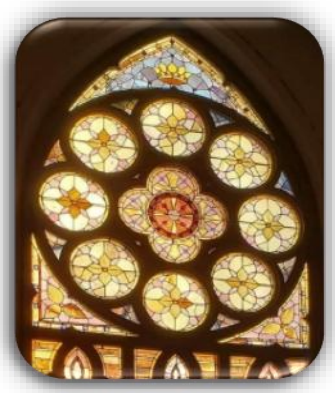
The Link: Connected in Christ
NOVEMBER 2026



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

A Time to be Thankful!



The field is almost empty. Farmers are working hard to finish their harvest before winter comes. Praying for their safety and good weather.

As we see the harvest season, we see our own lives. I mean, what we harvest in our lives. The writer of Ecclesiastes says, "a time to plant and a time to uproot" (Ecclesiastes 3:2). According to the season, we plant and harvest what we need. In our planting and harvesting, there is God's grace.

One of God's names is Jehovah-Jireh, which means "God provides on the mountain." When Abraham was about to offer his son Isaac to God as a burnt offering, God stopped him and showed him a ram God had prepared for them. Instead of offering his son, Abraham offered the ram to God. After Abraham experienced this God who prepares for him, he confessed 'Jehovah-Jireh' on Mount Moriah.
In Philippians 4, Paul tells the people in Philippi, "My God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." This is what Paul had experienced throughout his life, so he could teach them.

All things we have are from God. According to God's will, we have received them from God. Also, as God provides for us, there are many people God uses. Without their efforts, we cannot enjoy the things we have. So why do we not count the blessings we have received this season and give thanks to God? Try to think about what you have received, and then you will find many in your life.

Therefore, as followers of Christ, we should be thankful to God and others and be generous toward one another. This is one way we express and share the love of Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

May God bless you and fill your hearts with gratitude!

Pastor Jae

October Month-End Financial Update

October General Giving: **$18,804**
October General Expenses: **$29,894**



NOVEMBER EVENTS

Knoxville FIRST United Methodist Church

313 E Montgomery, Knoxville IA
Phone: 641-842-3712
Email: first@kfumc.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/knoxvillemethodistchurch
Website: www.kfumc.com

Nov.	**Order Poinsettias by November 15** **Order Pumpkin Pies by November 19**
Nov. 1	**All Saints Day Remembrance** During 9:30AM Worship Service
Nov. 4	**Free Community Meal with Pop-Up Pantry** 5:30-6:00 PM Lower Level: Fellowship Hall Mashed Potatoes, Chicken & Noodles, Veggies, Dessert & Drink
Nov.7-8	**Kids' Christmas Play Rehearsal Begins Nov. 8** Sundays at 8:45 AM weekly in Kids Kingdom **Consecration Weekend** During Worship Services Return your 2027 Estimated Giving Cards
Nov. 14	**Thanksgiving Potluck** 6:00-7:30PM Fellowship Hall RSVP to Lauren by Nov. 11 Bring Dish to Share, Meat & Drinks Provided
Nov. 22	**Decorate for Advent & Christmas** 10:30AM Meet in the Narthex **Community Thanksgiving Service** 6:00-7:00PM KPAC (bring a canned item fo Helping Hands to donate recommended)
Nov. 25	**Pie Order Distribution** 2:00-4:00PM - Fellowship Hall
Nov. 26-27	**Thanksgiving Holidays** Church Closed
Nov. 29	**First Sunday of Advent - Hope** Decorate an Ornament in Narthex Before or After Church Bring a Hygiene or Food Item to Donate to Blessing Box


LIVING WAY
YOUTH
Pumpkin Pie
Fundraiser
$15 for a 9" Pie
Pickup on Nov. 25th
2-4pm
Sign-up by Nov. 18th
Scan to Order
Knoxville First
United Methodist Church

2026 Poinsettia Order Form



- ☐ Live potted poinsettia — $14 each
- ☐ Artificial poinsettia — $22 each
- ☐ Donation to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund in memory or honor of someone — $25 each

Order form and payment due to church office by November 15, 2026.

DONOR INFORMATION

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

IN MEMORY OR HONOR OF

☐ **In honor of:** _____

_____

☐ **In memory of:** _____

_____

ORDER CALCULATION

Live potted poinsettia: _____ quantity × $14 = $_____

Artificial poinsettias: _____ quantity × $22 = $_____

Donation to Pastor's Discretionary Fund × $25 = $_____

TOTAL: $_____

PICK-UP / DELIVERY OPTIONS

Plants will be available for pick up after worship service on December 20, 2026, after the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

- ☐ I will pick up my plant(s).
- ☐ The plant(s) are gifts and will be picked up by _____

_____

- ☐ Please deliver my plant(s) to a homebound member of KFUMC.
- ☐ I will donate my plant(s) to the church to decorate the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas season.



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL!

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

5:00-6:30 PM

MENU:

- MASHED POTATOES
- CHICKEN & NOODLES
- VEGGIES
- COOKIES
- DRINK

Pop-Up Pantry Open

FALL COMFORT FOOD!

Warm and filling!

Knoxville First United Methodist Church

313 E Montgomery Street

Lower Level

EVERYONE WELCOME!

You're Invited to a

Thanksgiving PARTY!

Let's come together to give thanks, share a meal, and enjoy the season.

CONGREGATION THANKSGIVING POTLUCK

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | 6:00 PM

RSVP TO LAUREN BY NOV. 11TH

515-201-1082 OR LPETERSEN@KFUMC.COM

Potluck Dinner
Recipe Swap
Fun Activities

Bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish to share. Bring your recipe or send it to Lauren at lpetersen@kfumc.com

TURKEY, HAM, AND DRINKS PROVIDED!

Everyone is welcome—family, friends, neighbors!

DECORATE FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS!





SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

10:30 AM

(FOLLOWING WORSHIP)

JOIN US!







Knoxville FIRST United Methodist Church

4 SUNDAYS OF ADVENT

Congregational Activities for Sunday Worship

NOV. 29TH

Share the Hope

- Bring food and hygiene donations for the Blessings Boxes.
- Decorate an ornament in the narthex. All supplies provided!

"On the first Sunday of Advent my Awesome God gave to me – hope through the gift of a baby."

DEC. 6TH

Spread God's Peace

- Write Christmas cards for shut-ins. All supplies provided!

"On the second Sunday of Advent my Awesome God gave to me – peace for the world and hope through the gift of a baby."

DEC. 13TH

Shout for Joy

- Wear a festive Christmas sweater!
- Children's Play Sunday, Youth Group Bake Sale & Hot Coco Bar. Free will donation.
- Donate supplies for our Children and Youth Ministries.

"On the third Sunday of Advent, my Awesome God gave to me – joy in my heart, peace for the world, and hope through the gift of a baby."

DEC. 20TH

Share the Love of Jesus

- Decorate a cookie or 2! Enjoy one yourself and take one home for a friend.
- Caroling -

"On the fourth Sunday of Advent, my Awesome God gave to me – love reigning down from heaven, joy in my heart, peace for the world, and hope through the gift of a baby"

December Events

2nd	5:00-6:30PM Free Community Meal & Pop-up Pantry Fellowship Hall - Lower Level
4th	7:00PM Community Chorus Concert Sanctuary
6th	Second Sunday of Advent - Peace Before & After Worship: Write Christmas Cards for Shut-Ins - Narthex 2:00PM Community Chorus Concert - Sanctuary
13th	Third Sunday of Advent - Joy Before & After Worship: Youth Bake Sale & Coco Bar - Narthex 9:30AM Kid's Christmas Play - During Worship
16th	9:00AM MSPS Christmas Concert Sanctuary
19th	4:00-6:00PM Youth Cookie Baking
20th	Third Sunday of Advent - Love & Poinsettia Sunday Before & After Worship: Cookie Decorating - Narthex
24th	7:00PM Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Live Drama - Sanctuary
25th	Noon-1:00PM FREE Christmas Day Dinner Fellowship Hall - Lower Level
30th	5:00-6:30PM Free Community Meal Fellowship Hall - Lower Level

VOLUNTEER/DONATION OPPORTUNITIES



Light for a Neighbor

NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBOR invites you to join in their first annual

LIGHT FOR A NEIGHBOR

Light for a Neighbor will be a holiday tradition designed to honor special people in our lives:
*Family Members: alive or deceased *Newborns *Good Neighbors *Church family
*Homebound friends *Military or Emergency personnel

During the holiday season, for every *Light for a Neighbor* contribution of $25.00, a paper ornament tagged with their name(s) will hang on a lighted tree in the Knoxville Barber Shop until January 7. Their names will also be published with you as the donor. Names may be added to the tree throughout the season until December 23.

Light for a Neighbor donations will be used to help residents in the greater Knoxville area to finish paying some of their rent or utility bills, not phone bills. Neighbor Helping Neighbor only provides a partial payment through a voucher, no cash or money is ever given to the client. Neighbor Helping Neighbor can help clients twice per year in a specified category.

If you wish to make a contribution to *LIGHT FOR A NEIGHBOR*, please fill out the information below and return it with your donation to: Neighbor Helping Neighbor, 313 E Montgomery St, Knoxville, Iowa 50138

You may join us as the lights will be turned on November 20 at 4:00 pm in the Knoxville Barber Shop. Names will be continually added to the tree until Dec 23.

- -

MAKE A GIFT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Please include these names in the *LIGHT FOR A NEIGHBOR*.
Enclosed is a gift of $_____ ($25 per name or per couple's names).
Please make check payable to: **Neighbor Helping Neighbor and mail/return this form to: Neighbor Helping Neighbor, 313 E. Montgomery, Knoxville, Iowa. 50138**

The LIGHT FOR A NEIGHBOR will be tagged with: (PLEASE PRINT)

In Memory of_____

OR In honor of _____

Given by: _____ ph _____

Donations will be accepted through Dec 23.
Thank you from the volunteers of Neighbor Helping Neighbor
We wish you a happy, healthy, and wonderful holiday season!

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

This fall is going by so quickly, and we are having a great start to all of our ministries. As we approach the holiday season, we are trying a few new events this year to celebrate Thanksgiving and Advent together as a congregation. Read below for all the details. My goal this winter is to have a congregation-centered event each month. If you have ideas for an event, let me know! See below for further details on all our fall programs! 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 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! Children's Church has begun and will continue through May!

Living Way Youth

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. This year we are looking forward to continuing to grow in our faith, diving deeper into scripture, serve our community, and raise money for 2027 trips and events!

Save the Dates:

- Youth Group Schedule
  - November 1st, 5-7pm
  - November 15th, 5-7pm
  - November 25th – Pie Baking 10am – 2pm
  - December 6th, 5-7pm
  - December 13th – Bake Sale, 9-10:45am
  - December 19th, Saturday, Cookie Baking 4-6pm
  - NO MEETING DECEMBER 20th

Pathfinders

Pathfinders is designed for kids in grades 3-5. They enjoy a 7-week session in the fall and spring where they will learn about bible stories and lessons through games, crafts, activities, and service projects. Jane and I are so excited to see the kids back in mid-October. If you have a 3rd, 4th, or 5th grader interested in joining Pathfinders, please RSVP to Lauren by October 5th via email or by calling the church.

Pathfinders Fall Schedule
Tuesdays, 3:30-5pm
Transportation available from Northstar Elementary
Dates: October 13th, 20th, 27th, November 3rd, 10th, and 24th.
No Pathfinders November 17th

October Event Recap

Bible Celebration Sunday – October 25th

We present 3 children, Luka, Anna, and Rachael, with their own Bible. Bible Celebration Sunday is one of my favorite days of the year as we pray for and encourage our young people to continue to grow in their own faith and gift them their very own Bible that they can read and learn about God's love through the wonderful words in scripture. Even though we have already presented these kids with their Bibles, I encourage you to continue to pray for them to learn and grow on their faith journey and experience the wonderful love of God in their hearts.



3rd Annual Trunk or Treat – October 29th

We hosted our 3rd annual Trunk or Treat on October 29th. This year we had 11 trunks and roughly 175 kids join us. We were blessed with wonderful weather and a great time seeing all the kids and their creative costumes along with the creative trunk designs from our hosts!







Upcoming Event Save the Dates

Children's Christmas Play – December 13th at 9:30am, practices begin November 8th, Sundays before worship. All children are welcome and encouraged to join us. If your child would like to participate, contact Lauren at lpetersen@kfumc.com.

Congregation-wide Thanksgiving Potluck – Saturday, November 14th, 6-7:30pm
Join us as we celebrate all that we are thankful for through a wonderful meal and evening together. We will provide the turkey, ham, and drinks. Please bring a dish to share. We encourage you to bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish to share with the church! Recipes are also encouraged! During our potluck, we will enjoy time eating, fellowshipping, and some fun games and activities! Please RSVP to Lauren by November 11th – email lpetersen@kfumc.com, or call/text 515-201-1082.

The 4 Sundays of Advent – 12 Days of Christmas Themed
This year for Advent, we are going to enjoy special activities that can be completed in a few minutes before or after worship on each Sunday of Advent. These activities are for people of all ages! We will have a different station set up either in the Narthex or Sanctuary each Sunday. Plan to arrive a few minutes early or stay a few minutes after service to enjoy these fun activities, including ornament making, Christmas cards, cookie decorating, and more!

Be especially sure to mark your calendars for December 13th. This will be our Children and Youth celebration Sunday with our annual Children's Christmas Play, Youth Bake Sale and new this year, a Hot Coco Bar!

Blessings,
Lauren

PRESCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

MSPS is off to a fantastic start to the school year! Thank you to all of you that donated supplies. Also, thank you to everyone that supported the Harvest Dinner as that was the preschools fall fundraiser.

We have had a lot of fun in October! We were able to go visit the Knoxville Fire Department to learn about fire safety. We also got to go inside the fire truck and ambulance. The students' favorite part was getting to meet Max, the fire dog. Max even did his trick of "Stop, Drop, and Roll" for us. October also had us learning about many fall things like leaves, pumpkins, spiders, and our skeletons (bones).







What's Next—Change!



I don't need to go through the list of 2026 events that have touched all of our lives. You each have your own list of what's been so very different or how your life has changed this past year. Do you ever find yourself asking, "what's next"? For farmers, many acres of corn and soybeans suffered from the numerous rains we had earlier during the growing season. One thing for sure is "change". Change always happens, no matter if we like it or not. You may have heard me say before, "only two things like change--vending machines and babies."

For example, I could go back to three TV networks—CBS, NBC, and ABC, along with Iowa Public Television. Give me Walter Cronkite, Chet Huntley, David Brinkley, Harry Reasoner and Tom Brokaw. How many channels do you have on your TV today?

Back in the day, Crest and Colgate were plenty enough toothpaste choices on the grocery shelf. Today, there are over forty sizes, flavors, and purposes for Crest toothpaste alone. My mother had a real Avon lady, and I have memories of her stopping by our farmhouse about six times a year. Today one cosmetic company makes over one hundred seventy-five shades of just lipstick.

In many cases, computerized games, social media, and other technology has taken the place of a family sitting down and visiting, or even just watching Bonanza together on Sunday night.

The author of Ecclesiastes in the Old Testament tells us in chapter 3, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven." This year's season of 2026 has brought us many changes. Changes that we never dreamed of just five years ago, but we are now living them.

This year of 2026 also presents us opportunities. Opportunities to grow and improve. We can decide to do more things as a family. We can get some home and family projects completed that we started and were put on hold. Sunday mornings can find us worshiping together as a family.

Perhaps these last two months of 2026 can be a time to catch our breath. A season to instill family values in our children, to teach them even more responsibilities. May we take time to reflect on certain values and return to certain fundamentals. Perhaps we will find that we have more time for God. May we now take more time to pray, more time to talk with family about Jesus Christ. Perhaps we can relearn or restore some of the basic scriptures that have sustained us as children of God for all of these centuries. Change.

When Jesus asks us to take up our cross daily and follow him, he is inviting us to walk in his light. Unless you take up your cross daily, making daily choices that make a difference in your life or in the life of someone else, we won't find ourselves bringing people to Christ. In this year of change, we can discern and prioritize. We can simplify our lives, and perhaps in a small way, return to the days of three choices for television, or two choices for a toothpaste, or a couple of shades of lipstick. And that's the way it is, Walter Cronkite.

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven." I know that we are making the best of this year we call 2026. We can never turn back to the way things were. What's the next change? When we stay focused upon Jesus, when we take up our cross and follow him, no matter what the year brings, we will find ourselves in the arms of our Savior, Jesus Christ. See you Sunday! Amen.

---With God's love, *Pastor Brent and Mary*

CALENDAR

November 2026

KFUMC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 1 Communion Sunday/Fo All Saints Day 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Servic 10 AM Education Room 10 AM Children's Churcl 11 AM Chapel Reserved 1 PM Sorority Meeting	2 7:30 AM Monday Morni 11:15 AM Staff Meetir 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult Pi 5 PM Girl Scouts	3 9 AM Almost Free Shop 3:30 PM Pathfinders 5:30 PM Grief Share Sup 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	4 Fire Alarm Inspections 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 5 PM Free Meal (Cookin 6:30 PM Contemporary 6:30 PM Leadership Mee	5 9 AM UWF Executive 10 AM Budget Mtg (Del 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	6 9 AM Almost Free Shop 9 AM Grand Piano Tuning 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	7 5 PM Chapel Worship Se 5 PM Consecration Saturda
8 Consecration Sunday (Retı 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 8:45 AM Rehearsal for Ki 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Servic 10 AM Education Room 10 AM Children's Churcl 11 AM Chapel Reserved 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	9 11:15 AM Staff Meetir 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult Pi 5 PM Girl Scouts 6 PM F.U.N. Meeting	10 9 AM Almost Free Shop 3:30 PM Pathfinders 5 PM Garden Club 5:30 PM Grief Share Sup 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	11 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 6 PM Worship Team Mei	12 9 AM Rachel Circle 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 6 PM Rebecca Circle Pot 7:30 PM NA Meeting	13 9 AM Almost Free Shop 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	14 5 PM Chapel Worship Se 6 PM Thanksgiving Potluck
15 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 8:45 AM Rehearsal for Ki 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Servic 10 AM Education Room 10 AM Children's Churcl 11 AM Chapel Reserved 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 5 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM NA Meeting	16 7:30 AM Monday Morni 10:30 AM Pastors Circuit 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult Pi 5 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM SPRC	17 9 AM Almost Free Shop 11:15 AM Staff Meetir 5:30 PM Grief Share Sup 6 PM Community Chorus R 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	18 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping	19 11 AM Adult Bible Study 5 PM Knoxville Living Winc 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	20 9 AM Almost Free Shop 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	21 5 PM Chapel Worship Se
22 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 8:45 AM Rehearsal for Ki 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Servic 10 AM Education Room 10 AM Children's Churcl 10:30 AM Hanging of the C 11 AM Chapel Reserved 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P	23 7:30 AM Monday Morni 11:15 AM Staff Meetir 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult Pi 5 PM Girl Scouts 5:30 PM Finance Commi 6:30 PM Trustee Meetin 7:30 PM Board Meeting	24 9 AM Almost Free Shop 3:30 PM Pathfinders 5:30 PM Grief Share Sup 6 PM Community Chorus R 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	25 10 AM Youth Pie Baking 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Pie Order Pickup	26 MSPS THANKSGIVING BREAK THANKSGIVING (CHURCH 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	27 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym	28 5 PM Chapel Worship Se
29 8:30 AM Adult Bible S 8:45 AM Rehearsal for Ki 9 AM Holy Donut Hol 9:30 AM Worship Servic 10 AM Education Room 10 AM Children's Churcl 11 AM Chapel Reserved 4 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	30 7:30 AM Monday Morni 11:15 AM Staff Meetir 1 PM Neighbor Helping 2 PM Almost Free Shop 5 PM Beginners Adult Pi 5 PM Girl Scouts	Dec 1 9 AM Almost Free Shop 1 PM UWF Program B 5:30 PM Grief Share Sup 6 PM Community Chorus R 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor	2 12 PM WINGS 1 PM Neighbor Helping 5 PM Free Meal (Cookin	3 12 PM UWF Executive 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P 7:30 PM NA Meeting	4 9 AM Almost Free Shop 12 PM Alcoholics Anony 6 PM Narcotics Anonym 7 PM Community Chorus (	5 5 PM Chapel Worship Se