

FIRST UNITED METHODIST NEWS

CONNECTING to Christ | GROWING in Community | SERVING the World



VOLUME 92 | NO. 3 | MARCH 2024

March! What a great month. March madness, more basketball than any one human being can watch and yet we will try. We will fill out brackets for men and women, using knowledge or uniform color, coach choices, or love of mascots. We will spring forward feeling more tired than just one hour ahead should accomplish. Yet loving more daylight, to work, play, or take a walk. So within a few days we will flex our body to a new normal. Spring will come with flowers, animal sounds, and grass to mow.

So many things to enjoy about this month, and Easter. It is my first Easter with you as a church. A time to remember and experience the essence of our faith.

March 28, 2024. Maundy Thursday: a dinner to enjoy with a mock Seder supper to experience what the disciples did at that Passover time that gave us communion, the Eucharist. We will eat at 6:00, together in the fellowship hall, celebrating communion together around the table, then we will process in song and candlelight to the sanctuary for a service of Tenebrae. This is a service to remind us of how we and the disciples are called to Follow Christ. Closing to remind us that each disciple could not follow Christ to the cross and neither can we.

March 29, 2024. Good Friday: We will remember the seven last words from the cross. Our confirmation class along with pastor Courtney and myself, will use the seven words from the cross with a script helping to interpret a meaning using modern day concepts. Music will help us have a meaningful service.



March 31, 2024. Easter Sunday amazing music and a meaningful message celebrating the Resurrection.

What a great month don't forget to reserve your dinner and mark your calendar to enjoy any or all of the worship times together.

Loving God and Loving people: Pastor Donna

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Worship in-person or live on our website. Replays will also be available on our website.

8:45 a.m. - Contemporary

10:00 am - Discipleship Time

11:00 a.m. - Traditional

11:30 a.m. - Radio Broadcast on KMAN 1350 AM, 93.3 or 93.7 FM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday, 9:00am - 4:00pm

The church office will be closed
Friday, March 29 in recognition of Good
Friday and Monday, April 1
in recognition of Easter.

Friday, 9:00am - 1:00pm

Please use the double doors to the Connecting Link to enter the building and check in at the welcome desk. Thank you.

The newsletter is published monthly on the 28th for the following month. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month. If you have items for the congregation, please send them to Cathlene Higgins, Connections Coordinator, at fumc@fumcmanhattan.com.

When the newsletter is available you will receive a notification via email with a link to our website. If you prefer to receive a paper copy in the mail, please contact the office at 785-776-8821. If you have items for the bulletin, website, or Sunday morning worship screens, those should also be sent to Cathlene, fumc@fumcmanhattan.com.



First United Methodist Church

Manhattan, Kansas

www.fumcmanhattan.com | fumc@fumcmanhattan.com | 785-776-8821

Contemplative Prayer Time

Sunday, March 3rd and Sunday, March 25th
Discipleship Hour, 10:00 am

I invite everyone for a taste of contemplative prayer. We will take time to commune with God in ways that are different than what we often experience in church. But what is contemplative prayer? David Keller defines it as: "a grace-filled attentiveness to God that initiates and sustains a change of consciousness, leading to a deepening love of God and neighbor."

It is a time of intention during which we will listen for God's voice to grow closer to joining with God and Christ in a unity of love and purpose that will sustain and guide us throughout our day."

There are several different types of contemplative prayer. The two that we will be practicing are Centering Prayer and mindfulness practice. On March 3rd, we will meet in the Cool Lounge (since First Families will have the Fellowship Hall) to learn more about contemplation and experience a time of centering prayer. On the 25th, we will start in Fellowship Hall and participate in a Mindfulness practice that seeks to connect us to God and nature in a new and different way. I hope you will join me on these Sundays to enjoy these different styles of prayer.

Jeff Cunningham, Youth Director

GIVING TO FUMC

There are several ways to give to the church:

1. Mail your check to the church.
2. Text 785-329-0382. Put the \$ (dollar sign) then the amount you want to donate. Registration information will appear. Enter your information, then click "process".
3. Give on-line through our website.
<https://fumcmanhattan.com/give>
4. Automatic withdrawal (ACH) is available in two ways:
 - You can set up a recurring gift through our website www.fumcmanhattan.com/give
 - You may call the church office and speak with Kat McKee to set up these transfers. Please have your bank account information available.



For more information about all giving options, contact Kat McKee in the church office by calling 785-776-8821.

Oh, Baby - Welcome to the World!

We want to help welcome babies born at Ascension Via Christi here in Manhattan into this world, and we need your help. United Women in Faith support programs in Manhattan, the United States and around the world that improve the lives of women, children, and youth and their communities. In March, we are working with First United Methodist Church to gather essentials for layette kits to welcome new babies. New items needed in size 0-3 months are:

1 Short-Sleeve Onesie	1 Long-Sleeve Onesie	1 Bib
1 Pair of Pants for Onesies	1 Receiving Blanket (Approx. 30" x 30")	

A designated collection bin will be located behind the reception desk in the Connecting Link. We will need all donations by March 31, 2024.

If you aren't able to shop, United Women in Faith have you covered. We will be accepting monetary donations to do the shopping for you. It is \$25.00 to buy a complete layette set. Any donation will go towards buying different items needed to complete a set. Checks should be made out to United Women in Faith and can be left in the Church office.

If you have any questions about this mission project, please contact Cheryl Arthur at arthurcheryl@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!



Enrollment for the 2024-25 school term is now open!

Classes are offered for children 18 months-5 years old. Our school term runs September-May.

Go to fumcmanhattan.com/preschool for class times

or contact Director, Lindsay Kinsinger at preschool@fumcmanhattan.com to request your enrollment packet.



FUMC,

Thank you so much
for your donation to
our program! We can't
thank you enough for
all that you do for
Thrive! We couldn't do
it without you. Just
know you all are so
appreciated!



Love
Thrive
Board, Staff and
all

Let's

PAD THE PANTRY



SMALL KETCHUP

**THINGS
THEY
NEED**



SUGAR

DONATIONS CAN BE PLACED ON THE SHELVES IN THE CONNECTING LINK

save the Date

GUEST SPEAKER

BILL SELBY
AT FUMC

"ANXIOUS TIMES CALL FOR
NON ANXIOUS LEADERS"

APRIL 13 AND 14

Sponsored by the FUMC Foundation

Memory Care Support

Tuesday, March 19
1:00 pm at Foundation Park
4915 Colbert Hills Drive.

FUMC facilitates a
support group for
those walking with a
loved one who
suffers with memory
challenges

Contact Pastor Courtney
for more details.
cfellers@fumcmanhattan.com

Below:

Catherine watches the band play from the balcony
during the 8:45 worship service.



**MANHATTAN
FREE CLINIC**

FLINT HILLS COMMUNITY CLINIC INC.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Our partnership brings FREE healthcare to the Manhattan area for those who are without healthcare insurance and live in poverty. In 2023 we served nearly 1400 individuals with nearly 4000 interactions.

We look forward to 2024, serving our communities with love and compassion. Mathew 25:40

Manhattan Free Clinic Staff

Dora. Kristen

Rice



Prevention and Protection Services
555 S. Kansas Ave.
Topeka, KS 66603

Laura Howard, Secretary



Phone: (785) 296-4653
Fax: (785) 368-8159
www.dcf.ks.gov

Laura Kelly, Governor

February 9, 2024

To Generous Hearts of the First United Methodist Church,

Thank you for continuing to think of the young people who participate in the Independent Living Program every holiday season. Many of our young people often spend the holidays feeling lonely and forgotten. With your help we were able to help brighten the holidays for over 100 young people in the Manhattan area. It warms my heart you've continued to think of the young people we serve for the past 20 years. You have been a huge support in helping us make the holidays a little brighter for the young people we serve.

Sincerely,

S.K. Tidwell

Stacy Tidwell, LBSW
PPS Deputy Director of Youth Programs



Carol Strathe
Children Director
children@fumcmanhattan.com

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Children's Ministry



Jeff Cunningham
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Children's Ministry

A colorful poster for an Easter Egg Hunt. At the top, several decorated Easter eggs hang from a string. Below them are two white clouds. The text 'EASTER EGG HUNT' is prominently displayed in large, bold, blue letters. Underneath, it says 'SUNDAY, MARCH 31' and 'TIME 10:00 AM' in red. Further down, it reads 'FOR KIDS UP TO 5TH GRADE' and 'FUMC COURTYARD' in red. The bottom of the poster features a row of various decorated Easter eggs and small colorful flowers.

EASTER EGG HUNT

SUNDAY, MARCH 31
TIME 10:00 AM

FOR KIDS UP TO 5TH GRADE
FUMC COURTYARD



YOUNG CHRISTIANS' WEEKEND

April 5 - 7, 2024
Silver Dollar City, MO

We have a greyhound bus and a space for you on bus! Sign up now so you don't miss out on a great weekend of music, rides, and fellowship!

Tickets are \$65.00,
which will get you admission to the Silver Dollar City
for two days and access to some amazing concerts.

The deadline to sign up for YCW is March 6th!

Children's Weekly Schedule

Young United Methodist (YUM) - For kids in 4th and 5th grade. Wednesdays from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

YUM Bells - Wednesdays from 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm.

First Families Discipleship - First Sunday of the month 10am to 10:45 am in Fellowship Hall

Jesus and Me (JAM) - Remaining Sundays from 10:00 am to 10:45 am in the Cool Lounge of Education Center.

Youth Weekly Schedule

Sunday Contemporary Worship 8:45am
Discipleship Time 10:00-10:45am
Traditional Worship 11:00am
Confirmation Class 2:30 pm
Mid-High Youth 4:00-5:30pm
Sr. High Youth 6:00-7:30pm

Wednesday Youth Hangout 3:30-5:30pm

1st Friday Devotional Donut 6:30am
at Varsity Donuts

ASH

Wednesday

God always forgives us



Left:
The installation of the new organ pipes is complete. Dan Myers and Mary Ellen Sutton are excited by the new capability offered to extend the music experience in our worship services.

WELCOME NONI BUSTER, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Please help us welcome Noni Buster to the office. Noni's office will be located behind the library in the corner. You are always welcome to stop in and introduce yourself throughout the week. Here are a few words from Noni:

Hi, I am Noni Buster. I have been married to my husband Jim for 11 years; we have two wonderful children, Emra, 8, and Thane, 5. We have called Wamego home for the last ten years. I am thankful God has placed me in this position as the finance coordinator at FUMC Manhattan, and I look forward to serving this congregation.





Easter Schedule

Thursday, March 28
6:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Meal
Fellowship Hall

We will offering a funeral dinner that our Bereavement team will organizing. The menu will consist of fried chicken, "funeral" cheesy hash brown casserole, jello salads, and desserts.

Thursday, March 28
7:00 pm

Tenebrae Service
Sanctuary

Friday, March 29
7:00 pm

Last Seven Words From the Cross
Sanctuary

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday

8:45 am, Contemporary Worship Service

9:45 am, Fellowship Time
Sanctuary

Join us in the Courtyard for a special
Easter Sunday coffee and snack

10:00 am, Easter Egg Hunt
Courtyard on Poyntz Ave.

All children are invited to
participate in the hunt. Please bring your
own Easter Egg baskets.

11:00 am, Traditional Worship Service
Sanctuary

An illustration of breakfast food including a frying pan with bacon, a fried egg, and a slice of bacon, set against a yellow grid background.

United Methodist Men

BREAKFAST IS SERVED AT THIER MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, March 14, 2024 | 6:30 AM
Fellowship Hall

The guest speakers this month will be
Kevin Sanders and Ty Zimmerman with the
Fellowship of Christian Athletes



First United Methodist Church

Manhattan, Kansas

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Manhattan, KS 66502-6041

Pastors: Donna Votau, Courtney Fellers
Editor: Cathlene Higgins

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