# The Link: Connected in Christ MAY 2025



## Our Mission: "Bring People to Christ"

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#### **Greetings in the Peace of Christ!**



My parents-in-law were with us in Knoxville for two months. It was the first time that we had stayed in one house and spent time together that long. We visited various places in Iowa and other States. I give special thanks to Pastor Brent for giving us a tour of Prairie City and Pella. We saw wild bison, elk, and beautiful tulips, and I cannot forget to include huge tenderloin sandwiches.

In April, the whole family visited Sedona, the Grand Canyon, Hoover Dam, and Las Vegas with grandpa and grandma. It was a very memorable trip for my family.

We saw many things and met friends and relatives during the trip, too. Two months have just passed so quickly. Now, the parents-in-law are back in Korea. I appreciate your welcoming and kindness to the parents-in-law, and your prayers for their health.



### **Church Service Times**

Sunday Sanctuary Worship 9:30 AM, In-person worship

Saturday Chapel Worship 5:00 PM 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

It has been almost a year. I have nearly completed the major Church Seasons here in Knoxville. I pray for God's continued guidance as the pastor of this church so that I can do my best based on the needs of the church and its community. I also pray for the growth of our church, just like our mission statement, "Bring People to Christ!" I encourage you to invite someone to the church before the end of this year. We are not just inviting people; we need to be good news to them first with our words and actions. We are the witnesses of Christ for those who do not know Christ. Welcoming with a smile and kindness is the core to helping people connect to Christ.

Our church, Knoxville First United Methodist Church, is a good-sized community church. Through our openness and welcoming, we can feel and share the love of Christ. Next month, we will have a church picnic again at the Marion County Park (June 8). This is a great event where we can have a worship service out in nature. It will help us easily mingle together and enjoy fellowship and food. I hope we all come together with our family, friends, and neighbors.

Blessings, Pastor Jae

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#### CHURCH EVENTS

Knoxville First United Methodist Church

May 7, 2025 5:00 - 6:30p

### Free Meal



**Community Event** 

Please join us for great food and fellowship





Serving our neighbors 313 E Montgomery St

# Senior Recognition Sunday, May 11 @ 9:30 AM

We will celebrate our KFUMC 2025 graduating high school seniors this Sunday, with a special time during the worship service!

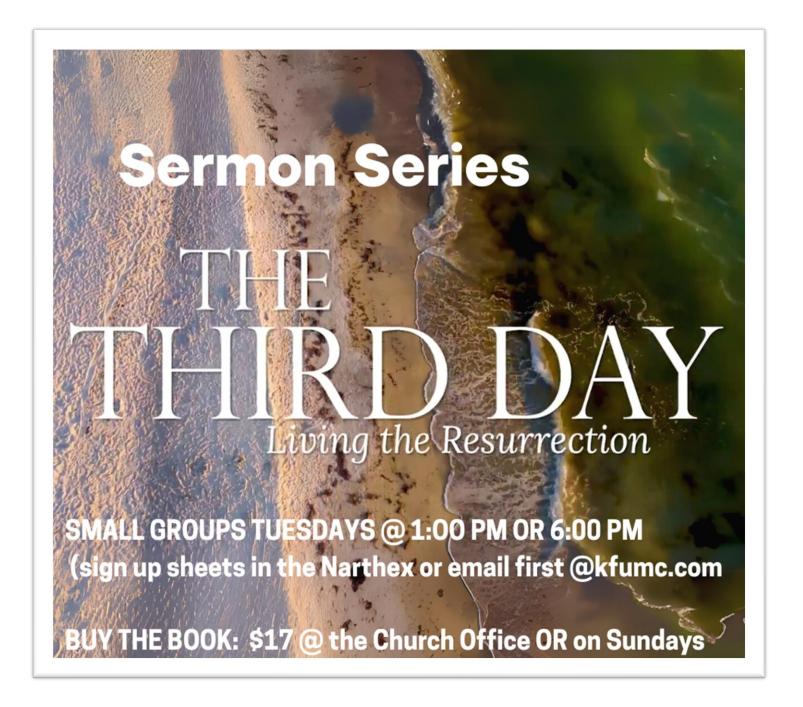
#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Anthony Bailey
Kyl Bauer
Gabe Clark
Jensen Finnegan
Joseph Finnegan
Marley Larson
Landen Norris



#### **JOIN US FOR SENIOR SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025**

Join us on May 11th during our 9:30 AM service for a special celebration of the KFUMC class of 2025 graduating seniors. We will honor each senior by name, pray for them, and seek blessings for their future. This is an opportunity for parents, family members, friends, and our church community to support them as they begin a new chapter in their lives. We hope to see you there!



### CHAPEL WORSHIP IS BACK! Saturdays at 5:00PM

Join us for a traditional service in a casual, intimate setting! Enjoy hymns, prayers, scriptures, and meaningful messages each week while growing in faith.

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Methodist Chapel - 313 E Montgomery









### **VBS 2025**

When: July 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>

Time: Meal 5:30-5:55pm, VBS 6-8:15pm

Who: Kids ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade

**Registeration Now Open!** 

#### **UPDATES!**

#### **Thank You**

A huge thank you to Sue Agan for her ongoing care of the flower bed in the front circle drive! Her dedication to pulling weeds, mulching, adding new plantings, and taking care of the current plants makes such a difference and adds to the beauty of our church. We invite you to drive or walk by and enjoy the view!

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### CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

It amazes me that this school year is nearly over. We have had a ton of fun things going on and are looking forward to a fun filled summer. Don't forget to watch our Facebook page for updates on upcoming events, registration forms, and more. As always, if you have any questions on any of our upcoming programing, please contact me at <a href="mailto:lpetersen@kfumc.com">lpetersen@kfumc.com</a>.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Children's Easter Play and the parents/grown-ups who helped get kids to our early morning practices. The kids did a great job, and I can't wait for next year! Also, a huge thank you to all our volunteers and donors for Good Friday Day Camp. We had the pleasure of sharing the Easter story with 30 kids and could not have done it without your help. I truly appreciate everyone who lends a hand and donates supplies for all our children and youth events. You are what make these events possible and are making an impact on the next generation. Thank you!

#### **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. Our last day of Children's Church will be May 18<sup>th</sup>, then we will break for summer.

#### **Pathfinders**



It is hard to believe we just completed our third year of Pathfinders. We have had the pleasure of serving so many great kids. This spring our Pathfinders met for 6 weeks and did a community service project picking up trash and yard waste around the church and neighborhood.

We will have a Summer BBQ tentatively on June 18th.

#### **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! Watch your email for Summer 2025 events!

#### **Youth Group Schedule**

- May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm, dog walk at humane society
- May 18<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm end of year celebration
- June 4<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-7pm, youth serve Free Community Meal at church
- June 8<sup>th</sup>, 4-5pm Second Sunday Sundae's at Kone Korner
- June 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, St. Louis Mission Trip
- July 13<sup>th</sup>. 4-5pm, Second Sunday Sundae's at Kone Korner
- July 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm I Cubs game
- August 8<sup>th</sup>, Iowa State Fair Day!
- August 10<sup>th</sup>, 4-5pm Second Sunday Sundae's at Kone Korner

#### **Summer 2025 Events**

#### **Day Camps:**

Day Camps are back this summer. We will have three day camps this summer that will be open to kids ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade (must be potty trained). During our day camps the kids will enjoy a variety of fun activities, bible lessons, crafts, games, and more. These camps are free and open to everyone. Dates: June 10<sup>th</sup>, 9am-noon, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 9am-noon, and August 5<sup>th</sup>, 9am-noon

#### **VBS 2025**

July  $20^{th}$ ,  $21^{st}$ , and  $22^{nd}$ ; Approximate Time 5:30pm-8:15pm

This year's VBS theme is Road Trip: On the Go with God. We will kick each night off with a free light meal followed by loads of fun! VBS is open to kids ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade (grade just completed). This event is free and open to everyone! Registration will open in May.

#### **Church Wide I Cubs Game**

The whole church is invited to join us on July 29<sup>th</sup> for an outing to an I Cubs game. This is a 6:30pm game and dollar hot dog night. If you would like to go, please email Lauren at <a href="mailto:lpetersen@kfumc.com">lpetersen@kfumc.com</a>. If we have at least 25 people going tickets are only \$9 per person.

### **SUMMER 2025**

#### KFUMC Children, Youth, and Families



#### Children's Events

#### **Day Camps**

Summer of Stories: The Parables of Jesus

<u>Dates:</u> June 10<sup>th</sup>, July 8<sup>th</sup>, and August 5th <u>Time:</u> 9am to Noon <u>Who:</u> Kids ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, must be potty trained

#### **Vacation Bible School**

**Road Trip** 

<u>Dates:</u> July 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, & 22nd <u>Time:</u> 5:30-8:15pm <u>Who:</u> Kids ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, must be potty trained

#### **Youth Events**

Mission Trip: St Louis, MO June 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26th

**I Cubs Game** 

July 29th - 6:30pm game

<u>Iowa State Fair</u>

August 8th

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Sundaes

June 8, July 13, August 10 4-5pm at Kone Korner

#### **Family Events**

#### Church at the Park

June 8<sup>th</sup>, 10am, Marion County Park shelter 4

#### **I Cubs Game**

July 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm game

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

Blessings, Lauren

#### PRESCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES



# 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: mspschool@hotmail.com

Phone: 641-842-2193

Website: www.kfumc.com

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#### **ONE, TWO, THREE, GO!**



I am from a family farm north of Corning, Iowa. In Washington township, I attended a one-room country school through fourth grade. I wouldn't trade those formative years for anything! My class of four was the largest class, with three boys and one girl. Everyone, all grades Kindergarten through eighth grade, had recess together. We had a recess mid-morning, a nice long recess at noon, and another in the afternoon. At noon recess we played work-up softball, steal sticks, and other really fun, old-fashioned games. During the shorter recesses, we often raced. We were always eager! We could hardly wait to get going. We lined up, and we'd count together, "One, two, three, go!" And then off we would run!

This sense of eagerness has re-surfaced in me, and perhaps you as well, in the things we want to accomplish in life. Everyone is ready—ready to do something, ready to go! Together, as a church family, our mission is to bring people in Christ. Have you identified your part in this very meaningful and purposeful mission? We can all do something, with eagerness. Small things are just as important as big things. We can be welcoming to the people we sit next to in church. We can ask someone to join us at Kone Korner, write a note, send an email, or give a call to someone.

After you've decided your part in bringing people to Christ, you can line up and to shout with your church family, "One, two, three, go!"

We are eager to see and join one another, to worship together, and to fellowship with one another in Christ. To help in our mission, we can bring an item for the blessing boxes or provide something on the pop-up pantry list. There are tons of ways to help bring people to Christ.

As little school kids in the country, our eagerness never hurt anything. We need to remember that bringing people to Christ can take time, so don't let your eagerness wane. The Lord taught us in the Bible, in the Book of Job, to be patient. Peter's eagerness in the Garden proved his poor judgment, and Jesus had to heal the ear of a soldier severed by Peter. So we need to balance our eagerness with our patience. God remains our guiding light as we bring people to Christ.

A lot can be said for the one room school house from by-gone years. But even more is said and written in the thousands of years of the Holy Bible. God always has the final word; let's read, study, and listen and follow God's light as we help to bring people to Christ. See you Sunday!

---With God's love, Pastor Brent

#### **CALENDAR**

#### May 2025



