

# From Your Pastor

August 2020



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Revelation

Dear Congregation.

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.” - Jeremiah 29:11*

I know I’ve shared this verse of scripture with you earlier during this pandemic, but it has been on my mind, and in my heart, again in the past few days.

As I read it again just now, I was hit with the promise that God has plans for us: for you and for me. We may not know what those plans are. And it may be that understanding what those plans are is even more difficult than before, but it IS comforting to know that God has plans for us.

God has plans to give us *“hope and a future.”* Do you have hope for your future? Can you see beyond the months ahead, to a time beyond the pandemic? It can be difficult at times, can’t it?

But *“this, too, will pass.”* We will get through. God hasn’t given up on us. Place your trust in God.

Jesus said, *“Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”* - John 14:27

Place your trust in Christ. There is nothing that escapes God’s notice. And our life is in Christ, both now and forever.

*“Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from God.”* - Psalm 62:5

I give thanks each day for God’s presence in the midst of the pandemic. And as I see the turmoil in our country right now, I also trust that God is at work through people who are working for peace and justice. I pray that on both fronts, God, will lead us to a new day that will be better for all people. Please be in prayer for our world, its leaders, and its people.

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A couple of other things from Pastor Melanie

I will be taking vacation time from August 10<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. I will leave instructions in the office regarding emergency situations.

Finally, I am so excited to announce that Amanda Terrill has begun working as our administrative assistant and part-time custodian. We are so happy to have her back!

Pastor Melanie

## Good News

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**If you have any "Good News" you would like to share for next month's Newsletter, Please call the Church Office or email and let us know  
785-243-4560/concordia1umc@gmail.com**

Happy August Everyone!

I am so happy to be back here with my church family! I have missed you all so very much! For those of you who may not know me, my name is Amanda Terrill. I served as the Administrative Assistant back in 2017 and enjoyed it so very much. For the last 3 years I have worked as an advocate for the Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas. I now live out in the country just north of Minneapolis with my husband, Kenny; kiddos, Samantha, Dylan, Haylee, Jordan, and Lily; fur kiddos, Mojo and Amarina our dogs, and Cupcake our cat; as well as 5 roosters and 4 hens (all of which have names but you will have to ask Lily because I only remember a few)!

The office hours will be Monday-Friday from 8 am – 4 pm. However, there will be 2 Fridays per month when the office will close at noon, so I will be sure to send out an email as soon as I know those dates each month. Also, on Thursday afternoons and Friday mornings I will be cleaning the church so if you call and I do not answer please leave a message and I will get back to you asap. Please bear with me as I get back into the swing of things; I do remember quite a bit but some things have changed.

Thanks!

Amanda Terrill



## Mission Buckets

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Thank you for your gifts in May and June for the COVID-19 Advance Fund Offering and in July for the CCRC.

We will “pass” the missions buckets on August 16<sup>th</sup> for the [Peace with Justice Special Offering](#).



## Meetings and Office News

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**Missions: Sunday, August 2nd following Worship**

**Healthy Congregations:**

**Monday, August 3rd @ 5:30 pm**

**Trustees: Tuesday, August 4th @ 7:00 pm**

**UMW Exec.: Thursday Aug. 6th @ 10:00 am**

**Finance: Monday, August 10th @ 7:00 pm**

**ADCO: Monday, August 24th @ 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](mailto:ccrc@nckcn.com)



## Please Remember...

- ◆ The upper and lower doors are open but the lower hallway is closed.
- ◆ Please wear a mask-masks and hand sanitizer available at each entrance.
- ◆ Ushers will provide guidance to your seat and also be taking attendance.
- ◆ Please maintain social distancing.
- ◆ Please exit the church immediately after service.

## August Birthday Blessings



3rd, Tim Peltier	17th, Darin Pearson
6th, Alberta Neel	21st, Willie Lawrence
9th, Kyle Palmquist	22nd, Jordan Terrill
9th, Amanda Morgan	22nd, Phil Gilliland
9th, Debbie Krohn	25th, Marcia Pounds
11th, Cassidy Brown	29th, Jeremy Mildfeldt
12th, Jason Johnson	31st, Kasey Pearson
12th, Haylee Terrill	31st, Rosalie Grounds
15th, Garrett Lawrence	

### Worship Schedule for August (hopefully!)

**We have resumed regular worship services here at First Church, each Sunday at 10:30 am.** There currently are no other activities such as Sunday school or Fellowship Time.

When you come to church please be sure to follow distancing guidelines and wear a mask. Please sit only in designated areas, not areas which are roped off or areas where there is tape on the seats. The exception would be if one household has enough people to take up an entire row. In that case you may ignore the taped area.

**Facebook Live Worship** will continue. I will “go-live” at approximately 7:30 or 7:45 each Sunday morning from my dining room. Of course, you may watch at any time.

**I will be taking some vacation time August 10<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>.** Wendy Holt will be preaching on August 16<sup>th</sup>, and Jason Johnson will be preaching on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. During this time there will likely not be any online worship, but all the older services are still available on our church’s Facebook page.

Melanie

## Online Worship

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Have you been joining us for Facebook worship? Join us at [www.facebook.com/concordialumc](http://www.facebook.com/concordialumc)! Online worship will continue even after regular services resume. Pastor Melanie plans to live stream the scripture reading and sermon, so the exact start time may vary but will always be available for viewing at a later time. If you need help getting setup to view the service online, contact the church office.



## Enhanced Online Giving

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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.**

## Food Distribution

Commodities was held on July 22nd, serving 99 individuals and 53 households. Next Distribution will be Commodities again however at this time we only have a tentative date of August 19th. We will advertise when confirmed.



Thank you to all who volunteered to help with commodities distribution!

## 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, and Amanda Terrill!



### Meal 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.

# Healthy Congregation

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## Did You Know?

We have an **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** device in our church! It is installed right outside the sanctuary. Members of the congregation were training on the use of the AED in 2018. If you would like to receive training, please contact the church office.

**Stop the Bleed Kits** are available in the AED cabinet and the main kitchen. If you are interested in attending Stop the Bleed training, please contact the church office. The Healthy Congregations team will schedule another class if there is interest.

**First Aid Kits** are available in the AED cabinet, church office, kitchenette, nursery, and main kitchen.

**Masks** are available as you enter the upper and lower entrance of the church. If you need one or know someone who needs one, please take what you need! We want everyone to be safe and to stay healthy in the coming months. If you have a specific mask need, please contact the church office.

If you have masks to donate, we will gladly accept them so we have more on hand in the coming months! If you need supplies to make masks, please contact Nancy Wentz ([ndwentz@gmail.com](mailto:ndwentz@gmail.com)).

**Hand Sanitizer Dispensers** have been purchased and are backordered. As soon as they arrive, they will be installed at the upper and lower entrance to the church. Bottles of hand sanitizer are currently available in each location.



# August Heroes Needed

Worship Volunteers	Aug. 2nd	Aug. 9th	Aug. 16th	Aug. 23rd	Aug. 30th
Greeters					
Media Sound	Janice Swenson		Amanda Terrill		Amanda Terrill
Worship Leader					
Liturgist					
Children's Moment	None until further notice	None until further notice	None until further notice	None until further notice	None until further notice
Fellowship Hosts	None until further notice	None until further notice	None until further notice	None until further notice	None until further notice

**Special Thank You** for those who have cleaned the church:

**Carol Ruud, Janice Swenson, Cindy Kocher, Mary Lisa Thoman, Jan Novlan.**

**Willie Lawrence is now at Madonna Rehab in Lincoln, NE. Karla will be visiting him every weekend therefore, if you wish to send a card please send it to their home address.**

**615 Matthew  
Concordia, KS 66901**



# August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 10:30 am Worship Missions Meeting following Worship	31					1
2 10:30 am Worship	3 5:30 pm Healthy Congregations Meeting	4 7:00 pm Trustees Meeting	5	6 10:00 am UMW Exec. Meeting	7	8
9 10:30 am Worship	10 7:00pm Finance Meeting Pastor Melanie vacation	11	12	13	14	15
16 10:30 am Worship	17	18	19 10:00 am Commodities	20	21	22
23 10:30 am Worship	24 5:30 pm ADCO Meeting Pastor Melanie back from vacation	25	26	27	28	29



**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: Amanda Terrill  
 Christian Education Coordinator: Kathy Poore  
 Groundskeeper: Devin Pearson  
 Choir Director: Renata Knox  
 Organist: Pam Campbell  
 Nursery: Jan Novlan

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