

# Crestview



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*"Building disciples for Christ by making God's love real to others."*

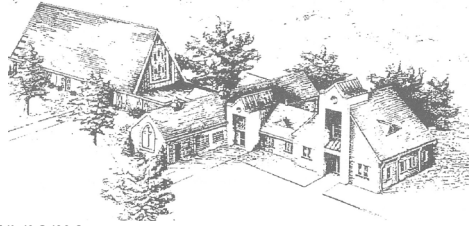
*"Looking to Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfector of our faith." Hebrews 12: 2*

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**Crestview United Methodist Church**  
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Web address: [cumctopeka.org](http://cumctopeka.org)

We are also on Facebook; search for us by our name.

**Pastor:** Rev. Kevin Rea

**Music Director:** Debbie Basom

**A/V Coordinator:** Chuck Forman

**Organist:** Connie Roth

**Custodian:** Al Nelson

**Nursery Director:** Vicki Wheat

**Secretary:** Terresa Mountain

**Financial Secretary:** Michele Turley

**Asst. Financial Secretary:** Marilyn Hiebert



Are you a fan or a follower? As we begin seeking to understand God's direction and purpose for our churches, it is important that we understand who we are as people who identify as Christians. Are we fans of Christ or followers of Christ? Are we theoretical Christians who present outward signs of faith but haven't felt the Spirit's stirring within us for quite some time?

Here is a little help to discern where you are at. Reflect on the past week and answer the following questions.

1. Did I live the past week as a disciple of Christ Jesus?
2. Did I seek Him with all my heart, soul and mind?
3. Did I encourage someone in their faith?
4. Did I victoriously resist a particular sin that is a stumbling block for me?
5. Was I humble/meek in all situations?
6. Pure in my heart and thoughts, blessing those that curse me, praying for those that hurt me?
7. Did I walk in peace, rather than fuel dissention or gossip?
8. Was I consciously open to the Holy Spirit's suggestions, and did I obey?

How did you do? Actually, that is not the correct question. The correct question is, "Do you want to do better?" In the Methodist tradition, wanting to do better is called, "Going on to perfection." Jesus described wanting to do better this way, *"If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me"* (Luke 9:23).

In February, March, and through Easter Sunday on March 31, our worship will focus on the question, "Are you a fan or a follower?" Although not necessary for worship, I would encourage you to pick up Kyle Idleman's book, "Not a Fan." It is available on Amazon for \$10.00. We are also going to offer a Lenten study on the topic. You will need Kyle's book for the study.

Both worship and the study are intended for everyone but have a specific focus for those who are already in the church and who identify themselves as Christians. We will seek to challenge ourselves and one another to take a closer look at our relationship with Christ, to deepen our relationship with Christ, to clarify God's purpose for our lives, and to draw closer to one another.

You will find more information about the Lenten study in this newsletter. I pray that you will consider joining me for worship and the study as we seek to love Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Think about it. Pray about it. I hope to see you in church.

Pastor Kevin

## It's Your Business: Our financial status through Dec. 31, 2023

Bank Balance:	\$ 71,279.22
Designated Funds:	\$ 47,562.06
General Funds:	\$ 23,717.16
Mission Shares paid to date:	\$ 10,476.98

Copies of the Monthly Finance Report are always available in the Church Office.

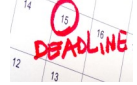
**Total unpaid Mission Shares for 2023 (\$ 9,793.2)**

**TOTAL: Budget \$187,232.05 + Mission Shares \$20,270.00 = \$207,502.05 needed for 2023**

*Please note: To keep prayer concerns refreshed in the weekly bulletin & newsletter, prayer requests will be renewed every 2 weeks with the exception of ongoing critical needs. We hope this keeps us updated and brings our attention to new requests. Thank you. Pastor Kevin Rea*

**Concerns:** Donna Reece, Reva Hern, Sherry Perry, Tom & Peggy Palmer's niece (Stacy—breast cancer); Dave & Mary Manley (for their son & wife, Jason & Farrah, as he remains in severe pain); Kim Brooks, Cindy Brook's uncle (David Edmonds), Julia Strobel, Debra Forman's step-father (Don Goodwin); Mary Absher's friend's mother-in-law (Vanita Hunt)

**Our Men and Women currently serving in the Military:** Matt Thompson; JoAnn Montgomery's Grandson & wife, (Jacob & Lexci Crawshaw); Rick & Laura Anderson's son (Matt Anderson); Oleta Schafer's grandsons (Matt Cavanaugh & Ben Tressler)



**February 15th is the deadline for the March 2024 Crestviewer!**

You can join the 24 other households that currently support Crestview UMC each time they shop at Dillon's! The website to sign up is:  
<https://www.dillons.com/i/community/community-rewards>

CRESTVIEW UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH (41597)



"Souper" Bowl Sunday is February 11th and we'll have "Soup to Go" again this year. Our tradition at Crestview has been to have a Soup Lunch on Super Bowl Sunday while collecting donations of canned soup and crackers to help fill shelves at Doorstep. Last year we had containers of soup for folks to take with them after church. We will continue that "new tradition" this year. Donations of canned soup (watch for those sales!) and crackers for Doorstep would be appreciated and can be brought to church anytime during January! Those donations will be collected on the table outside the church offices.



**After Church on Sunday, Feb. 11, plan to pick up your lunch - we'll have several kinds of soup prepared by various church members in containers along with bags of crackers for you to enjoy!**

Thanks for your donations for Doorstep!

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## Lenten Study: "Not a Fan"

A six-week  
small group  
Bible study

centered around the calling of every Christian to truly follow Christ. Each week, we will watch a 25 to 35-minute video that offers a dramatic story built on the focus of being a follower and not a fan. Each session will last no longer than 1.5 hours. A devotional guide will be provided for each participant. The devotional guide is designed to challenge and grow participants daily over the course of the study. The study will begin the first full week of Lent. The specifics (date, time, and location) will be determined by who is interested in participating. Please email Pastor Kevin at [krea@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:krea@greatplainsumc.org) to express your interest. The deadline to register for the study is Ash Wednesday, February 14. The purchase of Kyle Idleman's book "Not a Fan" is strongly encouraged.

The biggest threat to the church today is fans who call themselves Christians but aren't actually interested in following Christ. They want to be close enough to Jesus to get all the benefits, but not so close that it requires anything from them.

KYLE IDLEMAN



# Doorstep News ~ February 2024

Each year has its challenges when it comes to providing basic needs services; often they are the same as the previous year. In 2023, we saw a sharp increase (88-90%) in the number of households and individuals needing food assistance. Our member congregations answered the call to help, donating an additional 11,608 pounds of food over 2022 for a total of 44,164 pounds of food. We received \$11,000 in Project Topeka funds to purchase food, but we also had to spend an additional \$54,632 out of pocket to keep enough food on the shelves to meet the need. In total, Doorstep provided 127,370 pounds of food to 2,307 households in 2023.

So far in 2023, we are not seeing a decrease in the need for food assistance in our community. And this year having a successful Souper Bowl Sunday weekend is even more important than in year's past. We have had many empty pallets in the basement where cases of food are stored. Help us fill those pallets and show your neighbors you care!


**Souper Bowl Sunday is February 11<sup>th</sup>** and we are asking our member congregations to collect soup and crackers that weekend again this year to help stock our food pantry! Watch for sales, and gather your donations! We can use all varieties of soup, big and small cans, and crackers. A successful Souper Bowl Sunday weekend can stock our pantry with these items into the spring months!

**Our goal for 2024 is 5,000 pounds = 2.5 ton!**

We set the same goal in 2023 and exceeded it by 3,000 pounds... Let's do it again!!



**DOORSTEP'S 2024  
"SOUPERBOWL  
SUNDAY" IS  
FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>**



**BRING  
SOUP  
AND  
CRACKERS**

**TO YOUR  
CONGREGATION  
FEBRUARY 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>  
TO HELP STOCK  
DOORSTEP'S FOOD PANTRY!**









**Our Goal this year is 2.5 ton... 5,000 pounds!**  
**We beat it last year... Let's Do It Again!!!**

**FOOD ROOM NEEDS:** soup, crackers, spaghetti, spaghetti Sauce, spaghetti O's, cans of beans, all varieties, pork n beans, peanut Butter, can milk  
**CLOTHING ROOM NEEDS:** Sweatpants, male, female and kids all sizes; boys jeans, hats and gloves; girls jeans, all sizes; sheets and blankets, especially King and Queen but all sizes; hygiene: 2 in 1 shampoo, conditioner, bath soap, combs and brushes.  
**CHRISTMAS ADOPTIONS:** 278 households, 863 individuals received Christmas gifts. Thank you to everyone who donated items or money for this project.  
**SOUPERBOWL SUNDAY:** We will be collecting cans of soup and crackers to be donated to Doorstep each Sunday until February 11th. Julia Marsh will deliver all items collected on Monday, February 12. Doorstep goal: 5,000 pounds = 2.5 ton!

Doorstep will be closed on Monday, January 15th for Martin Luther King Day.

**CRESTVIEW DONATIONS:** During December, \$465 and 5 #s food. Crestview donations for 2023 = \$4,471.00 and 1,565.1 pounds of food. Thank you for all of your help.

Julia Marsh, Crestview Doorstep Coordinator.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b>  6:15p Bell Reh. 7:00p Choir Reh.	<b>2</b>  10:30a-3:00p Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary res.  	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>  9:30a Worship 10:30a Sunday School	<b>5</b>  11:00a Sanctuary reserved  7:00p Coin Club Fellowship hall	<b>6</b>  6:00p A Time of Prayer for our Churches	<b>7</b>  5:30p Faith Circle Parlor	<b>8</b>  9:30a-11:30a Coffee with the Pastor at  6:15p Bell Reh. 7:00p Choir Reh.	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  
<b>11</b> <b>BLESSING BOX</b> <b>SUNDAY</b> 9:30a Worship 10:30a Sunday School <b><u>SOUPER BOWL</u></b> <b><u>SUNDAY!</u></b> <i>Be sure to stop by</i> <i>the tables in the</i> <i>hallway and pick</i> <i>up some soup &amp;</i> <i>crackers for your</i>	<b>12</b>  11:00a Sanctuary reserved	<b>13</b>  7:00p-9:00p Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall reserved	<b>14</b>  ASH WEDNESDAY 1:00p Agape Circle Parlor  6:00p Ash Wed. Worship at Crestview UMC 	<b>15</b>  6:15p Bell Reh. 7:00p Choir Reh. 7:00p Stamp Club Parlor	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>  9:30a Worship 10:30a Sunday School  UWF: LEAF At Topeka 1st UMC	<b>19</b> UWF: LEAF  5:30p Ad. Council Parlor	<b>20</b>  10:15a Parlor res.  6:00p Lent Study "Not A Fan" Parlor	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  6:15p Bell Reh. 7:00p Choir Reh.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>  9:30a Worship 10:30a Sunday School	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  6:00p Lent Study "Not A Fan" Parlor 7:00p CNO Fellowship Hall	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> AN EXTRA DAY FOR FUN!  6:15p Bell Reh. 7:00p Choir Reh.		



## February 2024



**3rd**      **Sherry Perry**  
              **Amy Bitter**

**8th**      **Kathy Singer**

**9th**      **Susan Lienen**

**13th**     **Michele Turley**

**19th**     **Peggy Palmer**  
              **Mickey Shannon**

**28th**     **Cassie Slocum**  
              **Vivian McCormick**



Greeting cards for Sale! Janell and the women from the Topeka Correctional Facility create greeting cards by recycling old cards and making them new! The cards are a fundraiser for the women at TCF and the money raised helps them pay their UWF pledge. The cards will be located on the table in the Narthex - there are cards for multiple occasions. They are \$2.00 - please put your donation in the envelope in the card box and thanks for your support of the UWF Prison Ministry!

*I want to thank everyone for the prayers, hugs and cards, during my sister's illness and her passing. I am so blessed to have a wonderful church family.*

*Blessings, Kathy Singer*

**Time of prayer - 6:00p Tuesday: Feb. 6th**  
**At Crestview U.M.C.**

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**Coffee with the Pastor -**  
**February 8: 9:30a-11:30a**



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**Ash Wednesday Service, February 14**  
**at 6:00 p.m. at Crestview U.M.C.**

**I wanted to say Thank You for your**  
**Christmas gifts. I was very blessed.**

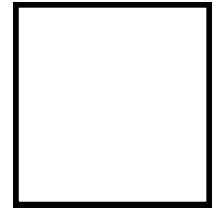
**Terresa Mountain**



### **UWF Events:**

Feb. 7 Faith Mtg. (5:30a) Parlor  
 Feb. 14 Agape Mtg. (1:00p) Parlor  
 Feb. 18/19 L.E.A.F. @ Topeka 1st





## To Our E-Readers!

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**Thursday, February 15, is the deadline for the March 2024 Crestviewer.**

If you know that someone is in the hospital, if they approve, please contact Pastor Kevin, so he can lift them up in prayer and possibly visit them.

### ***CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE***

***www.cumctopeka.org***

***Our e-mail address is:***

***[crestviewumc@gmail.com](mailto:crestviewumc@gmail.com)***

**We do offer our newsletter via e-mail, if you prefer to receive it that way!**



***Crestview Church is also on Facebook and found by searching for Crestview United Methodist Church, Topeka, KS***

If you would like to be notified by e-mail when there are new prayer concerns, or if you have a prayer concern you would like others to know about, please call the Church Office at 272-3676 or e-mail your information to the Church at the above address.



All e-mail addresses will be kept confidential.