

FIRST UNITED METHODIST NEWS

CONNECTING *to Christ* | GROWING *in Community* | SERVING *the World*



VOLUME 88 | NO. 2 | February 2021

For Christmas I was given the book “Humankind: A Hopeful History” by Rutger Bregman with a high recommendation. I had never heard of the book. If it was not a gift, I probably would have never purchased it for myself. I have not even reached the halfway point of the book, but it is already giving me hope in ways I did not expect.

Adam Grant describes the book this way on the back cover. “This book demolishes the cynical view that humans are inherently nasty and selfish, and paints a portrait of human nature that’s not only more uplifting—it’s also more accurate. By taking us on a guided tour of the past, Bregman reveals how we can build a world with more givers than takers in the future.”

Humankind is not written from a Christian perspective, but it does connect to my theology. Most of all it reminds me to see the good in every person, something we all may need to do these days. In February we will begin the season of Lent. Lent is a time of self-reflection and growth. My goal this year is to look for the goodness in each person I meet and treat them with human-kindness.

I believe what Rutger Bregman is saying, we were not created to be nasty and selfish but to love one another. I can only do that if I can see the goodness in you.



*Grace and Peace,
Barry*

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

10:30 a.m. - Worship live on our website or Facebook. Replays will be available on both sites.

11:30 a.m. - Radio Broadcast on KMAN
1350 AM, 93.3 or 93.7 FM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
9:15 am-noon

The newsletter is published monthly on the 28th for the following month. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month. If you have items for the congregation, please send them to Deanna Likes, Communications Coordinator, via the website under “Monthly Newsletter”

When the newsletter is available you will receive a notification via email with a link to our website. If you prefer to receive a paper copy in the mail, please contact the office at 785-776-8821. If you have items for the bulletin, website, or Sunday morning worship screens, those should also be sent to Deanna.



First United Methodist Church
Manhattan, Kansas

www.fumcmanhattan.com | fumc@fumcmanhattan.com | 785-776-8821

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Services will continue on our website and Facebook live at 10:30 am. The video will remain on our Facebook page if you are not able to watch live and will also be posted on our website. Or, listen at 11:30 a.m. on KMAN 1350 AM, 93.3 or 97.3 FM. Each week we will alternate between traditional and contemporary music.

FIRST SUNDAY COMMUNION

February 7th; 9:00, 9:30, or 10:00 a.m.; Church Courtyard

Communion is an important sacrament that connects us to God and each other. A short liturgy will be shared to consecrate the elements. Please wear a mask and stay in family groups. Each person will receive individually packaged bread and juice.

GIVING TO FUMC

There are several ways to give to the church

1. Mail your check to the church. Mail is being delivered and picked up daily.
2. **You can text 785-329-0382.** Put the \$ (dollar sign) then the amount you want to donate. Registration information will appear. Enter your information, then click "process."
3. Download the 'GivePlus Church' app to set one-time or recurring donations. You can manage and view your giving from here.
4. **Online giving** is available through our website. Click on the "Giving" tab and scroll to the "on-line" giving picture and follow the instructions listed.
5. Automatic Withdrawal (ACH) is available for anyone who would like to set it up through the church office. It is a free service provided by our bank.

For more information about all giving, contact Mary Jane Adams in the church office, 785-776-8821, mjadams@fumcmanhattan.com.



COMMUNITY DINNERS

FUMC hosts meals on Wednesday and Saturday at 6:00 pm for anyone in the community. Until further notice, meals will be to-go only. Donations are also being accepted. If you have questions, please contact Ryan Likes, Kitchen Coordinator, kitchen@fumcmanhattan.com or 785-410-3864.



Priority Enrollment for the 2021-2022 school term will take place during the month of February. Children's Day Out is offered for toddlers-3 year olds and Preschool classes are for 3-5 year olds. Our school term runs from September-May. Contact Director, Lindsay Kinsinger at preschool@fumcmanhattan.com with questions or to request an enrollment packet.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Floral arrangements enhance our worship service by reminding us of the beauty of God's creation. If you would like to contribute an arrangement for a 2021 Sunday service, in memory or in honor of someone, contact Judy at jpadgett@fumcmanhattan.com to handle the details. You can also sign up on our website.

DOWNTOWN PUNCH CARD CHALLENGE

There is still time to participate and support our local downtown establishments. Please see our website for more information and official rules.

THE UPPER ROOM AVAILABLE

The January/February issue of The Upper Room is available. If you would normally pick up a copy when you come to church, email mjadams@fumcmanhattan.com or jpadgett@fumcmanhattan.com or call the church and leave a message and we will put one in the mail to you. You can also pick one up during office hours - Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 9:15 a.m.-noon.

GET SOCIAL WITH US

Jesus said follow me... and now we ask the same of you! If you are on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, make sure you "like" and "follow" us on these platforms. Find us on Facebook at First United Methodist Church of Manhattan, KS. We are @fumcmhk on Twitter and fumcmhk on Instagram.

FIT CLOSET AND CLOTHING EXCHANGE

The FIT Closet reopened on Tuesday, January 19th, after giving our beloved, hard-working volunteers a well-deserved break! We look forward to serving our shoppers to the best of our abilities in 2021 and are grateful for the support of our community, which makes our work possible.

Shopping

We are still operating “by appointment only” - but our schedule has been altered a bit. We offer 45-minute shopping appointments for our registered shoppers from 9:00 a.m.-noon, Monday-Thursday. We have evening hours from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. We have afternoon hours on Thursdays from 3:00-6:00 p.m. If you, or someone you know, would like to shop at the FIT Closet, the first step is to register. In order to register with the FIT Closet, families must have a child enrolled in USD 383 schools who qualifies for free or reduced fees. More information about registering can be found on our website at fitcloset.org/register. Once registered, families can make an appointment to shop once per calendar month.

Volunteering

We are always looking for additional volunteers to add to our substitute roster. In this season of colds, flu, and COVID, subs are an even greater need. If you're interested in joining our substitute roster, please email Tracy Emery, FIT Closet Coordinator, at fitcloset383@gmail.com

Donating

Clothing donations are always welcomed. All donations continue to be directed to our drop-off location at the USD 383 Maintenance Shop (2031 Casement Road). They are open Monday-Friday, 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Because space is so limited at the FIT Closet - we ask that ALL donations be school-appropriate and be items that our Pre-K through 12th grade students would be EXCITED and PROUD to wear to school. If you have clothing donations that would be more appropriate for older folks (25 years or older), please take them elsewhere.

Priority clothing needs:

- gloves - all sizes (particularly adult)
- boys' long-sleeved shirts (4T, 5T, 6/6X, 7/8, 10/12, 14/16)
- boys' athletic pants/sweats (all sizes)
- girls' long-sleeved shirts (3T, 4T, 5T, 6/6X, 7/8, 10/12, 14/16)

- girls' athletic pants/leggings/sweats (all sizes)
- boys' & girls' warm winter coats (14/16, 18/20 or adult small)
- men's long-sleeved t-shirts, sweatshirts/hoodies (all sizes)
- men's athletic pants/sweats (all sizes) - so many of our highschool boys love these...it's hard to keep the bin full!
- adult-size hoodies (L and up) - again, so many of our highschool students love these (also, our high school social workers keep a stash in their office, and we like to keep these lovely ladies well-stocked!!)
- underwear of all sizes (girls', boys', men's, women's)

Other priority needs:

- full-size shampoo
- full-size conditioner (we do ask that you purchase shampoo and conditioner separately - not 2-in-1 or 3-in-1)
- full-size men's deodorant
- full-size women's deodorant
- full-size toothpaste
- laundry pods
- toilet paper

Our sincere and deep gratitude to the family at First United Methodist! We are so very grateful for your continued support of the FIT Closet and the families we serve each day!

COVID-19 Best Practices:

- ALL FIT Closet shopping is BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.
- Face masks are required at all times.
- Hand sanitizer use is required upon entry.
- Cleaning of high-touch areas occurs after each 45-minute appointment block.

More Information

For the most up-to-date information, visit our website: www.fitcloset.org, or Facebook page: USD 383 FIT Closet.

Tracy Emery, Coordinator

USD 383 FIT Closet and Clothing Exchange

785-320-6750 | fitcloset383@gmail.com

THRIVE! GRADUATES TWO LEADERS



Before 2020 closed, two Thrive! Leaders completed their 18-month program and participated in a virtual graduation.

Both leaders shared remarks about how their lives had changed, the difficulty of making changes, and the importance of the support they received from their allies and the Thrive! community. One Leader said, “This has not been easy. I came to Thrive! at my lowest point. My allies were there to support me while I did the work on my goals. Thrive! helped me change my life for the better.”

Thrive! is able to impact people’s live because of your gifts and time. Your financial donations support salaries for part-time staffing, supplies for our youth program, and other costs of the program. Your time toward preparing and serving meals when we were able to meet on Tuesday evenings allowed our leaders to focus on family time and building community. Manhattan FUMC has supported Thrive! with meeting and office space. We couldn’t do it without you!

This year continues the challenges of last year. The Thrive! community meets over Zoom now. Youth activities are packaged and dropped off at leaders’ homes. Leaders and allies are finding innovative ways to work together, as allies coach and support their leaders toward their goals. Fund raising has become a priority as funding sources have changed.

Thank you for your support! If your call to serve includes working with those in poverty Thrive! needs you! We always need allies to coach and support Thrive! leaders. We also need your financial support, which you can provide through your giving here at FUMC. To learn more about Thrive!, please visit our website, www.thriveflinthills.com.

2020 ANGEL TREE

Thank you to all who participated in the Angel Tree mission “Hope for the Holidays” this year! We had a tremendous response from our church family, with more than \$4800.00 in donations! Once again, First United Methodist Church responded and blessed many young people through your giving hearts! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

BEGIN NEW YEAR WITH SMILE

Together, we did it! It’s a pleasure to report the happy news: Last fall, with missed opportunities for fundraising activities that typically make it possible for UMW to meet its pledge to mission for women, children, and youth, we appealed to our FUMC family for contributions.

In the months that followed, many of you have responded: As of December 31st, Jenny Sue Hayward, Treasurer for UMW, reported contributions totaling \$1,085.00, which, with what we had previously raised/earned, left us just \$173.00 short.

As a church family working together to build community and help others, we are encouraged – and thankful – for your thoughtful gifts to mission.

We look forward to seeing and working with you in the new year

OPERATION SANTA STOCKINGS

For two years women from FUMC have made stockings for Operation Santa at Fort Riley, which is under the leadership of Retired General Phil Mattox.

Each year, for 36 years, soldiers under a certain rank have come to the Operation Santa building to select donated gifts, and, for the last two years, a stocking for each of their children. Last year three UMW ladies from FUMC made and donated 200 stockings to the event. This year, 10 women from the UMW circles at FUMC and 10 from College Avenue United Methodist Church made and donated 400 stockings. The soldiers loved the stockings, but a record number of soldiers attended this year and more stockings are needed to enable each child to have a homemade stocking.

We are looking for more sewers along with donations of Christmas fabric and batting. We also need red, green, beige, or white fabric for backings and lining.

Sheets or mattress pads you no longer use, but are in good condition, can be used. Any donations would be appreciated.

Those willing to sew (at home - we have the pattern and directions) or have donations to help can call Becky Ward at 785-473-7667.



Jeff Cunningham,
Youth Director

youth@fumcmanhattan.com
785-776-8821

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram:
@FUMCYouthMHK

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Middle School Youth Group (7th-8th grade)
4:00-5:30 p.m., Zoom

High School Youth Group (9th-12th grade)
6:00-7:30 p.m., Zoom



I don't know about you, but I am starting to look forward to spring and summer. I look out my window and can't wait to see the trees begin to bud and some color return to the world outside. I am also looking forward to enjoying all of the new outdoor dining spaces downtown. Even after a fall and winter like we have just gone through, we can look to the future with hope. This month at youth we will be talking about hope, and how Jesus is the author of hope. We will continue to meet virtually for now, but I have hope (there it is again) that we will soon be able to meet in person again.





First United Methodist Church

Manhattan, Kansas

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Pastors: Barry Dundas, Sarah Marsh, Melanie Nord, Chelsea Shrack
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