		22nd	Carla Hamon
13th	Bethany Bond		23rd	Sheila Bailey

23rd	Shari Hansen
	Rick Hansen
ı	Madison Martir
24th	Erika Tebbetts
	Tim Yenney
25th	Anya Andersor
	Jonas Anderso
26th	Divya Hopkins
28th	Megan Briggs
	Robyn Kellogg

Donna Ramsey

anniver, sines

6th	Colvin & Karen Hooser	37 years
	Bob & Linda Landzettel	42 years
8th	Bob & Mary Seymour	55 years
9th	Chris & Christine Owens Eckley	6 years
	Mark & Somer Stuhlsatz	23 years
	Brian & Cynthia Wepking	40 years
10th	Arlen & Michelle Briggs	35 years
14th	Roy & Sandy Davis	54 years
	Dan & Sonia Wiley	38 years
	Brian & Sandy Wood	37 years
20th	Steve & Brenda Coats	37 years
	Chet & Stacey Cole	26 years
	Jeff & Debra Eyerly	43 years
25th	Gene & Sandy Pepper	41 years
26th	Jim & Kaki Kinard	53 years
29th	Bob & Joan Atwell	72 years

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please contact the office so we can update our records. swood@fumclvks.org







Loving Our Neighbor Through Hard Times

The Alliance Against Family Violence will have their June Community Meeting here in Fellowship Hall on June 13 at 5:30 pm. These meetings are designed to raise awareness of need for AAFV in our community. Their location is confidential to protect their clients. Each meeting they will also have a service project.

In June they will be assembling hospital bags. When a person is sexually assaulted and they make a police report, the police keep their clothing as physical evidence. The

survivor needs clean clothes to be able to leave the hospital. We will be gathering supplies for these bags during the month. At the meeting we will load them into backpacks. All items should be new. We will need some bags with summer types of clothes like t-shirts, and light pants and other bags with winter clothes like sweat shirts and sweat pants. Clothing without graphics are preferred. If you would like to donate anything on the list, please bring it to the church office. If you have questions, contact Sandy at swood@fumclvks.org.

Comfy shirt (XS-2XL)

Sports Bra (XS-2XL)

Comfy pants (XS-2XL)

Underwear (XS-2XL)

Socks

Jacket/Hoodie (XS-2XL)

Socks

Slippers or flip flops

Toothbrush & paste

Hair brush

Thank you for helping people when they need it most.

Trinity House Food Pantry and Clothing Closet is run by Trinity Lutheran Church. Our church family has partnered with them for years to provide food for families in our community. The need for food has been great and they have exhausted their resources. They need all types of food; cereal, peanut butter, jelly, beef stew, tuna, rice, bread etc. They also have a freezer to accept meat and fresh vegetables. If you're moving and have opened bottles of cleaners, they will accept those and pass them to people in need.





Stronghold is more than just a food pantry for military families on Ft. Leavenworth. They also are active in providing other types of resources from the community. May 15 they held a special workshop for military families. Field experts shared invaluable insights on sleep safety, car seat safety, child development, and WIC resources — ALL benefits and opportunities available to military families living both inside and out of the installation.

Stronghold's greatest need continues to be breakfast items such as cereal, protein bars, oatmeal, etc. We have a plastic tote in the foyer for donations to Stronghold.

JUNE COLLECTION ITEMS: CONDIMENTS & BEANS

One of the ways the HUB helps provide fresh food for their neighbors is their Community Garden. The Hub Community Garden's mission is to be "a safe space for the neighborhood to grow food and build healthy community." We believe that the garden is a space to learn about and grow healthy food and build stronger relationships with our neighbors.

This month we are helping their community store with things that often get overlooked, but help to make food taste great: condiments. We're gathering items like ketchup, mustard, salsa, salad dressing etc. We have a wooden box in the foyer for donations. Thank you for your generous support of all these food pantries.



Most of you who have been around me for any length of time know of my passion for helping people who are experiencing grief. I came to this ministry because it was a way for me to channel the grief that I experienced with the death of my mother into something that could help others. I've talked many times about my mom and the influence she was in my life. However, since in June we celebrate Father's Day, I thought that this would be a good time to honor my dad.



Dad passed away in 1996, so I've had almost thirty years without him. He was my first experience with losing someone close. Ironically, he died on Mother's Day, and for many years I couldn't bring myself to celebrate when my own children wanted to honor me on that day. My dad was the most gentle man I ever knew. He never raised his voice in anger. He had a deep, genuine love for Christ and he modeled Christlike behavior in his daily life. I never heard him say anything bad about anyone. It came as quite a shock to me to discover that this was the exception, not the rule. I always wondered as a child why my friends liked to hang out at our house so much. It was years later that I realized that their dads were much more volatile than mine.

Like many people who experienced the Great Depression, my dad had a harsh, hand-to-mouth childhood. By age ten he had already helped his own dad build the small house they lived in (no plumbing), and was the primary cook for the family. His first experience away from home was serving in the US Navy in WWII. At the age of 24, he was granted shore leave and married my 19 year old mom. My older brother came along one year later, and I followed four years after that. Upon discharge, they settled in Nashville, TN, and two more children were born.

Dad retained a lifelong love of cooking. My mom always said that she wasn't able to learn how to cook because dad was always in the kitchen, he said it helped him to unwind after working all day. I remember dad in the kitchen cooking away. Outside in the front yard, mom would be pitching baseballs to my brothers.

Every spare minute was devoted to church activities. I think Dad held every position available, from church council president, to choir tenor, to Sunday school teacher, to church secretary. I remember our attic had an old mimeograph machine. Dad would painstakingly type the church bulletins on an old manual typewriter. I'd follow him upstairs where he'd place the typewritten bulletin on that old machine, ink it from a huge tube, and turn the crank. Like magic, freshly printed, still wet bulletins would appear. I can still remember the smell. When he died, mom got cards from people telling her that dad was the reason they went into the ministry, or how dad had quietly helped them through a rough patch, or how dad had been a father figure to them.

Interestingly, my whole life, I thought that my mother was the dominant figure in our family. It seemed to me that she was the one with the outspoken opinions, and made the decisions. However, after Dad died, Mom became tentative, shy and unassuming. It was then that I realized that Dad was actually the strong anchor that allowed Mom to assert herself. He was always there for her, and it was incredibly hard for her to adjust to his being gone.

A memory that I will treasure always - during the time that Don had a short tour in Korea, we decided that I would

return to Nashville with our two daughters to live. By then, Dad had retired and was a full time volunteer. My girls got to experience Pop at his finest and have wonderful memories of that time.

Happy Father's Day, Dad. I miss you. I'll see you soon. Marsha

AIR Ministry has made a successful transition to The Deeper Window Association. Our friends and many of our volunteers are meeting there on Mondays. If you know anyone living with dementia, please refer them to TheDeeperWindowAssociation.org for support.





Greetings to each and every one.

This is a time of joy and gratitude to be alive – alive in this congregation and alive in the Kingdom of God. The Lord has blessed us with an abundance of water (rain) in the last two months in preparation for the planting, pruning and harvesting of our mission ahead. Matt 28:18 Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

All of this starts with prayer – the one talent we all possess. Prayer is the conduit

between us and the Father. If we call Jesus our Lord and Savior, He intercedes on your behalf. Through that covenant relationship, we have access to converse with the Father to receive His instruction so we may impact all humankind. Pray consistently and courageously, then wait, be still, and listen where our Father leads you. The Father longs to spend time with you. Financially, the church is holding strong thanks to your loving obedience and stewardship of treasure. The love this congregation brings on a daily basis is serving ahead the rest of the 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, Men's Breakfast, Youth Mission, Kids First Worship, Bible Study Groups, Sunday School, Scouts, and Music) are all opportunities for you to serve and love. If you'd 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 @ egarven@fumclvks.org.

In Christ, Ed



Empowering People Through Self-Help Solar Cooking and Water Pasteurization

May was a busy, busy time for our students! Between the end of the school year, AP testing, graduation, and all the end-of-year awards and banquets, our kids pretty much flew through the month. As for the youth group here at church, we wrapped up Sunday night Refuge meetings for the year on the last Sunday in April so the kids could focus on ending their school year well.

In the last few weeks, we have helped pack up a congregant's home for a move and held a fundraiser on Sunday morning between services to help fund our mission trip to South Dakota. We also just had Graduation Sunday May 12 to celebrate our 6 high school graduates where we recognized them in service and had a delicious breakfast in their honor.

We are weeks away from our 2024 youth summer mission trip! We will leave for South Dakota early 6/10 and return in the evening 6/14. While we are there, we will serve with Solar Oven Partners, a ministry that creates solar ovens with volunteer labor to give to people in need. Each solar oven costs about \$150 to manufacture and they're delivered to a trained solar cook in the Dominican Republic, Sierra Leone and the Navajo nation. They will train us and then we'll be building ovens Tuesday through Thursday while we are there. In the afternoon/evenings, we will enjoy time at Badlands National Park, Custer State Park, and Mount Rushmore. We will also visit Wall Drug and The Corn Palace. Thank you so much for your support through our fundraiser May 5! All the money we raised there goes towards our trip. We are so looking forward to getting to spend time with the students and make great memories on our trip.

We are moving into our summer schedule, so we won't have youth group Sunday evenings until August, but we will have youth activities and outings, a mission trip, and Sunday school every week. If you have a teenager, save our summer dates so they can join us!

June 10-14: Youth Mission Trip to Rapid City, SD (registration closed)

June 18: 12-9 pm: Worlds of Fun with Fusion 56

July 20: 10:30am-3pm: Shawnee Mission Park Marina & Lunch

July 22-26: Help with VBS!

Children's Ministry in April

Wonderful Wednesday just wrapped up an amazing journey! We traveled with Paul and his friends (Like Barnabas, Silas, and Luke) over thousands of miles on land and sea. He told thousands of people about Jesus, met a lot of amazing people who joined him in his ministry, like Lydia, Priscilla and Aguila, and Timothy. He was shipwrecked, but God saved him – he was bitten by a snake, but God saved him – he was beaten by angry mobs, but God saved him.

Some of our main takeaways were:

- * Paul went to the synagogue first when he arrived in a town. Some people believed, and some people didn't.
- * Paul then went to the Gentiles. Some people believed, and some people didn't.
- * Each place he left, there were people that stayed and would lead the group of believers there.
- * Like any other group of people, the churches had disagreements with each other and struggled with interpreting and teaching the Gospel message.
- * To help them out, Paul would write them epistles (a fancy name for letters). The letters were meant to encourage, exhort, chastise, and correct Jesus' followers. Something we still need today!

In Sunday school and Kids First Worship, we learned about Jesus' last times with his disciples before he returned to heaven, and got to find out about the Helper Jesus promised he would send, the Holy Spirit.









y Favorite Bible Verse

My favorite Bible verse is Mark 2:8. "Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, 'Why do you raise such questions in your hearts?'" Jesus had just healed the lame man but the church leaders were upset because Jesus had told the man his sins were forgiven. Jesus asked "Why do you think the things you think?" We think based on what we have learned. But Kingdom thoughts are different. I was

in a small group in 2012, and we were talking about what keeps us from moving forward. God gave me this verse. If I am doing something to glorify myself instead of God, I ask myself, "Why do I think the things I think?" That's my favorite Bible verse. What's yours?



Ed Garven



Kids First Worship meets during the 10:00 am service each Sunday on the lower floor of the Sanctuary building. This month we'll be focusing on Peter and his leadership of the early church.

June 2 – Peter Speaks

June 9 – Peter and John Heal

June 16 – Peter and Dorcas

June 23 – Peter's Vision

June 30 – Peter is Rescued



Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings from 9:00 – 9:45 am. All of our kids ages 3 years through 6th grade will meet in classroom 203 during June and July. In August we will return to 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 Peter's story.



Fusion 56 (our special group for 5th and 6th graders), will be getting together with the Youth Group for some fun activities this summer. Tuesday, June 18. 12-9pm we will eat lunch at the church at noon and head out shortly after, closing out the park at 8 pm. Drop-off and pick-up will be at the church. Please let Kristen know if you plan to attend at knowell@fumclvks.org.



Coming in August, we're going to start back at the very beginning, a very good place to start! The Book of Genesis is packed! From the Creation Story to floods and toppling towers; generations of a family filled with love, anger, jealousy, pain, and reconciliation; promises made, promises broken, and promises kept; the beginning of God's story is where you'll find it.



You will not want to miss this year's VBS! Each day we will hear the story of a biblical king who exemplified one of the "Keys to the Kingdom" character traits that God wants for his children.

DAY 1 – David and Goliath

KEY – FAITH

Faith means being sure of the things we hope for. And faith means knowing that something is real even if we don't see it. Hebrews 11:1

DAY 2 - Solomon Asks for Wisdom **KEY - SELF-CONTROL**

But the Spirit gives love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law that says these things are wrong. Galatians 5:22-23

DAY 3 – Josiah and the Return to God **KEY – OBEDIENCE**

Be sure to obey all the teachings my servant Moses gave you. If you follow them exactly, you will be successful in everything you do. Joshua 1:7b and c

DAY 4 - Hezekiah Removes Idols

KEY – TRUST

When I am afraid, I will trust you. Psalm 56:3

DAY 5 – Jesus Washes Feet KEY - SERVANT

I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet. So you also should wash each other's feet. John 13:14-15

Dear Friends.

Thank you so much for your generous hospitality for Sister Vickie's reception. Your presence before, during, and after were such a gift. What a welcoming church and people of God you are!

I am amazed at all of the outreach, community service and generosity your congregation provides. I feel blessed to be an extended welcomed friend of your congregation. Gratefully,

Sister Amy Willcott

We want to extend our deepest gratitude for supporting the 2024 Night of Hope. Your generosity made the event a remarkable success. Your commitment to the Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope is truly inspiring. It is through the collective efforts of indiviuals like you that we can continue to make a meaningful difference in our community and beyond. Muranda Aanew

Dear Church family,

We so enjoyed the Motown Review for the Richard Allen Cultural Center. The food was delicious and the entertainment fun! I love that we gather with other folks in our community. Rod & Kathy Huskey

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for every prayer, card, thought, message & kind gesture that we received during out time of sorrow in the loss of our son, Jay. We also appreciate that our request for privacy at this time was honored. A special thank you to Pastor Dave for his helpful words and support. You mean so much to

Ruth Ann and Jerry Logan

Thank you for all the kindness and support your church has shown me over recent years. My niece's son got his Eagle Scout and his mother and brother go to your Grief Share meetings. You've been good to our family. Mary Theresa Lee

The sandwiches, chips and cookies were awesome. Thanks also for the goodie bags during Teacher Appreciation week. It made me feel loved. Lori Lott



Many of our military families mentioned how welcome they felt here. This is especially important for CGSC families, because they only live in Leavenworth a year. They need to find a church family quickly and first impressions really do matter whether you are a military family or not. Currently, the next class of CGSC families are moving into our area. We can expect visitors any time this summer. So here are some tips to help any visitor feel at home.

- The 3 minute rule. Sometimes when we come to church we get so caught up talking with our old friends, that we forget to look for new people. Hospitality is not just the responsibility of the greeters. We all need to be friendly and welcoming. It can be very intimidating to come into a large building full of people when you don't know anyone. The 3 minute rule says, "Look for new people to greet the first 3 minutes that you enter the church, before you get caught up in other conversations and activities."
- Smile. The "experts" say that someone needs five smiles in the first 15 minutes of arriving at a new place to feel welcome. Even if you're shy, you can smile.
- Help visitors find restrooms and the nursery. We all know there is coffee and doughnuts in Wesley Hall, but a visitor doesn't. Our restrooms and children's areas may be hard to find. If you see a new family with kids, offer to walk them downstairs and help them find their way to the nursey. Studies have shown that many families choose a church based upon their children's needs and we have a wonderful children's program, so let's help them find it.
- Remember names. If you meet a new family, make a point to write down their name so you will remember it the next week. Nothing makes a person feel more welcome than someone remembering their name.
- Look for ways to go the extra mile. If someone is coughing, bring them a bottle of water. Let them know about our newsletter or the Upper Room. If there is a church function coming up, give them a personal invitation. If you really want to go the extra mile, invite them to lunch after the service.

This church is filled with loving and generous people. Let's help visitors discover all we have to offer.

Loving Our Neighbors As Ourselves 2000



Most of us are very privileged to have lived in a safe and comfortable home our entire lives. But there are some people who were not born with the same resources we enjoy. The Interfaith Community of Hope is a wonderful alternative for a short term homeless problem, but it is not a long term solution. Sister Vickie Perkins realized this as she was working with people who used the shelter. Rent in Leavenworth is extremely expensive and it's very hard to come up with rental deposit along with first month's rent when you are just starting a new job. So, Sister Vickie, and a board of 30 people join forces with DePaul, a charitable grant organization, to form Leavenworth Attainable Housing. (LAH) They were donated some homes that needed repair and they purchased some other homes. Soon they were providing homes for people who may have never had a home before. But LAH is more than just a home: there are four pillars that each resident must agree to.

Financial Help - LAH has several bankers and other financial advocates that meet with participants once a week at first and then as needed to help them learn to budget. The house is not free. Participants must have an income. They pay approximately one third of their income as rent. Financial advocates find out what the participants hopes and dreams are and then they create a plan to make those dreams a reality. One participant's dream is to build her own house and they are helping her toward her dream.

Physical and Mental Health - If they don't have insurance, LAH helps them with the paperwork needed for healthcare and St. Vincent's clinic provides basic health needs. Almost all the participants need mental health care and the Guidance Center provides those needs. Some participants need help with addictions to be successful.

Community - If a person has been homeless for a period of time, they may not have family or community connections. They may need help building relationships. Everyone in the program gets together once a month. They are learning to help each other. They're also asked to be a part of our greater community by registering to vote and participate in community events like the City Clean Up Day.

House - The house is the fourth pillar and only comes after the other three pillars are in place. There is a Housing Specialist that checks with the residents every week. They help the residents set and achieve goals. If needed, they teach residents how to maintain the house. They look to see if the house needs any repairs. Often people that live in low income housing will not report repairs because they are afraid of their rent being raised or being evicted. LAH uses the rent money for repairs and to pay the utilities.

In 2023 LAH served 22 unique individuals. Some were single people, some were families. Doing this they provided 5,450 bed nights. They have a 98% retention rate. Sister Vickie said, "This is God working. No one person or one church could do this alone. It is because of God and people coming together. When we all come together, it works."

LAH has dreams to build more homes to be able to help more people, but that takes money, so they are holding their second annual fundraiser, here at our church on June 7 at 6:00 pm. They will have a catered meal on the green space. There will be games for the family and a program. They will also have a 50/50 raffle. Tickets are \$30 a person and \$15 for kids. We hope you will join us for this community event and support a great cause.



Scouts Are Learning To Become Good Citizens

May is one of those months that goes so fast and yet seems to last forever. Some Scouts started the Hiking Merit Badge at Weston Bend Park, but they will need to ramp up. Requirements include: four 10-mile hikes and one 20-mile hike, each on a different day.

Senator Jeff Pittman visited our Scouts to help with Citizenship in the Nation. First Aid and Cooking Merit badges are in process too. One day after graduating from Basehor High School, Nathan Sickler completed his Eagle Scout Board of Review. Sometime this summer we should have his Court of Honor.

Not to be outdone, the Cub Scouts did a very long hike through the Leavenworth National VA center. I asked the Cub Scouts and they said it was "BIG FUN", but it was some of the adults who admitted that there are a LOT of hills at the VA. Fun is relative.

The Cubs had their annual Blue and Gold Banquet at the C. W. Park Carousel Museum. Lots of awards and belt loops... so many belt loops that I think they need to grow so they have larger belts. The FUMC presented Mr. Jeremy Welch with the Cross and Flame Award for his years of service to the Scouting Ministry.

Perhaps the most meaningful event for the Scouts is placing flags on the graves at the VA Cemetery.

A Scout is Reverent.















Blood centers across the country, and even the globe, are experiencing record low numbers of blood donations. Because of the urgent need for blood donors, the Community Blood Center requested that we have a summer blood drive and Mary Ann McAfee responded to the call. We'll have a community blood drive on July 2.

Yes, we know it is right before a holiday and many people will be out of town. But that is actually the point. During high travel holidays blood supplies are in high demand. Because of people traveling, there are more traffic accidents requiring more blood supplies, but less people give in the summer. Red cells can be stored for up to 42 days. But platelets can only be stored for five days, so a constant supply is needed. The need for blood doesn't take a holiday.

How can you help? First of all, plan to give blood. If you are going to be gone during our blood drive, give somewhere else. Go to savealifenow.org to find a blood drive near you. If you're going to be in town, schedule an appointment. Second, consider volunteering. Mary Ann is going to need volunteers to help donors and serve snacks. Contact her at 651-2484 or mbmcafee@outlook.com.



Juneteenth Celebration

June 19 is a day of celebration by African Americans because it was the middle of June 1865 when the enslaved Black people in Texas found out about the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed them, had been signed by President Lincoln two years earlier. Juneteenth celebrations originated in former slave-holding states. As former slaves migrated north, the celebrations spread to northern states, and eventually throughout our country.

The word "Juneteenth" is blend of the words June and nineteenth. The holiday is referred to as "Freedom Day" because it is when all Americans were finally free.

On June 15, the Leavenworth NAACP is hosting a Juneteenth celebration. They strongly believe that sharing traditions with fellow community members creates strong bonds that transcend differences. Their celebration will begin with a parade at 6:45 pm, followed by a festival at Haymarket Square. The festival will include traditional Juneteenth red foods, games, community booths, craft and food vendors, and live music. There will be fun for all ages!

IT'S A WIN-WIN SITUATION!

Morgan Belardo and her baking crew will soon be baking hundreds of cookies, cakes, and candies for the annual Sweet Exchange Bake Sale that benefits The Deeper Window Association here in Leavenworth. The Deeper Window offers three days of engagement for people living with dementia so that their caregivers can have some respite. This bake sale raises thousands of dollars to support this program.

Morgan graduated from Johnson and Wales University in North Carolina in May. She will soon begin working at Walt Disney World. Two of her college professors are coming in June to help her prepare all of her goodies for sale. She'll also have numerous volunteers who help her bake the week before the sale.

This sale started as a Girl Scout project when Morgan was still in high school. It was a way to honor her father, Jose Belardo, who was living with Alzheimer's.

The sale is June 15 from 7 am to 7 pm. It is by donation. You can pre-order cakes. There will be gluten-free and diabetic options available. It's a great way to satisfy your sweet tooth and help a great cause.





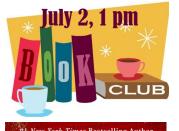


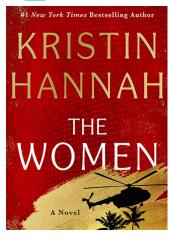
Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances "Frankie" McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path.

As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is over-whelmed by the chaos and destruction of war. Each day is a gamble of life and death, hope and betrayal; friendships run deep and can be shattered in an instant. In war, she meets—and becomes one of—the lucky, the brave, the broken, and the lost.

But war is just the beginning for Frankie and her veteran friends. The real battle lies in coming home to a changed and divided America, to angry protesters, and to a country that wants to forget Vietnam.

"The Women" is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten. A novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism, "The Women" is a richly drawn story with a memorable heroine whose idealism and courage under fire will come to define an era. Join the book club discussion on July 2 at 1 pm in Wesley Hall.







Isaiah served as God's mouthpiece to the nation of Judah but also to the surrounding nations. His message echoes into our lives today as we read his call to rely on the Lord. Using the genres of poetry, narrative, and prophecy, Isaiah communicated clearly that followers of God could trust in Him.

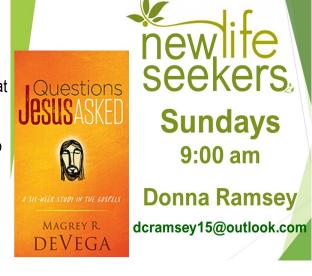
Unpacking Isaiah's words will reveal that you can trust God more than your own human effort or the counterfeits the world suggests. You won't be striving harder, but instead trusting more deeply the Faithful One who is so worthy of our utter dependence. In Him you'll find the comfort and peace you need to sustain you.

Carol Shafer will lead this summer Bible study on Thursday nights at 6:30 pm.

Jesus was fond of asking questions, many of which cut right to the heart of what it means to be human. Why are you terrified? What do you live for? Who do you say that I am? In "Questions Jesus Asked", author Magrey deVega explores six of the most provocative questions Jesus posed to others and guides us in answering them for ourselves.

Asking these questions takes courage. Not only do they reveal what Jesus really cares about, they open a window into our hearts. We all have questions for God, but growth happens when we turn things around and ask what Jesus wants to know about us. When we dare to raise them, these questions bring us a fuller appreciation for the wisdom, power, and presence of God in our lives. Are you willing to step out in faith? Are you ready to answer the questions Jesus asked?

The New Life Seekers Sunday School class will be studying this book in June. They meet in room 203 in the Education building. Visitors are welcome.





CELEBRATIONS @ FUMC

May is a time of celebration! We celebrated 6 high school graduates, 8 college graduates, and 3 CGSC graduates.





















The Wonderful Wednesday kids celebrated the end of "The Journey". All year long they have been learning about the apostle Paul's missionary journeys. They celebrated with an ice cream feast. The community came out to celebrate Sister Vickie Perkins and her contributions to our community as she re-retired. It was a joyous celebration. We had several volunteers who helped Anthony Elementary celebrate the last days of school at the Family Fun Fest. Above are the photos of the monthly lunch crew and the men's prayer breakfast group, because every day is a day to celebrate the goodness of God.





