

April 2020



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Revelation

## From Your Pastor

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From Your Pastor,

Dear Congregation, I missed seeing you so much on Sunday morning! I won't go on and on about the difficulty of these times: you already know! But I do want you to know that I am thinking of each and every one of you (even if you rarely attend) and I am keeping you in my prayers.

Please note that all worship services, Sunday school, and activities and meetings are suspended until at least **Monday, April 6th**. The best way we can prevent the virus from taking a hold in our own community is through prevention, and that means avoiding gathering in groups of more than 10.

**I encourage you to please observe all the precautions that are being put forth by our city, county, state, and national governments. None of us likes having to do this, but it is vital that we do.**

I am going to be working from home almost exclusively until this time of crisis is over. I have asthma and it has been worse in the past few weeks, so as a precaution, I am staying away from everyone. If you need to talk to me, please call my cell phone: 308-920-0917.

Dee Ann will only be in the office for limited hours. The doors to the church will remain locked. If you see her vehicle out front and need to talk to her, please call the church phone number: 785-243-4560.

On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, I put a devotion on FB for Sunday morning. You can still watch it by checking out our **FB page: concordialumc**. I will continue doing these devotions during this time.

For those of you who do not have internet, please feel free to call me using my cell phone number above to check in. I want to know how you are doing!

## From Your Pastor, Continued

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### WORSHIP NOTES:

Facebook worship will continue for March 29<sup>th</sup>, April 5<sup>th</sup>, and for Holy Thursday. See previous page for the church FB page address.

I am planning on having a huge celebration worship service when we are finally able to meet together again. Watch for news of this. Just think of what a joy-filled day that will be!

**ALSO**, we are working on plans for a possible “Parking Lot Service” on Easter. The idea is that people will come to the lower parking lot and **stay IN THEIR CARS**. I will be on the hill and my message will be broadcast via radio which you would access through your car radio. This is all tentative at this moment, and will depend on whether we can get it to work, as well as how developments in restrictions to prevent the virus’s spread might affect us. So watch for further news about this. Thanks to Monte Wentz for this great idea!

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Last year I shared this acronym from Adam Hamilton for the word “fear:”  
**Face** your fears with faith. **Examine** your assumptions in light of the facts.  
**Attack** your anxieties with action. **Release** your cares to God.

If your anxiety is high, I also recommend a breath prayer. Breathe in slowly for a count of four, hold your breath for a count of four, breathe out for the count of four, and hold for the count of four. Then resume breathing normally. It works! Add to this, a prayer. You might use the words of a scripture, such as the one below, or maybe you simply pray, “Calm me, O God,” for each part of the breath exercise. Or try, “Thank you, God.”

Finally, remember these words from **Philippians 4:6**  
(a favorite of several of you, I know!): *“Don’t be anxious about anything; rather bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.”* CEB

With love,  
Pastor Melanie

## Meetings and Office News

*Trustees: Tuesday, April 7th @ 7:00 pm*

*Finance: Monday, April 20th @ 7:00 pm*

*ADCO: Monday, April 20th @ 5:30 pm*



## Lenten Boxes

Don't forget turn in your Lenten box! Arrangements can be made to drop them off with a phone call to the office 785-243-4560. Please leave a message if no one answers due to shorter office days and hours. A return call will be made as soon as possible.

Checks can also be mailed to 740 W. 11th Street, Concordia, KS 66901 during this time of closures.

Boxes will be available in a basket outside the sanctuary during Lent when Worship resumes. Money collected in Lenten boxes will go to Missions Agency Support. For a list of missions agencies who receive support through this giving, go to [www.greatplainsumc.org/missionagencysupport](http://www.greatplainsumc.org/missionagencysupport).

Please remember all donations to be in **No later than Easter Sunday, April 12th, 2020**. Thank you in advance for your contributions.



## UMW News

**Attention** all you who love to Knit, Crochet, Sew, or make cute crafts. The UMW Needs donated Items to supply the "Holiday Store" Please contact:

**Nonnie Steinert @ 785-243-7990**

**Meeting Thursday April 16th:**

12:15 pm Executive Meeting

1:00 pm General Meeting



# Volunteers Needed

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**We are searching for volunteers to help keep our church clean in April when things resume to a normal schedule .**

**Please call the office if you would like to be added to the list**

**Thank you to those who help to kept our building clean in March:**

**Carol Ruud, Janice Swenson, Marsha Wentz, Jim & Ann Lanoue, Kurt & Cindy Kocher, Jason Johnson, \*Youth, and Patty Mosher**

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## Little Free Pantry

With school out and many area residents experiencing hardships as a result of COVID-19, we expect the pantry to experience high traffic flow with multiple visits each day to both add and take items. We ask that you place items directly into the pantry at your convenience. If you prefer, you can also make a monetary donation to help purchase food for the pantry.



United States®  
**Census**  
**2020**



## What Is the 2020 Census?

The 2020 Census counts every person living in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories.

The count is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The 2020 Census counts the population in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). **Each home will receive an invitation to respond to a short questionnaire in March or April—online, by phone, or by mail.**

Census results have an impact on planning and funding for health clinics and highways, fire departments and disaster response, education programs such as Head Start and college tuition assistance, and so much more.

## Why Conduct This Count?

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

## Counting Everyone

Participating in the census is required by law, even if you recently completed another survey from the Census Bureau. A complete and accurate count is critical for you and your community, because the results of the 2020 Census will affect community funding, congressional representation, and more.

It's also in the Constitution: Article 1, Section 2, mandates that the country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.










# Random Acts of Kindness

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Due to COVID-19, we will not be able to host our annual Change the World event in May this year. This was a very hard decision, but we realized a great opportunity is presented to us:

## How can we expand our Random Acts of Kindness into the whole month of April?

Every year we have seen people come up with some great ideas on Change the World Sunday, so we know you are all capable of doing it now – you just may need to be a little more creative! Here are a few ideas to get you started:

-  Arrange a virtual bible study, book club, or game night via social media (Facebook Live, Zoom, or Skype). We know some of you have the personality to go viral on Facebook but you just don't realize it yet!
-  Offer to run an errand for someone who is homebound or in a high-risk group. Just keep in mind your social distancing while delivering.
-  Facetime with a friend or neighbor and remind them they are not alone. Phone calls work, too! Commit to reaching out to friends or family in high-risk groups on a regular basis.
-  Gratitude letter writing is a great way to spread kindness. You can order postage online and send a note to someone who could use a smile. If you are crafty, you could include artwork! If you want to have a card automatically sent for you, check out the Hallmark web site where you can select the option to sign and send a card for you for a small fee.
-  Donate to local non-profit organizations who are helping people through the crisis.
-  Small businesses will likely take a hit from lack of customers. Consider buying a gift card to use at a later time or to gift to family or friends.
-  Spend some time with your pet or walking neighborhood dogs. Check on your neighbors to see if they need help with their pets. Just keep in mind social distancing.

We ask that you share photos of your activities on Facebook and tag the church Facebook page. Or, you can send your photos and a description of your activities to Nancy Wentz at [ndwentz@gmail.com](mailto:ndwentz@gmail.com) and she will share them for you.

**Please watch our web site and Facebook pages for more ideas during April!**

# Healthy Congregation

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## Yoga Classes

April Yoga Classes are scheduled for:


**Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm**

**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm**

Classes are held in the Green Room. Participants of all ages and skill levels are invited to participate (including beginners). Bring a mat or towel for the floor; you may want to bring a small pillow or towel to sit on. **Please watch your e-mail and Facebook for updates to the class schedule.**

## How to survive the COVID-19 Pandemic

Rarely does an event affect so many people in so many different ways. We have compiled a few ideas below that might help in these difficult times. Watch our Facebook page and web site for more ideas.



**DO THE FIVE**  
Help stop coronavirus

- 1 HANDS** Wash them often
- 2 ELBOW** Cough into it
- 3 FACE** Don't touch it
- 4 FEET** Stay more than 3ft apart
- 5 FEEL** sick? Stay home

DAILY QUARANTINE QUESTIONS:

1. What am I GRATEFUL for today?
2. Who am I CHECKING IN ON or CONNECTING WITH today?
3. What expectations of "normal" am I LETTING GO OF today?
4. How am I GETTING OUTSIDE today?
5. How am I MOVING MY BODY today?
6. What BEAUTY am I either creating, cultivating, or inviting in today?

## More Healthy Congregation

### Hand Sanitizer Recipe

3/4 cup of isopropyl or rubbing alcohol (99%)

1/4 cup of aloe vera gel (to keep your hands smooth and to counteract the harshness of alcohol)

10 drops of essential oil, such as lavender oil, or you can use lemon juice

### Directions

Pour all ingredients into a bowl, ideally one with a pouring spout like a glass measuring container. Mix with a spoon and then beat with a whisk to turn the sanitizer into a gel. Pour the ingredients into an empty bottle for easy use, and label it “hand sanitizer”.

### Information on Service Changes due to COVID-19

I would direct everyone to the [Concordia First United Methodist Church](#) website as we have updated the main page with more details on available streaming services, online giving, weekly devotional, Facebook link, etc. I will continue to update the web site as we have more details. I think this is a great way to get people to visit the web site more than they probably have in the past.

### Missions Buckets

We will pass the Missions Buckets on April 19<sup>th</sup> for the Native American Ministries Special Offering. For more details about this offering, visit <http://www.umcgiving.org/ministry-articles/native-american-ministries-sunday>.

**\*Thank you to those who contributed to UMCOR we collected \$110.00**

### Cloud County Resource Center Needs

Help is needed with the monthly food truck delivery on **April 8<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 – 11:00 am**. Help is needed to unpack boxes, remove barcodes, and stock items. Please contact Tonya Merrill for more details and to confirm the schedule and any volunteer restrictions at 243-1065 or [ccrc@nckcn.com](mailto:ccrc@nckcn.com).



## April / Please Call Office to be Added

| <b>Worship<br/>Volunteers</b> | <b>April 5th</b> | <b>April 12th</b> | <b>April 19th</b>    | <b>April 26th</b> |  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>Greeters</b>               | Church<br>Closed |                   |                      |                   |  |
| <b>Media</b>                  | Church<br>Closed |                   | Dee Ann<br>Lightfoot |                   |  |
| <b>Sound</b>                  |                  |                   |                      |                   |  |
| <b>Worship<br/>Leader</b>     | Church<br>Closed |                   |                      |                   |  |
| <b>Liturgist</b>              | Church<br>Closed |                   |                      |                   |  |
| <b>Children's<br/>Moment</b>  | Church<br>Closed |                   |                      |                   |  |
| <b>Fellowship<br/>Hosts</b>   | Church<br>Closed |                   |                      |                   |  |

| <b>Area to Clean</b>         | <b>March Volunteers</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Sanctuary</b>             |                         |
| <b>Chapel/Entry/Balcony</b>  |                         |
| <b>Bathrooms</b>             |                         |
| <b>Nursery</b>               |                         |
| <b>Parlor &amp; Kitchen</b>  |                         |
| <b>Classrooms/Choir Room</b> |                         |
| <b>Fellowship Hall</b>       |                         |
| <b>Halls/Stairs</b>          |                         |
| <b>Youth Room</b>            |                         |
| <b>Kitchen</b>               |                         |

# April 2020

| SUN   | MON                              | TUE                             | WED                             | THU  | FRI | SAT |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----|-----|
|   |                                  |                                 | 1                               | 2  | 3   | 4   |
| 5   | 6                                | 7<br>7:00 pm<br>Trustee Meeting | 8                               | 9  | 10  | 11  |
| 12<br>Service Details to<br>be determined   | 13<br>7:00 pm<br>Finance Meeting | 14                              | 15                              | 16<br>UMW Meeting<br>12:15 Executive<br>1:00 General | 17  | 18  |
| 19<br>9:30 am S. School<br>10am Coffee<br>10:30 Worship<br>11:30 Missions<br>5:00 pm Yoga | 20<br>5:30 pm<br>ADCO Meeting    | 21                              | 22<br>5:30 pm<br>Choir Practice | 23   | 24  | 25  |
| 26<br>9:30 am S. School<br>10am Coffee<br>10:30 Worship                                   | 27                               | 28                              | 29<br>5:30 pm<br>Choir Practice | 30   |     |     |



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

**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

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

Contact Information:  
 Email: concordiafumc@gmail.com  
 Pastor's Email: madams@greatplainsumc.org  
 Church Phone: 785-243-4560  
 Pastor's Cell: 308-920-0917  
 Parsonage: 785-262-4224  
 Website: www.concordiafumc.com