

FIRST LIGHT

June 2017
Vol. 162 No. 51

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

This June we begin a new series, "Living as Easter People". We hope you will 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.

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FEED THE HUNGRY

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

June: Pasta/ Mac and cheese

FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Life. Together.

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



Senior Summer Sizzle

Adult Council is excited to partner with Senior Saints in offering three summer opportunities for fun and fellowship for our senior members and their guests. We are calling these gatherings Senior Summer Sizzles. The first sizzling event is on Wednesday, June 14, beginning at 1:30 at the church. This will be our Flag Day Patriotism Party. Guests will enjoy games, crafts, music, snacks, and an opportunity to see the classic movie, "Yankee Doodle Dandy" starring Jimmy Cagney. This rousing musical tells the story of George M. Cohan. Participants are guaranteed to leave with a smile! Other Senior Summer Sizzles will be The Big Chill, with "icy fun" on July 12, and a Beach Party, without the beach, on August 9. All gatherings will be held at the church.

Plan to join your First Church family for an afternoon of wonderful fellowship. Contact Libby Eaton or Linda Hopper for further information. All Sizzles are free to attend.



Mission Lunch | June 25, 2017 | Meredith Hall

The June Mission Lunch will benefit our missionaries, Larry and Jane Kies. The Kies serve at Africa University. Larry serves as the Technical Advisor to the Africa University Farm at Mutare, Zimbabwe, in Africa. Jane, who is also a United Methodist Missionary, teaches English at Africa University.

This Mission Lunch is vital because our general budget does not support our missionaries. Questions? Contact Annette Schmdit (annettes@firstwichita.org)

PLEASE PRAY FOR

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 June 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

Diaper Drive

From Mother's Day to Father's Day, 2017, we will again be collecting diapers to be distributed locally through the United Way.

This year was a little different. We began our drive by partnering with another group committed to the same cause, No Child Wet Behind. This effort was the idea of Wichita Doula's Sara Skiles who contacted us after learning of our efforts in years past. They collected diapers through the month of April, culminating at an early morning 5K race at Sedgwick County Park. Bob Bishop and Leslie Coates met them on Sunday to take a pictures and meet some of the individuals behind their efforts. No Child Wet Behind and First United Methodist Church partnering together to put diapers on babies is another way we help change lives and transform our community!

How can you help? Please bring packages (no individual) of diapers or wet wipes to the church entrance, or to Mead's Corner where we will be collecting through Father's Day, June 18.

Scholarship Committee Announces Scholarship/ Grant Recipients

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce nine scholarship awards and one grant award from First United Methodist Church for 2017-18. These awards affirm our church's belief in the integrity, ability, and potential of our members and represent the church's effort to help these students continue their formal education. This year's awards total \$10,700.

Scholarship recipients, with school and intended major:

• **Britney Ayers** – Wichita Area Technical College – Healthcare or Interior Design

- **Andrew Henning** – University of Kansas – Finance
- **Mary Henning** – Kansas State University – Life Sciences/Pre-Dental
- **David Hole** – Cloud County Community College – Secondary Education (English)
- **Tyler Kurtz** – Emporia State University – Marketing
- **Hannah (Williams) O'Farrell** – Wichita Area Technical College – Interior Design
- **Jaden Steinbacher** – Wichita Area Technical College – Robotics
- **Patricia Tristan** – Southwestern College – Pastoral Studies

- **Micah Williams** – Wichita State University – Sociology

Grant recipient:

- **Charity Harmon** – Blackbird Academy – Sound Engineering

The Scholarship Committee is grateful for the generous support of individuals and groups within the church and beyond for their donations, fundraising activities, memorial gifts and bequests, which make these awards possible.

CHANGING WICHITA



Baby some bottoms. Give families some hope.

Donate diapers and wipes between Mother's Day, May 14, and Father's Day, June 18.

United Way will distribute to nonprofits to help families provide for their young'uns.



LIVE UNITED



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.

OUR GIFTS

APRIL 2017 OFFERING
\$81,624.79
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$458,299.00
BUDGET YEAR-TO-DATE
\$469,153.36
EXPENSES YEAR-TO-DATE
\$391,540.12

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS
MISSIONS
\$5,240.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$17,578.00

CAPITAL FUNDS
\$120.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$490.00

VAN MAINTENANCE FUND
\$25.00
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$100.00

ORGAN MAINTENANCE FUND
\$0
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$0

TELEVISION MINISTRY
\$15,936.50
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$76,766.85
BUDGET YEAR-TO-DATE
\$84,466.64
EXPENSES YEAR-TO-DATE
\$92,442.89

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS
\$102,946.29
RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$553,233.85

Memorial Sunday — A Time to Celebrate a Legacy of Faithfulness



Worship services held Memorial Day weekend remembered and recognized those who left gifts to First Church at their passing. We celebrated these gifts and recalled memories of those who blessed the church at death, as they had in life.

Names of those who died in the last year and left a legacy gift or whose family named a memorial gift were read, as candles were lit to help us to envision those individuals.

Our Thanks for Your Gifts of Faith

LEGACY GIFTS

Legacy gifts are made through a person's estate and can provide for its future. Between May 1, 2016 and April 30, 2017, estate gifts were received from these faithful individuals.

Name	Ministry
Betty Eaton	TV Ministry
Earle Hays Living Trust	TV Ministry

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Memorial gifts are made in the memory of another. Between May 1, 2016 and April 30, 2017, a total of 111 memorial donations were made. These gifts were directed to special church needs, representing interests of those who died or unique needs of the church.

Name	Ministry
Kerry Hall	TV Ministry
Jerrill Schrag	Undesignated
Harold McCreight	Organ / TV Ministry / Missions
Helen Ferris	TV Ministry
Kenneth Miller	First Church music
Paul Leroy Hodson	Multiple facility improvements
Norma Griffith	Undesignated
D'Shaun J. Smith	Undesignated
Jack Shelton	Undesignated

We are grateful for these expressions of faith and love, represented by memorial and legacy gifts, which help us to reach out to our community and world in mission, changing lives in Christ's name.

Called to Care

One of the most important aspects of being the church together is our calling to care for one another. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we seek to walk with each other through all that we experience in life, both good and bad. There are many ways that we do that as a church. Our Sunday school classes offer great opportunities to grow and share in the overall journey of life. Our many mission projects provide opportunities to serve others together. Fellowship times enable us to know and encourage one another.

There are several caring ministries at First Church that are intentional about caring for others in difficult times.

Senior Saints provide visits and plants during special seasons of the year. We hope to remind people that they are vitally connected and cared for by First United Methodist Church. Linda Hopper is the main contact person for this ministry if you would like to help.

Guardian Angels are encouraged to visit our homebound folks with at least monthly visits. We would also like to expand this area to include making phone calls and writing letters and cards. Tom Fox is the primary contact person for this ministry if you would like to help.

Stephen Ministers go through 50 hours of training and on-going supervision to enable them to care for folks experiencing really difficult times. We are planning a new training class for June. We invite people to make application for this training and on-going ministry. Tal Pittsworth is the main contact person for this ministry if you are considering this area of service.

There are many ways to be in service to our Lord and to care for each other through the life and ministry of First Church. Please prayerfully consider these areas and where you sense God calling you to serve.

OUR FAMILY

We grieve the deaths of:

Robert Fisher
David Hadorn, brother of James Hadorn
Jack Shelton, husband of Alice Shelton
Robert Novotny, husband of Barbara Novotny,
father of Karen Luke, Robert Novotny Jr. and
Sandra Novotny

We welcome new members:

Tyler Kurtz, Leland and Angie Carlson
Andrew Stover, Harry Sutton

District Farewell & Welcome Celebration



Sunday, June 4 • 3:00 p.m.
Wellington FUMC
202 W. Harvey, Wellington

Come celebrate the retirement of **Linda Louderback**
as she passes the torch to
Mitch Reece, the new D.S. for the Wichita West District



Summer 2017



Congrats College Grads!

We are proud to celebrate those who graduated from college in the spring of 2017. Last month, both Max Sherard and John Willome received their college degrees.

Max Sherard graduated with his doctorate from the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy with highest distinction (4.0). He now resides in Clearwater, KS and is currently working for an independent pharmacy group in south central Kansas.

John Willome graduated with honors from Wichita State University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts with an emphasis on Electronic Media Production. He will continue at WSU this fall to start on a Master's Degree program while working as a Graduate Teaching Assistant for the Elliott School of Communication.

Max and John are grateful for the scholarship support they received from First Church.

Maker Fun Factory VBS
July 24-25
5:30-8:30 p.m.
Free Meal



For more information on any of these activities or CORE Kids Ministries, contact Patricia Tristan at 267-6244 ext. 318, or email patriciat@firstwichita.org.

Family Bowling Night Celebration
 Friday, May 12 was a wonderful time of fellowship! 41 people from all ages gathered to celebrate children and youth ministries of our church. As we move forward to summer please keep our families in your prayers!

Whirl Summer Sunday School
 New Sunday School Summer Schedule starts on June 4! Children K through 6th Grade will be meeting in Room 110C from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Meet the characters of Whirl and learn about the truths of the Bible with these corky characters!

Parents: Please pickup kids at 10:30 a.m. so they can worship with you over the summer!

Maker Fun Factory VBS
 It is time to sign up for Vacation Bible School! All the fun starts July 24-28 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Children Pre-K through 5th Grade are invited to join in the fun and discover the love that God has for His creation. Dinner will be provided each night!

VBS Mission Project this year will support Rice-Bowl Organization that provides food for orphanages all over the world. VBS registration is open now, please call 267-6244 ext. 318 or visit our website at firstwichita.org.

VBS Work Day
 You are invited to join the Kids' Discipleship Team for a morning of creating props, sorting materials and making crafts for our Vacation Bible School.

We will meet Friday, June 23 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. in 200C area. (Lunch included)

We are collecting sandwich size bags; your donation is very much appreciated! To sign up or for more questions please contact Patricia Tristan.

CORE Ministries Swimming Party
 Join us for celebration of CORE Ministries Swimming Party at Minisa Pool on Sunday, July 30 at 6:00 p.m.! Bring a snack, we will provide drinks and hot dogs!

The fun starts at 6:00 p.m. and the pool will open at 6:30 p.m.! Everyone is invited!



Summer 2017 Schedule

- June 14 – Wednesday Night Chill (6-8 pm/Youth Center)
- June 28 – Wednesday Night Chill (6-8 pm/Youth Center)
- July 12 – Wednesday Night Chill (6-8 pm/Youth Center)
- July 24-28 – Vacation Bible School
- July 30 – Swim Party (6 pm/ Minisa Pool)
- August 11 – Laser Tag (Time TBD/Laser Quest)

Other events may be added throughout the summer!

Spring Fling 2017

It was a rainy Saturday morning when 36 persons gathered together for Spring Fling 2017, starting with pancakes and sausage in Meredith Hall. Some of the projects were cancelled due to the weather, but others were able to proceed as scheduled. Here is a sampling of what all was accomplished on a sleepy Saturday morning in April!

The City of Wichita Code Enforcement Team helped clean up dead limbs and heavy growth at a home with code violations in our community.

Seven people went to the Ronald McDonald House near Via Christi –St. Francis Medical Center and cleaned along with baking delicious cookies and muffins! Another group went to work with ICT SOS. Part of that team sorted laundry and then did 16 loads of laundry at a local laundromat! The rest of the team organized supplies and toys.

Back at the church, three teams were hard at work cleaning the Sanctuary pews, preschool rooms, as well as the Parlor kitchen. Another team gathered in 101B to work on a project for Washington Elementary. The 50-50 class was busy organizing and cleaning their room.

Since rain cancelled some of our scheduled Spring Fling projects, two groups have independently gone to both House of Grace and Raise My Head Foundation to work on tasks on alternate days!

Thank you, First Church, for your stewardship of our building and our community.



Religious Nurture Center

On May 10, the Religious Nurture Center hosted Magician Shawn Reida who dazzled our group with an array of magic tricks, jokes and stories from his mission trips that incorporated his magic shows. Many members were willing participants in his act that involved disappearing coins, card tricks and of course the grand finale of making the rabbit magically appear.



On Mothers' Day, the Religious Nurture Center continued our tradition of handing out fresh cut carnations to show our appreciation to the women of First Church. Many of these women donate their time and talents to our program by hosting parties, making curtains for our room and making quilts to benefit our ministry. This year we purchased high quality carnations from a new business called Autism Avenue Flower & Gift Shoppe. The store is run by a half-dozen adults with autism. An individual with autism often encounters a difficult challenge when seeking employment after graduating from school. The store's goal is to ready its employees for a job in the real world by providing training on social skills, communication skills and organizational skills. In addition to flowers, the store features everything from home décor items and clothing accessories to jewelry and small gift items. We encourage you to support this business for any future flower and gift needs. Autism Avenue Flower & Gift Shoppe is located at 2401 W. 13th St. North in Wichita.



Baton Rouge Workteam Report

Early in the morning of May 6, Team Leader Jim Schmidt and his fellow team members, Annette Schmidt, Patty Rosenhagen, and Harold Connell, boarded the church van and headed to Baton Rouge, LA. The team was hosted that evening by the FUMC of Longview, TX. The following afternoon we arrived at our destination. After moving in to our new abode in the youth center of the FUMC of Baton Rouge, we spent the afternoon walking down to the river front and getting acquainted with the city.

Sunday evening we met up with our other 14 co-teammates from Pensacola, FL and Mobile, AL. They consisted of college students and their advisers who were members of their respective college Wesley Foundation Fellowships. We started out as 3 separate groups of strangers and ended up as one big group of friends.

Our mission was to assist in the restoration of homes flooded last August. Our specific job was installing sheet rock on the walls and ceilings as well as house cleaning, painting and spreading mulch.

It was a very rewarding experience and new friendships were formed. The team departed for home on May 13 and spent that evening in the home of Jennifer and Rollie Vincent, former members of the Seekers Class who now live in Plano, TX. We arrived back in Wichita safe and sound on the afternoon of May 14.

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

Double Ring 106B

On Mother's Day, we were saddened with the news that Robert Novotny passed away that morning. We keep Barbara and her family in our prayers. We also think of Sally Dewey whose brother, Andrew Lambert, passed away unexpectedly in April. In the midst of death comes new life, as several in our class have announced the birth of new great-grandchildren.

Our May 21 social was enjoyed with a potluck meal, and the Forum production of Irving Berlin tunes in Wilke Center. The next class social is scheduled as a catered breakfast in Double Ring classroom on June 3. Debs members gathered at Spears on May 17 to enjoy lunch and a time of sharing. A salad luncheon is planned for June 21 with Betty Moore as hostess.

Congratulations to Gloria Focht who was awarded the Chester I Lewis Diversity Achievement Award from the Wichita Bar Association.

We rejoice with Don Snyder in his good health report. We pray for Bob King as he recovers from knee surgery, and for Dieter Dibbern undergoing treatment.

Ernie Krehbiel was our teacher on Mother's Day. She spoke of the 3 religions that descended from Abraham, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. A large majority of these are peaceful people, with small groups in each that are extremists. We have had visitors recently and are blessed by them. All are welcome to join us.

50/50 107B

What a blessing it is to see the lovely green grass, trees and colorful flowers surrounding our city.

We have had two very interesting speakers in our class recently. Libby Eaton shared her work with Park and Washington schools. What a wonderful gift Libby is to the children, teachers and parents there! We also enjoyed Mary Beth Byers as she spoke to our class about her mission work. She will be traveling to eleven countries for eleven months for her work. She will be leaving in October. Paul Ackerman continues to bless us with his interesting lessons too.

We are always thankful for the delicious snacks brought by our members for our enjoyment. We are looking forward to our class breakfast on June 22 at Ken and Bonnie Rupe's home.

Everyone is always welcome to join us on Sunday mornings.

Hand in Hand 101B

It has been a busy month with graduations and end of the year activities. Some class members helped host the graduation of 5th graders from Park Elementary in Meredith Hall.

Summer is right around the corner and it is time to be thinking about sponsoring a child or a youth for summer camp. There is also time to volunteer for the Lake Michigan Family Work Team which is going to Lake Michigan UMC Camp in Pentwater, MI.

We will be starting a new series on June 4 entitled "In the Dust of the Rabbi". This video series will be led by Cliff Bertholf and books do not need to be purchased.

Ladies will finally have their "May" Ladies Lunch on June 2 at the Wichita Country Club at 12 noon. Please reply to Jean Eby or sign up in class.

We have welcomed new visitors of late and are always happy to have both old and new friends join our group. Lois makes sure the coffee is always ready.

Koinonia 303D

New people are always welcome to visit our class which consists of singles and couples, of all ages.

We lost one of our founding members, Jack Shelton. Our prayers and sympathy go to Alice and their family.

On June 12, Dr. Martha Housholder will share with our class. The remaining June Sundays, our lessons will center on an Adam Hamilton study.

Our class gave books for the libraries of Union Rescue Mission and Watercrest Assisted Living. Paula Johnson and Helen Smith delivered the books.

People's Open Doors 300D

People's Bible Study, welcomed Open Doors class with a "Get Acquainted Sunday", with refreshments and introductions. The classes decided together that a name change would be very appropriate to People's Open Doors, with the classes having merged together. Both classes look forward to sharing their thoughts and experiences during our studies of God's Word.

Our recent lessons have been, a study on prayer, led by Barbara Simons and a presentation by Mary Beth Byers about her upcoming mission trip. Our next study will be on the Book of Acts, led by Barbara.

Delaine Hartman announced our 4th of July celebration with the RNC, will be held on June 28, which will include ice cream, fun games, music, and fireworks. The class always looks forward to this annual event with the RNC.

It is our class tradition to close with a circle of prayer, as we lift up those who are experiencing illness, other concerns, and loss in their lives.

Pneuma 302D

Pneuma will be wrapping up our study of "Gifts of the Dark Wood". During the summer we will have some guest teachers, along with Dan Lord.

Thanks to all the Pneuma members who volunteered at Spring Fling. We will be preparing and serving lunch at Open Door the first Friday in July. Our May hostess for Pneuma Ladies was Sandra Rogers. Linda Ebright will be hosting in June.

Our celebrations this month include the graduations of John Willome, receiving his BA in Communications from WSU and Max Sherard, who received his Pharmacy Doctorate from KU. We also celebrated the birth of Nancy Smith's grandson, and honored Alison Ebright and Barclay Martin with a wedding shower.

Our prayers are with Connie and Eddie Green, as Eddie prepares to undergo treatment for throat cancer.

RNC 100D

The RNC is looking forward to enjoying our annual 4th of July party generously hosted by the People's Open Doors. We will play BINGO to win patriotic prizes, partake in the ice cream sundae bar and finish off the evening with patriotic music, marching and of course, fireworks. Our Sunday School lessons in June will focus on the life of Joshua.

Seekers 306B

Members of the Seekers Class have had a busy month! On Sunday morning we are trying to start a bit earlier than in the past with the lesson from "The Gospel of John" by Ben Witherington III. Under David Brant's leadership we have been enjoying lively discussions of the many levels of meaning in the miracles recorded in John.

Several Seekers helped with Spring Fling—cookie baking at Ronald McDonald House, laundry at ICT SOS, working with the City of Wichita in repairing a home to meet city codes and other jobs—all with the rain pouring outside.

Thirty five Seekers enjoyed brisket or pulled pork with the trimmings at The Barn in Burrton. The tables received an Ann Osborne treatment and were brightly decorated.

The Romeo (retired old men eating out) met at Jimmy's Egg for breakfast on May 13 and Seekers Ladies group met on May 16.

The Seekers Class will feed the mind and the tummy! Join us on this journey.

Calendar

June 2017

1 9:00 AM 6:30 PM	Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus God and Dogs - Parking Lot	10 7:00 AM	Saturday Lake Michigan Mission Trip	15 9:00 AM 6:30 PM	Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus God and Dogs - Parking Lot
2 11:00 AM	Friday Open Door Lunch Prep. - MH Kitchen	11 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Sunday School K-6th Grade - 110C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School Classes - Church Wide	17 10:00 AM	Saturday One Spark Homeless Meal - Parking Lot
4 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Sunday School K-6th Grade - 110C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School Classes - Church Wide	12 10:50 AM 1:00 PM 5:00 PM	Monday Archives - 208B SPRC Meeting - Pastor Cindy's Office Adult Council - 204A Hospitality and Integration Commission - 107B	18 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Sunday School K-6th Grade - 110C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School Classes - Church Wide
6 1:00 PM	Tuesday DTA Planning - Media Suite	13 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM	Tuesday DTA Planning - Media Suite Board of Trustees - 308B Kids Discipleship Council - 310C	20 1:00 PM 5:30 PM	Tuesday DTA Planning- Media Suite TV Ministry Committee - Media Suite
7 9:30 AM 12:00 PM 5:30 PM	Wednesday Stephen Ministry II Supervision - 302B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room	14 12:00 PM 5:30 PM	Wednesday Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room	21 9:30 AM 12:00 PM 5:30 PM	Wednesday Stephen Ministry II Supervision - 302B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
8 9:00 AM 6:30 PM	Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus God and Dogs - Parking Lot	22 9:00 AM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM	Thursday Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room	25 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Investment Meeting - 204A God and Dogs - Parking Lot
9 10:00 AM	Friday Day's In Gods' World - 110C	26 10:00 AM	Monday Elementary Age Week Camp - Horizon Camp	27 9:30 AM 1:00 PM	Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Sunday School K-6th Grade - 110C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School Classes - Church Wide

50/50 Class will Celebrate 70 years in 2018



The 50/50 class at their spring banquet. This class was organized in 1948 and will be celebrating 70 years in 2018!

25 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Sunday School K-6th Grade - 110C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School Classes - Church Wide
10:50 AM 11:00 AM 5:00 PM	Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary Mission Lunch - Meredith Hall The Gathering @ Mead's Corner
26 10:00 AM	Monday Elementary Age Week Camp - Horizon Camp
27 9:30 AM 1:00 PM	Tuesday All Day Camp - Horizon Camp DTA Planning - Media Suite
28 12:00 PM 5:30 PM	Wednesday Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
29 9:00 AM 6:30 PM	Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus God and Dogs - Parking Lot

COMING IN WORSHIP

June 4
Pentecost Sunday
Cindy Watson

June 11
Living as Easter People
Ephesians 2: 1-10
Tal Tittsworth

June 18
Father's Day
Living as Easter People
Leslie Coates

June 25
Living as Easter People
Leslie Coates



May was a busy month for our partnerships at Park and Washington Schools. First Church was asked to help with a botany project at Washington. Third graders studied soils, plants, composting and had composting worms working with soil in their classrooms. As a final project, First Church member and Sedgwick County Master Gardener, Sawny Klaassen, volunteered her time to work with the third grade staff to plant a little garden area in front of the school. Thanks to the Mead's Corner Tip Jar funds which were used to purchase drought hardy plants.

Washington staff and Sawny cleared the area of grass and large chunks of brick and concrete. Then the students got to dig holes, add their compost with worms, and set the plants. Neighbors, students



School Partnerships Busy as School Year Comes to an End

and staff are so proud of their new garden and the beauty it brings to the front of the school. Drive by Washington at Central and Pennsylvania to admire the new garden!

In addition to field days, both schools rewarded the accomplishments of their fifth graders who are moving on to middle school next year. School Ministry funds purchased the cakes and decorations for the party at Washington. Twelve volunteers helped host a brunch in Meredith Hall for the Park fifth graders and their families, a total of around 230 people.

The School Ministry Team honored retiring Park secretary, Diana, and wished our

wonderful Park principal, Jeanna Hernandez, much success in her new administration assignment at Lawrence Elementary. We welcome the new principal to Park, Kristi Franks.

We are excited to partner with the downtown Wichita Public Library and the Washington librarian, Tammie Gates, to bring a weekly reading program to Washington students during the summer. Research shows that children lose ground in their reading performance over the summer when not read to or not reading on their own. It is our hope that minimal losses will occur when the children come to school once a week to continue to read. First Church is furnishing drinks and snacks every week, and has also contributed about 200 new books to the program.

Mead's Corner Tip Jar Celebration

"It was a pleasure to be there last night. I am continually blown away by the amount of support you, the church and the tip jar provide us!"

—Stacey Hall, Principal at Washington Elementary

On April 20, The Gathering at Mead's Corner hosted our annual Tip Jar Celebration event. We invited the church, community, and the organizations who received funding from the Mead's Corner Tip Jar during the 2016 year to join us for worship during our normal 5:00 p.m. worship hour. We gathered together for song, prayer, and in place of the sermon each organization spoke about how they use funding toward their cause. Presenters were Libby Eaton joined by Stacey Hall, Washington principal and Jeanna Hernandez, current Park principal and Kristi Franks, incoming Park principal (First Church School Partnerships), Jennifer White (ICT SOS), Steve Laycock (Guatemala Stove Project), and Turquoise Thomas (Women's Initiative Network). The stories told by each presenter were compelling and deeply moving at times. Sometimes the work done by our efforts can feel remote and disconnected from



Libby Eaton joined by, Stacey Hall, Washington principal, Kristi Franks, incoming Park principal and Jeanna Hernandez, current Park principal, sharing about how the tip jar supports their schools.

Leslie Coates leads a prayer for Mead's Corner and the lives changed through the organizations supported by donations made to the Tip Jar.

our church, but it is not. Though the work is done by those involved with each organization, the funding is provided in part by our Mead's Corner Tip Jar. It all comes together at a coffee shop where connecting people to one another can help

lead to changed lives and a transformed community thus fulfilling the vision of First United Methodist Church in yet another creative and meaningful way. Thank you for your "change for change."

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.