

The Link: Connected in Christ

May 2024



Our Mission: “Bring People to Christ”

313 East Montgomery, Knoxville, IA 50138

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Email: first@kfumc.com Website: www.kfumc.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/knoxvillemethodistchurch>

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@firstunitedmethodistchurch9770>

Church Service Times

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

**Sunday Children's
Church 10 AM**

**Live Worship
Streamed Online
Sunday 9:30 AM via
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



April showers bring May flowers! (It had to be said)



After three years of drought, it has been wonderful to experience again the gift of Springtime showers!

The Bible describes rain in various ways, describing it as a blessing after a drought, as a symbol of God's love and teachings to spread over the world, and even as a mighty tool to wash away the sins of a corrupt world!

Some verses to consider:

I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees their fruit. (Leviticus 26:4)

He provides rain for the earth; he sends water on the countryside. (Job 5:10)

He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. (Matthew 5:45)

Do any of the worthless idols of the nations bring rain? Do the skies themselves send down showers? No, it is you, LORD our God. Therefore our hope is in you, for you are the one who does all this. (Jeremiah 14:22)

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:10-11

Isaiah's prophetic words were used by Jesus in his Parable of the Sower. The seed is the word of God, the love letter to all humanity, which we read together this past year under the title of The Story. But If this past year of worship is to be productive and fruitful, if "The Story" is not to return to God empty, if it is to accomplish what God desires, and achieve the purpose for which God sent it, then you and I will need to become, as Jesus taught, "the sower who went out to sow." You and I will now become the ones who scatter the seed of God's love and new life to others. We'll do this together as we participate in the ministries of our church, and individually in our daily walk of discipleship.

Friends, I thank God that Leslie and I have been so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful congregation as Knoxville First United Methodist Church, where so many wonderful disciples not only profess their belief in Jesus Christ but change their lives to be able to "do" what he has called us to do. To love others as he has loved us. To align our Lower Stories with God's will in order to become a part of God's Upper Story Plan to get us all back together again! God bless you.

Peace, Pastor Jamie Cutler

SPECIAL SPRC MEETING MAY 6TH

There will be a special SPRC meeting Monday, May 6th @ 6:30 in the library.



Celebrating the Cutler's Ministry

Everyone is invited to join Pastor Jamie, Leslie and their family on Sunday, June 2, at 9:30 for their final worship service with us. Following our special worship service, all are welcome to join us in a reception to be held in our fellowship hall. This will provide all of us a time to thank Pastor Jamie and Leslie for their ministry in our church and community. If you are interested in offering a love gift, cards may be brought to the reception, and if it isn't possible for you to attend, cards may be sent in their name to 313 E. Montgomery, Knoxville, IA. 50138. Please join us in celebrating their ministry.

Exciting News!!!



As you may know RAGBRAI will have an overnight stay in Knoxville on July 24!! You have an opportunity to show God's love to the RAGBRAI riders! The FUN group and Cooking for a Cause will be serving a meal. We will serve on 7/24/2024 4-8 p.m. We will be asking for 2-hour shifts, or whatever time you can spare and want to donate. Thanks in advance!

Pill Bottle Collection Has Stopped

The church is no longer collecting/accepting medicine bottles at the church to be recycled. If you would like to continue to recycle your pill bottles, you may take plastics #1,2,& 5 to Brown's Sanitation instead. Thank you for all of your previous donations.



Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Happenings

Well as per usual for 2024 all of a sudden summer is right around the corner. I feel like those blizzards from January were just yesterday and now we are getting ready for school to wrap up in just a few weeks. Take a look at all the fun things we have coming up this summer! If you have any questions or event ideas, please contact me at lpetersen@kfumc.com.

Living Way Youth Meetings

Youth Group meets on the first and third Sunday night from 5-7pm. This group is for youth in grades 6-12.



May Meetings:

- May 5th - regular meeting, 5-7pm
- May 19th – final meeting, end of year celebration, outdoor game night & pizza! 5-7pm

Summer Youth Group

- June 11th – Blank Park Zoo Trip (10am-3pm)
- July 8th – Adventureland, Time TBA
- August 14th – End of Summer BBQ at Lauren's house, 6-9pm

Children's Church

Children's Church is on Sundays from 10-10:30am (right after Children's Time). Our curriculum is designed for preschool and early elementary kids.

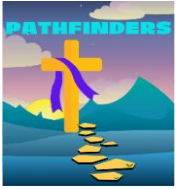


**CHILDREN'S
CHURCH**

Reminder –

- No Children's Church on Mother's Day, May 12th
- Last day of Children's Church is May 19th

Pathfinders



Summer Family BBQ on June 27th, 5:30-7:30pm. More details to come.

Summer Fun at KFUMC

Family Events:

- June 19th – Bikes & Trikes Night, 5:30-7:30, hot dog dinner provided. Bring your bikes, trikes, scooters, and skateboards for a night of fun and games!
- August 20th – Congregation Wide Back to School Night, 6-8pm at Auld Park. Join us for a fun night with your KFUMC family. We will celebrate the end of summer with a potluck dinner, games, friendly contests, and more! All are welcome and encouraged to attend.



Vacation Bible School 2024 – Camp Firelight

July 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, 5:15-8:15pm

Light supper will be served from 5:15-5:50pm, VBS will begin at 6pm. Kids ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to attend! FREE for all kids, invite your friends! Watch our Facebook and website for registration and details.

Blessings,
Lauren

Preschool News and Updates

MSPS will be hosting a Cater2U2 Chicken Fundraiser (Formerly Thelma's) on Thursday, June 13. Tickets may be purchased through the preschool or church office. Meals will be 2 pieces of chicken, 2 sides, a roll, and a cookie. Tickets are \$13 per meal. Tickets are encouraged to ensure that you receive a meal! Please reach out to Katie with any questions.

Montgomery Street Preschool
Presents:

Cater2U2 Fried Chicken **FUNDRAISER**

Join us for a Cater2U2 Chicken
(formerly Thelma's) fundraiser.

Thursday, June 13
4:30 to 6:30

First United Methodist Church
313 E. Montgomery Street in
Knoxville

Pick up in the circle drive on
Montgomery Street use 4th street
entrance

\$13 *Dinner includes:*
2 pieces of chicken,
2 sides and a roll

***Tickets available at the following
locations:***

Montgomery Street Preschool
First United Methodist Church
Cairn Yoga & Wellness
Adalily Photography Studio

A Season of Change



There's a season for everything and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die, a time for planting and a time for uprooting what was planted, a time for crying and a time for laughing, a time for mourning and a time for dancing. A time for embracing and a time to avoid embracing, a time for keeping and a time for throwing away, a time for keeping silent and a time for speaking, a time for loving and a time for hating, a time for war and a time for peace." --Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

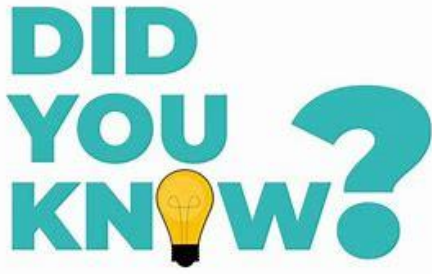
We have been told that only two things in life like change—babies and vending machines! We are having another change in our church, with Pastor Jamie and Leslie retiring. For Pastor Jamie, it is a double change. Not only is he leaving our church family, but also, he is retiring. Two things to celebrate—retiring following thirty years of ministry and celebrating his ministry here in the Knoxville community.

Naturally we have many things to look back upon during their ministry. We remember Taking The Flag; racing cars; learning about pickle ball; painting garages; handing out ear plugs and bottled water in the National's parade; Confirmation; Financial Peace University, Who's On First, What's On Second, and so many, many more activities, plus all of Jamie's sermons and teachings. I remember when Pastor Jamie and I each wore a plaid shirt, and I went home and changed so people could tell us apart. Pastor Jamie and Leslie are leaving us so much better than when they came to us, and also leaving us with many fond, Christian memories.

Change also brings us a new pastor, Pastor Jae. With Pastor Jae we will create a new set of memories, new ways to view God and Jesus' teachings. There will be new activities and new ways to become engaged in God's work.

Thank you, Pastor Jamie and Leslie, for your spirit-filled preaching, your loving leadership, and the grace you have shown and given each of us. Thank you for helping us to bring people to Christ. We will miss you as our Pastor, and as our friend. And now, Pastor Jamie and Leslie, may the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; may the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace; through Jesus the Christ, our Lord. Amen.

With our love, Pastor Brent and Mary and your church family



Did you know KFUMC has a user-friendly online directory and church database that is available for our members and regular attenders. It's Breeze and is a Breeze to use!

Breeze Benefits You By:

- ✓ Connecting you with others in the congregation.
- ✓ Allowing you to view and update your data and information that may have changed or is incorrect for you and your family.
- ✓ Letting you view your contributions and pledges that you have given to the church.
- ✓ Reviewing any events or activities you have volunteered for and set up blackout dates.
- ✓ Easily donate online as well as manage any recurring donations that you have set up. AND
- ✓ Always have information easily accessible.

An email invitation needs to be sent to you in order to create an account (and may have already been sent to you and could have ended up in your junk or spam box). If you have not received your invitation, please contact Heather at first@kfumc.com. We are strongly encouraging everyone in the church family to become a member of Breeze.



Did You Know we have a dedicated group of volunteers who formed our Praise Team and performs during worship service once a month?

This amazing group of women came together to bring uplifting contemporary Christian music to our Sunday Service. They have been performing on the 3rd Sunday of the month since fall but will be moving to the 2nd Sunday beginning in June.

If you enjoy contemporary Christian music, you won't want to miss Sunday service on Praise Team Sundays! Mark your calendar and plan to join us as we join together to praise God through song and uplift our souls!

Praise Team Sundays:

- May 19th – also MSPS Sunday where we get to celebrate the wonderful work of the MSPS staff and students over the last year!
- June 9th
- July 14th
- August 11th
- September 8th
- October 13th
- November 10th
- December 8th

May 2024

Calendar, KFUMC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Apr 28</p> <p>8:30 AM ☑ Adult Bible S</p> <p>9 AM ☑ Holy Donut Hol</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Serv</p> <p>10 AM Education Room</p> <p>10 AM Children's Church</p> <p>11 AM Chapel Reserved</p> <p>2 PM Baccalaureate</p> <p>4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p> <p>7:30 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>29</p> <p>11:45 AM Staff Meeting</p> <p>1 PM Neighbor Helping</p> <p>2 PM Beta Sigma Phi Lore</p> <p>2 PM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>5 PM Beginners Adult P</p> <p>6 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9 AM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>6:30 PM ☑ The Story Sm</p> <p>7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor</p>	<p>May 1</p> <p>12 PM WINGS</p> <p>1 PM Neighbor Helping</p> <p>5 PM Pickleball (Tim Mc)</p> <p>6:30 PM The Gathering</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10 AM Kitchen Hood Inspe</p> <p>5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p> <p>5 PM ☑ UWF Executive Me</p> <p>6 PM ☑ UWF General Meet</p> <p>7 PM Choir Practice</p> <p>7:30 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9 AM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>12 PM Alcoholics Anony</p> <p>6 PM Narcotics Anonym</p>	<p>4</p> <p>4 PM Clean & Sober Soc</p> <p>5 PM Chapel Worship Se</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Communion Sunday/Fo</p> <p>8:30 AM ☑ Adult Bible S</p> <p>9 AM ☑ Holy Donut Hol</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Serv</p> <p>10 AM Education Room</p> <p>10 AM Children's Church</p> <p>11 AM Chapel Reserved</p> <p>1 PM Sorority Meeting</p> <p>4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>11:45 AM Staff Meeting</p> <p>1 PM Neighbor Helping</p> <p>2 PM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>5 PM Beginners Adult P</p> <p>6 PM Girl Scouts</p> <p>6:30 PM ☑ SPRC Meeting</p> <p>7:30 PM ☑ F.U.N. Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9 AM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor</p>	<p>8</p> <p>12 PM WINGS</p> <p>1 PM Neighbor Helping</p> <p>6 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p> <p>6 PM ☑ Preschool Board M</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9 AM Rachel Circle UWF</p> <p>5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p> <p>7:30 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9 AM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>12 PM Alcoholics Anony</p> <p>6 PM Narcotics Anonym</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4 PM Clean & Sober Soc</p> <p>5 PM Chapel Worship Se</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Mother's Day</p> <p>8:30 AM ☑ Adult Bible S</p> <p>9 AM ☑ Holy Donut Hol</p> <p>9 AM Muffins for Moms</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Serv</p> <p>10 AM Education Room</p> <p>11 AM Chapel Reserved</p> <p>4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p> <p>7:30 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>11:45 AM Staff Meeting</p> <p>1 PM Neighbor Helping</p> <p>2 PM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>5 PM Beginners Adult P</p> <p>6 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9 AM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>5 PM Garden Club</p> <p>7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Peace Officers Memorial D</p> <p>12 PM WINGS</p> <p>1 PM Neighbor Helping</p> <p>6 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p> <p>6:30 PM The Gathering</p>	<p>16</p> <p>11 AM Adult Bible Study</p> <p>5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p> <p>7 PM Rebecca Circle UW</p> <p>7:30 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Heather Off</p> <p>9 AM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>12 PM Alcoholics Anony</p> <p>6 PM Narcotics Anonym</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4 PM Clean & Sober Soc</p> <p>5 PM Chapel Worship Se</p>
<p>19</p> <p>8:30 AM ☑ Adult Bible S</p> <p>8:30 AM ☑ Preschool Break</p> <p>9 AM ☑ Holy Donut Hol</p> <p>9:30 AM ☆ MSPS Celebrati</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Serv</p> <p>10 AM Education Room</p> <p>10 AM Children's Church</p> <p>11 AM Chapel Reserved</p> <p>2 PM ☑ KHS Graduation</p>	<p>20</p> <p>11:45 AM Staff Meeting</p> <p>1 PM Neighbor Helping</p> <p>2 PM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>5 PM Beginners Adult P</p> <p>5:30 PM ☑ Finance Com</p> <p>6 PM Girl Scouts</p> <p>6:30 PM F.U.N. Meeting</p> <p>6:30 PM ☑ Trustees Meetin</p> <p>7:30 PM Board Meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9 AM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>5 PM ☑ MSPS Spring Conc</p> <p>7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor</p>	<p>22</p> <p>12 PM WINGS</p> <p>1 PM Neighbor Helping</p> <p>6 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>1:30 PM Sarah Circle Me</p> <p>5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p> <p>7:30 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9 AM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>12 PM Alcoholics Anony</p> <p>1:30 PM Helmets & Hotdog</p> <p>6 PM Narcotics Anonym</p>	<p>25</p> <p>4 PM Clean & Sober Soc</p> <p>5 PM Chapel Worship Se</p>
<p>16</p> <p>8:30 AM ☑ Adult Bible S</p> <p>9 AM ☑ Holy Donut Hol</p> <p>9:30 AM Worship Serv</p> <p>10 AM Education Room</p> <p>11 AM Chapel Reserved</p> <p>4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p> <p>7:30 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Memorial Day</p> <p>☑ Church Office Closed for</p> <p>5 PM Beginners Adult P</p> <p>6 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9 AM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>11:45 AM ☑ Staff Meeting</p> <p>7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor</p>	<p>29</p> <p>12 PM WINGS</p> <p>1 PM Neighbor Helping</p> <p>4:30 PM Cooking for a C</p> <p>6 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)</p> <p>7:30 PM NA Meeting</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9 AM Almost Free Shop</p> <p>12 PM Alcoholics Anony</p> <p>6 PM Narcotics Anonym</p>	<p>Jun 1</p> <p>4 PM Clean & Sober Soc</p> <p>5 PM Chapel Worship Se</p>