

FIRST LIGHT

January 2017
Vol. 161 No. 46

Join us for inspiring worship at 8:15 a.m., 10:50 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. every Sunday • Church School and small groups for all ages meet Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

THIS SUNDAY

As we begin 2017 we'll start a new series, "Finding a Faith that Matters" exploring why faith matters and how it makes a difference in the world.

Join us for worship Sundays at 8:15 a.m., 10:50 a.m., or live at 11:00 a.m. on KAKE TV and live on the web at firstwichita.org. and at 5:00 p.m. at Mead's Corner .

INSIDE

2

New Director of Missions

3

Stephen Ministry-Most Wanted

4

Guatemala Stove project

5

CORE Kids

7

Events Calendar

8

Poinsettia Acknowledge

FEED THE HUNGRY

Food collected in the A/B entrance goes to United Methodist Open Door.

January: Dried Beans

FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Life. Downtown

www.firstwichita.org
330 N. Broadway • 316-267-6244
On Broadway between 2nd & 3rd Streets
in downtown Wichita.



During this sermon series, we will explore why faith matters and how it makes a difference in the world. On January 1, people often make "resolutions" as to how their life will be different in the coming year. Sometimes they seek a deeper spiritual connection. So one of the questions asked is "Why does faith matter at all?" We hope you will join us in the new year as we explore, "Finding a Faith that Matters".

January 15, 2017
"Do We Need Faith?"
Isaiah 42: 1-9
Matthew 3: 13-17

January 22, 2017
"Called to Live an
Authentic Faith"
1 Corinthians 1: 1-9
Matthew 4: 12-23

January 29, 2017
"Finding a Faith that is
Your Own"
1 Corinthians 1: 26-31
John 10: 1-10

February 5, 2017
Sacrament of Holy Communion
"Communion in the Midst of Conflict"
Ephesians 2: 14-22
Matthew 20: 20-28



This month First Church is hosting the meals at the Warming Souls Winter Shelter. There are still slots available if you and a small group would like to provide a meal for breakfast or dinner. To calendar a date contact Vicki Tanner at 316-773-5853. If you have questions contact Frances Rathbun 316-208-9284.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Continuing Concerns:

Mariam LeBaron, Bob Dietz, the hospitalized, our members and attenders with long-term and terminal illness, their caregivers, the homebound and those who are in nursing homes. Pray for our Guardian Angels and Stephen Ministers.

Articles for the next edition of *First Light* are due Jan. 15, by 9 a.m. Material should be submitted to the appropriate ministry director for approval. Questions can be directed to Erin Davis, 267-6244 ext. 300.

Prayers

Email prayer@firstwichita.org to ask for prayer from the people of First United Methodist Church.

Email pastoralcare@firstwichita.org to ask for a visit, call, or private prayer from the congregational care team.

The Congregational Care Team,
Rev. Cindy Watson,
Rev. Dr. Tal Tittsworth,
Leslie Coates

OUR FAMILY

We grieve the deaths of:

Myrtle Ruth McComas

Carolyn King
wife of
Bob King

Douglas McGinness,
husband of
Vi McGinness

Maurice Edmonds,
father of Susan Proffitt

Annette Schmidt Named Director of Missions

Staff/Pastor Parish is pleased to announce our new Director of Missions. Annette Schmidt will be half-time and will begin her duties in January. The Director of Missions will continue to help our congregation reach beyond our walls in mission and ministry. That includes mission opportunities out of state as well as providing new mission opportunities here in Wichita.

Annette Schmidt is a life-long member of First United Methodist Church. She is the daughter of Obed and Evelyn Wells and along with her siblings, Gail, Tom and Paul were raised in the church. Her children, Amanda and Stephanie, and her nephew, Malachi Winters, were also baptized and confirmed here.

Annette has served on many committees, including Children's Council, Archives, Disaster Response Team, Trustees and Staff Parish Relations Committee. She and her husband, Jim, have been members of the Seekers Sunday School class since 1985.

She went on her first work team in March 2001 to North Carolina and

since then has been on work teams to Virginia, the Gulf Coast, New Orleans, Camp Buckhorn in Colorado, Nome, Alaska, and returning to North Carolina in 2015.

Outside of her church activities, Annette worked for Cessna Aircraft Company for 36 years. Since her retirement from Cessna, Annette has continued working in several positions. She also serves on the Board of Directors for Flinthills Services, Inc., in El Dorado. Her hobbies include reading, genealogy and preservation of pictures.

Annette and her husband, Jim, have been married for 40 years and enjoy traveling.



Notifications: Weather Policy and Church Closures

During the winter months we want to inform you of procedures in the event of inclement weather. First Church will follow the closing of Wichita School District, USD259 during the regular business hours. If the decision is made to close schools, the church offices will also be closed. The decision to cancel regularly scheduled church programming will be made by the Senior Pastor in consultation with the church staff.

Closing notices are reported to several outlets. Look for updates on the First Church

website, firstwichita.org, on the local television stations and/or their websites: Channel 3 (KSN), Channel 10 (KAKE), Channel 12 (KWCH). Some of these media outlets only post church closings on their websites.

Updates will also be shared through our E-news and on our social media sites via Facebook and Twitter. If you are not yet connected with us, please go to firstwichita.org and click on the E-News sign up button, our Facebook page and "Like Us" and to our Twitter page and "Follow Us".



Community Rewards

Dillons Card Program

Did you know, in 2016, First Church received \$5,600 from the Dillons Rewards Card Program? If you have never signed up, it is not too late! Enrolling and selecting First Church to receive the Dillons Community Rewards is easy. Visit our website, firstwichita.org and click on the Dillons button. This will take you directly to the Dillons website where you can create an account. Select First United Methodist Church of Wichita (#10163) to receive the rewards. It's that easy! If you have already enrolled, there is no need to re-enroll in the program. Thank you to those who have already enrolled in the program to help First Church earn rewards. The more you shop at Dillons, the more First Church can earn. For further questions or help enrolling, please contact our receptionist.

OUR GIFTS

NOVEMBER 2016 OFFERING
\$74,454.18
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$1,061,132.69

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS
MISSIONS
\$410.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$20,859.04

CAPITAL FUNDS
\$435.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$94,869.00

VAN MAINTENANCE FUND
\$125.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$2,375.00

ORGAN MAINTENANCE FUND
\$125.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$3,630.00

TELEVISION MINISTRY
\$16,031.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$168,458.79

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS
\$91,580.18
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$1,351,324.52

Our Mission
Making Disciples of
Jesus Christ
for the transformation
of the world.

Our Vision
Changing lives—
transforming communities

Our Purpose
To create a Christian
community where anyone
can become a completely
committed follower
of Jesus Christ.

Mug Shots: Stephen Minister Caught in the Act!

Have you seen Stephen Ministers in the act of their ministry? Probably not, since giving is one on one Christian caring, done in a confidential manner, it's hard to document. Let's just say that reporting on their acts of love and compassion is a story worth telling. Since we can't share it all, we are going to share about our Stephen Ministry Team as being some of the MOST WANTED caregivers around. When you spot them, please thank them for what they do, and ask about how you can join their notorious ranks.



Culprit #2 **Mary Adams Christensen Havey**

Eyes: Blue

Employment: Retired

Associates: A gang known as the Double Ring Class and/or the volunteers at the Prairie Homestead Senior Living Residence Council and Gift Shop.

Training: Completed Stephen Ministry Training with cohorts, Leslie Coates,

Bonnie Beuning, and Matt Brown. Taught by Jim Matson in 2014.

Should be considered trained in the arts of listening and confidentiality.

Has been sighted in the past with two different care receivers and is rumored to be patiently waiting for the Lord to prepare and provide a third.

Please contact Tal Tittsworth, or any of the Stephen Ministry Gang, if you are interested in joining in this ministry that provides, "Christian Caring for People, Through People".

ADDENDUM: Please pray for Lark Anton and Bonnie Beuning as they travel to Florida for Stephen Ministry Leadership Training in January 2017.

UMW Hosts January Blood Drive

The United Methodist Women are once again sponsoring a blood drive on January 22 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. in the Wilke Family Life Center. We will be signing up donors before and after the Downtown Alive Service on Sundays January 1, 8 and 15, or you can sign-up online, www.redcrossblood.org, enter sponsor code First UMC Wichita, or call 1-800-REDCROSS.

The American Red Cross urges people to share their good health and resolve to give blood regularly, beginning in January with National Blood Donor Month. Extreme winter weather in some parts of the country and seasonal illnesses often make it difficult for the American Red Cross to maintain a sufficient blood supply at this time of year. Healthy, eligible donors are urged to give. Every day the Red



Cross must collect approximately 14,000 blood donations for patients in need. Your generous donations are essential for patient care.



United Methodist Women News

■ **UMW Expanded Executive Committee** will meet, Wednesday, January 4 at 10:30 a.m. Room 101B.

■ **UMW Circles** will meet on Wednesday, January 11 as follows:

■ **Elizabeth Circle:**
1:00 p.m., First Church, 107B, \$5
Hostess: Lois Stewart, 266-4313
Program: Pledge Service- Margaret Deubner

■ **Esther/Lois Circle:**
10:00 a.m., 641 N. Woodlawn #69, \$3
Hostess: Sally Dewey, 652-8788
Program: Beginnings

■ **Naomi Circle:**
12 noon, 9415 E. Carson, \$5
Hostess: Vicki Patrick, 683-0091
Program: Pledge Service

■ **Rachel Circle:**
12 noon, 8217 W. Thurman, \$5
Hostess: Johnsie Buller, 650-7442
Program: Pledge Service, Lynda O'Neal

■ **Saturday Morning Circle:**
Sunday, January 22
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.,
Wilke Family Life Center
Blood Drive

■ **Church Women United** will not meet in January.

Upcoming Blood Drive:
First United Methodist Church
Sponsored by the UMW
Sunday, January 22
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wilke Family Life Center

Make an Appointment to Donate Blood:
To schedule your life-saving appointment please visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: First UMC Wichita or call 1-800-REDCROSS!

The Guatemala Stove Project Accepted as an Advance Project for Another Four Years!

First Church's signature mission project, Stove Builders of Guatemala (SBG), continues to partner with others and continues the building process to help the poor of Guatemala help themselves. Every four years SBG must submit an application to the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) of the United Methodist Church for status as an Advance. This status recognizes SBG as an official second-mile giving partner with GBGM and allows Methodists all around the world to donate to SBG while their local churches receive credit for the second-mile donation. Whereas this status does not guarantee any money for SBG, it does open the door for others to participate. The application for an Advance has been accepted and SBG is an approved Advance for the next four years.

In addition, SBG has now partnered with the Methodist Church of Guatemala. This means any work team, from any church, going into Guatemala through the Methodist Church of Guatemala and

wanting to build stoves, must build the SBG stove. SBG will send a representative to Guatemala with each of these teams to give them an orientation as to how the project works and to help the team members understand why we don't just go and build stoves for the Mayan people ourselves, but rather teach them to build their own stoves.

By partnering with other churches and with donations through the Advance, First Church's SBG has been able to use these additional resources to train more stove builders in more communities. By the end of January SBG will have built more than 1,000 stoves. The immediate benefit is a healthier living environment for many of the country's poor as well as significantly reduced firewood usage. The long term benefit is that the young children growing up with these stoves will also want one when they reach adulthood, thus carrying on and promoting a healthier lifestyle for themselves and generations to come.



Above, a Mayan couple with their new stove. At left, the Bishop of the Methodist Church of Guatemala blessing a stove.

2017 Colorado Work Team Information Meeting

An information meeting for the 2017 Colorado work team is scheduled for January 8, 2017. The meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. in Room 308B. The team will be returning to Buckhorn Camp, located in the beautiful foothills west of Fort Collins, Colorado. The work team dates are May 27 to June 3, 2017. This is an adult work team and there will be several different projects for the team to complete.

Our work teams in the last three years have helped rejuvenate the camp after it was hit by a devastating fire in 2012. Because of

this work, the camp has been able to expand the areas in which the campers can enjoy the beautiful surroundings. This work has also allowed the camp to expand its list of activities for the campers to experience.

If you have been in the past or would like to go there for the first time, come to the meeting or contact Tom Tanner at 773-5853. A \$25 deposit to First Church will hold a spot for you on this team. It can be turned in at the meeting.



Information Meeting

Buckhorn Camp Mission Team

Sunday, January 8, 2017

2:00 p.m.

Room 308B

Mission Lunch January 22, 2017

The 2017 Colorado Work Team will be serving the mission lunch on January 22, 2017 from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in Meredith Hall. Your freewill donations will support the team and help offset expenses.

Menu:

**Homemade lasagna
Green beans
Garden salad
Garlic bread
Strawberry poke cake**

CORE Kids Wrap Up 2016 with an Eventful December!

2016 was a wonderful year! We closed the year with new partnership and family activities geared toward the spiritual growth of the children. One of our last activities was the Family Christmas Workshop at the YMCA. This new partnership has opened the avenues for First Church to be in ministry at the YMCA reaching their families. So far, we have had two events there and welcomed more than ten new families.

On December 4, we had a room full of people making Christmas ornaments, engaging in mission toward our homebound and creating a family Advent wreath that would guide them through the expectation of Christmas.

On December 11, our children joined the Downtown Alive Choir, what a glorious day

when two congregations come together. I would like to thank El Mesias Church for allowing us to minister to their children and giving us the opportunity to be a ministry of diversity and mission focused. Also, big thanks to Diane Fast for choosing music and playing for us during rehearsals!

Lastly, December 14, I was able to organize a Christmas play. Children dressed up as shepherds, sheep, a judge, a bailiff, defendant attorney, prosecutor, defendants and witnesses, Mary and Joseph, and angels all narrating the story of Christmas and how that night was "Not-a-Silent Night". A line from the play, "the angel said the news was for everybody and I am part of everybody, I don't understand all of God's ways but I am sure about what happened"- Josiah, the shepherd.



2017 holds a brighter future!

Ongoing Ministries:

Sundays – Sunday School (9:30 -10:30 a.m.)

- Pre-K – Room 200C (children's chapel time, lesson, snacks, crafts and play time)
- K-2nd – Room 106C
- 3-4th – Room 108C
- CORE-56 – Room 311C

Children worship at Downtown Alive the first and second Sunday of the month and at El Mesias UMC the third and fourth Sunday of the month.

Wednesday Nights Core-Kids (6:30 – 8 PM)

- Pre-K – Room 200C
- K-4th – 111C (different center weekly)
- CORE-56 – 311C

Wednesday night programming is a time for children to fellowship and learn more about the love of Jesus Christ through library time, games, crafts and cooking.

For more information about our ministries visit our website at firstwichita.org or e-mail Patricia Tristan, Director of Kids' Discipleship at patriciat@firstwichita.org.



Coats for Kids Continues

Over the past month, members of First Church have generously donated over 50 coats for the children at Park. Your gifts have been much appreciated and the school counselor and social worker have been busy warming the children with your donations. We will continue this coat drive through the icy season of January and February, but we have found a new need for larger children's coats through size 16 and adult medium.

If you are scanning the after-Christmas sales or thrift stores, or even cleaning out your own closets and find coats that are clean and still in good repair but you no longer wear them, please consider donating them to our neighborhood families through the School Ministry connection.



Students in the Newcomers classes at our neighborhood schools represent 12 different countries around the world! Both Park and Washington schools have students new to the United States attending this special class that helps with adapting to their new home.

Newcomers at Park and Washington

Children who recently immigrated to the United States and USD 259 and are the ages of 5 or 6 are placed directly into the kindergarten and first grade classes. Children second through fifth grader are placed in a class called Newcomers. Both Park and Washington have Newcomers classes and both have about 30 pupils in the class.

Libby recently visited the class at Washington School where parents were invited to a Thanksgiving meal. The children loved to pose for photos! These children represent 12 different countries including areas in the Middle East, Africa, Asia and countries south of our US border, and they speak 9 different languages! What a challenge for the teacher who is a wonderfully kind and patient lady with special training to handle these language differences.

The teacher said that 17 of the 30 children have come directly from refugee camps. Many have never been to their actual "home" countries because war, famine, and conflicts have forced their families to leave. Others fled violence due to dangerous crime and drug trafficking.

These children are eager to learn English and share in the life of their new community. We are blessed to be the hands of Christ in supporting them and their families through our School Partnership Ministry. Let us not forget that our Lord was a refugee, forced to flee the violence of his homeland as a small child with his parents. Please pray for these children as you keep the following scriptures in your heart:



God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble.

-Psalm 46: 1

The Lord upholds the cause of the oppressed, and gives food to the hungry.... The Lord watches over the alien.

-Psalm 146: 7-9

Please join us on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for any of the classes listed below.

Double Ring 106B

We sorrowed with Bob King and his family in the death of Bob's wife, Carolyn, on November 28. Following Carolyn's service at the church, members of the class served lunch to the family. We also think of Barbara Maas in the death of her sister-in-law, and Mary Grisamore in the death of her brother-in-law.

We rejoice in two special events during December. Mike and Janet Lively celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, and Joe and Karen Patton celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Congratulations to both couples!

The good news is that Jack is now home. He is missed but we have been blessed during Advent with Libby's lessons on the book "All I Really Want." With no Sunday School classes on Christmas or New Year's, it will be good to see everyone in class again on January 8.

Congratulations to Mary Herrin on her retirement from Wichita State University as Vice-President of Administration and Finance.

January will bring us opportunities to help with food and other needs for the homeless. We continue to pray for our members who have surgery coming up, and those with other health concerns.

50/50 107B

A big thank you goes to Dorothy Filson and her committee for organizing our Christmas Party. We met at Larkfield Place for food, visiting and a program presented to us by the Lewis Street Singers.

Our class has been enjoying the Advent series, "All I Really Want", led by Steve Rogers. We appreciate him. We have a longing for an experience of something holy and something beautiful, something like GOD.

We are again saddened to hear about the death of a member of our class. Doug McGinness passed away on December 8, 2016. His funeral service was December 14, at our church.

We appreciate the meaningful messages Cindy Watson is presenting to us this Christmas season. Her messages give us much to think about in our lives. Our class will be keeping everyone in our prayers during the Holiday Season.

Hand in Hand 101B

We will continue our lessons on "All I Want for Christmas" into January. The curriculum committee is busy selecting materials for the new year. We thank Cliff for continuing to teach.

We had a wonderful Christmas party at Larkfield with Bill and Grace Brooks hosting. It was nice to have tasteful white elephant gifts instead of REAL white elephants. We missed Eliana leading the singing. Thankfully Ruth was able to play the piano and we tried to sing along!

We have secured Friday, January 27 to serve the homeless dinner. Bonnie Jo is heading up this dinner. We thank Linda Hopper for coordinating the delivery of poinsettias to those who are homebound.

Many of us have purchased and donated coats for Park Elementary. Others of us have packed boxes for Samaritan's Purse. The need for cans of food to help Open Door is ongoing.

Ladies Dessert time is January 13, 2:00 p.m. at Milkfloat, 535 W. Douglas, in the Delano District.

Koinonia 303D

We have several class members who are either confined to home or having therapy at a rehab center. They can all use our prayers and cards. We hope to see them back in class soon. Our class decided to make a cash donation to the winter overflow shelter. There will be no individual classes on January 1, church only, and then we will meet at Bishop's for lunch.

Chris Edmiston taught our class for the month of December and we will be glad to have him back with us on January the 8 to start our new year. On January 15 we will have Andrew Stover and then we will have Rabbi Davis on January 22. Bonnie Beuning will finish out the month on January 29.

Our social committee has been busy planning activities to help us avoid the usual January let down. Lots of new places to eat and on Friday 13th we will attend the Mosley St. Melodrama. Don't miss this. All who attended the "Christmas Letters" performance in December really had fun and a lot of laughs. Everyone is welcome on Sunday or at any of our fellowship events.

Open Doors 204A

Open Doors class has so enjoyed the Christian fellowship of People's Bible Study, during our Advent study. Andrew Stover has brought knowledge and joy to both of our classes, as we have studied from the book "All I Really Want". We send much appreciation to Andrew and People's Bible Study for inviting our class to join their class.

Class members have participated in the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Gift, Poinsettia delivery to homebound church members, Television Ministry, and donating to the Overflow Shelter Ministry.

Our Christmas Dinner Party was held in the home of Bud and Karen Hudson. We had a great time enjoying the fellowship, Christmas lights, snowman collection, White Elephant exchange and a delicious meal.

We look forward to our new study starting the first of the year. We pray for all those dealing with health challenges and the issues life presents. The start of a New Year is always a new beginning.

Open Doors is a welcoming class to visitors anytime, so join in our small class fellowship.

Pneuma 302D

We have enjoyed our lessons based on the Advent devotional as well as the devotional book, "All I Really Want". We will continue with the study after Christmas.

In December, we helped provide gifts for older children in foster care and helped with the Park Winter Program at the church. A number of our class will be helping with the blood drive in January. We will also provide meals at the overflow shelter. Nearly 70 current and former class members were in attendance at our annual Christmas Progressive Dinner. Jean Artz was our hostess for Pneuma Women in December. We will be at the home of Peggy Baldwin in January.

Our celebrations include Jim Valliant's retirement and the birth of a granddaughter to Jeanne and Gary Brooks. Our sympathy has been extended to Chris King on the death of his mother, to Michelle Smith on the death of her uncle, and Sandra Rogers on the death of her aunt.

All are welcome to join us as we begin the New Year together in study and fellowship.

RNC 100D

The RNC would like to thank Leslie Coates, Gina Buster and all those at Mead's Corner for hosting our group on December 7 for a memorable night of viewing "The Muppet Christmas Carol", unlimited hot chocolate and popcorn. On December 14 we enjoyed a Christmas Concert and had our Christmas dinner and Brett's Christmas Concert on December 22.

In January we look forward to enjoying our newly refurbished BINGO machine and a magic show. Our Sunday school lessons in January will focus on how we can honor God at work, in relationships and in our lives by using the movie "Flywheel."

Calendar

January 2017

1	Sunday 10:30 AM El Mesias Worship - 200D 11:00 AM Downtown Alive - Sanctuary	15	Sunday 8:15 AM Heritage Worship - Chapel 8:30 AM Religious Nurture Center - 100D 9:30 AM CORE-Kids Sunday School - 106C, 108C, 110C, 200C, 311C 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School Classes - Churchwide 10:30 AM El Mesias UMC Worship - 200D 10:50 AM Downtown Alive - Sanctuary
2	Monday Building Closed: New Year's Day Holiday	16	Monday Building Closed: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
3	Tuesday	17	Tuesday
4	Wednesday 11:00 AM Daytime Quilters - 101B 6:30 PM Core Youth - 200D	18	Wednesday 11:00 AM Daytime Quilters - 101B 5:30 PM CORE-Kids - 108C, 111C, 200C, 311C 6:30 PM Core Youth - 200D
5	Thursday 9:00 AM First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus	19	Thursday
6	Friday 6:00 PM El Mesias Praise Band Practice - 200D	20	Friday 6:00 PM El Mesias Praise Band Practice - 200D
7	Saturday	21	Saturday
8	Sunday 8:15 AM Heritage Worship - Chapel 8:30 AM Religious Nurture Center - 100D 9:30 AM CORE-Kids Sunday School - 106C, 108C, 110C, 200C, 311C 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School Classes - Churchwide 10:30 AM El Mesias UMC Worship Service - 200D 10:50 AM Downtown Alive - Sanctuary 11:00 AM UMM Chili/Soup Feed - Meredith Hall 2:00 PM Colorado Work Team Meeting - 308B	22	Sunday 8:15 AM Heritage Worship - Chapel 8:30 AM Religious Nurture Center - 100D 9:00 AM Blood Drive - Wilke FLC 9:30 AM CORE-Kids Sunday School - 106C, 108C, 110C, 200C, 311C 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School Classes - Churchwide 10:30 AM El Mesias UMC Worship - 200D 10:50 AM Downtown Alive - Sanctuary 11:00 AM Mission Lunch - Meredith Hall
9	Monday 1:00 PM Archives- 208B	23	Monday
10	Tuesday	24	Tuesday 4:30 PM Pastoral Care Meeting - 302B
11	Wednesday 11:00 AM Daytime Quilters - 101B 1:00 PM UMW Circle Meetings - 107B 6:30 PM Core Youth - 200D 7:00 PM Core-Kids Wednesday Nights - Wilke FLC	25	Wednesday 11:00 AM Daytime Quilters - 101B 5:30 PM CORE-Kids - 108C, 111C, 200C, 311C 6:30 PM Core Youth - 200D
12	Thursday	26	Thursday
13	Friday 6:00 PM El Mesias Praise Band Practice - 200D	27	Friday 6:00 PM El Mesias Praise Band Practice - 200D
14	Saturday 7:00 PM Double Ring Social - 308B		



Coming in February

February 5
Super Bowl Party
Wilke Family Life Center
Kickoff 5:30 p.m., tailgate party to precede.

—Hosted by *The Gathering Worship*

Holiday Building Hours

The church building will be closed the following days:

Monday, January 2, 2017
New Year's Holiday

Monday, January 16, 2017
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

28	Saturday
29	Sunday 8:15 AM Heritage Worship - Chapel 8:30 AM Religious Nurture Center - 100D 9:00 AM El Mesias Worship - Wilke FLC 9:30 AM CORE-Kids Sunday School - 106C, 108C, 110C, 200C, 311C 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School Classes - Churchwide 10:30 AM El Mesias UMC Worship Service - 200D 10:50 AM Downtown Alive Worship Service - Sanctuary
30	Monday
31	Tuesday

COMING IN WORSHIP

January 1
"The Most Necessary Gift"
 John 1: 1-14

January 8
"Look to the Light"
 Isaiah 60:1-6
 Matthew 2: 1-12

January 15
Finding a Faith that Matters:
"Do We Need Faith?"
 Isaiah 42:1-9
 Matthew 3: 13-17

January 22
Finding a Faith that Matters:
"Called to Live
an Authentic Faith"
 1 Corinthians 1: 1-9
 Matthew 4: 12-23

January 29
"Finding a Faith that
is Your Own"
 1 Corinthians 1: 26-31
 John 10: 1-10

FIRST LIGHT

First Light is published monthly by the First United Methodist Church of Wichita, Kansas. It is produced by First Impressions, the Production and Creative Arts Team at First Church, and is provided at no cost to our members and friends.

ARTICLES FOR FIRST LIGHT

We welcome content and story ideas for First Light. They can be submitted to First Impressions at firstlight@firstwichita.org. Please include your name, phone number and e-mail address when submitting material.

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www.firstwichita.org
 330 N. Broadway • 316-267-6244
 On Broadway between 2nd & 3rd Streets
 in downtown Wichita.

Poinsettias honor First Church Friends and Loved Ones



Thank you to everyone who donated toward the purchase of poinsettias that were delivered to our homebound members. Our Senior Saints Committee sponsors this important ministry every year. It is a tremendous blessing to our recipients, and a truly meaningful First Church tradition.

A special, thank you, to Linda Hopper, chairperson of the Senior Saints Committee, for organizing our poinsettia deliveries this year. Thank you to the Guardian Angels, church members, staff and friends who assisted with this year's deliveries. At right is a list of individuals who contributed to the poinsettia ministry and the names of those who are being *honored or memorialized*:

Donor

David & Peggy Brant
 Evelyn Brown
 Pansy Brown
 Gerald & Johnsie Buller
 Carole Campbell, Jim Campbell,
 Lisa, Marisa & Nicole Strohm
 Covenant Discipleship Group
 Charles & Jean Eby
 Beth Elliott
 Georgetta Hall
 Mary Havey
 Gayle Hodges
 Wayne & Dorothy Holt
 Bud & Karen Hudson &
 Open Door SS Class
 Doug & Vicki Hye

Ron & Doris Kammerer
 John & Sallie Kelso
 Harold & Lorraine Kieler
 Stuart & Linda Mack
 Sharon Glahn Niblock & Family
 John & Judith Oswald
 June Pritchard
 Bruce & Diane Quantic
 Fred Ricks
 Bob & Janet Robinson
 Mary Lou Roedell
 Kelly Rundell
 Ken & Bonnie Rupe

Jim & Annette Schmidt
 Marilyn & Bill Schmidt
 Ken & Lois Short
 Ronda Snyder
 Celia Turner
 David & Cindi Ubben
 Dawn Wadsworth
 Alex & Aaliyah Wise

In Memory/Honor of

Stephanie Brant, Warren & Irene Brant, John & Edna Fieser
 Gerald, Vale & Clifton Seago
 Jim Brown, Jamie Brown Menees
 Jonas & Bertha Buller, John & Pearl Just
 Charles R. Campbell, Jim & Eunice McClure

Roberta Alexander & Eleanor Deterich
 Martin & Pauline Eby, Harlan, Bea & David Casper
 Willis Elliott
 Iwin Hall, Kerry Hall
 Todd Havey
 Jack & Jean Hodges
 Our parents
 Howard Runft, in honor of Claire Runft

Our Parents, Harley & Ruth Messimer & Harry Hye,
 in honor of our mother, Connie Hye
 Krystal Kammerer
 Our parents, & Christopher Kelso
 In honor of our 62nd wedding anniversary
 In honor of Eldon & Ruth Schrag
 Jo & John Glahn
 Paul & Irene Relf
 Milford Pritchard, Nancy Allen
 Our parents, Harry & Mabel Quantic, L.G. & Mariwilla Dufva
 Margaret Ricks
 Marilyn C. Sharp, in honor of Walter & Mary Robinson
 Floyd J. Roedell
 Mike Burton
 Rev. & Mrs. Robert Brown, Mr. & Mrs. H.A. Rupe,
 Mr. & Mrs. Alden Rupe
 Amanda Schmidt, Evelyn Wells, Obed Wells
 Don & Jane Clark
 Our parents
 Vinola Moore & Karen Swarts
 Bill Turner
 George Kirkendall, in honor of Blossom Kirkendall
 Clayton L. (Babe) & Lee Trapp, John L Wadworth
 Orville & Phyllis Wise

United Methodist Men Chili/Soup Luncheon

It's cold outside so it must be time for the men of First Church to host our annual Chili/Soup Luncheon fund raising event! Join us on Sunday January 8, 2017 for a delicious bowl of warm soup. Serving starts in Meredith Hall at 11:00 a.m. and runs through 1:00 p.m. We are also providing take home options.

Your donation will help support various First Church ministries. UMM has previously used donations to sponsor United Methodist Men's events in Wichita, purchase items for our church kitchen, and support First Church departments (Youth, Children, RNC).

Please join us and enjoy a wonderful bowl of chili or vegetable soup or maybe even a bowl of each and donate to the UMM organization.

If men would like to help with this luncheon or like to join our Wednesday night Men's Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. at the church, please contact David Williams.

