

The Circuit Rider

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2710 14th Street Church & Office 402-564-8463 **3602 16th Street** Outreach Center 402-564-8362

www.columbusfumc.com

SUMMER CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Call to schedule appointment! MON—THURS, 7:30 AM to 5 PM FRI, 7:30 AM to Noon

OUTREACH CENTER HOURS Call to schedule appointment!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE Stay tuned for July updates!

Wednesday: 7:30 AM (Online)

Sunday: 8:30 AM (Radio, 91.3 FM) 10:30 AM (Online) 6 PM Ignite! (Online)

ON-LINE J.A.M. FOR ALL AGES Sunday @ 9 AM Wednesday @ 7 PM

OUR CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR Rev. Cindi Stewart cindi.stewart@columbusfumc.com

ASSOCIATE PASTOR Pastor Joe Krepel joe.krepel@columbusfumc.com

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR Sarah Borgman sarah.borgman@columbusfumc.com

BUSINESS COORDINATOR Sharon Zobel sharon.zobel@columbusfumc.com

PROGRAM COORDINATOR Sandy Martensen programcoordinator@columbusfumc.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Lisa Nielsen frontdesk@columbusfumc.com

VOLUNTEER PARISH NURSE Martha Davidson martha.davidson@columbusfumc.com



*** JULY 2020**

Last year we shared: "July is made for Fourth of July parades & fireworks, sidewalk sales, family vacations, camping trips, homemade ice cream & fresh-squeezed lemonade..." In this pandemic world, we realize that **this** July is not the same, yet we can still reflect on the freedoms that we so often take for granted, and we can still recognize the freedom that we experience as followers of Jesus Christ!

Believing. We are planning to **Return to Church** on **July 19 & 26** at **9 AM** — one on-site worship service to start! Until then, Church family & friends, continue to study Scripture and to reflect on what you believe about God, Christ and the Holy Spirit. Please continue to "tunein" to our worship services & lessons:

- Worship on RADIO on Sundays @ 8:30 AM (91.3 FM) and watch for more information on a dial-in option to listen to sermons soon.
- Worship <u>ON-LINE</u> through Facebook and/or YouTube Channels and/ or website: Sundays @ 10:30 AM & 6 PM Ignite; 5-Minute Mondays
 @ 6:45 AM; Word + Table Wednesdays @ 7:30 AM plus other opportunities as scheduled and promoted.
- J.A.M. Lessons for children & youth <u>ON-LINE</u> on Sundays @ 9 AM & Wednesdays @ 7 PM. Plus groups for adults <u>ON ZOOM</u>: Sundays @ 8 AM, Early Risers; 9 AM, Seekers; 9 AM, Coffee & Conversation (contact Church Office for links to join Zoom groups). <u>NOTE</u>: these offerings will be adjusting on July 19.

Belonging. "Circles of Care" will provide connection among church family members — stay tuned. Watch for small groups addressing the topic of racism beginning the week of July 6. Our regularly scheduled small groups will resume in our facilities *when safely possible* & able to meet directed health measures.

Becoming. We continue to **BE THE CHURCH** — check out the "Our Church Family" page for much-needed food items for local pantries as well as opportunities to give, share & make a difference!

Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. 3 John 1:2

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

"Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear,

not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved." - Mathew 5:17-18 (NLT)

Our summer sermon series, **"What Would 'J' Do?,"** has been so inspirational to me. It has been a great reminder of the importance of scripture and looking back at how the people of the Bible handled the challenges and tasks put before them.

In June, we focused on the Old Testament and in July we will Focus on the New Testament. I am excited to share with you how Jesus Christ's arrival and ministry gave focus to the people living at that time. Because it is important to not just look at "What Would Jesus Do?," but look at how Jesus inspired others to be focused on God.

> I pray that all of you continue to find peace in the presence of God and strength in the love of Christ.

Blessings, Pastor Joe

Sunday PM, Ignite

July 5: Joseph Luke 4:16-30

July 12: John Revelation 1:4-11

July 19: James Matthew 20:20-28

> July 26: Jude Jude 17-23

One of my favorite questions to ask people is, "How is it with your soul?" It is a tricky question, isn't it? We're "fine" or "good" we say, yet most of the time we are masking all of the stuff that is happening behind the scenes. Some of you have missed those *soul questions & responses*, especially in connection with other family members, friends, colleagues and with our church family members.

The **"What Would 'J' Do?"** sermon series in June allowed us to reflect on some of our Old Testament faith ancestors. We reminded ourselves of their challenges and focused on their responses to inspire our faith, hope & love. In July, we are going to turn to some New Testament witnesses that help us to reflect on some of the trials and questions they experienced, and how Christ influenced their lives.

We continue to remember and to claim that **these moments** thru pandemic, tragedy and crisis have the potential to be life-giving & life-transforming. May it be so!

Grace & Peace, Rev. Cindi

Sunday AM

July 5: Joseph Matthew 2:13-23

July 12: John John 1:1-18

July 19: James Luke 5:4-11, 9:28-36

> July 26: Jude 3 John 1:1-14

We invite <u>YOU</u> to join us in June & July for What Would "J" Do?

On Sunday mornings, hear "part" of the story, and on Sunday evenings, hear "more" of the story!

Thank you for tuning in on the radio & online!



Our Church Family

"CAN YOU HELP US?"

Blessing Box Needs: Canned meats or tuna

First UMC Food Pantry Needs: Pasta & Sauces, Bags of Potatoes

Platte County Food Pantry Needs: Powdered Drink Mixes

Columbus Rescue Mission: Monetary Donations

Thank you for sharing your blessings!

Thank You!

What a wonderful surprise! We all want to thank you for the popcorn! All of the staff at Good Life Counseling are here for you and your congregation if anyone is ever in need of our services. We hope this finds you and your flock safe and healthy.

Kindest Regards, Good Life Counseling and Support

Do you have a special talent or skill?

First UMC is always looking for people to help fill volunteer positions!

If there is a special project or mission that is dear to your heart, contact Sandy at programcoordinator@columbusfumc.com and we will help you find your special place in our Church community!

YOU can help, if your preference is "behind the scenes," we've got you covered! If you feel **bold** and want to "get your hands dirty," we can help with that as well!

"Caring is the gift of making ordinary things special"-author unknown

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Ty Gregory Jarosz, son of Tyler & Kelsey Jarosz (and grandson of Terri Hager) was baptized on Saturday, June 6.



July 1 - Ham & Cheese Sliders, Chips, & Dessert July 8 - Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans & Dessert July 15 - Lasagna, Garlic Knots, Lettuce Salad & Dessert July 22 - Grilled Hamburgers, Chips, & Watermelon July 29 - Yankee Grilled Hot Dogs, Chips & Dessert

Want more information? www.columbusfumc.com

Email Blast

The Email Blast, which contains weekly information about what is happening in church and around our community, will continue to go out once a week on Thursday. To sign up with your email address, please contact the church office or email Sandy Martensen at programcoordinator@columbusfumc.com



Facebook & YouTube: First UMC & Outreach Center Columbus, NE Instagram: firstumccolumbusne

Christian Social Witness

Racism in America – Our Christian Response

On August 15, 2017, Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. issued a statement condemning "the deplorable racism displayed last weekend by white nationalists and supremacists" in Charlottesville, Virginia. Nearly three years later, our nation does not appear to be making much progress with this issue. According to the United Methodist Book of Discipline, "Racism is a sin. It is antithetical to the gospel of Jesus Christ. As Christians and United Methodists, we affirm all persons as equally valuable in the sight of God. We vehemently deplore personal and institutional racism enacted through attitudes of inherent superiority over others, acts of hate, and violence toward groups or persons because of race, color, national origin, and ethnicity." (BOD Π 162)

For United Methodists, this makes racism not a political issue, but a *spiritual* issue. God calls on us to know and do better for our brothers and sisters of color – but it can be hard to know where or how to begin – with others, and with ourselves. **Starting the week of July 6**, the Christian Social Witness Committee will begin to form small groups for pursuing further knowledge regarding this critical issue. Groups will meet for four to six weeks; times and days to vary. Please consider joining one of these small groups to learn more on how you can help individuals and society as a whole move beyond from where we are, to where God asks us to be.

Racism Resources

• Full Dissidence: Notes from an Uneven Playing Field by Howard Bryant

Nine provocative and deeply personal essays that confront the dangerous narratives that are shaping the current dialogue in American sports and mainstream culture.

• Good White Racist? Confronting Your Role in Racial Injustice by Kerry Connelly

White people often assume that to be racist, one has to be openly hateful and willfully discriminatory. But one don't have to wear a white hood or shout racial epithets to be complicit in America's racist history and systemic inequality. *Good White Racist*? demonstrates the systems that maintain the status quo, keep white people comfortable and complicit, and perpetuate racism in the United States and elsewhere. Connelly shows us that while it may not be our fault or choice to participate in racist systems – we all do, and it's our responsibility to do something about it.

• How to be an Antiracist by Ibram Kendi

Helps readers see all forms of racism clearly, understand their poisonous consequences, and work to oppose them.

• The Little Book of Race and Restorative Justice by Fania Davis

Demonstrates how racial and restorative justice can transform the African-American experience in America.

• Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor by Layla Saad This 28-day guide helps readers identify the impact of white privilege and white supremacy in their own lives.

• The Original Sin by Jim Wallace

Bestselling author and leading Christian activist Jim Wallis Racism considers racism to be "truly our nation's original sin". Fifty years ago, Wallis was driven away from his faith by a white church that considered racism a taboo subject. Taking part in the civil rights movement brought him back when he discovered a faith that commands racial justice – yet we continue to suffer from the legacy of racism. In *America's Original Sin*, Wallis offers a prophetic, deeply personal call to action to overcome the racism so ingrained in American society. He speaks candidly to Christians, urging them to cross a new bridge toward racial justice and healing.

• The Racism Study Pack from The Thoughtful Christian

An 11-session study on racism in America, designed to start faithful, honest conversations about race and racism.

• So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo

Oluo guides readers of all races through a wide range of race-related subjects to promote honest conversations about race, racism, and how they affect nearly every aspect of American life.

• Vital Conversations on Race, Culture, and Justice from The General Commission on Race and Religion of the UMC

A series of 20 minute videos addressing topics such as "Vital Conversations on Realities of Race and Racism" and "Deconstructing White Privilege".

• White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo

This book allows us to understand that racism as a practice is not restricted to "bad people". It shows us how it develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to move past it.

Upcoming Events & Information

First UMC's Habitat For Humanity Work Day!

July 18 – 7:30 AM until approx. 2:30 PM

Work should be painting and working on the shed (not guaranteed depending on how the builds are going) Please call the Church Office at 402-564-8463 to sign up or email Sandy at programcoordinator@columbusfumc.com



Join Us! First UMC's Burger Bash!

Sunday, August 23 4-6 PM

WEST Parking Lot @ our Outreach Center

This event is replacing our Block Party *Special goodie sacks for the kids!*

Mission Committee announces there will <u>NOT</u> be a Christmas in July this year – thank you all for your generous participation in this project in the past, and look for it again next summer.

Mission Committee Annual Salad Luncheon

Thursday, August 13 11 AM to 1 PM

Mission Committee will be holding their **Annual Salad Luncheon** on August 13 from 11 AM to 1 PM in the downtown Church parking lot! **This will be a DRIVE-THRU event.**

We didn't want to cancel everything this summer, and this event supports our Covenant Relationship with the United Methodist mission church in Willow, Alaska, so we are hoping for your support of this different kind of salad luncheon.

The meal will be a portion of our famous hot chicken salad, bread roll, brownie and some fruit – just drive though the downtown church parking lot and pick up your lunch for a **\$7.00 donation**.

We have so many wonderful people who help us with this event each year, with working on site and providing salads, and you are SO appreciated for that help, but with the current situation we are not going to be able to do this the same way. We will have a small group of people preparing and plating the food, using gloves and facemasks and social distancing in the Church kitchen, but we would very much appreciate your support in donations to cover our costs or simply your participation by coming to pick up a salad during the event.

More Upcoming Events & Info

OUTDOOR IGNITE PRAISE SERVICE



MARK YOUR CALENDARS Sunday, August 23 @ 6 PM

EAST Parking Lot @ Outreach Center

following the Burger Bash

Our Burger Bash will feed your stomach; while the Ignite Praise service will feed your soul.

Check out our website, it's full of information as well as the monthly calendar! www.columbusfumc.com

Attention, ADULTS!

Assistance is Needed in Preparing for our Youth Local Mission Experience

Bounce Back Better! July 24-25, 2020



Contact Sarah Borgman if you can help with any of the following or need more information:

- 1. Help prepare and serve meals at the Outreach Center for the youth and chaperones
- 2. Serve as an adult chaperone on the work sites
- 3. Provide a worksite for the youth (wheelchair ramps, stairs, framing, yard work, wash windows, painting, cleaning, AND SO MUCH MORE). Work sites should:
 - Be able to take at least 3-4 youth and at least 2 adult chaperones at the site
 - Provide work that can be completed in a minimum of 3 hours up to 2 days
 - Provide needed supplies to complete work (ie: paint, paint brushes, lumber, nails, etc)
 - Complete any building permits required before work starts
 - Have a set plan of what you need done

THE LABOR IS FREE! THE EXPERIENCE IS PRICELESS!

Children & Youth Ministries



Summer Virtual Camp

Check out the Camp Fontanelle website to sign up for summer Virtual camp. Summer Camp is for a \$50 donation and includes a t-shirt. Camp experiences are available for most school age students. Confirmation Camp is on this site as well.

Camp Fontanelle Family Escape Adventures

Check out the Camp Fontanelle

website to sign up for a family escape time. This is an opportunity to partake of all that Camp Fontanelle has to offer.



Overnight stays are also available!

Senior Recognition Day!



Sunday, August 2 9 AM*

*In-line with current Return to Church plans

Seniors and their families need to contact Sarah Borgman to let her know how many are in your family group. Scholarship donors also need to let Sarah know of your attendance.

Summer Surprise Sack ?!?

In July, we will continue to include a Surprise Sack moment in worship so our kids can:

- 1) Pick fave item
- 2) Place in sack
- 3) Write why it reminds them of faith or God
- 4) Deliver to Rev. Cindi
- 5) Item returned with treat!

Summer FUN!

Youth and Family Fishing/Hiking Outing

July 11, 2020 @ 9 AM

Meet at Lake Esther (by YMCA). Prayer at 10 AM in the parking lot then go with your family group to fish, hike, or bike.



Come and go as you need. No need to RSVP!

LOCAL Mission Trip Experience



Youth going into 7th grade to 2020 seniors

July 24-25, 2020

Come for the whole experience or part of it!

For more details or to register contact Sarah.





1st

Kenneth Beasley Annabelle Blunck Katy Carlson **Dorothy Cole** Evan Eickhoff Jeff Galley 2nd **Kelly Burton** Josh Novak Ethan Rigsby Twila Wallace Chaz & Dena Gernstein (4) 3rd **Richard Johnson** Kathleen Ladehoff Andrew Markham Maddie Sinovic Dean & Carol Athey (21) John & Kathy Peterson (15) $\mathbf{4}^{\mathsf{th}}$ James Stahl Kim Garretson 5th Drew Luebbe Ron & Shannon Mustard (19) 6th Joseph Hanson Zetha Nelson Mark & Heidi Benne (24) Donald & Nancy Patras (48) 7th Deanna Galley Kayla Gehring Jerilyn Rieken Mark Roy Erin & Zachary Reeves (2)

8th Sam & Cynthia Avila (20) Robin & Kevin Coan (25) 9th Ethan Boswell Morgan Schoening Lennice Vanek 10th **Gregory Davidchik** Allison Dolezal Nyaba Paul Dan & Darla Schiefelbein (27) 11th Chad Gaedeke 12th Megan Coan Marcia Warnecke 13th Adrian Bice Alyssa Dabill Petra Krepel Ellysha Roelle-Scheel 14^{th} Macie Harnisch Paul Mohr Megan Pinney Ivan & Andrea Goering (2) Mitchell & Melissa Jahn (13) Tim & Denene Owens (41) 15th Kyle Curry Olivia Nielsen Betty Osborn Sandra Reichenberg Jeff & Erin Eickhoff (14)

 $\mathbf{16}^{\mathsf{th}}$ Andrew Brockhaus Savannah Kleckner Henry Luebbe **Callen Wagner** Sam & Alyssa Hogeland (26) 17th Joe Brown Holly Champlin **Charles Kuehler** Timothy Tannehill 18th Stephanie Boruch Shirley Cline Makenzee Umstead Korey & Peggy Hobza (7) 19th **Courtney Hamling** Landon Heule Gabriel Reuling 20th Robin Curry 21st Collin Henry Morgan Merrill Aaron Rohde Jane Schneider Warren Voorhees Sylvia Walters 22nd **Corrina Griffiths Douglas Bice** Jamie Snyder 23rd Taylor Neuhalfen Ed & Kathy Goelinger (16) Jesse & Hayley Timm (4)

Joes Delacruz Lori Pickinpaugh Jaden Williams 25th Joan Adams Nicole Green Kasha Iwan Jennifer McCartney Joshua Schindler 26th Tyler Avila Sharon Roberts Randy Rohde 27th Brianna Blunck Sam Jahn **Michelle Stephan**

 $\mathbf{24}^{\mathsf{th}}$

Tom & Dacia Kent (36) 28th Blake Becher **Terry Boss** Dylan Dabill **Ric Karlin Robyn Myers** Charli Preister Larry Reed **Oliver & Jamie** Kleckner (8)

29th

Judy Cetak **Eric Champlin** Jesse Riesland Tina Varejcka 30th **Cecil Jones** 31st Colin Flyr Pat Fowler Jesse Osborn **Bonnie Summers** Ron & Nikki Moore (23)

Underlined names denote XYZ 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.