

The Link: Connected in Christ

August 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**

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!



Every single week, **Knoxville First** United Methodist Church comes alive with worship, prayer, learning, and service. It is a place where faith is nurtured, heavy hearts find comfort, and our community experiences the tangible love of Christ.

None of this happens by accident. It is made possible through the regular, faithful general offerings of people like you.

When you give to our general operating budget, you are providing the foundational fuel for our everyday ministry. Your consistent financial support directly funds:

- **Inspiring Worship:** Providing music, technology, and materials that bring us together each Sunday.
- **Discipleship & Care:** Supporting our dedicated staff, pastoral care, children's ministries, and youth programs.

- **Community Presence:** Maintaining our facility as a safe, welcoming space for both our church family and local community groups.
- **Connectional Giving:** Fulfilling our shared UMC apportionments to support global missions and disaster response.

In 1 Chronicles 29:14, King David reminds us that everything we have comes from God, and we are simply giving back what is already His. Regular giving is an act of worship and a powerful spiritual practice that connects us to God's work.

We invite you to prayerfully consider your ongoing financial commitment to Knoxville First UMC. Your steady tithes and offerings ensure that our daily ministries remain strong and that we can confidently meet our everyday operational needs.

You can give during our weekly worship services, mail your offering to the church office, or set up convenient recurring online giving at <https://kfumc.breezechms.com/give/online>, or scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to give.



Thank you for your generous heart, your steady dedication, and your vital role in the life of our church.

With deep gratitude and prayers,

Rev. Jaeseong Lee

July Month-End Financial Update

July General Giving: **\$20,028**

July General Expenses: **\$33,076**

General Fund Account Cash Balance as of July 31, 2026: **\$4,864**

Apportionments delinquent to date in 2026: **\$19,308**

Borrowed from Trustees Account for General Operating Expenses: **\$14,230**

UPCOMING EVENTS

KNOXVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Events

AUGUST

2026

AUG 2	Churchwide Family BBQ Location: Marion County Park - Shelter 4 - Time: 6:00-8:00 PM Please bring a dish to share.
AUG 5	Kid's Summer Day Camp Location: KFUMC Lower Level. Time: 9:00AM-Noon Register: https://forms.gle/YyWSyiGai6yEPsyX8
AUG 5	Free Community Meal/Popup Location: KFUMC Lower Level. Time: 5:00-6:30PM Menu: Taco Salad • Dessert • Drinks. Pop-Up Pantry with limited essentials.
AUG 12-15	Nationals Pancakes Help with setup, cooking, serving, or cleanup from 8 AM-Noon at the National Guard Armory. Sign up in the Narthex or online: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805084DA9A82DA6FA7-64319363-2026#/ Call Kay Jensen with questions.
AUG 23	Blessing of the Backpacks Location: Sanctuary Time: 9:30 AM (during worship service)
AUG 26	Free Community Meal Location: KFUMC Lower Level. Time: 5:00-6:30PM Menu: Baked potato bar, cookies and drink

→ [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KNOXVILLEMETHODISTCHURCH](https://www.facebook.com/knoxvillemethodistchurch)

FIRST@KFUMC.COM

Churchwide BBQ

PARTY



**MARION COUNTY
PARK**



**AUGUST 2ND, 2026
6-8PM**

**RSVP BY JULY 29TH TO
LAUREN
lpetersen@kfumc.com**



**Bring the family and a dish to
share for our churchwide BBQ!**



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



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 5, 2026**

**MENU: Taco Salad,
Dessert & Drink**



TIME

05:00PM - 06:30PM

**313 E. MONTGOMERY
LOWER LEVEL**



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 23TH DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE
AT 9:30AM**

Students of all ages, teachers, administrators, and school staff: Bring your school backpack or work bag to the worship service on **Sunday, August 23**, for a special Blessing of the Backpacks. Receive a custom Blessing Tag as we pray for a great new school year with God's guidance every step of the way. **This blessing is for you!**



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

W E D N E S D A Y , A U G U S T 2 6 , 2 0 2 6
5 : 0 0 P . M . - 6 : 3 0 P . M .



Baked Potato Bar with Choice of Toppings
Cookies
Drinks

313 E. MONTGOMERY STREET
(LOWER LEVEL)

EVERYONE IS INVITED
AND WELCOME!

SAVE THE DATE

Rally Day is Coming! Save the Date!

Join us on **Sunday, September 13, 2026** for Rally Day.

Worship Service: 9:30 AM

Special Brunch: Immediately following worship in Lower Level Fellowship Hall.

Start the new ministry year with worship, fellowship, and great food. Invite a friend and join us!

We can't wait to see you there!

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

MSPS Donations Needed

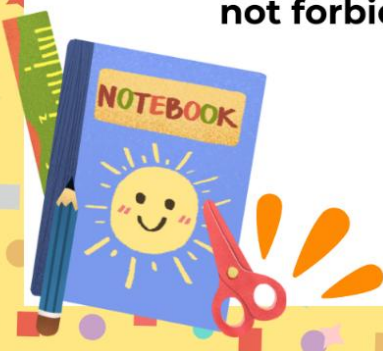
Back to school time is right around the corner. Montgomery Street Preschool could use some donations for the listed items to get the school year off to a great start. Thank you to our church family for supporting our program and the children of Knoxville. Donations may be dropped off in the church office or at the preschool on 2nd floor.



Montgomery Street Preschool Donation List for the 2025/2026 School Year:

- 5 oz dixie cups
- 100% Juice bottles
- Seventh Generation Disinfectant Spray
- Clorox/Lysol wipes
- Glue Sticks (purple glue preferred)
- Thin paper plates both large and small
- Paper Towels
- Disposable bowls
- Plastic forks and spoons
- All purpose cleaner
- Napkins
- Liquid Hand Soap Refills
- Nilla Wafers or Graham crackers
- Animal crackers
- Goldfish/Cheezit crackers
- Canned fruit or applesauce

Jesus said “Let the little children come to me and do not forbid them...” Matthew 19:14



CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Wow, summer has flown by and has been jam-packed full of fun. We have already enjoyed VBS, two day camps, a youth trip to Adventureland, two days of mission work, and our Pathfinders BBQ. But don't worry, we still have a few fun events planned for August before we go back to school.

We can always use great volunteers to help with our CYF programs! If you are interested in volunteering as a Children's Church Leader, Pathfinders, or Youth Group Volunteer, please let me know. We would love to have your help as we help the next generation grow in their faith! If you have any questions, please contact me at lpetersen@kfumc.com.

Summer Day Camp

August 5th, 9am-noon

Kids ages 3 through 5th grade

Join us as we explore God's message through the movie 'Meet the Robinsons' where a young orphaned boy with a love for inventing things, tries hard to find a new family.

Register online here: <https://forms.gle/PW9qj3ZfBzitz3y7>

Living Way Youth

- Milkshake Mondays
 - August 3rd at Kone Korner at 2pm, bring your own money
- Lake Red Rock Outing
 - August 10th, 10am – 4pm

VBS By The Numbers:

- 47 Kids Through the Door
- 49 volunteers
- 174 Meals Served
- 48+ items donated
- \$440.05 raised for Special Olympics Iowa.

Thank you to everyone who donated items, volunteered, and helped spread the word about our VBS. This year we had a wonderful VBS with a fast, fun-filled, 3 days. I am so incredibly thankful for the support of our church family that comes together each year to make this event possible. We could not do it without you. You are positively impacting the next generation and helping bring Christ into their lives! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Fall Programming Save the Dates

Children's Church – September 20th (meets every Sunday during worship, 10-10:30am ish)

Youth Group - September 20th (meets 1st and 3rd Sunday from 5-7pm)

Pathfinders – tentative date Tuesday, October 13th, details coming soon

3rd Grade Bible Sunday – tentatively Oct. 18th

Children's Christmas Play – tentative dates, play December 13th, practices begin November 1st

Blessings, Lauren

PRESCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

MSPS has a few openings still available for the 26/27 school year. If you know of someone that might be interested, please have them reach out to the preschool.



Montgomery Street Preschool

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

Classes available:

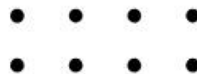
2 year olds (Totally Twos) - very limited spaces

3 year olds (Thrilling Threes) - M/W spaces only

4 and 5 year olds (Kinder Explorers)- PM spaces
only

Email: msspschool@hotmail.com

Website: www.kfumc.com



Allow Your August Hospitality To Shine



"After they arrived at Capernaum, Jesus and his disciples settled in the house where they would be staying. Jesus asked them, 'What were you discussing on the road?' But they didn't answer, because they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest. Jesus called the twelve disciples over to him. Then he said, 'Anyone who wants to be the first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else.' Then Jesus put a little child among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes my Father who sent me.'"

--Mark 9:33-37

Forty two years ago, we met two race fans from Illinois who were done with the camping scene and wanted to stay in someone's home for the Knoxville Sprint Car Nationals. We invited them to stay in our home with us, and they have been our house guests ever since. The relationship has grown to include their children, grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter, four generations. Needless to say, time waits for no one, and both of the original gentlemen have passed, and our tradition continues with a special intergenerational relationship.

August hospitality is not a rarity in Knoxville. We will soon have well over twenty-five thousand guests arriving in our community to enjoy the sprint car racing. We have many opportunities to welcome our guests. Jesus encourages us to be servants to others. He came to serve us, to nurture and minister to us, to heal us, to welcome us.

The competitive concept of being number one, to be first, is a large part of our culture. I think the disciples were more than a little surprised when Jesus taught them that to be the greatest disciple, one must become the greatest servant.

As we serve God and our neighbor, it can be tempting to draw attention to ourselves. We mustn't allow pride to replace our service. Jesus set the example by being the greatest servant. Jesus gave his life for others.

With the 2026-27 school year beginning, we will have additional opportunities to offer hospitality. You might be offered opportunities to help out a school child or to help out a family with driving a student to a school activity. Opportunities, like Christ, keep knocking upon the door of your heart. A big change for me is that I am retiring from driving a school bus, which I began driving for our school in August of 1975. That was fifty-one years ago!

We didn't raise enough Salvation Army dollars to stay open the entire year. Unfortunately, we couldn't find enough people to fill the bell-ringing time slots. Some people rang several times. We need more volunteers during our next ringing season. We will need to close down the Salvation Army, probably until January. We are also closing Neighbor Helping Neighbors until further notice, to allow the incoming donations to accumulate enough to re-open.

Also, our church operating account could use a little extra boost.

You'll have opportunities this month of August to serve others, some may be race fan guests, others may be a person who lives down the street. Perhaps it will be helping out a student. Take the time to make new friends and reacquaint friendships you have made over the years. Let's show our racing guests that we know how to be a servant. See you in Church!

Pastor Brent Hanna

August 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jul 26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	10 AM Staff Meeting	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	9 AM Almost Free Shop	9 AM Jackie Bauer Reserv
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	1 PM Neighbor Helping	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM NA Meeting	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	5 PM Chapel Worship Se
9:30 AM Worship Servio	2 PM Almost Free Shop	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	5 PM Free Community M		12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
10 AM Education Room	5 PM Beginners Adult P				6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
10:30 AM Ice Cream Sunda	6:30 PM Trustee Meeting					
11 AM Chapel Reserved	7:30 PM Board Meeting					
4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)						
7:30 PM NA Meeting						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Communion Sunday/For	10 AM Staff Meeting	9 AM Almost Free Shop	9 AM Kids Summer D	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	9 AM Almost Free Shop	5 PM Chapel Worship Se
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	1 PM Neighbor Helping	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	12 PM WINGS	6:30 PM Contemporary P	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	2 PM Almost Free Shop	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM NA Meeting	12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
9:30 AM Worship Servio	2 PM Youth Group Milksha		5 PM Free Meal (Cooking)		6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
10 AM Education Room	5 PM Beginners Adult P					
11 AM Chapel Reserved						
1 PM Sorority Meeting						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	Youth Group to Lake Red R	9 AM Almost Free Shop	7 AM Nationals Pancake	Lauren Off (State Fair)		
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	10 AM Staff Meeting	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	12 PM WINGS	7 AM Nationals Pancake	7 AM Nationals Pancake	7 AM Nationals Pancake
9:30 AM Worship Servio	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM Garden Club	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	9 AM Almost Free Shop	5 PM Chapel Worship Se
10 AM Education Room	2 PM Almost Free Shop	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor		7:30 PM NA Meeting	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	
11 AM Chapel Reserved	5 PM Beginners Adult P				12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)					6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
7:30 PM NA Meeting						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Lauren Off (State Fair)					
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	Katie Off	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	11 AM Adult Bible Study	9 AM Almost Free Shop	8 AM Reserved for Rich
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	10 AM Staff Meeting	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	5 PM Chapel Worship Se
9:30 AM Worship Servio	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor		7:30 PM NA Meeting	12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
10 AM Education Room	2 PM Almost Free Shop				6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
11 AM Chapel Reserved	5 PM Beginners Adult P					
12 PM Fellowship Hall & Ki	6 PM FUJHL Meeting					
	6:30 PM SPRC					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Lauren Off (State Fair)	7:30 AM Monday Mornin	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	9 AM Almost Free Shop	8 AM Reserved
Blessing of the Backpacks	10 AM Staff Meeting	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM NA Meeting	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	5 PM Chapel Worship Se
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM PEO Meeting (tent	5 PM Free Community M		12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	2 PM Almost Free Shop	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor			6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
9:30 AM Worship Servio	5 PM Beginners Adult P					
10 AM Education Room						
11 AM Chapel Reserved						
30	31	Sep 1	2	3	4	5
8:30 AM Adult Bible S	7:30 AM Monday Mornin	9 AM Almost Free Shop	12 PM WINGS	5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)	9 AM Almost Free Shop	5 PM Chapel Worship Se
9 AM Holy Donut Hal	10 AM Staff Meeting	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	1 PM Neighbor Helping	5 PM UWF Executive P	9 AM Chair Yoga Exer	
9:30 AM Worship Servio	1 PM Neighbor Helping	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	4:30 PM MSPS Meet the Te	6 PM UWF General M	12 PM Alcoholics Anony	
10 AM Education Room	2 PM Almost Free Shop		5 PM Free Meal (Cooking)	7:30 PM NA Meeting	6 PM Narcotics Anonym	
11 AM Chapel Reserved	5 PM Beginners Adult P					
4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P)						
7:30 PM NA Meeting						