



Weekly Circuit Rider

Columbus First United Methodist Church
Tuesday, August 1, 2023

Calendar of Events

Complete calendar is on our website:

www.columbusfumc.com & click on Events tab

Brown = program & administrative meetings & events

Green = worship **Blue** = women's groups **Dark Red** = men's groups

Orange = JAM / Youth & studies for all ages

Purple = caring ministries and/or Lenten studies

Pink = additional events / small groups

Black & Italicized = community partnerships and/or events

Bright Red = EXTRA announcements

Underlined = located at our Outreach Center

August 2 — **UMM Prayer Breakfast** / **UWF Ex Tm Mtg** /
Al-Anon / **Prayer Team** / **Transition Team Mtg**

August 3 — **Kitchen Cleaning** / **Red Cross Blood Drive** /
Bible Study (**Meridian Gardens**) / **AWARE** / **Revolution**
Theatre Reh / **First UMC Food Pantry** / **Martial Arts** /
PVYP Reh / *NAMI*

August 5 — *PVYP Reh*

August 6 — **At the OC: Worship On-Site at 8 AM** /
Sunday J.A.M. — All Ages /
Worship On-Site & Online at 10:30 AM /
1st Sunday Potluck / **Habitat for Humanity**

August 7 — **Revolution Theatre Reh** /
Monday Bible Study / *PVYP Reh* / *Habitat for Humanity*

August 8 — **Quilters** / **Tues AM Bible Study** /
Loup Valley Gem & Mineral Society

Salad Luncheon is next week ...

And WE NEED YOU!!!

We need at least 50 salads. We currently have commitments for 15. If you plan to provide a salad or two, please let us know ASAP!

Church Office #402-564-8463

By now, most of us have met and learned a thing or two about Pastor K. But here's some details you might *not* know ...

Pastor K earned his Master of Divinity degree at The Theological School of Drew University (Madison, NJ); his Clinical Pastoral Education degree at Morristown Medical Center (NJ) and his Bachelor of Theology degree at Methodist Theological University (Seoul, South Korea.) Prior to being appointed here, Pastor K was Senior Pastor for Sedan, Elgin, and Wauneta United Methodist Churches (KS; 2018-2023); Senior Pastor for Arma and Pittsburg Grace United Methodist Churches (KS; 2016-2018); Youth and Young Adult Associate Pastor for the Queens Central and Commack Korean United Methodist Churches (NY; 2013-2016) and served in various Youth/Young Adult Ministries as a Director in South Korea (2008-2012).

Pastor K's ministry focus includes preaching /teaching the Word of God, equipping believers to live out their faith in everyday life, building relationships and ministering to all people, and Multicultural and Next Generation Ministry.

"I am very passionate about sharing the Word of God, as I believe that the Bible is the living Word of God. My calling is to teach, serve, and lead people towards a connection with God and the growth of their faith. I believe that the church is a community of love and support, and that we should share God's love with each other while building relationships and ministering to all those in need.

I am thrilled to be a part of Columbus First United Methodist Church and its ministry. I firmly believe that God has great plans for this church, and I am eager to see what will happen through us, the church family, and this wonderful ministry."

Pastor K is married to Rev. Seulki Choi (or Rev. Sarah Choi (aka 'Pastor K's Sarah') — who is a provisional Deacon at the Great Plains Annual Conference). They have one daughter, Vivian, who will be a 5th grader at Columbus Middle School this fall, and one cat named Hart. Pastor K enjoys spending time with family, traveling, reading, playing sports and jogging.

Sunday, August 6

8 AM Service

All Sunday JAM sessions

10:30 AM Service

and

1st Sunday Potluck

are at the Outreach Center!

Coming Soon

Upcoming

mark your calendars

August 3-6 /

Men's Walk to Emmaus*

August 6 / 1st Sunday Potluck

Thanks to Marilyn Zehring & the Tuesday Morning Bible Study for coming to our rescue as hosts!

Entrée: Pizza Ranch Chicken

August 10-14 /

Women's Walk to Emmaus*

August 10 / Salad Lunch

Hosted by First UMC
Missions Committee

August 16 / Youth Kickoff Event

Potluck dinner at Pawnee Park East Shelter!

August 26 / Missy Buchannan

9 AM—11 AM \$20 per person

September 3 / 1st Sunday Potluck

Hosted by United Women in Faith.

September 10 / Rally Sunday

The official start to the 2023-2024 Sunday JAM season! Come meet your JAM teachers!

September 17 /

3rd Grade Bible Sunday

Come to 9 AM JAM to learn more about your new bible!

** Both Walk to Emmaus retreats will be held in Norfolk at the Immaculata Monastery and Spirituality Center.*

Worship

**Sunday, August 6
at the Outreach Center!**

- ♦ 8 AM Service
- ♦ All Sunday JAM sessions
 - ♦ 10:30 AM Service
 - ♦ 1st Sunday Potluck



Scripture Readings

Genesis 32:22-31 and
Matthew 14:13-21

**The 2022-2023
First UMC Photo Directories
are nearly ready for print!**



More than a year in the making, but hopefully worth the wait! If you are new to our church and have a recent photo individual or family photo you would like to have included, please let Lisa in the church office know ASAP. Also, if you missed the church photographers but have had pictures taken in the meantime, please feel free to submit those for use. (And thanks to everyone for your patience while it was "under construction"!

Coming Soon, (con't)

Missy Buchanan

Saturday, August 26

9 to 11 AM

First United Methodist Church

2710 14th Street



\$20 per person (scholarships available)

For a brochure or more information,
contact the church office at **402-564-8463**.

A popular author/writer and speaker on topics of aging and faith, Missy Buchanan's books *Living with Purpose in a Worn-Out Body: Spiritual Encouragement for Older Adults*; *Talking with God in Old Age: Meditations and Psalms*; *Don't Write My Obituary Just Yet: Inspiring Faith Stories for Older Adults*; *Aging Faithfully: 28 Days of Prayer* and *Joy Boosters: 120 Ways to Encourage Older Adults* are all top-sellers for Upper Room Books. She has appeared on ABC's *Good Morning America*, often contributes to "Aging Well" — a column for the United Methodist Reporter, and to www.ministrymatters.org.

Presented by

**Columbus First UMC Healthy Congregations
& Care Team, community partners
and individual donors.**



Board of Trustees Report on the Air Conditioning Status

by Gordon Kosch

Approximately three weeks ago, we experienced a power outage that affected both the Church and the Outreach Center. When the power was restored, we had three air conditioning units that were no longer working at the Outreach Center. While we were able to fix one unit, we had to replace the other two. The approximate cost for this is \$12,000.

A few days later, the compressor for the unit that cools the Sanctuary at the Church failed. The cost to replace this compressor would be \$15,000. The Board of Trustees has determined that this would not be a practical course of action because the unit is 20-plus years old and we continue to experience problems with the heating side of it each winter. We decided that a better choice would be to replace the unit at a cost of \$40,000.

While the Church has money to cover this expense in the Peg Jeffreys Emergency Maintenance Fund, this expenditure will substantially deplete the fund's balance. As such, we're asking for your help to replenish it. Please prayerfully consider a donation toward this endeavor. Shelly and I are pledging \$5,000 to jump-start this effort. Together, we can help ensure that the next unexpected yet essential repair or replacement expense can be met.

Coming Soon (con't)

The MMDC Trip to Chatham, Illinois is Coming Up in September!

They'll depart on **Sept. 10**, work the 11-13,
and return to Columbus on 9/14.

This year's participants are Steve and Donna Davis, Rich and Cindy Rohde, Bob Williams, Dick Breuer, Bev Weil, Denny and Dee Kinkaid, and Gwen Murcek. We are collecting the following donation items for the team to take with them when they go:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| ◆ Toothpaste (2.5 oz or ≤) | ◆ Liquid Laundry Soap* |
| ◆ Hand Towels | ◆ Liquid Dish Soap* |
| ◆ Wash Cloths | ◆ Rulers (12" w/metric) |
| ◆ Flannel fabric by the yd.
for diapers & receiving
blankets (no camo, hand
prints, foot prints or paw
prints) | ◆ Colored Pencils (12-pk) |
| | ◆ Scissors (student size) |
- *any size



Updated First UMC Recycling Information is forthcoming!

Keep watch in the coming weeks for items like new table tents, simplified recycling bin signage and other tips on how you can help First UMC-Columbus be a good steward of our beautiful God-given earth and its many abundant resources! The **Three Rs** — **Reduce**, **Reuse** and **Recycle** — will help lead the way. If or when recycling seems overwhelming, just remember — it's not about everyone doing absolutely everything that could possibly be done. It's about everyone doing WHAT THEY CAN!

New Daytime Alpha Course to begin **Thursday, August 31** with **Taste of Alpha!**

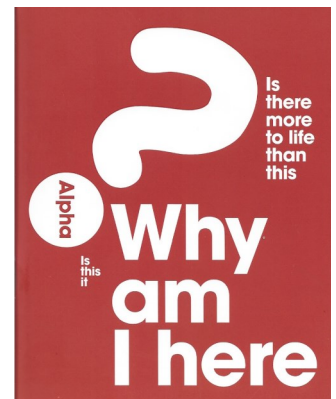
You've heard a lot about how God has used the Alpha Course to touch many hearts in our church and community. Now for the first time we are offering Alpha in the **afternoon!**

Those who prefer a daytime meeting can come see why so many at First UMC have enjoyed making new friends and growing in their faith during this 11-week small group experience.

You can come see what an Alpha small group meeting looks like on **Thursday, August 31** at **2 PM**. There is *always* food at Alpha...not a full meal this time, since it's in the afternoon, but goodies for sure! AND a video presentation by an inspiring speaker. All this can help you decide if Alpha is for you.

ALL are welcome at Alpha. If you have a friend or neighbor whom you'd like to invite, please do! Please let us know in advance if you plan to come so we have an idea of how many to expect.

You can call the
church office at
402-564-8463
or **Anne Kallesen** at
402-563-1570
by
Thursday, August 24



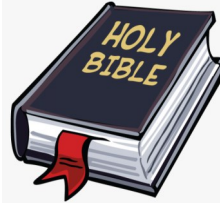
Christian Education, Youth & More



Sunday JAM will be held at the Outreach Center in August due to no air conditioning at the church.

Classroom locations will be posted throughout the building.

Sundays: 9:00—10:10 AM



**3rd Grader Bible Day
Sunday, Sept, 17
10:30 Service**

Come to J.A.M. at 9 AM to learn more about receiving your Bible, as well as explore some special things about your new Bible.



The official start to the 2023-2024 Sunday J.A.M. season begins on Rally Day!

Sunday, Sept 10 9:00—10:10 AM

Come meet your JAM Teachers, enjoy some fun and games, and a snack!

**ALPHA
YOUTH**
Series

Alpha

**Youth Alpha
starts with YOU!**

Want to grow closer to God or do you just want to know who God is? Then Alpha is for you! Our first session is starting soon!

Potluck Dinner



**Wednesday J.A.M.
Youth Season Kick-Off!**

Wednesday, August 16 6—8 PM*

Pawnee Park EAST Shelter

- Meat entrée, beverage, and table service provided.
- Bring a side dish to share.
- Parents please don't drop and run ... LOL!! We have *much* to share about some changes coming up for this year concerning our schedule and meals.

Activity: A WATER WAR!!!

** Come when you can, leave when you must*

Our Church Family



August 3

Gayle Callan
Trevor Fricke
Nancy Hanna

August 4

Gary Abbott
Oliver Kleckner

August 5

Lynn Wemhoff
Kevin Whited

August 6

Chad Gernstein

August 7

Daniel Borgman
Catherine Garretson
Jennifer Griffiths
Bennett Hash
Sharyn Mueller
Nicole Wetgen

August 8

John Gernstein
Haley Patchen
Haley Timm

August 9

Makiaya DeLaCruz
Renee DeLaCruz
Lureta Dierberger
1704 L Street, Apt. 302
Aurora, NE 68818
Joshua Fricke
Jackie Harnisch
Karleigh Hobza

August 10

Sadie Luebbe
Cyndi Makovicka
Taylor Moore

August 1

Tony & Sandra Carlson (38)
8 Clear Lake

August 3

Tom & Sue Burton (49)
2705 35th Street
Troy & Patti Holmberg (21)
PO Box 383
Leigh, NE 68643

August 4

Jeff & Jenny Claborn (39)
508 Apache Street

August 5

Kyle & Felicia Hein (6)
30166 190th Avenue

August 6

Justin & Chris King (35)
319 S 3rd Street
Doug & Linette Molczyk (35)
2870 N Park Lane

August 7

Sean & Nicole Wetgen (13)
34380 235th Avenue
Platte Center, NE 68653

August 8

David & Ann Dales (53)
2913 33rd Street
Keith & Katie Ferris (15)
44131 State Hwy 22
Monroe, NE 68647

August 9

Todd & Beth Kurtenbach (37)
4009 31st Street

XYZ Members (in bold) have addresses listed.
Send birthday greetings to our 90+ years young members! If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, made an error listing it, or if you would prefer not to have it listed, please call the Church Office at 402-564-8463.

Our Church History

The Tide of Pluralism (1919-1984)

According to *200 Years of United Methodism: An Illustrated History*, "the modern, pluralistic world began in 1919 when photographs of a solar eclipse confirmed Albert Einstein's theory of relativity." While Einstein was interested only the relativity of space and time, others argued for the relativity of "goodness and truth." Many proponents of relativity "poured old certainties of God, nation, and family into a cauldron, from which arose the steam of numerous moralities, numerous theologies, numerous 'isms'." These 'isms' included patriotism (WWI), secularism (the Roaring '20s) pacifism, modernism, fundamentalism and many more.

While the many and varied 'isms' "competed for Americans' loyalty, "the variety of theologies confused their minds and the variety of moralities confounded their lives." Depending on who one listened to, "celibacy and promiscuity, heterosexuality and homosexuality, faithfulness and adultery were equally good." (What comes around continues to come around, evidently!)

But while acceptance of diversity has been a dominant feature in Methodism since the tide of pluralism, if the Methodists had focused on diversity alone, the United Methodist Church of 1968 would never have been born. "What made the new denomination possible was the **quest for unity along with the acceptance of diversity.**"

During the Great Depression years of the 1930s, the Methodist, Evangelical and United Brethren churches set up breadlines and soup kitchens for those in need—even when they themselves were struggling. "Bishops' salaries were cut in half, pastors' salaries sharply reduced, college instructors dismissed or endured pay cuts, missionaries called home, church mortgages refinanced." And despite what many pastors reportedly thought would occur, "tight economic times did not drive persons to God."

The '40s were dominated by WWII; the '50s, egged on by a widespread fear of Communism, was the "America Under God" decade; the '60s brought us Vietnam (and anti-war sentiment, and the Civil Rights movement, *and* a rampant nation-wide drug problem)—yet we still managed to celebrate 200 years of Methodism in America during the 1970s! Denominational membership numbers were down across the board, yet Christianity in general—United Methodism in particular—simply continued to stay the course. As historian Paul Johnson reportedly observed, "The outstanding non-event of modern times was the failure of religious belief to disappear."

This "modern non-event" continues to this day, as United Methodists around the world answer our call to bring the Word of God and love of Jesus to any and all who will receive it from us.

On-Site Worship & J.A.M. Attendance

7/30

Sunday, 8 AM — 69

Sunday J.A.M. — 30

Sunday, 10:30 AM — 90

Our Missions & Outreach

“CAN **YOU** HELP US?”

**First UMC Blessing Box
& Food Pantry needs the following
items on an ongoing basis:**

(NO GLASS, PLEASE!!!)

Food Pantry needs include:

Boxed Cold Cereal / Quick-Cooking Oats /
Flavored Instant Oatmeal / Breakfast Bars /
Pancake Mix / Pop Tarts / Pudding Boxes /
Jell-O® / Canned Meats / Pasta & Sauces
Boxed Meals: Tuna Helper/ Mac & Cheese

**How does First UMC
address food insecurity?**

If you or someone you know
is in need of food and/or other supplies,
please check out:

First UMC Blessing Box
Located on east side of OC /
FOOD ADDED DAILY

First UMC Food Pantry
***New* Hours: OPEN THURSDAYS,**
4 to 6 PM or by appointment
(use east entrance of OC)

Platte County Food Pantry Needs:
Oatmeal, Soups, Hand Soap, Laundry Soap

Columbus Rescue Mission Needs:
Laundry detergent, cleaning supplies,
one-pound hamburger rolls

**1st Sunday Potluck dates
still unclaimed ...**

Many thanks to the
Tuesday Morning Women's Bible
Study for offering to host our
August 6th 1st Sunday Potluck!

We still need hosts for
Sunday, November 5
and
Sunday, December 3

If your Sunday School class, Small Group or
Committee would like to help, please
contact Lisa Nielsen in the Church Office.



Place your Scrip orders TODAY!

Have **special gift cards** in mind for the
special people in your life? Just call the
church office and let us know what you
would like! Calling ahead helps ensure that
we'll have enough of the most popular
requests for everyone.

Thank You for your generosity with monetary donations that have allowed
for food pantry / blessing box food items to be purchased.

Need Shoppers & Volunteers
for Thursdays, 4 to 6 PM at our Outreach Center

Would you like more info? Talk to Rod Supencheck, Janie Schneider and/or Rex Hash.

Worship & Study

Sunday: 8 AM (On-Site at Church)
10:30 AM (On-Site at Church & Online)
Ignite is taking a pause — stay tuned!

Wednesday: 7:30 AM
(On-Site ONLY at Church)

J.A.M. (Jesus And Me) Time

Sundays @ Church, 9 AM for all ages

AND Sarah's Bible Story on Facebook
& Website @ 9 AM on Sundays

Facebook Page:

First UMC & Outreach Center
Columbus, NE

Instagram: Firstumccolumbusne

YouTube Channel:

First UMC & Outreach Center
Columbus, NE



Church Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Keunsik Lee

klee@greatplainsumc.org

Director of Outreach Center & Ministries

Rex Hash

rex.hash@columbusfumc.com

Christian Education & Youth Director

Sarah Borgman

sarah.borgman@columbusfumc.com

Business Coordinator

Sue Overturf

sue.overturf@columbusfumc.com

Coordinator of Communications & Laity Development

Lisa Nielsen

lisa.nielsen@columbusfumc.com

Volunteer Parish Nurse

Martha Davidson

davidsonj6@outlook.com

Front Desk Volunteers

*Contact the office
for more information!*

Columbus First United Methodist Church

www.columbusfumc.com

Church
2710 14th Street
402-564-8463

Outreach Center
3602 16th Street
402-564-8362

Church Office Hours: Monday — Thursday, 7:30 AM to 6 PM

The Church Office is open over the lunch hour.

The West Doors are open during business hours.

