

The Community Gathers

PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Loren Swenson

PASSING THE PEACE

*OPENING HYMN

“Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast”

UMH #339

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Let this be the welcoming place, a safe place where God’s children return home.

PEOPLE: May our home always be built by a love that welcomes all God’s children.

LEADER: When we open ourselves up, we share a love that has been waiting like a candle in the window ever lighting the way back and never willing to let go.

PEOPLE: In God we find hope that each child will return home.

LEADER: May our response to Love and its longing always include a feast and a celebration that those who had been lost have found their way home.

PEOPLE: And with each return, may our siblings experience God’s welcome in our welcome.

SONG OF PRAISE

“Just As I Am, without One Plea”

UMH #357
(Stanzas 1, 4, 6)

OPENING PRAYER

Mother and Father God, it was said of the Prodigal Son that he “came to himself.” Help us to wake up to ourselves, and to You. Set us free from the illusion of trying to be perfect so that we might be more fully human. Help us not to chase after an imaginary life, and to find satisfaction in our real lives. And turn us away from our self-rejection so that we might see that Your arms open in welcome. Amen.

JOYS, CONCERNS AND GOD SIGHTINGS

PRAYER FOR OUR COMMUNITY

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Amazing Grace”

Tim Halfhide

Thanksgiving

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE

“Faithful love surrounds those who trust the Lord.” ~ **Psalm 32:10b**

TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH #94

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Long-suffering God, we hear the words of the familiar parable and, at different times, see ourselves as either son. We have received—or demanded—blessings to which we were not entitled and squandered them in self-indulgent living. We have also looked out from our place of superiority and favor and have been indignant over your lavish dispensing of love and mercy. As we bring our gifts this day, we do so in the humble gratitude and recognition that any and all blessings in our life come as your gift of grace. We pray in the name of your greatest gift, Jesus our redeemer. Amen.

Hearing and Responding to the Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

HYMN

“Jesus Loves Me”

UMH #191
(1st stanza only)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Cindy Kocher

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

* AFFIRMATION

The word of God for the people of God
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“Making a Way Home”

Pastor Mark Crist

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

Going into the World to Serve

*SENDING SONG

“Love Divine, All Love’s Excelling”

UMH #384

*BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

UMH #431

POSTLUDE AND TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD



Events this Week:

Sunday, August 25 , 2024

- 9:30am Crusaders
- 9:30am Searchers
- 10:30am Worship
- 2:00pm Bible Study

Tuesday August 27, 2024

- 11:00am Beth Whisler's Funeral
- CCCC Arley Bryant Gym
- Dinner in the Fellowship Hall
- Concordia FUMC

Wednesday August 28, 2024

- 5:00pm Sitting With Jesus

Sunday, September 1, 2024

- 9:30am Crusaders
- 9:30am Searchers
- 10:30am Worship
- 2:00pm Bible Study
- "How to Read the Bible"

Saturday, September 7, 2024

- 9:30am Women in Faith
- In the Church Parlor

Sunday, September 8, 2024

- Church on the Plaza

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

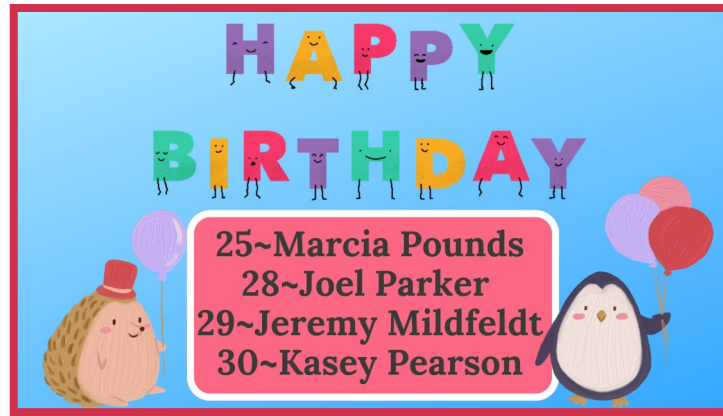
- 6:00pm Table Talk Begins

Sunday, September 22, 2024

- 2:00pm EHS Class in the Parlor

Saturday, September 28, 2024

- Fall Fest



| Attendance & Financials | | |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------|
| | Attendance | Offering |
| August 4, 2024 | 36 | 3,480.00 |
| August 11, 2024 | 71 | 2,375.00 |
| August 18, 224 | 37 | 3,881.00 |
| Monthly Budget | | \$16,783.00 |
| August Offering to date: | | \$9,736.00 |
| Year-to-Date: | | \$103,194.00 |



August 25, 2024

First United Methodist Church
 740 West 11th St, Concordia, KS 66901
 Church (785) 243-4560

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

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



Welcome to our guests!
 We are glad you are here.
 We hope you were blessed by
 your experience at
 First United Methodist Church
 this morning and will tell friend.