

**JULY 2024**

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

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**SUNDAY**

**WORSHIP**

9:00, 11:00 a.m.

Live-stream worship:

**YouTube  
Channel GBFUMC**

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

<i>July Worship</i>	2
<i>VBS</i>	3
<i>Noah's Ark Preschool</i>	4
<i>First Kids</i>	5
<i>Pop-Up Basketball</i>	6
<i>Calendar</i>	7
<i>Celebrations &amp; Prayer List</i>	8
<i>Scholarship Thank You</i>	9

## A Time of Transition

“For everything there is a season  
and a time for every matter under heaven”

-Ecclesiastes 3:1

Greetings in the name of Christ!

The words of the author of Ecclesiastes ring true during this time in the life of the church. In times of transition, so many different emotions and feelings come out. Especially in an unplanned, late in the appointment season announcement of a pastor’s departure. While we do not have an announcement for a permanent pastor for Great Bend First UMC currently, we do have plans to share with you to ensure leadership in the interim.

First, let me introduce myself. I’m Rev. Zach Anderson, and as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, I am the district superintendent that relates to Great Bend. At the recent session of the Great Plains Annual Conference, members approved new district boundaries in our conference. I am now the superintendent of the Western Kansas District. This district brings together the Dodge City and Hays districts, and parts of the Hutchinson and Wichita West districts. Transitions are all around!

Starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, I will be one of two pastors who will be helping cover your congregation. I will be with you in worship at least once a month to preach and offer the sacraments. Along with me will be Rev. Richard Fitzgerald. Rev. Fitzgerald is on conference staff as a Conference Circuit Pastor. He will also preach monthly and help schedule the Sundays he or I are not present. I will be meeting weekly with staff to make sure the administrative and program plans continue to move forward. As for pastoral care, we are in the process of finalizing those plans to have someone who will take care of those needs on a regular schedule who can be in the community. Rev. Fitzgerald and I will also step into those roles as needed.

I’m looking forward to being in worship with you in the interim period and getting to know your congregation more. The Staff-Parish Relations Committee and I realize this is not the plan we hoped to have in place, but I’m grateful we are able to walk alongside you and offer leadership to keep your ministry and witness for Christ moving forward in the Great Bend community.

I will be preaching July 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> and look forward to our shared journey together.



**Rev. Zach Anderson**  
District Superintendent  
Western Kansas District

*Grace and Peace,*

*Zach*

# SHARE in Worship



## Food Challenge Ends During July 7<sup>th</sup> Worship

Winners of the Camping vs Glamping Food Challenge will be announced at worship services on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

A “For the Beauty of the Earth” theme for the service will feature Rev. Zach Anderson leading worship and officiating over communion.

Pastor Zach, our new District Supervisor, will preach on “Getting Prepped.”

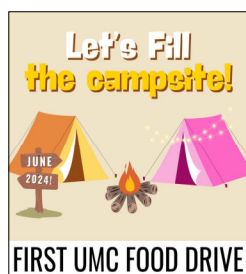


Scripture readings for the day will focus on Psalm 56:3 & 2 Timothy 3:10-17.

So wear your favorite camping/glamping outfit and come praise the Lord

with camp songs and worship.

Worship this Sunday will kick-off a week of camp fun as VBS’s Camp Firelight begins at 5:45 p.m.



## Thank You from Tim and Marva



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

You are all so amazing. The cookies were so delicious and we ate way more than our share.

We read each and every card and appreciate the kind

words that were shared and grateful for the gifts of love. We are so blessed to have served the Great Bend mission field with such inspiring people. We know God is alive here and will continue doing tremendous works. Thank you for allowing us to be

part of your church family, we will treasure the memories we take with us. May God Bless each of you.

*Grace & Peace  
Pastor Tim and Marva*

Pastor Tim and Marva Bever were celebrated on June 9<sup>th</sup>. A reception was held during the Discovery Hour, featuring warm wishes, handshakes, home-made cookies, dozens of cards, a Love Offering and a few tears.



### June Attendance

	9:00	11:00	TTL
June 2	57	25	82
June 9	67	46	113
June 16	62	46	108
June 23	50	28	78
June 30	Not Available		

These numbers are for those who attended worship for the five Sundays in June

## GROW in Faith

### VBS Starts July 7<sup>th</sup> — Enroll Children Now

With the start of July, the VBS committee will start decorating the church sanctuary and various rooms in earnest on Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 p.m.

If anyone would like to come help, please come to the sanctuary to get your assignment.

VBS starts Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 p.m. Registration is online now or there will be paper copies available that week.

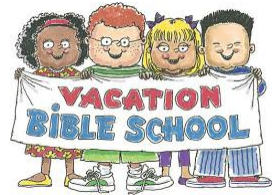
During VBS the participants will learn the bible verse: “Whenever I’m afraid, I put my trust in you.” (Psalm 56:3).

The daily focuses will be:

- We trust God to go with us!
- We trust God to lead the way!
- We trust God to share wisdom!
- We trust God to give us peace!
- We trust God to spark joy!

And VBS activities will cover the bible stories of

- God goes to Jericho,
- Ruth chooses to go,
- Young Jesus shares wisdom,
- Jesus calms the storm,
- and the good news sparks joy!



**Children ages  
3-years-old to  
sixth grade  
are invited to  
come to  
Camp Firelight  
July 7-11,  
5:45-8 p.m.**

VBS participants will also enjoy daily snacks, crafts, recreation and science activities along with the VBS Sam, Camp Counselor and Lumen, (Lu) the lightning bug.

#### Mission Project

This year’s VBS mission project is for Brit Spaugh Zoo and participants will be collecting items from the donation list as well as monetary funds to help with the local zoo’s needs.

Here is the zoo’s wish list:

#### Donation List

- Spices
  - Fruit baby food
  - Mirrors
  - Meat baby food
  - Milk crates
  - Honey
  - Phonebooks
  - Unsweetened Cereal
  - Perfumes/cologne (the stinkier the better)
  - Molasses
  - Vaporub
  - Canvas
  - Non-toxic acrylic paint
  - Kong toys
  - Radios
  - Dried Fruit
  - Paper eggs cartons
  - Unsalted nuts & seeds
- \* NOTE: All food must be unopened and not expired*

#### Come Help

#### Set Up

#### Camp Firelight

Saturday,  
July 6<sup>th</sup>  
2-4 p.m.

#### VBS Registration

Use QR code  
or contact church office



# GROW in Faith



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

## SUMMER PROGRAM PROVIDES LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Keeping up on social skills, dexterity skills and learning activities has highlighted the June summer classes. The children took a field trip to the library, blew bubbles, did several craft/art projects (including a Father's Day wood plaque), and played on the indoor and outdoor play toys/equipment.

In July, they will be learning about Independence Day and popping a few "popper" fireworks, plus making tie-dyed t-shirts and a picture frame featuring a picture of themselves.

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Enrollment for the Fall Semester continues.

Contact Ms. Kaylee if you have a child you'd like to enroll. Children ages 3 years old to Pre-Kindergarten.

The Christian-based preschool offers two sessions:

- Morning Class - 8:00-11:00 a.m. Monday-Friday
- Afternoon Class - 12:00-3:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday

**Kaylee Keilman,**  
NAP Director



# SERVE Others

## Youth Take Active Role in Worship Services



Our youth took more of a participation role in June worship services.

While he’s been one of the acolytes for some time, Brock Bauer joined his father, Rob, on Father’s Day to share in giving the message. Rob spoke about his experiences at Church Conference and Brock spoke about his experience at his first church summer camp.

Brock attended Camp Lake Side near Scott City, about 2 hours east of Great Bend.

Bible lessons were included in the daily curriculum of camp. Brock said he found the bible lessons, which were sometimes included within hikes, were



interesting. He particularly liked 1 Corinthians 12:17. Of the passage, Brock said it teaches kids about the body of Christ. “God gave us all our ... talents and if we put them together it builds the body of Christ.”

Sydney James played her violin twice for Special Music in the Traditional Worship Service. She



played “Amazing Grace” and “Take My Life and Let It Be.”

## First Kids to Meet Only Once in July - on July 24<sup>th</sup>

First UMC’s youth groups combine in the summer for fun activities every other week, with Larissa Graham leading their activities of worship and crafts.

In July, First Kids will only meet once, on Wednesday July 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

They group will continue their Sumner Road Trip where they will talk about Tourist Traps.



Usually tourist traps don’t live up to the hype and they just distract tourist from getting to their vacation destination.

When the Israelites lost

their faith in God, they built a huge golden calf to worship, forgetting that only our God is the one true God.

VBS will be the second week in July.



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

# SHARE In Worship



## POP-UP FUN SCHEDULED ON BASKETBALL COURT

Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, the Evangelism team will be hosting a Pop-Up Basketball Fun Competition from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. The event will include some fun games, tasty summer treats, and just fun for the whole family.

The event will take place in the First UMC parking lot on the east side of the building. While there's only one permanent goal, a portable one will be brought in to facilitate playing a full basketball game.

So bring the family and your friends and come enjoy this Pop-Up Fun event!

See attached flyer at right.



**Wednesday  
July 31<sup>st</sup>  
6:00-7:00 p.m.**



## LOOKING FOR NEW PEOPLE TO KEEP PROGRAMS GOING

After more than a decade, our bulletin board creator and Phoebe's Kitchen delivery person would like to step down and let someone take over these ministries.

Judy Turner still wants to supervise the making of meals for Phoebe's Kitchen,

a ministry that makes meals and takes them to members who are ill or have been in the hospital.

However, she'd like people to take over the delivery of meals to people who need them.

If anyone would like to help

with the Phoebe's Kitchen ministry and/or would like to step up to work on changing bulletin boards in the church, contact the church office.

*Note: Judy has just redone the bulletin boards in question. Take a look when in the church!*



## Puppets Donated to Church Youth Programs

Thank you to Bob Loss for donating some puppets made by his late wife, Marilyn, to the church to be used by our young people.

The puppets — Punch and Judy and a few others — delighted one young person who thought the dog puppet fun to make talk and interact

with people in the office.

The church has a puppet stage (which will be in use during VBS) and some of

the children's leaders said they'd enjoy using the puppets in their programs.

Thank you, Bob!

Punch and Judy is a traditional puppet show featuring Mr. Punch and his wife Judy. First appearing in England in 1662, the performance consists of a sequence of short scenes, featuring the intentional violence of Punch's slapstick.



# First United Methodist Church — JULY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	7 pm Education Meeting	5:30 pm TOPS 7 pm Vintage Wheels		<b>Independence Day</b> Church Office Closed No NAP Summer Class 7 pm NA		
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary & live on YouTube 10 am Discovery Hour		5:30 pm TOPS		5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA		
	<b>Vacation Bible School — 5:45 –8 p.m.</b>					
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary & live on YouTube 10 am Discovery Hour		5:30 pm TOPS		5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band	9-3 Quilt Guild	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary & live on YouTube 10 am Discovery Hour	5:30 pm Finance Meeting	5:30 pm TOPS	5:30 First Kids	5:30 pm CORE Community 7 pm NA 7 pm Praise Band		
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	 Find our Calendar Online:		
9 am and 11 am – Services in Sanctuary & live on YouTube 10 am Discovery Hour		5:30 pm TOPS				

# SHARE in Worship — CELEBRATIONS & PRAYER CONCERNS



## JULY Birthdays

1 Melanie Calcara

2 Joe Felke

6 Mason Bauer

6 Vaughn Goerl

6 Brice Kennedy

7 Owen Sager

8 Danae Cory

9 Leonard Bunselmeyer Jr.

10 Alisha Mawhirter



10 Jace Deines

11 Nancy Carroll

15 Brock McPherson

16 Dennis Sherman

16 Alina Hinson

18 Barbara Lear

18 Jacob Fanshier

18 Bonnie Sarff

19 John Schreiber

20 Jan Elliott

20 Don Young

23 Delora Baldwin

28 Jill Boultinghouse

29 Susan Young

29 Bradley Grant

29 Sonja Yarmer

30 Carl Anderson

## JULY Anniversaries

18 Taylor & Kelly Calcara

19 Dan & Dorothy Hertel

19 Michael & Vivian Harbaugh

25 Kelvin & Melody Johnston

29 Todd & Kelsey Scheuerman



## WE REMEMBER THESE IN OUR PRAYERS:



**The Family of Leonard French**

**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,**

**Carol Bird, Roberta Bartlett**

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

**Jackie Curtis, Claire Stephenson, and Ivy Webster:** (*Brookdale*) **Harriet Herzberg, Eugene Hoelscher, Eileen Ingersoll, and Mary Joiner ;** (*River Bend*)

**Imogene Christenson, Carol Thier, Earl & Janice Schmidt;** (*other facilities*) **Roberta Bartlett, 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.*



# GROW in Faith

## ACTIONS AT CHURCH CONFERENCE CHANGE LOCALLY

Rob Bauer attended Church Conference this year as our church's lay representative.

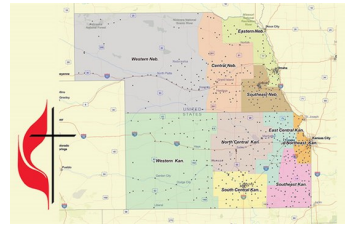
In his highlights of the event, Rob said there were several key changes made.

One change was changing boundaries of our conference's districts, which put our church on the eastern edge of the Western Kansas District, with a new

District Superintendent, Rev. Zach Anderson, who is located in Dodge City.

They also approved giving Church Deacons the right to meet the sacramental and communion needs of churches, rites formally allowed only to Elders (clergy).

Rob, who has been our lay delegate for several years,



wants to step down. Anyone who would feels called to be our lay delegate for future conferences, should contact Rob or the church office.



Thank you for the scholarship. This is very appreciated and will help me through college. Thanks again, Ben Espinosa

## Thank you notes

from the a couple of the students who received scholarships for 2024-2025 school year.

**First United Methodist Church**

**2123 Forest**

**Great Bend, KS 67530**



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**[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:

- Both Services on YouTube channel  
GBFUMC

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

- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 

**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:**

**Children's Director, Larissa Graham**  
[grahaml@bartonccc.edu](mailto:grahaml@bartonccc.edu)

**Treasurer, Sarah Schwartz**  
[finance@gbfumc.org](mailto:finance@gbfumc.org)

**Secretary, Rebecca Peak**  
[secretary@gbfumc.org](mailto:secretary@gbfumc.org)

**Coordinator of Worship Arts, Marc Webster**  
[kmsband@yahoo.com](mailto:kmsband@yahoo.com)

**Noah's Ark Preschool Director, Kaylee Keilman**  
[NAPdirector@gbfumc.org](mailto:NAPdirector@gbfumc.org)

**Custodian, Marc Webster**  
[custodian@gbfumc.org](mailto:custodian@gbfumc.org)