



First United Methodist Church

of

Leavenworth

422 Chestnut, Leavenworth, KS 66048

913-682-5374 FUMCLVKS.ORG

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

August 2026

2 8:30 am Traditional 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Contemporary 6:00 pm Refuge Youth 6:30 pm Prayer for Schools	3	4 1 pm Book Club	5 6:30 pm Choir practice	6	7	8 24 Hour Prayer for Schools
9 8:30 am Traditional 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Contemporary 6:00 pm Youth	10	11	12 11:30 am Let's Do Lunch @ The Depot 1:00 pm Heart & Soul 5:00 pm Grief Share 6:30 pm Choir	13 8:30am Staff	14 5:30 pm Wingtips 6:00 pm Youth Lock-in	15 Men's Prayer Breakfast TRIO Summer Bash Faith Walkers Faith Fest
16 8:30 am Traditional 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Contemporary	17	18 1 pm Spouse Grief Share	19 3:45 pm Wonderful Wednesday 5:30 pm Young Adults 6:30 pm Choir	20 8:30am Staff 1:30 pm Itchin' to Stitch	21	22 Samaritan's Buffet - SCL 
23 8:30 am Traditional 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Contemporary 4:30 pm Bells 6:00 pm Youth	24	25	26 1 pm Heart & Soul 3:45 pm Wonderful Wednesday 5:00 pm Grief Share 6:30 pm Choir	27	28	29
30 8:30 am Traditional 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Contemporary 4:30 pm Bells 6:00 pm Youth	31	1 Blood Drive 1 pm Book Club	2 3:45 pm Wonderful Wednesday 5:30 pm Young Adults 6:30 pm Choir	3	4	5 





After our summer of Ecclesiastes, we'll explore the changing season of our lives. FUMC has a line that we are a "church of the ages . . . serving the present age." I believe we are a church for every age! August will be a focus on children and their faith development. Children learn to love God and others by being loved. Most of us learn to love deeply at home. Other places like school and church play a role, too. I'm sure you can remember adults other than your parents who loved you well. My earliest memory of Sunday school as a boy was being taught by two of my grandfather's contemporaries: Blanche and Irene. We sang songs and had a lesson. They used a shiny seashell for the little collection plate that we would put our quarters into at the end of the lesson. As I look back on those days now, I realize they were about the age I am now. Of course, when you are six years old, anyone with white hair seems ancient. I wonder if our children see me the same way – probably and that's ok!

It is the church's responsibility to love children well. Whether they live in our home or not, the children of our community are still our kids. This attitude is one of the reasons why we support Anthony Elementary and David Brewer Elementary, fill backpacks, and lead an outstanding Vacation Bible school. We send kids on mission trips and Scouting camp. A recent Barna report stated that 15% strongly agreed and 41% somewhat agreed that ministry to children is NOT crucial to growth. Unbelievable! At FUMC, we believe that ministry to children and young people is **extremely important** to making disciples of Jesus Christ. Jesus wanted children to come to him (Matthew 19:13-15). They were not less important than the other ministries Jesus had to do. Children were brought to the center of his immediate circle. If we say we want to be more like Jesus, then our love for children needs to center on this truth.

Loving our children well is not only the work of Nancy Shade in Children's Ministry or Kristen Howell and Steven Shade with the Youth Ministry. It is **all** our work in making disciples of Jesus Christ. We are incorrect to say that children are the future of the church; they're part of the church now. Our children's children are the future generations. If our kids do not find a loving home in today's church where they are loved, how will they know the love of God to pass on to others?

PRAYER FOR SCHOOLS

AUGUST 2

6:30 PM

If we say we love children, we must also love the people who train and support our children. Being a teacher has never been an easy job, but it is such an important one. Teachers mold the future. That is why we want to lift them up in prayer. We're asking you to join with other churches in our area to pray for teachers, staff, students and parents on August 1 at 7 pm until August 2 at 7 pm. There is a sign up at our website FUMCLVKS.ORG/PRAY.

At 6:30 pm on August 2, we will have a prayer and praise service here. Area churches will be bringing music and messages as we join to pray for our schools. Last year's service was inspirational. Please plan to attend.

August BIRTHDAYS

1st Nathaniel Fox-Linton
3rd Wes Ludwig
Steven Shade
4th Karen Kidder
5th Steve Scrimsher
6th Tim DeFrees
Katie Short
7th Jennifer Bell
9th Jack Kobe
10th Bill Bailey
11th Mary Seymour
12th Randy Herrman
13th Ed Garven

14th Abel Rolf
Kiernan Riffel
Nancy Shade
15th Linda Langley
17th Aileen Hastings
Janette Holdeman
18th Robbie Helm
Christine Owens
19th Taylor York
20th Steve Songer
21st Pam Hubbert
22nd Jan Mix
Meredith Roush



24th Trudy Holyfield
25th Brenda Coats
25th Ruth Ann Logan
26th Kathy Serena
Caleb Shade
Jim Walley
27th Nancy Dawson
Suzanne Gray
Avery Holyfield
Violet Varnal
30th Robin Sanders

August ANNIVERSARIES

2nd	Keith & Libby Frashier	46 years
3rd	Ryan & Kristen Howell	13 years
4th	Marlin & Trudy Holyfield	49 years
7th	Ron & Diane Booth	25 years
10th	Wade & Valynn Schmierer	53 years
11th	Douglas & Alice Hall	53 years
12th	Roy & Donna Ramsey	59 years
18th	Brendan & Allaura Jamerson	4 years
20th	Gary & Cheryl Rader	60 years
22nd	Mike & Jan Mix	49 years
25th	Jack & Jo Burkett	59 years
28th	Jim & Lynne Atwell	44 years
	Bill & Pam Bay	60 years

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

Upcoming EVENTS



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 11:30 am

The Depot

781 Shawnee Street

MEN'S PRAYER & STUDY
BREAKFAST
AUGUST 15
8:00 AM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
MIKE MIX HAIRYMULE@GMAIL.COM
OR DAVE LANDIS DLANDIS@HUGHES.NET



Kids First Worship is for kids ages 3 years through 6 th grade. We start in the main Sanctuary for the 11:00 service, and then go to the lower floor of the Sanctuary building for Bible lessons that include the story, crafts, science, games – all designed with children in mind. In August, we will continue studying individuals from the Old and New Testaments. Who are they? What did they do? Why are they important? What do they teach us today?

August 2 – Namaan
August 9 – Zaccheaus
August 16 - Timothy
August 23 – The Roman Centurion
August 30 – The Rich Young Ruler



Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings in room 202 of the Education Building from 9:45 – 10:45. With the Bible as our foundation, we will be using science, art and activity to not just tell God's story, but learn what it means for us. Our lessons will be a deeper dive into the stories from Kids First Worship.



Wonderful Wednesday meets on Wednesday afternoons from 3:45 – 5:30 pm during the school year. It's important for kids to know that God is not just for Sundays – he is for every day! During the year, we'll focus on important gardens in the Bible, including the Garden of Eden and the Garden of Gethsemane. We will also learn what God has to say about important principles of gardening like: planning, planting, tending, pruning and harvesting, You won't want your child to miss this opportunity to learn an important life skill, as well as discovering how the principles of gardening translates to

our lives. Registration is now open at: FUMCLVKS.ORG/WW **NOTE – Our first session is August 19!**



Fusion 56 A huge transition happens between Elementary school and Junior High. Everything is changing and it can be difficult to navigate all the changes. This special group is just for 5th and 6th graders and focuses on the unique challenges and joys that come with being “in-between” We meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month from 12:00 – 1:30p.m. On 5th Sundays, we will have a Fun Day. We will begin a new group in September. If you have a 5th or 6th grader, please contact Nancy for more information. Friends are always welcome!

Fusion 56 Kickoff is September 13th!



Mother's Morning Out resumes in September! The second Wednesday of each month during the school year, we will be providing care for children ages birth through school age. This is a great way to

volunteer if you love children. There will be three groups: Nursery (ages 6 weeks – 2 yrs.), Toddlers (2 and 3's) and Preschool (4 and up). Our first session for this school year is September 9. To sign up a child or to volunteer, register at fumclvks.org/mmo. Space is limited, so sign up early.

For information on any Children's Ministry contact Nancy Shade at nshade@fumclvks.org



The Caring Congregation



Last year I wrote an article about downsizing and decluttering. To recap, now that I'm in my mid seventies, I don't need to maintain over 55 years of accumulated treasures, spread throughout a two story house. Instead, I am choosing to distribute various beloved items of jewelry, china, artwork and other goodies to my family, friends, and assorted charities. Having control over the process while I still have the bandwidth has been very freeing. To everything there is a season...

While passing on these valued treasures has been personally rewarding, at the end of the day, its impact is minimal at best. I believe that the most valuable thing I can pass on to my daughters isn't something they will inherit, but something they will remember. The truth is, whether we are intentional about it or not, every day we are leaving legacy for our children. If that's true, the question is, “What are my children learning about life by watching how I live today?”

Like you, I've experienced my shares of ups and downs. There have been times in my life that I have modeled things that my children may have interpreted as strength or weakness, but were truly just surviving mechanisms. I wish now that I had been more open with them and showed them my struggles and fears. Now that they're older, I'm having more of those delicate conversations with them. They are facing the same problems now that I struggled with back in the day: how do you juggle child rearing, marriage, work, parenting, caring for aging parents, keeping house, extracurricular activities, friendships, self care, etc. while growing spiritually?

If I'm being honest, I'd have to admit that self care along with growing spiritually often came in last. In hindsight, what they saw as a giving, dependable, reliable, faithful woman would have been so much more authentic if I had taken the time to prioritize my relationship with God ahead of everything else. So much of what I went through would probably been so much easier if I had allowed the Holy Spirit to work in me instead of trying to do everything in my own strength. It makes me sad to think of the person I was then compared to what I might have been if I had trusted God to guide me through it.

None of us wants to leave a legacy that teaches our children to just survive. We want our precious loved ones to thrive. I would like to live a life that my children and grandchildren want to imitate - not replicate. What I am modeling for them in my seventies is still important. As I enter the last third of my life, how I navigate the attendant hardships associated with declining stamina, health, and mental clarity, losses of best friends, family members, and peers are important life lessons that they will be observing.

One of the things that I want to model for them is daily gratitude for the grace God has bestowed on me and the many ways He has shown His love for me. I want them to see that what matters most to me is relationships - with each of them, with Don, with my extended family, with my Gethsemane sisters, my friends, and especially with my Maker.

I challenge you to think about what your legacy will be, remembering that you are already modeling it to your family. You might want to change your “bucket list” and reprioritize. If I could give a word of caution, be careful what you teach your children about success. The world has a different criteria than we do. Take time to celebrate true success: integrity, courage, honesty, kindness, selflessness, being present for each other, encouragement and love. *Matthew 6: 19-21 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* Blessings, Marsha

Dear FUMC Leavenworth,

Thank you for Octogenarian gifts for Ernest and myself.
Thank you for never forgetting about us! The best part is our enjoyable visit with Mary Lou Anderson! Love you all!
Special thanks for your prayers.
Wilda & Ernest Wicke



Dear Church Family,

Bill & I are honored to be a part of FUMC in Leavenworth. The care you take with all generations, especially seniors, means a lot. Thanks to the loving committee that puts together the care bags for us. Everything in the bag was very appropriate. You can't go wrong with a cookie from Cheryl Rader! With sincere thanks, Bill and Sheila Bailey





Wow! My first six years at the First United Methodist Church of Leavenworth has been filled with excitement and blessings.

The descendants of His servants will inherit it, and those who love His name will dwell in it. Psalm 69:36

In past six years, we have accomplished significant structural improvements to our facilities which include: partial HVAC replacements, the exterior stone restoration/ replacements, the angled parking/sidewalks around the green space east of the main church building, the inclined sidewalk, a new main church building roof with engineered guttering, and new front entry way and renovation behind the sanctuary cross. Moving forward, we are waiting on bids for more HVAC upgrades and we will be refurbishing the office ramp and long range the main kitchen. We will innovatively work together on funding to accomplish these projects.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

The blessings I have received have been in the friendships I have made with my brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus and with the mission partners I have met in the community. The Lord has commanded us to use our time, treasure and talents to bring Kingdom to our homes, our church, and our community. I ask that each of you pray on how you can bring Kingdom in your own way. We have many opportunities for serving on a weekly or monthly basis through the generosity and compassion of this church. I know not everyone can physically serve, but everyone can pray that we continue to meet the needs of our community.

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done. Proverbs 19:17

Financially the church is strong and moving forward continuing to build His Kingdom (with love and peace) in our community. Below is the Statement of Activities (profit and loss) through June of this year. As you can see your giving is outpacing our spending, and our investments (net other revenues) are strong. Your generosity makes all this happen. I encourage each of us to pray how we can continue to engage with your treasure and help maintain and grow this spirit-filled community.

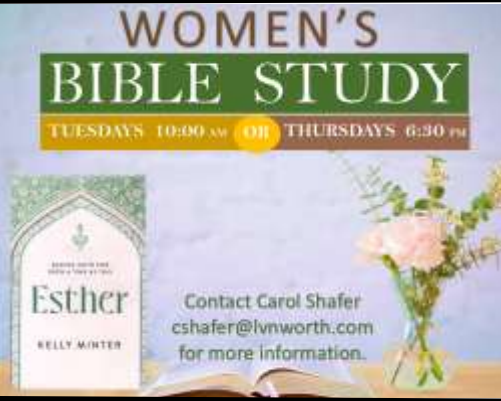
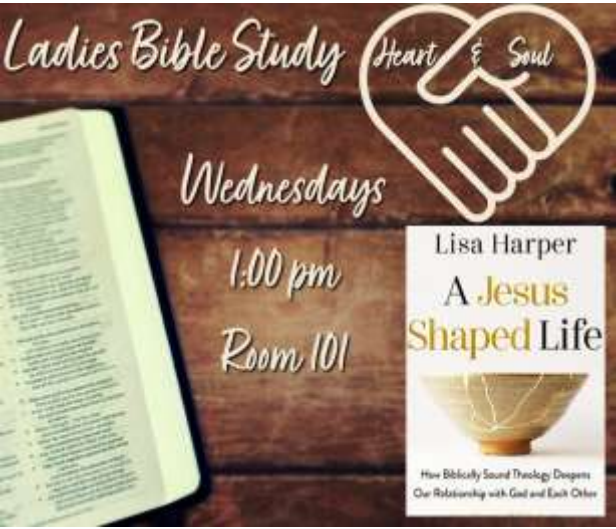
On August 10th this year, our partners at the Richard Allen Cultural Center and Museum are hosting their annual Jazz by the River event at Saint Mary University. The Richard Allen Cultural Center and Museum (RACCM) opened in 1992 to highlight African-American history in Leavenworth, Kansas. The museum is the former home of U.S. Army Captain William Bly, a Buffalo Soldier during World War I. The home is decorated to look as it would have in the early 1900s. In 2002, an addition was built to the front of the original home to display more items teaching about African-American history in Kansas. The center offers a glimpse into the history of African-Americans, both local and nationwide. It was created to ensure that the rich heritage of African- Americans and their profound effect on American society would not be lost. Their mission and purpose is to educate the public about the rich history of African-Americans and their contributions to every phase of American life. Educational programs are also offered through museum exhibits, tours, research opportunities, and traveling exhibits for the general public. If you would like tickets to Jazz by the River, please see me. In Christ, Ed egarven@fumclvks.org or 816-805-4771 (cell)



Budget vs. Actuals: 2026 Budget - SOA
January - June, 2026

	Actual	Budget
Gross Profit Expenditures	\$ 635,251.57	\$ 366,550.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 466,492.57	\$ 421,657.52
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 168,759.00	-\$ 55,107.52
Total Other Revenue	\$ 158,380.95	\$ 58,523.04
Total Other Expenditures	\$ 35,313.43	\$ 43,699.98
Net Other Revenue	\$ 123,067.52	\$ 14,823.06
Net Revenue	\$ 291,826.52	-\$ 40,284.46

Heart and Soul is a Ladies Bible Study that will begin on Sept. 3rd. They'll be studying Lisa Harper's *A Jesus Shaped Life; How Biblically Sound Theology Deepens Our Relationships With God and Each Other*. Theology is a conversation about God. One that invites us to experience God in all His fullness, rather than just memorizing facts about God. Theology is not some academic subject to only be pursued by professors and seminarians. Theology is the way we connect with our Redeemer. It's how we remember that we are his and we will never have to be alone. Explore the depths of God's character, God's love for you, and how your relationship with him transforms you. Ultimately, you will experience how biblically sound theology deepens your relationship with God and each other. For more info, ask Margaret at Margaret.Burland@gmail.com.



In *Esther: Daring Faith For Such A Time As This*, Kelly Minter invites you into the daring faith modeled by Esther and her cousin Mordecai—a faith developed over time, rooted in the goodness of God, lived out through extraordinary circumstances, and used to change the world. Although our time looks different from Esther's, our God is just as active and faithful today, and He has called you for such a time as this.

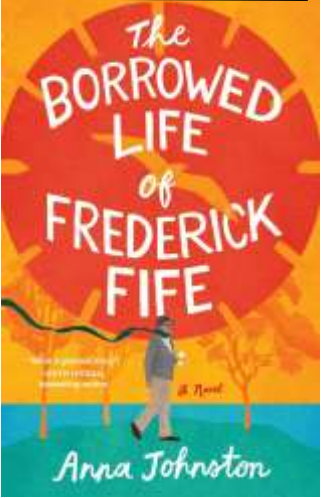
The Women's Bible Study will be studying *Esther* on Tuesdays at 10 am OR Thursdays at 6:30 pm starting Sept 8 and 10. Carol Shafer leads both Bible studies. You can contact her at cshafer@lwnworth.com.



Sept. 1, 1 pm

The book club is reading the bittersweet and remarkably perceptive, *The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife* by Anna Johnston. It is a hilarious, feel-good, clever novel about grief, forgiveness, redemption, and finding family.

Frederick Fife was born with an extra helping of kindness in his heart. If he borrowed your car, he'd return it washed with a full tank of gas. The problem is there's nobody left in Fred's life to borrow from. At eighty-two, he's desperately lonely, broke, and on the brink of homelessness. But Fred's luck changes when, in a bizarre case of mistaken identity, he takes the place of grumpy Bernard Greer at the local nursing home. Now he has warm meals in his belly and a roof over his head as long as his look-alike never turns up.



Denise Simms is stuck breathing the same disappointing air again and again. A middle-aged mom and caregiver at Bernard's facility, her crumbling marriage and daughter's health concerns are suffocating her joy for life. Wounded by her two-faced husband, she vows never to let a man deceive her again. As Fred walks in Bernard's shoes, he leaves a trail of kindness behind him, fueling Denise's suspicions about his true identity. When unexpected truths are revealed, Fred and Denise rediscover their sense of purpose and learn how to return a broken life to mint condition.

We'll meet Sept. 1 at 1 pm in Wesley Hall. If you have questions or need a ride, ask Sandy at swood@fumclvks.org.

Maggie and I would like to say thank you so much for the great goodie bag that was given to us recently. The homemade cookies were delicious and just flew out of the bag first thing! It was fun browsing through the other treats - notepads, stamped cards, the Upper Room, etc. What a gracious gift. thank you Maggie and Marcia Myers

Dear First Methodist friends,
Thank you so much for sending me the Upper Room and Life at FUMC. It surely helps me to keep in touch with so many friends. Our facility has been purchased so my address has changed a little bit. It is now called Langford Assisted Living. Thank you and God bless. Alicia Moody



Sunday School and Bible Study

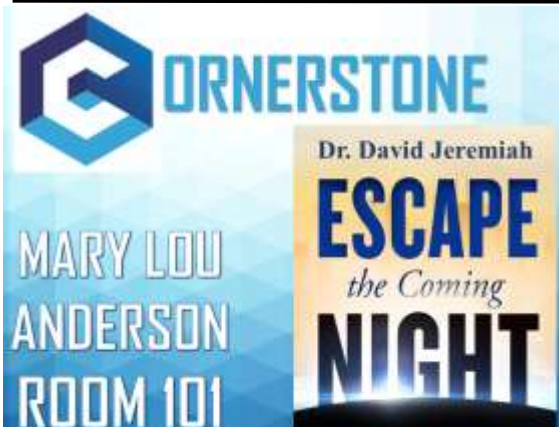
The kids are headed back to school. But have you ever considered that you still have opportunities to learn? We have several adult Bible Studies available for you. They are designed to help you grow in your relationship to Christ, but also to build relationships with people in your church family. Pastor Dave's Bible Study is not listed here. The publisher changed the release date of the book he planned on using. He is picking a new study and information on it will come in the bulletin soon.



The Koinonia Sunday School class is doing an in-depth study of the book of Psalms. The primary focus of Psalms is developing a relationship with God. The Psalms illustrate how believers can bring all of their life experiences—the good and the bad—before God. Many psalms are cries for help or expressions of sorrow, while others shift into joyful hymns of thanksgiving. The book is designed to teach people how to live according to God's teachings while looking forward to a future promised King, the Messiah.

Teacher Raun Watson uses a lot of Bible commentaries and a Bible Atlas to prepare his lessons. For more info, ask him at cavemanrg@earthlink.net.

The New Life Seekers Sunday School class is finishing *The Holy Spirit: God's Presence and Power at Work in Us* by Adam Hamilton. On August 23, they will begin a study of the Ten Commandments. The Ten Commandments are core religious and moral laws found in the Bible, split into two main groups: duties toward God and duties toward people. Found in Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5, they serve as a guide for living a faithful, just, and loving life. They meet in room 203 at 9:45 am. If you would like more info, ask Sara at sbmulford@gmail.com.

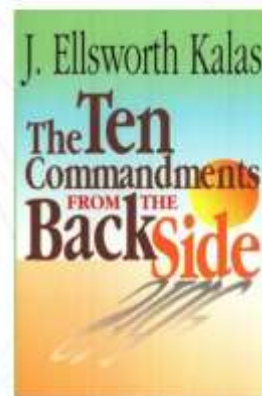


Mary Lou Anderson leads the Cornerstone Sunday School class. They are currently studying Dr. David Jeremiah's *Escape the Coming Night*. This book about Revelation answers the most challenging questions about your prophetic future! No one can deny that the world is in trouble. Multiple wars are being fought. Tragedy stalks our streets. Violence and bloodshed fill the news. Today's political debates spotlight the deep and bitter divisions in our society. Immorality runs rampant, while the Church often remains silent. But God's Word explains the chaos. God's Word offers hope. For info, contact Mary Lou mlouanderson21@gmail.com.

The Family Matters class meets in room 107. They are currently studying *The Ten Commandments from the Back Side* by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Kalas approaches the Ten Commandments through the "back side"—through a unique starting point, a creative retelling, a new "lens," or the eyes of a minor character.

Kalas explores how these "prohibitive" laws actually are our dear friends, intended to make life richer and more fulfilling. He uses contemporary illustrations and personal experience to show how these timeless laws give us an appetite for divine excellence. For info, contact Arlen Briggs at ammkm@yahoo.com

ARLEN & MICHELLE BRIGGS
ROOM 107



BLOOD DRIVE

SEPTEMBER 1, 10 AM - 3 PM



According to recent studies, someone in the U.S. needs blood every 2 seconds. If you've ever donated blood, then you know the incredible feeling that you are helping save lives. If you have never had the opportunity to give blood, here are 10 reasons you should:

1. You can save up to 3 lives!
2. Not everyone is eligible to donate blood. Only 38% of the population can donate, so if you are able, you are a selected minority.
3. Your body will make new blood. It takes about 24 hours to replace plasma and about 4-6 weeks to replace red blood cells. Consider it a tune-up for your body.
4. Giving blood is not painful. You may feel a slight prick initially, but it doesn't last long.
5. Donating blood burns calories! Your body will burn approximately 650 calories just by donating.
6. You get a free well-check. Before you give, a nurse will check your blood pressure, pulse, temperature, and hemoglobin levels. You may also be screened for HIV, Hepatitis, and other diseases.
7. It takes only one hour of your time.
8. You'll feel a boost in confidence and your emotional well-being knowing that you have done a good deed and are a part of saving lives.
9. There's no substitute for human blood. Blood cannot be manufactured in any way, and it is always in high demand.
10. You may be one of the 25% of people who need blood donation one day. Donating blood can help save the lives of people of all ages. Hospitals use blood donations for accident victims, organ transplants and surgery patients, and those with illnesses such as cancer. If you are considering giving blood, don't wait any longer. There is nothing more empowering than knowing that you have the power to save lives!

Our church will sponsor our third blood drive of the year on Tuesday, September 1st from 10 am to 3 pm in Fellowship Hall. You may sign up to donate at savealifenow.org/group and use group code EH47. Come to donate blood, stay for the sloppy joes and Nutter Butters!

If you would like to volunteer one hour of your time to help greet and care for those donating by offering them some good old Methodist hospitality, please reach out to Cathy Landis at clandis@hughes.net. - *Cathy Landis*



CAMP Horizon

A Great Plains UNITED METHODIST CAMP



If you like to be of service, enjoy the outdoors, and share fellowship, the Camp Horizon Mission trip is for you. Camp Horizon is a Methodist camp located near Arkansas City, KS that is mainly for youth in the summer. However, many other activities occur there throughout the year. Maintenance jobs such as painting, trimming trees, landscaping, sorting/cleaning are completed while we are there. We will be leaving after the 8:30 service on Sunday, September 27, and return to Leavenworth after breakfast Thursday, October 1. There is no cost. Contact Gary or Cheryl Rader at gcrader66@gmail.com or 913-651-6429 if you plan to attend or have questions. Please consider joining us. - *Cheryl Rader*

Itchin' to Stitch

The Itchin' to Stitch ladies have been hand quilting an underground Railroad quilt for the Richard Allen Cultural Center and Museum. This takes hours of painstaking work. They will work again at the Plain Jane's studio at the corner of Fifth and Delaware on August 4, 5, and 6, at 1:30 pm. Volunteers are welcome to join them. They will have their regular meeting on August 20 at 1:30 pm. If you would like info on all the projects they do, contact Teresa at hickt@kc.rr.com.



Thank you to everyone who packed a backpack! The New Life Seekers Sunday School class packed 51! We had 48 bags left on July 27. By July 28, all of them had been claimed. Such generosity!



Music Notes

Sanctuary choir rehearses on Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm.

They sing at the 8:30 am service. No audition or experience required, just a desire to make a joyful noise.

Wesley Ringers, our main handbell ensemble, begins rehearsals on Aug 23 @ 4:30 pm.

Children's Choir will learn songs during Wonderful Wednesday and Kids First Worship. They will also begin rehearsals for a Christmas play later in the fall.

If you're interested in joining any of these groups, please email Kathy at KMckinley@fumclvks.org.



Thank you for all the donations you have made this year to Trinity House and Stronghold Food Pantries. You are truly making a difference in the lives of families in our

community. Trinity House gives a standard bag of essentials to each family. But sometimes, it's nice to have a little something extra. Examples might be: instant potatoes, pop tarts, sandwich bread, taco shells, toilet paper, hand lotion, cookies, paper towels, cake mixes, shelf stable milk, coffee, Ensure, instant breakfast packets, granola bars, pudding, nuts, chips and crackers. You get the idea. Staples are always welcome, but so are these little treats that make life a little sweeter. Use your imagination, the sky's the limit! You can drop your donation off at the church, or at Trinity House, 2101 10th Ave. They're open Tues.-Thurs. from 10 am to 1 pm.



Music at First UMC is about to crescendo!



This summer has been the first time in Steven or I's memories (and Steven was a youth here at FUMC), that we've had consistent youth group over the summer. We wanted to offer the opportunity to get out of the house and go see friends over the summer. We have taken a very laid-back approach, but we have continued to meet each Sunday from 6-8pm for dinner, community, service, movies, and/or games. Overall, it has been a success and allowed us to remain connected even while school is not in session.

We began our summer schedule in May and had movie nights and game nights, as well as a trip to an Escape Room. In June, we traveled to Chicago for our youth mission trip and worked with Cradles to Crayons, which provides clothing and school supplies to underprivileged kids in Chicago and their families. We also got to experience plenty of fun Chicago attractions. That was many of our first experiences traveling by train! Personally, I thought it was great, but that may just be because neither Steven nor I had to drive. In July, we helped set up for VBS, followed by an outing to Rush Funplex in Shawnee which has tons of things to do, such as bowling, go-karts, a foam pit, mini golf, bumper cars, laser tag, a climbing wall, pool tables, and an arcade all included in one price.

In youth Sunday school, we spent the first half of the summer focused on reading through some of the more well-known Psalms. The second half is being spent watching The Bible Project videos on The Ten Commandments and discussing their relevance to our lives. This will carry us into the school year.

Because of youth group's connection with the school calendar, August is a high-energy season for us. Youth Sunday school will move back to its traditional 9:45-10:45am schedule beginning in August as we move back to two services. Additionally, we will have our Annual Back-to-School Lock-in August 14, 6 pm- August 15, 8 am. This year, the Hladkys have graciously offered to host us at their pool for dinner and swimming before we return to the church for games, movies, and crafts. If you are safe-gatherings approved and would be willing to help us with the lock-in over night, Steven and I would be greatly appreciative; we are getting older and all-nighters were significantly easier in our 20s. Please contact me (Kristen) at khowell@fumclvks.org if you would be willing to help out.

After the lock-in, we transition in to our school year programming for youth group, still meeting Sundays from 6-8 pm and including dinner, games, and a lesson. If you would like to provide the youth group with a meal or part of a meal, please contact Steven at sshade@fumclvks.org and let us know. Thanks to all for your continued support of our youth group at First UMC!

Young Adults continue to meet from 6-9 pm on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Our primary focus is providing a place for people to make friendships with other people ages 18 (post-high school) to 35 and belong. We eat dinner together, talk about anything and everything, and often play games. This month, we will have a movie night at the church to watch The Princess Bride – a classic and a favorite of many in the group. If you'd like to join us, we'd love to have you. Please contact Kristen Howell via text at 913-742-3557 or via email at khowell@fumclvks.org.



Rocky Hladky graduated from JROTC Cadet Leadership Challenge. There were 185 cadets from 11 schools, 21 were from Leavenworth. They were divided into four Platoons, and as part of the ceremony, they awarded two special awards per Platoon, just eight total. Rocky won one of those special awards!! He was chosen out of 45 cadets in his 2nd Platoon! Way to go, Rocky! We are proud of you!



Camp Chippewa is a United Methodist camp outside Ottawa, Kansas. It's a great opportunity for kids to try new activities while learning more about God.

Many kids attended camp this summer. Paisley Hladky said, "I really enjoyed riding horses and pool time with friends, but my favorite part was worship."

Cathy Dedonder's granddaughter, Rose Jury, said, "Camp is a fun place to go. There are multiple activities to do like swimming, canoeing, archery, campfires, and even sleeping outside. You make friends that you can keep in touch with after camp. Something I'll never forget is learning how to canoe. Our canoe was tilting and we almost fell in!"

Lucy Heim said, "Describing camp to a friend is easy! Fun, magical, joyful, and definitely hot. Going to camp gives you a nice break from technology, it gives you the chance to look up and enjoy some outdoor activities, to feel God's love, and to make friends! It's just overall a great place to be and it always feels like my home away from home. Camp is packed with tons of fun activities. trail riding, fishing, pedal karts, petting zoo, Speliobox, ropes course, and so much more! Every year, tons of fun things happen, too many to count! I may sound like a broken record, but it's still all linked back to the instant friends you can make when you arrive to your cabin."

Natalie Heim said, "I was in the Future Chippewa Leaders group and it was super fun to go around in our small group and hang out with other campers. I learned how to be a leader. Every day we would go with the pastor for an hour or two to practice leadership skills. Camp is a place where you can be 100 percent authentically yourself, a place where you can make friends and grow in your faith in God. This year, I brought a friend to camp with me." Her sister, Sadie, said, "Camp is welcoming, friendly, adventurous, and fun." She and her brother, Jackson, went to two weeks of camp because they loved it so much.

Their mom, Kelly Hiem said, "As someone who grew up in the Catholic church, I didn't really get to chance to choose how to start my relationship with God. See these kids engage in small group lessons and build their faith and make the decision their own without pressure is truly refreshing. Camp is the number one summer priority for our family."



Scouts Have A Great Summer!

250 years of American sovereignty. Of course, the history of America goes back much farther. The global Scouting movement was founded by Robert Baden-Powell in 1908 in Great Britain, while the Boy Scouts of America (now Scouting America) was incorporated on Feb. 8, 1910, in Washington, D.C., by Chicago publisher William D. Boyce.

The Scouting Ministry here at FUMC is well over 50 years. The first U.S. president to have been a youth member in the organization was John F. Kennedy (not at our church). While Gerald Ford holds the distinction of being the first (and currently only) U.S. president to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, Barack Obama, and Joe Biden all participated in Scouting as youth. You might recognize other prominent Eagle Scouts such as the first guy on the moon, Neil Armstrong, Steven Spielberg, Stephen Breyer, Robert Gates, William Sessions, Mike Crapo, Jim Lovell, Guy Bluford, Charles Duke, Richard O. Covey, Michael Bloomberg, Sam Walton, Rex Tillerson, J.W. Marriott Jr., Stephen Bechtel Jr., Hank Aaron, Bill Bradley, Rob Corddry, and my all time favorite newscaster, Walter Cronkite, "and that's the way it was."

Pack 3109 attended summer camp, and had a fun night at Hawthorne Park and Splash Pad. We met a ton of people and handed out a lot of popsicles. Aug. 1, we'll have a movie night under the stars with the LV Soccer Association.

Things will kick into gear in August. Pack "Back to School Night" for Kindergarten is Thursday Aug. 13. We will be at Henry Leavenworth and David Brewer. We could really use volunteers at Lawson for the Kindergartners and at Anthony Elementary. If anyone wants to help at Henry Leavenworth or David Brewer, please let Jeremy or Alexa know.

Troop activities in August:

August 1: Dive-In Movie at Wollman Aquatic Center, 9:00 pm to 11:30 pm.

August 8: Scout Day at the WWI Museum, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm followed by Scout Night with the KC Monarchs, 5:30 to 9:00 pm. I think we will be pretty tired by the end of the day! Do you want to join us at the ball game? Let Bill Kidder (billkidder@usa.net) know soon.

August 22: Eagle Court of Honor for Brady Mendenice, 3:00 pm. The entire congregation is welcome to join us in honoring Brady. He might not become President but he is a senior this year. Please join us. If you can't join us, maybe you will see us in September for our annual family dinner in the green space.

August 25: This is our first regular pack meeting. This will give parents a week to settle back into school routines. Our first meeting will be a pack meeting and hopefully center on welcoming new guests and showing them what we do.



CAMP FIRE VBS @ FUMC

Vacation Bible School was a great success. The kids learned about God's Shekinah. They learned about the pillar of fire, when God sent fire to Elijah, Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego, Elijah receiving his call from God and Pentecost. Every day they shared "God sightings," sang songs, made crafts, played games, ate snacks, made friends, but most of all, they learned that they can trust God because He loves them deeply.

