

From Your Pastor

December 2020



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Revelation

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”
PS 46:1

Dear friends,
As the pandemic rages on, it is so important to remember that God is present. The next few months are not going to be easy, but we will get through this. We know also that no matter what happens in our lives, God has got us. The Apostle Paul reminds us that “nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

We still have plenty of “Home Worship Kits” for you to take home or drop off to someone else. These kits have a wooden cross, made by Lyn Saltzman, a small battery powered candle, and prayers, scriptures, and hymns to help enhance your devotion time in your home. I have also added a sheet of Advent material. Call the office to arrange to get your kit!

There is still time to turn in your 2021 pledge form! Your estimate of financial giving helps us know how strong our budget support will be. Thank you for your generosity! You are all awesome!

ADVENT (Zoom) STUDY

Each Wednesday in December at 6:30 pm. This will be a chance for us to connect as we use the work of Henry Nouwen as a guide to scripture. All are welcome. Please contact the church office if you are interested. This will be an online study (Zoom platform).

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Tentative plans are being made for a Christmas Eve Service with a possible parking lot option. Watch for more details.

As you all likely know, we have made the decision to cancel all in-person church classes and activities until further notice. This includes children and youth gatherings, as well as yoga. There is an exception to this decision. The Commodities distributions will continue.

Pastor Melanie

MISSIONS



Join us on Sunday, December 13th
at 3:00 pm to deliver a little
Christmas Cheer in our
“Alternate Caroling” Event!

We will meet in the upper
parking lot and travel in
individual cars to maintain social
distancing.



Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Concordia First UMC will be ringing the Salvation Army
Bell at Walmart on **Sunday, December 20th.**

We need **two volunteers** for each time slot between
Noon – 6:00 pm. Why two volunteers? So there are two
people to greet shoppers and spread Christmas Cheer!



We assembled 75 Layette Sets!



Thanks for your donations and time!

Missions Buckets “Noisy Offering” for December

*Cloud County
Resource Center
Holiday Baskets*



Hanging of the Greens 2020!



Poinsettias

Orders are due (with Payment) December 11th

Please Check one

_____ 6" = One Stem \$21.75

_____ 7" = Two Stems \$29.75

_____ 8" = Three Stems \$46.75

In Honor or Memory of:

Your Name: _____

Phone: _____

Make Checks Payable to FUMC



Thanksgiving Dinner 2020
25+ Volunteers served 270
meals – 56 meals
delivered!



I would like to thank everyone that helped with the Thanksgiving dinner. It truly was an all church undertaking. The money we made will go to the pew cushion fund along with money from other years dinners. We will be able to donate \$5,000 to that fund. Thanks again for all your help. Marsha



**How can we help others in
Cloud County during the
holiday season?
Here are some ideas!**



Bring these items to the Concordia 1st UMC Missions Tree by December 13th for use in Holiday Baskets prepared by the Cloud County Resource Center (CCRC) and the Girl Scouts/Toy Run:



- Hats, Scarves, and Gloves for men, women, and children
- Toys
- Blankets
- Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Green beans or Corn
- Evaporated Milk
- Pumpkin Pie Filling
- Tuna or Canned Chicken
- Boxed Stuffing Mixes
- Mashed Potato Flakes
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Boxed Dinners or Dry Pastas
- Cereal
- Biscuit, Bisquick or Pancake Mixes
- Spices or Baking Supplies

Perishable donations of Frozen Turkey (including just breasts), Ham (including half hams), Hamburger, Bread, Pre-made Pie Crusts, and Whipped Topping are also needed and should be delivered directly to the CCRC (open 11 am—1 pm, M/W/F). Toys for Holiday Baskets can also be dropped off at Cloud Corp or Alliance Insurance. You can also select an angel from the Angel Tree at Walmart to contribute specific items to the Holiday Baskets.

Give money for CCRC Holiday Baskets!

We will pass the Missions Buckets on **December 6th and 13th** and all money will be used to help families in need. You can also make a donation or adopt a family directly by contacting Tonya Merrill at the CCRC (243-1065, ccrcc@nckcn.com).



Spread a little cheer by participating in our alternative Christmas Caroling Event on December 13th at 3:00 pm!

We may not be able to sing with gusto, but we can deliver a little Christmas cheer. A list of members in care facilities is also available from the office if you would like to send cards or letters.

Volunteer to help pack Holiday Baskets at the CCRC during the week of December 14th—18th. For more details, Contact Tonya Merrill at the CCRC (243-1065, ccrcc@nckcn.com).



Volunteer to help ring the Salvation Army Bells at Walmart on Sunday, December 20th from 12:00—6:00 pm!

A sign-up list is on the Missions Bulletin Board. More than 95% of the funds collected stay in Cloud County for use by the CCRC to help people pay utility bills. In past years, \$800+ was raised during the time Concordia 1st UMC was ringing the bells! If you aren't available on the 20th, contact Toby Nosker (614-2070, tobynosker@yahoo.com) to volunteer for another time.

Little Free Pantry



Thank you for your continued support of our Little Free Pantry! Your generous contributions helped purchase food to keep the pantry stocked! **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: Pam Campbell, Cindy Kocher, Jan Novlan, Melanie Adams, and Lisa Valcoure!

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.**



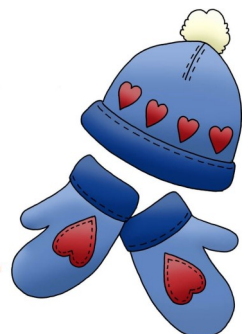
If you would like to volunteer for any of the activities listed above, please contact Tonya Merrill at 243-1065 or ccrc@nckcn.com.

Meals on Wheels



The Senior Center is looking for volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels. To volunteer, contact the Senior Center at 243-1872. Meals on Wheels provides a hot meal and human contact for the homebound.

Help us cover the Missions Tree in the entry with hats, scarves, and gloves for all ages! Blankets, toys and food items are also requested.



Items will be delivered to the CCRC on December 14th for use in Holiday Baskets.

Christmas Card List

Are you making your Christmas card list? Consider adding some of our members and friends!

Marquis Place

205 W 21st St
Rita Callaway
Stanley & Corda McMillan
Dallas Nading

Mount Joseph

1110 W 11th St
Chuck & Sue Collins
Rosalie Grounds
Janyce Matthew
Nancy Nading
Ed Wright

Sunset Home

620 2nd Ave
Les Hemphill

Concordia Residents

Marge Cruzen
809 1st Ave

Anita Chartier
720 E 12th St

Bill Erhardt
700 Cloud St, Apt 9

Dan & Amy Gerber
1416 Highland Dr

Genevieve Heath
428 W 9th St

Gene Johnson
109 W 18th St

Steve Lawson
1017 W 11th St

Joan Lawton
1828 Crestview Dr

Paul & Peggy Nelson
1423 Highland Dr

Richard & Joyce Peterson
1305 N 145th Rd

Robert & Delores St. Pierre
703 3rd Ave

Dorothy Swenson
2126 Republican St

Dorothy Torgler
816 Cedar St

Branson Wilcox
729 E 8th St

Out-of-Town Residents

Betty Everitt
2251 E Crawford St, #125
Salina, KS 67401

Carolyn Hoffman
20455 SE 140th St
Umatilla, FL 32784-7842

Lana Lagasse
114 S High St
Clyde, KS 66938

Kay Peters
1008 Kay Valley Park Cir, Apt 404
Wamego, KS 66547

Liz Steinle
2150 S Sagamont, #104
Springfield, MO 65807

Margaret Thornton
6117 W 119th St
Overland Park, KS 66209

Gene & Lynette Saltzman
Reelfoot Rural Ministries
att: Gene & Lyn
6923 Minnick-Elbridge Rd
Obion, TN 38240

Online Worship

Have you been joining us for Facebook worship? Join us at www.facebook.com/concordia1umc! Pastor Melanie will broadcast a devotional at 7:45 am on Sunday mornings. 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 increase your gift to cover the cost of credit card processing fees!

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.

Trustees Update

The Trustees are raising funds to purchase new Pew Cushions! The estimated cost for the project is \$19,000. To-date, approximately \$12,000 of the needed funds have been raised. This includes a \$5,000 donation from the Crusaders that was partially funded by the Thanksgiving Dinner. A sample of the new Pew Cushion is available to try out in the narthex.



Commodities



The November Commodities was very busy! Some of our normal Volunteers were unable to help, the job was still accomplished in great time! We had 11 Volunteers help to unload, pack, and distribute 81 boxes! For a total of 127 people served. 44 singles, 19 couples and 17 families! Thanks for all you do to help!!!

OUR VOLUNTEERS ROCK!!!



December Volunteers Needed

VOLUNTEERS	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	Dec.20	Christmas Eve	Dec. 27
GREETERS	Loren Swenson				
USHERS					
MEDIA					
SOUND					
LITURGIST					
WORSHIP LEADER					

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

8 - ANITA CHARTER
9 - LORI ADE
10 - ALISON WATERMAN
11 - BRIAN RUUD
12 - NICKIE MILDVELDT
13 - KAEALYN ADE
13 - MARVIN PETERSEN
14 - TERESA BENSON
14 - TYLER KOCHER
18 - BETTY EVERITT
19 - CHARITY BROWN
24 - EUDORA PETERSEN
24 - MARYLU FELLOWS
24 - CAROL RUUD
28 - KATIE THOMPSON
29 - LES HEMPHILL





December 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7:00 Trustees	2	3 12:15 Exec.UMC 1:00 General	4	5
6	7 7:00 Finance	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 5:30 Christmas Eve Services	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26
27	28	29	30	31 Happy New Years!!!		



Return Service Requested
First United Methodist Church
 740 West 11th Street

Sunday Services:
 Facebook Devotions: 7:45am
 Crusaders: 9:30am
 Worship: 10:30am

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

Pastor: Rev. Melanie Adams
 Administrative Assistant: Lisa Valcoure
 Christian Education Coordinator: Angie Gabel-McConkey
 Groundskeeper: Devin Pearson
 Choir Director: Renata Knox
 Organist: Pam Campbell
 Nursery: Jan Novlan

Concordia First United Methodist Church
 Belong | Believe | Become

