

The Community Gathers

PRELUDE, CHIMES AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Angie Gabel-McConkey

PASSING THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

#127

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: You emptied Yourself completely keeping nothing for Yourself. Now naked, utterly stripped, You give Yourself to us as bread to sustain us, and as wine to console us.

**PEOPLE: You are Light and Truth. You are the Way and the Hope. You are Love.**

**ALL: Grow in us, Lord!**

SONG OF PRAISE

Fairest, Lord Jesus

#189 Vs. 1,4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

LEADER: All too often, we tell God we will do better, and be better, and then just go on living the same way we always have. Let this be the moment, when we tell our God of our failures and faithlessness, so we can go forth to work in that kingdom of grace and hope. Join me as we pray,

**ALL: We would want to be fountains of hope for others, God of glory, but people find only hardened hearts. We would like to be transformed people, but our stubborn pride prevents us from bending a knee to you. We long to stand with those who are in need, but our selfishness keeps our backs rigid in judgment. Forgive us, God who came down to us. Humble us, that we might be true servants to the broken and lost. Split open our frozen hearts, that compassion might flow freely to those who are hurting. Fill our minds with the presence of your Spirit, that we might learn how to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, into that kingdom of grace and hope.**

Silence is kept.

LEADER: This is the good news: in Christ, God's plan for salvation was accomplished. You are forgiven, you are made new.

**PEOPLE: We will complete God's joy by sharing compassion, forgiveness, hope, with everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

JOYS, CONCERNS AND GOD SIGHTINGS

PRAYER FOR COMMUNITY

PRAYER SONG

One Bread, One Body

#620

HOLY COMMUNION

#12

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE

*"Let each of you not look to your own interests but to the interests of others."* ~ **Philippians 2:4**

TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY

#94

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Holy God of infinite patience and grace, we bring our offerings today knowing that our actions too often don't live up to our intentions and aspirations. When calling ourselves Christians, we announce ourselves as followers of Christ, knowing how many times our choices have made us unrecognizable as his disciples. Yet you wait patiently for us to find our way back to the path. May our giving this day and our living reflect our desire to be on the path that would be recognized as faithful to the Savior, in whose blessed name we pray. Amen.**

Hearing and Responding to the Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 2:1-13

HYMN

Seek Ye First

#405

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Angie Gabel-McConkey

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 21:23-32

AFFIRMATION

The word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"The Case for Alignment"

Pastor Mark Crist

Thanksgiving

PRAYER

Lord's Prayer

OUR PURPOSE

What is 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. BELONG! BELIEVE! BECOME!

Going into the World to Serve

SENDING SONG

Trust and Obey

#467

TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

#671 Vs. 1

POSTLUDE

**Events this Week:**  
**Sunday, October 1, 2023**  
 9:30am Crusaders  
 9:30am Searchers  
 10:30am Worship  
 5:30pm Yoga in the Choir Room

**Wednesday, October 4, 2023**  
 5:00pm Sitting with Jesus  
 5:30pm Choir Practice  
 6:00pm Table Talk Meal  
 6:30pm Classes begin

**Thursday, October 5, 2023**  
 5:00pm Girl Scouts Meeting

**Sunday, October 8, 2023**  
 9:30am Crusaders  
 9:30am Searchers  
 10:30am Worship  
 Potluck after Worship  
 5:30pm Yoga in Choir Room  
 6:30pm Emotionally Healthy  
 Spirituality Class

**Upcoming Events:**  
**October 15, 2023**  
 3:30pm Meet at church  
 Hayrack ride at  
 Loren & Joyce Swenson's

**October 22, 2023**  
 2:00pm Community Baby Shower

**October 29, 2023**  
 2:00pm  
 Church Conference in Courtland



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

- 1~Janet Lowell
- 1~Janice Swenson
- 2~Devin Pearson
- 5~Branson Wilcox
- 6~Lyle McMillian
- 6~Nolan Soward
- 8~Tammy Istas



*Prayer Requests*

AMANDA WATERMAN  
 LAURA CHRISTENSEN  
 TRISH & DAN WATERMAN  
 GWYDOTTA UKENS  
 HARLEY & DARLA ADAMS  
 SHEILA FLESHER  
 JOYCE SWENSON

**LAYETTE SETS**

We are collecting items to assemble 75 Layette Sets!



All items need to be returned by October 8<sup>th</sup>. See the Missions Bulletin Board for a list of items needed.

**POTLUCK**  
*Dinner*  
 OCTOBER 8, 2023  
 FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICES  
 PLAN TO BRING  
 YOUR FAVORITE DISH



**Downtown Girls**  
 Boutique

**Menu:**

- \$3.00 Box Lunch Deal**
- Hot Dog or Chili Dog
- Chips, Drink & Dessert
- OR
- Chili & Cheese Fritos
- Drink & Dessert

**No Cash Orders:**

- Hot Dog or Chili Dog \$5.00
- Chili & Cheese Fritos \$5.00
- Water or Soda \$2.50
- Chips \$1.50
- Shrimp or Rice Kibble Treat \$1.50

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**October 1, 2023**

**First United Methodist Church**  
 740 West 11<sup>th</sup> St, Concordia, KS 66901  
 Church (785) 243-4560

Office Hours:  
 Monday — Thursday  
 9:00-4:00pm  
 Friday  
 Closed

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**Rev. Mark Crist, Pastor**

**Do No Harm ~ Do Good ~ Stay in Love With God.**  
**John Wesley**