

July 2023



Pastor Pedalings



The other day I was sitting in the master bedroom of the parsonage doing written devotions (I read and then write), when I looked up at the space between the closets and noticed there was a single nail there.

I couldn't tell at the time if it was a shadow or a nail, so when I got up to get another cup of coffee, I got up and went and looked. Indeed, it was a nail, perfectly centered between the closets!

Through the years, I've learned that when you set up a new residence that hanging pictures is among the last things you do. I had sorted out pictures I plan to hang in various rooms of the house, so among the pictures was a solitary wood cross with golden accents in the center. When I saw that nail, I knew the cross needed to go there. I immediately hung it.

It's taken years to get to this point, but it has taken years for the cross to be the beginning, middle and final point to every day for me. There are numerous reasons for that because as important as the cross is to Jesus' death and resurrection, I believe sometimes it takes time to figure out what's most important in life. For me, it's taken time to find myself on the path God intends I travel.

There is no question for me that path brought me to Concordia. When I learned, Concordia was going to have a change in pastoral leadership earlier this year, I called my former district superintendent and asked if I could advocate for an appointment. She told me I was welcome to do so even though I'd never advocated for a location before, and she, the appointive cabinet and the bishop already had Concordia in mind for me. So, I drummed up my courage and told her – having little knowledge of Concordia other than its location – that I thought Concordia would be a good fit.

A few weeks later, I got the call from our district superintendent, Rev. Karen Retzlaff, to inform me I would be introduced in Concordia.

To me, that is more than coincidence. The bishop and cabinet had already discerned this appointment for me, and when I saw it was open, I discerned this appointment for myself, and did what I'd never done to request it, and lo-and-behold, it's what the appointive cabinet had in mind all along. Now, I'm blessed to be here.

Why? Well, God knows the why, but I have a sneaking suspicion its for reasons that you and I have the joy of discovering in time. I already know of some potential classes I plan to teach, and I am aware of some potential ministries that could shape each church. Of course, doing that takes time, but it takes time to find and follow the path God intends us to follow. I think it's easier to find the path when Jesus (the cross) is the beginning, middle, and end to every day. The key is to just keep moving along the narrow path through the narrow gates God invites us to journey through.

There is no question for me that I am a living example of what happens when you keep moving by faith because it is part of the vision, I felt God give me that brought me here.

Now, come along with God and me and let's see what God has in store. I am thrilled to see what God has in store for us. I hope you are, too.

Pastor Mark Crist

First United Methodist Church

Revelation

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

Cloud County Resource Center Needs

The Food Bank is open and accepting donations of cash or food items for distribution on **Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm**. The Food Bank can be utilized once each month; an appointment must be made 24 hours in advance to pick up food at the Food Bank.

The following items are requested in July: Cereal, Canned Meats, Macaroni & Cheese, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Pasta Sauce, Ramen Noodles, Boxed Dinners, and Canned Fruit. Items can be dropped off at the CCRC, The Brown Grand Theatre, or Cloud County Tourism.



The CCRC will be offering School Bags for the 2023-2024 school year. This service is free to all students (K-12) in any school district in Cloud County. Registration from 7/1/23-7/31/23. Space is limited and bags will be provided on a first-come first-served basis. Contact the CCRC to register. **Volunteers are needed to help pack school bags on the following days/time:**

July 31st, 2:00 – 7:00 pm

August 1st, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

August 2nd, 2:00 – 7:00 pm

August 3rd, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

A fundraiser for the Glasco Library will be held on July 28th from 5:30 – 7:30 pm at the CCRC. Each meal will include BBQ beef or chicken sliders, Norwegian coleslaw, baked beans, potato salad, drinks, and dessert for \$10 per person!

The CCRC is holding monthly **Writing Workshops** for anyone who wants to discuss ideas, brainstorming, editing, collaborations, and getting published. The group meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the CCRC.

If you need more information about activities or would like to volunteer at the CCRC, please contact Tonya Merrill at 785-243-1065 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.



Commodities Food Distribution

The upcoming Commodities is Wednesday, July 19, 2023.

All Volunteers are welcome to help.

Unload the Truck and pack boxes 10:00am

Load boxes in cars from 11:15am-12:15pm

Thank You for all you do in advance!



Little Free Pantry



Thanks for your continued support of the Little Free Pantry. Please place your donations directly in the pantry, but please be mindful during the summer months to not leave perishable items or canned items in the pantry on particularly hot days. You may also leave food donations in the food box in the entry of the church for future use.

If you prefer, you can also make a monetary donation to help purchase food for the pantry. Donated funds were used in June to replenish our pantry stock! Thanks to Pam Campbell and Lisa Valcoure for helping to place food from our store in the pantry daily!

Missions and Outreach

Missions Buckets will be passed on July 16th for the Cloud County Resource Center.

Funds collected will be used to assist with purchasing food and school supplies.

Thanks for your generous donations of \$224.71 in June for the Peace with Justice Special Offering. To find out more about this offering, go to <https://www.umc.org/en/content/peace-with-justice-sunday-ministry-article>.



On Sunday morning, all Entrance Doors will be locked at 10:40 am. The Front Entrance Door will be monitored to allow people to enter after the door is locked.

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe.



Trustees Update

Thank you to the volunteers who spend 50+ hours on June 13th cleaning the parsonage and preparing it for Pastor Mark's arrival!

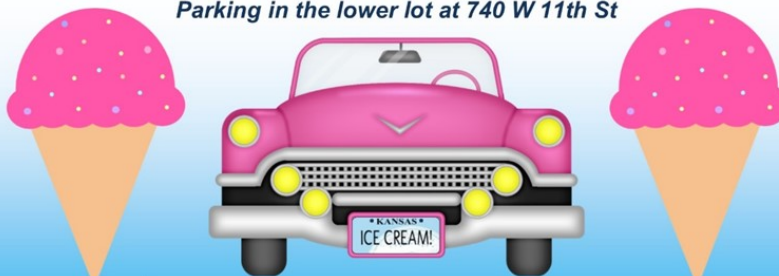


Cruise-In Ice Cream Social

Wednesday, August 23rd, 5-7 pm

Drive your classic car, golf cart, or other unique ride and join us for some refreshing sweet treats!

Parking in the lower lot at 740 W 11th St



 **Concordia First United Methodist Church**



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VBS



**will be collecting school supplies—
help boost the number of items
collected by bringing your items
July 1st —23rd!**

**Items can be left in the
Food Box in the church entry.**



Colored Pencils Crayola Crayons Markers
#2 Pencils Blue and Red Pens 3-Ring Binders
Glue (Sticks and Bottles) College or Wide-Ruled Paper



"It is for
FREEDOM that
CHRIST has set
us **FREE.**"

- Galatians 5:1

Christian Education News

It's been a month since I started my new job as your Christian education director. I am truly loving this opportunity, so thank you for allowing me to serve. I see this job as a way to provide fun, faith-based opportunities and activities for our church members in and outside of our church walls. I've been busy getting Vacation Bible School organized. A huge thank you to all the willing volunteers for the nights of VBS and the incredible response to the pleas for materials to make it successful. Please let me know if you have any suggestions for me. Angie Gabel-McConkey

Camp Fontanelle

One of our youth, Dakota Valcoure, attended Camp Fontanelle in Nebraska during the month of June. He reported having had a great time growing in his faith with other young Christians. His favorite memories include ziplining, swimming and jumping on huge air pillows with his friends. He looks forward to attending again next summer to meet up with his new friends Godwill and Violet.

Youth Mission Trip

Youth leaders Jason Johnson will be taking six of our youth, Nevaeh Valcoure, Zach Allen, Carlie Brown, Peyton Johnson and Gentry Thomas to Loveland, Colorado at the end of July. They will spend the week doing mission work for those less fortunate. The youth leave early Sunday, July 30 and return to Friday August 4th. We will have a send off for them the previous Sunday, July 23rd.

FUMC Women's Trip November 16-19

Ten women from FUMC are heading to Branson Missouri for an exciting weekend in November of 2023. Here are the highlights of the trip:

The Biblical Story of Queen Esther at Sight and Sound Theater
Dinner at Paula Dean's Restaurant
Silver Dollar City with the Christmas lights
Titanic Museum Featuring the Children on board
Branson Belle Luncheon Theatre
Attendance at Branson's First United Methodist Church on Sunday
before heading home.





Happy Birthday

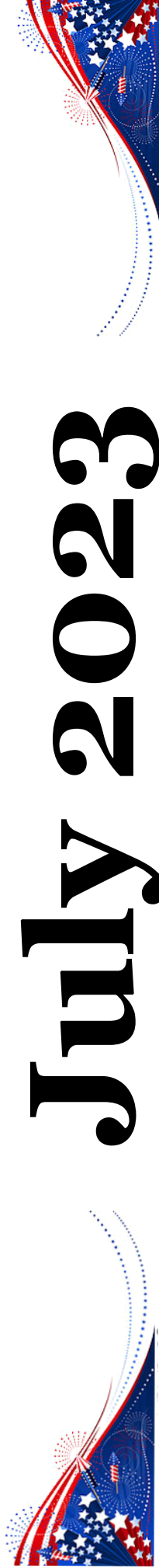
1~PEYTON JOHNSON
2~LANE CAMPBELL
4~KATIE JOHNSON
5~LESLIE BAKER
6~LILY TERRILL
8~KRISTIN PELTIER
9~BEN RETTER
11~BRUNO REHBEIN
12~TYLER ANDERSON
15~MARY GANTZ
16~BILL CONNER
19~DON LACKAMP


20~DONNA REEDY
22~ DON PEARSON
22~JUSTIN POORE
23~SAMANTHA TERRILL
23~BRUCE NUTTER
23~KATHY WOOD
24~EUGENE MCDANIEL
30~ANGIE GABEL-MCCONKEY
30~LES DETHLOFF
30~BRAD NADING
30~ELLEN ANDERSON
31~JEANNE KEAZER

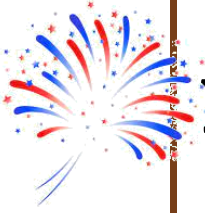


July

July 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship 11:30 Worship Leader Training	3	4 	5 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	6	7	8
9 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship 11:30 Healthy Congregations	10 5:30pm FUMC Council	11	12 5:00 Sitting With Jesus 5:30 M&MS Meeting	13	14	15 9:00 Ladies Coffee @ Jitters
16 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship	17	18	19 10:00 Commodities 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	20	21	22
23 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship 11:30 Youth Mission Trip Send Off.	24 5:30 Safety Team Meeting	25	26 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	27	28	29
30 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship	31					



Sunday Morning Volun-

July	2	9	16	23	30
Worship Leader	Loren Swenson				
Sound	Jason Johnson	Monte Wentz			
Media	Janice Swenson	Nancy Wentz		Janice Swenson	
Greeters					
Nursery Helpers					
Children's Moment					
Scripture Reader					
Ushers	Lyle Pounds	Lyle Pounds	Lyle Pounds	Lyle Pounds	Lyle Pounds
Acolytes					
Coffee Bar	Marsha Wentz	Marsha Wentz	Marsha Wentz	Marsha Wentz	Marsha Wentz
Alter Flowers					

Sunday Morning Volunteers Please gather for prayer with

Pastor Kibum in the Chapel at 10:20am.

Please Contact the Church Office If you can help with any of the Volunteer Opportunities!



Concordia First United Methodist Church

Belong | Believe | Become

Pastor: Rev. Mark Crist

Administrative Assistant: Lisa Valcoure

Christian Ed. Director Angie Gabel-McConkey

Choir Director: Renata Knox

Organist: Pam Campbell

Contact Information:

Email: concordia1umc@gmail.com

Website: www.concordiafumc.com

Pastor's Email: rev.mark.crist74@gmail.com

Facebook: Concordia First United Methodist Church

Church Phone: 785-243-4560

Sunday Services:

Crusaders: 9:30am

Searchers: 9:30am

Worship: 10:30am

Wednesday Night Services:

Sittin' with Jesus 5:00pm