



**“As long as
the earth
endures,
seedtime &
harvest,
cold &
heat,
summer &
winter, day
& night
will never
cease.”
-Genesis
8:22**

CHAPMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

August, 2025

Pastor Connie's Corner

I have been reading (mostly listening to) lots of good books. You may have heard me say, I try to read things that will stretch me and help me learn new things. Today I am giving a mini book report on a few of the good books I have read. The Small and the Mighty, Sharon McMahon, Lifting as We Climb, Evette Dionne, The Woman They Could Not Silence, Kate Moore, Kent State, Deborah Wiles, Ethel Rosenberg, Anne Sebba and The Woman with a Purple Heart, Diane Hanks are all books about real events and real people in history. Reading these, introduced me to people (lots of women) who made a difference and impacted my life. Many of these people were unknown to me and to much of the world. A couple of the books helped me better understand some events I had always heard about but have never really known the story. Each one was very readable and opened my eyes (sometimes my heart) to greater appreciation. The Tortilla Curtain, T.C. Boyle, a novel was a bit harder to read. It drew me in and kept me reading but it broke my heart time and time again. I helped identify some things in me that I did not want to admit. How We Learn to be Brave, Mariann Edger Budde, and The Truths We Hold, Kamala Harris, tell personal histories of these women. They were filled with hope and encouragement. I came to both of these books because of our current political climate, and they felt like refreshment to me. Weightless, Evette Dionne is all about body image and living in a world in which strangers feel free to touch, critique, and infringe on another person's body especially if they are bigger, female or have some "otherness" about them. There is some expressive language and frank sexual content in this book, but I found it very enlightening. The Painful Truth about Hunger in America: Why We Must Unlearn Everything We Think We Know, Mariana Chilton. This book is not so easy to read. It has a lot of stats and interview stories which is sometimes hard to keep straight, but it also takes me deep into systemic challenges that the poor and needy face daily. Again, my heart is broken by what I am learning here. I see my complicity in these systems.

Story continued on page 2.





Thank You to...

- Everyone who worked or brought food for the Charlie Chamberlin and LaVella Burjes Celebrations of Life.
- Ladies of the church for their outreach ministries.
- People who volunteer the help with worship-greeters, ushers, liturgists, acolytes, music, etc.
- Wednesday dinner crew. You serve God's love one plate at a time.
- Gardeners who share yummy veggies.
- Joyce for making tables beautiful at every opportunity.
- Folks who take time out of their week to deliver meals
- All of you who serve on boards and committees here and all around the county.

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Being Jewish after the Destruction of Gaza, Peter Beinart I heard an interview with Beinhart, and decided to read this book because the situation in the Middle East is not so clear as it seems it should be. I know much of what is taking place now has connections in history and my depth of knowledge is shallow. Reading this has not fully answered questions and I still have much to learn. It was quite readable and filled with information for me to ponder and process.

The Bluest Eye, Toni Morrison is a novel about a young black girl in America. She longs to be blond and blue-eyed so that she can escape the life she leads and fit into the world that prizes little blond, white girls so highly. Again, a little difficult because it so openly calls out racism many of us with privilege don't even recognize.

With the exception of the Painful Truth..., I borrow all of these from libraries.

DID YOU KNOW?

Pastor Connie takes zoom classes online through the umjustice.org and you can too. Most are free. Check their website to subscribe or just read about ways in which you can take action on issues that are important to you.



CUMC,

Thank you so much for the generous donation to the Thornton family this winter. We used the money for travel expenses to KU Med. This winter my hands had blisters, so I apologize for the lateness of this. More than anything, I can not thank you enough for your prayers and support. We feel blessed by our church family! With love, Kate, Clint, Laney & Lexi.



CUMC extends their deepest sympathies to the families of Charlie Chamberlin and LaVella Burjes who passed away earlier in July. May God comfort them in memories as they grieve the loss of their loved ones. Obituaries are linked below.

Charlie Chamberlin June 28, 1941– July 8, 2025

[Obituary information for Charles "Charlie" Winston Chambe...](#)

LaVella Burjes November 12, 1934—July 11, 2025

[LaVella Burjes Obituary \(1934-2025\) | Chapman, KS](#)

Here at CUMC, we are reaching out as we love, grow, and serve through faith

Outreach Report

Mission of the Month

We have embraced the giving spirit with Christmas in July by collecting food items and money for the Blessings Box located on the southeast corner of CUMC. With the contributions from the congregation and donation from the Missions fund we were able to give two full Christmas boxes of food items and over \$500. This will help CUMC support those in need in our community.

The Mission of the Month for August is the 4:10 Den. They are a non-profit coffee shop designed to benefit area youth. Their main objectives are to create a safe fun place for youth to hang out together after school, give employment training opportunities for student interns, and provide internet services to complete homework after school. They also sponsor events like Karaoke, popcorn & movie nights, and tournaments. Although the purpose is to engage students in supervised fun, adults are welcome to visit also. There are many types of coffees and teas available, as well as smoothies. You can even find some goodies there to eat. You may donate to this worthy cause at the Missions table in the narthex or by sending a donation to CUMC Missions at P.O. Box 349, Chapman, KS 67431.

Bernice Huff Circle—Spreading God's Love

The Bernice Huff circle met on July 8th with eight people in attendance. As 1 Corinthians 12 says, we are all given gifts by God, so the group divided into writers and visitors to do their part in reminding those in the community that they are loved and prayed for. Writers personalized cards made last month to be sent to fellow brothers and sisters. Visitors gathered cookies and reminders of God's love to give. When the afternoon ended, seventeen cards were sent and sixteen visits were made to individuals and to eighteen residents at Chapman Valley Manor. Remaining cookies were taken to city employees to enjoy.

Items not given out are in baskets on the table in the Narthex. Feel free to take what you would like to give to someone who might need to be uplifted or for yourself.

On **Tuesday, August 12th at 12:30pm**, the Bernice Huff circle will be having a salad luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Time will then be spent packing meal kits for Clover Cabinet. As we eat well, let's pass it on to others. Please be watching for recipe cards and items to be included in the kits. Food items left over can be placed in our Blessing Box.



Dinner Feeds 100

The Community Meal at CUMC was held on July 23th where ONE HUNDRED meals were served. The meal included a taco salad with all the toppings along with a cup cake for dessert. We continue to serve our community through this mission. Such a small undertaking gives so much pleasure to people who come to eat, as well as the "workers" at the meal. Thank you to all who provided food and worked making this a great evening. **Our next meal will be on August 27th. Come and join us.**

Suther Reflects on Summer Trip to Spain

I spent two weeks overseas exploring Madrid Spain, Napoli Italy, and Rome with my foreign roommate Javier, who is from Madrid, Spain. I spent my first week in Madrid living with Javier and his family. We explored all the old architecture, art, food and more. His family was kind enough to make me homemade meals and taught me many of their customs. One of my favorites was an aged pork dish called Jamon that Javier's grandmother made for us. Our second week we flew to Napoli, Italy. A large pizza could be bought for 5 euros which is like \$6.00 in the USA. It was some of the best food I've ever had. We enjoyed a snorkeling trip and walking many miles a day to see the architecture of the Romans. Later that week, we took a high-speed bullet train to Rome. We saw all the famous structures, such as the colosseum, Roman forum, and Vatican City. We ended the trip back in Napoli, where we relaxed on the beach before I made the 10+hour trip back home. A couple things I missed about home was the AC and having ice in my water.

-Ian Suther



Operation Christmas Child



Please keep Operation Christmas Child in mind while shopping for back to school items. Sending pencils, pens, paper, crayons, etc. to the children will brighten their days. Sometimes you can find a "great deal" on T-shirts or shorts and other out of season clothing during this time. We are very low on hygiene kit items (toothbrush, comb, brush and washcloth.) If you find some good buys that would help our mission to send shoeboxes to help spread the news of Jesus, pick some of them up too. There is an OCC box in the narthex for any items you come across that would be a special item for a child to find in their shoebox. Believe it or not, November is quickly approaching! Thank you in advance for all you do to help brighten the days of children and give them the opportunity to learn of the love of Jesus.



Thank you to my church family and friends for making my 80th birthday a memorable one with cards, calls and remembering me!
With love, Darlene Stillwagon



Please help Kathy Hettenbach celebrate her birthday on August 10th by joining her family in a card shower. Cards can be mailed directly to Kathy at the following address:
Kathy Hettenbach
1132 Killarney Ct.
Chapman, KS 67431

Youth News



Brylea & Taylyn Lovett



Quinn Tilton



Laney & Lexi Thornton



Kyah, Cade & Knox Bell



Connor, Khoe, & Colin Marston and Bentley Chamberlin



As our youth savor the last few weeks of summer we are looking ahead at what the school year is going to bring. We invite you to join us on **Sunday, August 17th for blessing of the backpacks**. Sunday school classes will begin on Sunday, September 7th and run through April. **VBS students will also sing their songs during worship on September 7th.** All are welcome to join Sunday mornings 9:30-10:00am. Those four and under can join Ms. Tracy during Sunday worship, after the young disciples moment.

**CHAPMAN UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Love, Grow & Serve—7pm 8/6

B. Huff Circle 8/12
—12:30pm

Leadership— 8/13
6:30pm

Blessing of 8/17
the backpacks

1st day of 8/21
School

Community 8/27
Dinner

Have some news that
should be featured
next month? Please e-
mail it to Erin at
chapmanmethodist@
gmail.com.

AUGUST

Birthdays & Anniversaries

8/5	Brian & Stacey Combes
8/6	Dustin & Lindsay Hildebrand
8/8	Avery Will
8/10	Kathy Hettenbach
8/12	Brian & Debi Sweet
8/13	Dick Letellier
8/14	Rick & Collette Erickson, Ryan & Kristin Turner
8/15	Colin Marston
8/16	Laney Thornton, Harold & Maralee Bray, Erin Tilton
8/17	Terry Schmidt, Linda Kepka
8/18	Clint Albers
8/22	Kevin Francis, Joe Hocken-
8/23	Karmen Freeman
8/26	Dennis Will
8/29	Trudy Barker, Janet Ed- wards, Coralynn Combes, Tondy & Judy Frieze
8/30	Knox Bell, Emma Frieze, Chase Meyer



Worship Assistants

Liturgists

August 3: Lynn Kruse
August 10: Kevin Suther
August 17: Trudy Barker
August 24: Sylvia Schmidt
August 31: Joyce Dickinson

Ushers

August 3: Ray Kruse,
Bob Meyer
August 10: Kevin Suther
August 17:
August 24:
August 31:

Greeters

August 3: Chester & Joyce
Leach, Bob & Janet Meyer
August 10: Dennis & Sarah Will,
Kaylene Miller
August 17: Joyce Dickinson
August 24: Sylvia & Terry
Schmidt, Joyce Dickinson
August 31: Darlene Stillwagon



CHAPMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
IS CELEBRATING

50 YEARS

OF ORGAN MUSIC

BY MARILYN WEISHAAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO FOLLOW