

# The Link: Connected in Christ

## May 2026



### Our Mission: “Bring People to Christ”

313 East Montgomery, Knoxville, IA 50138

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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**

## A Time to Plant and A Time to Grow!

Now, at the end of April, it seems the field is ready for a new season. However, we hear every week that we have storms and bad weather. Even though we do not stop here. It is the season to plant. I heard some of you have already planted vegetables in your gardens. Well, not everyone has yet.



After we weathered a couple of storms and cold spells, we naturally shrank. We are afraid of venturing further into adventure or growth. Instead, we want to stay and be satisfied with the current condition. It is natural; we do not want to take a risk. However, there is no growth or change if we do not take any steps forward.

On a spiritual journey, it is the same. We sometimes do not want to grow because of the pain we may endure. When Jesus walked on the water in the midst of the storm at night, the disciples were terrified because they thought Jesus was a ghost. While the rest of the disciples were stunned to see Jesus walking on the water, Peter asked Jesus to let him walk out to him on the water. The musical “Jesus” by the Sight and Sound Theater describes that scene really well, especially the moment Peter stepped on the water. The scene was full of mixed emotions; full of fear and anxiety, and full of the desire to come to Jesus against gravity. Well, without stepping on water, you’re never going to walk on the water.

It is definitely time to plant. We know there will be some difficult days ahead, but we also know we need to plant. What would you like to plant in your spiritual field this season? There will be a harvest, but without tending them, the result will be minimal. Therefore, I want to encourage you to keep up the basics of what

we need to do as Christians: attending worship services, praying, reading the Bible, and giving to God. These will help you love God more and lead you to love your neighbors as well.

Blessings,

Pastor Jae

## 2026 Confirmation

We celebrated Confirmation Sunday on April 19, 2026.

Our Confirmands are, from left to right, Taylor, Noa, Colson, and Chloe.



Please keep praying for them to grow their faith in Jesus Christ!

## CHURCH EVENTS

# Senior Recognition Sunday, May 3 @ 9:30 AM



We will celebrate our  
KFUMC 2026 graduating high  
school seniors on **Sunday, May 3**,  
with a special time during the  
worship service!

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Austin Bishop  
Bailey Gullion  
Drake Larson





*Knoxville High School*  
*Class of 2026*

## BACCALAUREATE

**The public is invited to the  
KHS Class of 2026  
Baccalaureate**

**2:00 PM on Sunday, May 3, 2026  
Knoxville Performing Arts Center**

**Vocal and Instrumental music provided by the seniors  
Come and congratulate the Class of 2026**





# FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

Everyone is  
Invited!

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026**  
**5:00-6:30PM**  
**313 E. MONTGOMERY ST, KNOXVILLE -**  
**LOWER LEVEL**

**MENU:**  
**Ham, Potato Salad, Carrots,**  
**Dessert & Drinks**



## **United Women in Faith – General Meeting Wednesday, May 7 | 6:00 p.m.**

All are invited to attend the United Women in Faith General Meeting. The evening will begin with a light supper, followed by a special program featuring Idil Yalcin, a foreign exchange student from Turkey. Join us for a fun evening.

# **FREE COMMUNITY MEAL!**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 @ 5:00-6:30PM**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
313 EAST MONTGOMERY ST, KNOXVILLE  
(LOWER LEVEL)

### **ENJOY BREAKFAST FOR SUPPER**

BREAKFAST CASSEROLE  
CINNAMON ROLLS  
MIXED FRUIT  
DRINKS



# Churchwide Potluck

Sunday, May 31, 2026

**\*\*Note Special Worship Time of 10:30-11:30 AM\*\***

Potluck Immediately Following Worship Service  
in KFUMC Lower Level - Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite side dish and/or dessert to share!

(ham, drinks & table service will be provided)



## **VOLUNTEER/DONATION OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Our Goal: \$120,000 Capital Campaign**

Every gift makes a difference! Our Capital Campaign goal is **\$120,000**, and we are grateful for your generous support!



**Donate online or scan the QR code:**

[https://kfumc.breezechms.com/give/online?fund\\_id=2100625](https://kfumc.breezechms.com/give/online?fund_id=2100625)

### **Cash or check donations:**

Please include **"ATTN: Capital Campaign"** in the memo line.

Thank you for investing in the future!

## MEALS ON WHEELS: Deliver A Difference!

Volunteer to deliver Meals on Wheels from June 1 to 4, 2026, and help our community. There are four routes each day, making it great for individuals and families.

Pick up meals between 10:30 and 10:40 a.m. in the alley behind the police station. If you're volunteering multiple days, consider signing up for the same route.

Join us in supporting those in need—sign up today by replying to this email or in the Narthex! Thank you!



*deliver a difference*

<u>DATE &amp; ROUTE</u>	<u>VOLUNTEER</u>	<u>VOLUNTEER</u>	<u>CELL NUMBER</u>
<b>Monday, June 1, 2026</b>			
Route 3			
<b>Tuesday, June 2, 2026</b>			
Route 3			
<b>Wednesday, June 3, 2026</b>			
Route 3			
<b>Thursday, June 4, 2026</b>			
Route 3			

## UPDATES!

### Hello, from the ministry called Peter Paul & Pickleball!

Yes, we are still playing pickleball three times a week! We are having great attendance. On average, we play on two courts with 8 people, sometimes three courts! We are so pleased to welcome new players. Monday nights are for new players and please join us if you would like to try this sport!

We are also some of the first people in Marion County to start playing TYPTI. It is very close to Pickleball, just gentler! It's a great way to ease into pickleball.

TYPTI is easier for beginners and easier on the body for those of us who have had injuries in pickleball. It is so much fun! It's played with a racket, much like a tennis racket, and the ball is a foam ball so there's no noise!

TYPTI uses a unique scoring system called the Stakes, and it is one of the most psychologically compelling elements of the sport. To win a game, a player must win three consecutive points. Scores are called as 'Up' or 'Down' from the perspective of the server.

Here's how it works: if the server wins the first point, the score is 1-Up. If they win again, it's 2-Up. Win a third consecutive point and the server wins the game. But here's the twist that makes it so compelling: if a player reaches 2-Up and loses the next point, the advantage doesn't just reset to zero. It swings entirely to the opponent. The opponent becomes 1-Up, even if they had not yet scored a single point in that game. One moment you're one point away from winning a game; the next, your opponent holds the momentum and you're defending. This structure — which Bellamy compares to 'shoots and ladders' — creates constant pressure at 2-Up and makes comebacks a structural feature rather than an anomaly. A set is won by the first player or team to win five games. There is no win-by-two requirement — a 5-4 set score is a valid win. Matches are typically played as best-of-three sets, or best-of-five sets in tournament play.

We will continue to play pickleball but I'm proud that we have a gentler game for those who find pickleball too aggressive.

Please join us for TYPTI or Pickleball on:

- Sunday at 4pm
- Monday at 5pm
- Thursday at 5 pm

Rain or shine we play!

No need to bring any equipment, just wear tennis shoes. We have all the equipment!

## **CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY HAPPENINGS**

Summer is nearly here, and I am ready!! We are currently wrapping up our school year programs such as Children's Church and Youth Group as we get ready for summer. We have tons of fun stuff planned for this summer for kids and families of all ages. You can always find more information and links on our website and Facebook page. If you have any questions, please contact me at [lpetersen@kfumc.com](mailto: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!

- Last Day of Children's Church, May 17th

### **Pathfinders**

We had a wonderful year with our Pathfinders group this year and were sad to see it come to an end. This year our Pathfinders kids learned about the miracles Jesus performed and how he is still working in our lives today. They participated in service projects serving the free community meals and making cards

to go in lunches for kids through the Food Bank of Iowa. We can't wait to see what next year has in store for this group as they continue to grow in their faith and develop a love for doing God's work in the world.

### **Summer BBQ**

June 25<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm Marion County Park

Bring the whole family for a night of food and games! Incoming 3<sup>rd</sup> graders through graduating 5<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to attend!

## **Living Way Youth Group**

Youth group is for students in grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>. Youth from any school or church are welcome and encouraged to join us. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 to our summer plans filled with service and fun! Be sure to check out the summer calendar!

### **Youth Group Meetings:**

- May 3<sup>rd</sup> - regular meeting, 5-7pm
- May 17<sup>th</sup> – last meeting, party! 5-7pm

## **Thank you to our Volunteers**

We are blessed with so many wonderful volunteers who help our children's and youth ministry, guiding and caring for these kids as they grow in their faith. These volunteers lead Children's Church on Sundays, give the Children's Message during church, lead Pathfinders, and Youth Group. If you see one of these volunteers, tell them thank you for all they do!

**Children's Church Leaders:** Tim & Kelli Carruthers, Jess Gullion & Family, Jill DeMoss and family, Nora & Jeremy Conner, Sara Finnegan, Stephanie Liautaud

**Children's Message Volunteers:** Lori Pearson, Jill DeMoss, Denise Walters McNally, Katie Bishop, Pastor Brent

**Pathfinders Co-Leader:** Jane Peterson

**Youth Group Co-leader:** Cari Meissner

## **Get Involved This Summer:**

If you are looking for ways to get involved or dip your toes in Children's Ministry, volunteer for our Day Camps or VBS this summer. These are great, short-term commitments to see how you like Children's Ministry. For many of our Day Camp and VBS attendees, this is their only opportunity to get to know Jesus, and your time and presence with these events can greatly shape and change their lives! Children's Ministry is incredibly rewarding as you get to watch our future leaders grow in their faith, get to know our loving Savior, and share that love and joy with others.

All youth (6<sup>th</sup> grade and older) and adults are welcome and encouraged to volunteer in our Children's Ministry events. Background checks and Child Safety Training are required for new volunteers who are 18 years or older.

## **Volunteer Opportunities:**

### ***Day Camps:***

Time 8:30am-12:15pm

Dates: June 10<sup>th</sup>, July 8<sup>th</sup>, and August 5<sup>th</sup>

### ***Vacation Bible School:***

Time 5:30-8:15pm

Dates: July 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup>

Kitchen Help needed from 4-6pm

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, contact Lauren at [lpetersen@kfumc.com](mailto:lpetersen@kfumc.com) or call/text 515-201-1082.



SCAN ME



SCAN ME

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

# SUMMER AT THE MOVIES

2026 Summer Day Camps

**When:**  
June 10<sup>th</sup>, July 8<sup>th</sup>, August 5<sup>th</sup>

**Time:**  
9am-Noon

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

**Featuring**



# 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 30	24 School 31	25	26	27	28	29

## Children's Events

### Day Camps

Summer at the Movies

Dates: June 10<sup>th</sup>, July 8<sup>th</sup>, and August 5<sup>th</sup>

Time: 9am to Noon

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

### Vacation Bible School

Snowball Mountain Challenge

Dates: July 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>

Time: 5:30-8:15pm

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

## Pathfinders

### Summer BBQ

June 25<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm

Marion County Park

## Youth Events

### Mission Work in Central Iowa

June 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>

### Adventureland

July 24<sup>th</sup>

### Lake Red Rock

August 10<sup>th</sup>

Kayaking, Picnic, Hiking

### Milkshake Mondays

June 8, July 6, August 3

2pm at Kone Korner

## Family Events

### Splash Pad

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2pm,

Veterans Park Splash Pad  
Snacks will be provided!

### BBQ & Fishing

August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6pm

Marion County Park

# PRESCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES



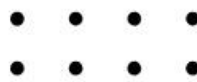
## Montgomery Street Preschool

**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: [mspschool@hotmail.com](mailto:mspschool@hotmail.com)  
Website: [www.kfumc.com](http://www.kfumc.com)**



Enroll today as Kinder Explorers and Totally Twos have very limited spaces!

## What's In Your Future?



"They were on their way to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. The disciples were filled with dread and the people following behind were overwhelmed with fear. Taking the twelve disciples aside, Jesus once more began to describe everything that was about to happen to him in Jerusalem. 'When we get to Jerusalem,' Jesus told them, 'the Son of Man will be betrayed to the leading priests and the teachers of religious law. They will sentence him to die and hand him over to the Romans. They will mock him, spit on him, beat him with their whips, and kill him, but after three days, he will rise again.'" -- Mark 10:32-34

We have celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ! Knowing that Jesus resurrected from the grave brings us great joy and a genuine sense of hope. God has a plan for each of us, and the path to Jesus' crucifixion was no exception. Many events led up to the death of Jesus, and the eerie thing is that Jesus knew what he was walking into. In this scripture passage from Mark, he informs the disciples with detail, what has to take place. It is without doubt, a good thing that you and I don't know our future.

What if you knew, with complete certainty, that in your daily travels, you would be walking into a group of people that meant to harm you, let alone kill you. What would you do, how would you react or respond? No doubt, if you knew that was before you, you would turn the other way and run!

Jesus knew that he would be betrayed by a close friend. He knew that he was going to be falsely arrested, stand before a kangaroo court, and sentenced to death upon a cross. He also knew ahead of time about being beaten and ridiculed. Talk about faith, obedience, and courage! The events that Jesus predicted to his disciples came to be true. No surprises—Jesus knew.

And yet, he went; he entered Jerusalem. He was obedient to God. And Jesus proved to you and to me how much he loves us. Jesus Christ carried his cross to Calvary, and took on of the sins of this world because he knew that after three days, he would be victorious over death, for an eternity. Only Jesus, and no one else, could know his future, and carry through with such a gruesome future. I'm glad that we don't know our future. We can rejoice in Jesus' resurrection, the victory over the grave, because Jesus, on his own free will, loved us so much that he laid down his life that we might live. Even in May, and every day of the week, we celebrate the resurrection! The LORD is Risen, HE is RISEN, INDEED!

--see you Sunday!  
Pastor Brent

# CALENDAR

May 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Apr 26	27	28	29	30	May 1	2
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	7:30 AM Monday Mornin	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, Ph)	9 AM Almost Free Shop	9 AM Craig Kelley Visitation
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	11:15 AM Staff Meeting	3 PM Preschool PT Confere	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM NA Meeting	12 PM Alcoholics Anonym	10:30 AM Craig Kelley Fun
9:30 AM Worship Service	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	3 PM Preschool PT Confere		6 PM Narcotics Anonym	11:30 AM Craig Kelley Fun
10 AM Education Room	2 PM Almost Free Shop		5 PM Free Community M			5 PM Chapel Worship Se
10 AM Children's Church	5 PM Beginners Adult Pt		6:30 PM Choir Practice			
11 AM Chapel Reserved	5 PM Girl Scouts					
2:30 PM Christine Piano						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Communion Sunday/For	7:30 AM Monday Mornin	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM Heather Off at Noor	Katie Off	8 AM Graduation Setup	8 AM Bishop Graduation
HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SU	11:15 AM Staff Meeting	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	12 PM WINGS	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, Ph)	9 AM Almost Free Shop	5 PM Chapel Worship Se
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	1 PM Neighbor Helping		1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM UWF Executive M	12 PM Alcoholics Anonym	
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	2 PM Almost Free Shop		5 PM Free Meal (Cooking)	6 PM UWF General M	6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
9:30 AM Worship Service	5 PM Beginners Adult Pt			7:30 PM NA Meeting		
10 AM Education Room	5 PM Girl Scouts					
10 AM Children's Church						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	7:30 AM Monday Mornin	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	9 AM Rachel Circle	Heather Off	8 AM Metz Graduation
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	11:15 AM Staff Meeting	5 PM Garden Club	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, Ph)	9 AM Almost Free Shop	5 PM Chapel Worship Se
9:30 AM Worship Service	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	6:30 PM Contemporary M	7:30 PM NA Meeting	12 PM Alcoholics Anonym	
10 AM Education Room	2 PM Almost Free Shop				6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
10 AM Children's Church	5 PM Beginners Adult Pt					
11 AM Chapel Reserved	5 PM Girl Scouts					
4 PM Pickleball (Peter, Ph)	6 PM E.U.N. Meeting					
7:30 PM NA Meeting						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
KHS Graduation	7:30 AM Monday Mornin	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	11 AM Adult Bible Study	9 AM Almost Free Shop	5 PM Chapel Worship Se
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	11:15 AM Staff Meeting	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, Ph)	12 PM Alcoholics Anonym	
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	1 PM Neighbor Helping		7 PM Rebecca Circle	6:30 PM MSPS Graduat	6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
9:30 AM Worship Service	2 PM Almost Free Shop			7:30 PM NA Meeting		
10 AM Education Room	5 PM Beginners Adult Pt					
10 AM Children's Church	5 PM Girl Scouts					
11 AM Chapel Reserved	5:30 PM Finance Commi					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	Church Office Closed for	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	12 PM Helmets and Hatdo	9 AM Almost Free Shop	
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	5 PM Beginners Adult Pt	11:15 AM Staff Meeting	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, Ph)	12 PM Alcoholics Anonym	
9:30 AM Worship Service		7:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	5 PM Free Community M	7:30 PM NA Meeting	6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
10 AM Education Room						
11 AM Chapel Reserved						
4 PM Pickleball (Peter, Ph)						
7:30 PM NA Meeting						
31	Jun 1	2	3	4	5	6
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	11:15 AM Staff Meeting	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, Ph)	9 AM Almost Free Shop	5 PM Chapel Worship Se
10 AM Education Room	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anon	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM NA Meeting	12 PM Alcoholics Anonym	
10 AM Holy Donut Hal	2 PM Almost Free Shop		5 PM Free Meal (Cooking)		6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
10:30 AM Worship Service	5 PM Beginners Adult Pt					
11 AM Chapel Reserved						
11:30 AM Churchwide Path						
4 PM Pickleball (Peter, Ph)						
7:30 PM NA Meeting						