

The Link: Connected in Christ

JULY 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**

Peace be with You!



Greetings in the name of the Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Month of June was busy and also restful for me. During the vacation, my family and I flew to Los Angeles. It was the first time being in the LA area and meeting relatives. We were happy to enjoy Korean food and other fun things in Koreatown, and to have a good time at Disneyland. Personally, it was really good to watch the Pacific Ocean at Seal Beach. The waves were high, the sun was hot, and the breeze was cool. It was just enough to make me think about my hometown in Korea. Overall, it was a

very refreshing time for my family and me.

2026 Iowa Annual Conference

The 2026 Iowa Annual Conference was held during the second weekend of June. This year, we had 4 days of conference to elect our General Conference delegates. As our church lay delegates, Nancy Johanson and Johnna Kincaid attended our 2026 Annual Conference. Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai has again appointed me as the Lead Pastor and Pastor Brent as the Associate Pastor at the Knoxville First United Methodist Church for another year.

Financial Update

We had a special charge conference on June 7 (Sunday) at 4 pm in the fellowship hall, with DS Rev. Dr. Lilian Seagren present. We passed the amendments removing the restrictions on the usage of the

endowment to support general church operations. Thank you to those who joined the special charge conference.

The updated endowment policy is available at the office window if you would like to see it. So far this year, due to a shortfall in our general operating budget, we have used \$14,230 from our endowment to help cover expenses. Even with those funds, we have been unable to pay our apportionments for the past three months.

We are grateful to have an endowment to help us through challenging times, but it was never intended to sustain our regular operating expenses indefinitely, and its resources are limited. As I have mentioned previously, our church needs approximately \$8,000 each week to meet its ongoing operating costs.

To better inform our congregation, beginning in July, we are planning to include a brief monthly financial update in both the church newsletter and the Sunday bulletin.

Thank you for your love, generosity, and commitment to our church's mission of bringing more people to Christ in the Knoxville community and beyond.

Many Blessings,
Pastor Jae

FINANCIAL UPDATE

June Month-End Financial Update

June General Giving: **\$37,527**

June General Expenses: **\$36,596** (we are currently three months behind on apportionment payments)

General Fund Account Cash Balance as of July 1, 2026: **\$9,781**

CHURCH EVENTS

JULY EVENTS



KNOXVILLE FIRST
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

313 E MONTGOMERY STREET,
KNOXVILLE, IA

07/01

FREE COMMUNITY
MEAL W/POP UP
PANTRY

PULLED PORK, BAKED BEANS,
FRUIT & DRINK
5 - 6:30 PM Fellowship Hall
- Lower Level

07/02

FREE DIZZINESS
WORKSHOP

CALL 641-842-1464 TO SIGN UP
11:30AM- Fellowship Hall -
12:30PM Lower Level

07/08

KIDS SUMMER DAY
CAMP

KIDS AGES 3 THROUGH 5TH GRADE
9AM - Lower Level
NOON

07/19-21

VBS 2026

KIDS AGES 3 THROUGH 5TH GRADE
REGISTER:
[HTTPS://KFUMC.MYCOKEsburyVBS.COM/
REGISTER-CHILD](https://kfumc.mycokesburyvbs.com/register-child)
5:30-8:15PM KFUMC

07/26

ICE CREAM
SOCIAL

FREE ICE CREAM...TREAT YOURSELF!
STOP BY ON A HOT DAY FOR SOME
COLD ICE CREAM AND LOAD UP
WITH TOPPINGS!
10:30AM Fellowship Hall -
Lower Level

07/29

FREE COMMUNITY
MEAL/PICNIC

PICNIC - GRILLED BURGERS,
HOT DOGS, CORN ON THE COB,
CHIPS, COOKIES & DRINKS
5:00- KFUMC Lawn
6:30PM



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

All are welcome!

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026
5:00-6:30PM**

**313 E. MONTGOMERY ST, KNOXVILLE -
LOWER LEVEL**



MENU:

**Pulled Pork Sandwiches,
Baked Beans, Fruit & Drinks**

FREE DIZZINESS WORKSHOP

THURSDAY, JULY 2
11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Learn about treatment for:

- Dizziness & vertigo
- Loss of balance
- Vision disturbances

Call to sign up:
(641) 842-1464

Presenters: Brooke Shelquist, DPT
Sarah Thompson, DPT

First United Methodist Church
313 E. Montgomery St.
Knoxville, IA 50138

 **KNOXVILLE**
Hospital & Clinics





SUMMER AT THE MOVIES

2026 Summer Day Camps



When:
June 10th, July 8th, August 5th

Time:
9am-Noon

Who:
Kids ages 3 through 5th grade

Featuring







VBS

2026

When: July 19th, 20th, 21st

Time: Dinner at 5:30pm
VBS 6-8:15pm

Where: 1st United Methodist Church
313 E Montgomery St

Who: Kids ages 3 through 5th grade

VBS Registration



ice cream social



TREAT YOURSELF!
Stop by on a hot day for some
cold ice cream and load up
with all of your favorite
toppings!

FREE ICE CREAM

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026 | 10:30 AM

KFUMC - LOWER LEVEL - FELLOWSHIP HALL

www.facebook.com/knoxvillemethodistchurch

FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

07/29/2026 @ 5-6:30PM

313 E. MONTGOMERY ST, KNOXVILLE
(PICNIC ON THE LAWN)



GRILLED HAMBURGERS



HOTDOGS



CORN ON THE COB



CHIPS



COOKIES

VOLUNTEER/DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Nationals Pancakes Sign-Up Opportunities

"It's Nationals time again and our church is proud to be a part of the community and to support the race fans and their families. We will be working with the Rotary Club of Knoxville to put on the Nationals Pancake breakfast each day August 12-15 from 8:00- Noon at the Knoxville National Guard Armory. There are two time slots to sign up for each day, with many ways to help. Please sign up so you can be a part of this iconic event and have some fun! Sign up online at Sign UP Genius.... <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805084DA9A82DA6FA7-64319363-2026#/> OR you can sign up at the church Narthex on paper sign up sheets. For questions call Kay Jensen. Thank you for supporting this community event!" Susan Helmers, Kay Jensen

VOLUNTEER for Day Camps and VBS 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 (6th grade and older) and adults are welcome and encouraged to volunteer at 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: July 8th, and August 5th

Vacation Bible School:

Time 5:30-8:15pm

Dates: July 19th, 20th, and 21st

Kitchen Help needed from 4-6:30pm

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

UPDATES!

Church Office Closed for Independence Day Holiday

The church office will be closed for the Independence Day Holiday on Friday, July 3rd.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

How is it July already? Summer is in full swing and we have already enjoyed so many great events. We have two more day camps, a couple more Youth events, and of course VBS to look forward to yet this summer. 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.

Children's Events

Day Camps:

July 8th and August 5th, 9am-noon.

For kids ages 3 through 5th grade.

Register here: <https://forms.gle/a27mUrJWzUCH4KkQA>



A promotional poster for "Summer at the Movies" featuring two large red and white striped popcorn buckets filled with popcorn on the left. The background is dark purple. A large red circle on the right contains the text "SUMMER AT THE MOVIES" in white, with "2026 Summer Day Camps" below it. To the left of the circle is a QR code with "SCAN ME" text around it. Below the circle, the text "When: June 10th, July 8th, August 5th", "Time: 9am-Noon", and "Who: Kids ages 3 through 5th grade" is displayed. At the bottom, it says "Featuring" and lists three movies: "FINDING NEMO", "Disney THE ROOKIE", and "Disney MEET THE ROBINSONS".

SCAN ME

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SUMMER AT THE MOVIES
2026 Summer Day Camps

When:
June 10th, July 8th, August 5th

Time:
9am-Noon

Who:
Kids ages 3 through 5th grade

Featuring

FINDING NEMO

Disney THE ROOKIE

Disney MEET THE ROBINSONS

Vacation Bible School:

July 19th, 20th, and 21st

Dinner at 5:30, VBS 6-8:15pm

Kids ages 3 through 5th grade

Register here: <https://kfumc.mycokesburyvbs.com/register-child>

The logo is a purple shield with a green border. Inside, there's a sunburst with a silhouette of a person, the text "FIND YOUR STRENGTH IN GOD!", and a mountain range. Below the mountains is "COKESBURY KIDS" in orange. The main text "SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN" is in large white and green letters, with "CHALLENGE" in white below it. A cartoon beaver character is at the bottom right of the shield.The logo features the letters "VBS" in a large, colorful, geometric font, with "2026" in green below it.

When: July 19th, 20th, 21st

Time: Dinner at 5:30pm
VBS 6-8:15pm

Where: 1st United Methodist Church
313 E Montgomery St

Who: Kids ages 3 through 5th grade

VBS Registration



Pathfinders

Our Summer BBQ was lots of fun. We look forward to seeing everyone back in the fall. You will receive updates in August or early September for our Fall 2026 dates!

Living Way Youth Group

Our Youth Group did an amazing job during their summer Mission Experience. They served at the Central Iowa Shelter where they served lunch to 150 people followed by working a shift at the Food Bank of Iowa packaging over 1 ton of food to go out to food banks across the state. They also helped spread tons of mulch at Bessie Spaur Butterfly Garden, pickup the church lawn, and sort donations at The Well. I am so proud of all the hard work these kids put in!



Youth Group Summer Events:

- July 24th – Adventureland – **RSVP Deadline July 8th**
 - Invite your friends to join us for a day at Adventureland. Tickets for chaperones and all youth grades 6-12 are free!
- August 10th – Red Rock Adventure Day – **RSVP by July 27th**
 - Join us as we go Kayaking, hiking, and enjoy a picnic lunch. The perfect way to end the summer
- Milkshake Mondays – no RSPV necessary, bring your own money
 - July 6th, August 3rd – 2pm at Kone Korner

Family Events:

BBQ & Fishing – August 2nd, 6pm, Marion County Park

Wrap up summer with us as we enjoy a fun evening with games, food, and fishing at Marion County Park. BBQ will be potluck style with burgers and hot dogs provided.

Blessings,
Lauren Petersen

July



A month of storms, warm, blue, skies, July. Humidity, camping, sweet-corn, county fair, vacation time. July is upon us, including our July 4th Independence Day. My thoughts turn to the 250th anniversary of our country. I believe that is a beautiful achievement, and I pray that our free and independent country will remain intact until the second advent of Jesus Christ.

I imagine most of you who take the time to read my article can recall the bi-centennial celebration, July 1976. That was also a very patriotic celebration. And then I also recall our celebration last fall, commemorating our church's 180th year of Methodism in Knoxville. Our Methodist church played such an important role in the growth and development of the Knoxville and Marion County community. Just as in 1845, today, in 2026, we are playing a vital role

in our community and county with our missions and worship service in bringing people to Christ.

Our church missions are well funded, but our general budget---not so much. We all have missions that are our "favorites" for our church. And we do a wonderful job of financially supporting them. But we need to remember that any donation we earmark for our favorite mission does not support the workings/operations of our church. Our donations to the general budget pay for our electrical bill, water bill, staff salaries, organist salaries, heating and air conditioning, insurance, IT, web-site, workman's comp, monthly elevator inspection, Johnson Controls, and other operating costs.

July. A month of storms, humidity, sweet corn, camping, and vacation time. Typically, during July, we have low church attendance and low church giving. It is a recipe for problems in paying the general bills for our church. When bills are laying on the desk, to be paid, sometimes we have to seek ways to have enough balance in the checking account to pay a bill. Currently, for our general fund balance, we are borrowing money from the building fund to pay our bills. All of our members need to know this.

Pray for our church family, and pray for our general fund. Enjoy this month of July, with Independence Day 250, VBS, and county fairs, it will pass by quickly. See you Sunday!

--Pastor Brent

CALENDAR

The most up-to-date calendar can be found at www.kfumc.com/calendar

July 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jun 28 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Serv 10 AM Education Room 11 AM Chapel Reserved 2 PM Family Day at the Spl 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	29 10 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop	30 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Chair Yoga Even 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	1 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 5 PM Free Meal (Cooking)	2 11:30 AM Dizziness/Vert 7:30 PM NA Meeting	3 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSE 9 AM Almost Free Shop 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	4 Heather's Birthday 8 AM Community Chorus F 5 PM Chapel Worship Sr
5 Communion Sunday/Pa Katie's Birthday 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Serv 10 AM Education Room 11 AM Chapel Reserved 1 PM Sorority Meeting 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	6 10 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 2 PM Youth Group Milksh 5 PM Beginners Adult P	7 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Chair Yoga Even 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	8 9 AM Kids Summer Di 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 6:30 PM Contemporary R	9 9 AM Rachel Circle 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	10 Lauren Off (County Fair) 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Chair Yoga Even 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	11 5 PM Chapel Worship Sr
12 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Serv 10 AM Education Room 11 AM Chapel Reserved 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	13 10 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult P	14 Lauren Off (County Fair) 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Chair Yoga Even 5 PM Garden Club 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	15 Erin's birthday 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping	16 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	17 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Chair Yoga Even 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	18 UWF Summer Mission U 5 PM Chapel Worship Sr
19 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Serv 10 AM Education Room 11 AM Chapel Reserved 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 5:30 PM VBS 2026 Snow 7:30 PM NA Meeting	20 10 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult P 5:30 PM VBS 2026 Snow	21 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Chair Yoga Even 5:30 PM VBS 2026 Snow 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	22 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 5:30 PM Finance Commi	23 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	24 Youth Group to Adventure 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Chair Yoga Even 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	25 5 PM Chapel Worship Sr
26 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Serv 10 AM Education Room 10:30 AM Ice Cream Sunda 11 AM Chapel Reserved 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	27 10 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	28 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Chair Yoga Even 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	31 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Chair Yoga Even 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	Aug 1 5 PM Chapel Worship Sr