

June 2020



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Revelation

INFORMATION ABOUT THE REOPENING OF FUMC FOR WORSHIP.

As we prepare to enter the month of June (how did THAT happen?) I want to update you on our tentative plans for reopening our church for worship.

On May 18th, ADCO met in a socially distanced manner outside the church building for our regular meeting. The number one priority was to look at the guidelines for reopening set out by The Great Plains Conference and the state of Kansas.

With the uncertainty that is still prevalent with the COVID19 outbreak, we are unable to give you an exact date for reopening at this time. But we made the decision that we we'll reopen when Governor Kelly is able to move the state to a phase which allows up to 90 people to gather together. And will get the word out as soon as we can.

When we reopen we will need the cooperation of all attending to observe social distance guidelines, wear masks (properly fitted), and refrain from hugging and handshakes. We will also not be able to congregate in the halls to visit, however, socially distanced conversation in the parking lot will be fine. The ushers will guide people as to where to sit in the sanctuary and will dismiss people a few at a time after the service.

Parts of the building will be closed off to worshipers (mainly the lower level, except the elevator and stairs) to restrict the spread of a potential virus. We will not use bulletins, but rely on the screen.

I know none of this sounds like much fun, but we WILL be together! And just seeing each other's faces (even with masks on) will be a joy! Pam will open up the pipe organ and the sanctuary will be filled with the sounds of worship once again. I look forward to that day!

More From Your Pastor

ADCO also discussed the meeting of small groups such as Sunday school classes, etc. Everything we do will need to be in line with the guidelines for meeting. Right now, no groups over fifteen may meet together. Outdoors meetings (socially distanced) would be preferable to meeting indoors. If your group requires attendees to be close together (such as choir), you should avoid meeting for now.

On line worship will continue via Facebook Live. For our level of technology this is the best option. If you are not on Facebook, you might want to consider it so that you can join in worship. Our church's FB page is concordialfunc. The services will appear there. And you can go back and watch any of the past services as well!

"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."
- Hebrews 11:1



Retirement Celebration Announced for Pastor Ken and Nancy Parker

Meriden United Methodist Church is inviting friends of Ken and Nancy to a socially distanced open house on Sunday, June 21st at Meriden United Methodist Church from 12:30 to 2 pm

You may also send cards to their new home:
3217 Yankee Tank Lane, Lawrence, KS 66047-3924

More information is on the church bulletin board for those who wish to send video greetings or contribute a letter to a special scrapbook. Ken and Nancy would love to hear from you!



Mission Buckets

Thank you for your gifts of \$129.34 to our March Missions Buckets for UMCOR. We are also still accepting gifts for the Native American Ministries Special Offering.

In May, our Missions Buckets were designated for the [COVID-19 Advance Fund](#). Our collections in June will also be for this fund. If we are able to meet, the Missions Buckets will be passed on June 21st. Online donations will also be accepted.

The UMCOR COVID-19 Response fund will equip Methodist partners to assist vulnerable populations in the U.S. and around the world. Grants from this fund will be disbursed quickly and efficiently to address health concerns, food insecurity, water and hygiene limitations and other pressing needs.



Meetings and Office News

Trustees: Tuesday, June 2nd @ 7:00 pm

Finance: Monday, June 8th @ 7:00 pm

ADCO: Monday, June 15th @ 5:30 pm



Cloud County Resource Center Needs

The Food Bank is open and accepting donations of cash or food items for distribution on Monday and Friday from 9 am – 12 pm and Wednesday from 9 am – 2 pm.

If you would like to volunteer at the CCRC, please contact

Tonya Merrill at 243-1065 or ccrc@nckcn.com

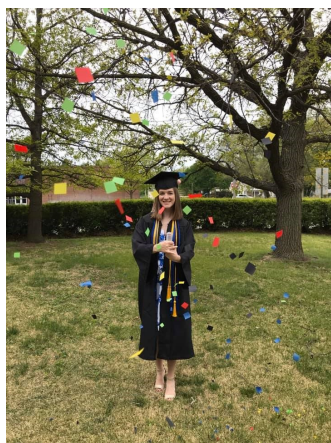


Congratulations to College Graduate



Mallory Thompson

May 9th, 2020, the date I have been looking forward to for so long. Even though my senior year didn't end how it was supposed to, and I didn't walk across a stage today, we still celebrated! In 3 years, I graduated with my bachelors degree in accounting with Summa Cum Laude honors. I have also had a job lined up for the past year. Getting ready to move to Wichita. I can't wait to start in my accounting position at Koch Industries in June.



Vacation Bible School

Watch for news on an alternative Vacation Bible School.



Two Important Announcements

Drive-Through Prayer! On Sunday, June 7th, from 4 to 5 pm, you are invited to pull up (in your car) in the circle drive in front of the church for a few moments of prayer and conversation. Hey, you'll be out taking a Sunday drive anyway, right? So stop on by!

Also, **"Sittin' with Jesus"** will resume on Wed., June 3rd at 5:30 pm, in a socially distanced manner. Masks are strongly encouraged. Contact Loren Swenson for more information.

Online Worship

Have you been joining us for Facebook Live worship at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings? Join us at www.facebook.com/concordia1umc! Online worship will continue until we are able to meet in person again.

The www.concordiafirstumc.com web site includes links to a number of other United Methodist streaming services if you would like to add to your worship experience. Information about upcoming events and services is also updated frequently on the web site. If you need help getting setup to view the service online, contact the church office.



Enhanced Online Giving

Additional options have been enabled for online giving through our web site. You can access [Online Giving](#) or scan the QR code with your phone.

Through online giving, you have the option to give with a credit card or to setup direct deposit from your checking account. These gifts can be setup for a one-time gift or as a recurring gift. There is even an option to setup giving by text!



We encourage you to create an account using the e-mail address you receive e-mails on from the church so your giving is associated with your account in the ChurchTrac membership system and will appear on your annual giving statement.

By creating an account, you will also have access to all of the giving options mentioned above. If you do not want to create an account, there is an option to give as a guest.

***Please note** there is a fee for online giving. You have the option to mark ‘add the service charge to the amount of giving’ **to add the cost of the fee to your gift.**

Volunteers Needed

HELP!!



We are in need of Volunteers to clean the Church before we re-open and for the rest of the month.

Area to Clean:

Sanctuary, Chapel/Entry/Balcony, Bathrooms, Nursery, Parlor & Kitchen, Classrooms/Choir Room, Fellowship Hall, Halls/Stairs, Youth Room, Kitchen.

Areas of Need:

Ushers for seating and check in sheet, Media, and Sound.

The Church doors are open. Please see the Sign up Sheet for Volunteers on the Bulletin Board.



Happy Fathers Day to ALL the fathers out there . May you enjoy your family to the fullest and count your blessings each day for the beautiful gift a child is.

Let us celebrate the best Father that ever existed:

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
when through the rivers, they won't sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire, you won't be scorched
and flame won't burn you.

Isaiah 43:2 CEB

Good News

Baby Alert

Congratulations to Marcy and Randy Johnson.
Son Alex and daughter-in-law Ali Johnson delivered a beautiful baby girl on April 22nd.

Charlotte Leigh Johnson

8-lbs 15-oz



Congratulations to Angie Gable-Mc Conkey (Currier)
Son Ian, wife Ariel, and big brother Rowan welcome the newest addition to their family on May 13th.

Tamsyn Currier

8-lbs 9-oz, 20.5"



Birthday Blessings;



Happy 80th Birthday Gwydotta Ukens

May 27th was her special day.
Family and Friends celebrated with a "Card Shower"

June Birthdays

2nd, Jessica Dethloff

3rd, Jesse Pounds

4th, Stanley McMillan

4th, Nathan Lawrence

6th, Judy Kircher

6th, Erynn Cory

10th, Joan Krohn

20th, Kevin Urkens

23rd, Dustin Bender

26th, Kurt Kocher

26th, Henry Hutchinson

26th, Dee Ann Lightfoot

27th, Nancy Nading

28th, Alyson Krohn

**If you have any "Good News" you would like to share for next month's Newsletter, Please call the Church Office and let us know
785-243-4560**

Food Distribution

May Commodities was a huge success. We served 30-Singles, 17-Couples, and 16-Families. What a wonderful group of Volunteers!! Thank you to everyone who came out on a dreary day to bring joy to others. We will be having Commodities monthly until further notice. June 3rd we are having a DHD (Disaster Household Distribution) and Commodities date is yet to be announced.



Little Free Pantry

We know that many area residents are experiencing food insecurity as a result of COVID-19. In particular, we have seen grocery prices rising quickly and we know this is affecting everyone in our community.

If you would like to help feed those in our community who are food insecure, we ask you to 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. This helps us to provide a variety of food on a daily basis.

Thanks to those that have been placing food from our store in the pantry daily: Cindy Kocher, Pam Campbell, Melanie Adams, Nancy Wentz, and Dee Ann Lightfoot!



Healthy Congregation

Yoga Classes

Watch for more details on re-starting Yoga classes in the coming weeks



**We received a special \$500 COVID-19 Grant
from the United Methodist Health Ministries Fund**
that will be used for the following projects:

- Food for the Little Free Pantry has been purchased to supplement the items we already had collected prior to the start of the pandemic.
- Step-n-Pull devices have been purchased for the bathroom doors at the church for hands free door opening.
- Hand Sanitizer Dispensers will be purchased to install in locations around the church as soon as they become available.
- Masks for distribution to the congregation and through the Little Free Pantry. We have already had masks donated that are available at the church and will continue to accept donations in the coming weeks.

If you need supplies to make masks, please contact **Nancy Wentz** (ndwentz@gmail.com).

Trustee Workday

A workday will be held on
Saturday, May 30th starting at 8:30 am

to clean the building in preparation of re-opening and
setup special storage for Commodities and Food
Distribution. Please wear a mask and bring your
favorite cleaning tools and supplies!



Lenten Boxes

Don't forget to return your Lenten box when regular
services resume!

Money collected in Lenten boxes will go to
[Missions Agency Support](#) in the Great Plains
Conference.



Meals on Wheels

The Senior Center is looking for
volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels.

To volunteer, contact
Lori Raccagno at 243-1872.

Meals on Wheels provides a hot meal
and
human contact for the homebound.





Return Service Requested
First United Methodist Church
740 West 11th 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