

August
2024

BACK
TO
SCHOOL



First United Methodist Church

Revelation

Pastors Pedlings

A few months ago, I had an interesting conversation with a colleague when I was asked what my vision for ministry is.

I shared with him that my vision is about the quest for healing rather than salvation. I told him the reason I believed healing needed to be the priority was because Jesus' focus was more often on healing than salvation. He asked me, "well, aren't they the same?" I told him, "yes" and "no." For some, the notion of salvation is individualistic and even selfish because some make salvation about "the end times" or "getting into heaven." And when something so important as salvation has room in it to disregard others, I'm not sure that's what Jesus was after, and I'm not sure that's what Jesus' crucifixion or resurrection were about. After all, Jesus did say he had other sheep his followers didn't know about.

So, tell me about the alternative, my friend asked. I told him, for me healing is what comes from what Martin Luther King referred to as the beloved community. In the beloved community, people learn about what they don't understand, and they learn to serve others who are not like them. When love does not mix with power or privilege, healing is the result. For me, a healed community is what Jesus referred to as the "Kin-dom of God." (Just a note: I often remove the "g" in kin-dom to specify how we all are part of one another and God's creation; we are "kin" to one another everywhere.)

One of the things I've seen, particularly since September 11, 2001, is what seems to be a rise in brokenness in the United States and, possibly, globally. That brokenness makes it easier for hurt people to hurt people. What I believe is needed is to get behind the reasons for the hurt, of which I believe there are many. Until that happens, the hurting will sadly continue.

Just as hurt people hurt others, however, healed people are agents of healing for others. John and Charles Wesley discovered this when they had their conversion experiences days apart. Once they had their hearts "strangely warmed" – as John Wesley described it – they became true servants. Up until that time, the brothers served because they thought it was what they had to do. After their conversions, they sought doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God. After their conversions, they fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, they welcomed the stranger, they clothed the naked, and visited the sick.

In serving others, the Wesley boys discovered something else. They learned their stories. They made friendships. They found hurting people healing and healed people offering healing to others, and their humble beginnings eventually led to the largest North American church at one time, and the church we celebrate being a part of today. They encouraged unity and dialogue and while there have been times the church would split, when people would heal over time, the church would come back together.

For me, healing is necessary work. As I've healed (and continue healing), I've realized how messy healing can be, not just in my case but in others' cases, as well. Healing, like grief, is something that has its own distinct shape for every person. And it takes time and effort, but in the end it's worth it because healing restores relationships and healing nurtures the blessed community.

Henri Nouwen once coined the term "wounded healer", and I don't know of a term that could describe the importance of healing better. I'm certain there are others who would like to be healed and heal others. For those who recognize it, good for you! That's a starting point. For those who are discerning it, keep at it. It'll come to you. For those who don't recognize it, you're in my prayers.

So, until next time 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 guest.

Little Free Pantry



Thanks to Monte Wentz for completed much needed repairs on the Little Free Pantry in July! Continued support of the pantry is much appreciated. 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.

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 1st, 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.



The CCRC will be offering School Bags for the 2023-2024 school year. This program is available to all students (K-12) in any school district in Cloud County. A fee of \$3 will be charged for each bag; scholarships are available. Registration will take place 7/1/24 - 8/2/24. Contact the CCRC to register.

Volunteers are needed to help on the following days/time:

Bag Pickup/Distribution

August 5th, 6 – 8 pm

August 6th, 6 – 8 pm

August 7th, 6 – 8 pm

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.

Missions and Outreach

Did you know we have a **Good Samaritan Fund**? Donations given to this fund are available to our pastor to provide confidential assistance to those who are in need of paying for utility bills, rental deposits, or other financial assistance. On **Sunday, August 18th** we will pass the Missions Buckets to help replenish our Good Samaritan Fund!



Thanks for supporting missions activity in our church! In July, we collected \$46.45 for the Cloud County Resource Center to use for school supplies and the food bank. We also collected 216 school supply items.

We also collected \$175.00 and 80 items for the CCCC International Students Welcome Baskets!

Trustees Update

The kitchen renovation project is underway! In the coming months, the following activities will take place:

- Installation of new cabinetry under the west counter
- Painting of all walls
- Painting of cabinetry and replacement of cabinet hardware
- Replacement of countertops
- Replacement of ceiling and lighting
- Replacement of flooring
- Removal of dishwasher sink on east wall and replacement with counter
- Installation of new faucet and addition of garbage disposal on kitchen sink
- Installation of new ventilation fan (*already in-process*)
- Re-enameling of stove burners and drip pans (*already in-process*)



Cruise-in Ice Cream Social

Join us for cool treats on August 18th! To donate ice cream and desserts or volunteer to help, sign-up on the main bulletin board.

Cruise-In Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 18th, 5-7 pm



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

Parking in the lower lot at 740 W 11th St



Concordia First United Methodist Church

****Christian Education News****

United Methodist Church Campers

This summer we had three of our children and youth attending Camp Horizon! As they tell it, it was a great time for all!

Gannon attended the Mini Camp in early July and plans to go for the Main Camp next year. He really enjoyed sharing his experiences with the church!

*Zak and Dakota attended the High School Camp mid July. Dakota plans to return to the High School Camp next summer and Zak plans to be a Junior Counselor for 3 weeks in 2025. Dakota reports his favorite part was worship and Zak said the whole experience was amazing!

Vacation Bible School

High Seas Expedition!



JESUS is our Guiding Light!

VBS is kicking off at the end of this week, Wednesday-Friday. This is always a fun, Christian based time for the children of our community! If you have a child or a grandchild that is between preschool and 6th grade, be sure to join us at Concordia Lutheran Church. This is a collaboration between First United Methodist Church, Concordia Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church. It will be three, fun filled nights at Concordia Lutheran Church learning stories from the bible. One story from the Old Testament- Joshua Crossing the Jordan, one from the New Testament - Jesus Calms the Storm and one of Jesus's Parables from the New Testament- The Good Samaritan.

Thank you to all who have donated food items and are planning to help including our actors for story time, those leading the games and those serving dinner.

Adult Camp Horizon Retreat

"The mission of Camp Horizon is to provide a natural setting for the church to make and strengthen disciples of Christ."

We still have space for several more campers... Currently we have about 10 members traveling to South-Central Kansas to **Camp Horizon Thursday, October 3 to Saturday, October 5. This will be 3 days and 2 nights of nature-filled fun and fellowship time. The camp has several hiking trails including the Trail of Meditation which has 15 crosses erected over a span of several years. There are campfire pits, an 18-hole Frisbee golf course and for an additional fee canoes and rope challenge courses available including ziplining! If you are interested in learning more or want to add your name to the list, please call, text or email Angie at**

con1umcchristianed@gmail.com, 785-275-1232



Wednesday Night Table Talk

Beginning September 11th

Our Children and Youth Christian Education Program, Table Talk commences on Wednesday, September 11th at 5:45 with a meal provided by a great group of ladies from our church. We have an amazing team of Christian educators and exciting curriculum to begin the year. If anyone would like to join our team, we could use another aide or more kitchen help.

Youth: Jason Johnson and Deb Ketterman are our Youth leaders. The Youth will begin with a Fathom study on *The Birth of the Church*. This will be a 4 week study of the Old Testament and the New Testament. This lesson will allow the students to compare today's Church to church in its conception. They will also be building and running a Haunted House this fall to help fund their Mission Trip for 2025.

Upper Elementary: Cindy Kocher will lead this group of 3rd to 6th graders. The upper elementary students are getting a new curriculum called *Big Faith*. This new curriculum has bible stories, videos, student participation and hands-on activities. We are excited to try something new this year!

Pre K-2nd grade: Mary Thoman along with Donna Reedy and Julie Cory will once again lead this group of young children in learning and participating in bible stories. We will continue to utilize previously used VBS curriculum to make these lessons age appropriate and interesting to young learners.

United Women In Faith

Our United Women in Faith group has met for 3 consecutive months using Psalm 77 and the plight of Indigenous peoples due to climate change as our guide. In July we discussed the impact lithium mining in Nevada will have on our Native Americans in the area.

Lisa Valcoure will host our next meeting on August 7th at Panther Pride. Remember to bring your favorite potluck item to share with the group. We will continue with Psalm 77 and discuss the impact climate change has had on the Inuit population formerly known as "Eskimos". The Inuit's inhabit the Arctic and subarctic regions of Northern America including Alaska, Quebec, Yukon, Greenland and as well as parts of Russia. They are currently enduring climate changes such as melting permafrost, thinning ice and receding glaciers. Join me in this discussion of how these changes are impacting their livelihood.



As we discussed at our last meeting, we will be collecting items for DVAC, Domestic Violence Association. Please bring a feminine product item to the next meeting. These items will be delivered to the local DVAC office.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 7, 2024
6:30PM

LISA VALCOURE
@PANTHER PRIDE
124 W. 6TH
RSVP BY AUGUST 4
785-914-9693
POTLUCK

Commodities

It just amazes me how caring our community is! When I ask the community to help, they are there! Each and every (other) month we have volunteers from all over the community show up no matter what the weather is! When I see some of the people who receive the food they always say thank you! Or “I don’t know how I could feed my kids without the extra food from commodities!” So to all of the volunteers who help with this program “**THANK YOU! FROM THE PEOPLE WHO RECEIVE THE FOOD!**”

Last month we helped a total 102 Households, 64 Singles, 16 Couples, 22 Families, for a total of 176 people served.

As of July 1, 2024 the income guidelines have increased, for a single person they cannot make over \$1,632.00, for each additional person you would add \$583.00.



BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

**Bring Your School
Bags To Worship on:**

SUNDAY AUGUST 11, 2024
PASTOR MARK WILL PRAY
FOR GOD’S BLESSINGS ON
THE SCHOOL YEAR.



If you are interested in a class on the AED, CPR and Stop the Bleed please contact Lisa at the Church Office. I would like to get this scheduled sometime in September.



Frisbee Golf



Ziplining



Rope Courses

Prayer
Labyrinth



Adult Retreat near Arkansas City

Thursday-Saturday
Oct 3-5, 2024

Breakfast food provided
Lunches on Site

Evening meals will be a community event.

**Devotions led by Pastor Mark
following Dinner.**

Cost of retreat \$150.00 per person

If interested contact Angie
conlumcchristianed@gmail.com
or the Church Office
concordialumc@gmail.com

Hammock
Village



Walking
Trails



Canoeing



and
much more!

CONCORDIA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Invites you to a
Bridal Shower
FOR ERICA JOHNSON

(DAUGHTER OF RANDY AND MARCY JOHNSON)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2024

1:30PM

FUMC PARLOR

ERICA REQUESTS GIFT CARDS

FROM:

HOME GOODS, MARSHALLS, AMAZON
OR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE "HONEYMOON FUND"



Emotionally Healthy Spirituality

If you are interested in learning more about Emotionally Healthy Spirituality, please sign up for this class led by Pastor Mark. This 6-8 week class invites participants to evaluate their emotional and spiritual health, using three different books. You will develop a better understanding of your thoughts, feelings and behavior. Those who have already taken the course are welcome to participate as a refresher. Sign up now so materials can be ordered by September. You will be notified when the books arrive. Classes will start Sunday September 22, 2024 at 6:30pm. \$50.00 for books.

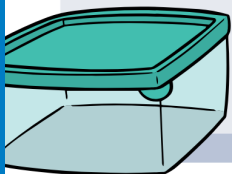


ARE YOU MISSING ANY DISHES?

WE MAY HAVE THEM!

CHECK OUT THE CART OUTSIDE

THE OFFICE



Standing in the Gap:

Rural & Frontier Access to Mental Health Care,
a Faith-Based Approach



AUGUST 13TH, 10AM - 5PM

First United Methodist Church
740 W 11th St, Concordia, KS 66901

FREE to attend
Lunch is provided



Register at <https://bit.ly/3Jye94b>
Or scan the QR Code



A NAMI FaithNet Event



As a CEU provider with Kansas BSRB, we will offer 6 CEUs & certificate

sponsored in part by:



TIME TO START PLANNING FOR STANDING IN THE GAP:

WE WILL NEED THE FOLLOWING:

- VOLUNTEERS TO DONATE MUFFINS AND FRUIT FOR THE MORNING SESSION AND COOKIES FOR THE AFTERNOON
- VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE AND CLEAN UP!

IF THIS SOUNDS LIKE YOU!

CALL LISA VALCOURE AT

785-243-4560 OR

785-914-9693

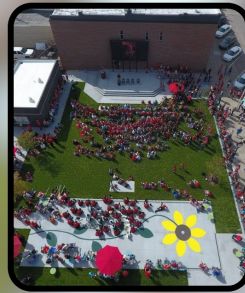


CHURCH ON THE **Plaza**

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

**BRUNCH
WORSHIP &
ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES!**

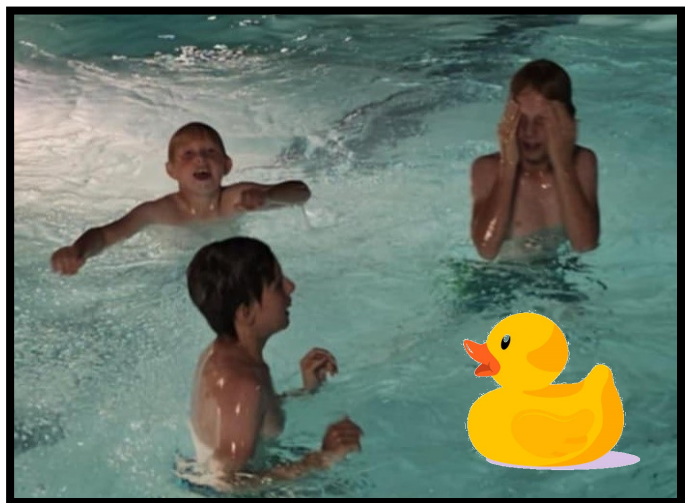
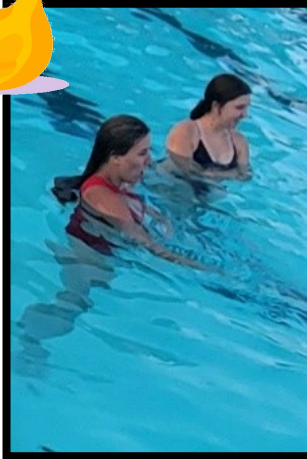
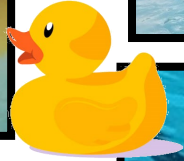
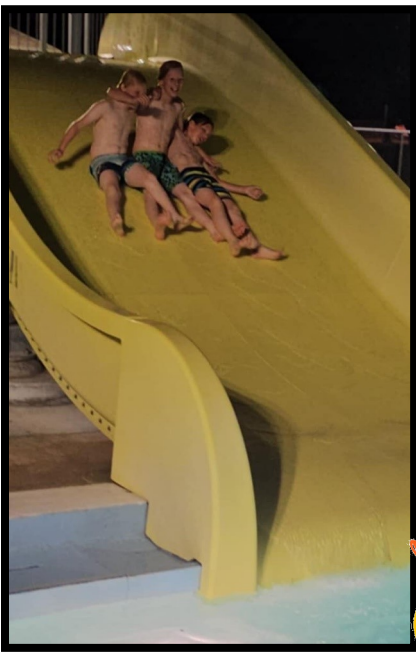
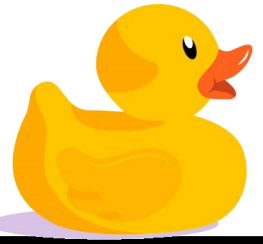
STAY TUNED FOR MORE
INFORMATION!



WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO
WOULD LIKE TO DO SPECIAL MUSIC
FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.
CONTACT THE OFFICE AT 785-243-4560 OR
PAM CAMPBELL AT 785-275-2157



Concordia
1 United Methodist Church
Swim Party July 8, 2024



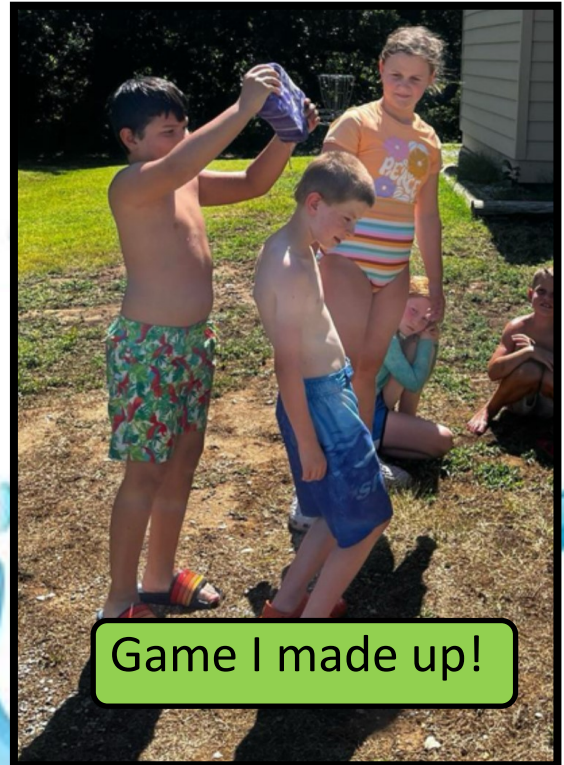
Gannon's Adventures at:



July
2024



CHOCOLATE WAFFLES
are the BEST!



Game I made up!



My Home for a few days!



I'M NOT TIRED!



Water Fun!



Gaga Pit



Gannon





ZAK ALLEN & DAKOTA VALCOURS CAMP ADVENTURES



What was your favorite part of camp?
Zak said,
"The whole experience was amazing!"



What was your favorite part of camp?
Dakota said,
"Worship"





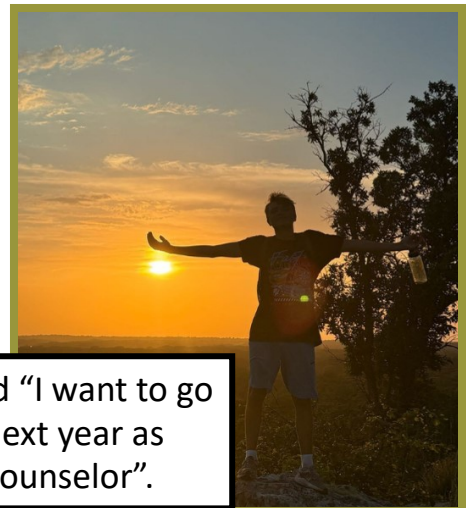
88 Kids at Camp!



Dakota States "I want to go back next year. I had so much fun!"



Zak stated "I want to go back next year as a Jr. Counselor".





AUGUST

- 3~TIM PELTIER
- 5~MARTHA THOMAS
- 6~FRANK GROSSE
- 6~ALBERTA NEEL
- 7~LIZ STEINLE
- 9~DEBBIE KROHN
- 9~AMANDA MORGAN
- 9` KYLE PALMQUIST
- 9~DREW ERKENBRACK
- 11~CASSIDY BROWN
- 12~HAYLEE TERRILL
- 12~JASON JOHNSON
- 15~GARRETT LAWRENCE
- 17~DARIN PEARSON
- 17~JILL HALSTEAD
- 18~KATRIA KINDSCHER
- 20~KARL DOUG MUSICK
- 21~WILLIE LAWRENCE
- 21~AMANDA STEINEKE
- 22~JORDAN TERRILL
- 22~ETHAN FIELDS
- 25~MARSIA POUNDS
- 28~JOEL PARKER
- 29~JEREMY MILDVELDT
- 30~KASEY PEARSON

Sunday Morning Volunteers

August	4	11	18	25	September 1
Worship Leader	Cindy			Loren	
Sound	Monte	Jason	Monte		
Media	Andrea		Nancy		
Greeters					
Nursery Helpers	Patty Mosher	Patty Mosher	Patty Mosher	Patty Mosher	Patty Mosher
Children's Moment	Angie	Mary	Melody	Cindy	
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!



AUGUST 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship	5 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship	6 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship	7 5:00 Sitting With Jesus 6:30 Women in Faith at Panther Pride 124 W. 6th	8 9:00 Ladies Coffee @ Jitters	9 9:00 Ladies Coffee @ Jitters	10 9:00 Ladies Coffee @ Jitters
11 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship Blessings of the Backpacks 2:00pm Bridal Shower For Erica Johnson	12 5:30pm FUMC Council	13 10:00 NAMI Meeting	14 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	15 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	16 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	17 5:00 Sitting With Jesus
18 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship 5-7 Cruise-in In ice Cream Social	19 5:30 M&M's (Missions & Ministry)	20 5:30 M&M's (Missions & Ministry)	21 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	22 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	23 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	24 5:00 Sitting With Jesus
25 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship	26 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship	27 9:30 Crusaders Searchers 10:30 Worship	28 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	29 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	30 5:00 Sitting With Jesus	31 5:00 Sitting With Jesus



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