

# Revelation

March

## From Your Pastor

As I write this, we are having a beautiful springlike day! Everyone who has come into the church office today seems to be enjoying that. After that long, frigid stretch of weather we had, the warmer weather has been a real welcome!

With warmer weather trying to make a comeback, we are also eager to put the COVID pandemic behind us. Our country has seen 500,000 people die from the disease in the last year. That is beyond tragic. Words can't express the toll this disease has taken. And we grieve with those who've lost loved ones to this disease.

Of course, we are happy that the numbers of COVID cases have dropped a lot over the past few weeks. It gives us hope that all the combined efforts of avoiding crowds, wearing well-fitted masks, maintaining social distancing, and rolling out more vaccinations are working. But this is not the time to set all of our precautions aside. So we will continue to maintain safe practices at First Church, even as we look at slowly starting back up with some things.

For example, we are planning on having Easter worship (April 4<sup>th</sup>) in the sanctuary this year! We will also have a Maundy Thursday service on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm. And, we are going to be doing a bit of singing in worship on Sunday mornings, going forward, too.

For news about other activities, please read this newsletter!

God bless each and every one of you! Stay safe. Show your love of your neighbor by observing safe practices. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Pastor Melanie



## Online Worship

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Have you been joining us for Facebook worship? Join us at [www.facebook.com/concordia1umc](http://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

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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 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

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The Trustees would like to thank you for the support of the pew cushion replacement project. We are getting close to our goal. **Currently, we are about \$1,000 short of fully funding the project.** A sample of the new Pew Cushion is available to try out in the narthex.



## Change the World Sunday

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Our 10<sup>th</sup> annual Change the World event is coming on Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>! If you have a project idea, please let any member of the Missions Team know! Team members include: Melanie Adams, Pam Campbell, Julie Cory, Cindy Kocher, Bruce Nutter, Marvin Petersen, Branson Wilcox, and Nancy Wentz.

## 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.



## Missions and Outreach

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Don't forget to pick up your Lenten box! Boxes will be available in a basket outside the sanctuary during Lent. 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).

We will pass the Missions Buckets on March 21<sup>st</sup> for the UMCOR Special Offering. For more details about this offering, visit <https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-what-is-umcor-sunday>.

Thanks for your giving! In January we collected \$52.44 for the Human Relations Day Special Offering. In February, we collected \$37.84 for Mission Agency Support.

## Food Distribution

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**Commodity Volunteers decked out in their Winter Attire on a cold brisk February morning! 21 volunteers braved the weather! Thank you to all the hardworking Volunteers who make this day so fun and enjoyable! 85 Boxes were packed and handed out to the community today!**



## Little Free Pantry

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Winter is here! Please do not leave items in the pantry that could freeze when the weather is predicted to be extremely cold. In particular, canned goods can freeze and spoil. **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

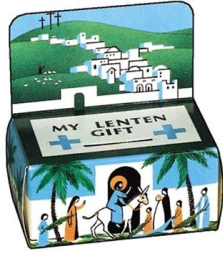
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The Food Bank is open and accepting donations of cash or food items for distribution on **Monday and Friday from 9 am – 12 pm and Wednesday from 9 am – 2 pm.**

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



## Lenten Boxes



**Pickup your Lenten Box TODAY!**

**All proceeds go to Mission Agency Support.**



*Don't Forget to Change Your Clocks!*

*March 14, 2021*



## Sewing Opportunity!!!

Join us in making Bean Bags for the Little Free Pantry! I have the beans if you can provide the Sewing skills!!! When completed they will be placed in the Pantry for people in need!



## First United Methodist is looking for a Wedding Coordinator.

The Wedding Coordinator will act as a Liaison between the Wedding Party and the Church. She/he assists with the rehearsal and the Wedding Day!  
For More Information Contact the Church Office!  
785-243-4560



## WENDY HOLT IS MOVING WEST!

WENDY IS GOING TO BE MISSED SO MUCH!  
YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND WORSHIP ON  
MARCH 21ST TO BID HER FAREWELL. DURING  
WORSHIP ON THAT DAY, WENDY WILL BE  
INVITED TO SHARE A FEW WORDS, AND WE  
WILL HAVE A SPECIAL TIME OF PRAYER FOR  
HER.



Attention Crusaders and all Church Members!

The Crusaders are planning to start up classes on  
Sunday mornings at 9:30am!

The exciting news is they have invited everyone to join.  
EVERY SUNDAY 9:30 AM!!!

## Fun & Faith ZOOM Devotion

You are invited to join Pastor Melanie each Wednesday evening during Lent at 6:30 pm for a time of devotions and sharing via ZOOM. And even though it is the Lenten season, we will undoubtedly enjoy some fun and laughter, too!

Please watch your email for the ZOOM link.



## Readiness 360

First United Methodist Church needs YOUR input! Take the Readiness 360 survey.

Dear Congregation,  
Beginning on Feb. 8th you will have an opportunity to help the leadership of our church determine the direction of our church's mission and ministry by completing an online survey. We are beginning a planning process called "Readiness 360" or R-360 for short.

R-360 is an online survey tool designed to help congregations identify opportunities for strengthening our multiplication DNA through assessing our 1) spiritual intensity, 2) dynamic relationships, 3) missional alignment, and 4) cultural openness. After a critical mass within our congregation takes the online survey, we will report back our findings and discover next steps together. Watch for an email which will include instructions on how to log in and take the survey. Each member of your household (teenage and up) are invited to take this survey. If you do not have internet access and want to take the R-360 survey, please call the church office and you will be assigned a proxy who will help you with taking the survey. The world around us is changing rapidly and the church needs to do what it takes to make and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ. We are excited to begin this process.

For the good of the mission field,  
Rev. Melanie Adams  
and the Administrative Council

## 740 Breakthrough Prayer Initiative

Let's surround our congregation with prayer once again!

### Concordia First United Methodist Church

Set your phones to remind yourself to stop at 7:40am and/or 7:40pm each day to pray for our church and the mission and ministry we are called to do.

What is breakthrough prayer: Breakthrough prayer is a Petition to God to do new things, beyond our imagining, bigger than we could possibly do on our own-without boundaries, without limits, without anticipated outcome.

"Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us" (Ephesians 3:20).

"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 hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11).

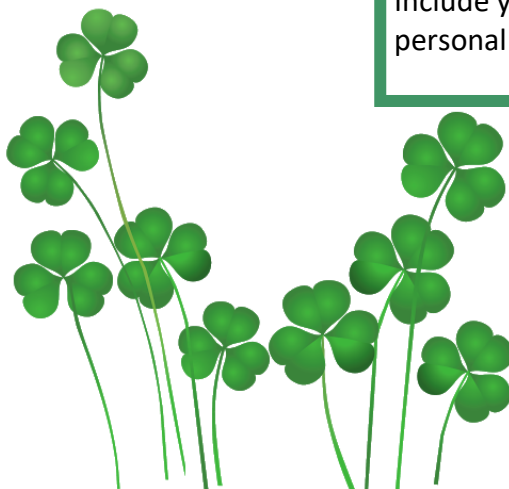
Please pray that:

\*God would lead us and equip us for the living out of our purpose: To provide a place for all to Belong to our Community, Believe in and experience the transforming love of Jesus Christ, and Become his disciples.

\*God would help us to break through our limitations, to open our minds, and to embolden our hearts to live out God's vision.

\*God would help each of us to be a follower of Jesus Christ committed to being part of the Body of Christ (living a life of worship & hospitality). Becoming more like Jesus (living a life opening to & obeying Jesus), and Joining Jesus in ministry (living a life of service & a life of generosity).

Include your own Prayers of thanks and Petition for your personal life, for the community, for the world.





# MARCH 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7:00p Trustee's	3 5:00p Sitting With Jesus! 6:30p Fun and Faith Zoom Devotion!	4	5	6
7 9:30a Crusaders	8 7:00p Finance	9	10 5:00p Sitting With Jesus! 6:30p Fun and Faith Zoom Devotion!	11	12	13
14 9:30a Crusaders  Daylight Saving Time begins	15 5:30p ADCO	16	17 St. Patrick's Day! 5:00p Sitting With Jesus! 6:30p Fun and Faith Zoom Devotion!	18	19	20
21 9:30a Crusaders	22	23	24 5:00p Sitting With Jesus! 6:30p Fun and Faith Zoom Devotion!	25	26	27
28 9:30a Crusaders 	29	30	31 5:00p Sitting With Jesus! 6:30p Fun and Faith Zoom Devotion!			



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

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

**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  
Contact Information:  
Email: concordia1umc@gmailcom  
Pastor's Email: maams@greatplainsumc.org  
Church Phone: 785-243-4560  
Pastor's Cell: 308-920-0917