

**FEBRUARY 2024**

**GROW IN FAITH | SHARE IN WORSHIP | SERVE OTHERS**

2123 Forest Ave.  
Great Bend, KS 67530  
P: (620) 792-2148

Rev. Tim Bever  
(316) 841-1647

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00, 11:00 a.m.

Live-stream worship:

\* 9 a.m. on YouTube  
Channel GBFUMC

\* 11 a.m. via  
FaceBook  
GBFirstUMC

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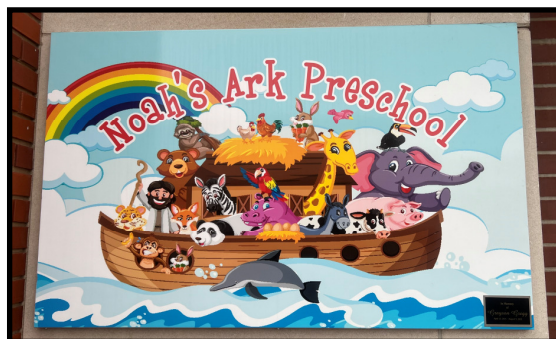
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## Time With Tim

# OVER THE RAINBOW

I love rainbows. It is so amazing, especially in Kansas where you can see pretty far, after a rain when you are coming into a town and see a rainbow that spans it. Know what I mean? Even better is when you see a double rainbow! Sometimes the second one will be lighter or not seem to be visible the whole way, but on those times when it is completely visible too it is like a huge added bonus.

Imagine how awesome it must have been for Noah when he looked out and saw that first rainbow God provided as a sign of a covenant between God and humankind. I'm guessing you might not remember the very first time you saw a rainbow. I know I don't but I get so excited at them now that it must have been pretty amazing. And now I have the added warm feeling whenever I see one of knowing it is a sign of God's love for us.



We'll come back to Noah and God's covenant in a minute but first let's look at other places it mentions rainbows in the Bible. One of my favorites is in Ezekiel 1:28 where the prophet is describing seeing God. It says "Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him." (NIV) Apparently Ezekiel loved rainbows as much as I do. He got that loving cheerful feeling of a bright radiant colorful light when he looked upon God. What an awesome description.

The author of Revelation uses the imagery of a rainbow in the same way. It says in Revelation 4:3 that a rainbow resembling an emerald encircled the throne he saw in heaven and then in Revelation 10:1 he saw an angel come down from heaven robed in a cloud with a rainbow above his head. What an awesome description! What a beautiful vision to have.

All throughout the Bible, the rainbow is a symbol of God's presence and power. As Christians, seeing it should bring us joy as we think about how it's a metaphor of faith and the enduring gifts of God's grace and mercy.

Think about The Wizard of Oz and that timeless song, "Somewhere, Over the Rainbow." Little Dorothy from Kansas wanting to climb beyond the rainbow where she thinks there will be even more dreams.

As I sit writing this in my office, I glanced out my office window and I see the mural of the Kansas sunset on the building across the street and even the colors of that sunset, and all Kansas sunsets, sort of looks like a rainbow in its own right.

# SHARE in Worship

## FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERVICES

### Let's together and worship together:

2/4/2024	Neighboring	Abundance	Luke 5:1-11 (NRSV)
2/11/2024	Super Bowl	Our Super Bowl	Hebrews 12:1-2
2/14/2024	Lent in Plain Sight: Dust		Gen 2:4b-7, Ps119:25-32 Ash Wednesday
2/18/2024	Lent in Plain Sight: Bread		Matt 6:11, John 6:35-40 One-Service Sunday
2/25/2024	Lent in Plain Sight: Cross		Mark 8:34, Phil 2:7b-8

- \* Sunday Service times are 9 a.m. for the Traditional Service and 11 a.m. for the REVIVE! Service, except on Special Sundays, like February 18<sup>th</sup>, when there is one service at 10 a.m. (February 18<sup>th</sup> is a Unity Service at 10 a.m. with a meal to follow.) Ash Wednesday's (February 14<sup>th</sup>) worship time is 7 p.m.
- \* If you can't worship with us in person, the Traditional Service may be found on our YouTube channel, **GBFUMC**.



## OVER THE RAINBOW

— Continued from Page 1 —

Have you ever had the fortune to see the “emerald flash” during a sunset when the sun turns green? I’ve seen it twice that I remember. It just adds to that imagery even more.

It is so awesome that God would give us this image of a rainbow, in such a beautifully colored creation, as a symbol of God’s never-ending grace and mercy that we receive even though we don’t deserve it. I’m so glad that when I enter our church, whichever door I come in, I get to see rainbow colors. At the west door is a bulletin board with all the colors of the rainbow, reminding us that God created us all in God’s image, yet different like all the colors of the rainbow (like Skittles!), because it takes all of us with all our differences to come together to be neighbors and be one in Christ to do God’s work in the world.

And then at the North door is, of course, the sign for Noah’s Ark Preschool, where we get to serve our little neighbors and help plant those seeds that hopefully will continue to grow in them throughout their lives so they too can be part of the big melting pot of colorful people called Christians!

So rejoice with me as we remember that God’s grace and mercy are eternal and we are God’s shining, often colorful creation born to joyfully serve, who God dearly loves. Can I get an Amen?



<b>January Attendance</b>			
	9:00	11:00	TTL
Jan. 7	51	44	96
Jan. 14	59	54	103
Jan. 21	44	48	92
Jan. 28	52	44	96

These numbers are for those who attended worship for the Sunday Services in January.

*Peace and grace,  
Pastor Tim*

# GROW in Faith

## YOUTH LEARN MORE ABOUT GOD’S LOVE FOR THEM

Hello, everyone! If you’re reading this, I genuinely hope your year is off to a fantastic start! It’s hard to believe that we all survived and even thrived, despite the extreme chills January brought with it.

Thankfully, the chilling temperatures did not affect student attendance. Students still arrived with excitement, curiosity, and anticipation.

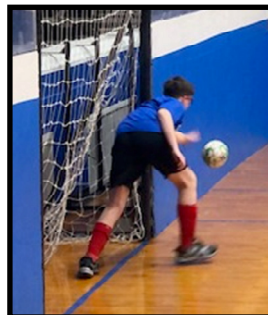
I anticipate students will be just as thrilled to journey with our community this semester, as they were the last semester!

January is already quickly behind us, and things are chugging along at a rapid pace.

February is officially here and love is in the air!

For middle schoolers this season can prompt a wide range of emotions: some good, some bad, and some cheesy. Regardless, I hope they seek to learn more about God’s love for them and others this season.

Pray with me that God’s love softens hearts, open minds, and cultivates fruit in the lives of our youth! I’m praying our students understand, embrace, and



Getting the New Year going, Youth Group met to share the scriptures in fellowship and activities both in and out of their classroom.

model the love of God this February!



**Youth Group**  
Meet on  
Wednesdays  
5:30-7:15 p.m.

Say hello  
and help us  
get to know (YOU)th!



**Brittani Frazier**  
Youth Director

### Dear First UMC,

A very special thank you to those who contributed to the poinsettias that graced our sanctuary from November

28 until January 7.

My P.E.O. group is grateful for your generosity, (over \$150 profit from 37 plants) on behalf of those who will

benefit from scholarships, grants and loans to women’s post-high school education.

Sincerely,  
Susan Young





# GROW in Faith — Children’s Ministry



## EYG Focuses on Books of Bible and Stories Within

Along with studying the books of the Bible, EYG will continue our study about Jesus’ Miracles and Parables.

We have learned about the miracle of turning water into wine and the miracle of Jesus feeding 5,000, along with the parable of the mustard seed.

Using our Bibles, we read the story of the Good Samaritan and how we can use this in our everyday life to be good neighbors.

Our prayer for this lesson was:

*Dear God,  
Thank you for the story of the Good Samaritan and the reminder we should view all people through YOUR eyes. We pray that we will have boldness and courage to help and serve our neighbors and show kindness in an unkind world.*



EYG using their Bibles to read the story of the Good Samaritan.



AMEN.

In February, we will study the healing of a leper, a blind man and a paralyzed man.



EYG youth work in pairs to put the books of the Bible in order.

### Wednesday Schedule

5:30 p.m. — Shared a meal

6:00-7:15 — Class

Vivian Harbaugh  
EYG

## KIDS KLUB START EASTER TRIVIA GAME SHOW SERIES



Wednesday nights in February will feature Valentine Card making and starting a new Easter-themed series for children in Kids Klub.

Their activities are as follows:

**February 7<sup>th</sup>:** Valentine’s Day Party and Card making for United Way.

**New Curriculum Title:** The Epic Easter Trivia Show

Kids will experience the Easter story as never before as they become contestants in the ultimate game show – **The Epic Easter Trivia Show.**

**February 14<sup>th</sup>:** Come On Down

**Objective:** Kids will learn

“Jesus came to show people what is truly important to God.”

**February 21<sup>st</sup>:** Big Money

**Objective:** Kids will learn “Jesus cares most about the state of my heart.”

**February 28<sup>th</sup>:** Showcase

**Objective:** Kids will learn “Jesus showed us how to love God, by loving others.”

Larissa Graham,  
Director of  
Children’s Ministries

## GROW in Faith — Children’s Ministry

### Sunday Kids About Hard Lessons/ Hold Cereal Bowl



**Sundays at 10 a.m.**

**Continues Curriculum:**  
*Titles*

**January 28<sup>th</sup>:** Bullies

The people of Israel had turned away from God and worshipped the idol Baal. Only Elijah was brave enough to go against the crowd and stand up for the truth.

**February 4<sup>th</sup>:** Being Alone

Elijah fled into the wilderness alone. He was scared and sad. But God sent an angel to supply for his needs; then God appeared to Elijah to let him know that he is never alone.

**February 11<sup>th</sup>:**

**Cereal Bowl Sunday**  
*(Wear your favorite Sports Team’s shirt!)*

Fun Cereal activities and the final round of our cereal bracket.

**New Curriculum:**  
*Bummer!*

Staying faithful even in when your feeling down-in-the-dumps

Synopsis: Life is full of bummers. Bad grades, lost games, lost opportunities. Nobody had it worse than Joseph, who was sold by his own brothers and later tossed in jail. But Joseph never lost faith, and his life shows us how God is with us, even in bad times.

**February 18<sup>th</sup>:**

*Dad Likes Him Best!*

**February 25<sup>th</sup>:**

*How I Sold My Brother*

**Sundays at 11 a.m.**

**February 4<sup>th</sup>:**

*Fun Valentine’s Day lesson*

**February 11<sup>th</sup>:**

**Cereal Bowl Sunday** *(Wear your favorite Sports Team’s shirt!)* and enjoy fun cereal activities

**Start New Curriculum:**

*Countdown to Easter*

**Synopsis:** So much happened during the last week of Jesus’ life, as he prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice for us. This series is designed to be used the six weeks before Easter, to show the events leading up to and including Jesus’ death on the cross – where he made a way for us.

**February 18<sup>th</sup>:**

*All Hail the King*

**February 25<sup>th</sup>:**

*Den of Robbers*

**Cereal (Super Bowl Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup>**

Kids (and everyone else) are invited to wear their favorite sports jerseys or sports colors to church and Sunday school!!!

**Larissa Graham,**  
Director of  
Children’s Ministries

### Deadline for College Scholarships Approaching

Calling all high school seniors and college students! It’s time to apply for the scholarships offered or administered by GBFUMC. Applications for all scholarships are due by **March 15<sup>th</sup>**.

The **Charley C. Byers** and **Wayne and Betty Banks** scholarships, are available only for active members of First United Methodist Church of Great Bend.

Criteria are financial need, a desire for further education and a firm Christian belief. Both scholarships are renewable. Forms are available in the church office.

The church administers nine other scholarships available for graduating high school seniors. The criteria sheet and application forms are available in our office and

they are posted on the Great Bend High School web site.

Please have all paperwork (for new scholarship and/or for renewals) turned into our Finance Office by close of business on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

The direct link to the guidance office is

[https://sites.google.com/usd428.net/guidance\\_department](https://sites.google.com/usd428.net/guidance_department)





# GROW in Faith



**NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL (NAP)**

## NAP Prepares for Valentine's Day Parties/Spring Program

Noah's Ark Preschool students have started practicing for their Spring program, which will be held in March. They are learning several songs for the program.

This month they will also fit a Valentine's Day party, Parent-Teacher Conferences and a cookie-dough fundraiser among their regular school activities.

Due to the Parent-Teacher Conference, no classes will be held starting with the PM classes February 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The pictures highlight some of the January activities, including making melting snowmen; learning about snowflakes, coats and other things of January; and having an ice cream party for being super cleaners.

And while the foot or so of snow we had over several days in January hung around for weeks, the NAP



students had lots of reasons why their snowmen melted: 'He drank hot cocoa.'

'He was in the sun and got hot.' 'He had on too many clothes.' 'It was summer.'



NAP'S Cookie Dough Fundraiser starts February 12<sup>th</sup>

**Kaylee Keilman,**  
NAP Director



## UWF WINS AWARDS AT DISTRICT MEETING

At the annual UWF (UMW) District meeting our unit received the Mission Do unit award for meeting criteria in five mission areas. We also received the five-star award for completing activities in the

following: pledge to mission, gift in memory, gift to mission, world thank offering, and special mission recognition. We have received the Mission Do award for at least the last 10 years and either a

five or seven star unit award for at least 10 years!! Vivian Evers received an award for completing the reading program — which she has done for at least the last 10 years!!

Way to go ladies!!

**LaVonne Gerritzen**  
UWF President

## SERVE Others

### Lisa Armstrong To Prepare Us Lunch

Lisa Armstrong will be here Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> to help us celebrate the start of school in Honduras and initiate our giving to their school supply fund.

Lisa will share our 10 a.m. Worship Service, and following the service, treat us to a luncheon she has prepared.

Lisa is preparing this meal as a way to connect us with our “neighbors” in Honduras and as a thank you for the support our church has been to the mission since its beginning.

We will take our annual offering that day to help the children of Honduras be able to attend school by supplying school supplies.



The school year is based on the coffee crop and thus runs from February to November. The school supply program plays a vital role in securing education for hundreds of children in the area who might not be able to enroll without the funds to purchase school supplies.

By purchasing in bulk from a supplier in San Pedro Sula, the Mission is able to stretch the dollars we donate further and make up individual packets for each child. Packets include spiral notebooks, loose-leaf notebook paper, pencils, pens, colored pencils, a pencil sharpener, ruler, and an eraser, if possible.

A classroom packet is also given to each teacher with chalk, board eraser, construction paper, glue, scissors, and extra supplies for the children as items are depleted.

Please indicate on your checks or envelopes if your donation is for Honduras school supplies.



**One-Service  
Sunday  
February 18<sup>th</sup>  
10 a.m.**

\*\*\*

**Luncheon  
(prepared by  
Lisa Armstrong)  
at 11 a.m.**

### Neighboring at the Dream Center Meal

What a great way to meet our neighbors and to serve our neighbors than by participating in our bimonthly meal for the Dream Center?

The opportunity comes up on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Serving starts at 5:00 p.m. and we usually finish around 6:00.

Our menu this month will be tator-tot casserole, homemade bread, and cake.

The casserole is simple and hearty. There are many variations out there and any recipe will be fine or a recipe can be provided.

Two sheet cakes or three 9x12 cakes will complete the meal.

Sign up in the back of the sanctuary on Sundays, February 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> for food preparation and serving, or call Judy at 620-617-6082.

What an easy way to show neighboring's key ingredients of Relationship, Joy, and Abundance!



**Dream  
Center Meal  
February 18<sup>th</sup>**

To Volunteer  
To help, contact:  
Judy Turner  
620-617-6082

### SUPER BOWL SUNDAY, FIRST UMC STYLE

Come celebrate Super Bowl Sunday on February 11<sup>th</sup> at First UMC.

Wear your favorite team's colors/regalia to church and Sunday School.

And it doesn't have to be the colors/jerseys of the two teams playing in the Super Bowl. You can wear your favorite sports shirts from your favorite school or

professional team.

So come show your colors at the Traditional Service at 9 a.m., the REVIVE Service at 11 a.m. and/or the Discovery Hour at 10 a.m.!





# SHARE In Worship



## FORTY DAYS OF LENT START VALENTINE'S DAY

**Ash Wednesday Service**

6 p.m. February 14<sup>th</sup>  
\*\*\*

**Lenten Lunch at First UMC**

Noon February 21<sup>st</sup>  
\*\*\*

**Pastor Tim speaking at the February 28<sup>th</sup> Lenten Lunch at Trinity Lutheran Church**

The start of Easter observance begins with our Ash Wednesday service at 7p.m., on Valentine's Day, (February 14<sup>th</sup>) in the Sanctuary.

The following Wednesday, (February 21<sup>st</sup>) the Barton County Association of Churches 2024 Lenten Luncheons begin with First UMC hosting at noon in our Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be Pastor Mike Munz from First Congregational UCC.

Other Lenten Luncheons in 2024 are:

\* February 28<sup>th</sup> - Trinity Lutheran Church with guest speaker Pastor Tim Bever of First UMC.

\* March 6<sup>th</sup> - First Christian Church with speaker from Prince of Peace Catholic Church.

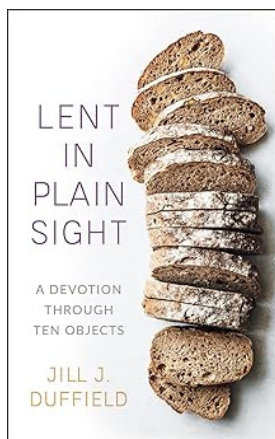
\* March 13<sup>th</sup> - Central Baptist Church with speaker Pastor Joseph Smeraglivolo from First Christian Church.

\* March 20<sup>th</sup> - Presbyterian Church

(with Congregational and Nazarene Churches) with speaker Pastor Sandy Kennedy from Faith Community.

\* March 27<sup>th</sup> - Prince of Peace at St Rose auditorium with speaker Pastor Adam Wutka from St. Mark Lutheran

The last luncheon is in the middle of Holy Week, with our services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday rounding out Easter Week worship here at First UMC.



## WORSHIP SERIES BASED ON 'LENT IN PLAIN SIGHT'

This Lent we will be focusing on "Lent in Plain Sight."

This worship series is based on a Lenten devotion by the same name written by Jill J. Duffield.

In the introduction to the

devotional, Duffield writes, "God works through the ordinary. Ordinary people, everyday objects, things we bump up against moment by moment."

Pastor Tim will draw from this devotional and each week we will focus on a

different everyday objects and how God may be reaching out to us through them.


Below is the dates and times of our Lenten services. We hope you will be able to be with us for each one.

### "Lent in Plain Sight"

Date	Time	Week	Scripture	Sermon Title
2/14/2024	7 pm	Ash Wednesday	Gen 2:4b-7, Ps119:25-32	Dust
2/18/2024	10 am	Lent 1	Matt 6:11, John 6:35-40	Bread
2/25/2024	9 & 11	Lent 2	Mark 8:34, Phil 2:7b-8	Cross
3/3/2024	9 & 11	Lent 3	Mark 12:15b, Luke 21:1	Coins
3/10/2024	9 & 11	Lent 4	Ex 3:1-6, Luke 15:11-24	Shoes
3/17/2024	10 am	Confirmation Sunday	Confirmation Verses	Oil
3/24/2024	9 & 11	Palm Sunday	Luke 19:36, Matt 5:38-42	Coats
3/28/2024	7 pm	Maundy Thursday	John 13:2b-4	Towels
3/29/2024	7 pm	Good Friday	John 19:1-2	Thorns
3/31/2024	7, 9, 11 am	Easter Sunday	Luke 24:1-3	Stones



# First United Methodist Church — February 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary 9 am on YouTube &amp; 11 am on Facebook 10 am Discovery Hour 4 pm Confirmation Class 4 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>5:30 pm TOPS 6 pm Girl Scout 7 pm Vintage Wheels 7 pm Train Club</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study 11:30 am UWF Board 5 pm Chancel Singers 5:30 Kids Klub/EYG/YG 5:30 pm MOPs</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9 am Blueprint Restoration Project</p>
<p><b>11</b></p> <p>9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary 9 am on YouTube &amp; 11 am on Facebook 10 am Discovery Hour 4 pm Confirmation Class 4 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>6 pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Noon-8 pm Healthy Families 5:30 pm TOPS</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>Ash Wednesday</b> 7 p.m. Service <b>Valentine’s Day</b> 9:30 am Bible Study 5 pm Chancel Singers 5:30 Kids Klub/EYG/YG</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9-3 Quilt Guild (“Garage Sale” in a.m.)</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Church Kitchen in Use</p>
<p><b>18</b> 9 am Discovery Hour <b>10 am Worship Service in Sanctuary</b> 11 am Luncheon in Fellowship Hall 4 pm Confirmation Class 4 pm Bell Choir 5 pm Dream Center Meal</p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>5:30 pm TOPS 6 pm Girl Scout</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study <b>Noon—Lenten Lunch</b> 1:30 pm UWF Circle 5 pm Chancel Singers 5:30 Kids Klub/EYG/YG 5:30 pm MOPs</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>
<p><b>25</b></p> <p>9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary 9 am on YouTube &amp; 11 am on Facebook 10 am Discovery Hour 4 pm Confirmation Class 4 pm Bell Choir</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>6 pm Girl Scouts 7 pm Christian Education</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>5:30 pm TOPS</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study 5 pm Chancel Singers 5:30 Kids Klub/EYG/YG</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band</p>	<p><b>Find our Calendar Online:</b></p> 	

SHARE in Worship — CELEBRATIONS & PRAYER CONCERNS



February Birthdays

- 1 Ashlyn Harbaugh
- 6 Barbara Unrein
- 7 Roger Fanshier
- 7 Ashlea Noonan
- 7 Andrea Bauer
- 8 Sidney Harbaugh
- 8 Kenny Miller

**February Anniversaries**

- 14 J.D. & Sonya Rein
- 19 Joe & Elaine Felke
- 29 Rob & Larissa Graham



- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 9 Zowie Harbaugh        | 18 Maddy Smith    |
| 11 Harlen Jerke         | 21 Kaylee Keilman |
| 13 Christie Snyder      | 24 Ellie Bretz    |
| 14 Jackie Curtis        | 25 Brant Harms    |
| 17 Imogene Christiansen | 26 Mahra Johnston |



WE REMEMBER THESE IN OUR PRAYERS:

The family of Margaret “Mickey” Murray

All Those Who are Involved in Cancer treatment and recovery:

Earl Schmidt, Amnee Brown (April Harbaugh’s sister), Dick Lytle, Linda Essmiller, Leonard Bunselmeyer, Lisa Baum, Kathy Rogers, Dana Cheney, Gary Cheney, Suzie Evans,

Terry Sauerwein, Carol Bird, Roberta Bartlett

All Those Who Reside in Nursing Homes/Care Facilities or are home-bound: (Aster Estates)

Jackie Curtis, Claire Stephenson, Pat Stonebraker and Ivy Webster; (Brookdale) Leonard French, Eugene Hoelscher, Harriet Herzberg, Eileen Ingersoll, and Mary

Joiner, ; (River Bend) Carol Thier, Earl & Janice Schmidt; (other facilities) Roberta Bartlett, Larned; Chuck Parmer, Larned; and Betty Erickson, Kansas City.

All Those Serving Our Country in the Military: All our men & women in the armed forces including Bryan Farthing.



BULLETIN BOARD HONORS NEIGHBORING

Check out the new bulletin board that honors the Neighboring Movement Project. Located near the office, the bulletin board was created by Judy Turner and Andrea Bauer.





# GROW in Faith

## WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND OUR CHURCH



### A FRIEND CAME TO VIST

A little robot, part of a USD 428 elementary school reading-program scavenger hunt, stood sentry outside the office/preschool entrance to the church beginning in January.



Children read a book about a robot, then follow the clues they are given to find the robots that are hidden around Great Bend. They have to take a picture with the robot to prove they found it.

If you see our little guy (or any others in the community), give him a smile and walk on by!

\*\*\*

### BRIGHTER CHURCH

Have you noticed that rooms/halls in the building are suddenly brighter?

Old light bulbs have been exchanged for LED bulbs, providing more energy- and cost-efficient light.

While the new bulbs haven't paid for themselves yet, the church's electric bill is substantially less.

Marc Webster is almost finished changing out all the bulbs and fixing light fixtures in the building.

Thank you, Marc!

\*\*\*

### IT HAPPENED IN THE BOILER ROOM

High winds and age caused a huge exhaust pipe to come falling down in the boiler room.



Old Pipe

Since there is little reason for frequent visits to the boiler room, the fallen pipe was luckily found and replaced quickly.

The new pipe was securely fastened in place and the old pipe was cut up and removed.



New Pipe

\*\*\*

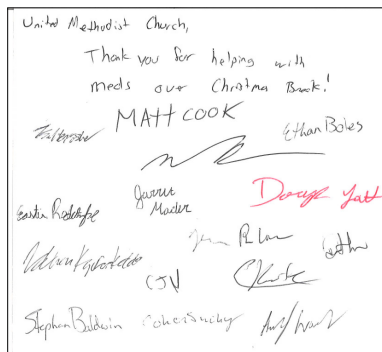
### THANK YOU, FUMC, FOR PROVIDING MEALS

United Methodist Church, Barton Wrestling wants to Thank You for

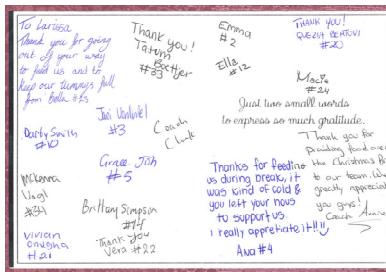


supporting our program.

Thank you for helping with meals over Christmas Break!



(Cards Signed by the Players)



Thank you for providing food over the Christmas Break to our team. We greatly appreciate you guys!

*Coach Annie Kassango*  
Assistant Girls Basketball Coach

\*\*\*

### ANNUAL DONATION APPRECIATED

The Food Bank Board and the families we help thank you for your donation of \$2,220.00 to the Food Bank.

We appreciate your donation very much.

*Food Bank Board*



Those who braved the cold and snow to come to church January 6<sup>th</sup> were greeted by this little guy.

January 2024 was plagued by snowy days and sub-zero temperatures in a storm pattern that dropped over a foot of snow over several days.

**First United Methodist Church**

**2123 Forest**

**Great Bend, KS 67530**



P: (620) 792-2148

**[www.GBFUMC.org](http://www.GBFUMC.org)**

**[FaceBook.com/GBFirstUMC](https://www.facebook.com/GBFirstUMC)**

Contact the office to receive this newsletter by email or find it on the website, [www.GBFUMC.org](http://www.GBFUMC.org).

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**WORSHIP @ FUMC!**

**SUNDAY**

- 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Discovery Hour
- 11:00 a.m. REVIVE

Virtual Worship Services:

- 9:00 a.m. on YouTube channel GBFUMC
- 11:00 a.m. on FaceBook/GBFirstUMC

**SPECIAL SUNDAYS & 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAYS**

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

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**COMMUNITY GROUPS** that meet each week, bi-weekly or monthly at FUMC are CORE Community, Girl Scouts, NA, TOPS, MOPS, Central Kansas Thread Benders Quilt Guild, Vintage Wheels of Great Bend, and Golden Belt Model Railroad Club.

**Contact us:**

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