



CLARION CONNECTION

SEPTEMBER 2024

GROW IN FAITH | SHARE IN WORSHIP | SERVE OTHERS

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www.gbfumc.org

SUNDAY

WORSHIP

9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Live-stream worship:

**YouTube
Channel GBFUMC**

5th Sunday Worship

10 a.m.

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We Are Pilgrims on a Journey

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." - Matthew 28:18-20

As September is upon us it is like a new year in a lot of ways. In the church we seem to have many "new year" markers. The start of school and fall activities seems to be a major one for much of the Christian church.

New starts can be a sacred experience where we can think deep thoughts about our connection to God and the church.

My focus personally likes to be on what connection there is between our personal call to being disciples and the call of the established church.

The United Methodist Church has a mission statement, "Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World."

If I think about how the original disciples were made, how they were called, how they learned, it was because of the time they were given by the teacher. Time was given for the disciples to learn from Jesus, to have opportunity to try things out, and more often than not, mess up in the learning process.

Time is so precious and limited. Things tend to interrupt the best of our intentions. Consider each day how you are taking the time to contemplate the big questions in your life.

We are called to transform the world by creating new disciples. I believe in all my heart the only way that the world will be transformed to a world of love and peace is through time and relationship.

Let's make that effort, together, and worry less about the "things."

Grace and Peace,

Zach

SHARE in Worship



Sundays In September

- September 1st — Preaching: Rev. Richard Fitzgerald (Communion)
- September 8th — Preaching: Todd Scheuerman
- September 15th — Preaching: Rev. Zach Anderson
- September 22th — Preaching: Cindy Heller, Western Kansas District Director Lay Servant Ministries
- September 29th — Preaching: Rev. Kathy Williams, Great Plains Conference - Director of Clergy Excellence

5th Sunday Service at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

- * Sunday Service times are 9 a.m. for the Traditional Service and 11 a.m. for the REVIVE! Service
- * One-Service Sundays happen on 5th Sundays, Holidays and Special-Event Days. Service is at 10 a.m., like for our 5th Sunday service this month on September 29th
- * If you can't worship with us in person, the services may be found on our YouTube channel, GBFUMC



COME PUZZLE OUT OUR 5TH SUNDAY SERVICE

“You Are an Important Piece of First UMC” is the theme of the September 29th Fifth Sunday Service.

Rev. Kathy Williams, Great Plains Conference Director of Clergy Excellence, will share God’s word with us.

Music will be provided by Marc Webster and Susan Tammen and will feature guest vocalist, Nadine Terry.

Volunteers are need to provide the breakfast

casseroles & yogurt parfaits that will be featured on the brunch menu.

Sign-up sheets will be in the back of the sanctuary if you want to volunteer to help with the meal.

So come worship together during this puzzling 5th



Sunday of worship!

AUGUST Attendance

	9:00	11:00	TTL
Aug. 4	48	42	90
Aug. 11	56	41	97
Aug. 18	62	25	87
Aug. 25	57	42	99

These numbers are for those who attended worship for the four Sundays in August

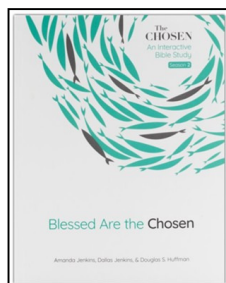
Wednesday Bible Study Focuses on ‘The Chosen’

Ladies Bible Study with Melanie Calcara will resume on Wednesday, September 4th.

For the first meeting, they will gather first at Great Bend Coffee at 9:30 a.m. then move to the church at

10:15 a.m.

All other meetings will be at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the church Conference Room. Their study will be centered on “The Chosen”, Season 2.



Melanie Calcara, Bible Study Leader

GROW in Faith

EXCITING THINGS HAPPENING FOR OUR YOUTH

Middle School and High School students are encouraged to come see what's happening on Wednesdays in our church.

The Mid-High Youth Group will share a meal with Kids Klub and the Elementary Youth Group at 5:30 p.m.

Then the youth will go up to their classroom for lessons, Bible study and games with their teachers.

The High School Youth



Group will meet start at 7 p.m. in the Youth Room Classroom kitchen, with a meal and/or treats.

The two youth groups will overlap for 30 minutes of combined fellowship.

The High School Youth Group will then have their

own lessons, Bible Study and games.

Todd Scheuerman, with assistance from Kaitlin Sill and Stephanie Harbaugh will be the principal teachers, although other members of the congregation will at various times be helping with the two youth groups.

If you are interested in either class, please join the group on any Wednesday night.



Mid-High Youth Group
Meets on Wednesdays
5:30-7:30 p.m.

High School Youth Group
Meets on Wednesdays
7-8:30 p.m.

EYG KICKS OFF NEW SCHOOL YEAR WITH 10' SUNDAE

Continuing with a long tradition established by teacher Vivian Harbaugh, the Elementary Youth Group (EYG) kicked off the 2024-2025 school year with a 10' banana split.

The youth create the creamy confection in a rain gutter, using multi-flavored ice cream, bananas, nuts, whipped cream, sprinkles, chocolate sauce, and various other toppings.

Once it was completed, EYG shared the confection with Kids Klub, middle school and high school youth groups, and a few parent helpers.

Thanks to everyone who helped with this project.



In class, EYG will start learning about their Bibles and begin the series "Move".

If you haven't been to youth group yet come give it a try, something fun is always happening!

Vivian Harbaugh
EYG Teacher

GROW in Faith



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

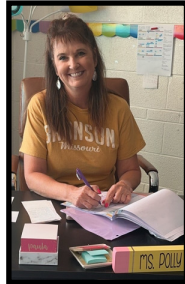


Birthday parties are fun for NAP students!

Kaylee Keilman,
NAP Director

New Teacher, Excited Students Kick Off New School Year

Noah's Ark Preschool started the year off with one new teacher, some different class assignments for returning teachers, and a bunch of excited children.



Ms. Kaylee is now teaching the Pre-K class, and Ms. Paula (NAP's new teacher) and Ms. Terri are teaching the Beginners and In-Betweeners.

Classrooms have been freshened up over the summer, with some new décor and activities.

Each classroom has a "refrigerator" bulletin board where students may post pictures of



themselves and their families, thus helping their classmates become familiar with their classmates outside of the classroom.

Ms. Kaylee's class is doing Show and Share on Fridays, where students may bring something from home to share with their school friends.

The students are studying

letters A-E; numbers 1-5; the triangle shape; and the colors red, green and blue.

There will be no school on September 2nd and no afternoon class on September 26th.

Shane Boultinghouse from *Portraits by Shane* will be doing class and individual pictures on September 18th.



Thank you so much to all of you who participate in this project!

Jann Sherman,
Mission Chair

Time Is Ripe to Find Deals on Potential Shoebox Fillers

It will be time to fill shoeboxes sooner than we think! The boxes will be available in a few weeks, but in the meantime, I hope you are watching the sales on school supplies.

Now is a good time to pick up small items like those listed below.

Ideas for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes:

Bar soap, washcloths, toothbrushes, combs, socks, underwear/t-shirts, hairclips/ponytail holders, hats/gloves, sunglasses, ball caps/bandanas, pencil sharpeners, pencils/pens, erasers, stickers, crayons/markers/colored pencils, scissors, paper, glue sticks, coloring books, small cars, small balls, small stuffed

animals, small dolls, harmonicas/whistles, play jewelry, yo-yos.

Remember, **NO LIQUIDS, TOOTHPASTE, CANDY, WAR TOYS, KNIVES, CAMOUFLAGE ITEMS, OR BREAKABLES,** please!

Use your imagination to find things to brighten a child's world (just be sure they fit in the box)!

SERVE Others

There's No Cap! On Wednesday Night Fun

Kids Klub on Wednesday Nights will start a new curriculum, **No Cap!**

Wednesday, Sept. 4th:

All the Feels

Scripture: Matthew 5:4
Those Who Mourn

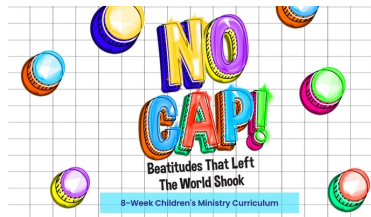
Often, we don't want "all the feels" especially if those include sadness. But Jesus said that those who mourn are blessed because they will be comforted.

Objective: Kids will learn "Blessed are those who mourn."

Wednesday Sept. 11st:
Meek

Scripture: Matthew 5:5

It might seem natural for some of us to be dramatic and attention seeking and



too much to handle, but Jesus said that it would be the meek, not the "extra" who would inherit the earth.

Objective: Kids will learn "Blessed are the meek."

Wednesday Sept. 18th:
Rent-Free

Scripture: Matthew 5:6
Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness

Sometimes we get so preoccupied with an idea or a person or a thing that happened that they live "rent-free" in our brains. Jesus

told us that our focus should be on righteousness – so much that we hunger and thirst for it.

Objective: Kids will learn "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness."

Wednesday Sept. 25th:

Cray Cray

Scripture: Matthew 5:7
Merciful

Showing mercy to someone instead of paying them back for what they did may seem downright "cray cray." But Jesus said that merciful people are blessed for they will also be shown mercy when they need it.

Objective: Kids will learn "Blessed are the merciful."



Larissa Graham,
Director of
Children's Ministries

Children's Church

Children's Church is at 11 a.m. each Sunday. Youth join Ms Larissa after Children's Time in the REVIVE Worship Service for their own time of worship.

Sept. 1st: **Keep It Together**

Scripture: Luke 12:8-12,
Acknowledge Jesus

Objective: Kids will learn, "I can boldly talk about Jesus with others."

Sept. 8th: **Focus**

Scripture: Acts 6:8-15, 7:48-60, The Stoning of Stephen

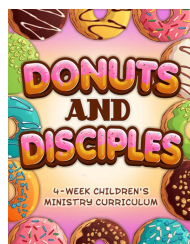
Objective: Kids will learn, "Nothing in this life is worth more than knowing Jesus."

Sept. 15th: **Stay Calm**

Scripture: Acts 3:1-10, 4:1-10, 21-22, Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin

Objective: Kids will learn, "I can trust God to be with me always."

Children's Church will be starting a new curriculum:



Donuts and Disciples.

Sunday Sept. 22nd: Frosted With Sprinkles

Scripture: Matthew 9:9-13,
The Calling of Matthew

Objective: Kids will learn, "Becoming a disciple means admitting I'm sinful and need God's help."

Sunday Sept. 29th —

Children will join the Fifth Sunday celebration in Fellowship Hall.

Ms. Larissa will continue the Donuts and Disciples studies in October.



Larissa Graham,
Director of
Children's Ministries

SHARE In Worship



Methodist Women Prepare/Deliver Goodie Bags to Shut-ins

Our Methodist women's group prepared over 30 goodie bags for our shut-ins and other recipients this past month.

Preschool children. If you'd like to help, they'll be working on the project at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 25th.



Circle Meeting
1:30 p.m.
September 18th

Workshop
1:30 p.m.
September 25th

A service project they've done for several years, the women gather fun and needed items to fill the bags they deliver.

This month, the women will be making snowmen as gifts for Noah's Ark

The group, formerly part of the United Women in Faith, has voted to disaffiliate with district/state/national

organization, but to continue to meet and do the circle meetings, service projects and other activities they have always done.

LaVonne Gerritzen
President



Planning Begins Now On Various Levels

Hosting

Our church will be hosting the annual Charge Conference this year.

It is set for Sunday, November 3rd at 3 p.m.

As we are hosting, we'll need volunteers to help make sweet breads or cookies to serve to our guests from the 12 churches that will be present.

Look for a sign-up sheet next month.

Committee Reports

Between now and November, the annual reports from all church committees must be completed for Charge Conference

Rev. Zach Anderson will be helping us with these



Charge Conference

reports this year.

He would like to meet with all the committee chair people during the Discover Hour or after the Revive service on Sunday, September 15th to discuss briefly what each group needs to be preparing for the conference.

If you can't meet with Zach on that day, please contact the church office to make other arrangements.

Tithes and Offerings

As our church moves forward into a time of setting up budgets for the new year, the question of

stewardship, with its need of tithes and offerings, is raised.


The practice of tithing dates back to the Old Testament, when it was a way for people to give a tenth of their income to the church for religious purposes. The word "tithe" comes from the Old English word teogothian, which means "tenth".

Thanks to everyone who faithfully tithes to help keep our church operating.

We will have more information about stewardship as we draw closer to budget/Charge Conference time.

If you'd like to learn more about tithing now, contact our finance office.

First United Methodist Church — September 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary & live on YouTube 10 am Discovery Hour 3 pm AME—FH 4 pm AME Service/Sanctuary	2 LARBOR DAY Church Office Closed NAP No Classes	3 5:30 pm TOPS 7 pm Vintage Wheels	4 9:30 am Bible Study 5:30-7:15 pm Kids Klub/ EYG/MHYG 5:30 pm MomCo 7-8:30 pm SHYG	5 1:30 pm UMW Board Mtg 5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band	6	7
8 9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary & live on YouTube 10 am Discovery Hour	9 6-7:30 GS Troop	10 5:30 pm TOPS	11 9:30 am Bible Study 5:30-7:15 pm Kids Klub/ EYG/MHYG 7-8:30 pm SHYG	12 5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band	13	14 10 am SPRC Meeting
15 9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary & live on YouTube 10 am Discovery Hour	16	17 5:30 pm TOPS	18 9:30 am Bible Study 1:30 pm UMW Mtng 5:30-7:15 pm Kids Klub/ EYG/MHYG 5:30 pm MomCo 7-8:30 pm SHYG	19 5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band	20 9-3 Quilt Guild	21
22 9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary & live on YouTube 10 am Discovery Hour	23 6-7:30 GS Troop 7 pm Christian Education	24 5:30 pm TOPS	25 9:30 am Bible Study 1:30 pm UMW Workshop 5:30-7:15 pm Kids Klub/ EYG/MHYG 7-8:30 pm SHYG	26 No NAP PM Classes 5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band	27	28 Freund — FH 12-4 p.m.
29 10 am 5 th Sunday Brunch/Service in FH	30			Find our Calendar Online: 		

SHARE in Worship — CELEBRATIONS & PRAYER CONCERNS



Mary Joiner

is turning **102** on September 12th.

Let's celebrate her with a card shower!

Care of:
Brookdale Rm 131
1206 S Patton Rd.
Great Bend KS
67530



Celebrating 100 Years

The family of Mary Carpenter, mother of Bill Carpenter, will celebrate her 100th birthday on September 17, 2024, with a card shower:

Please send cards to:

Mary Carpenter
1971 NW 50th Ave
St. John, KS. 67576



SEPTEMBER Birthdays

- 3 Aaron Carpenter
- 4 Margaret Bartholomew
- 7 Michael Allison
- 7 Tammie Buckbee
- 7 Kaden Deines
- 8 Ali Rein
- 8 Samuel Phillips
- 9 Alexander Sepelveda
- 9 Ashlyn Loss
- 9 Calista Loss



- 9 Norah Loss
- 10 Rhonda Phillips
- 12 Mary Joiner
- 13 Jim Ireland
- 13 Karen Garrett
- 13 Courtney Barton
- 13 Nolan Barton
- 16 Brooks Calcara
- 17 Shirley Henning
- 18 Larissa Graham
- 24 Randall Fanshier
- 24 Shawndra Harbaugh
- 26 Kolby Burnham
- 26 Rhonda Penka
- 27 Evonna Freund



SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

- 1 Rod & Charlene Engleman
- 4 Frank & Shannon Deines III
- 6 Michael & Sonja Yarmer
- 15 Merle & Vivian Evers
- 20 Ryan & Ashlea Noonan
- 27 Marc Webster
- 28 Lisa Baum
- 29 Tristian Unruh
- 30 Charlene Engleman

WE REMEMBER THESE IN OUR PRAYERS:

The Families of Earl Allen Schmidt and Jerry Jasnoski (*Wayne Bank's son*)

All Those Who are Involved in Cancer treatment and recovery:

Amnee Brown (April Harbaugh's sister), Dick Lytle, Linda Essmiller, Leonard Bunselmeyer, Lisa Baum, Kathy Rogers, Dana Cheney,

Gary Cheney, Suzie Evans, Carol Bird, Roberta Bartlett, Bill Koelling, Valerie Peak

All Those Who Reside in Nursing Homes/Care Facilities or are home-

bound: (*Aster Estates*) Jackie Curtis, Claire Stephenson, and Ivy Webster; (*Azaria*) Cindy Phillips; (*Brookdale*) Harriet Herzberg, Eugene

Hoelscher, Eileen Ingersoll, and Mary Joiner; (*River Bend*) Imogene Christenson, Carol Thier, Janice Schmidt; (*other facilities*) Roberta Bartlett, Larned.

All Those Serving Our Country in the Military:

All our men & women in the armed forces including Bryan Farthing.

GROW in Faith



The church was busy in August, helping with meals for Barton County College athletes' meals (above pictures) and holding a Blessing of the Backpack Sunday (below pictures). Our people prepared three meals for the athletes, who come for practices days in advance of the Student Union cafeteria opens.



Blessings

Rev. Zach Anderson was with us on Blessing of the Backpack Sunday, blessing our students, our teachers and our youth receiving bibles as they move up into another class level.

Bibles were given to: 3rd graders moving from Kids Club to Elementary Youth Group (EYG): **Wesley Bauer, Zowie Harbaugh and Ava Tripp**; and 7th graders moving from EYG to Mid-High Youth Group: **Jayden Mayhugh, Brenna Prendergast and Zelaina Tripp Harbaugh**

Teacher Appreciation Thank You gifts were given to: **Kaylee Keilman, Vivian Harbaugh, Larissa Graham, Dennis Sherman, Melanie Calcara, Todd Scheuerman, and Andrea Bauer.** (Not pictured: Paula Stocker, Terri Kohls)



First United Methodist Church

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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.

WORSHIP @ FUMC!

SUNDAY

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

Virtual Worship Services:

- Both Services on YouTube channel
GBFUMC

SPECIAL SUNDAYS & 5TH SUNDAYS

10:00 a.m. Worship Service (see church calendar)

COMMUNITY GROUPS that meet each week, bi-weekly or monthly at FUMC are CORE Community, Girl Scouts, NA, TOPS, The MomCo (MOPS), Central Kansas Thread Benders Quilt Guild, and Vintage Wheels of Great Bend.

Contact us:

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grahaml@bartonccc.edu

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finance@gbfumc.org

Coordinator of Worship Arts, Marc Webster

kmsband@yahoo.com

Noah's Ark Preschool Director, Kaylee Keilman

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Custodian, Marc Webster

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