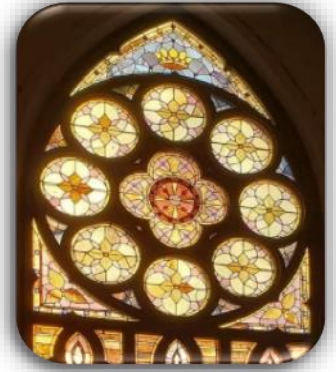


The Link: Connected in Christ

June 2023



Our Mission:
“Bring People
to Christ”

Church Service Times

**Saturday Chapel
Worship 5:00 PM,
in-person worship**

**Sunday Sanctuary
Worship 9:30 AM,
in-person worship.**

**Sunday Children's
Church 10 AM**

**Live Worship
Streamed Online
Sunday 9:30 AM
Facebook, YouTube,
and KNIA**

**Radio Worship
Worship with us via
the radio at 1320 AM,
95.3 FM or 94.3 FM at
9:30 AM. on Sundays.**



STRENGTH FOR THE DAY “BIBLICAL COMMUNITY”

And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor

with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. (Acts 2:43-47)

If we could travel back through time and sit down in their homes and ask the early believers “why” they were meeting together they would most likely answer: “Everything we do, we believe in following Jesus’ way of life.”

They simply could not believe in Jesus and remain isolated from each other because the Jesus they believed in lived his life --- with others.

It's no surprise that "community" is part of Jesus' nature. When he began his three year ministry he rounded up some others to walk through life with him.

In the four Gospels, when Jesus is calling his disciples at the beginning of his ministry, have you ever thought about his recruiting strategy? What was his end goal? I mean, since he's God, he could easily have walked down the beach and assembled an army of 12,000 men to overthrow the government by force. He could have called together 1,200 and given them amazing powers. But he didn't do either. In fact, he didn't even call 120. Basically, Jesus just formed the very first "small group," as we call it in the church today. He launched his ministry with 12 people. He put together a tiny community of very diverse and, frankly, mostly unimpressive followers. Why? Well, because Jesus wasn't planning a coup or forming a cult --- He was building a community.

They not only heard teachings about community and how to go about it from Jesus. They saw what community was. And they learned quickly that Jesus was the one who would keep them together.

Jesus is the "why" for anything they did. If you asked them why they met together they would say, "Because Jesus did." If you asked them why they prayed they would say "Jesus did." If you asked them why they forgave each other, they would say "Jesus did."

Community created by a focus on Christ changed their lives. And it can change ours.

Unity will come in community when Jesus is our "why?" Unity in community will happen when we do what he would do in the way he would do it. And Jesus would challenge the status quo of our isolated world --- and create community!

He'd even tell us today to "create habitat for community." I think Jesus is smiling down on our congregation and on our efforts to create an Outdoor Life Center and Pickleball Pavilion --- creating habitat for community to take place!

Friends, the Bible says this in Romans 12:5 "We belong to each other and each of us needs all the others." That's what fellowship is all about. We all need each other.

To properly define biblical community, look no further than the last few syllables in the phrase — "unity." This is both the point and the practice of the whole concept.

So here are three reasons that help answer the WHY of Biblical Community:

1. We fellowship with other believers to keep our relationship with God strong.

Biblical community will, first, keep our vertical connection — our relationship with God — strong. Nothing will hold us accountable and encourage us to follow Jesus quite like other Christ followers.

2. We fellowship with other believers to keep our relationships with others strong.

Biblical community is also the best way to keep our horizontal relationships on the right and righteous path. Other Christians can help us strengthen and increase our ties to both those in the church, and

also outside the church. Together, we can encourage and build each other up inside the body, while praying for and challenging each other to reach out to those who don't yet know Christ.

Hebrews 10:25 "And let us not neglect meeting together, as is the habit of some. Instead let us encourage one another." God's saying, "Hey, I created you for community! I want you to meet together, in part, so you can give and receive the blessing of encouragement to each other through your presence and personality and giftedness.

3. We fellowship with other believers to accomplish God's will on earth.

We help each other serve. Ephesians 2:10 "For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." God has a purpose for your life and part of that purpose is to work with other believers to accomplish God's will.

Friends, our church is offering many wonderful opportunities to gather with our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the summer months in order to accomplish God's will and strengthen our relationships with each other. Helping with our Children's Day Camps, Vacation Bible School, Conspiracy of Kindness projects, and more are all great ways to experience the blessing of unity in community.

I look forward to being together with you, in Jesus' name!

Peace,
Pastor Jamie

PICNIC ON THE LAWN!



Please join us for a picnic on the lawn on Wednesday, May 31 at 4:30-6:00pm hosted by Cooking for a Cause. We will be grilling!! Brat Patties, hot dogs, baked beans, chips, cookies, tea and lemonade.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH, IS MISSION U FOR YOU?



LIVING THE GOOD NEWS
Reflecting God's Love

Mission U 2023

*Living the Kin-dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer
as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation*

United Women in Faith or any women in our church, would you like to attend Mission U? It is July 15 at Central college in Pella. It is a one day study Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a spiritual practice for social transformation.

We will leave the church at 7:20 am and return around 4:30 pm. If you would like to go please get a hold of Jeanne Kelley (jmk50138@yahoo.com) or (641) 891-5740) or Kitty Shepherd (wkshepherd@iowatelecom.net or cell 641-891-7590) the dead line to sign is June 23.

SINGLES BIBLE STUDY GROUP



**DID YOU
KNOW?**

Did you know we have started a singles bible study group? We meet once a month. Next meeting is June 20th at 6:30 pm at the public library.

We are starting with a book titled "Forgiving What You Can't Forget" by #1 New York Times Bestselling Author, Lysa Terkeurst. Forgiveness is the very thing God designed to help heal the hurting human heart.

Please tell your single friends who might be interested in a singles bible study.



MEALS ON WHEELS



Meals on Wheels delivery volunteers are needed Monday, July 10, 2023 through Thursday, July 13, 2023 for all 4 routes. Please reply to this email or sign up in the Narthex if you are

interested in volunteering for any of these routes.

Volunteering for Meals on Wheels is a great way to make a huge impact in a short amount of time. By delivering meals you bring healthy food and a friendly visit to people in the community. Anyone can deliver meals, and it's a great volunteer opportunity for families and individuals of all ages. Sign up today and find out how easy and rewarding it is to bring nourishment and independence to your neighbors! Thank you.



CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Can you believe summer is here already? Neither can I, but we have a ton of fun Children's, Youth, and Family activities planned for this summer. Be sure to check them out! Don't forget to follow our Facebook Page, First United Methodist Church, Knoxville, IA, for regular updates on upcoming events. If you have any questions, please contact me at lpetersen@kfumc.com.

Living Way Youth Meetings



- Summer Youth Group
 - June 25th, 5-8pm, BBQ & Games
 - July 22nd-23rd, Service Weekend in Des Moines
 - August 27th, Bonfire
- Youth Group t-shirts are available to order, to see the design or place an order, please contact me. All youth going into 6th – 12th grade will receive a free shirt. Shirts are available to purchase for all non-youth.

Children's Church

Will resume in September.

Pathfinders

Mark your calendars for our summer Family BBQ on June 29th. Watch your email for more details. Please RSVP by emailing or calling me by June 26th.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Darts with Dad

June 11th, 2023 from 10:45am-12pm

Guys, this one is designed especially for you! Join us after service on June 11th for a fun, family friendly nerf gun war on the front lawn to celebrate all the awesome men in your life. Bring your own nerf guns and darts. Refreshments will be provided.

Volunteers Needed



We need volunteers to help with our day camps and VBS this summer. If you are interested in volunteering for any of the

above events, please contact me (Lauren Petersen, lpetersen@kfumc.com or 641-842-3712) as soon as possible.

God's Laboratory Summer Day Camps

- June 15th – 9am-12pm
- July 6th – 9am-12pm
- August 3rd – 9am-12pm

A poster for "GOD'S LABORATORY DAY CAMPS" from the First United Methodist Church. The poster has a green background with a stylized atom symbol on the left and a beaker on the right. The text reads: "FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH", "GOD'S LABORATORY DAY CAMPS", "Explore the Bible through Science", "JUNE 15TH, 2023 - THE STORY OF CREATION", "JULY 6TH, 2023 - NOAH'S ARK & THE FLOOD", "AUGUST 3RD, 2023 - POWER OF GOD", "Kids ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to join us for our upcoming summer day camps where we will explore bible stories through fun, interactive science experiments, crafts, and games!", "All Day Camps run 9am to noon.", "To register, email Lauren at lpetersen@kfumc.com or sign-up on our website at kfumc.com.", and the "Knoxville FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH" logo at the bottom right.

Christian Story Time & Craft @ The Park



Join us once a month for the reading of a Christian children's story accompanied by a fun activity. This event is not supervised, please provide supervision for your children.

- June 21st, 10-11am at Auld Park, East Shelter
- July 19th, 10-11am at the Marion County Fairgrounds, Bingley Building
- August 15th, 10-11am at Auld Park, East Shelter

VBS: Hero Hotline

July 25, 26, and 27, tentative time 5:30-8pm

A poster for "HERO HOTLINE" Vacation Bible School 2023. The poster has a green and yellow background with a superhero character in a blue suit and red cape. The text reads: "COKEBURY'S", "HERO HOTLINE", "Called Together to Serve God!", "Vacation Bible School 2023", "July 25th, 26th, 27th", and the "Knoxville FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH" logo at the bottom right.

2023 Day Camp Registration Form

Student's Name _____

Parent/Family/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone Numbers: Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Date of birth _____ Age _____ Last school grade completed _____

Home Church (if any) _____

Friends of your child at this church _____

Special Needs/Allergies/Medical Information/Other: _____

Emergency Contacts

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up this child from Day Camp

Dates Attending (please x next to dates attending): June 15th _____ July 6th _____ August 3rd _____

Photo Release: Knoxville First United Methodist Church has my permission to use my child's photograph publicly in church materials. I understand the images may be used in print publications, online publications, presentations, websites, and social media. I also understand that no royalty, fee, or other compensation shall become payable to me by reason of such use.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

VBS (Student) Registration Form

Student's Name _____

Parent/Family/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone Numbers: Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Date of birth _____ Age _____ Last school grade completed _____

Home Church (if any) _____

Friends of your child at this church _____

Special Needs/Allergies/Medical Information/Other: _____

Emergency Contacts

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up this child from VBS _____

Photo Release: _____ Church/VBS has my permission to use my child's photograph publicly in VBS materials. I understand the images may be used in print publications, online publications, presentations, websites, and social media. I also understand that no royalty, fee or other compensation shall become payable to me by reason of such use.

Parent/Guardian's signature: _____ Date _____

----- (for church use only) -----

Assigned to Group: _____

Are family members helping with VBS? ____ If yes, where? _____

MSPS ENROLLMENT



Montgomery Street Preschool

Enrollment for the
2023/2024 school year is
open

Limited space available for 2
year olds, 3 year olds, and
PreK for 4 and 5 year olds

Enroll today!

Email: msspschool@hotmail.com

Phone: 641-842-2193

Website: www.kfumc.com



Enrollment is open for the 2023/2024 school year. Please contact Katie for enrollment information. Only a few spaces remain in each of our classes for next year so enroll soon!

THANK YOU

Thank You to everyone who helped with our Mother's Day Tea Party. The event was a huge success, and we could not have done it without our wonderful volunteers, numerous donations, and of course our ladies and their families who attended! Thank you and we hope you will join us next year! Blessings, Lauren

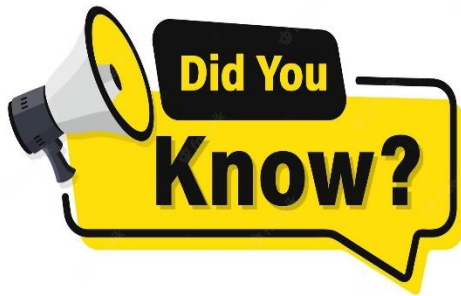


MSPS THANK YOU



Thank you to our wonderful FUMC church family for the support given to Montgomery Street Preschool (MSPS)! Your love and support have kept our program going in Knoxville for over 50 years! Thank you all for welcoming our families to church on May 21. It was a great morning with lots of fun and excitement!! Again thank you all for your love and support!! - Katie, Sam, Marsha, & Amanda

FACADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT



Did you know KFUMC has been awarded a matching Facade Improvement Grant from the City of Knoxville?

This money will be used to upgrade the Family Life Center at 123 South 4th St. (the old garage)

\$8000.00 was awarded to KFUMC on Monday at the City Council meeting.

Some of the improvements will be new doors, new lighting, new signage, repair the facade, install the concession window, and an awning over the concession window.

We are beyond excited and proud that we can make this dream become a reality without using any general fund money.

This amazing venue will be a hub for ministry activities that our children, youth and adults alike will enjoy for years to come. The Family Life Center will be a place where our church and all of Knoxville will find loving community and spiritual blessings!



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE CHRIST



We have so many neat activities going on in June, from Darts with Dads to Day Camp, a singles Bible study group, and improvements on our Family Life Center, including many more events and activities that are described in this newsletter. There is certainly something for everyone. Our Trustees continue to practice good stewardship in caring for our buildings. We have switched insurance companies to improve our coverage. We are starting a drama group that will enrich our worship. Katie Bishop and her staff have completed another successful school year, with an impressive concert to conclude the year. Monday Morning Panthers, guided by Lori Pearson, has also completed their year of service. Neighbor Helping Neighbor has plans to reopen this month as well. This September, we are offering an out-of-state ministry excursion to see the Passion Play in

Eureka Springs and the live performance of Queen Esther in Branson at the sight and sound theater. Please contact Pastor Jamie or myself if you are interested in this. In all that we do, we are practicing the great commission that Jesus Christ charged us: to bring people to Christ. We are offering many opportunities in which to serve others in the name of our Savior. --See you Sunday!

Pastor Brent Hanna

**PASSION PLAY AT EUREKA SPRINGS AND
QUEEN ESTHER AT BRANSON'S SIGHT & SOUND THEATER
KNOXVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST
NORTHLAND VACATIONS**

September 11 – 15, 2023

Monday, September 11	Depart Knoxville Travel by motor coach to Eureka Springs Dinner provided Overnight in Eureka Springs
Tuesday, September 12	Great Passion Play Area Tabernacle Teaching Lunch Holy Land Tour Backstage Tour Buffet Dinner Passion Play Overnight in Eureka Springs
Wednesday, September 13	Bible Museum Depart for Branson Showboat Branson Belle Cruise with Dinner Overnight in Branson
Thursday, September 14	Free Time (optional morning show) Queen Esther at the Sight & Sound Theater Dinner provided Overnight in Branson
Friday, September 15	Depart for Knoxville

Tour Includes: Deluxe motor coach transportation
Lodging for four nights
Luggage handling for one suitcase per traveler
Tickets / admissions to listed attractions
9 meals (4 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 4 dinners)

Approximate Cost: Double Occupancy \$909 per person
Single Occupancy \$1075 per person

For more information, contact Pastor Jamie 641-842-3712
Or Pastor Brent (641-891-3974) or Mary Hanna (641-218-0974)
hannab1974@gmail.com hannama1974@gmail.com

June 2023

June 2023							July 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 28	29	30	31	Jun 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Jamie & Brent Annual Conference Katie Off (Off) Communion/Sunday Food 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Faith Forum 7:30pm NA Meeting	Lauren & Wartburg in Dubuque for Training/Wartburg Theological Seminary (333 Wartburg Pl, Dubuque, IA 52003) 10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop 6:00pm MSPS Interviews	9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)	12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 5:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) Knoxville Memorial Hall 7:30pm NA Meeting (Activity Center)	9:00am Bethel Circle Meeting (Fellowship Hall) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 5:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 7:30pm NA Meeting	Jamie & Brent Annual Conference via Zoom (Zoom) Katie Off (Off) Communion/Food Donation 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity) 5:00pm Chapel Worship Service (Chapel)	Brent (Chapel) 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity) 5:00pm Chapel Worship Service (Chapel)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Faith Forum 10:45am Darts with Dad 4:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 7:30pm NA Meeting	10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop (Annex)	9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 5:00pm Garden Club (Fellowship Hall: Kitchen) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous	12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 5:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 7:30pm NA Meeting	9:00am Geed's Laboratory Summer Day Camps (Kids) 11:00am Homebuilders Lunch Meeting 12:00pm Classical Stretch 5:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 7:30pm NA Meeting	Heather Off (Off) 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)	4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity) 5:00pm Chapel Worship Service (Chapel)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Faith Forum 4:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball)	10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop 6:30pm SPIC (Library)	9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous	10:00am Story Time & Fun Activity @ Aud Park, East 12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity)	8:30am 12:00pm Classical Stretch 1:30pm Sarah Circle 5:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 7:30pm NA Meeting	9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)	4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity) 5:00pm Chapel Worship Service (Chapel)
25	26	27	28	29	30	Jul 1
8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Faith Forum 4:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 7:30pm NA Meeting	10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop (Annex)	9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)	12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 4:30pm Cooking for a Cause (WRH)	12:00pm Classical Stretch (Fellowship Hall) 5:00pm Pathfinders Family BBQ (Marion County Park) 5:00pm Pickleball (Peter, Paul & Pickleball) 7:30pm NA Meeting	9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)	