

MARCH  
2024



First United Methodist Church

Revelation

Pastor Pedalings,  
I originally intended to write something completely different than what I am writing for this month's Pedalings today. Maybe I'll write on that deferred topic in a few months, but as I write this now, it's been just under 24 hours since I lost my sister, Sally.

Next to my parents (who both passed away in 2006), Sally was one of the most influential people in my life. She was 14 years older than me, but she was also a second mother to me, and she was the first mentor I ever had.

Sally graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a degree in food science and she was a marvelous cook when she cooked.

After she and her husband, Dave, and four children moved to Denver, though, she went back to school and got the education she needed to become a teacher in the Cherry Creek Public Schools. She had the specific task of working with middle schoolers who came from challenging backgrounds.

Sally was an integral person in my life. When I was working on my doctorate, in particular, I asked her if she'd edit my thesis and she agreed to do it. After countless revisions (I think enough to make her want to quit looking at her emails), I ended up submitting the thesis to my advisor and then I had to go through another complete revision because the 200-page thesis needed to be cut down by about 80 pages. When I told Sally that, she stuck it out with me although I'm pretty sure she was at her wit's end wondering if she'd ever be done editing my thesis.

As I have thought about Sally's life since receiving the news of her death yesterday, she lived her life to make the lives of those around her better. I don't know if that was her driving force; we never had that conversation. But I saw her express that in the principles that guided her life and I saw her do that in her relationship with Dave and I watched her do it with their children, Dan, Ami, Tim, and Crissy's lives, and in the lives of their spouses and the grandchildren she was blessed to have. She had me live with her family when I went to school in Denver, so I was practically one of her kids. I think she wanted me to experience the dynamics of family relationships, since my childhood was unique from my siblings. I can't say I realized that until after my own children were grown; I think it would have made me a better parent.

Sally touched a lot of lives. It was her imitation of Christ, and it is my hope and prayer to learn from that even in her passing, so I am more inclined to just listen non-anxiously and patiently to people when they are hurting like she listened to me so many times. She was a non-anxious presence in my life especially at times when my life was chalk-full of anxiety. Going through a second divorce, I remember watching Sally and Dave and how they interacted after 50 years of marriage and I'd often think to myself how they were modeling love in such a way that I felt loved to be part of their conversations.

I will miss my sister every day for the rest of my life. I will miss the way she'd joke when I'd post something silly on Facebook. I will miss how she would share with me tidbits about my family when I didn't have a clue. I will miss her instruction when I would come to her for insights that I needed in my life. I will miss her laugh, her smile, her hugs, and her presence. I only hope that I may offer the best version of me so others may see how her reflection – her imitation of Christ – lives on.

And just for the record, sis, 1434 (I (1) Love (4) You (3) More! (4)) even though I'm pretty sure you loved me more all along.

Until next month, just keep pedaling.  
Pastor Mark Crist



## 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

## 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 and Tuesday/Thursday from 1:00 – 5:00 pm.** Starting on March 1<sup>st</sup>, the Food Bank can be utilized one each month; an appointment must be made 24 hours in advance to pick up food at the Food Bank.



If you need more information about any of the activities listed above or would like to volunteer at the CCRC, please contact Tonya Merrill at 785-243-1065 or [ccrc@nckcn.com](mailto:ccrc@nckcn.com).

## Little Free Pantry



Thanks for your donations of 75 pounds of food and household items for the Tackle Hunger Food Event! **The Great Plains and Missouri Conferences collected 168,253.66 pounds of food** and won the challenge with the California-Nevada and California-Pacific Conferences (they collected 32,945 pounds of food). All food donations will help to stock our Little Free Pantry.

Keep in mind that it is still winter – 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 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 Pam Campbell and Lisa Valcoure for helping to place food from our store in the pantry daily!

## Change the World Sunday

**Our 13<sup>th</sup> annual Change the World event is scheduled for Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>!**

If you have a project idea, please let any member of the Missions Team know! Team members include: Pam Campbell, Julie Cory, Cindy Kocher, Bruce Nutter, Marvin Petersen, Branson Wilcox, and Nancy Wentz.



## Missions and Outreach



Don't forget to pick up your **Lenten box**! Boxes are available in a basket outside the sanctuary during Lent. We collected \$64.26 in Missions Buckets in February that will be combined with Lenten Box giving to give to Mission Agency Support in the Great Plains Conference. For a list of missions agencies who receive support through this giving, go to [www.greatplainsumc.org/missionagencysupport](http://www.greatplainsumc.org/missionagencysupport).

Missions Buckets will be passed on March 17<sup>th</sup> for the UMCOR Special Offering. For more information, visit <https://www.umc.org/en/content/umcor-sunday-ministry-article>.

## Community Baby Shower

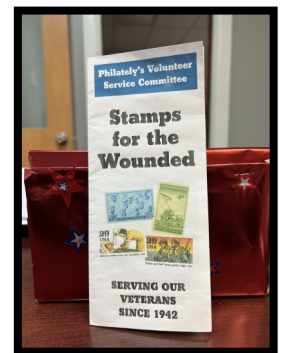


We will be helping the Cloud County Health Department sponsor a Community Baby Shower on the afternoon of **Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 4:00 pm!** All expecting families are invited to attend – there will be lots of free give-away item and we will be distributing Layette Sets!

If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, sign-up on the Missions Bulletin Board or contact Nancy Wentz at [ndwentz@gmail.com](mailto:ndwentz@gmail.com) or 785-614-2599.

## Stamps for the Wounded!

Stamps for the Wounded is requesting used stamps for the veterans hospitals. These stamps are used with the patients for stamp collections, art projects such as decoupage, mounting them in albums, making greeting cards or to cover decorative boxes. They help with boredom, loneliness, frustration, and despair. They relight the spark of interest and life in the weary eyes of a wounded or convalescent veterans.



## SAVE BEST CHOICE LABELS

### AND CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR COMMUNITY

Clip and collect labels from Best Choice®, Clearly by Best Choice®, and Best Choice® Superior Selections® for your favorite non-profit organization.



The Save-A-Label™ program helps non-profit organizations and schools easily raise money. More than 8,900 non-profit groups have utilized the program. These groups earn \$0.3 for each UPC symbol redeemed from the Best Choice® family of brands. Not only are participants supporting the organizations they love, but they are also supporting their communities by shopping at their local independent grocers!

The box for these labels is on the shelf in the Crusaders room.

## HOLY WEEK

24~10:30AM~PALM SUNDAY/  
YOUTH SUNDAY AND POTLUCK  
28~5:30PM~MAUNDY THURSDAY SUPPER  
29~12:00PM~GOOD FRIDAY  
COMMUNITY SERVICE  
29~2:00PM~CROSS WALK  
29~4:00PM~GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES AT TRINITY  
31~7:00AM~EASTER SUNRISE SERVICES  
AT PAM'S FARM  
31~9:30AM~EASTER EGG HUNT AND ACTIVITIES  
31~10:30AM~EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE



Secret Prayer Sister Reveal was February 10, 2024. What a great time, awesome food and amazing friends! Front Row from left to right: Donna Reedy, Loretta Brown, Gywdotta Ukens, Nonnie Steinert, Back row: Julie Cory, Peggi Barrett, Deb Ketterman, Patty Mosher, Pam Campbell, Karla Lawrence, Amanda Morgan, Ann Lanoue (top picture), Lisa Valcoure (Bottom Picture)



**HAPPY  
EASTER**

Lenten Sermon Series  
**"JOURNEY"**  
PASTOR MARK CRIST



- FEB. 18 ~ THE JOURNEY OF BAPTISM
- FEB. 25 ~ THE JOURNEY TO TRUST
- MARCH 3 ~ TO JOURNEY WITH LAW
- MARCH 10 ~ THE JOURNEY TOWARD SALVATION
- MARCH 17 ~ THE COVENANT JOURNEY
- MARCH 24 ~ TWO DIFFERENT JOURNEYS

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
TABLE TALK  
BIBLE STUDY**



6:00PM~MEAL  
6:30PM~CLASSES BEGIN

JAM~4 YEAR OLDS~4TH GRADE  
THE ROCK~5TH~7TH GRADE  
IMPACT~8TH~12TH GRADE



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS  
SPRING FORWARD  
MARCH 10, 2024**



**YOGA CLASSES  
FOR ALL AGES!**

In the Choir Room  
5:30pm

every Sunday evening



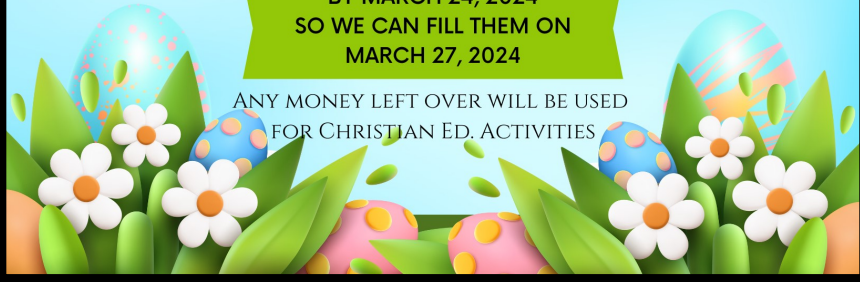
All are Welcome! Contact Angie Gabel McConkey  
or Mary Thoman for more details!



Leave your monetary donations for  
candy at the church office for the  
**EASTER EGG HUNT**

BY MARCH 24, 2024  
SO WE CAN FILL THEM ON  
MARCH 27, 2024

ANY MONEY LEFT OVER WILL BE USED  
FOR CHRISTIAN ED. ACTIVITIES



Concordia 1 UMC  
**EASTER EGG  
HUNT**

MARCH 31 @ 9:30AM

Meet downstairs!



**COFFEE SHOP**

**LADIES *Coffee***  
**MARCH 16, 2024**  
**9:00AM**  
**④ JITTERS**



**COMMODITIES**

WEDNESDAY  
MARCH 20, 2024

ALL VOLUNTEERS WELCOME  
10:00AM MEET IN FELLOWSHIP HALL  
OR LOWER PARKING LOT.  
11:15AM - 12:15PM LOAD CARS  
BOXES ARE NEEDED, PLEASE!



# Christian Education News

## Whole Church Activities

**\*\*On February 18th we played Bible Pictionary during the Adult Sunday Bible Study hour. We had about 20 participants, divided into two rooms. What a fun fellowship experience! Look for the photo shoot on the next page.**



## Adult Day Trip

**\*\*Be sure to sign up to go on our Day Trip to Stratata Salt Mine near Hutchinson, KS on Saturday, April 27th for a dinner theater event. This is a 5 hour event from 5-10 pm inside the mine. This fellowship opportunity is for both the men and women of our church. Tables for the event come in groups of 8. Currently, I have enough people planning to attend to fill one table. We would love to have enough people to seat a 2nd table. Please let Angie know if you are interested. Tickets will be \$75 per person. Angie's work email is: [con1umcchristianed@gmail.com](mailto:con1umcchristianed@gmail.com).**



## United Women in Faith

**\*\*In April we will start our monthly evening Women in Faith Monthly Study. The study will be on Psalm 77, and how the global climate crisis is affecting developing countries. Look forward to more information in the upcoming weeks!**



# Christian Education News

## Table Talk-

**\*\*There is No Table Talk on March 13th during Spring Break.**

**JAM** finished their lessons on Feeding the 5,000 and the Walk to Emmaus. They will have lessons about the Easter story in the upcoming weeks.

**The Rock** will join up with IMPACT for the month of March for a Fathom study of the Passion.

**IMPACT** is beginning their study of the Passion using the Fathom study guide.

## Upcoming Events:

**\*\* March 24th is Palm Sunday as well as Youth Sunday.** The children and youth will march down the aisle with palms. Be sure to bring your children and grandchildren that day! The middle and high school children will be our ushers, readers as well as our Children's Moment leader.

**\*\*Easter Egg Hunt and Activities will take place on Easter Sunday morning starting at 9:30.** Bring your children and grandchildren for a morning of fun!

**\*\*We would like monetary donations to purchase candy. Any extra \$ will go to Christian Education activities. Thank you for your support!**

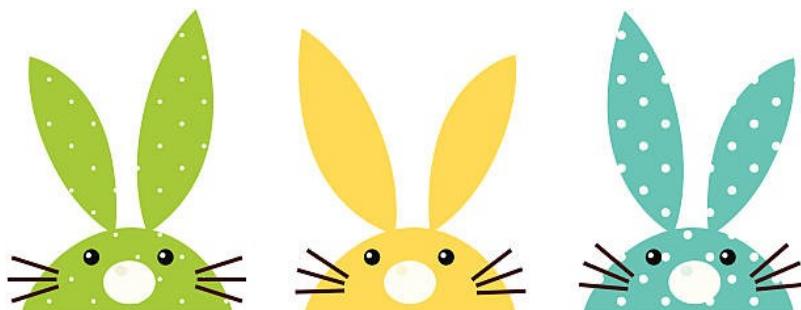


**\*\*\* Volunteer Work Day Opportunity for all ages!! Camp Horizon at Arkansas City, KS has invited us to a special work day to improve the camp facility. This work day is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th. Since it is a 4 hour drive for our congregation to get there, the camp will provide beds for us at Camp Horizon on April 12th at a cost of \$20 per person. Please let me know if you are interested in attending this day of volunteering and fellowship. Please let me know if you plan to attend by March 24th so I can give the camp a bed count.**

**\*\*\*If your child is interested in attending CAMP Horizon sometime this summer, I have attached information on the camps and the weeks they are available and prices. We do offer scholarships to offset the cost to you. Note the cost of camp goes up \$25 if you sign up after April 1st.**

*Angie Gabel-McConkey, Christian Education Director at Concordia UMC*

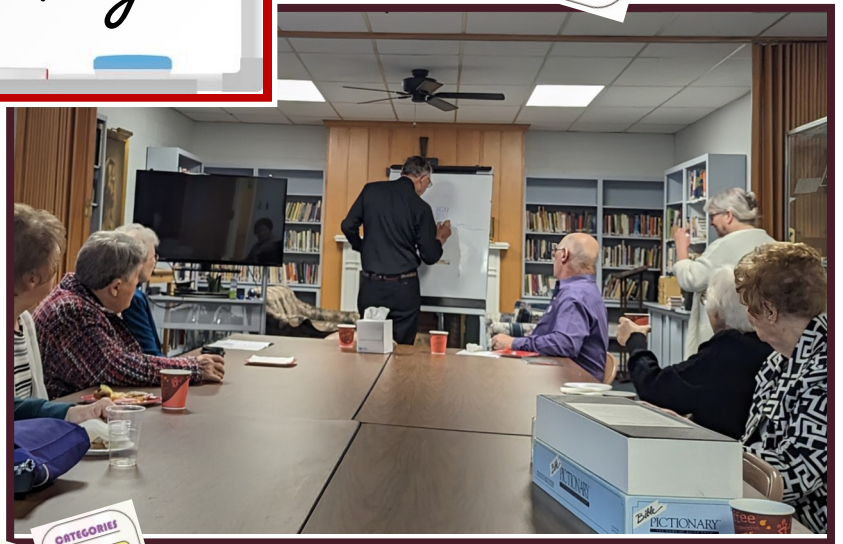
*con1umchristianed@gmail.com*











# Bible Pictionary





# MARCH 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00 Choir Practice 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship	4	5	6 5:00 Sitting With Jesus 5:30 Choir Practice 6:00 Table Talk Meal 6:30 Classes Begin	7	8	9
10 9:00 Choir Practice 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship	11 5:30pm FUMC Council	12	13 5:00 Sitting With Jesus 5:30 Choir Practice 6:00 Table Talk Meal 6:30 Classes Begin	14	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day 9:00 Choir Practice 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship 	18 5:30 M&M's (Missions & Ministry)	19	20 10-00 Commodities 5:00 Sitting With Jesus 5:30 Choir Practice	21 5:30pm <i>Mundy</i> Thursday 	22 12:00 Good Friday Community Service 2:00pm Cross Walk 4:00pm Good Friday Services at Trinity 	23 9:00 Ladies Coffee @ Jitters
24 9:00 Choir Practice 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Palm Sunday Worship Youth Sunday	25	26	27 5:00 Sitting With Jesus 5:30 Choir Practice 6:00 Table Talk Meal 6:30 Classes Begin	28	29	30
31 7:00 Sunrise Service 9:00 Choir Practice 9:30 Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 Worship 						

# Sunday Morning Volunteers

March	3	10	17	24	31
Worship Leader	Christy Hasch		 Loren	YOUTH	Angie
Sound		Mark	Monte		
Media	Janice		Nancy		
Greeters	Deb		Deb	Youth	Deb
Nursery Helpers	Patty Mosher	Patty Mosher	Patty Mosher	Patty Mosher	Patty Mosher
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 Mark in the Chapel at 10:20am.

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



- 1~MONTE WENTZ  
4~SCOTT HALFHIDE  
4~CHRIS STILES  
5~BETH WHISLER  
7~DARLENE PEARSON  
8~JIM LANOUE  
9~ALICIA NEWBY  
9~CLAIR DEROCHEFORT  
REYNOLDS  
12~JOHN CULLEY  
13~MARY VAZQUEZ  
15~CLAUDIA UKENS  
15~DANIEL CHAPUT  
17~AUDREY STILES  
17~KAY THOMPSON  
17~PAT CORY  
21~LINDA CULLEY  
24~CONNIE BENTZ  
25~ BETTY MUSICK  
25~JEFF SWENSON  
27~KIRK LOWELL  
27~DENNIS SMITH  
27~MEGAN THOMAN  
29~BRIAN KINDSCHER  
31~BAILEY CONNER  
31~MARTY ADE



# 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](mailto:concordia1umc@gmail.com)

Website: [www.concordiafumc.com](http://www.concordiafumc.com)

Pastor's Email: [rev.mark.crist74@gmail.com](mailto: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