

FIRST LIGHT

November 2020
Vol. 165 No. 83

This November in worship we continue our 2021 stewardship sermon series, "Still". Regardless of what we are facing, God is still God and we are still God's people. In person has resumed for the Downtown Alive service at 10:50 a.m., and we continue to worship with you through our tv broadcast and our online streaming. We hope you join us Sundays at 11:00 a.m. on KAKE TV and live on the web at firstwichita.org or at 5:00 p.m. on [facebook.com/thegatheringworshipservice](https://www.facebook.com/thegatheringworshipservice).

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FEED THE HUNGRY

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

**November food collection:
Canned Fruit**

FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Life. Downtown.

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

"STILL" GOD IS FAITHFUL, GENEROUS, GRACE-FILLED

We have been in ministry in Downtown Wichita for 150 years, in good times and bad times, in war and in peace, in prosperity and recessions, in literally, health and sickness. 2020 started out as a year full of possibilities, with ideas swirling around "perfect" vision. It has moved into a

year of global pandemic, and in the United States deep partisan divisions and racial and social unrest. However, in the everlasting reign of God, none of these things are new, not even new in the last 150 years. God is faithful throughout history, and grace filled for every

time and place. During this series we will focus on how we trust in God's faithfulness, God's grace, God's love, God's generosity and God's presence in our lives, "Still".
"Be still and know that I am God" -Psalm 46:10

November 1, 2020
All Saints Sunday
"STILL: Past, Present, and Future"
Jeremiah 29: 4-7
1 Thessalonians 2: 17- 3:13

November 8, 2020
"STILL: Generous and Gifted"
1 Thessalonians 4: 9-12
Mark 10: 17-27

November 15
Consecration Sunday
"STILL: Witness in Word and Deed"
Jeremiah 29: 11-14
1 Thessalonians 5: 11-24

still

still

"STILL" - 2021 STEWARDSHIP

Commitment Sunday is November 15. The theme for this year's Stewardship season is "Still" as eloquently expressed by the Psalmist: "Be still and know that I am God." Psalms 46:10

We still seek funds to continue our work for the Kingdom in 2021. To meet the challenge of this pandemic, we must be still and listen carefully. God calls us to work creatively as we minister to

our congregation, our community and beyond, from our beloved home at Third and Broadway. We continue to enjoy the gifts of those who have gone before. But we must assure that those who follow will have sufficient resources for the future.

November 15 is Commitment Sunday, when we dedicate our gifts to God for the coming year. Our gifts are needed to pay operating expenses and to underwrite our Worship,

Pastoral Care, Mission and Ministry, Education and Discipleship and our Facilities and Maintenance. Downtown Alive is our virtual and vital ministry to ourselves and to believers locally, across the State and beyond.

Please prayerfully consider what God is calling you to do in 2021, remembering that now more than ever we are still called to work for the Kingdom.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Continuing Concerns: the hospitalized, our members and attenders with long-term and terminal illness, the homebound, and those who are in long-term care facilities and nursing homes. Also, please pray for all the family members and caregivers who may be unable to spend time with their loved ones currently because of restrictions in place at hospitals, care facilities and nursing homes. Continued prayer for the doctors, nurses and medical personnel caring for the medical needs of their patients. Pray for our Guardian Angels and Stephen Ministers and the pastoral care staff. Please pray for the safety, physical and emotional well-being of children, students, teachers, and school administrations in our local community, our state and beyond.

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

Message From Pastor Cindy

Friends,

It was so good to have people back in worship at Downtown Alive in October. Who knew seven months ago, it would take that long for us to bring people back together to worship in person. We HAVE been worshipping together through KAKE-TV, our online streaming and now through Facebook Live. I know for the people who felt safe enough to return to in person worship, it was a blessing to be in the Sanctuary.

When we made the decision to re-open, the numbers in Sedgwick County were relatively stable. That has changed in the last few days. We plan to keep in person worship at Downtown Alive as long as we are able. We have set a 10% rolling average as a metric for when we would return to remote worship, however, we may fudge on that a bit on the high side if the numbers level out. The re-opening task force continues to meet weekly to assess the situation and if necessary, we will return to online worship only. On our website are the metrics we will be using in our assessment:



Protocols for Returning to Remote Worship

If after reopening there is a Covid positive rate of 10% in Sedgwick County or more following a steady increase in the rolling seven day COVID average, or if there is cluster of 5 or more positive cases within the church, the church will shut down. We will comply with any executive orders issued from the State of Kansas, Sedgwick County or City of Wichita limiting the attendance in a gathering. We will also track the trend around USD 259 and CDC red line. We will continue to communicate any updates through our website, firstwichita.org, the First Church app, and Facebook page. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the church. The safety of our congregation and staff continues to be our utmost concern.

Personally, I miss seeing all of you. I miss having people in the Sanctuary as we worship together. My needs and wants will never outweigh what I feel, and what the task force feels is best, in terms of the safety and health of our congregation. We will continue to mandate masks in the building and in worship for as long as we feel it is necessary. The numbers are not looking particularly good right now, but I know, I KNOW, that this is just a season for us. It may be a long season, perhaps many more months before there are vaccines available and better therapeutics to fight COVID 19, but God is STILL God and is with us no matter whether we worship in person or virtually.

I continue to keep all of you in my prayers.

Pastor Cindy

2020 Annual Church Conference November 15, 2:00 p.m.

Due to the uncertainty arising from COVID 19, First United Methodist Church will conduct this year's church conference through a Zoom meeting. A link to access the meeting will be provided on the church website prior to the conference. The District Superintendent will carefully review all forms prior to November 15, and return a digital copy with a letter authorizing the church to take a single vote to approve all needed actions. Packets will be prepared and made available for pick up before the church conference for your review, and will also be available on the church website.

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

OUR FAMILY

We grieve the death of:

Betty Moats

Holiday Survival Seminar Nov. 22 | 6:30 p.m. | Zoom

2020 has been a year filled with loneliness, isolation, trauma, death, unmet needs during pandemic, and a divisive election. At First Church, we strive to create a community where we can be honest, and true to our personal life circumstances and offer support to you. For many, the holidays will look very different, if you need

help processing how to survive the 2020 holidays, you are encouraged to attend a seminar hosted by the Pastoral Care team addressing the challenges of the holidays when one has experienced death, loss of identity, family drama and other topics. Contact Pastor Rebecca with questions. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom>.

The church building will be closed:
Thursday, November 26 &
Friday November 27
for the Thanksgiving holiday.



OUR GIFTS

SEPTEMBER 2020 OFFERING
\$38,908.79

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$779,193.12

BUDGET YEAR-TO-DATE
\$839,633.96

EXPENSES YEAR-TO-DATE
\$831,369.22

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS
MISSIONS

\$1,595.00

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$4,299.00

CAPITAL FUNDS

\$100.00

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$32,920.00

VAN MAINTENANCE FUND

\$0.00

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$0.00

ORGAN MAINTENANCE FUND

\$0.00

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$10,735.00

TELEVISION MINISTRY

\$18,621.97

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$236,538.74

BUDGET YEAR-TO-DATE
\$181,863.22

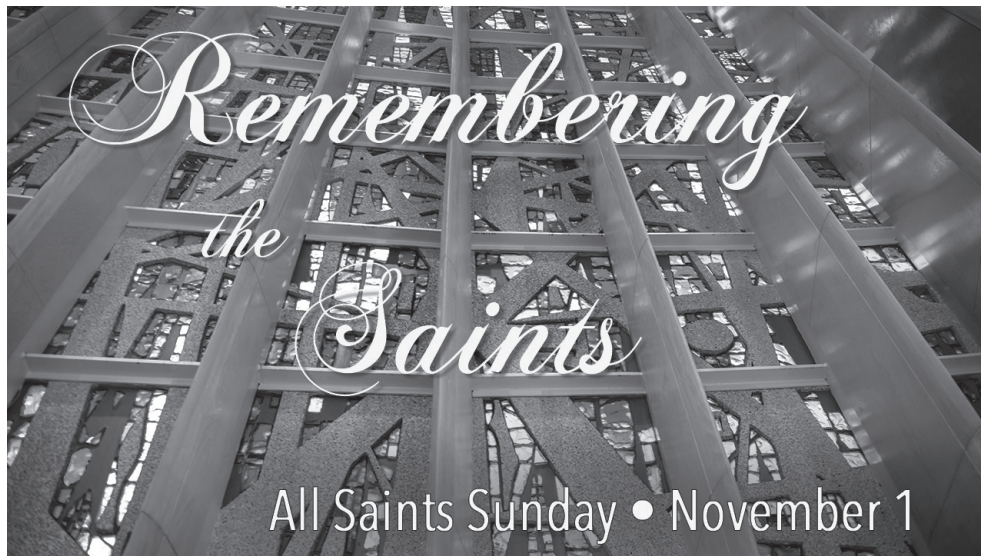
EXPENSES YEAR-TO-DATE
\$208,698.44

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS

\$59,225.76

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$1,063,685.86

All Saints Day is November 1 and in United Methodist Churches, is celebrated on the first Sunday in November. This day invites us to remember those members who have died in the past year. Proverbs notes, “the memory of a good person is a blessing.” This year we remember these members and we give thanks for their ministry and witness and service. We also give thanks for all of those saints who have gone before us and provide us a legacy of faith as we celebrate 150 years of ministry.



November 2019 – October 2020

Don Ambrose

Tom Fox

Glenna Hendershot

Lorine Kieler

Betty Moats

Dan Phelan

Melba Satterlee

Tillie Strimple

Holly White

Grace Brooks

Frankie Gassert

Don Hogg

Jeanne Littell

Jack Morris

Web Quinius

Jim Schmidt

Warden Taylor

Bill Cobb

Dale Goodrich

George “Bud” Hudson

Barbara Lyle

Barbara Nelson

Don Rider

Don Snyder

Nora Vaughn

Claud DeWitt

Mary Hartman

Eloise Kennedy

Robert McCoskey

Orless O’Neal

Emily Rude

Susan Stover

Kathleen Wells

Our Thanks for Your Gifts of Faith

During worship in November we will honor all those who have left memorial and legacy gifts to First Church over the last 16 months. Between May 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020, a total of 572 memorial donations were made to honor the lives of loved ones. Those

gifts were directed to a variety of church needs, representing interests of those who died or unique needs of the church. Legacy and endowment gifts provide a lifeline to the future and our church’s purpose to change lives for Christ and reach out to our

community and world in mission.

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

Memorial Gifts

To give a gift in another’s memory is to express the respect and love that continues beyond death.

Robert (Bob) Thom.....	Missions
Mary Marvel Chase	Chase Scholarship
Trudy Childers	Children’s Ministry
Blossom Kirkendall	Children’s Ministry/Organ Fund
Sharon Thom.....	Missions
Holly White.....	Undesignated
Robert McCoskey	Undesignated
Jeanne Littell.....	Undesignated
Webster Quinius.....	TV Ministry
Jim Schmidt	Missions/Open Door Drive
Emily Rude	TV Ministry & Music
Mary Robinson.....	TV Ministry
Donald Hogg.....	TV Ministry
Donald Ambrose	TV Ministry
Floyd Blaine Lundy	TV Ministry
Glenna Hendershot.....	Choir Ministry
Don Snyder	TV Ministry
George (Bud) Hudson	TV Ministry
Orless O’Neal.....	TV Ministry
Connie Hye	TV Ministry
Tom Fox	TV Ministry
Grace Brooks	Undesignated



Legacy Gifts

Between May 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020, estate gifts were received from these faithful individuals.

Fred Ricks, Sr. & Margaret Ricks Trust.....	Undesignated
Ray M. & Delores Dodge	General Budget
Mary Marvel and Maurice E. Chase Estate	Choir, Mission, School & Organ Scholarships
J.D. & Dorothy Ewan Trust	Scholarship
Beverly Beckoff Trust.....	Pastor Robes & TVMinistry

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.



Reminder: the Children and Youth will not meet on Wednesday, November 25. Happy Thanksgiving!

What's Happening with the Children and Youth

Children and Youth Ministries

Are Back in Person | Wednesday Nights - 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Join the Children, Youth and Religious Nurture Center (RNC) as we kick off our fall programming. We will meet together with social distancing and masks in Wilke Family Life Center. Over the next few weeks we will see a Magic Show, Play Bingo, Bible Trivia, Movie Night, and also talk about our faith and how it has grown stronger during these strange times that we live in.

November 4 – Magic Show – with RNC
November 11 – Lesson Night – Sharing of Faith
November 18 – Family Movie Night- Wilke Family Life Center
November 25 – NO MEETING THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Zoom Sunday School Update

Core Kids Sundays 10:00 a.m.

Zoom for children Sunday School will continue as it has been on Sundays at 10 a.m.
Zoom for Youth will not meet in November!

If you have any questions about activities for children and youth, contact Brad Remington, Director of Family Ministries, bradr@firstwichita.org.

Christmas Party for Children and Youth

December 16

We are making plans for a Christmas Party for the children and youth, tentatively set for December 16. We are excited for the fun, safe ideas in the works for all of us to come together and

enjoy the season. We hope you can attend. Please mark this date on your calendar.

Family Movie Night

November 18 -Wilke Family Life Center

Come join us for a fun night out with your family as we enjoy a movie on the big screen. We will have social distancing and masks will be worn. We will have bottled beverages available as well as pre-packaged snacks. We hope you can join us from 6:00-8:00 p.m. We are still deciding on a movie so if you have a suggestion, let Brad know.



DRIVE THRU DONATION EVENT

TO BENEFIT OPEN DOOR
FIRST CHURCH PARKING LOT

NOVEMBER 14, 2020

| 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
firstwichita.org Life. Downtown.
330 N. Broadway, Wichita KS 316-267-6244

the united methodist
open door
Food • Clothing • Shelter

Do you look forward to Thanksgiving and all the food? Many in Wichita are not able to have a Thanksgiving meal like most of us enjoy. And this year, because of COVID-19, it is ever worse. Normally, USD 259 holds a food drive for ingredients for a Thanksgiving meal. This year, however, they will not be having the food drive. PLEASE HELP!

We will be hosting a "Drive-Thru Event for Open Door" on Saturday, November 14, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in our parking lot. We are excited to have Saint Mark UMC assisting

with this month's event! Think about what you eat at your Thanksgiving meal and provide non-perishable ingredients at the Drive-Thru Event. We will then provide the food to United Methodist Open Door to be given to families that do not have the resources to purchase this food.

Suggested items include, but are not limited to:

- Stuffing
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Gravy mix
- Green beans
- Corn
- Jell-O

- Pumpkin
- Cranberries, cranberry sauce
- Protein items, such as:
 - Peanut butter
 - Canned chicken
 - Canned turkey
 - Soups
 - Beans

Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. Open Door will be able to use the money received to purchase perishable items. Monetary donations may be given at the Drive-Thru Event or on the church app. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity.

Mission Calendar

November Mission Projects:

- EmberHope Youthville Christmas Connection
- November 14 - Drive-Thru Event for Open Door

First Friday Lunches Need Your Support

BY JUDITH OSWALD

Why are the people who need our love the most, usually those that are the hardest to love? As a secondary teacher, I found the teens who were the most obnoxious, were the kids who had the greatest needs.

During the winter months before the new year, our heart strings are pulled by photos of children without adequate warm clothes, or by thoughts of families facing Christmas with little food or few holiday gifts and we give generously. But it is difficult to give to programs designed to help adults who are dirty, rude or suffering from mental illnesses or addictions. It is difficult to care about adults who consistently make poor choices or refuse to change their lifestyle.

For years, First United Methodist Church has provided lunch on the first Friday of each month at the Open Door Homeless Resource Center. Before COVID 19, volunteers prepared a hot meal that was nutritious and delicious. Since March volunteers have prepared sack lunches that could be safely delivered to approximately 120 homeless men and women.

Preparing 120 lunches costs about \$160, and that is with every penny pinching trick known. At present we only have enough monies for November and December. All the funds used are donated; none is from the general or mission budget. To continue this important outreach program in 2021, we need for First Church members and friends to give generously. Please send your contribution to the church and mark in the memo of your check, First Friday Lunches.

Jesus' words in Matthew 25:40 are powerful and give clear direction to us. *"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*

Our brothers and sisters at Open Door—those who are grateful and those who are ungrateful, need a noon time meal. Please help.

November Mission Project EmberHope Youthville: Christmas Connections

For nearly nine decades, EmberHope Youthville has met needs and changed lives. Their multi-faceted organization provides a wide array of services for thousands of area at-risk children and teens. Their services include foster care, adoption, residential programs, and counseling for both individuals and families.

Did you know that they have an office in our building? It is on 2B in the former Preschool area.

At Christmas time they have a "Christmas Connection" program. Each child, and their home siblings, complete a Christmas ornament listing something they want, something they need, something to wear and something to read. We will receive some of



their ornaments this year and we will have an opportunity to fulfill their wishes.

Because of COVID-19, we will not be able to have our Christmas trees in the A-B entrance where we can hang the ornaments. We will place individual ornaments, using gloves, in an envelope and make them available to you after worship on November 1. We will have an opportunity to drive-thru and pick up an ornament on Wednesday, November 4 from 2 - 4 p.m. in the church parking lot. You will have until



November 30 to purchase your gifts and return them to the church. You may provide a monetary donation instead of shopping if you wish.

Please contact the Missions office if you would like to participate but are unable to come to the church. We will gladly mail you one or more ornaments.

Please help us share the joy of Christmas with the children of EmberHope Youthville!

Class News & Notes

Double Ring

We have concerns and prayers for our class members who are sick, healing from broken bones, surgeries, or rehab. Many Double Ringers continue to join the Zoom meetings when possible.

Jack Focht, our teacher, told us how the Methodist church helped him through college. He entered college with the goal of being a coach in his future, however, he received an academic scholarship instead of a sports scholarship and he changed his vocation to law.

Jack asked us to read Romans. He thought it might make more sense to us if we knew the history of what was going on when Paul wrote the letters to the Romans. We found out that things were much like they are now. The wealthy controlled the Senate. The poor were going hungry. We then went to Luke to see a census was taken as a method of getting money for grain to feed the poor. The Roman Senators were competitive, military leaders. At that time, the people worshiped various gods. Christians worshipped in groups in homes. The Jews worshiped in synagogues. They abided by Moses' law of sanctification, not justification.

He went on to explain the difference between justification and sanctification. Justification is God given through grace. It gives us the ability to remove sins in our lifetime through our faith in God when we ask for forgiveness. This is a gift given to all. Once justified, our actions, the evidence of our work for God, is the process of sanctification. Justification is a one-time happening. Sanctification is the continual work of God. We are very thankful for the messages in the Bible.

Hand in Hand with 50-50

We are studying "The Magnificent Story" in our Zoom class. The author is James Bryan Smith who teaches at Friend's University. Ken Van Blaricum is leading the class.

Goering's provided a lovely fall gathering in their yard with its many trees on October 11. Social distance was maintained with circles of chairs. The beverage was bottled water. One can't get much safer than that! It was a warm and windy day, but a nice time was had by all. Glen took a group on a tour of their Christmas Tree Farm and it was learned that regular customers were given a date and time to select their tree for Christmas. Thus, there will not be a big rush early in December.

Please bring non-perishable food items for Thanksgiving to the church for the November drive. Items will be given to Open Door and distributed to families in need. Monetary donations are also accepted at the Drive-Thru Event, on the church app, or by sending a check to the church. Be sure and mark in the memo "drive-thru event".

We grieve the loss of class members Tom Fox and Grace Brooks. They were the first two to have in person services at First Church.

Koinonia

Several Koinonia class members have been meeting at the church on the first and third Mondays at 2 p.m. and we hope additional class members will join us. Please contact Lois Stewart ahead of the meeting so we will know how many people to expect. Class members attending have enjoyed meaningful conversations even while wearing masks and practicing social distancing. We are grateful for these opportunities to support each other.

People's Open Door

People's Open Door has been meeting now for several months via Zoom and it is our intention to continue this until we can safely

gather again at the church. As we begin in person worship, members will be excused if they leave early to make their way downtown for worship. Barbara is bringing to us very insightful lessons following our study guide, "The Present Word." We are supporting the Shampoo Drive and the Open Door Thanksgiving Drive monetarily.

Some in our class are doing some traveling and others recovering from illnesses. We pray for all of them as well as those, who because of technology difficulties cannot join us each week. If you are interested in a class studying the Scriptures as they relate to our daily lives, join us on Sunday via the Zoom link supplied by Barbara.

Pneuma

Pneuma appreciates the ability to continue to gather via Zoom. Our members have even attended while at vacation locations and even while driving in the mountains. With the passing weeks, COVID is no longer something that is just "out there". It has touched a number of our friends and family, making us all the more aware of our responsibility to wear masks, practice safe distancing, and proper hand washing protocols. We have been encouraged during these trying times to practice GLAD at the end of each day. You might find it helpful as well.

- G – GRATITUDE: there is good always.
- L – LEARNING : in all situations, I can learn
- A – ACCOUNTABILITY: I can always act with purpose
- D – DELIGHT: awe, beauty, and wonder are constants

We were blessed one Sunday by Alan Ebright interviewing Keith Beadle as he shared his experiences in Vietnam. We are not only grateful for Keith's service, but also for his willingness to share that time of his life.

As the church begins to return to some semblance of normal with the ability to worship in person, we appreciate all those who are involved in serving on the committee making those difficult decisions. We also appreciate those who will be helping with making this a safe time for those choosing to attend. A number of Pneuma members are involved with those efforts.

We rejoice with Doug and Vicki Hye on the birth of their grandson, Jacob.

Seekers

The Seekers have taken advantage of this beautiful fall weather and have meet outside twice. We enjoyed "bring you own" breakfast in Sedgwick Country park and a picnic on the Ninescah River--wearing our masks and 6 ft. apart. It was wonderful to see our friends other than on Zoom. We all shared one unknown fact about ourselves with the group. We have quite an interesting group. We were not always mellow senior citizens!

Because we are still unable to meet in person at the church for class on Sunday mornings, we will continue to study and connect via Zoom. But we will be starting at 9 a.m. to allow time to travel for those Seekers that want to attend Seekers Church Class on Zoom and Downtown Alive in person.

For the next few weeks, we will be studying the book of Hebrews. We have just started so you are not really behind if you join us now. Dave Brant would be happy to send you the class notes from the first few lessons.

We continue to send our love and prayers to those dealing with health issues and with loss, and to all of us dealing with stress related to COVID and national issues.

Inclusivity Training Opportunities

The Wichita Area Welcoming United Methodist Churches are teaming up together to provide two training seminars that can be applicable in our local congregations. In fall 2019, First Church created a welcoming statement, and as a welcoming church, we need to be trained and find ways to truly live out what we say we are. Both trainings are described in detail below, there is no cost, the Great Plains Annual Conference is covering the registration for our welcoming network. Please RSVP to Pastor Rebecca to receive a Zoom link, there is limited space so please be timely in your response.

LGBTQIA Safe Zone Training

November 8 4:00-6:00 p.m.

The goal of Safe Zone Training is to provide a safe and supportive network to the LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer) communities. Providing a welcoming environment for LGBTQ+ persons establishes an identifiable network of individuals who can provide support, information and a safe place on- or off-campus. Those who have committed to being a Safe Zone Ally indicate that bigotry and discrimination, specifically regarding LGBTQ+ persons, are not tolerated. The objectives for this module are to: Understand the mission of Safe Zone, Recognize and understand LGBTQ+ terminology, Become familiar with challenges and issues that impact LGBTQ+ individuals, Understand the coming out process, Recognize heterosexual privileges, Learn how to be an LGBTQ+ ally.

Gender Diversity Training

November 1 4:00-6:00 p.m.

The mission of Gender Diversity Training is to provide a safe and supportive network to the transgender, non-binary and gender non-conforming (gender diverse) communities. This training works to provide safe spaces that are highly visible and easily identifiable, where gender diverse persons can find that support and understanding. Those who have committed to being an ally indicate that bigotry and discrimination, specifically regarding gender diverse persons, are not tolerated.



Counseling and mental health care of all kinds available at no charge

Graduate Student Marriage & Family Therapists
Friends University MFT local partnership



Lydia
Ehrmann



Kaete
Morgan



Warren
Tandoc

**For an appointment
contact:**

studentmft@firstwichita.org

316-267-6244 ext. 304

COMING IN WORSHIP

November 1

“STILL: Past, Present, and Future”

Jeremiah 29: 4-7

1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13

November 8

“STILL: Generous and Gifted”

1 Thessalonians 4: 9-12

Mark 10: 17-27

November 15

“STILL: Witness in Word and Deed”

1 Thessalonians 5: 11-24

Jeremiah 29: 11-14

November 22

Thanksgiving Sunday

November 29

First Sunday of Advent

“Counted”

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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in downtown Wichita.

Coming this Advent!

Adult Ministries Advent Fellowship Events

Advent is a time to prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ. Typically the church has opportunities like open houses and Sunday School class parties. Due to the pandemic, this year will look different. But we can still have fun! Each Sunday at 6:30 p.m. during Advent join other adults from First Church on Zoom for a holiday themed weekly fellowship event.

Zoom link: (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83654582801>)



November 29: Reindeer Games

Christmas Trivia and Christmas Scattogories, all game materials will be uploaded to the church website and briefly screen shared on Zoom.

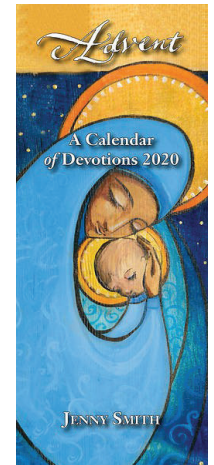


December 6: Gingerbread House Building

RSVP to Pastor Rebecca to receive a kit, to be delivered or picked up at the church prior to the event.

December 13: Christmas Open Houses

In your own home! Be sure to find the most festive part of your house to share in our virtual Open Houses!



Advent Daily Devotion Booklet

A special tradition at First Church is receiving the Advent Daily Devotion booklet. This year we will be sending devotionals through the mail. Be on the lookout for your copy toward the end of November. If you don't receive one and would like a devotional, please contact the church, 316-267-6244.

