

FIRST LIGHT

September 2017
Vol. 162 No. 54

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 September as we kick off a new series, "Back to Basics", exploring the basics of the Christian experience and belief. 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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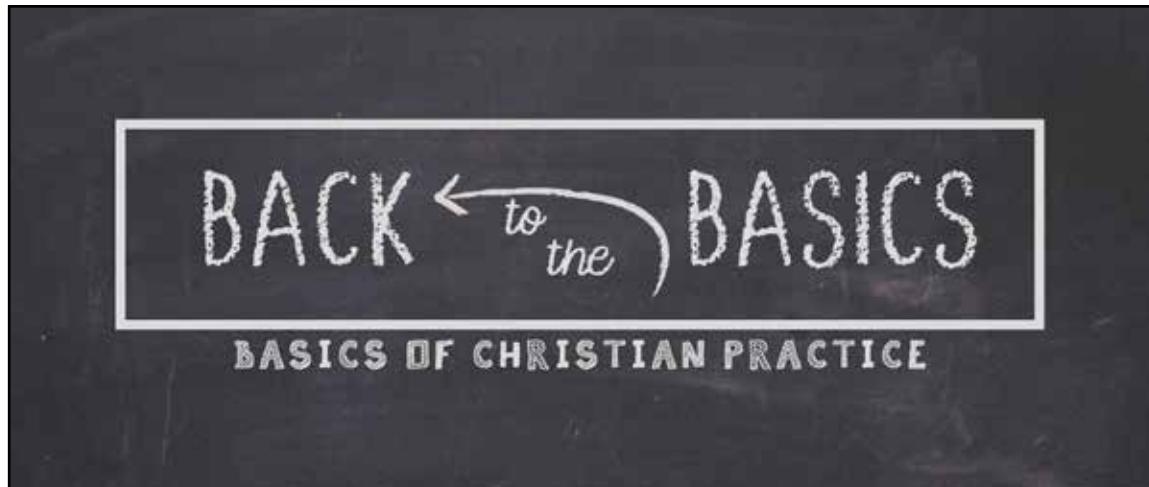
FEED THE HUNGRY

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

September food collection: Tuna

FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Life. Downtown

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



Beginning September 10, we will begin a three part sermon series "Back to the Basics." In this series we will explore the basics of the Christian experience and belief in terms of our practice, our service and our identity. It is loosely based on a three book series called "The Basics", by Clayton Oliphint and Mary Brooke Casad. During the fall, many important events in the life of First UMC and the church universal will

occur. In September we will give Bibles to our children, recognize our candidates in ministry and commission a work team. October and November have their own events and celebrations. There is nothing more basic in our faith than to share the Word, to celebrate the call to ministry and to commission the work of the followers of Jesus. Come join us as we begin to engage in the "Basics" and grow in our faith in Jesus Christ.

■ September 10
"The Book that Defines Us"
Proverbs 4: 1-14
John 1: 1-5, 14-16

■ September 17
"Encounters that Transform Us"
Philippians 1: 3-11
Luke 19: 1-10

■ September 24
"Saying Yes and Following"
Isaiah 43: 1-7
Matthew 9: 35-10:4



Labor Day Worship

During worship on Sunday, September 3 we will have a celebration of our work. Whatever we do, whether volunteer or paid, is an opportunity to be in ministry to the world. There will be an opportunity to be anointed for your work in the world. We invite everyone to wear their work clothes to worship that morning.



Pastor Rosemary Njoroge, an immigrant from Kenya, will lead worship for the Agape Redeemed Church of All Nations meeting in the First Church Chapel on Sunday mornings beginning September 3.

Agape Redeemed Church of All Nations

Beginning September 3, you are likely to see new faces in colorful East African attire in and around the Chapel on Sunday mornings as we welcome a new group of Christians to our building. The Agape Redeemed Church of All Nations (ARC) will be worshipping in the First Church Chapel at 11:30 a.m. each Sunday. As most of the church members are refugees from Africa, the service will be in both English and Swahili.

Many in this group have escaped war and destruction in their homeland and now live and are employed in Wichita. Their pastor, Rosemary Njoroge, is an immigrant from Kenya. She was in high school when she came to the United States and went on to receive both Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Wichita State University.

The congregation previously met at Grace Presbyterian Church and at Pastor Rosemary's apartment. However, most of the members of the church live in the downtown area and do not have transportation, especially on Sunday. They needed a place to worship our Lord and Savior!

We welcome our fellow Christians! They would love to share their joyful Swahili worship experience with anyone who would like to participate. It is also a hope that they would join at any of our weekly worship venues. If you see someone looking lost and trying to find the Chapel, directions written in Swahili, will be available at both Information desks (A-B and D entrances). There will also be signs and greeters to assist. If you meet someone in the halls, you can smile and say "JAMBO"—Swahili for "hello"!

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 Sept. 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.



PRAYING OUR WAY FORWARD
 We are One in Christ
 UMCprays.org • A UMC Prayer Community

“Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.”

— John 15:4-5

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.

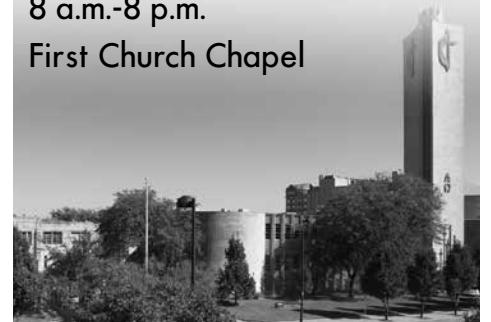
The Congregational Care Team,
 Rev. Cindy Watson,
 Rev. Dr. Tal Tittsworth,
 Rev. Rebecca Goltry Mohr,
 Leslie Coates

Pray for the Future of the United Methodist Church at Praying Our Way Forward Vigil

The Great Plains Conference and the United Methodist Church are seeking your participation in calling on the Holy Spirit for discernment for our denomination and for the Bishops’ Commission on a Way Forward. As you likely are aware, the Council of Bishops assembled a commission to study the way human sexuality is addressed in our Book of Discipline. The commission’s work will be shared at a special session of General Conference in 2019 in St. Louis. September 3- 9, the Great Plains Conference has been urged to focus on this issue in a prayer initiative titled, “Praying Our Way Forward.” First UMC will be hosting a 12

hour “Praying Our Way Forward” vigil in the Chapel from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday September 6. Sign up slots for 30 minute prayer shifts are available at the receptionist’s desk. All are welcome to stop by the Chapel and participate in the interactive prayer stations. If you are unable to make it to the vigil at the church, we invite you to pray at home for the future of the United Methodist denomination. For more information about what the commission is doing check out: <http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/commission-on-a-way-forward-news-and-updates>

Praying Our Way Forward Vigil
 Wednesday, September 6
 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
 First Church Chapel



Sunday Street Closure Updates

In the next few months, there are some downtown events that will cause some streets to be closed. Please take a moment and plan your best route on those dates! Let us know if you have any questions!

Sunday, September 24- Open Streets ICT
 Douglas from Roosevelt to Glenn will be closed from 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Glenn, Seneca, McLean, Broadway, Washington, Hydraulic, Grove, Hillside, Roosevelt and Circle Drive will allow north and south bound traffic to cross Douglas. For more information about Open Streets ICT visit openstreetsict.com.

Sunday, October 8- Prairie Fire Marathon
 Several streets in downtown will be affected throughout the morning but the church should be accessible with a little pre planning! Maps to plan your route are available at prairiefiremarathon.com. We will also have maps available at the church to view.



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

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| JULY 2017 OFFERING | \$79,228.21 |
| RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE | \$665,222.81 |
| BUDGET YEAR-TO-DATE | \$684,728.85 |
| EXPENSES YEAR-TO-DATE | \$655,588.15 |
| OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS | |
| MISSIONS | \$0 |
| RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE | \$19,356.50 |
| CAPITAL FUNDS | |
| | \$5,355.00 |
| RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE | \$32,422.00 |
| VAN MAINTENANCE FUND | |
| | \$25.00 |
| RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE | \$175.00 |
| ORGAN MAINTENANCE FUND | |
| | \$2,719.85 |
| RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE | \$2,719.85 |
| TELEVISION MINISTRY | |
| | \$14,268.25 |
| RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE | \$127,373.60 |
| BUDGET YEAR-TO-DATE | \$147,816.65 |
| EXPENSES YEAR-TO-DATE | \$157,292.13 |
| TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS | |
| | \$101,596.31 |
| RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE | \$847,269.76 |

OUR FAMILY

We grieve the deaths of:

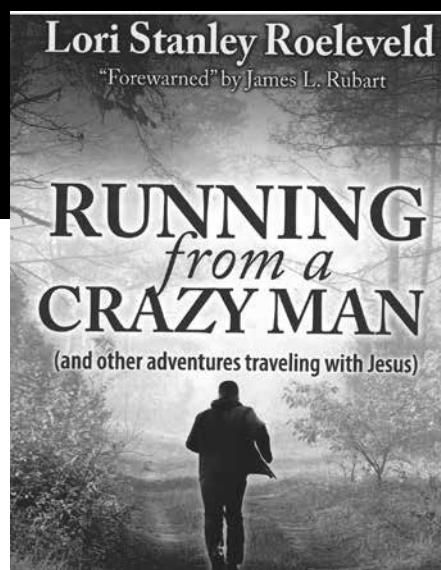
Elida Garcia de Tristan,
mother of Sergio Tristan

Sara Harris, mother of
Kathy Strattman

Apple Core to Begin New Study

Apple Core Women's Bible and Book Study is beginning a new study on September 6, and we invite any interested ladies to join us. Our new text by Lori Stanley Roeleveld is entitled "Running from a Crazy Man and other adventures traveling with Jesus". The readings are short but very thought provoking, mixing scripture with daily stories to help the reader ponder their walk with Christ. A quote from the cover states, "The challenges inside (the book) are designed to unsettle you as well as provide practical suggestions for thriving on the narrow road, even if trouble is your travel companion."

Apple Core meets at noon on Wednesdays in the church library. Some participants bring their lunches. Much time is spent in



discussion, sharing life lessons, praying for one another, and laughing with each other. This is a group of deep love, support, and camaraderie and we are always open to welcome others. If you would like more information, contact Libby Eaton at church.

From the Archives

A new display in the Archives Case by 208B is composed of the books used by those who took minutes of women's meetings since 1890. The print in the 1859 Repository is so fine that even a magnifying glass doesn't help enough to read it.

Items we hope you will note are:

1. Beautiful penmanship
2. Names of the groups were shortened to letters: WHMS, FHMS, WSCS
3. Most women lived in Riverside
4. The cost of their activities
5. The means of mending their books before scotch tape
6. Their meetings were held in their homes

Each meeting they would take a collection to cover their expenditures until "Ladies Aid" became "Women's Society of Christian Service" chose to divide into circles (smaller groups) and each member made an annual pledge to support a stated budget. This is still how United Methodist Women supports their activities. The minutes reflect how the Deaconesses planned to start a preschool. They were also very supportive of women's activities.

Misspellings like "dinnners" in the minutes attested to the ordinariness of the note takers. Also, book reviews became very popular for



their programs and members took turns sharing. During the years represented in our display, most women were not working outside the home and supported these activities. With the change in our demographics, fewer women have participated, but our church is providing Saturday and evening activities to boost participation and continue the contributions women make to our church.

Challenges of Aging

Workshops Coming in October

Learn about options for estate planning, elder care, and retirement residences

The Cornerstone Initiative is sponsoring a series of workshops in October, with important information for every family. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend:

October 3: Advance Care Planning

October 10: Estate Planning Essentials

October 17: Emotional and Spiritual Aspects of Aging

October 24: Living arrangements when it's time for a change

All workshops will be held in the 50/50 Sunday school classroom (107B), from 6:30 to 7:30.



United Methodist Women September 13

First Church UMW will meet for the Expanded Executive Committee on Wednesday, September 13 at 10:30 a.m. in 101B.

First Church UMW Unit meeting will be Wednesday, September 13 at 12:15 p.m. in Meredith Hall with a luncheon. The meeting will follow and our program will be Ann Fox, CEO of Habitat for Humanity. We will have election of UMW Officers and Journey Team Leaders, Least Coin Offering and One Minute of Giving Offering.



CORE Kids September



Third Grade Bibles

We are excited to present Bibles to our third graders! Every year, First Church provides all incoming third graders with their very own Bible as a tool to continue to build their faith. This can provide an opportunity for individual as well as family Bible study and discipleship growth. The ceremony will take place on Sunday, September 10 at the Downtown Alive Service. If you have a third grader at home, please contact Patricia Tristan, Director of Kids' Discipleship.

Third Grade Bibles
Sunday, September 10
Downtown Alive

Wednesday Night Kick off

Core-Kids will kick off Wednesday Night programming on September 13 at 6:30 p.m.! Every Wednesday night kids get together to learn more about the Bible through different rotations: Games, Crafts, Cooking, and Library. This is also a great opportunity for children to fellowship and build friendships that last a lifetime.

Wednesday Nights Kick off
September 13 @ 6:30 p.m.
Core-ECM (Preschool) – 211C
Core-Kids (Grades K-4th) – 111C
Core-56 (Grades 5-6th) – 311C

Confirmation Classes Begin in September



We are excited to announce that First Church, in partnership with El Mesias UMC, will be offering Confirmation class this fall. Confirmation is a journey of faith to learn more about God and the church in order to become an adult member of the church. However, we believe that Confirmation is much more than just joining the church. Students will have the opportunity to

examine their relationship with God in a variety of ways. Through exploring scripture and church history, as well as the story and beliefs of United Methodism, students will learn what being part of God's Kingdom can mean and how being part of a community of faith can impact our world. Along with class meetings, each teen will be assigned a mentor—an adult in the church who exemplifies their faith in

impactful ways.

Weekly Confirmation classes will begin on September 6 with a parent meeting and kickoff at 6 p.m., and conclude with Confirmation Sunday on November 12. All other classes will take place during our Youth Group meetings on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8 p.m.

This is going to be a great experience for all

involved, and we can't wait to get started. For more information, please contact Caleb Fouse, Director of Youth Discipleship at calebf@firstwichita.org.



CROP Hunger Walk

CORE Youth will be participating in the upcoming 2017 Wichita CROP Hunger Walk on October 1 at Sedgwick County Park. The Wichita CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Hunger Walk seeks to educate, inspire, and empower the Wichita community to be agents of change in the fight against poverty and hunger through fundraising events with local and international impact. The Walk is an opportunity for Wichita residents of all ages, faiths, cultures, and circumstances to join together to demonstrate their concern for those who are poor and do not have enough food to eat, both across the globe and in our own backyard.

The Youth will be collecting donations and gifts for their CROP Walk team throughout the month of September. Please donate if you can, or, if you cannot, join the Youth and walk on October 1 at 2 p.m. at Sedgwick County Park. If you'd like to join the team as a fundraiser, please contact Caleb Fouse, Director of Youth Discipleship, at calebf@firstwichita.org.

First Church College Student Spent Summer as Counselor at UMC Camp

David Hole, son of Denise and Ken Hole, served this summer as a camp counselor at Camp Comeca, a Great Plains United Methodist Camp near Cozad Nebraska, about five hours north of Wichita.

David's days consisted of accompanying groups of 5-8 second and third grade boys from one activity center to another, attending to their needs, helping center leaders, dining with the kids and supervising them in their cabins. On a nearby lake, campers participated in canoeing and paddle boats. Though not a lifeguard, David helped supervise at the swimming pool. One of his favorite activities was the "milk crate climb" where campers were tethered to a tree and kept adding milk crates to a stack to climb higher! He also described "prairie surfing" where students rode a large piece of rubber tread pulled behind an ATV type vehicle. Of course, devotions and Bible lessons were also on the daily schedule.



When asked what he learned as a camp counselor, David replied, "Well, you gotta know how to treat them! But, I did learn that I enjoy working with the kids." David has returned to Cloud County Community College in Concordia, KS for his second year of study.

Then he plans to pursue a degree in English Education and Creative Writing at WSU. David hopes to return to Camp Comeca next summer. First Church is proud of our own church camp counselor!

Stove Builders of Guatemala Update

Stove Builders of Guatemala (SBG) which was started here at First Church, quickly grew as more and more individuals from other churches traveled with First Church to help build stoves for the rural Mayan people of Guatemala. These individuals carried the idea and enthusiasm back to their home churches. This created a natural partnership between First Church and other churches from Kansas, Texas, and Nebraska eager to participate in this ministry. Some of these churches now run their own teams helping to build stoves in villages they have adopted while other churches sponsor their members on First Church teams. As the program grew, it also became apparent that the program needed more exposure than we alone could provide. Therefore, we applied for and received "Advance" status within the United Methodist Church which meant Stove Builders of Guatemala would be promoted worldwide.

When Bonnie Laycock retired, it became clear to First Church and to the SBG Advisory Board that the new part-time Director of Missions was simply not going to have the necessary time needed to maintain the program at its current growth rate. The SBG Advisory Board had to make a decision. They voted to maintain the program and to seek another church to serve as the administrative body. First UMC in Richardson, Texas, a church that has been very involved with Stove Builders for several years, agreed to take on the duties of administrator, including coordinating teams, money and the overall project.



The churches that had partnered with First Church Wichita in the past will now partner with First UMC Richardson. We will still be a partner in this project and can send our own teams or sponsor individuals to go with a combined team made up of several churches. In addition, money for this project can still be donated through First Church Wichita, designated for Stove Builders of Guatemala. First Church will send the contributions to the Advance and First Church will get credit as second mile giving.

The SBG Advisory Board wants to take this opportunity to thank First Church Wichita for all they have done to support, grow, nurture and love this project. This Spirit-

led project has built over 1,000 stoves in the past six years and trained more than 16 stove builders in 8 different villages. Many Mayan families are now living much healthier; our stove builders have a new skill that pays well and helps lift-up their communities, and with all supplies being bought locally, all communities involved are benefiting economically from the program. Thank you to the many volunteers who took the time to go and help the people of Guatemala help themselves and to the hundreds and hundreds of people who couldn't go but gave generously of their finances so that are brothers and sisters in Guatemala could have a better life.



September Mission Lunch Calendar
11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (or until sold out)
Meredith Hall

September 10- El Mesias
Enjoy an authentic Mexican meal made by members of El Mesias! The menu includes 3 homemade Pork or Chicken Tamales steamed to perfection, accompanied by an order of yellow rice and refried beans. To-go boxes will be available.

Contributions will benefit El Mesias church programs, family camp, discipleship, and scholarships for music camp and summer camp.

**September 24 –Work Teams
2018 Mission Work Teams
Announced!**

This Mission Lunch will benefit the General Work Team fund, which helps underwrite our work teams!

Upcoming Mission Dates!

September 3: Agape Redeemed Church of All Nations beginning worship in Chapel

September 10: Mission Lunch

September 17: Bailey, CO Team Commissioning

September 24: Mission Lunch and Announcement of 2018 Mission Work Teams

October: Toilet Paper Drive

October 1: World Communion Sunday Bahamas Team Commissioning CROP Walk

October 22: Mission Lunch

November 19: Thanksgiving Mission Lunch Invite your family, neighbors and friends! Full Thanksgiving dinner!

November 23: GraceMed Say Grace Thanksgiving Race

January 27, 2018: ERT training at First Church

New Partnership with West Heights United Methodist Church

In May, a Mission Work Team went to Camp Buckhorn, Colorado, in the mountains near Fort Collins. This was our 4th team to work there following fires in 2012. This year, two of the team members were from West Heights United Methodist Church (WHUMC). Because of their experience on this team, WHUMC approached our Missions Director about working together on more teams.

First Church enthusiastically agreed to a partnership. We already have a couple of mission teams in the works. West Heights does a lot of local missions which may be easy for us to join as well. West Heights does not have as many teams that go out of Wichita, so don't be surprised if some of their members are on your team! Missions is very excited about this partnership and hopes to collaborate with other churches in the future!



Members from both First Church and West Heights participated in the Camp Buckhorn team earlier this year. We look forward to our increased partnership with West Heights! Pictured: Nancy McKellar (First Church), Tom Tanner (First), Debbie Hall (Norwich UMC), Mark Allen (WHUMC), Vicki Tanner (First Church), and David Glover (WHUMC).

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

Double Ring 106B

Double Ring celebrated a number of wedding anniversaries (11 couples) during June and July with a grand total of 520 years of marriage. Seven of our couples have been wed between 50 and 70 years!

We spent a couple of weeks continuing our Bible study of the people who followed Jesus including Mary Magdalene who has been called the apostle to the apostles. We also discussed how various churches are structured and how women's roles differ. We are currently using our Bible, the Book of Discipline, and much discussion regarding LGBTQ issues. We have discussed the influence of culture and society and been challenged us to seek what Jesus would do.

Our next social is September 9 at 1:00. We will play Crazy Bridge in our classroom! Won't you join us? You'll be glad you did.

50/50 107B

What a nice article about our Maggi Watson on the front page of the Wichita Eagle about her bowling! We are all so proud of her. Glenna Snyder arranged a special worship table to honor Maggi.

We appreciate our speakers for the class. In July and August we enjoyed presentations from Delaine Hartman, Deborah Gdisis, Bonnie Jo Holmes, Vicki Hye, Patrick Myers and Loyd Hamrick. We also appreciated having Paul Ackerman back as our teacher on August 13.

Congratulations to Bonnie and Ken Rupe who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on August 3. Their family is celebrating in Colorado.

We always welcome guests stopping by Room 107B. Join us anytime!

Hand in Hand 101B

Dr. Doug Morphis will be teaching our class 3 weeks on "What it Means to be a Methodist" from the Social Principles of the UMC. Cliff will resume his lessons on "The Dust of the Rabbi" on September 10.

We are sad that Lucy is returning to her home in Florida, but we wish her the best. We have enjoyed her wisdom, wit and charm in the years she has been here in Wichita. Lloyd will remain in Wichita at the Masonic Home.

The ladies had lunch at Bricktown Brewery on Aug. 11. Our next luncheon will be October 13 with some spooky fun!

Our annual summer class party was August 19 at the Housholder's. We shared memories of past summers and enjoyed pulled pork from Chase County and yummy side dishes.

Some class members have been involved with the Summer Sizzles. Others helped with the luncheons for the teachers at Park and Washington Elementary schools. All are encouraged to donate school supplies. We are proud of our own Sawny Klaassen who was pictured in the national United Methodist magazine, "The Interpreter", helping with a gardening project at Washington School

We welcome visitors and are always pleased to have guests join us in class or at our times of fellowship.

Koinonia 303D

We welcome two wonderful presenters to our class: September 3, we will learn from Helen Halstead and September 10 Rev. Charles Claycomb will share his faith. Please plan to come and hear them. We close every class time sharing joys and concerns and praying for needs.

We have two September socials. September 10, we will dine at Spears, 4323 W. Maple, and September 29, we will meet at Savutes, 3303 N. Broadway. Both are favorites of our class. We welcome others to join our class, you will be glad you did!

People's Open Doors 300D

We have had the pleasure of being involved in activities of the church and the community. The class has been involved with VBS meals and the wonderful Senior Sizzle summer events. We had many attend these gatherings, enjoying the afternoon with friends. We want to extend our appreciation to Libby, Sr. Saints and the Adult Council for all the planning and preparation that took place! We have also been involved in the Improvements Campaign for Camp Horizon, the blood drive, and assembling dental kits.

We continue to lift up in prayer class members Lee Riege and Violet Sipes husband Vincent. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Connie Lee with the loss of her sister Wanda Lay, and Kathy Hampton with her loss of Troy. They both were special friends to many in our class.

Our studies continue on the book of Acts, and the topic of discussion, "What does church mean to us?" We had an enjoyable time attending our class social, at Sweet Allie B's. We were blessed to have a visitor, attend our class. We extend an invitation to others to come and enjoy our class fellowship and studies.

Pneuma 302D

Pneuma is wrapping up our study of the different generations and how they look at church and worship. We will begin a study of The Beatitudes in September.

Many of our class volunteered at VBS. We also have members volunteering with the blood drive, the Open Door Bicycle Challenge on September 23, and the Raise My Head Foundation gala in October.

Pneuma Ladies met at the home of Vicki Bond in August. Our September hostess is Connie Green. The men are also enjoying a time of fellowship on those evenings.

Our thoughts have been with Linda Mack and Deb Anderson who both suffered injuries from falls and are facing lengthy recoveries. Our celebrations include the birth of a granddaughter, Emily Grace, to Mary Lou Reece and Bishop Scott Jones and the engagement of Laura and Brad Sherard's son, Max.

RNC 100D

RNC resumed Wednesday night activities on August 23 with a magic show. Upcoming events for September include a Wichita Wingnuts baseball game, BINGO, a visit from the pet therapy dogs and a concert. Our Sunday school lessons will focus on the Bible story of Jonah and the Whale.

Our advisory council will meet on September 11 to begin planning for our annual Pecan fundraiser this fall.

Seekers 306B

The Seekers invite all to our study of John lead by David Brant. The coffee is hot and the discussion is thought provoking.

The Seekers are busy preparing Mission lunches, cooking and serving lunch for Open Door on the first Friday, and sewing fleece blankets and quilting items for the annual auction on October 28! Our own lumberjacks, George Stover and Tom Tanner, cut down the two trees in the church's parking lot across Topeka St.

Bob and Janet Robinson have invited the class to their cabin for a day on the lake. Sign up in class! Seeker women will be enjoying a dinner out on September 19.

Join us as we celebrate the return of autumn and the return of our traveling members.

Calendar

September 2017

Labor Day Reminder

First Church will be closed, Monday, September 4, 2017, in observance of Labor Day.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| 1 11:00 AM 6:30 PM | Friday Open Door Lunch Prep. - MH Kitchen El Mesias Band Rehearsal - 200D | 12 2:00 PM 2:00 PM | Tuesday Caregiver Support Respite - 100D Caregiver Support Group - Wilke Family Life Center Board of Trustees - 308B Kids Discipleship Council - 310C | 21 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM | Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A God and Dogs - Parking Lot Deux Voix Concert - Sanctuary |
| 3 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 | Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids Sunday School- 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 | 13 5:30 PM 6:30 PM 10:30 AM 12:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:40 PM 7:00 PM | Wednesday UMW Expanded Executive Committee 101B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids - 108C, 110C, 311C, Wilke Core Youth Group - 200D Disciple Fast Track - 101B United Methodist Men Bible Study - 103B | 22 6:30 PM | Friday El Mesias Band Rehearsal - 200D |
| 4 | Monday- Labor Day <i>Building Closed</i> | | | 24 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 | Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids Sunday School - 108C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School - Church Wide El Mesias UMC Worship-200D Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary Mission Lunch - Meredith Hall Agape Redeemed Church - Chapel The Gathering @ Mead's Corner |
| 6 9:30 AM 12:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:00 PM 6:15 PM 6:40 PM 7:00 PM | Wednesday Stephen Ministry II Supervision - 302B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Confirmation Kickoff and Parent Meeting - 200D Religious Nurture Center - 100D Disciple Fast Track - 101B United Methodist Men Bible Study - 103B | 14 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 6:30 PM 15 6:30 PM 16 10:00 AM | Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A God and Dogs - Parking Lot Friday El Mesias Band Rehearsal - 200D Saturday UMW Saturday Circle - 101B | 25 5:00 PM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM | Monday Executive Committee - 204A Finance Committee - 204A Global Missions Commission - 101B |
| 7 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 6:30 PM | Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A God and Dogs - Parking Lot | 17 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 | Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids Fall Sunday School - 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 | 27 12:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:40 PM 7:00 PM | Wednesday Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids - 108C, 110C, 311C, Wilke Core Youth Group - 200D Disciple Fast Track - 101B United Methodist Men Bible Study - 103B |
| 8 6:30 PM | Friday El Mesias Band Rehearsal - 200D | | | 28 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM | Thursday First Place Quilters - Quilters/Emmaus Disciple Fast Track - 204A Investment Meeting - 204A God and Dogs - Parking Lot |
| 9 1:00 PM | Saturday Double Ring Social Crazy Bridge - 106B | 18 4:00 PM 19 5:30 PM 20 9:30 AM 12:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:40 PM 7:00 PM | Monday Local Missions Commission - 101B Tuesday TV Ministry Committee - Media Suite Wednesday Stephen Ministry II Supervision - 302B Apple Core - Book/Bible Study - 302B Downtown Alive Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids - 108C, 110C, 311C, Wilke Core Youth Group - 200D Disciple Fast Track - 101B United Methodist Men Bible Study - 103B | 29 6:30 PM | Friday El Mesias Band Rehearsal - 200D |
| 10 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:50 AM 10:30 AM 11:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM | Sunday Heritage Worship - Chapel Religious Nurture Center - 100D Core-Kids Sunday School- 108C, 200C, 311C Core Youth Sunday Small Group - 200D Adult Sunday School - Church Wide Downtown Alive Worship - Sanctuary El Mesias UMC Worship-200D Mission Lunch (El Mesias) - Meredith Hall Agape Redeemed Church - Chapel The Gathering @ Mead's Corner | | | | |
| 11 1:00 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM | Monday Archives - 208B SPRC - 309B Adult Council - 204A Hospitality and Integration Commission - 107B | | | | |

COMING IN WORSHIP

September 3

"Fairness, Justice and Working for God"

Romans 13:8-19

Matthew 20:1-16

September 10

"The Book that Defines Us"

Proverbs 4:1-14

John 1:1-5, 14-16

September 17

"Encounters that Transform Us"

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 19:1-10

September 24

"Saying Yes and Following"

Isaiah 43:1-7

Matthew 9:35-10:4

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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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Life Downright

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

Forum Theatre Returns to First Church For 2017-2018 Season ▶

The Forum Theater has recently announced their 2017-2018 Season and we are excited to welcome them back to our Wilke Family Life Center! The season opens on September 28 with "Pump Boys and Dinettes" featuring our own Leslie Coates! You're sure to enjoy a musical collection of southern rock, country western, rhythm and blues, as well as blue grass selections. Season tickets as well as individual tickets are available now at forumwichita.com or at 316-618-0444.

Deux Voix in Concert
Organ and Trumpet Duo



First Church Sanctuary | September 21 | 7 p.m.
Free Admission. Donations to organ fund appreciated.



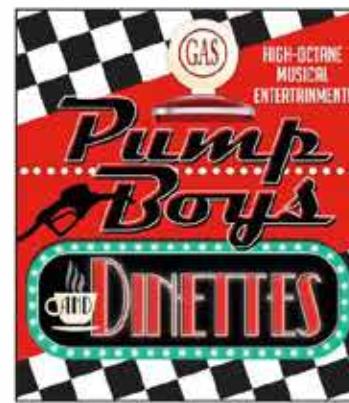
Final Senior Summer Sizzle!

First Church's final Senior Summer Sizzle was held August 9 when a group of about 40 folks were treated to a fun beach party. Participants enjoyed souvenir photographs in frames they decorated themselves, fruit kabobs and cookies, playing shuffleboard (Did you know there are actually shuffleboard patterns on the Meredith Hall floor?), a beach matching game, and lively bingo games complete with prizes. Laughter and fellowship rocked the hall during swinging renditions of the Hokey-Pokey and the chicken dance! A special thanks to members of Adult Council and Senior Saints for organizing our three summer sizzles!

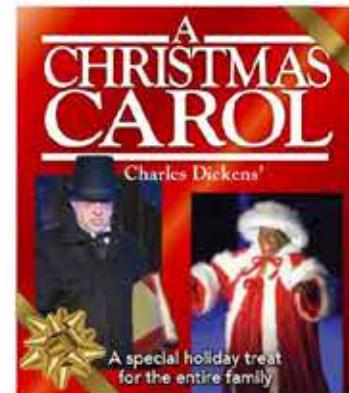
THE FORUM THEATRE COMPANY

is excited to present the...
2017/18 SEASON

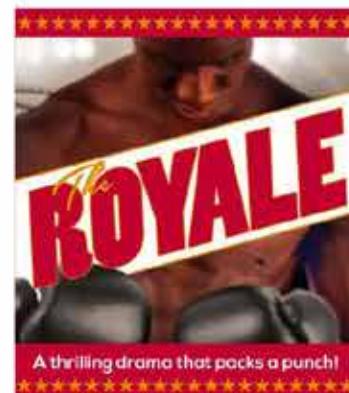
All performances held at the Wilke Center
330 N. Broadway, First United Methodist Church



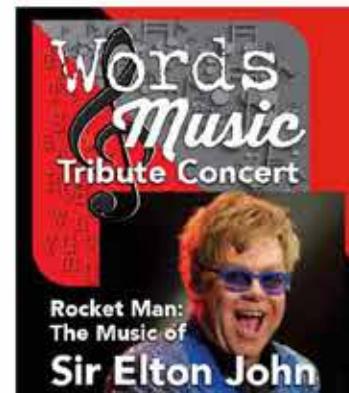
SEPT 28 - OCT 15 You're in for a treat when the pump boys of Highway 57 meet up with the Double Cupp Diner sisters from just across the road. These six friends sing of joy and heartbreak while strumming and humming away on guitar, piano, bass, fiddle, banjo, mandolin, harmonica and even a few kitchen utensils!



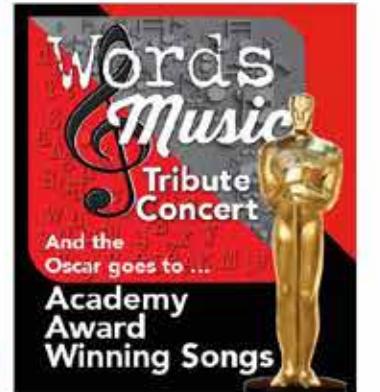
NOV 30 - DEC 17 Get into the holiday spirit with this spirited new musical version of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol directed by Shaun Michael Morse who will also recreate his powerful portrayal of Scrooge.



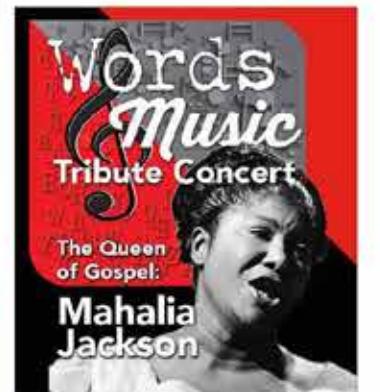
FEB 8 - 25 Follow one man's quest for victory against all odds. Jay "The Sport" Jackson has his eyes set on becoming the heavyweight champion of the world, but the Jim Crow reality of 1905 America might just be his fiercest opponent yet.



MAY 19 & 20 It's a tribute to one of the biggest music icons of the 20th century. Selling more than 250 million records, Elton John has found success on Broadway and internationally with his unique blend of pop and rock styles.



NOV 4 & 5 We're going to let you vote on which songs to include in this tribute to the best of the best. Spanning from the first-ever Oscar for Best Original Song in 1935, "The Continental" to this year's winner "City of Stars" from La La Land. Warning: These songs may trigger goose bumps and incurable nostalgia.



JAN 13 & 14 Mahalia Jackson is revered as one of the greatest musical figures in U.S. history. Her recording "Move On Up A Little Higher" was a major hit and she quickly became an international star, making Gospel mainstream and earning her acclaim from music lovers of all backgrounds.



APR 12 - 29 When Aaron meets Casey on a blind date, a casual drink turns into a hilarious high-stakes dinner. Can this couple turn a dating disaster when the mother shows up, then the grandma, the opinionated best friend, the therapist and a bevy of broken-hearted exes into something special before the check arrives?

Let us entertain you!
Season renewal starts now!
Call 316-618-0444
to renew your tickets or mail to
P.O. Box 21380, Wichita, KS 67208.
All shows subject to change at the discretion of the Forum Theatre Board of Directors.