

The Link: Connected in Christ

April 2026



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**

**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**

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!



Easter is just around the corner. It is the most significant event in Christianity. Without the resurrection of Jesus Christ, everything is pointless—His efforts and ours. Without the resurrection, there is no forgiveness of sins, no redemption, and no reconciliation with God. As a result, we humans would have no hope for eternal life and would remain trapped in sin and death.

God had a grand plan to save all humankind. Dying on the cross was the final part of that plan. However, God chose to die to cleanse our sins. For this purpose, the Son of God, Jesus, was incarnated as a human to bear all the sins of humanity. This is the sacrificial love of God. Jesus willingly died on the cross for you and me. So, we enter this Holy Week with humble hearts, grateful for God's amazing grace.

When Jesus died, the whole world grew dark. It may seem like Jesus failed to save us. However, just as the world gets darker right before the sun rises, the world was without light. Then, on Sunday morning, Jesus rose from the dead. The unimaginable happened God. So, we celebrate Easter Sunday, the day Jesus rose from the dead. This day gives us hope because Jesus is the firstfruit of the resurrection. Just as He rose, God will raise all believers when Jesus returns.

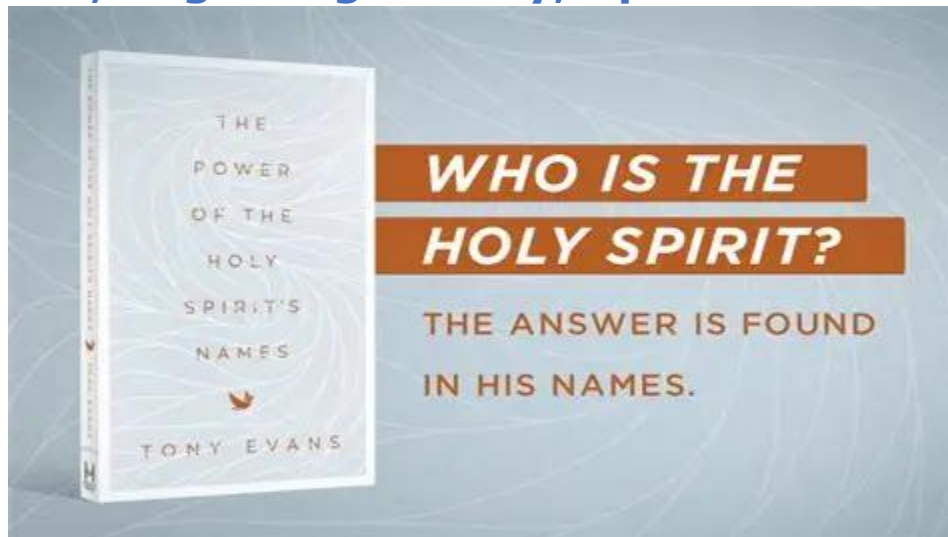
We gather on Sunday and have worship services because Jesus rose again on Sunday. That is why we are called Easter People. So, every Sunday is Easter Sunday, and we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. May God bring grace on your life in this season, Pastor Jae

Upcoming Sermon Series, Beginning Sunday, April 12th:

The Power of the Holy Spirit's Names by Tony Evans.

For 6 weeks, we will go through the important names of the Holy Spirit and how the Holy Spirit works with us and in us.

1. The Helper
2. The Lord
3. The Wine
4. The Intercessor
5. The Seal
6. The Power



CHURCH EVENTS

Join us for a **FREE COMMUNITY MEAL**

Wednesday,
April 1, 2026

5:00–6:30 PM

Menu:
Chili, cornbread,
dessert, and
drinks!



LOCATION:
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
313 EAST MONTGOMERY STREET,
LOWER LEVEL
KNOXVILLE

United Women In Faith General Meeting

Thursday, April 2 | 1:30 PM | Fellowship Hall

Join us for a fun afternoon featuring a guest speaker from the Garden Club. All are welcome to attend for fellowship and inspiration!

Thursday, April 2, 2026

@ 7:00 PM

Maundy
Thursday

"Do this in Memory of Me"



Knoxville First United Methodist Church
313 E. Montgomery St, Knoxville - Sanctuary



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

**APRIL
3
2026
@7PM**

**KNOXVILLE FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

**SANCTUARY
313 E MONTGOMERY ST.
KNOXVILLE**

**INCLUDES A LIVE DRAMA AND SPECIAL MUSIC
BY KAURIE MARINKOVICH**

APRIL 5, 2026 | 9:30AM

— join us this —

easter sunday



Knoxville First United Methodist Church
313 E. Montgomery, Knoxville

Service includes special music performed by the
brass ensemble and chancel choir, along with
communion.

Knoxville Community Chorus Chorus Spring Concert: "This Land is Your Land"

Join us for a musical celebration of Americana featuring an upbeat mix of gospel, pop, patriotic, and show tunes. performances will take place in the Knoxville First United Methodist Church Sanctuary on Friday, April 10 at 7:00 PM and Sunday, April 12 at 2:00 PM. Admission is by freewill donation, and everyone is invited to stay for refreshments and fellowship immediately following each concert. Support our local voices and enjoy a wonderful afternoon or evening of music!

Knoxville Community Chorus
presents
"This Land is Your Land"
Join us for a mix of
gospel, pop, patriotic and show tunes.
Friday, April 10, 2026 at 7:00 pm
Sunday, April 12, 2026 at 2:00 pm
First United Methodist Church
313 E Montgomery St
Knoxville, IA
Concert Directed by Paul Peterson
Concert is free will donation.
Refreshments following the concert courtesy of
Marion County Bank and Peoples State Bank

Chapel Service is back! Saturday, April 11 @ 5:00 PM

Join us Saturdays at
5:00 PM in the
Chapel for a
traditional service in
a casual, intimate
setting! Enjoy
hymns, prayers,
scriptures, and
meaningful
messages each
week while growing
in faith together.

Methodist Chapel - 313 E Montgomery



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL!

Knoxville First United Methodist Church
313 E. Montgomery St, Lower Level

MENU:

Chicken Tetrazzini
Lettuce Salad
Rolls
Cookie
Drinks



**Wednesday, April 29 @
5:00-6:30PM**

**EVERYONE
IS
WELCOME!**

VOLUNTEER/DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Our Goal: Raise \$120,000 For The Capital Campaign

Ready to donate? You can contribute by scanning the



QR code or visiting [this link]

https://kfumc.breezechms.com/give/online?fund_id=2100625

for online donations with a debit/credit card or ACH transfer. You can also donate by cash or check; just include "ATTN: Capital Campaign" in the memo line. Thank you for your support!



Help Us Restock the Blessing Boxes!

Right now, our supplies are running low, and we could use your help. If you're able to donate, please consider dropping off items like the following:

Pre-packaged Individual Size Snacks:

- Crackers with Cheese Sandwiched or Peanut Butter Sandwiched
- Granola Bars/Breakfast Bars/Snack Bars
- Pop-tarts
- Fruit cups

Misc. Food:

- Peanut Butter (no glass jars)
- Jelly (no glass jars)

UPDATES

Kitchen Labels

UWF is going to put labels on the kitchen drawers and cabinets. This way, anyone using the kitchen can easily find what they need and return it to the correct spot.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Spring is here (hopefully to stay)! I have been enjoying the extra sunshine and warmth, and I hope you have been too. It is hard to believe school only has about 2 months left, then we are into summer already. We have tons of fun stuff planned this summer and have attached our summer events calendar. If you have any questions, please contact me at lpetersen@kfumc.com.

Children's Church

Children's Church is our version of Sunday School designed for kids in preschool through early elementary. All kids are welcome to attend, and we encourage older children to come down and help! Children will sit through the first part of worship in the sanctuary, then will be dismissed to Children's Church after the Children's Message in big church. They will have about 30-35 minutes of learning about bible stories through fun games, songs, crafts, and more!

- No Children's Church on April 5th – Happy Easter!
- Last Day of Children's Church, May 17th

Pathfinders

Pathfinders is designed for kids in grades 3-5. They enjoy a 6-week session in the fall and spring where they will learn about bible stories and lessons through games, crafts, activities, and service projects. Our Spring Session is going well and we kicked it off by serving the Free Community Meal in March. It has been so much fun to watch these kids develop into wonderful servants!

Spring 2026 Pathfinders Schedule

Time: 3:30-5pm

Dates: April 1st, 8th, 15th

Summer BBQ

June 25th, 5:30pm Marion County Park

Bring the whole family!

Living Way Youth Group

Youth group is for students in grades 6th through 12th. Youth from any school or church are welcome and encouraged to join us. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month from 5-7pm. As we approach the end of another year of Youth Group, I am so amazed at the amount of spiritual growth I have seen in these young people. I am looking forward our summer plans filled with service and fun! Be sure to check out the summer calendar!

Youth Group Meetings:

- April 5th – NO MEETING HAPPY EASTER!
- April 19th – regular meeting, 5-7pm
- May 3rd - regular meeting, 5-7pm
- May 17th – last meeting, 5-7pm

Easter Children's Play

Our kids did a wonderful job at our second annual Children's Easter Play. This year's performance brought to light the true meaning of Easter in a fun, lighthearted way.

Good Friday Day Camp

April 3rd, 9am-noon

Kids ages 3 through 5th grade (must be potty trained)

We are so excited for another year of hosting our Good Friday Day Camp! We even have an extra special surprise in store for everyone this year. This event is completely free and open to anyone. If you have a kid interested in joining us, please register online at:

<https://forms.gle/LzexPZban4rCFvvs9> or fill out a paper registration form at the church.

Summer 2026 Calendar

We have tons of fun events planned this summer, including Summer at the Movies Day Camps, Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS, Sunday Fun Days at the Splash Pad, and BBQ at Marion County Park. The Youth Group will look forward to mission work in Des Moines and

Marion County, a day at Adventureland, an outdoor day at Lake Red Rock, and monthly meetings at Kone Korner. Check out the calendar for more details!

Blessings,
Lauren Petersen

SUMMER 2026

KFUMC Children, Youth, and Families

JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 LWY Milkshake Monday	9	10 Day Camp	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 LWY Mission Work	18 LWY Mission Work	19 LWY Mission Work	20
21	22	23	24	25 Pathfinders BBQ	26	27
28 Sunday Fun Day Splash Pad	29	30				

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 LWY Milkshake Monday	7	8 Day Camp	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 VBS	20 VBS	21 VBS	22	23	24 LWY Adventureland	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Sunday Fun Day BBQ	3 LWY Milkshake Monday	4	5 Day Camp	6	7	8
9	10 LWY Red Rock Day	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 School	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Children's Events

Day Camps

Summer at the Movies

Dates: June 10th, July 8th, and August 5th

Time: 9am to Noon

Who: Kids ages 3 through 5th grade

Vacation Bible School

Snowball Mountain Challenge

Dates: July 19th, 20th, 21st

Time: 5:30-8:15pm

Who: Kids ages 3 through 5th grade

Pathfinders

Summer BBQ

June 25th, 5:30pm

Marion County Park

Youth Events

Mission Work in Central Iowa

June 17th, 18th, 19th

Adventureland

July 24th - 6:30pm game

Lake Red Rock

August 10th

Kayaking, Picnic, Hiking

Milkshake Mondays

June 8, July 6, August 3

2pm at Kone Korner

Family Events

Splash Pad

June 28th, 2pm,

Veterans Park Splash Pad

Snacks will be provided!

BBQ & Fishing

August 2nd, 6pm

Marion County Park

PRESCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

Enrollment is open for the 2026/27 school year. Classes have been filling fast so if you know of anyone that may be interested in preschool, have them reach out soon! Totally Twos and the AM Kinder Explorers classes are nearly full. Thrilling Threes has openings but enroll soon to make sure your choice of days is available.



Montgomery Street Preschool

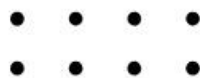
**Limited Spaces are available.
Enroll Today!**

Classes available:

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

Email: msspschool@hotmail.com

Website: www.kfumc.com



The Next Day



“The next day, following the day of preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate, and said, “Sir, we remember that this imposter, while still alive said, ‘After three days I will be raised up.’ Order that the grave be secured until the third day, lest his disciples come and steal him and say to the people, “He has been raised from the dead. This last imposture would be worse than the first.” Pilate agreed, “The guard is yours, go secure it as best you can.” And so they did.

--Matthew 27:62-65

I have often thought of some of my former “next days” that have helped develop me into the person I am today. The next day after President Kennedy was assassinated, the next day after Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated, the next day after the Federal Building was bombed in Oklahoma City, September 12th, the next day after the space shuttle Challenger exploded in mid-air, with thousands of school children looking on. Until the end of time, there will always be a next day.

We will need Jesus in all of our next days that we experience. The Pharisees were so short-sighted that they didn’t know the Messiah when he stood before them. You and I know the rest of the story, and we include praying to God in Jesus’ name with each of the next days we face.

Jesus had a great next day. Friday was so horrible, so unfair, yet Jesus took the whipping, carried his cross, and then his blood shed on that cross paid the price for our sins. After his teaching to the generations, Jesus then rose from the grave as he destroyed death and became our Risen Redeemer.

So now we are each experiencing the beginning of the next day of our own lives. And as we look around, we absorb and assess, we take everything seriously, shake our heads in disbelief, and somehow, we gather our thoughts, say our prayers, and move on. Just like September 12, 2001. Just like the next day, when Mary found an open tomb and it was announced to all followers of Jesus Christ, “He is not here, He is Risen!” Mary and the disciples, with guidance from the Holy Spirit, faced and managed the challenges of the next day. It is my prayer that your next day will be lived with God in mind. Love the Lord our God, and let us love our neighbor as ourself.

Praying for you Sunday!

---With God’s love, *Pastor Brent*

CALENDAR

April 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mar 29 PALM/PASSION SUNDAY 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 8:30 AM Costumes for Kid 8:30 AM Prep, breakfast & 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Kid's Easter Play 9:30 AM Worship Service 10 AM Education Room 10 AM Children's Church	30 7:30 AM Monday Mornin 11:15 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult P 6:30 PM Trustee Meeting 7:30 PM Board Meeting	31 9 AM Almost Free Shop 1 PM Grief Share 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	1 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 3:30 PM Pathfinders 5 PM Free Meal (Cookin 6:30 PM Brass & Choir Prac 7 PM Confirmation	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 12:30 PM UWF Execut 1:30 PM UWF General 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7 PM Maundy Thursday Se 7:30 PM NA Meeting	3 GOOD FRIDAY No Preschool 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Good Friday Day 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym 7 PM Good Friday Service	4
5 Communion Sunday/Fox EASTER SUNDAY 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Service 10 AM Education Room 11 AM Chapel Reserved 1 PM Sorarity Meeting 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	6 7:30 AM Monday Mornin 11:15 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult P 5 PM Girl Scouts	7 7 AM Katie Off 9 AM Almost Free Shop 1 PM Grief Share 6 PM Community Chorus P 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	8 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 3:30 PM Pathfinders 6:30 PM Contemporary M	9 9 AM Rachel Circle 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	10 9 AM Almost Free Shop 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym 7 PM Community Choru	11 5 PM Chapel Worship Se
12 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Service 10 AM Education Room 10 AM Children's Church 11 AM Chapel Reserved 2 PM Community Choru 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	13 7:30 AM Monday Mornin 11:15 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult P 5 PM Girl Scouts 6 PM F.U.N. Meeting	14 9 AM Almost Free Shop 1 PM Merna - Reserved 1 PM Grief Share 5 PM Garden Club 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	15 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 3:30 PM Pathfinders	16 11 AM Adult Bible Study 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7 PM Rebecca Circle 7:30 PM NA Meeting	17 9 AM Almost Free Shop 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 4 PM Knoxville Youth Fo 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	18 5 PM Chapel Worship Se
19 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Confirmation Sun 9:30 AM Worship Service 10 AM Education Room 10 AM Children's Church 11 AM Chapel Reserved 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 5 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM NA Meeting	20 7:30 AM Monday Mornin 11:15 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult P 5 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM SPRC	21 9 AM Almost Free Shop 1 PM Grief Share 6 PM Endowment 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	22 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping	23 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	24 Heather Off 9 AM Almost Free Shop 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	25 5 PM Chapel Worship Se
26 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Service 10 AM Education Room 10 AM Children's Church 11 AM Chapel Reserved 2:30 PM Christine Piano 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	27 7:30 AM Monday Mornin 11:15 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult P 5 PM Girl Scouts	28 9 AM Almost Free Shop 1 PM Grief Share 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	29 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 5 PM Free Community M	30 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	May 1 9 AM Almost Free Shop 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	2 1 PM Brent Reserved Fellow 5 PM Chapel Worship Se