

The Link: Connected in Christ

MARCH 2025



Our Mission: “Bring People to Christ”

313 East Montgomery, Knoxville, IA 50138

Phone: 641-842-3712

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**

Greetings in Christ!



Before spring arrives, there is usually one last cold spell. When the first blossoms bloom, the cold again envelops the entire field, much like the moments just before dawn when the world plunges into deeper darkness. We know that the bright sun will come, followed by darkness. While this cycle has caused some people to feel depressed, many still hold out hope for the arrival of spring soon.

When Jesus died on the cross, it felt like night as the sun lost its power. However, just as spring comes after

the cold, the dawn of the resurrection brought us hope.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the season of Lent begins this week, starting with Ash Wednesday. This season calls us to deepen our faith and grow closer to God. Please reflect on your life and repent of your sins before God. If possible, fast, spend more time in prayer and reading the Bible, and demonstrate your faith through your actions. A simple act of kindness or a simple word of compliment and appreciation would be sufficient to share God's love with others and with yourself.

We will have Lenten meals and speakers on Wednesdays during Lent. Please come and enjoy the meal and fellowship. I appreciate all the volunteers who help with meal prep, serving, and speaking. I will use "Easter" by Pastor J.D. GREAR for the sermon series during Lent. However, there would be no Bible studies with it.

Easter Sermon Series

Week 1: Betrayed by Me- Matthew 26:6–16

Week 2: Forsaken for Me- Matthew 26:36–44

Week 3: Pastor Brent Preaches.

Week 4: Accused for Me - Matthew 27:11---31

Week 5: Punished for Me - Matthew 27:27–56.

Palm Sunday: The Lord Needs it -Luke 19:28-40

Maundy Thursday: Serving like Me - John 13:1-17, 31b- 35/ with Communion

Good Friday: Drama Setting (*He Chose The Tree*)

Easter: Alive in Me - Matthew 28:18–20

Blessings, Pastor Jae

Pastoral Home Visits

Pastor Jae and Pastor Brent are offering times that they would be available to visit with you in your home. The visits would provide a personal time to visit with the pastors and also to have communion. The daytime dates include March 12, 13, 25, 26, and 27. April dates include 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10. They would be available at 10 or 11 a.m. or 1 p.m. in the afternoon.

Please know that these home visits are for anyone, including but not limited to, the homebound or those unable to worship in person. You may call the office at 641-842-3712 to set up an appointment for the pastors to visit you in your home.

FREE

FREE 2020 Acorn Straight Stairlift

KFUMC has a 2020 Acorn Straight Stairlift. The new cost was over \$4000.00. It worked well last time it was used. Great for 2 story home or one story with a basement. It mounts to the stairs; weight capacity is 300 pounds. There is a lock and diagnostic display. Slim compact design made to fold up so others can use the stairs. We have the original invoice, user's manual, Information kit including DVD 2 one touch remote controls. This unit is like new, it's too big for the area we needed it for.

We are looking to **GIFT** a member of the congregation or someone you may know. That's right, **FREE** Please contact the church staff to take a look by **March 15th**.

SAVE THE DATE

THE SEASON
OF LENT
BEGINS
MARCH 5TH



ASH
WEDNESDAY
SERVICE
MARCH 5TH
@ 7:00 PM
IN THE
SANCTUARY

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN SERIES
Supper (5:30-6:15PM) & Speaker (6:15-7:00PM)
Fellowship Hall (Lower Level)

DATE	SPEAKER(S)	MENU
March 12	Pastor Jae & Pastor Brent	Ham and Turkey sandwiches, salads & desserts
March 19	Trustees, Finance, SPRC & New Pantry	Pulled Pork, baked beans, salads & bars
March 26	Joe/Jensen Finnegan	Beefburgers, Mac n Cheese, baked beans, & cookie
April 2	Almost Free Shop	Chili, ham and beans, cornbread & drinks
April 9	Landon/Lincoln Norris	Spaghetti

MARCH SAVE THE DATES

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KNOXVILLEMETHODISTCHURCH

Knoxville First United Methodist Church

313 East Montgomery Street
Knoxville, IA 50138

**WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 5**

Free Community Meal

5:00-6:30 PM: Spaghetti, garlic bread & drink.
Lower Level Fellowship Hall.

**WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 5**

Ash Wednesday Service

7:00 PM: Sanctuary.

**THURSDAY,
MARCH 6**

Preschool Open House

4:30-6:00 PM Preschool Rooms.

**FRIDAY,
MARCH 7**

Family Movie Night

6:00-8:00 PM: The Secret Life of Pets 2 - Lower Level Fellowship Hall.

**WEDNESDAYS,
MARCH 12, 19 & 26**

Lenten Meal and Speaker Series

5:30-6:15 PM: Meal. **6:15-7:00 PM:** Speaker. Topics and speakers vary weekly. Held Wednesdays in lower level Fellowship Hall during Lent except Holy week.

**SATURDAY,
MARCH 23**

Winter Jam Concert

Youth to Des Moines Concert.

**WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 26**

FREE Community Meal

5:00-6:30 PM: Beefburgers, Mac and cheese, baked beans, cookie & drink. Lower level Fellowship Hall.

**FRIDAY,
MARCH 28**

Community Chorus Concert

7:00 PM: Sanctuary.

**SUNDAY,
MARCH 30**

Community Chorus Concert

2:00 PM: Sanctuary.

UPCOMING EVENTS

New Bible Study Group

We are wanting to start a Bible Study group that will meet on Sundays after service. We would like to start at 10:45 or so and be done before noon so you can still have your day to do whatever you had planned. You may have received an email in regard to this idea. It would be ongoing, and we may take breaks around holiday times when everyone is so busy. We would like to meet in the activity center, 308 E Robinson St. We will utilize Bible study materials from companies such Cokesbury.



In the Methodist church we currently have groups for the children and youth and a group for the seasoned learner. This new group can be anyone who is looking to explore the Bible more, learn more about the people in the Bible and how it applies to current day. Right now, we don't have childcare available. It is certainly something to explore. Please provide feed back to Deb at dgreiner@kfumc.com or call Deb at 641-842-3712

KFUMC Singles

CHRISTIAN SINGLE PEOPLE

KFUMC Singles is a group of singles from the church and surrounding communities. The group started in December 2024. So far, we have met once a month for a meal. We enjoy fellowship and laughter. It's a safe space to enjoy a night out.

We are all ages, both men and women. We are never married, divorced and widowed. As the group grows, we may expand to movies, minigolf, pickleball, go-carts, whatever would be fun! We may even join forces with singles groups from other Churches. This is not a dating app. We are singles who enjoy going out with a group, without the pressure of one on one dating scenarios. We are Christians and we conduct ourselves as such. Please join us! If you would like more information please email Deb Greiner at dgreiner@kfumc.com or at the church office at 641-842-3712.

VOLUNTEER/DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

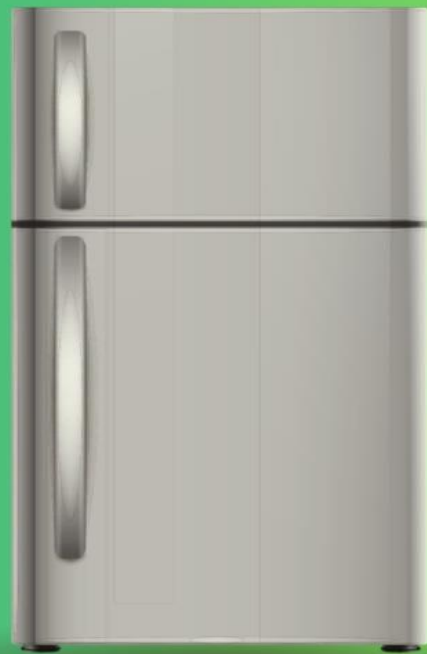
WANTED!

MSPS IS IN NEED OF A FRIDGE!

GENTLY USED
TRADITIONAL STYLE

IT WILL BE USED FOR MSPS
SNACKS AND JUICE

LET KATIE KNOW IF YOU
HAVE ONE THAT YOU'D LIKE
TO DONATE



Refrigerator Needed!

The preschool recently lost their very old fridge upstairs that is used to keep juice and snacks for the students. If you have a gently used fridge that is still working and would be willing to donate it to the preschool, please let Katie know.

Meals On Wheels: Deliver a Difference!

We need volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels from Monday, April 14, 2025, to Thursday, April 17, 2025. There will be four routes each day. If you'd like to help, please reply to this email or sign up in the Narthex.

Anyone can participate, making it a great opportunity for families and individuals of all ages. This is a great chance to serve your community and support your neighbors by providing them with meals and independence.



Meals should be picked up between 10:30 and 10:40 a.m. in the alley behind the police station. If you can volunteer on more than one day, signing up for the same route will help simplify the process.

<u>DATE & ROUTE</u>	<u>VOLUNTEER</u>	<u>VOLUNTEER</u>	<u>CELL NUMBER</u>
Monday, April 14, 2025			
Route 1	Cheryl Tucker		
Route 2			
Route 3	Chris Agan	Sue Agan	
Route 4			
Tuesday, April 15, 2025			
Route 1	Cheryl Tucker		
Route 2			
Route 3	Chris Agan	Sue Agan	
Route 4			
Wednesday, April 16, 2025			
Route 1	Cheryl Tucker		
Route 2			
Route 3	Chris Agan	Sue Agan	
Route 4			
Thursday, April 17, 2025			
Route 1	Cheryl Tucker		
Route 2			
Route 3			
Route 4			

Thank you!

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY HAPPENINGS



Finally, spring is just around the corner and hopefully the bitter cold days are about done. Things are heating up here at the church as we are planning spring and summer events and gearing up for Easter! Don't forget to watch our Facebook page for updates on upcoming events, registration forms, and more. Summer programs will get announcement next month! As always, if you have

any questions on any of our upcoming programming, please contact me at lpetersen@kfumc.com.



Family Movie Night

Friday, March 7th, 6-8pm

Come get out of the cold and join us for a fun family movie night! Feature Film: The Secret Life of Pets 2. We will have popcorn, snacks, and drinks! All are welcome! Children must be supervised by an adult.

Children's Easter Play

This year we are going to have a children's Easter play on Palm Sunday, April 13th during service. We will begin rehearsing on March 9th and will rehearse on Sundays from 8:30-9am. All children and youth are welcome to participate. If your child is interested in participating, please email Lauren at lpetersen@kfumc.com.

Winter Jam Christian Concert

Friday, March 21st, Wells Fargo Arena, doors open at 6pm, concert at 7pm

We would love to have a group of KFUMC families join us for the Winter Jam concert on March 21st. This is a great concert featuring lots of artists in many genres. Cost: \$15 per person, cash at the door. Contact Lauren if your family is interested in attending with the church group! <https://jamtour.com/des-moines-ia/>

Good Friday Day Camp

Friday, April 18th, 9am-noon

Kids ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to join us for a fun filled morning learning about the Easter Story through crafts, games, science experiments, and more. This event is free and open to everyone! Watch our Facebook page for registration information.



Vacation Bible School 2025 – Sunday, July 20th; Monday, July 21st; and Tuesday, July 22nd; 5:30-8pm(ish). Be sure to mark your calendars. More information will come out this spring.

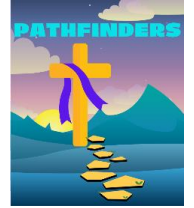


Children's Church

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, but all elementary aged kids are welcome to join us.

Pathfinders

Pathfinders will kick off again in March. Spring session dates: March 25th, April 1st, 9th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th. These are all Tuesdays from 3:30-5pm. We will have more information as we get closer. If you have a 3rd – 5th grader interested in participating, please email Lauren at lpetersen@kfumc.com or call the church at 641-842-3712. Emails will be sent to existing Pathfinders' families in early March.



Living Way Youth Group

Our Youth Group is comprised of youth grades 6-12. They will meet on the first and third Sunday of the month from 5-7pm. Our Living Way Youth will enjoy team building, games, devotions, and more!



Youth Group March Schedule

- March 2nd, 5-7pm – Youth Group
- March 16th, 5-7pm - Youth Group
- Winter Jam Christian Concert – March 21st, doors open at 6pm

For a complete listing of program dates and details, follow us on Facebook and visit our website at <https://kfumc.com/childrens-youth-and-families/>.

Blessings,
Lauren

PRESCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

Start Spreading the News...

Preschool enrollment for the 2025/2026 school year will open on March 1st. The annual **MSPS Registration Open House will be on Thursday, March 6 from 4:30 to 6:30pm**. Invite your friends, family members, and neighbors to come check out Montgomery Street Preschool!



Montgomery Street Preschool

**Enrollment opens March 1st
for the
2025/2026 school year**

Classes available:

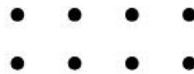
**2 year olds (Totally Twos),
3 year olds (Thrilling Threes)
4 and 5 year olds (Kinder Explorers)**

Enroll today!

Email: msschool@hotmail.com

Phone: 641-842-2193

Website: www.kfumc.com



Show Mercy



On a Sabbath day, a man with a deformed hand was in the synagogue while Jesus was teaching. The teachers of religious law and the Pharisees watched closely to see whether Jesus would heal the man on the Sabbath, because they were eager to find some legal charge to bring against him. But Jesus knew their thoughts. He said to the man with the deformed hand, "Come and stand here where everyone can see." So the man came forward. Then Jesus said to his critics, "I have a question for you. Is it legal to do good deeds on the Sabbath, or is it a day for doing harm? Is this a day to save life, or destroy it?" He looked around at them one by one and then said to the man, "Reach out your hand."

The man reached out his hand, and it became normal again. At this, the enemies of Jesus were wild with rage, and began to discuss what to do with Him.

--Luke 6:6-11

We all have met the type of people that seem to enjoy putting others down. It just seems that otherwise, they have nothing to talk about. Perhaps they feel better about themselves if they can put others down. Some of us just live to criticize others. They can find fault in everything and in everyone. Recently, a person came up to me and tugged on my hair because they had been told I wore a wig. I wasn't offended, I just had a hearty laugh. A critical spirit can act as a cancer to the soul, the soul of those who feel that they must put others down. Such was the case of those who were critical of Jesus. They were so possessed to criticize such a kind and loving man, that they chose to watch Him closely, hoping that they could catch him doing something "wrong" for which they could accuse Him. Instead of rejoicing in Jesus healing a person, they protested that he had broken the rules. Can you imagine it—witnessing Jesus healing someone, but being so possessed with despise and hatred, that they actually missed the special moment?

If there was a disagreement between rule formalities and needs of a person, you can guess which road Jesus chose to take. We should be encouraged to take the same steps. Let's not be one of the people who are looking for ways to put others down. Instead, expound on the beautiful moments that life offers us each day.

I so enjoy worshiping with each of you on Sunday mornings. We have a loving atmosphere of encouraging one another, walking with one another, and praying for each other. I enjoy the God moments when we show one another mercy!

See you Sunday!

—With God's love,
Pastor Brent

March 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 23	24	25	26	27	28	Mar 1
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	Deb's Birthday	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	1 PM The Lord's Prayer	9 AM Almost Free Shop	4 PM Clean & Sober Soc
9 AM Holy Donut Hol	7:30 AM Monday Morn	1 PM Grief Share Sma	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
9:30 AM Worship Servic	12:15 PM Staff Meeting	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	5 PM Free Meal (Cook)	7:30 PM NA Meeting	6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
10 AM Education Room	1 PM Neighbor Helping		6 PM Wednesday Pickle			
10 AM Children's Church	2 PM Almost Free Shop		7 PM Chancel Choir Prac			
11 AM Chapel Reserved	5 PM Beginners Adult P					
1:30 PM Living Way You	5 PM Girl Scouts					
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Communion Sunday/For	7:30 AM Monday Morn	9 AM Almost Free Shop	Lauren Off	1 PM The Lord's Prayer	9 AM Almost Free Shop	4 PM Clean & Sober Soc
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	12:15 PM Staff Meeting	1 PM Grief Share Sma	12 PM WINGS	4:30 PM MSPS Registrati	12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
9 AM Holy Donut Hol	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7 PM P46 Meeting	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	6 PM Family Movie High	
9:30 AM Worship Servic	2 PM Almost Free Shop	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	5 PM Free Meal (Cook)	7:30 PM NA Meeting	6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
10 AM Education Room	5 PM Beginners Adult P		6 PM Wednesday Pickle			
11 AM Chapel Reserved	5 PM Girl Scouts		6:30 PM Contemporary P			
1 PM Sorority Meeting			7 PM Ash Wednesday Serv			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	7:30 AM Monday Morn	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	9 AM Rachel Circle		MSPS Spring Break
8:30 AM Children's Easter	10 AM Staff Meeting	5 PM Garden Club	1 PM Neighbor Helping	1 PM The Lord's Prayer	9 AM Almost Free Shop	4 PM Clean & Sober Soc
9 AM Holy Donut Hol	1 PM Neighbor Helping	6 PM Community Chorus	5:30 PM Lenten Meal	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
9:30 AM Contemporary P	2 PM Almost Free Shop	6 PM F.U.N. Subcommitt	6 PM Wednesday Pickle	7:30 PM NA Meeting	6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
10 AM Education Room	5 PM Beginners Adult P	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor				
11 AM Chapel Reserved	5 PM Girl Scouts					
4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)						
7:30 PM NA Meeting						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		MSPS Spring Break				4 PM Clean & Sober Soc
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	12:15 PM Staff Meeting	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	Jae Off	11 AM Adult Bible Study	9 AM Almost Free Shop
8:30 AM Children's Easter	1 PM Neighbor Helping	6:30 PM Community Chorus	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	12 PM Alcoholics Anony	12 PM Alcoholics Anony
9 AM Holy Donut Hol	2 PM Almost Free Shop	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	5:30 PM Lenten Meal	7 PM Chancel Choir Practi	6 PM Winter Jam Christi	6 PM Narcotics Anonym
9:30 AM Worship Servic	5 PM Beginners Adult P		6 PM Wednesday Pickle	7 PM Rebecca Circle	6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
10 AM Education Room	5 PM Girl Scouts			7:30 PM NA Meeting		
10 AM Children's Church						
13	24	25	26	27	28	29
Jae Off	7:30 AM Monday Morn	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	1 PM The Lord's Prayer	9 AM Almost Free Shop	4 PM Clean & Sober Soc
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	12:15 PM Staff Meeting	3:30 PM Pathfinders	1 PM Neighbor Helping	1:30 PM Sarah Circle Me	12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
8:30 AM Children's Easter	1 PM Neighbor Helping	6:30 PM Community Chorus	5 PM Free Meal (Cook)	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
9 AM Holy Donut Hol	2 PM Almost Free Shop	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	5:30 PM Lenten Meal	7 PM Chancel Choir Practi	7 PM Community Choru	
9:30 AM Worship Servic	5 PM Beginners Adult P		6 PM Wednesday Pickle	7:30 PM NA Meeting		
10 AM Education Room	5 PM Girl Scouts					
10 AM Children's Church	5:30 PM Finance Commi					
	6:30 PM SPRC					
30	31	Apr 1	2	3	4	5
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	7:30 AM Monday Morn	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	12:30 PM UWF Executive	9 AM Almost Free Shop	4 PM Clean & Sober Soc
8:30 AM Children's Easter	12:15 PM Staff Meeting	3:30 PM Pathfinders	1 PM Neighbor Helping	1:30 PM UWF General M	12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
9 AM Holy Donut Hol	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	5 PM Free Meal (Cook)	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
9:30 AM Worship Servic	2 PM Almost Free Shop		5:30 PM Lenten Meal	7:30 PM NA Meeting		
10 AM Education Room	5 PM Beginners Adult P		6 PM Wednesday Pickle			
10 AM Children's Church	5 PM Girl Scouts					
11 AM Chapel Reserved	6:30 PM Trustees					
	7:30 PM Board Meeting					