

REVELATION

August 2019

BACK  
TO  
SCHOOL



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Revelation

## From Your Pastor

August is here. In just a couple of weeks the teachers and students will be starting back to school. The pool will close and fall sports will be starting up.

As all of us know, time goes fast! We often look back and wonder “Where did the summer go?” “Where did the year go?” “When did I get so old? I don’t FEEL old!”

We can lament the quick passage of time, or we can celebrate the memories, the many opportunities we’ve been given to love and learn, the relationships we’ve built over the years. Above all, we can celebrate our relationship with God.

God is timeless. God has been with us always, and always will be there. Psalm 139 speaks to this very fact. You can read the entire psalm in your Bible, but here are a few of my favorite parts:

*“O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar ... Whither shall I go from your spirit? Or whither shall I flee from your presence? ... If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me... For it was you who formed my inward parts, you knit me together in my mother’s womb... You know me very well; my frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret... How profound to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! If I would count them, they are more than the sand. When I awake, I am still with you.” (PS 139, selected verses)*

God bless you!

Melanie

### **Sunday Services**

Adult & Youth Sunday School at 9:30 am  
Worship at 10:30 am

### **Table Talk every Wednesday Evening (during the school year)**

Dinner at 6:00 pm  
Classes for all ages at 6:30 pm

## Office Info/UMW

### UMW News

Altar Flowers– Delores St. Pierre

Executive Meeting: August 1st @ 12:15 pm

General Meeting: August 1st @ 1:00 pm

Morning Cluster: August 15th @ 9:30 am

Location: TBD

Evening Cluster: No Meeting

**HUGE THANKS**  
to everyone that has helped  
keep the church clean  
during the month of July:

**Phil & Connie Bentz**  
**David & Judy Edwards**  
**Christy Hasch**  
**Jason Johnson**  
**Cindy Kocher**  
**Jim & Ann Lanoue**  
**Angie Gabel– McConkey**  
**Carol Ruud**  
**Beth Whisler**  
Youth

*Trustees: August 6th @ 7:00 pm*

*Finance: August 12th @ 7:00 pm*

*Healthy Congregations: August 18th @ 11:30 am*

*ADCO: August 19th @ 5:30 pm*

## Worship Notes

August 4: “Is it God’s Fault?” Hosea 11:1-11

Holy Communion

August 11: “God’s GPS” Proverbs 3:1-5

August 18: “God’s Voice” 1 Kings 19:11-12,  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

August 25: “They Happen All the Time” Luke 13:10-17

## Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir is enjoying summer vacation and all the special music provided for worship. Very soon we will begin choir practice and you will see us assisting with worship on the first and third Sundays of the month. Our choir is small in numbers, and we could definitely use YOU to help make our voices stronger. Please consider joining the Chancel Choir to make a JOYFUL NOISE!



Sunday, September 8th

BROADWAY PLAZA (CORNER OF 6TH AND BROADWAY)

9:30 am Worship

Brunch and Yard Games following Worship  
It's BRING A FRIEND TO WORSHIP SUNDAY!!  
Bring your lawn chair, a friend or 3, table service and  
something to share for Brunch.

Hosted by: Concordia First United Methodist Church  
"A PLACE FOR YOU TO BELONG BELIEVE BECOME"

# 50 Ways to .... BELONG! BELIEVE! BECOME!

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A monthly feature to spark ideas that you, the church member or friend, can do to strengthen our congregation and the ministry we do. Each month we will share a few ideas taken from “50 Ways” materials produced for sharing by the Lewis Center for Church Leadership.

August ideas:

1. Learn to regard our community as an extension of our congregation. A church’s mission field goes beyond its membership to include all the people God calls it to serve. We are connected to individuals who never set foot in our building.
2. Pray regularly for your neighbors and our community.
3. Attend to your own faith formation, so that you are better equipped to share your faith and reach out to others. A place to start is by reading Matthew 22: 34-40, 28:16-20. Also get involved in “Sittin’ w Jesus” (Wed. evenings at 5:30 in the chapel), regular worship, a Sunday school class, or consider putting together your OWN group that meets for Bible study and prayer. Talk to me (Pastor Melanie) for more information.

We are searching for volunteers to make cloth children’s activity bags. If you are interested in this project please talk to Lisa in the office.



## Praise Band

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Do you play the guitar, banjo, piano, drums, tambourine, or other instrument? Do you like to sing praises to God? Then I have just the place for you! Praise Band traditionally provides music on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. We usually try to practice sometime during the week ahead of that Sunday, but once in a while we only get to practice Sunday morning at 9:00. With Pastor Melanie leading worship at Trinity United Methodist Church now, she is not able to practice at 9:00 a.m. We need your voice, your instrument, your praising abilities to keep our lively group going! Please contact Pastor Melanie or Pam Campbell, and we'll help you get started.

# Nursery Pack N' Play

On June 27th 3 members of our congregation attended a Safe Sleep Class offered by the Cloud County Health Department. Lisa Brewer, Cindy Kocher and Jan Novlan learned the ABC's of Safe Sleep for babies. The church received a free Pack N' Play for taking part in the class and for hosting the Community Baby Shower.

You are encouraged to pick up a Safe Sleep booklet located on the welcome center in the entryway. Anyone who is a caregiver of a newborn/infant/toddler should read the booklet in order to provide a Safe Sleep environment for the child in your care.



# Community Baby Shower

## CLOUD COUNTY Community Baby Shower

FOR SAFE SLEEP

ALL CLOUD COUNTY MOMS OF NEWBORN TO 3 MONTHS  
OLD BABIES, EXPECTANT MOMS AND THEIR SUPPORT  
PERSONS

First United Methodist Church  
740 West Eleventh Street  
Concordia, KS

Safety approved  
Pack-n-Play & Sleep  
Sack for each new  
mom after completion  
of the program  
While supplies last

For more info contact:  
Lois Tracy or Erika  
Hodgens @ Cloud  
County Health Dept.  
785-243-8140

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2019 2:00 PM**

*Get to know your community resources*

Learn Safe Sleep techniques \* Breastfeeding resources  
Smoking Cessation \* Enjoy Refreshments \* Drawings & Prizes

### Collaborative Partners

Aetna Better Health of Kansas  
Catholic Charities  
Cloud County Community College  
Cloud County Health Department  
Concordia First United Methodist Church  
DVACK  
Early Head Start  
Heart Choices  
Parents as Teachers  
Pawnee Mental Health  
Sunflower Health Plan



On Sunday, August 11th from 2 - 4 pm, the Cloud County Health Department will be hosting a Community Baby Shower in the Fellowship Hall! Participants will learn about safe sleep and visit booths from collaborating partners. Eligible participants will receive a Pack-n-Play and a Sleep Sack.

If you would like to volunteer to help or donate cookies, contact Lisa Brewer or Nancy Wentz today!

## Spotlight on Kurt & Cindy Kocher

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Kurt and Cindy Kocher were married at the First United Methodist Church in Concordia, Kansas on Dec. 26, 1987. Reverend Blanton officiated the ceremony. Cindy said that they received many sets of folding table and chairs as gifts (probably from members of the Crusader's Class). At this time, Cindy also became a member of the FUMC, transferring her membership from the First Presbyterian Church in Lyons, Kansas. Kurt was raised in this church. He remembers walking with the congregation from the old church on 7<sup>th</sup> and Broadway to the "new" church, and the camping trips at nearby lakes with families of the Crusader's Class.

Kurt and Cindy have two sons who were baptized in this church. Kenton, 28, was baptized by Reverend Gottschall, and Tyler, 25, was baptized by Reverend Parker. Both boys were raised in this church and participated in youth activities led by Jean Wilcox. Both boys are graduates of Kansas State University. Kenton now lives in Golden Valley, Minnesota where he works for OSI. Tyler is working on his Master's Degree in Economics at Wichita State. This summer he is interning with Spirit AeroSystems in Wichita, Kansas. Both boys are single and seem destined to be so, even though their mother has reminded them what an awesome grandmother she would be, even taking classes, i.e. Safe Sleeping for Infants.

Kurt farms 12 miles south of Concordia. Kurt started farming in 1978 following a farm accident that paralyzed his father, George Kocher. Helen was instrumental in helping Kurt transition into being responsible for the farm. While farming, he attended CCCC and after 8 years got his associate degree from CCCC. He often times said that he was a slow learner, and that's why he married a Learning Disability Teacher. Kurt grows wheat, soybeans, oats, milo and corn. Kurt has adopted conservation practices on his farm, and in 2007 allowed EDP to build a windfarm on the Kocher's land. Kurt also raises cattle and grows alfalfa. Kurt loves farming and continually tries to stay informed and current with practices and new technology. Kurt soon learned that Cindy cost him more money when she operated machinery, so he discouraged her "help". There are times today though, when she can be seen moving bales with a tractor, working cattle, spraying weeds and fixing fence.

Kurt has been involved in many community committees throughout the years—Optimist Club (how he met his wife), Cloud County Elevator Assoc., Rural Water District, CloudCorp, Farm Bureau, Central National Bank Advisory Board, and the Hospital Board. Kurt is excited about Concordia building a new hospital and has worked hard for many years with many others towards this goal. He has also served on several church committees, i.e. Trustees and Finance.

In 2010, Kurt met his birth mother, Sandy Bieker and her husband, Charles Bieker. Pastor Sandra Moore helped facilitate this meeting at the FUMC, as she had met Sandy prior while pastoring in Clay County. Kurt discovered that he has 2 half-sisters and 1 half-brother, who is taller than him. Sandy's family opened their hearts and arms to Kurt's family, inviting Helen and Kurt's family to their homes during the holidays and for special events. This relationship continues to strengthen and grow.

Kurt is quite the collector. He has a collection of tractors, crawlers, cars and trucks. This hobby has connected him with people throughout the world. Kurt and area steam engine fanatics put on a tractor show called Prairie Plowing Days in 2016. They are planning a national show in August of 2020, along with the Historical Construction Equipment Association. Kurt is excited about this show as it will bring many people to this area and will provide an economic boost to North Central Kansas.

Cindy came to Concordia, Kansas in 1983 following her graduation from FHSU. She was hired through LCNCK as a special education teacher. Cindy taught for 31 years—19 with special education and 12 as a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher. Cindy retired in 2014. During retirement she has been active with CASA, continues to substitute teach and supports the church through service in the education dept., singing in the choir, and cleaning the church, plus a smattering of other activities. Her "me" times include reading, swimming and traveling. She and Kurt traveled with their children throughout the U.S visiting most of the states while the boys lived at home., but recent travels have taken them to Alaska, the UK, and Europe.

The FUMC and the members of this church now and in the past have been a very important part of Kurt and Cindy's life, and they wish to thank you.

## Little Pantry

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School is out and we will see increased traffic at our Little Free Pantry. Please be mindful of items placed in the pantry that could easily spoil in warm conditions. Consider purchasing items to fill the pantry the next time you shop for groceries! Your items can be placed directly in the pantry. If you have extra items, please place them in the food box in the church entry – these items will be used for the pantry and the CCRC Food Bank. If you prefer, you can also make a monetary donation to help purchase food for the pantry through the CCRC Food Bank.

## Mission Buckets

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Thanks for giving generously in July. We collected \$133.2 for the Cloud County Resource Center and Food Bank.

Missions Buckets will be passed on August 18<sup>th</sup> for the Native American Ministries Special Offering. For more details, visit: <http://www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/native-american-ministries-sunday>.

## Healthy Congregations

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Pick up your free Reusable Shopping bag today! Bags are available in the church entry, next to the food box. The bags are provided by the Healthy Congregations team. They provide a great way to save the environment AND advertise our church!



The Healthy Congregations team is planning to start a Yoga class on Sunday evenings this fall! The class will take place every other week and start in September. People of all ages and skill levels are invited to participate (including beginners). If this is an activity that interests you, please contact Angie Gabel-McConkey or Nancy Wentz for more details!

## Commodities Distribution

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Commodities were distributed to 137 individuals on July 17th. Huge thanks to all of our volunteers!!! Lisa Valcoure, thank you for stepping in for me at the last minute so that I could tend to a family emergency. Our church family is truly amazing!!! ~ Lisa Brewer

# Cloud County Resource Center Needs

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Help is needed with the monthly food truck delivery on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Help is needed to unpack boxes, remove barcodes, and stock items.



**June 3rd - Aug 5th**

**Give us:  
Your obscure  
Your unopened  
Your forgotten  
CANS  
Yearning to be free**

Please join the CLOUD COUNTY RESOURCE CENTER in gathering food items for the busiest time of year: SUMMER. This year the Food Bank is issuing a challenge to Concordia; Help us climb the steps of the Statue of Liberty. Our goal is 3540 food, cleaning or personal hygiene items to help us reach the crown.

**HIGHEST DEMAND ITEMS:**

**\*DETERGENT\* CANNED SOUP\* DRY CEREAL\* CANNED  
FRUIT\* WOMEN'S DEODORANT\* RAZORS\* CANNED  
MEATS\* FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS\* BOXED DINNERS**



107 W 7th  
P.O. Box 195  
ccrc@nckcn.com  
(785)243-1065

## School Supply Drive

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The CCRC will continue to collect school supplies through August 9th. The most needed items include: Loose-Leaf Paper, Spiral Notebooks, Composition Notebooks, 3-Ring Binders, Pencil Cases/Boxes, Bottled Glue, Pencils, Pens, Colored Pencils, Crayons, Markers, Highlighters.

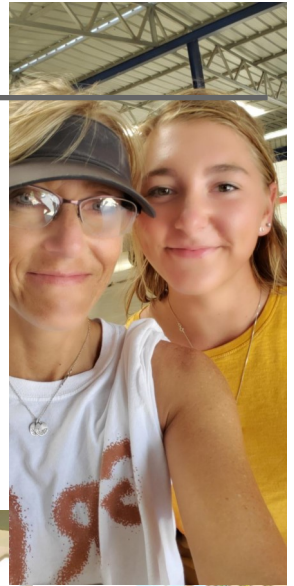
Help is needed at the CCRC to pack Backpacks on July 30th, August 1st, and August 6th from 5-7 pm.

For more information, contact Tonya Merrill at 243-1065 or [ccrc@nckcn.com](mailto:ccrc@nckcn.com)



# Poore's Dominican Republic Mission Trip

Kathy & Allison Poore recently returned from the Dominican Republic, the location of their 2nd Mission Trip of the Summer. Orphanage visits, shoveling rocks, mixing concrete, helping with Vacation Bible School, shoveling more rocks, home visits and shoveling more rocks was a typical Mission Day. If you would like to hear about their experience, they will be sharing their story on August 11th.....stay connected for more details.





## IMPACT News

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MISSING!!! Have you seen the youth of IMPACT anywhere? Just kidding, but sort of not. Summer scatters our youth in a million different directions, most of us haven't seen each other since the end of school or our return from Mission Trip. As August is rolling around and summer activities are wrapping up we will begin bringing our youth back together to have fun and discuss the year to come.



More importantly, we're sure you are curious about how our Mission Trips went. Dare we say, "A Huge Success!" We have so many stories to tell you. So mark your calendars for Sunday, August 11th. That evening we will host a get together for all to hear about the projects we worked on, the adventures we had and the development God made in our faith. More details to come as this event gets closer.

As always, thank you for your support ~ Kathy & Jason

## Texas Mission Group

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FUMC hosted 17 members of the Kavanaugh United Methodist Church of Greenville, Texas on July 13th. The group was on a Mission trip to South Dakota. They spent the week working on a Reservation.

James (one of the leaders), called while they were in South Dakota to ask if they might stay again on their way back to Texas. They loved our hospitality and our community!!

The group made it back home and send their thanks for providing a great place to stay.



# August Heroes

Worship Volunteers	August 4	August 11	August 18	August 25
<b>Greeters</b>	Jim Lanoue Ann Lanoue	Dave Brewer Lisa Brewer	Nonnie Steinert Lori Raccagno	Lori Racagnno Gary & Cynthia
<b>Media Sound</b>	Janice Swenson	Lisa Brewer Jason Johnson	Nancy Wentz Mark McConkey	Janice Swenson Mark McConkey
<b>Worship Leader</b>		Jason Johnson	Angie Gabel- McConkey	
<b>Liturgist</b>	Jason Johnson	David Edwards	Verna Ferguson	Maddie Johnson
<b>Children's Moment</b>	Cindy Kocher	Pastor Melanie	Angie Gabel- McConkey	Loren Swenson
<b>Fellowship Hosts</b>	Kurt & Cindy Kocher	Wayne & Alberta Neel	Don & Darlene Pearson	Angie & Donna
<b>Fellowship Cookies (3 doz.)</b>	Cindy Kocher	Lisa Brewer	Lori Raccagno	Nonnie Steinert
<b>Fellowship Cookies (3 doz.)</b>	Christy Hasch	Alberta Neel	Darlene Pearson	Wendy Holt
<b>Fellowship Cheese/Crackers</b>	Carol Ruud	Mary Thoman	Pam Campbell	Gwydotta Ukens

Area to Clean	Volunteers
<b>Sanctuary</b>	Cindy Kocher
<b>Chapel/Entry/Balcony</b>	
<b>Bathrooms</b>	Marsha Wentz
<b>Nursery</b>	Jim & Ann Lanoue
<b>Parlor &amp; Kitchen</b>	Phil & Connie Bentz
<b>Classrooms/Choir Room</b>	
<b>Fellowship Hall</b>	
<b>Halls/Stairs</b>	Pam Campbell
<b>Youth Room</b>	Youth
<b>Kitchen</b>	

# August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12:15 pm UMW-Exec. 1:00 - General	2	3
4 9:30 am S/S 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	5 7:00 pm Trustees	6 5:30 pm Sittin' W/ Jesus	7 9:30 am S/S 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 2:00 pm Baby Shower PM: IMPACT Event	8 9:30 am Morning Cluster Location: TBD	9	10
11	12 7:00 pm Finance	13	14 5:30 pm Sittin' W/ Jesus	15	16	17
18 9:30 am S/S 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am Healthy Congregations	19 5:30 pm ADCO	20	21 5:30 pm Sittin' W/ Jesus	22	23	24
25 9:30 am S/S 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	26	27	28 5:30 pm Sittin' W/ Jesus	29	30	31

**Return Service Requested**  
**First United Methodist Church**  
**740 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Concordia, KS 66901**



To A Friend of the Church

**Pastor: Rev. Melanie Adams**  
Administrative Assistant: Lisa Brewer  
Christian Education Coordinator: Kathy Poore  
Groundskeeper: Devin Pearson  
Choir Director: Renata Knox  
Organist: Pam Campbell  
Nursery: Jan Novlan

Contact Information:  
Email: [concordiaumc@gmail.com](mailto:concordiaumc@gmail.com)  
Pastor's Email: [madams@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:madams@greatplainsumc.org)  
Church Phone: 785-243-4560  
Pastor's Cell: 308-920-0917  
Parsonage: 785-262-4224  
Website: [www.concordiaumc.com](http://www.concordiaumc.com)

**Concordia First United Methodist Church**

Belong | Believe | Become

