

November  
2024



First United Methodist Church

# Revelation

## Pastor's Pedalings

As I write this month's pedalings, I have several things coursing through my head because there are so many topics I could write about this month with the presidential election coming up, strategic planning starting in January, church conference on November 17 in Salina, the things I'm learning from the National Association for Mental Illness (NAMI), and a slew of other things. Usually when I write the pedalings, I am much more focused than I feel today.

Recently, I had someone ask me which political candidate I'd be voting for this year, and my response was simple: I will be voting for the candidate I believe is best suited to lead the country so the democracy benefits the greatest number of people. I will not, however, name the candidate I will be voting for.

The second thing I mentioned was strategic planning. That process has already been initiated at Trinity but the administrative council at First wanted to hold off until January to work on a strategic plan, and I think everyone can be grateful for that with as much as we have going on now through the end of December. I know I'm grateful to wait until then because the added work can be quite demanding. Holding off also buys me time to get some significant reading that applies to strategic planning completed.

When I was in seminary, I remember overhearing some of my classmates complaining about how much reading we had to do and all the assignments we had to write. Since I'd been serving the church about four or five years when I started seminary, I understood how much reading was involved just to serve the church, so I laughed when I overheard that comment. Now, I am glad we had to do all that reading because there is just as much reading I do now as I did then, although I am nowhere near as quick at reading as I used to be.

Now, for church conference. Church conferences have to be held annually largely due to IRS expectations, but where they often help me the most are with the goals that get set. Sometimes the goals that are set for the conference have to be flexible because things change in the course of a year, but what I like about the goals is that they give me an idea of how I can best lead the church. As I grow into leadership, the goals that are suggested play a significant role.

And now, for NAMI. I first got involved with NAMI when I was serving in my prior appointment. Somehow, I ended up on the state governing board for NAMI and kinda wobbled my way through the process because I really didn't know very much about the organization. Since coming to Concordia, however, I have found NAMI to be a real blessing because it is grounded in several principles of the Christian faith as it sets up networks to assist in the care of people who have mental illness or families with loved ones who are living with mental illness.

So far, I've attended two Standing in the Gap workshops, one of which we hosted in August, and I've been a panelist a couple times because of my experiences with mental health. I've also attended the Family to Family online class, and I'm currently enrolled in the Peer to Peer online class, which is Thursday evenings right now. I attended the Pathways of Hope conference a few months ago, and I attended NAMI's annual "conference" meeting. I have also been asked to develop a strategic planning team to develop a NAMI associate for north central Kansas, which is in the works. What I will add is that I am looking forward to developing a partnership with NAMI because of how it could directly benefit both United Methodist Churches in Concordia.

And that doesn't even touch upon the other things that are keeping me busy right now, but what I will say is that all of this is a blessing, and I hope it is a blessing to all of you in time. All I know right now is that I am delighted to be serving in Concordia and I am profoundly grateful for all of the folks in our churches. At any rate, I guess you could say I'm pedaling as much as I can right now.

So, 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 guest.

## Meals on Wheels

The Senior Center is looking for volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels. To volunteer, contact Marissa at the Senior Center at 243-1872. Meals are picked-up and delivered by noon. Drivers receive a free meal! Meals on Wheels provides a hot meal and human contact for the homebound.



## Little Free Pantry



Continued support of the pantry is much appreciated. Please place your donations directly in the pantry. 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!

## 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 activities or would like to volunteer at the CCRC, please contact Tonya Merrill at 785-243-1065 or [ccrc@nckcn.com](mailto:ccrc@nckcn.com).

## Missions and Outreach

Missions Buckets will be passed on November 17<sup>th</sup> for the United Methodist Student Day Special Offering. For more information about this offering, visit <https://www.umc.org/en/content/united-methodist-student-day-faq>



Thank you for your generous donations of \$83.73 in the October Missions Buckets to support the World Communion Sunday Special Offering. For more information about this offering, visit <https://www.umc.org/en/content/world-communion-sunday-ministry-article>.

## Good Neighbor Experiment Sledding Events

It is November and you know what that means – snow days are coming! We know that our church has the BEST sledding hill in our area and we want to welcome the families who come to use it this winter. If you would be willing to help serve coffee and hot cocoa on sledding days, please let Nancy Wentz know so you can be added to the call list!



## November Match Month

November is Match Month at the Community Foundation for Cloud County. During November, any gift that you make to the First United Methodist Church Foundation Fund, will be matched by the Paterson Foundation. Please help us ensure the financial strength of the church by making a gift in November. Donations should be made out to the Community Foundation for Cloud County with FUMC in the memo line. They can be left at the church office or mailed to P.O. Box 213 Concordia, KS 66901

## Commodities

While we had no Commodities in October, we had a few people stop by for food.

The next Commodities Food Distribution will be November 20. We will start unloading the F&A Truck at 10:00 am. If you are able to help, please let the office know.

October 21st, Concordia 1UMC was asked to join in the Family Literacy Night at the Concordia Elementary School. There were 40 booths there to give examples of what our community has to offer young families. Mary Lisa Thoman and Lisa Valcoure had a booth to inform families of the Commodities Food Program.

The Commodities are given out every two months.





## Trustees Update

The kitchen renovation project is nearing completion! Painting has been completed, a new ceiling will soon be installed, and other final plumbing and wiring work is scheduled.

Plan to join us in Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 am to clean and reload items into the kitchen! If you can't be there at 9:30 am, come when you can – work will continue throughout the day. If you aren't a "kitchen person" you can help the youth tear down the Haunted House. Pizza will be provided for lunch.



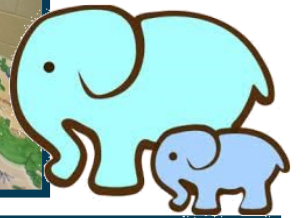
The majority of the kitchen project is being funded by a directed gift received in April from the family of Anita Chartier. While this generous gift will fund the majority of the project, there are additional items that the Kitchen committee along with the support of the Church Council would like to see completed at the same time. **We are therefore asking you to consider an extra mile gift to help fund these improvements. Please make a note of "kitchen" on your gift.**

### Layette Set Assembly

Thanks to all sewed blankets, donated items, and helped to assemble 60 layette sets for distribution by the Cloud County Health Department in the coming year!









# **Thanksgiving Dinner**

**Sunday, November 17th**

**11:00 am - 12:30 pm**

**\$15 per meal**

**Drive-Through Pick-Up or Dine-In**

**Delivery available - call 243-4560**

**All ladies of the  
church are asked to  
donate a Pie!**

**Help is needed  
November 15th -17th!  
Sign-up on the main  
bulletin board or  
contact the church of-  
fice to sign-up TODAY!**



**How can we help others in  
Cloud County during the  
holiday season?  
Here are some ideas!**



**Concordia First United Methodist Church**  
Belong | Believe | Become

**Help the Cloud County Resource Center fill Santa's Sleigh to prepare  
Holiday Baskets by bringing these items November 17th - December 8th:**

Hats, Scarves, and Gloves for men, women, and children

|               |                   |                       |                        |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Stuffing      | Mashed Potatoes   | Ramen Noodles         | Mac & Cheese           |
| Boxed Dinners | Peanut Butter     | Jelly                 | Loaves of Bread        |
| Gravy Packets | Cereal            | Evaporated Milk       | Baking/Cake Mix        |
| Canned Soup   | Canned Vegetables | Canned Fruit          | Canned Cranberry Sauce |
| Canned Tuna   | Canned Pumpkin    | Canned Sweet Potatoes |                        |

*Food items (including donations of hams and turkeys) can also be delivered directly to the CCRC (open 9 am—5 pm, M/W/F, Tu/Th 1—5 pm) Specific items for children or seniors can be purchased by visiting the Angel Tree at Walmart.*

**Give money for CCRC Holiday Baskets!**

We will pass the Missions Buckets on **December 1st and 8th**. All money collected will be used to help families in need. You can also make a donation or adopt a family directly by contacting Tonya Merrill at the CCRC (243-1065, ccrcc@nckcn.com). Each basket costs \$75 to prepare.



**Volunteer to help prepare and distribute Holiday Baskets at the CCRC!**

The CCRC will need lots of help packing holiday baskets and wrapping Christmas gifts!

| <b>Thanksgiving Baskets</b> | <b>Christmas Baskets</b> | <b>Wrapping Gifts</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| November 18th, 1-5 pm       | December 10th, 1-5 pm    | December 16th, 1-5 pm |
| November 19th, 5-7 pm       | December 11th, 2-7 pm    | December 17th, 5-7 pm |
| November 20th, 1-5 pm       | December 12th, 1-5 pm    | December 18th, 2-7 pm |
| November 21st, 5-7 pm       |                          |                       |



For more details, Contact Tonya Merrill at the CCRC (243-1065, ccrcc@nckcn.com).

**Volunteer to help ring the Salvation Army Bells at Walmart on  
Sunday, December 22nd from 12:00—6:00 pm!**

A sign-up list is on the Missions Bulletin Board. More than 90% of the funds collected stay in Cloud County. In past years, \$800+ was raised during the time Concordia 1st UMC was ringing the bells!



**Spread a little cheer by joining us for Christmas Caroling on  
Sunday, December 15th!**

Join us after Worship (and the youth Christmas Program) for lunch in the Fellowship Hall with caroling to immediately follow. A list of members will be included in the December Newsletter if you would like to send cards or letters.





# **\*\*Christian Education News\*\***

## **Wednesday Night Table Talk**

**IMPACT Youth:** The Youth of our church are currently in the middle of building their Haunted House that will premiere on Halloween night. The proceeds from this event will help fund the 2025 Mission Trip for the 9-12th graders and Church Camps the Youth wish to attend.

The Rock **Upper Elementary:** Cindy Kocher is leading our 3rd through 6th graders. They have been enjoying their new curriculum Big Faith. This curriculum includes Bible lessons, art activities and digs into what it is to be a Christian.

JAM **Pre K-2nd grade:** Mary taught the Bible Stories: Disciples Chose to Follow Jesus and Paul Delivered Good News to the People. This group enjoys listening to the Bible story as told by Mary and then reviewing the Bible story with a video telling it in a different way. They alternate between science lessons and art activities each week.



## **Hay Rack Ride**

Our Hay Rack Ride from the Swenson Farm to Sibley Schoolhouse on October 20th, was quite a success! We had 50 men, women, children and babies in attendance. We had so many people, we had to take 3 extra vehicles to the site. Once we arrived at the schoolhouse the younger kids played on the merry-go-round, while the older kids played football and cornhole which the owners of the schoolhouse made available to us. The “main event” was an Egg Toss Contest with farm fresh eggs from Christy Hasch’s young chickens! While some contestants did say “this egg is unbreakable”, all of the eggs did eventually break! The winners got to eat first! Instead of roasting hotdogs over a campfire, Pastor Mark kindly roasted our hotdogs earlier that day before leaving for the farm so as to avoid the danger of a grass fire. A great time was had by all!!

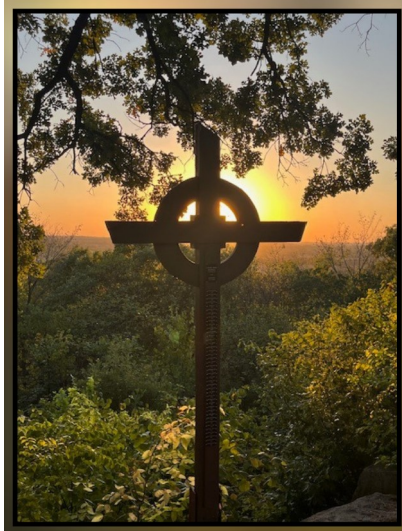




## Adult Camp Horizon Retreat

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

October 3rd-5th, 7 of our church members and 2 of their relatives, drove to **Camp Horizon** near Arkansas City, KS for a spiritual, awe inspiring weekend full of laughter and fellowship. The highlights of the weekend included cooking evening meals as a group, a nail biting game of 10 Commandment Bible Game led by Mark McConkey, the owner of said game, brave individuals ziplining through the trees, beautiful trail walking, silent prayer time at the Prayer Labyrinth and thought provoking evenings with Fireside Devotion Fellowship led by Pastor Mark.



## United Women In Faith

On October 12th, United Women in Faith met at the church for a lesson adapted from a talk from Bishop Karen Oliveto at General Conference. The lesson was based on the scripture reading from Matthew 25: 34-40 on Finding God's Image in Everyone. It was a powerful lesson and an amazing conversation among our group of women of faith.

Pam provided a tasty breakfast!

The November meeting will include a short lesson followed by the group organizing our newly remodeled kitchen!!

Upcoming event: December 7th is Cookie Day!

These words that I am commanding you today, must always be on your minds. Recite them to your children. Talk about them when you are sitting about your house and when you are out and about, when you are lying down and when you are getting up.

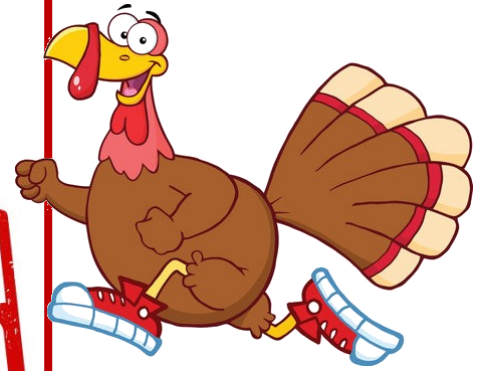
Deuteronomy 6: 6-7 (CEB)

*Angie Gabel-McConkey*

**Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am**

- **Clean and Re-Load the Kitchen!**
- **Tear Down the Haunted House and Clean the Fellowship Hall!**

**Lunch will be provided!**



**YOU ARE ALL WELCOME  
TO SUNDAY EVENING YOGA**

**5:30pm-6:30pm**

**in the lower level of**

**Concordia 1 UMC**

**740 West 11th**

**2nd Sunday -Chair Yoga (Chairs provided)**

**4th Sunday-Mat Yoga (Bring your own Mat)**

**Wear comfy clothes!**

**Contact Angie Gabel McConkey  
for more details!**

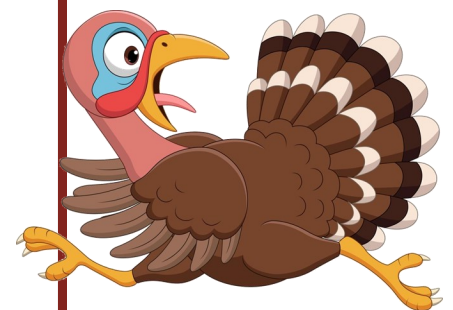
**(con1umchristianed@gmail.com)**



*thank  
★ you ★*



ANN & JIM WOULD LIKE TO THANK  
EVERYONE FOR ALL PRAYERS  
AND WORDS OF KINDNESS  
DURING JIM'S RECENT ILLNESS.  
ALSO THE CARDS WE RECEIVED.  
GOD BLESS YOU ALL,  
ANN & JIM







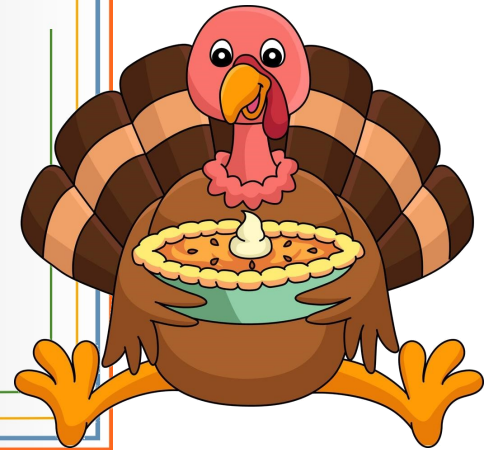
# UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 2, 2024

9:30AM

IN THE PARLOR

WE WILL BE SETTING UP THE KITCHEN  
RIGHT AFTER THE MEETING.



## ALL SAINT'S REMEMBRANCE DAY

NOVEMBER 3, 2024

DURING WORSHIP

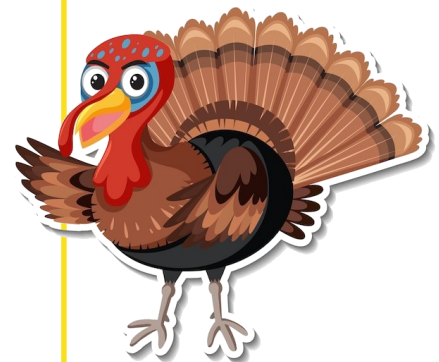
*in  
loving  
memory*



The main kitchen is getting renovated this fall!

The majority of this project is being funded by a directed gift received in April from the family of Anita Chartier. While this generous gift will fund the majority of the project, there are additional items that the Kitchen committee along with the support of the Church Council would like to see completed at the same time. We are therefore asking you to consider an extra mile gift to help fund these improvements.

Please make a note of "kitchen" on your gift.





LADIES *Coffee*  
NOVEMBER 16, 2024

9:00AM

Ⓐ JITTERS

## ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

### "The Angels of Christmas"



LED BY PASTOR MARK CRIST

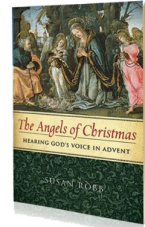
STARTS DECEMBER 1, 2024

SIGN UP SHEET ON THE BULLETIN BOARD

OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE.

**SIGN UP BY NOVEMBER 17TH.**

BOOKS WILL BE \$12.00.



## SEARCHERS AND CRUSADERS

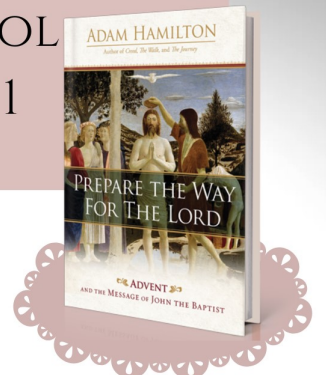
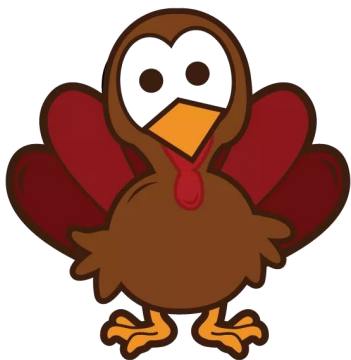
### ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

### *"Prepare the Way for the Lord"*

DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL

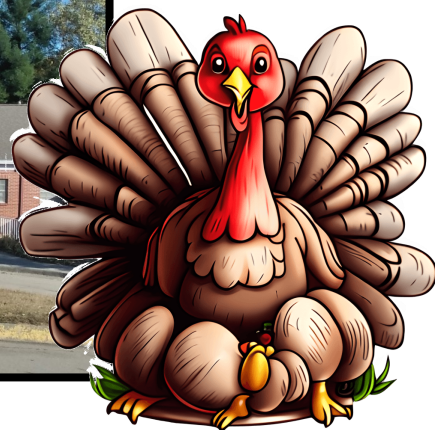
STARTING DECEMBER 1

AT 9:30AM

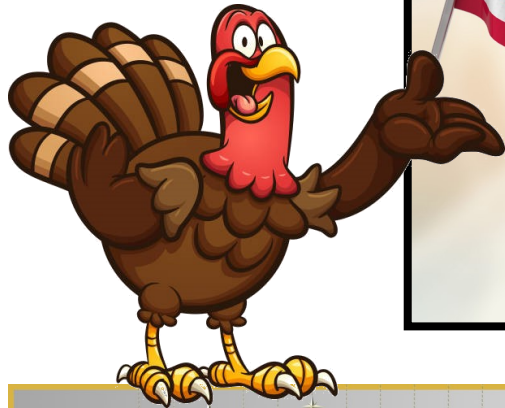




CHARGE CONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER 17, 2024  
KANSAS WESLEYAN  
UNIVERSITY  
100 EAST CLAFLIN  
SALINA KS  
2:00PM  
12:30PM LEAVE FROM PARKING LOT.



Veteran's Day Recognition  
NOVEMBER 10, 2024  
DURING WORSHIP



## HANGING OF THE GREENS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2024  
RIGHT AFTER WORSHIP  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO HELP  
DECORATE FOR CHRISTMAS!  
PIZZA WILL BE SERVED FOR LUNCH





# POINSETTIAS ORDER FORM

FORMS ARE DUE BY NOVEMBER 24, 2024

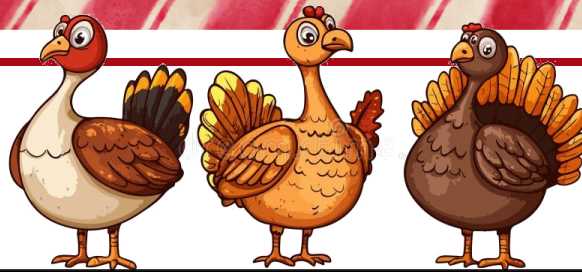
6" PLANTS \$20.00

8" PLANTS \$30.00

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_

IF YOU PREFER YOU MAY BRING IN YOUR OWN POINSETTIA ON DECEMBER 1, 2024



## Upcoming Events

### November 17

11:00 am—12:30 pm

Join us for our 41st annual Thanksgiving Dinner and check out our newly renovated kitchen! \$15 per meal. Delivery and carryout available.

### December 7

8:30—10:30 am

Join us for Cookie Day! Fill your box with as many cookies as it will hold! Come early for the best selection. \$15 per box.

### December 15

10:30 am

Join us for a Children's Christmas Program! Lunch will be served after the Worship Service, followed by Caroling around Concordia.

### December 24

5:30 pm

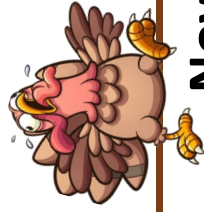
Join us for a Candlelit Christmas Eve Service. Connect with old friends at a reception following the service..

Call 785-243-4560 or visit [www.concordiafumc.com](http://www.concordiafumc.com) for more details and Christmas Missions outreach activities.



**Concordia First United Methodist Church**  
Belong | Believe | Become





# Sunday Morning Volunteers



| November          | 3             | 10            | 17           | 24           |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Worship Leader    | Loren Swenson | Christy Hasch | Cindy Kocher |              |
| Sound             | Monte         |               |              |              |
| Media             | Nancy         | Janice        |              | Janice       |
| Greeters          |               |               |              |              |
| Nursery Helpers   | Patty Mosher  | Patty Mosher  | Patty Mosher | Patty Mosher |
| Children's Moment |               |               |              |              |
| Scripture Reader  |               |               |              |              |
| Ushers            | Lyle Pounds   | Lyle Pounds   | Lyle Pounds  | Lyle Pounds  |
| Acolytes          |               |               |              |              |
| Coffee Bar        | 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!



# NOVEMBER 2024



| Sun                                                                                                    | Mon                                       | Tue | Wed                                                                                                                     | Thu | Fri                         | Sat                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                        |                                           |     | 5:00 Sitting With Jesus<br>5:30 Choir Practice<br>6:00 Table Talk Meal<br>6:30 Classes Begin                            |     | 1                           | 2<br>9:30pm Women in Faith                                         |
| 3<br>9:00 Choir Practice<br>9:30 Crusaders<br>Searchers<br>10:30 Worship<br>All Saints Day Remembrance | 4                                         | 5   | 6<br>5:00 Sitting With Jesus<br>5:30 Choir Practice<br>6:00 Table Talk Meal<br>6:30 Classes Begin                       | 7   | 8                           | 9                                                                  |
| 10<br>9:00 Choir Practice<br>9:30 Crusaders<br>Searchers<br>10:30 Worship<br>5:30pm Yoga               | 11<br>5:30pm<br>FUMC Council              | 12  | 13<br>10-00 Commodities<br>5:00 Sitting With Jesus<br>5:30 Choir Practice<br>6:00 Table Talk Meal<br>6:30 Classes Begin | 14  | 15<br>4:00pm Debone Turkeys | 16<br>9:00 Ladies Coffee<br>@ Jitters<br>2:00 Food Prep<br>& Setup |
| 17<br>10:30 Worship<br>11:00 am<br>Thanksgiving Dinner<br>2:00pm<br>Church Conference                  | 18<br>5:30 M&M's<br>(Missions & Ministry) | 19  | 20<br>5:00 Sitting With Jesus<br>5:30 Choir Practice<br>6:00 Table Talk Meal<br>6:30 Classes Begin                      | 21  | 22                          | 23                                                                 |
| 24<br>9:00 Choir Practice<br>9:30 Crusaders<br>Searchers<br>10:30 Worship<br>Hanging of the Greens     | 25                                        | 26  | 27<br>5:00 Sitting With Jesus<br>5:30 Choir Practice<br>No Table Talk                                                   | 28  | 29                          | 30                                                                 |



1~Doug Moore  
4~Braden Johnson  
4~David Strait  
5~Sarah Holbert  
9~Peggi Barrett  
10~Margaret Thornton  
11~Nathan Brown  
14~Cynthia Strait  
14~Ron Thomas  
14~Marjorie Cruzen  
15~Ann Lanoue  
16~Sheila Caspers  
16~Tracey Holmes  
16~Janessa Soward  
18~Randy Johnson  
18~Denise DeRochefforte-Reynolds  
19~Wyatt Townsdin  
20~Ritchie Farrell  
21~Ben Peltier  
22~Leo Martin  
23~Russell Dethloff  
23~Brenton Edwards  
28~Norman McMillan  
28~Richard Peterson  
28~Halie Steinle  
28~David Brewer  
30~Lori Halfhide

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

