

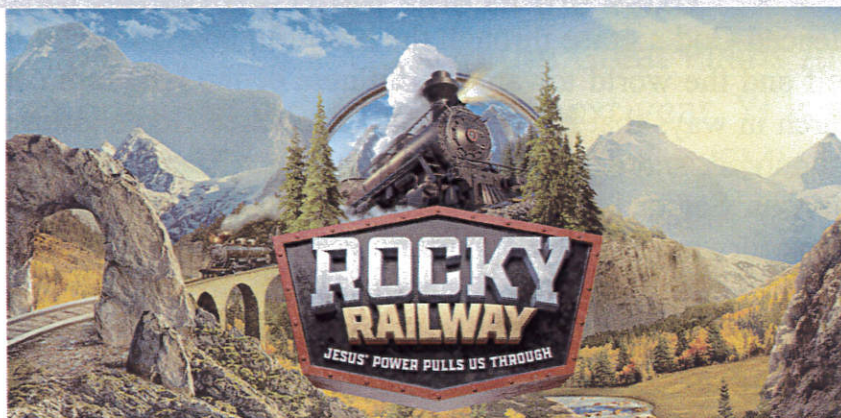
# SPIRE

First United Methodist Church



## VBS 2021

June 2021



### FIRST UMC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

MORNING SESSION: JUNE 14-18 9AM TO NOON

EVENING SESSION: JULY 12-16 6:00PM TO 8:30PM

**WE NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS!**

**ESPECIALLY FOR THE JUNE SESSION!**

**\*STATION LEADERS/HELPERS\***

**\*CREW LEADERS\***

**CONTACT JEANINE SPANGLER TO VOLUNTEER.**

**[JEANINES@KEARNEYFIRSTUMC.ORG](mailto:JEANINES@KEARNEYFIRSTUMC.ORG)**

**(308) 237-3158**

**REGISTRATION IS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE AT**

**[WWW.KEARNEYFIRSTUMC.ORG](http://WWW.KEARNEYFIRSTUMC.ORG)**

#### FUMC Mission

Love God.

Love Each Other.

Make Disciples of Christ.

#### FUMC Vision

In order to grow in Christ, to learn from Christ, and serve Christ; we will be a Christian community characterized by our Wesleyan Heritage of: Doing Good, Doing no Harm, and Staying in Love With God.

The next issue will be mailed at the end of this month. Information for that issue should be turned into the church office by June 20th. The Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

Brandi Walker,  
Editor



Hi. My name is Matthew Eugene Fowler; however, please, call me Matt – with or without *Pastor*.

The church, particularly the United Methodist Church, has been the means through which God has cultivated all of the best things about my life. Through the church, I've been shaped and formed into my foremost calling as a follower of Jesus. Through the church, I've cultivated a love of diverse music, through which I connect with God. Through the church, I'm learning what it means to love God and neighbor, and to be a partner (to Sarah – a Spanish teacher at Callaway Public Schools) and a parent (to Noah-12, Mara-10, and Judah-6, and multiple foreign exchange students). (The picture includes my mom and our most recent exchange student). Through the church's tradition of covenant groups, God is continuing to transform my life and spirit. Through the United Methodist Church, God has called, equipped, and ordained me for my vocation. And through the church, I see and participate in God's kingdom breaking into the midst of our everyday lives.

I am a pastor because I've experienced God's grace through the beautiful community of the church – drawing me toward my best self and the world toward the fullness of the kingdom of God. My deepest longing is to lead the church in ways that help everyone experience God's grace in similar ways. Therefore, I am humbled, honored, and excited that Bishop Ruben Saenz, Jr. has discerned that God is calling me to serve as your Senior Pastor beginning in July, in partnership with Pastor Seungli You and YJ, and you. I look forward to many opportunities to get to know one another this summer and beyond.

Finally, just to whet your appetite, here a few unique or odd things about me. I've been a vegetarian (mostly) for the last nine years. I truly enjoy nearly all types of music, but nothing picks up my spirits like '90s punk rock. About the time I turned thirty (ten years ago), I became a runner. I enjoy bread baking. And, our foreign exchange student taught me how to ride a longboard during the Spring of 2020.





Dear Kearney FUMC

My name is Seungli You, and I was born and raised in South Korea. I came to the U.S five years ago to study at Perkins School of Theology (SMU), where I met my wife, YunJung(YJ). We never knew each other in Korea, although her place is 15 miles away from mine. It is God's blessing

that I met her on the other side of the earth.

I am a provisional elder in the Great Plains Annual conference seeking to be an ordained elder hopefully next year. YJ is a pipe organist seeking a Master's degree in music of pipe organ at SMU, and her favorite music is Johann Sebastian Bach. She will fly to Russia in September to participate in an international pipe organ competition. And we have two puppies, Joy and Roy. It is an enormous pleasure to walk with them outside.

I am currently serving McCool Junction and Fairmont UMC, where I fell deeply in love with Nebraska people, open sky, and purple horizons. YJ and I often talk that we are so blessed to meet and serve Nebraskans who are kind, independent, humble, and love to serve others. It is easy for us to love them.

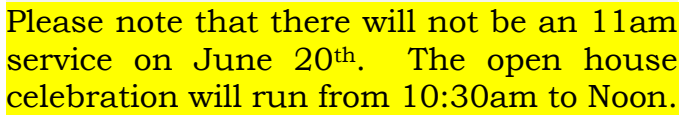
My passion for ministry focuses on spirituality and discipleship through small groups and relationships. I want to be a mature disciple of Jesus Christ, and I believe you do too. I am interested in planting Fresh Expressions churches. I love to do cross-fit and want to make a Fresh Expressions church with this someday.

I want to be available for you. I hope that we can make a genuine relationship with God and pray that God binds us in God's uniting love. Grace and peace to you.

Rev. Seungli You







GOD is GOOD



We've heard a lot about the impact of Mental Health during our recent pandemic. Isolation, social distancing and wearing masks, has had a toll on all of us. It's nice to know, our First United Methodist Church has some wonderful books about mental health for all ages. Sometimes reading another persons' perspective on a topic brings insights we might not have thought about previously. And if you are looking for resources for your family, it's available. You will find a list of available resources posted on both bulletin boards in the Health & Wellness spot. Additionally, our church Library will have the same list available for you. Take a look. There might be something just right for you.

*Health & Wellness Ministry in Collaboration with the Library*





# CONFIRMATION CLASS 2021

FRONT ROW LEFT TO RIGHT: DRAKE SCHWARZ, GAVIN PATTERSON, ADDISON McMANUS, GABBY MARTINEZ, ANNIKA HELLNER, ALIVIA HELLNER, OWEN BARTEE, MALIYAH MELROY, BRET SCHWEITZER, PASTOR MELODY ADAMS

BACK ROW LEFT TO RIGHT: REV. ALAN DAVIS, ZANE HOLOUBECK, DYLAN PEISIGER, HEATH JAHN, HUSTON ARNOLD, TURNER BERTRAND, JAKE KRACL, TYSEN CABELA, JACKSON MARTIN, NADIA CASPERSEN, DIANN MARTIN





#### June 1<sup>st</sup>

Kerry Andrews  
Khloe Branstiter  
Korin Branstiter  
Nancy Garrelts  
Trevor Kirchhoff  
Kelly Peterson  
Rob Sohl  
Craig Zikmund

#### June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Brennan Andrews  
Lauren Andrews  
Kyla Brooks  
Kelsie Dunbar  
Aubre George  
Landan Greeno  
Anita Hart  
Kalie Leonard  
Lance Rall  
Kevin Schroeder  
Mike Welch  
Mya Whisler  
Brooklyn Luther

#### June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Jeffrey Barry  
Carrie-Anne Baxter  
Jessica-Renee Baxter  
Ryken Beezley  
Heather Cruise  
Molly Kuhl  
Marion Mirehouse  
Lila Kugler

#### June 4<sup>th</sup>

Brecken Bolin  
Ryan Grabenstein  
Jessica Messersmith  
Lana Sullwold  
Paige VanWinkle

Gary Wilkinson  
Aaron Abramson

#### June 5<sup>th</sup>

Carol Duple  
Shawn Eatherton  
CJ Grams  
Alisha Hellner  
Gary Mason  
Ken Mumm  
Kiana Nickel  
Polly Novak  
Makenna Peters  
Roberta Pfeiffer  
LeeAnn Roepke  
Taylor Slaymaker

#### June 6<sup>th</sup>

Mike Berumen  
Jared Bramer  
Rory Cruise  
Zachary Markussen  
Jerome Maxson  
Tony Murray  
Andi Nickel  
Collin Springer  
Jennifer Sughroue  
Lee Ward  
Jerilyn Wright

#### June 7<sup>th</sup>

Demi Patterson  
Matthew Auch Moedy  
Thomas Bright  
Logan Herrmann  
Jacob Solomon

#### June 8<sup>th</sup>

Tina Bailey  
Tyler Horner  
Joshua Sutton

Sheri Wharton  
Charlie Whisler

#### June 9<sup>th</sup>

Janice Herd  
Lanny Kizer  
Randy Alexander  
Jamie Crosby  
Stanley Dart  
Robyn Forkner  
Zachary Loescher  
Kay McMinn-Glidden  
Alexis McNeal  
Hudson Pohl  
Sharon Whitney

#### June 10<sup>th</sup>

Cale Brumbaugh  
Nathan Fulmer  
James Ganz  
Sally Hauff

#### June 11<sup>th</sup>

Kim Anderson  
Kenneth Beahm  
Chase Christensen  
Eli Clifford  
Marvin Glasser  
Eugenia Hall  
Diane Jorgenson  
Lindsey Nickel  
Brooks Paul  
Emma Payne

#### June 12<sup>th</sup>

Amanda Bean  
Genny Brandorff  
Maxine Brass  
Meghan Geiger  
Leila Jobman  
Brandon Leonard

Nancy Weber

#### June 13<sup>th</sup>

Joy Davis  
Bryan Fast  
Sharon Frink  
Kaitlyn Johnson  
Sheila Magee  
Mike Mulholland  
Ronald Petersen  
Norma Schrack  
Axel Pratt

#### June 14<sup>th</sup>

Ramona Dobberstein  
Olivia Hermsen  
Jessica McCarter  
Kyan Nickel  
James Osborn  
Dana Rodehorst  
Samson Sanchez  
Linda Thomas  
Becky Zimbelman  
Georgia Stafford

#### June 15<sup>th</sup>

Dallas Bailey  
Aubrey Cruise  
Betty Eggers  
Linda Gillming  
Rusty Hanley  
Curtis Hanzlik  
Alivia Hellner  
Connie Love  
John Richman  
Tami Sanchez  
Brock Schleiger  
Pam Tillman  
Shanley Zabel



#### June 16<sup>th</sup>

Doug Amend  
Jackie Flohr  
Faron Greenough  
Jordyn Sullwold  
Ava VanWinkle  
Jaxson Messbarger

#### June 17<sup>th</sup>

Charles Becker  
Ann Long  
Max Myers  
Shelby Pocock  
Linda Ridenour  
Marsha Stewart  
Joni Tschetter  
Ross Woods  
Josh Cline

#### June 18<sup>th</sup>

Trish Kenagy  
Michael Kuhl  
Keely Langer  
Christopher Reed  
Remie Sohl  
Jon Townsend

#### June 19<sup>th</sup>

Connor Clevenger  
Brody Erickson  
Linda Harr  
Allie Johnson  
Matt Kruid  
Marissa Kruse  
Jon Loebig  
Pat McFadden  
Robin Nutter  
Todd Paben  
Conner Sohl  
Matthew Stafford  
Ella Sup

#### June 20<sup>th</sup>

Raylynn Cerny  
Amber DeBrie  
Jeff Ganz  
Payton Grams  
Porter Wilson  
Anne Reinhiller

#### June 21<sup>st</sup>

Robin Bennett  
Mackenzie Boon  
Megan Buerer  
Holly Sandeen  
Alex Naiman  
Marilyn Whitney  
Harper Yockey

#### June 22<sup>nd</sup>

Eli Bond  
Judy Falk  
Lindsey Favinger  
Mike Geiger  
Allen Glaser  
Dane Johnson  
Nikki Kriz  
Benjamin Loescher  
Ginny McLaud  
Camryn Melroy  
Heath Peters  
Samuel Romatzke  
Jeff Tremel

#### June 23<sup>rd</sup>

Samantha Jenny  
Barbara Clark  
Pam Cudaback  
Kara Whitcomb  
Marilyn Heckman  
Amelia Hellner  
Eileen Jahn  
Hannah Jorgenson

Elizabeth Schott  
Katie Nickerson  
Linda Schroeder  
Darrin Zubrod

#### June 24<sup>th</sup>

Abbigael Allan  
John Becker  
Joel DeVries  
Cael Dice  
Mickey George  
Foster Haddix  
Arran Putnam  
Belinda Sayles  
Delaney Michael

#### June 25<sup>th</sup>

Koree Schueler  
Roger Bissell  
Amity Brandt  
Dave Gibbs  
Jenna Oman  
Dakota Poff  
Drake Ristine  
Jake Skala  
Denise Valentine

#### June 26<sup>th</sup>

Donna Kegley  
Britney Royle  
Josh Beistline  
Isabella Breinig  
Jackson Craig  
Easton Eatherton  
Nicholas Frederick  
Kelsey Hubbert  
Bailey Lierman  
Macy Nickel  
Jenny Nuxoll  
Aspyn Robinson  
Emmy Brow

#### June 27<sup>th</sup>

Addison McManus  
Krista Albee  
Jerry Applegate  
Brielle Benson  
Tamara Brandt  
Josh Bruntz  
Tristan Cruise  
Alicia Harrison  
Loghan Lazaroff  
Kelsey Mangels  
Andrew Ochsner  
Darianne Sisson

#### June 28<sup>th</sup>

Frank Leroy Carr  
Brooks Church  
Doug Hatfield  
Jackson Martin  
Kally Ostermeyer  
Barton Willis

#### June 29<sup>th</sup>

Steve McBee  
Bella Peterson  
Carol Woodman

#### June 30<sup>th</sup>

Joel Atchison  
Jonathan Bokenkamp  
Londyn Caroselli  
Kendal Cavenee  
Julie Roach



FUMC's Acclamation Bells Choir is in need of some more ringers for the 2021-2022 year. If you can count to four and tap a rhythm with your toes, you are qualified to join.

Typically, the bell choir provides music for 8:15am and 11:00am services on the second Sunday of each month, September through May. Rehearsals are each Wednesday at 6:00 to 7:00pm. The 4-choir combined concert in early December, which was cancelled in 2020, is being planned for 2021.

If you are interested in being a part of this group, please contact Sharon Hammar at 308-338-3456. Some introductory sessions will be held in July and August to fit YOUR schedule.

Come join us and serve our God through making beautiful music.



#### Red Cross Blood Drive

First United Methodist Church will sponsor our next Blood Drive on: Friday, June 25, 12noon-6pm. Registration for appointments will be available between services on June 6, 13 & 20. Registering in advance as well as logging in and completing the Rapid Pass, you will maximize your time to donate. Come join your fellow church members as we provide this life-saving service. For those donating at our June 25 Drive, you will receive, via email, a \$5 Gift Card from Amazon.

Health & Wellness Ministry



#### First Aid Bags

Annually, the Health & Wellness Ministry places simple first aid bags in select areas of our church. These contain fresh gloves, a few band aids and several gauze pads. You will find them in a zip lock bag and labeled with the month/year. These should provide resources for simple injuries. Remember to always wash a wound with soap and water prior to covering it. If there is a need for ointment, that can be applied at home. If the injury is severe enough to seek medical attention, please contact the church office to complete an incident report. Accidents happen – be safe!!

*Health & Wellness Ministry*



Business at the SHOPPING CARD BOOTH is picking up each week. The Bell Choir members are handling Sunday sales through the month of June.

If your group has a project they would like to fund, contact Phil Hammar concerning the possibility of working the booth during the months of July, August and September. Training is available if needed.

Phil Hammar

308-338-3456





### **East Lawn Food Pantry.**

Wow, here we are actually in the new trailer allowing patrons to select their own items! Patrons are to bring their own bags to shop and depending upon the health guidelines, masks may or may not be required. There are still items to be addressed at the pantry but we are at least in our own place. Much thanks to the church Ad Council for their support of allowing the pantry to operate out of the church Fellowship Hall during the transition.

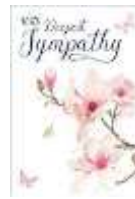
Our first goal is to have the food area set up for stocking shelves of items and seeing how the flow of patrons operates before we set up the clothing area which will be in the same area as the food but yet separate from the food area. The rear of the trailer will be used for cold storage of food, preparation of items and sanitation of items used at the pantry.

Thank You to all those volunteers who pick food items up from the grocery stores in Kearney and transport it to the trailer, to volunteers that sort the food items and place it on the shelves, to volunteers that work each day the pantry and to those that work on those days repacking items or other large packaged items into smaller packages for distribution, and to those cleaning the pantry area. If you would like to help with one of these or more areas, please contact Colleen at the number listed below.

Volunteer hours account for 700 to 800 hours each month. Thank You All!! Remember that this is your mission and if you can furnish your time once a month, it would be great. Most volunteers have had their second COVID shot and that is a step in the right direction. Congrats to you!

Number of families being served has gone down somewhat as compared to earlier months, but still serve over 400 families each month. Our outreach to Countryside Trailer Court will end when the USDA program ends which will be the end of May. Those families will need to come to East Lawn for help.

If you would like to help at the trailer sorting food, repacking or visiting the grocery stores, please call Colleen Jacobson, 308-627-4472 to schedule a work day or Pete Ludowese, 293-0100 for other information. General information is available from the church office.



### **In Sympathy:**

John, Julie, Abby & Riley Riese on the death of mother & grandmother, Phyllis Osborne, who passed away May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Kelsey Jameson on the death of her grandfather, Timothy Jameson of Minden, who passed away May 5<sup>th</sup>.

To the friends and family of Sharon Mason who passed away May 6<sup>th</sup>.

To the friends and family of Rob Hauver who passed away May 7<sup>th</sup>.

To the friends and family of Kenny Fulmer who passed away May 11<sup>th</sup>.



**Knoxly Jax Bell**, son of Justin & Mattie Bell, was baptized on May 16, 2021.

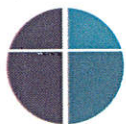
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## First United Methodist Church

4500 Linden Drive  
Kearney, NE 68847  
(Return Service Requested )

Phone: 308-237-3158  
Fax: 308-237-4654  
Website:  
[www.kearneyfirstumc.org](http://www.kearneyfirstumc.org)

Address Label Here



kearney  
First United Methodist Church

Church Office Hours: 8am to 5pm, Monday through Thursday, and 8am to 4pm, Friday  
Worship Services Broadcast on KGFW Radio 1340 AM and 96.1 FM every Sunday at 11am  
Sunday Blended Worship Service at 8:15 am  
Sunday Contemporary Worship Service at 9:00 am, watch live at [www.kearneyfirstumc.org](http://www.kearneyfirstumc.org)  
Sunday Traditional Worship Service at 11:00 am, watch live at [www.kearneyfirstumc.org](http://www.kearneyfirstumc.org)

### Staff Members

Rev. Cindy Karges, District Superintendent, Email: [gatewayds@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:gatewayds@greatplainsumc.org)  
Rev. Alan Davis, Senior Pastor, Email: [aland@kearneyfirstumc.org](mailto:aland@kearneyfirstumc.org)  
Pastor Melody Adams, Associate Pastor, Email: [melodya@kearneyfirstumc.org](mailto:melodya@kearneyfirstumc.org)  
Jeanine Spangler, Children's Ministry Director, Email: [jeanines@kearneyfirstumc.org](mailto:jeanines@kearneyfirstumc.org)  
Ann Patterson, Administrative Assistant, Email: [annp@kearneyfirstumc.org](mailto:annp@kearneyfirstumc.org)  
Brandi Walker, Administrative Assistant, Email: [brandiw@kearneyfirstumc.org](mailto:brandiw@kearneyfirstumc.org)  
Jennifer Dierberger, Comptroller, Email: [jenniferd@kearneyfirstumc.org](mailto:jenniferd@kearneyfirstumc.org)  
Anne Reinhillier, Multi-Media Coordinator, Email: [anner@kearneyfirstumc.org](mailto:anner@kearneyfirstumc.org)  
Aidan Blankenship, Building & Grounds Coordinator, Email: [aidanb@kearneyfirstumc.org](mailto:aidanb@kearneyfirstumc.org)  
Diann Martin, Pumpkin Patch Director, Email: [ppatch@kearneyfirstumc.org](mailto:ppatch@kearneyfirstumc.org)  
Margaret Klimek, Wedding Coordinator and Evening Custodian, Email: [mkweddings@yahoo.com](mailto:mkweddings@yahoo.com)  
Pastor Laura Stubblefield, United Campus Ministry at UNK, Email: [laura@ucmunk.org](mailto:laura@ucmunk.org) or phone 308-627-6225