

FIRST LIGHT

October 2017
Vol. 162 No. 55

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

Join us in October as we continue our series, "Back to Basics", with part II, "Get in the Game". 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.

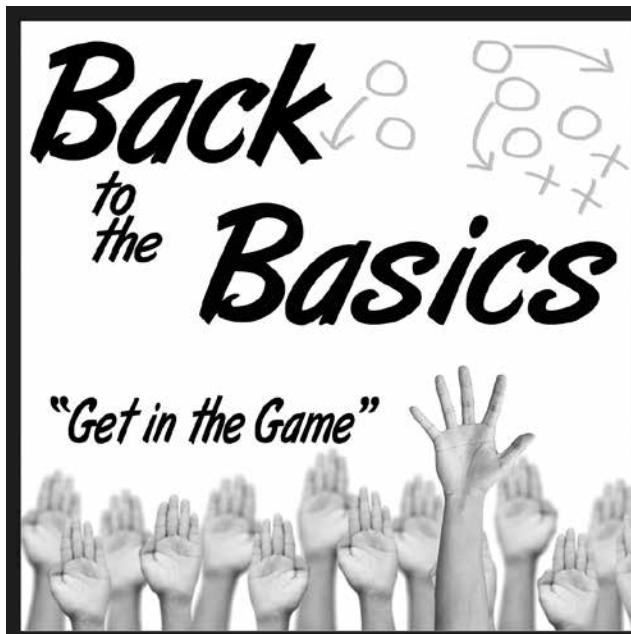
**October food collection:
Canned Vegetables**

FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Life. Downtown

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

Our 2018 stewardship emphasis is "Back to the Basics: Get in the Game".

Beginning on October 8, Rev. Cindy Watson will begin our new sermon series. You will hear powerful testimonies from church members who will share their faith stories and their commitment to stewardship that supports our mission and ministries in our neighborhood, state and the world. We will be invited to "get in the game" in a deeper way, as we care for our neighbors, serve the lost, maintain our church, extend our welcome and explore ministry opportunities God brings to us. Yes, we do talk a lot about money in the church, because Jesus did. The Bible speaks of money and property more often than almost any other subject. Our values are tied to our possessions and how secure we feel financially. Jesus teaches that we are stewards of what God has given us.



Stewardship is more than financial, it is also about our time, our talents, our treasures, our prayers, our presence in worship and our witness. Over these next few weeks, we will focus on all the gifts we receive from God and how we respond in faith to his generous provision for us.

As the weather turns cooler and the leaves give us their fall colors, I like to take a few minutes to look at my faith journey to see where I am and if I am being a good steward of the blessings God has given me. Am I supporting the church with my prayers, presence, gifts and service? Over the 25 years I have been at First Church I have found a church home filled with friends, Christian fellowship and spiritual guidance. I am thankful for People's Open Doors Sunday school class, singing in the choir, the mission outreach of the church both locally, especially through Mead's Corner, and around the world. To help support the church's mission, I budget to be a faithful giver for both the general expenses of the church as well as special projects and outreach programs. Please join me in prayerfully supporting our 2018 budget and thanking God for his many blessings freely shared with us here at First.



I look forward to seeing you at church and exchanging smiles and hellos.

-Crystal Collinsworth

24th Annual Quilt Auction and Chicken Noodle Dinner

Saturday, October 28

The fall season wouldn't be complete without football, tailgating, hot chocolate and our annual Quilt Auction and Chicken Noodle Dinner! This year's event will be held Saturday, October 28. The United Methodist Women will prepare everyone's favorite chicken noodle dinner. They will also have a bake sale of homemade goodies for purchase. The proceeds from these will support the many projects of the UMW. The Quilt Auction will include a large selection of items made by the quilters over the past year, from placemats to large bed quilts. Along with the live auction, a silent auction and a country store will provide a larger variety of items made by the quilters. All proceeds will benefit the Religious Nurture Center and the TV Ministry of First Church. New this year, payment can be made by credit card (or the usual check or cash). So come and enjoy a good time with good friends for a good cause!



5:00 p.m.: Doors open
6:00 p.m.: Dinner served
7:00 p.m.: Live auction begins

Tickets for the dinner are \$10 for adults and \$7.50 for children under 12. For any ticket questions or reservations, contact Diane Elder, 684-0234 or d_elder@hotmail.com. For any questions concerning the auction, call Paulette Dibbern at 371-0716 or Barbara Novotny at 641-7140.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

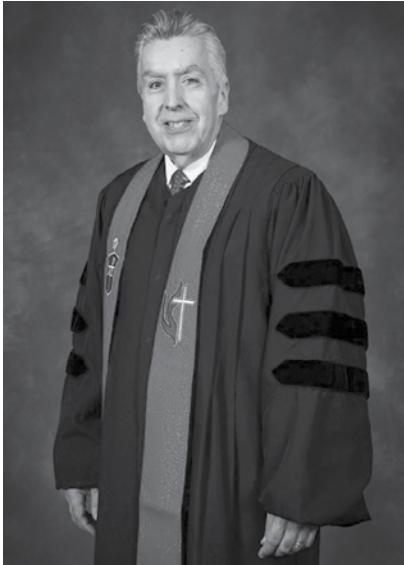
The hospitalized, our members and attenders with long-term and terminal illness, their caregivers, the homebound and those who are in nursing homes. Pray for our Guardian Angels and Stephen Ministers.

Articles for the next edition of *First Light* are due Oct. 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.

Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. at First Church

We are excited to welcome Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. to First Church! He will deliver the message at the Downtown Alive worship service on October 1, World Communion Sunday.

Please join us in welcoming Bishop Saenz!



Prairie Fire Marathon Sunday, October 8

Due to the race in downtown Wichita, Heritage service will not meet on Sunday, October 8. We encourage everyone to join the Downtown Alive service at 10:50 or the Gathering at 5:00 p.m. at Mead's Corner.

Several streets in the downtown area may be closed, so we recommend you plan ahead! For more information on which streets to avoid, visit, prairiefiremarathon.com.



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,
Rev. Rebecca Goltry Mohr,
Leslie Coates

Downtown Alive Choir Scholarship Recipients

In 2015, Diane Fast, Director of DTA Choir, had a vision to invite music students from area colleges and universities to experience singing in a church choir. She saw it not only as a way to enhance the choir as a whole but also to hopefully nurture students in their spiritual growth. A scholarship program was established with donations from persons interested in hearing excellent church music as well as helping students financially during their schooling. We have been fortunate to receive several nice contributions and two memorials since establishing this program. Anyone interested in helping with the continuance of this program can contribute to the Choir Scholarship Fund Downtown Alive Choir. We are delighted to introduce our current 2017-18 recipients:

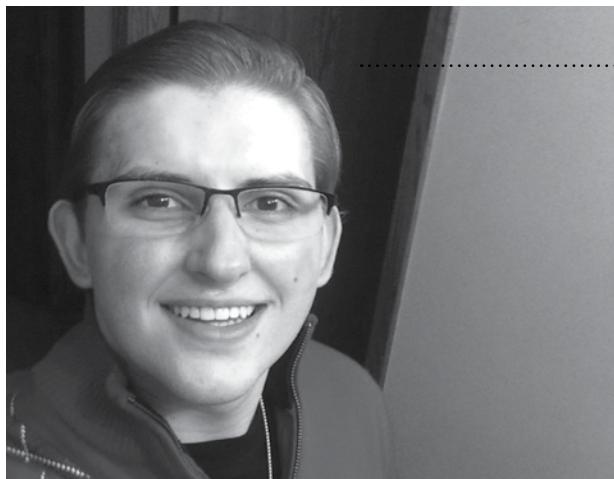
Jessica Exley, Soprano

Jessica Exley is a Vocal Music Education major from Friends University. She is currently a sophomore and is a member of the Singing Quakers. After graduation, she plans to find a full-time teaching position and get her masters in vocal performance.



Gunnar Marcum, Tenor

Gunnar Marcum is a sophomore from Friends University pursuing a degree in History and Political Science, as well as a BA in Music. He is a member of the Singing Quakers, and performs in a student lead barbershop quartet. After graduating, he plans to attend law school, and eventually join a law firm. In addition to singing, he also enjoys bowling and writing fiction short stories.



Monika Markus, Alto

Monika Markus is a Music Education major from Emporia State, and is currently student teaching. She was active in the ESU A Capella and Chamber Choirs, as well as the opera program. After graduating this December, she plans to pursue substitute teaching, and eventually a full-time music teaching position. Along with singing, she enjoys drawing, crafting, and has a slight obsession for cats.



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

AUGUST 2017 OFFERING
\$101,272.47

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$766,495.28

BUDGET YEAR-TO-DATE
\$792,584.68

EXPENSES YEAR-TO-DATE
\$745,004.71

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS
MISSIONS
\$195.00

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$19,551.50

CAPITAL FUNDS
\$10,549.54

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$42,971.54

VAN MAINTENANCE FUND
\$25.00

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$200.00

ORGAN MAINTENANCE FUND
\$25.00

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$2,744.85

TELEVISION MINISTRY
\$40,162.51

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$167,536.11

BUDGET YEAR-TO-DATE
\$184,433.32

EXPENSES YEAR-TO-DATE
\$181,591.17

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS
\$152,229.52

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$999,499.28

OUR FAMILY

We grieve the death of:

Robert Leroy "Bob" McFall

**"Challenges of Aging" Workshops
Tuesdays in October, 6:30 p.m., 107B**

The Cornerstone Initiative is excited to bring four workshops that delve into issues of great importance to our seniors. If you are a senior, we invite you to attend – and bring your adult children to hear the message together. If your parents are seniors, please join us and invite them – or others that you care about and would benefit from these conversations.

October 3: "End of Life Decisions"

*Cheryl Smith RN BSN MICU at St. Francis
Deanna Speer, MSN, RN, CHPN, Palliative
Care Specialist, Via Christi*

We are pleased to be hosting two highly experienced professionals in the medical community to lead this workshop. Cheryl and Deanna are committed to equipping people to begin difficult discussions before someone is sick. This comment from Cheryl describes the value of attending the workshop: "I believe that the place to begin conversations educating the public is in community with other people they trust, where they might turn for spiritual support."

October 10: "Estate Planning Essentials"

*Lee Sankey, Dir. of Stewardship Services, KS
Area United Methodist Foundation (KAUMF)*

KAUMF provides many resources to guide through the important process of estate planning and arranging for future medical decisions. That includes a newly developed guide, Planning your Legacy. If your adult children have procrastinated, invite them along! The guide can also be a useful review tool. As life evolves, your estate planning needs to keep up. Lee will address those areas that may need attention at this stage in your life.

**The
CORNERSTONE
INITIATIVE**

October 17: "Conversations that Matter; Honoring the Spiritual Dynamics of Aging"

Pastor Cindy Watson

Conversations with our family and friends about what matters are often difficult. As we age it can be uncomfortable to talk about life, disease, aging or death. If these discussions don't occur, the opportunity to make choices slips away. Using worksheets from the Conversation Project, this workshop will offer an opportunity to think through these conversations as well as how we can celebrate lives well lived.

October 24: "Residential Retirement Options: A Panel Discussion"

Deborah Gdisis, facilitator

During this question-and-answer session, you will hear first-hand what's involved in transitioning from your home to a retirement community or assisted-living arrangement. In addition to our panel members who have personally made these decisions, we will have two professionals offering their insights: Brian Stemple, Nextphase Senior Solutions, helps individuals identify the best accommodations for their particular situation. Phil Davis, The Best Home Guys, works extensively in helping people make home modifications to "age in place."

**Agape Redeemed
Church of All
Nations (ARC)**

The Agape Redeemed Church of All Nations (ARC) began meeting in the First Church Chapel on Sunday, September 3 with 40 people in attendance. Their worship service is conducted in both English and Sawhili and is focused on immigrants and refugees from West Africa. But – ALL are welcome! Please join them in the Chapel at 11:30 any Sunday for a different worship experience.



**United Methodist
Women October**

October 4

The Expanded Executive Committee
10:30 a.m., Room 101B

October 6

Church Women United
1:00 p.m., Inter-Faith Ministries,
812 N. Market
Program: Listening Forum.

*The following circles will meet
October 11*

Elizabeth Circle

1:00 p.m., 107B, First Church
Cost- \$5.00
Program: "Year to Date
Reminiscing"
Karen Hudson (558-8555)

Sarah Circle (Esther/Lois and Naomi
have combined)

12 noon, 7373 E. 29th St. N. #W-219
Cost -\$7.50
Program: Caleb Fouse, Director of
Youth Discipleship
Maralee Rounds (630-8438)

Rachel Circle

12 noon, The Westerly #1122
4700 W. 13th St.
Cost: \$5.00
Program: Belinda Hunt, New
Covenant UMC - The Church's
Outreach Program
Barbara Decker (722-1081)

October 14

Great Plains Conference Wichita
West District UMW Annual Meeting
8:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m., Wellington
UMC, 202 W. Harvey
Registration fee: \$10
Keynote Speaker: Rev. Roger Wright
Ingathering will be jars of peanut
butter & jelly for UM Open Door and
Wellington Food Pantry. Our Metour
girls, Britney Ayers and Elizabeth
Hole will also be speaking.



Third Grade Bibles

The third grade Bible ceremony was absolutely beautiful and meaningful for the five children receiving their Bibles. We remember that as part of being disciples of Jesus Christ we are to experience his word through our five senses. We hear the word of God, we touch the word of God through deeds, we smell the word of God through praise and worship, we see the word of God through reading it and we taste the word of God through sharing our testimony. We invite you to consider the way you see, touch, smell, see and taste the word of God. We ask you to pray for these children as they discover the beautiful promises of God in their Bibles: Kody McDonald, Sean

Steinbacher, Ellie Knolla, Miguel Mijares, Ramon Mijares.

Prayer Partners

The Kids' Discipleship team would like to invite Sunday school groups and small groups to be part of "CORE-Kids Prayer Partners". Signup sheets will go to all Sunday school classes so you can pick a holy day or special activity that your class can sponsor.

For more information please contact Kelly Owens, Chair of Kids' Discipleship at kellyjoowens@gmail.com

Fly Up Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Fly Up Sunday was a success! Our K-4th class received five new students and in CORE-56 class we received four new students. Blessing of the backpacks was a wonderful way to show the kids that our church is present in the important dates

of their life. Thirty elementary students received a blessing in both English and Spanish services. The children received a special tag to put on their backpack and a gift bag.

There are many ways our church can support the Kids' Discipleship Ministries:

- Be a Sunday School Teacher (currently looking for two subs)
- Help a Sunday School Teacher (once a month, openings for Oct., Nov. and Dec.)
- Bring snacks for our Sunday school classes (cheese crackers, rice-crispy treats, vanilla wafers, gold fish, cheese balls)
- Be a prayer partner (Sunday schools or small groups)
- Pray for our Sunday school teachers and parent volunteers.

For more information please contact, Patricia Tristan, Director of Kids' Discipleship at patriciat@firstwichita.org or by calling 267-6244, ext. 318.



Wacky Wednesday

The Discipleship Team invites everyone to this fun and multi-age event, October 25 from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Wilke Family Life Center! Join us for pumpkin decorating, group games, costume contest, hot-dog dinner, snacks and candy.

We will have several centers including face painting, cookie walk, games, tattoos, and more! Bring your friends and make it wacky!

Collecting candy now!! Bring it to A-B entrance or D entrance by Sunday, October 22.

School Partnerships

The following comments were lifted from cards recently received from Park students. Thank you for everything.

You are one of the kindest people I have heard about!

I just want to say thank you very much because you bought us backpacks, school supplies, school uniforms, and note books. I hope to see you at the music program!

Thank you for the school supplies. Thank you for caring about us. We are so happy.

Thank you for the school supplies. I hope you are always going to be our heroes.

The kids at Park are very happy because of you guys.

You bought us supplies and now we will have good things in school.

Thank you, church people!



First Church volunteers serve pizza at Washington Elementary Back-to-School family meal on August 21.



Dear Libby and the Congregation of First Church,

A huge THANK YOU for your support of the summer reading program at Washington Elementary this year. The snacks, drinks and pizza party were so appreciated by the students. They also loved receiving the 250 books donated by the church!

We couldn't believe the positive response and are so encouraged to do even more to reach under-served neighborhoods when school is out next year. The final count for the Washington summer reading program was 67 kids participating with 2,241 days of reading among them. That's a month of extra reading on average for each student!

Thank you again so much for your contribution to this program.

*Erin Howerton, Librarian
Wichita Public Library Downtown*

Oklahoma Disaster Recovery Work Team

On Monday morning, August 28, a work team left on a 3-day mission trip to Noble, OK in response to an urgent plea from the Oklahoma United Methodist Disaster Response (OKUMDR) organization. Victims from the horrific 2015 flood were (and are) still waiting for volunteers to come help – over 2 years! A team of 4 people from 3 churches (West Heights UMC, First UMC and Mt. Hope UMC) mobilized quickly and went down to help.

After a quick lunch, we headed to the work site - a ranch-style home way out in the country. The home of a single parent (Lisa) with 2 children, one of which is still living at home. Lisa was recently diagnosed with Hepatitis-C from a blood transfusion earlier in her life. She begins treatment in October and that was weighing heavy on her. All of this helped us to better understand and appreciate why we were called to Nobel, OK.

Upon our arrival, we were met by Hal Wright and Kevin Walker, two dedicated and highly skilled project managers. Our tasks involved installing laminate flooring, replacing damaged drywall and replacing windows. It was hard work and long days but we got 'er done! Lisa mentioned numerous times what a blessing this was for her and her family. It came at a time when she had lost hope and did not know what she was going to do. Between tears, she expressed how our help had given her a huge lift and replaced her depression with hope! God is good and all of us were



thankful we heard and responded to His call! We pray Lisa remains strong, continues down this hopeful path forward and that her health is fully restored. The need is still great. There are over 200 families from the spring 2015 disasters that are still in need of recovery. These families, without volunteer mission teams, will

experience their third winter without a safe, sanitary, and secure home.

Would you like to help for a few days? Another team will be going to Oklahoma in October to assist. Please join us! Contact Annette Schmidt at annettes@firstwichita.org or call her at the church (267-6244).

2018 Work Team Announced!

Here is the first wave of First Church Work Teams for 2018! These teams provide a wonderful opportunity to be in mission outside of our community! Check the church's website for additional teams being planned, including relief teams as we become aware of the needs following recent hurricanes.

- **Sager Brown UMCOR Depot**
Baldwin, Louisiana
March 17-24
In conjunction with West Heights United Methodist Church
Limited to 15 people
- **Taos Habitat for Humanity**
Taos, New Mexico
April 21 – 28
- **Lake Michigan UMC Camp & Retreat Center**
Pentwater, Michigan
June 9-17
We will travel by train from Newton to Chicago and then drive to the camp
- **Della Lamb Community Services**
Kansas City, Missouri
Women only
April 2018
- **Africa University**
Zimbabwe, Africa
We will work with our missionaries at the Farm at Africa University
Probably July 2018

Watch for more information on several teams that are still being planned including:

Family work team the last week of July Hurricane Response teams 2019 Educational trip to the Holy Land.
(Let us know if you might be interested)

For more information on any of these teams, please contact Annette Schmidt, Director of Missions, annettes@firstwichita.org, 316-267-6244, ext. 320.



Upcoming Mission Lunches

Sunday, November 19

We are inviting you all to mark your calendars and SAVE THE DATE of Sunday, November 19 for a Thanksgiving dinner. This is the perfect time to have lunch with your church friends and invite others to share it with you.

Menu: Turkey, Gravy, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Cranberry Salad, Rolls and Dessert. Sugar-free and gluten-free options also available.

and education. Vicki Bond, First Church member and founder of Raise My Head, will share a brief presentation about the program. There will also be gift items for sale from the RMH Cottage Industry. Cash, check, and credit card donations can be made to RMH Foundation. For more information, visit: raisemyhead.org.

Sunday, October 22 | Meredith Hall | 11:00 - 1:00

The Pneuma Sunday school class will prepare fiesta taco salad, chips and salsa, and a variety of desserts for a lunch to benefit Raise My Head Foundation (RMH), a residential community for women breaking free of human trafficking and drug addiction. RMH empowers women to a more traditional lifestyle, through healing, group therapy

Missions Calendar Events

October 1: World Communion Sunday
Bahamas Team Commissioning, CROP Walk

October 4: Food 4 Kids
8-10 a.m.

October 5: Sager Brown Work Team Information Meeting
7 p.m., Room 101B

October 7 – 15: Bahamas Work Team
(Hurricane Recovery)

October 15: Flood Bucket Assembly Event
2 – 5 p.m., Narthex

October 22: Outreach Lunch
prepared by Pneuma Class To benefit "Raise My Head" Foundation
11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Meredith Hall

November 1: Food 4 Kids
8-10 a.m.

November 19 Thanksgiving Mission Lunch

November 23: GraceMed 'Say Grace' Thanksgiving Race

January 27, 2018: ERT Training
First Church

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

Double Ring 106B

The summer went too quickly for some, with a highlight being the solar eclipse. But we welcome the fall season with cool mornings and spectacular sunsets.

We give thanks for the blessings in life while watching hurricanes, unrest in politics, the threat of war, and other tragedies that can and do affect us; we are still assured that God is in charge.

We witnessed the goodness of people during Harvey and also the hatred of some in Charlottesville. We are exploring hatred, bias, racial tensions, history, and current social media and then seeking God's direction for each of us during these troubled times.

As Christians, we are to be the light in the world. Our studies and discussions help us to put things in perspective and seek to be obedient to His WORD. We always have insightful teachings by Jack Focht and welcome all of you to come join us!

50/50 107B

The class was happy to have Paul Ackerman return for a few lessons. He gives us much to think about. Annette Schmidt spoke to us on September 17 about the Family Promise project proposed for our church, and other upcoming mission opportunities.

Our class will enjoy a meal together after church at Spears Restaurant, October 8 at 12:45 p.m. This will be a fun time for fellowship, while enjoying good food together.

We are grateful for the much needed rain showers that keep everything flourishing.

Stop by 107B for a quick "Hello" as you pass the 50/50 Class.

Hand in Hand 101B

As we move into October we continue to study "In the Dust of the Rabbi" led by Cliff Bertholf interspersed with lessons on the Social Principles of the UMC led by Dr. Doug Morphis.

With Harvey in Houston and Irma in Florida, we offer prayers, fill flood buckets, send money, and touch base with family and friends. Consider contributing to UMCOR. We also remember those who are affected by fires in the Northwest.

Plan to attend the Forum Theatre's production of "Pump Boys and Dinettes" from Sept. 28-Oct. 15. Tickets are available at forumwichita.com or 316-618-0444.

Hand in Hand Ladies Luncheon will be at The Fusion Restaurant at 1812 W. Douglas just west of the Delano District. We will gather at 12 noon. Sawny is taking reservations.

We welcome all to our class who would be interested in our lessons, need a cup of coffee, or would like to join us in fellowship and mission activities.

Koinonia 303D

In September, we had a very good and interesting speaker, Rev. Charles Claycomb, who shared his faith with us. We were blessed to have visitors and hope they will return soon.

In October we will meet at Mosley Street Playhouse for a fun evening. Dinner is at 6:15 and show at 7:50. Reservations, \$20 each, are required. The date will be announced soon.

We were pleased to collect items for flood buckets and participate in this UMCOR response for hurricane relief.

We close every class with sharing of joys and concerns. Please join us anytime.

People's Open Door 300D

People's Open Doors welcomes the beginning of fall, and the return of our traveling members to class. Our continued study of Acts is led by Barbara Simons. We are very pleased to have Rev. Joe Mohr with us in October, as he will present an "Overview of the Bible". In our studies it

has been brought to our attention, that God wants us to know the truth and always to seek His wisdom. The quality of our Christian fellowship brings us to one mind and one heart, and prayer always keeps us unified.

Our class has had the pleasure of being involved in the needs of the church and community. We have been contributing to the Flood Buckets by donation and volunteering. We also have had volunteers involved with the Blood Drive, Dental Kits assembly, and the "Praying Our Way Forward" Prayer Vigil.

We celebrated September birthdays, with refreshments and singing Happy Birthday. As we close class each Sunday, we have our prayer circle, and give thanks for the special gift of every day of our lives. Please come join us. Our doors are always open.

Pneuma 302D

Dan Lord is leading our fall study on The Beatitudes. We have each been encouraged to choose one of the beatitudes to focus on and live into during this time.

Our members have been engaged in many volunteer activities including helping with the flood buckets; organizing and participating in the Open Door Bicycle Challenge; and helping with the Raise My Head Foundation fund raiser.

The Pneuma women gathered at the home of Connie Green in September. In October our hostess will be Jean Artz. At that time we will also be celebrating Marlene Coker's upcoming marriage with a bridal shower.

We would welcome anyone looking for a Sunday school class, as well as anyone who would like to join us as we study The Beatitudes.

RNC 100D

We kicked off our annual Pecan fundraiser and will continue to take orders until October 15. Activities for October include our Halloween costume party, magic show, Wacky Wednesday with the children and youth and BINGO.

We continue with our whale theme for Sunday school by using the true life story "The Big Miracle" which tells the story of 3 grey whales trapped in the ice in Alaska and how the town's faith, teamwork, and perseverance in overcoming obstacles saved them.

Seekers 306B

September was another busy month for the members of the Seeker's Class! Flood buckets, an art show, a mission trip, class reunions and meals out with the class members have kept us busy. October promises to do the same.

Dale Stratman's art show at 623 W. Douglas has been extended 3 weeks. The show, Visual Fusion, is benefiting the children's backpack ministry through the Kansas Food Bank.

Several quilters in the class are preparing for the Quilt Auction on October 28 in Meredith Hall. Starting the first of October, different quilts, wall hangings, and small items will be displayed in the classroom each Sunday morning.

Due to the Prairie Fire Race winding through downtown on Oct 8, the Seekers will meet for Sunday School in Sedgwick Park early so we can attend Downtown Alive at 10:50.

We are wrapping up the series on John led by David Brant. We look forward to other book of the Bible study written by Ben Witherington III.

We said our formal good-byes to Steve and Bonnie Laycock before their permanent move to Arkansas, but do expect to see them often. We will miss you!

Our sympathy is extended to Kathy Stratman in the death of her mother and to other class members who have experienced a loss. We send our prayers to family members in Texas and Florida who experienced firsthand the power of the recent hurricanes.

The Seekers welcome you with hot coffee, friendship and Bible study.

Calendar

October 2017

Coming in November

Remembering our Saints: Sunday, November 5

<p>1 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM</p>	<p>Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids- 106C, 108C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School - Church Wide El Mesias Worship - 200D Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary Agape Redeemed Church - Chapel The Gathering @ Mead's Corner</p>	<p>11 12:00 PM 1:00 PM 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:40 PM 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Wednesday Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B UMW Elizabeth Circle - 107B Daytime Quilters - 308B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids - 108C, 110C, 311C Core Youth Group - 200D El Mesias Bible Study - 301D Disciple Fast Track - 101B UM Men Bible Study - 103B</p>	<p>21 12:00 PM</p>	<p>Saturday Confirmation Retreat</p>
<p>2 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Monday Sager Brown Information Meeting - 101B</p>	<p>12 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A God and Dogs - Parking Lot</p>	<p>22 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:50 AM 11:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM</p>	<p>Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids- 106C, 108C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School - Church Wide El Mesias Worship - 200D Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary Mission Lunch - Meredith Hall Agape Redeemed Church - Chapel The Gathering @ Mead's Corner</p>
<p>3 6:30 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Tuesday Cornerstone Workshops - 107B Stephen Ministry Training Class - 103B</p>	<p>13 6:00 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Friday Double Ring Social - 205B El Mesias Band Rehearsal - 200D</p>	<p>23 9:00 AM 5:00 PM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Monday Caring Comforts Quilters - 106B, 110B Executive Committee - 204A Finance Committee - 204A Global Missions Commission - 101B</p>
<p>4 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 12:00 PM 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:45 PM 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Wednesday Stephen Ministry II Supervision - 302B UMW Expanded Exec Committee - 101B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Daytime Quilters - 308B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids - 108C, 110C, 311C Core Youth Group - 200D El Mesias Bible Study - 301D Disciple Fast Track - 101B UM Men Bible Study - 103B</p>	<p>15 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM 2:00 PM 5:00 PM</p>	<p>Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids - 106C, 108C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School - Church Wide El Mesias UMC Worship- 200D Downtown Alive Worship- Sanctuary Agape Redeemed Church - Chapel Flood Bucket Assembly - Wilke FLC The Gathering @ Mead's Corner</p>	<p>24 1:00 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Tuesday DTA Planning - Media Suite Cornerstone Workshops - 107B Stephen Ministry Training Class - 103B</p>
<p>5 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A God and Dogs - Parking Lot</p>	<p>16 4:00 PM</p>	<p>Monday Local Missions Commission - 101B</p>	<p>25 12:00 PM 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Wednesday Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Daytime Quilters - 308B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D Wacky Wednesday- Wilke Family Life Center Core Youth Group - 200D El Mesias Bible Study - 301D Disciple Fast Track - 101B UM Men Bible Study - 103B</p>
<p>6 11:00 AM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Friday Open Door Lunch Prep. - Meredith Hall El Mesias Band Rehearsal - 200D</p>	<p>17 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Tuesday DTA Planning - Media Suite TV Ministry Committee - Media Suite Stephen Ministry Training Class - 103B Cornerstone Workshops - 107B</p>	<p>26 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A Investment Meeting - 204A God and Dogs - Parking Lot</p>
<p>8 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM</p>	<p>Sunday <i>No Heritage Worship</i> Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids- 106C, 108C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School - Church Wide El Mesias UMC Worship - 200D Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary Agape Redeemed Church - Chapel The Gathering @ Mead's Corner</p>	<p>18 9:30 AM 12:00 PM 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:40 PM 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Wednesday Stephen Ministry II Supervision - 302B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Daytime Quilters - 308B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids - 108C, 110C, 311C Core Youth Group - 200D El Mesias Bible Study - 301D Disciple Fast Track - 101B UM Men Bible Study - 103B</p>	<p>27 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Friday El Mesias Band Rehearsal - 200D</p>
<p>9 9:00 AM 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM</p>	<p>Monday Caring Comforts Quilters - 106B, 110B Archives - 208B SPRC Meeting - 309B Adult Council - 204A Hospitality and Integration Commission - 107B</p>	<p>19 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 1:00 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A Bulk Mail - 308B God and Dogs - Parking Lot</p>	<p>28 5:00 PM</p>	<p>Saturday Quilt Auction/Chicken Noodle Dinner - Meredith Hall</p>
<p>10 1:00 PM 2:00 PM 2:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Tuesday DTA Planning - Media Suite Caregiver Support Respite - 100D Caregiver Support Group - Wilke FLC Board of Trustees - 308B Cornerstone Workshops - 107B Stephen Ministry Training - 103B Kids Discipleship Council - 310C</p>	<p>20 12:00 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Friday Confirmation Retreat El Mesias Band Rehearsal - 200D</p>	<p>29 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:50 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM</p>	<p>Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids - 106C, 108C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School- Church Wide El Mesias Worship - 200D Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary Agape Redeemed Church- Chapel The Gathering @ Mead's Corner</p>
<p>31 1:00 PM 6:30 PM</p>	<p>Tuesday DTA Planning - Media Suite Stephen Ministry Training Class - 103B</p>				

COMING IN WORSHIP

October 1
World Communion Sunday
Bishop Saenz

October 8
"Training for the Distance"
1 Timothy 4: 7-16

October 15
"Skills and Drills"
Matthew 25: 14-30

October 22
"How Much?"
Luke 18: 18-30

October 29
Consecration Sunday
"All In"
2 Corinthians 9: 7-15
Luke 21: 1-4

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.



Assembly Event
Sunday, October 15
2-5 p.m., Narthex

Flood Bucket Update

When Hurricane Harvey hit Texas, we started collecting flood bucket items. Then, we took what we had gathered and hosted an assembly event on September 10, with over 80 attending from throughout the community. September 13, we delivered 165 completed to the Great Plains Conference Office. Then on September 15, members of the Pneuma class helped load about 1,500 flood buckets from across our conference onto the truck to be delivered to UMCOR.

It was a lot work, but fun and challenging! Thank you to everyone for your participation!

So, let's do it again! Shortly after Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma hit Florida. The need is

great! We have given the local businesses a chance to restock, (there were several items that could not be found in Wichita!) so let's have another Flood Bucket Assembly Event! You may bring items to the church at any time. We will meet in the Narthex on Sunday, October 15 from 2-5 p.m. and assemble more flood buckets.

The estimated cost of a flood bucket is \$65.00. Money will be accepted to buy items or you are welcome to bring items. Visit firstwichita.org for a complete list of items needed for a flood bucket. Contact Annette Schmidt, Dir. of Missions for more information, annettes@firstwichita.org.

UMW Host Another Successful Blood Drive

First Church United Methodist Women recently hosted 3rd third blood drive in a year! Thank you to the 25 donors and 10 volunteers that made this event a success. There were several family groups represented, including the Eaton-Ayers connection. Though there were no prizes, they were duly noted as the 3-generation family group present. We've been thanked by the Red Cross many times and complimented on our good facility and welcoming volunteers.

Watch for more information on our next blood drive that will likely be on-site and in a blood mobile. We know of the grave shortage of blood. We give of ourselves so that others can live.



Mead's Corner to host Trunk or Treat

Mead's Corner is starting an exciting new tradition this year: a Trunk or Treat for kids at the coffee shop on **Sunday, October 29, 2-5 p.m.** Mead's Corner baristas invite trunk-or-treaters of all ages to join in for an afternoon of family-friendly costumed fun. There will be games, a pumpkin painting contest, snacks and drinks, and of course, plenty of candy! Though the event is hosted by Mead's Corner, it is also an outreach of First Church and all are welcome to participate.

Wondering how you can help? We need both volunteers as well as donations. Candy can be dropped off at the church or at Mead's Corner. Also, if you have a talent you would like to share such as face painting, we'd love to talk to you!

If you are available to help, we will need people to decorate their trunks, direct traffic, assist with set-up and candy refills. If you would like to volunteer, call Mead's Corner at 316-201-1900 and leave your name and number for a manager. If you have questions, contact barista Ellery at ewadmangoetsch@gmail.com.



Now Accepting Applications for Mead's Corner Tip Jar

Mead's Corner Ministry Team is now accepting applications for Tip Jar benefits for 2018. The deadline for applications is November 1, 2017. Please pick up an application at First United Methodist Church or at Mead's Corner or at firstwichita.org. Submit completed applications to Leslie Coates in person at First Church Wichita or e-mail it to lesliec@firstwichita.org. Recognized non-profit organizations only please.