

FIRST LIGHT

JANUARY 2025

.....

First United Methodist Church

www.firstwichita.org | 330 North Broadway | Wichita, Kansas | 316-267-6244

Connected | Authentic | Historic | Faithful



ALL CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRIES

JANUARY 12 | 9:30 A.M. | MEREDITH HALL

CELEBRATING 2024!

JANUARY 12
9:30 A.M. | MEREDITH HALL

Gather with your First Church family for this all church Sunday school hour for an opportunity to celebrate all we accomplished in 2024 and anticipate what is yet to come in the new year!



Check out what's
➔ happening this
month at First Church!

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New Members

WELCOME TO 2025!



Dear First Church,

Welcome to 2025! I, for one, am not ready. Just a few weeks ago I was writing out the date on some paperwork at church and accidentally wrote the year as 2012. Ha! I may need a little help to get into gear with 2025.

As we start a new year, I do so with a lot of hope for First Church. That is because we had a pretty good 2024! There are a lot of reasons for us to celebrate where we are and what is happening in our congregation. To that end, I want to invite you to meet with me

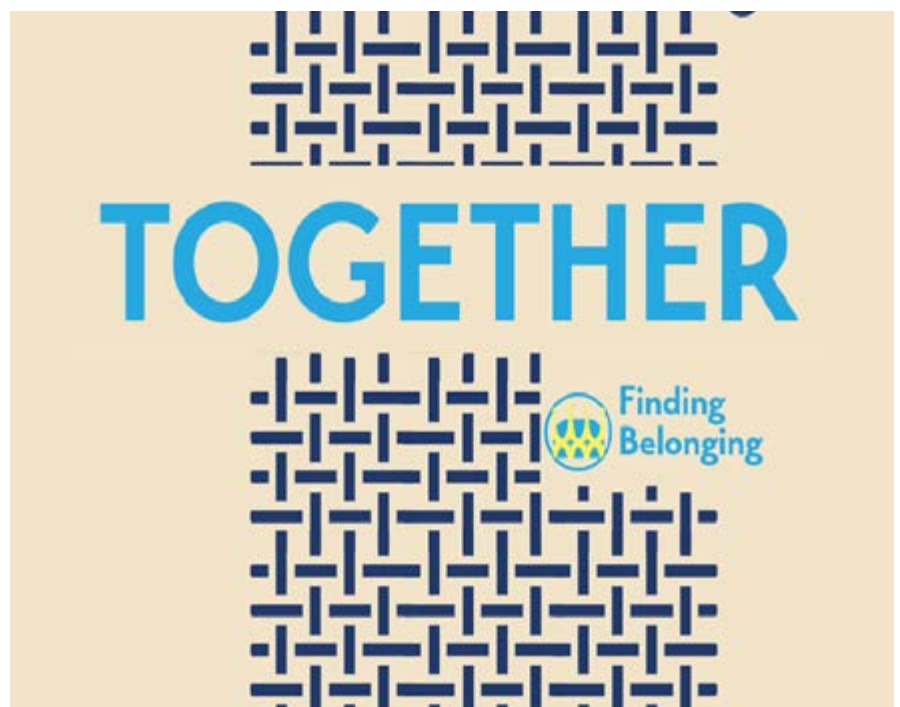
on Sunday, January 12, at 9:30 a.m. in Meredith Hall. I want to share with you where we are, and where we are headed. I want to think with you about 2025 at First Church. I want to celebrate what God has done and remember together what God promises us.

As we move into a new year, one thing is sure. I'm so glad I get to be your pastor. See you soon!

Amy

JANUARY SERIES TOGETHER: FINDING BELONGING

We are lonely. Survey after survey of Americans confirms it. We are more isolated, less supported, and feeling more on our own than ever before. But loneliness doesn't have to be our fate. God calls us into community and gives us all we need through faith to find our team, our squad, our tribe, our family, our home. Join us in January as we explore the struggle with loneliness and God's call for us to be Together.





United Women in Faith

• UWFaith Executive Committee

January 8 | 10 a.m. | First Church Parlor

• UWF Dorcas Circle

January 8 | 2:00 p.m. | Parlor

We will be starting the new year off with a new president. Donna Salzwedel has agreed to lead us this coming year, so please come and support her. We thank Nancy Dinell for her leadership the past two years. She is going on to take leadership at the District level. We will miss her, but wish her well.

The program for our circle meeting will be from the Program Resource Guide and will include our yearly Pledge Service. The study will be "Our Identity: How Has Your Faith Formed You?" given by Donna Fisher.

Hope to see you all in the new year!

OUR GIFTS

GENERAL BUDGET

NOVEMBER 2024 INCOME
\$67,954.67

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$907,913.39

BUDGET YEAR-TO-DATE
\$927,499.99

EXPENSES YEAR-TO-DATE
\$901,596.53

TELEVISION MINISTRY

NOVEMBER 2024
\$13,258.00

RECEIVED YEAR-TO-DATE
\$229,192.50

BUDGET YEAR-TO-DATE
\$306,837.33

EXPENSES YEAR-TO-DATE
\$241,638.95

Ember Hope
YOUTHVILLE



Dear Church,

Once again **THANK YOU** so much for your tremendous support for our recent Ember Hope-Youthville Christmas project "Hope and a Future". We were able to contribute presents to 90 children in the Foster Care system!

-Mission Commission

PRAYER REQUESTS

Email prayer@firstwichita.org with prayer requests. Email pastoralcare@firstwichita.org to ask for a visit, call or private prayer from the Congregational Care Team:

Rev. Amy Lippoldt,
Pastor Jeff Graber, David Brant.

2025-26 Scholarship Applications Available

Each year, the Scholarship Committee of First Church awards scholarships to church members who wish to pursue a post-secondary education. This includes, but is not limited to, graduating high school seniors, students already attending college, other adults returning to college, and seminary students.

Scholarships are funded through named endowments and other gifts to the church specified for scholarships. Students are eligible to receive a scholarship for up to five years, provided they meet the scholarship requirements. A new application is required each year. Application forms are available at firstwichita.org.

The application due date is in January in order to help students who are applying for other matching United Methodist scholarships. If you have questions regarding the scholarship process, please contact Donna Fisher, Scholarship Committee chairperson, by phone at 316-393-6486 or e-mail her at dhypse@cox.net.



Completed 2025-26 Scholarship Application packets are due at the church by Friday, January 17 at noon.

FIRST under 40

**Attention to our under 40 crowd!
Come hang out with Pastor Amy!**

Saturday, January 4 | 4:00 p.m.
Norton's Brewing Company | 125 S. St. Francis Wichita, KS

DRINKS, DEVOTION
A DARN GOOD TIME!

First United Methodist Church Wichita, Kansas
connected. authentic. historic. faithful.

in observance of
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
the church building will be closed
January 20

do Justice
love kindness
walk humbly



SMALL TALK

We continue to engage with our unhoused neighbors through our Small Talk ministry each Sunday morning. We are in need of additional sock donations! Please bring new socks to the church this January! If you are interested in volunteering with this ministry, sign up at the [AB Desk](#).

Thank You Quilters!



During a luncheon in December the First Church Quilters presented representatives from the Religious Nurture Center and the Television Ministry, EACH a check for \$9,500 from the proceeds from their Annual Quilt Sale!

Left to Right: Paulette Dibbern, Delaine Hartman, Rev. Amy Lippoldt, Judith Oswald

JANUARY 2025



1	Wednesday Happy New Year! BUILDING CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY	19	Sunday 9:00 AM Religious Nurture Center - 100D 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School- Church Wide 9:30 AM K-5th & 6th-12th Sunday School - 206B, 301B 9:30 AM Nursery - 204B 11:00 AM Morning Worship - Sanctuary 12:15 PM The Gathering/Small Talk - 103B
5	Sunday 9:00 AM Religious Nurture Center- 100D 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School- Church Wide 9:30 AM K-5th & 6th-12th Sunday School- 206B, 301B 9:30 AM Nursery - 204B 11:00 AM Morning Worship - Sanctuary 12:15 PM The Gathering/Small Talk - 103B 12:30 PM TV Volunteer Meeting - 101B	20	Monday - MLK Jr. Day BUILDING CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY
8	Wednesday 9:00 AM Hand Quilting-304D 10:00 AM Apple Core - Zoom or 302B 10:00 AM UWFaith Board Meeting - Parlor 11:00 AM Quilters at First -Machine - 300D 2:00 PM UWFaith Meeting - Parlor 5:45 PM Chancel Choir - Choir Room 6:00 PM RNC Activities - 100D 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice - 305A	22	Wednesday 9:00 AM Quilters at First (Hand Quilting)-304D 10:00 AM Apple Core - Zoom or 302B 11:00 AM Quilters at First (Machine Work) - 300D 5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice - 305A
9	Thursday 9:30 AM Bible Discussion Group - 101B	23	Thursday 9:30 AM Bible Discussion Group - 101B
12	Sunday 9:00 AM Religious Nurture Center - 100D 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School- Church Wide 9:30 AM K-5th & 6th-12th Sunday School - 206B, 301B 9:30 AM Nursery - 204B 11:00 AM Morning Worship - Sanctuary 12:15 PM The Gathering/Small Talk - 103B	24	Friday 10:00 AM Veteran's Luncheon - Meredith Hall
15	Wednesday 9:00 AM Hand Quilting-304D 10:00 AM Apple Core - Zoom or 302B 11:00 AM Quilters at First -Machine - 300D 3:30 PM Missions Meeting - 308B 5:45 PM Chancel Choir - Choir Room 6:00 PM RNC Activities - 100D 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice - 305A	26	Sunday 9:00 AM Religious Nurture Center - 100D 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School- Church Wide 9:30 AM K-5th & 6th-12th Sunday School - 206B, 301B 9:30 AM Nursery - 204B 11:00 AM Sunday Morning Worship - Sanctuary 12:15 PM The Gathering/Small Talk - 103B
18	Saturday 10:00 AM Leadership Board - Offsite	28	Tuesday 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Supervision - 302B
		29	Wednesday 9:00 AM Quilters at First (Hand Quilting)-304D 10:00 AM Apple Core - Zoom or 302B 11:00 AM Quilters at First (Machine Work) - 300D 5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room 6:00 PM RNC Activities - 100D 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice - 305A
		30	Thursday 9:30 AM Stephen Ministry Leadership - 302B

Welcome New Members!

The folks below are the newest members to First Church, joining Sunday, December 8 during worship. Please be sure to help them all feel welcomed!



Left to Right: David & Karen Fieser, Lyn Reynolds, Ruth Martinez, Eliana Nobach, Lisa & Gordon Bingham

FIRST LIGHT

First Light is published monthly by the First United Methodist Church of Wichita, Kansas.

ARTICLES FOR FIRST LIGHT

We welcome content and story ideas for First Light. They can be submitted 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.

Connect Class Begins January 19 9:30 a.m. | Library (302B)

Are you new to First Church or looking for a way to connect? Rev. Amy Lippoldt will be starting our next "Connect" class, a 6-week Sunday morning small group for anyone who is ready to find community at First Church. We will explore our faith, our United Methodist heritage, and our unique history at First Church. Let us know you'd like to attend by contacting the [receptionist](#) at the A/B desk.

INTERESTED IN
LEARNING MORE
ABOUT
FIRST CHURCH?

Join Pastor Amy for a
6 WEEK CLASS
Begins January 19
9:30 a.m. | Library
(302B)

WICHITA FIRST