



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.

June 2026

31 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	1	2 Blood Drive 1:00 pm Book Club	3 6:30 pm Choir	4	5	6
7 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	8	9 9:00 am Prayer Group 6:30 pm Pastor Dave's Bible Study	10 5:00 pm Grief Group 6:30 pm Choir	11 12:30 pm Prayer Group	12 Wingtips	13 Juneteenth
14 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	15 Sweet Exchange Bake Week Youth Mission trip leaves	16 9:00 am Prayer Group 2 pm Grief Group 6:30 pm Pastor Dave's Bible Study	17 6:30 pm Choir	18 12:30 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm Itchin' to Stitch	19 Juneteenth Office closed	20 Men's Prayer Breakfast Sweet Exchange Bake Sale
21 Father's Day 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	22	23 9:00 am Prayer Group 6:30 pm Pastor Dave's Bible Study	24 5:00 pm Grief Group 6:30 pm Choir	25 12:30 pm Prayer Group	26	27
28 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	29	30 9:00 am Prayer Group 6:30 pm Pastor Dave's Bible Study	1	2 12:30 pm Prayer Group	3	4

LIFE @ First United Methodist Church

June 2026





JUNE Birthdays



The Praise Team is learning the 60's song, *Turn, Turn, Turn* for our closer this summer. This Pete Seeger tune is based on Ecclesiastes 3 and could make a claim to being the most popular Old Testament scripture because of the song. I hope we do the Byrds justice and bless God with our offering.

Our summer sermon series is called *Ecclesiastes: Chasing After Meaning*. Considered wisdom literature, it is the rare look at the effects of Genesis 3's fall into sin and its effect. Qoheleth, or the Teacher, searched for meaning in all the world's pursuits of wealth, knowledge, pleasure, and work. He found all of them "vanity, meaningless." The Hebrew is hevel – breath, smoke, or vapor. "Nothing new under the sun" was his refrain. If he were around today, I bet he would add technology to his list of vain pursuits.

If all the earthly searches won't bring us contentment or long-lasting satisfaction, what shall we do? Life needs meaning, enjoyment, and purpose so that it is fulfilling. I believe our examination of this ancient writing will impact our present age where we still seek the meaning of life. The more things change, the more they stay the same. I hope you'll join us on Sunday morning at our 10 am worship services. Additionally, I'll be leading a Bible Study on Ecclesiastes starting Tuesday, June 9, at 6:30pm in Wesley Hall. Join us in learning and asking deeper questions. We have a few books available in the office for \$8, or you can order your own.

I'm looking forward to our summer schedule of one Sunday service at 10am. We get to meet new people from the other service, experience different music styles and allow people to have time away for rest and vacation. June and July are critical months for inviting people to attend worship or church activities, especially families from Fort Leavenworth. If you have new people, come to your neighborhood or other connections, invite them to church. It is the gift of a lifetime!

Ecclesiastes Bible Study
Tuesdays
6:30 pm
Led by Pastor Dave York
Starting June 9

Are you tired of pat answers to your hard questions of faith? The writer of Ecclesiastes is not afraid to confront your dilemmas. Like "Where can you find fulfillment?" And "Who is really in control of this world that seems so topsy-turvy?" Or "Is there any value in my work, my struggles, my life?"

Pastor Dave will lead a Bible Study this summer to explore this fascinating Old Testament book. He will be using the *LifeGuide Bible Study* by Bill and Teresa Syrios, you will discover how God brings meaning to the world and how following God brings meaning to your life. They'll meet Tuesdays at 6:30 pm in Wesley Hall starting June 9.

Over the summer we will have one united worship service at 10 am. Pastor Dave will be starting a sermon series on Ecclesiastes in June. Ecclesiastes is a biblical wisdom book exploring the meaning of life. The book of Ecclesiastes starts with the famous verses, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build." It concludes that existence, apart from God is fleeting, or like a breath. It argues that wealth, pleasure, and work are futile because death comes to everyone, urging us instead to fear God, keep His commandments, and enjoy life's simple gifts.



4th	Norma Moore	13th	Marguerite Hilscher	23rd	Sheila Bailey
5th	Debbie Gebhardt		Mirinda Michaud	23rd	Shari Hansen
6th	Brenda Sheumaker	14th	Jeff John		Rick Hansen
7th	Hank Keller	15th	Patti Edington		Madison Martin
	Dale Roller		Scott Glick	24th	Erika Tebbetts
8th	Shirley Nyhart	18th	Libby Frashier	25th	Anya Anderson
9th	Steven Glick		Kelsi Ko		Jonas Anderson
	Jim Kinard		Alyssa Wieggers		Sadie Heim
10th	Karyn Dawson	19th	Carolann Perry	28th	Megan Briggs
11th	Virginia Perry	20th	Bill Bay		Robyn Kellogg
12th	Sophie McNeill		Gene Pepper	30th	Donna Ramsey
	Zack Short	22nd	Carla Hamon		
13th	Bethany Bond		Jane Davis		

JUNE Anniversaries

4th	Scott & Aileen Hastings	44 years
6th	Colvin & Karen Hooser	39 years
	Bob & Linda Landzettel	44 years
8th	Bob & Mary Seymour	58 years
9th	Chris & Christine Owens Eckley	8 years
	Brian & Cynthia Wepking	42 years
10th	Arlen & Michelle Briggs	37 years
14th	Roy & Sandy Davis	56 years
	Dan & Sonia Wiley	40 years
	Brian & Sandy Wood	39 years
20th	Steve & Brenda Coats	39 years
	Chet & Stacey Cole	28 years
	Jeff & Debra Eyerly	45 years
21st	Thom & Jaimie Kirby	12 years
25th	Gene & Sandy Pepper	43 years
26th	Jim & Kaki Kinard	55 years

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

UPCOMING Events

LET'S DO LUNCH
TUESDAY, JUNE 16, NOON
First City Soda Cafe
427 Delaware

MEN'S PRAYER & STUDY BREAKFAST
JUNE 20
8:00 AM
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
MIKE MIX HAIRYMULE@GMAIL.COM
OR DAVE LANDIS DLANDIS@HUGHES.NET



May was a busy, busy month for the youth group! We finished our regularly scheduled youth programming in April and switched to our summer programming the first Sunday in May. This is the first time that we have had youth group over the summer for at least as long as Steven has been here at the church but we thought our group would benefit from continuing to meet for community and fun over the summer this year. At this point, any student who will be in 7th grade next year is welcome to join us for any of our summer activities. Our schedule will be one each week of the month: movie night, game night, outing to do something fun, and service project.

This past month we went to Tick Tock Escape room for our excursion and split into two different groups. One group did the Pyramid Paradox, while the other group did Space Force. One got out in time and the other was close, we swear (they weren't close)! We also celebrated our graduates from both high school and college on Mother's Day with a church-wide breakfast. It was delicious.

Upcoming in June, we will have a bit of a different schedule, however, because we will have our mission trip to Chicago June 15-20. We have 13 students signed up and 3 additional adult volunteers! We are so excited for a new experience for our group – riding the train! We will be serving with World Vision and Cradles to Crayons while we are there, as well as experiencing a lot of the fun that Chicago has to offer. Please pray for our safety, group cohesion, and that we are able to be a blessing to the service organizations with whom we are working. As a result, we will have youth group on June 7, and then not again until the 28th so that we can use June 14 and 21 to prep for our trip and recover after.

Young adults continue to meet regularly 1st and 3rd Wednesdays for games, socializing, and dinner. We bumped our start time to 6pm so that people who work that evening have more time to get there. And we have added some new members lately, which is really exciting. We would love to have you join us! Contact Kristen Howell at 913-742-3557 if you are 18 to 35 and want info on how to join us!



May was Mental Health Awareness month, so May 2 we helped host a Block Party with Feed LVCOalition. We had 25 agencies that work with different types of mental health here to share information and giveaway prizes. We had Westside church that has their own therapist and the Celebrate Recovery program, The Guidance Center was here, so was the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, the Deeper Window, Grief Share the police department and the fire department and many others. We had lots of games and activities and a bounce house for kids, free brats, and Thom Kirby provided great music for us the whole time. There was great community support.



New Leadership at the Community of Hope

The Community of Hope has some new leadership. Jennifer Christensen is continuing as the Executive Director. Clair Neely is the new Director of Operations and Katlyn Lowe is the new Night Shelter Director. Both Clair and Katlyn are deeply involved in the recovery community and bring with them a genuine passion for serving others. Their hearts for caring for some of the most vulnerable individuals in our community truly shine through in everything they do.



Since joining our team, they've already made a meaningful impact with their compassion, dedication, and commitment to our mission. We're so grateful to have them on board and can't wait for you all to get to know them!

The Community of Hope is a network of support designed to meet people where they are. Welcome Central connects individuals to resources, services, and next steps. The Day Center offers a safe space for rest, connection, and daily support. The Night Shelter provides a warm, secure, and safe place to sleep.

Each program plays a different role, but together they create a stronger path forward for individuals and families in our community. If you would like to learn more about their programs or how to get involved, please comment below or reach out to them at admin@lvcommunityofhope.org.



Happy June everyone. Currently the financial and infrastructure of our glorious congregation is strong and constantly improving. The children's ministry and youth ministry are growing and spiritually maturing, very exciting! You can find articles on both ministries in this edition of our magazine. Please review the church calendar, sign up for weekly emails and texts or checkout our website to find how you can get involved in the life of your church.

Now thoughts from Ed...I am not a preacher nor teacher nor elder nor biblical theologian nor seminary trained – but I am a child of God.

In 1 John 3:1 see what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God. In Hebrews 13:15 through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. According to Romans 10:9, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. This act heartfelt faith in Jesus' resurrection and a public acknowledgment of his authority, leading to salvation, justification, and relationship with God. See through Christ Jesus the Kingdom of God is upon us, through Him we have access to the Father and God-given abilities bestowed by God to individuals for serving others and bringing glory to Him. The Bible outlines various gifts, including prophecy, healing, teaching, encouraging, giving, leadership, mercy, tongues, interpretation, wisdom, knowledge, prayer, and serving.

The UMC Book of Discipline states we are to “faithfully participate in its ministries by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness; To receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.” It emphasizes “mutual responsibility—Faithful discipleship includes the obligation to participate in the corporate life of the congregation with fellow members of the body of Christ. A member is bound in sacred covenant to shoulder the burdens, share the risks, and celebrate the joys of fellow members. A Christian is called to speak the truth in love, always ready to confront conflict in the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation.”

Time, talent, and treasure are God-given assets that we steward or manage as believers we are managers, not owners, of these resources. The bible emphasizes using one's life (time), gifts or skills (talent), and financial resources or assets (treasure) to glorify God and serve others. Remember it's never equal amount – equal sacrifice!

in Christ, Ed



The Deeper Window Association offers various services to families living with dementia for both the caregiver and the person living with the disease. Their divine mission is to support, empower, engage, offer hope, respite, resources, dignity, and love to families.

For eight years, they have held a bake sale to raise money for this organization. But this bake sale is not average. It is more of a fine Bakery extravaganza. Production for the event requires professional expertise. This year, Chef Selina Huggard, an Army spouse with over 20 years in culinary, pastry, and event planning expertise has taken on the volunteer responsibility of leading Bake Week production. Detailed cake design is her specialty. She also enjoys teaching. If you would like to volunteer to help bake with Chef Selina, you can contact Elaine Belardo at 301-676-7538.

There are two other new additions this year. The Deeper Window Association and Council on Aging are hosting a Mah Jong Tournament at the KCKCC Pioneer Career Center. You're invited to participate in this fun-filled event, complete with prizes, lunch, and hours of play. There is a \$100 fee to play that goes to support the Deeper Window. Scan the QR code below to register.

Painting for Process and Well Being is a class designed to help you express emotions and feelings through creative expression. It is led by Dr. Maritza Buenaver, a Geriatric Psychiatrist who specializes in dementia care.

These three events, Treats, Tiles, and Treasures, will all be held on June 20 from 8 am to 4 pm at KCKCC Pioneer Center on 1901 Spruce St. You can do what you love to end Alzheimer's. You can register for the Painting for Process with the QR code below.

Painting for Process



Mahjong Tournament



BLOOD DRIVE



We hosted another successful blood drive on June 2. Thirty one units were collected. Sue Hubbert, pictured to the right, was one of the donors who gave that day. This was her 160th donation. This is the equivalent of 20 gallons. The Community Blood Center says that each pint donated can save the life of three people. According to those figures, she has saved 640 people. Thank you to everyone who gave blood and to all the volunteers. A special thank you to Carl Langley for his hamburger for the sloppy joes. Thank you to Cathy Landis for organizing the blood drive.





Kids First Worship is for kids ages 3 years through 6th grade. In June we will meet during the 10 am service each Sunday on the lower floor of the Sanctuary building. During the month of June we will be studying individuals from the Old Testament. Who are they? What did they do? Why are they important?

June 7 – Rahab
 June 14 – Balaam
 June 21 – Nehemiah
 June 28 – Esther



Sunday School is for kids ages 3 years through 4th grade and meets on Sundays from 9:00 – 9:50 am in room 202. We will be studying the same lessons as Kids First Worship, taking time to go a little deeper



Fusion 56 (our special group for 5th and 6th graders), will meet June 7 after the worship service. Please let Nancy know if you plan to attend at nshade@fumclvks.org.



Day 1 The Pillar of Fire - God will guide you!

Donation: Bread

Bible Verse: You lead humble people to do what is right and to stay on your path. Psalm 25:9

Day 2 Elijah & the Prophets of Baal - God will answer your prayers!

Donation: Peanut Butter

Bible Verse: Our LORD is great and powerful! He understands everything. Psalm 147:5

Day 3 Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego - God Will Protect You!

Donation: Jelly

Bible Verse: You will show the right path to all who worship you. Psalm 25:12

Day 4 Isaiah is Called - God Will Prepare You!

Donation: Canned Fruit (pop top is preferred)

Bible Verse: People who now disobey God will begin to think as they ought. Luke 1:17c

Day 5 Pentecost - God Will Live with You!

Donation: Fresh Fruit

Bible Verse: Christ is building you into a place where God lives through the Spirit. Ephesians 2:22

We will need LOTS of volunteers for VBS. For more information on Children's ministry, contact Nancy Shade at nshade@fumclvks.org.



Invite your friends!

Register early at

FUMCLVKS.ORG/VBS

Volunteering to Help ICE Detainees



On March 10, 2026, the Leavenworth City Commissioners approved the Special Use Permit for CoreCivic to open the Midwest Regional Reception Center, an ICE Detention Center. On March 12, 2026, the facility opened its doors and began moving detainees in from the Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary. Since its opening, the facility has moved in over 215 detainees and is steadily increasing its numbers as they establish a smooth intake process and increase their staffing capacity. Although many community members opposed the opening of the facility and do not agree with some of the immigration enforcement methods that are being implemented, the reality is that, at least for now, the detention center is a part of our community, and the detainees are not just the responsibility of CoreCivic to care for, but ours as well.

CoreCivic is working in tandem with community partners to set up a robust volunteer program that would give detainees access to an array of services and recreational opportunities. This includes but is not limited to religious services, English language classes, grief and substance abuse groups, art classes, and exercise classes. If you're interested in volunteering at CoreCivic with the detainees, please email Ashley Hernandez, Organizing and Policy Coordinator for the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Office of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation, at ahernandez@scls.org. She can answer any questions you may have, provide you with a volunteer application, and walk you through the submission process. *Ashley Hernandez*



Itchin' to Stitch is a group of talented women who make hand made items to donate local charities. They will meet June 18 at 1:30 pm for their monthly meeting. They also are offering crocheting classes at this time. For information, contact Teresa at hickst@kc.rr.com.



Many of our military families mentioned how welcome they felt here. They need to find a church family quickly and first impressions really do matter whether you are a military family or not. The new 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 nursery. 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.



Alice Through The Looking Glass

I honestly feel like I've entered Wonderland every time I visit Alice Hall. From her bed at Twin Oaks Long Term Care Facility, where after 35 years she finally succumbed to the ravages of Multiple Sclerosis, she directs and leads her army of family and friends like a tank commander going into battle. She may be bedridden, but she can tell you exactly where things in her house are located, where people are and what they are up to. She knows more about the people at FUMC than I do and has a following of faithful friends and family. Visiting her is always a delight because I know I will learn something new every time I go.

Alice Minthorn was born and raised in the little town of Kellerton, Iowa, not too far from the Missouri border, to parents who began their family later in life. Father Maynard, the town blacksmith, was 55 and mother Marian was 39. Marian had worked her way through college, a rarity for those days and gotten her degree in 1929. Alice was the oldest, and has a brother and a sister.

After graduating from high school, Alice went to Iowa Methodist Hospital School of Nursing and graduated as an intensive care RN. She planned to move to Iowa City to work on her Master's in Nursing, but before beginning her course work, she wanted to work at the hospital during the summer. Alas, the hospital had no openings, so she returned to Kellerton for the summer, where fate intervened. While home, she went on a blind date with a young man from the neighboring town of Lamoni named Douglas Hall. Hmmm, fate? I think not!

Doug was a couple of years older, and they hit it off instantly. There's not much to do in a small town so they would go to movies, ice cream socials, and church activities. Doug's dad was a Methodist minister who had seen combat in WWII and Korea. But it was Alice's mother who fell in "love" with Doug first. She began scheming to try to keep Alice at home so Alice would see more of Doug. She even "forgot" to tell Alice that the hospital in Iowa City had finally called with a job offer. The plan apparently worked, because Alice and Doug married in August, 1973.

The newlyweds moved to Iowa City and Alice attended graduate school. Doug's degree was in history and he began working with adults with learning challenges. After receiving her Master's in 1975, Alice took a position at the VA Hospital in Leavenworth where she worked until her retirement in 2004. They lived in Lansing for eight years before purchasing their current home in Leavenworth.

In 1979, their only son Andrew was born at St John's Hospital. Andy, according to mom, was always good natured and easy to raise. Like all families who moved, they began visiting all the Methodist churches in the area. When they walked into FUMC, they recognized that the family sitting across the aisle were friends from Iowa City. They decided that FUMC would be their church home. They joined in February of 1976, so have been members for 50 years!

At age 45, Doug decided to change careers and went back to school. He became an X-ray technician. Meanwhile, she worked in every hospital department, eventually rising to the position of Administrative Officer to the Chief of Staff, a medical doctor. In this position, she was a troubleshooter and patient advocate. She was also responsible for doctor credentialing, hospital accreditation, standards and discipline, patient education, and quality control. No two days were ever the same.

Looking back and reflecting, Alice especially enjoyed her time at FUMC. For 15 years she facilitated an adult Sunday school class and remembers Tom and Karen Tish, John and Lois Morris, Mary Price, Mike and Marti Crow, Lea Ann Weilbacher, Shirley and Lee Steiger. She served on every committee at some point, was president of the United Methodist Women, and could make noodles for the noodle luncheons in her sleep! When it became harder for her to walk, she started giving classes in her home on Methodist doctrine and theology.

Scouts Are Learning To Become Good Citizens

Senior Patrol Leaders reviewed fundamentals of packing for camp while a parent meeting focused on summer camp plans at Camp Cris Dobbins in Colorado in June.

One of the signature events for the entire Scouting Ministry was the Decoration of the Graves at the Leavenworth Veterans Cemetery, followed by hotdogs and recognition of the event. Then on Memorial Day, at the Leavenworth Veterans Cemetery Celebration, the scouts passed out flyers and helped by reading the history of the cemetery to those on the bus tour at the ceremony. Both Troop 173 and Troop 6173 led the Pledge of Allegiance. It is one thing when hundreds of volunteers help place 50,000 flags; but it is something far more complicated when only a handful of people show to pick up those same flags after the ceremony is over.

This month, Brady Mendence completed his Eagle Board of Review. Sometime this summer, before school starts again we will celebrate Brady with a Court of Honor. Brady will be a senior this year and will continue to support our Scouting Ministry. He is a very busy young man.

Congratulations to Jensen and Mr. Chris Crumpacker for completing their Order of the Arrow Ordeal. What a great father/son bonding event to join the National Honor Society of Scouting America.

Pack 3109 completed the school year and is headed to the summer activities. Summer camp is the biggest event. Our first summer activity was Sunday, 5-31. We met at Cody Park. The kids planted flowers to take home and then played at the park. Our next meat stick sale is June 6. This is a great way to cover next year's registration fees, camp and other activities.

Please keep Scarlett Walsh in your prayers. She is in Troop 6173. Scarlett and her family are working with Children's Mercy Hospital to find the miracle of healing.

Bill Kibler





July 7
1:00 PM



In June, the book club will be reading *Code Name Helene* by Ariel Lawhorn. This thrilling novel is about a daring socialite spy. It is 1936 and Nancy Wake is an intrepid Australian expat living in Paris who has bluffed her way into a reporting job for a Hearst newspaper when she meets the wealthy French industrialist Henri Fiocca. No sooner does Henri sweep Nancy off her feet and convince her to become Mrs. Fiocca than the Germans invade France and she takes yet another name—a code name. Told in interweaving timelines organized around the four code names Nancy used during the war, *Code Name Helene* follows Nancy's transformation from journalist to one of the most powerful leaders in the French Resistance, known for her ferocious wit, her signature red lipstick, and her ability to summon weapons

straight from the Allied forces. But with power comes notoriety, and no matter how careful Nancy is to protect her identity, the risk of exposure is great—for herself and for those she loves.

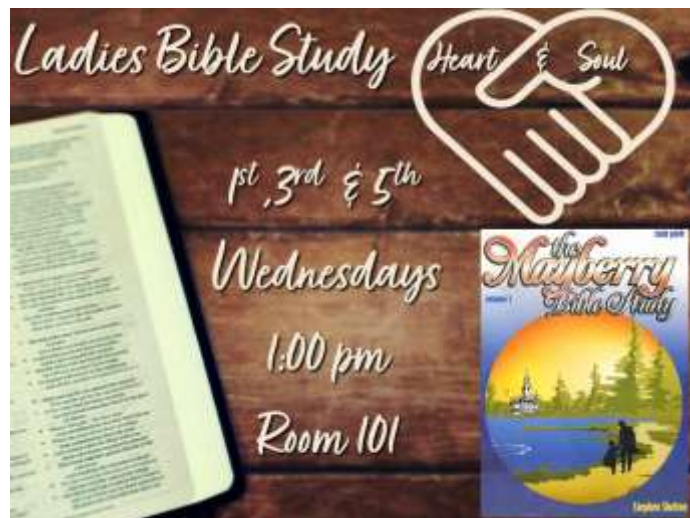
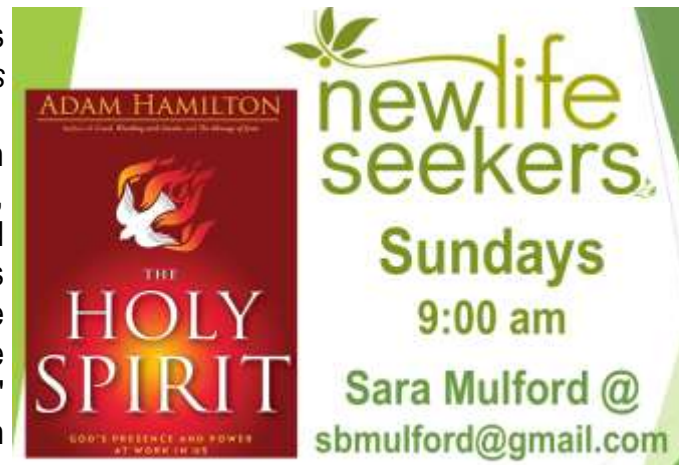
The book club will meet on July 7 at 1 pm in Wesley Hall. Even if you are only to join us during the summer, we would love to have you. If you need info, contact Sandy at swood@fumclvks.org.

At the end of June, the New Life Seekers Sunday School class will begin Adam Hamilton's Bible Study, *The Holy Spirit; God's Presence and Power at Work in Us*.

The Holy Spirit is God's active presence and power at work in the world and in our lives. Through the Spirit, we are transformed, led, empowered, and guided in our faith journey. Jesus promised his followers that the Spirit would come alongside them as comforter and counselor, empowering them to transform the world. In *The Holy Spirit*, Adam Hamilton explores what Scripture teaches about God's Spirit—from the Hebrew Bible through Jesus' promises in the Gospels, the powerful Pentecost experience in Acts, and the rich teachings found in the New Testament letters.

This accessible study helps believers understand and experience the Holy Spirit's presence and power in their daily walk with Christ. Perfect for small groups and individual study, this resource focuses on the Holy Spirit as revealed in the Gospels, Acts, and the Epistles.

The New Life Seekers meets Sundays at 9 am in room 203 of the Education Building. For more information, contact Sara at sbmulford@gmail.com.



Heart and Soul has decided to meet over the summer every other Wednesday at 1:00 pm. They will be doing *The Mayberry Bible Study*. This Bible study doesn't require advance study and anyone is welcome to join.

The generation of kids who grew up watching *The Andy Griffith Show* always came away from the TV set with a firmly instilled moral or lesson. Sheriff Andy Taylor didn't just entertain — he taught, he encouraged, and he inspired. In a sense, the shows are a dim reflection of the parables Jesus taught his followers. Jesus told a story they could relate to to make a point. Author and television writer Stephen Skelton turned that concept into a series of Bible studies based on popular television shows and movies.

On Wednesdays, Heart and Soul will watch an episode of *The Andy Griffith Show*, then read the Biblical narrative and discuss. For more information, contact Margaret at Margaret.burland@gmail.com.

Besides her unquenchable thirst for knowledge, Alice learned embroidery at age seven; by age ten she was using her mother's sewing machine. She has made so many quilts that she has lost count, and started painting at age four. Her mother insisted on piano lessons and she became proficient enough to play for church, weddings, and as an accompanist. She took up calligraphy after retirement and became a genealogy specialist. Over 125 women became eligible for the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) as a result of her work.

Her book, *Last Verses: Reflections on Last Things and Promises of Eternal Life*, is a compilation of the last verses of the great hymns, reflecting the Bible's promises of resurrection and eternal life, plus a small sermonette about each one. It is magnificent. It sums up her life. I asked her what her greatest accomplishment is. Without hesitation and with great firmness she said, "Marrying Doug. I knew right away that he was a keeper."

Blessings, Marsha

Dear Church Family,
Dad loved being part of First United Methodist Church of Leavenworth. During the course of his 55 year membership, he'd heard many preachers, worked with numerous church committees and engaged in Sunday School and Samaritan's Buffet. The members of the congregation, small groups and the mission of our church were so important to him. The kindness you have shown our family since his passing is sincerely appreciated. With heartfelt gratitude from the Jack Walker family,
Kathryn Walker West

Dear Church Family,
I want to thank everyone who sent cards, and prayers for Jim and me. The food that was delivered was incredible and delicious. Thank you for the visits. Just being here for us was amazing. I am truly grateful for our church family.
Blessings,
Judy Wolfe



Thank you for your donation! Your kindness and compassion allows us to better serve our children. We're grateful for your support!
CASA staff



Dear Church family,
Thank you for the cheerful messages and thoughtful prayers during my recent kidney transplant surgery. This all happened so quickly that we were shocked and totally unprepared. We enjoyed the tasty treats and delicious meals that you provided. They were very much appreciated. Thank you. We are blessed to be a part of this church family.
Cynthia & Jim Walley



Dear Staff of First United Methodist,
Thank you so much for your recent visit and the gift of the beautiful Easter lily. I appreciated both things very much. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.
Sincerely, Virginia Hardaway

Dear Friends,
Thank you so much for loving my kids during Mother's Morning Out! I have appreciated everything you have done to give me a morning to myself. Thank you from the bottom of my heart! We'll miss you all!
Sara, Savannah, & Bowen



Dear First United Methodist Church family,
We here at the Richard Allen Cultural Center and Museum would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support for our Annual Easter Festival giving back to the community event. We are grateful for your continued support! Your generous donations helped our event be a success. Again, thank you. May you continued to be blessed.
Edna Wagner
Executive Director, RACCM

Thank you all so much for your support! From financial support to supplying volunteers, praying for us and all your encouragement. We genuinely appreciate you joining us on mission and helping the most vulnerable members of our community.
Jennifer Christensen
Leavenworth Interfaith
Community of Hope



To everyone at First United Methodist,
Thank you! We are so grateful for your church's heart of generosity towards Prison Fellowship. Your partnership in praying, giving, and serving deeply blesses us. We could not do this work without the faithfulness of churches like yours. Thank you for using your funds to join us in serving those impacted by incarceration.
Blessings, Breanna Ferguson
Prison Fellowship Ministry



Dear FUMC,
Thank you so much for all the snacks, water, juice and medals. We couldn't have done it without you. Your generosity and unwavering support have meant the world to us.
David Brewer Pioneers Running Club



Leavenworth County
NAACP Branch Unit 4036

JUNE TEENTH

TWILIGHT PARADE AND FESTIVAL
Saturday, June 13, 2026

FEATURING
LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT
GAMES ★ VENDORS ★ FOOD & FUN

Parade starts at 6:45pm Festival starts immediately following parade!

Free event Haymarket Square
Leavenworth, KS

Sacred Makers

St. Paul's Parish Hall
209 N 7th St, Leavenworth, KS 66048
Second Thursday of each month
June 11th 6 to 7 pm

Join us for June Sacred Makers as we transform simple tin cans into living reminders of hope, intention, and growth. We'll upcycle tin cans, write our prayers and wishes on paper, bury them in the soil, and plant seeds above them to nurture and watch grow throughout the season. A beautiful hands on evening of creativity, reflection, and community. 🌱




Church Camping Trip Was In Tents

Twenty church family members braved the rain storms to camp at Perry Lake May 29-31. There was fishing, swimming, hiking, great fellowship and lots of good food! It was so enjoyable, they plan to go again next year.



Another way that Kathi LaMoe shows hospitality is by working with Teresa Hicks and a lot of volunteers to provide meals for families after a funeral. This is such an important time for families as they are grieving. Kathi said, "People need time to share stories and reflect. Sharing food is a way to let that happen." She and her team work hard to create a loving space that exceeds the families' expectation.

In 2019 when we started the AIR Dementia ministry, Kathi became a regular volunteer. When AIR transitioned into the Deeper Window Association program, Kathi began volunteering there as well. When the church hosted a vaccination event in cooperation with the Leavenworth County Health Association and Bethel AME, she was able to administer the vaccines because she is a licensed registered nurse. She has also gone on the mission trip to Camp Horizon three times and she is an angel to two lovely widows in our church. So, Kathi has been very involved with volunteering in many ways.

One volunteer area where Kathi has really made an impact in is Children's Ministry. She volunteers every Sunday with Kids First Worship. She will even be the lead teacher if Nancy has to be away. She also volunteers almost every Mothers Morning Out. The kids love her. It's important to her that the kids have positive church experiences just the way her kids, Pete and Sara, did. She said they have so many great memories from growing up in our children's and youth programs.

Kathi shared some of her favorite memories of her 21 years as part of our church family. She remembers when Cindy White took the choir to perform in quarters on Ft. Leavenworth as a gift to a terminal spouse of an Army officer at Christmas. She always loved to hear Brian White sing at Christmas Eve. She will always remember Kari Anderson's beautiful funeral with an overflowing crowd and such loving energy.

Later this summer, Kathi and Jeff will be moving to Townsend, Montana. Kathi said, "I will always treasure the friendships I have formed over the 20 years here at FUMC." She said, "A church is as good as you make it. You have to invest in making your church a place you would want to come. A church doesn't run itself. I stepped up when I had no previous experience or training. I think there are so many people who could contribute here. Don't be afraid to jump in and volunteer. It's been proven that whenever you do something to benefit others, you receive an endorphin boost. I always felt I got more out of volunteering than those I was helping."



Members of the Children's and Youth ministries and the Hospitality team took a course in CPR, choking and use of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) machines in May to ensure the safety and health of our church family.



Kathi LaMoe receives Paul Harris Fellowship Award from the Rotary Club for exceptional service to others.

Kathi LaMoe has attended Methodist churches all her life. She remembers singing in the choir in third grade in Pappillion, Nebraska. She grew up in a military family, so they moved quite a bit when she was a child. She married Jeff LaMoe in 1984. He was in the Army, so they moved 18 times in 27 years of active duty.

In 2005, Jeff became the Chief of Staff for the Command & General Staff College here at Ft Leavenworth. He retired from the position in 2020. Their son, Pete, was in sixth grade and their daughter, Sara, was in first grade. They started shopping for a church home. They came to FUMC and were impressed with the youth and children's programs. They recognized lots of military people and after talking with Michelle Briggs, they got a sense that this church was filled with good people. Jeff loved singing in the choir with director, Cindy White.

Kathi didn't get very involved while the children were living at home, but in 2015 she was asked to join the Trustee committee with Don Gaffin, and Gary Rader. Norm Dawson was the Financial Chair. She was very intimidated because she didn't feel that she had any experience. The next year in 2016, the basement of the Education building flooded. There was a lot of damage to the building and educational materials. The hillside next the building was full of trees and trash. She helped hire a company to excavate the hill, build a retaining wall and move the air conditioners. When that project was completed, she researched the restoration of the stained glass in the sanctuary. Her hard work on the Trustees has ensured both buildings will continue to both beautiful and useful for generations to come.

In 2018, the church council was restructured. NOW was created. NOW is three leadership positions in the area of Nurture, which cares for church members, Outreach, which seeks to bring new people to church, and Witness, which focuses on creating a hospitable church environment and following up with visitors.

Kathi became the Witness lead. She saw the need for an organized hospitality team to make sure visitors feel at home and at ease. Because she had moved so many times and visited so many churches herself, she knows how hard it is to visit a new church where you don't know anyone. She also knows the importance of first impressions. Kathi said, "Welcoming the stranger is our number one job. It is loving your neighbor as yourself. If we don't get the first contact right, we lose the opportunity for a second chance. A good hospitality volunteer goes beyond saying 'Good morning.' They learn people's names, they ask questions, they anticipate needs. They make a visitor feel seen." She also said, "If we make people feel comfortable, we are making space for the Holy Spirit to work."



Liam Hintz and Rocky Hladky are both members of the Leavenworth High School JROTC program. They recently competed at the Master Level All Service Awards in Daytona. They competed with over 80 schools across the nation for the national title. They came home with the nationals armed overall runner up trophy! Pioneer Guard Drill team came home with these trophies; 3rd place armed inspection, 3rd place armed regulation, 3rd place armed exhibition, 5th place Color Guard. This earned them armed overall runner up.

David Hintz and Aubrey Visocky are starring in the youth production of *Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There!* at the Leavenworth Performing Arts Center, 500 Delaware June 4th, 5th, 6th & 7th.



Congratulations to Breanna Banker and the Lansing High School girls swim team who made history by winning the Class 5-1A State Championship! The Lions are the first school north of Interstate 70 to win the Class 5-1A girls swimming and diving state title. Lansing dethroned powerhouse programs including six-time state champion Blue Valley Southwest and defending state champion Andover, finishing 11 points ahead of the competition.

Congratulations to Leah Wieggers who was promoted to the rank of Air Force Captain on the US Air Force Museum near the Civil Engineering memorial. Leah is a master's student in General Engineering management at the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. Her mom, Carla, got to administer the oath of office, then Steve, Alyssa and Grandma Shirley got to change rank on Leah's shoulder's and hat. Leah recently learned her next assignment will be Alaska in spring 2027.



In May, the church staff cooked and delivered Mexican themed meals to Anthony and David Brewer Elementary School teachers for Cinco De Mayo. Then many from the congregation brought in breakfast for Lansing Elementary School to celebrate their last day of school. The teachers were so appreciative to be supported in this way. Thank you for loving your neighbors in this way.



FAMILY @ FUMC

May 10 we celebrated graduates and moms, both are the future of the church. In honor of Father's Day, enjoy these dads & kids.



May 17 was our annual Music Sunday. We were treated to great performances by the choir, the Bell choir and a new flute choir called the Wesley Winds. We appreciate all the hard work and rehearsal that went into preparing such a wonderful day of worship.

