

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Let us gather as a community to celebrate the blessings that surround us

Pastor Connie's Corner

D.A.R.T

I am getting very excited about our participation in The Central Kansas Justice ministry in which we voted to participate. Our local listening team hosts are trained and ready to lead discussions. More than 100 groups are planned to meet and talk together about what keeps people up at night. I wonder what has happened in your life that causes you to worry. I keep adding to my list. For example, this week my worries have included our grocery store closure, and all the vehicles I have witnessed driving around stopped school buses with their stop signs extended. I was recently asked to share what I am feeling about being a part of this team. Here is my answer.

Do you know what a murmuration of starlings is? I had my first real recognition of this bird phenomenon while serving as pastor of a little country church 13 miles north of Winfield. My parsonage was on the southern border of the town so every morning and evening as I journeyed, I passed a cattle feed lot and there were always thousands of birds swarming in beautiful patterns across the skies. I later learned the term murmuration. These birds fascinated me. I wondered about their patterns and their movement. How did they stay in formation? How did they anticipate the movement of other birds. I eventually learned that these large flocks consist of some resident birds as well as migratory groups that join the murmuration as they move through the area. The coordination and anticipatory communication of the flock indicate that the group is more than the sum of its parts.

Even then as a novice preacher, I longed for a church that could function like these birds. I observed state, federal and even church programs that barely helped people stay afloat but also kept them in a cycle of poverty and need. What might be possible if the people of the church worked together to lift people out of their situation, out of this cycle, to something more. If we could do that, I imagined greater prosperity and less need for the programs—you know that “give people a fish or teach people to fish” idea. I often read articles in newspapers and magazines that encouraged boycotts of one thing or another in an effort to change something. But I never saw those random ideas from random groups really make any difference.

When I went to my first meeting with DART leaders, participated in the Study of Nehemiah, and saw the videos describing what justice organizations in other communities are doing to change the story my heart sang. What I heard in these stories was so much more than dissatisfaction. These justice teams were identifying problems about which great numbers in their community cared. They also worked to come up with viable solutions to the problems and presented the problem and solution before leaders and legislators. I want to be a participant in this murmuration of faith communities and help design something beautiful that lives out God’s call for justice and breaks the cycle.

When you are invited to a listening session, I pray you will participate and I pray you will also be an active participant in this movement of justice. You will learn how at your session.

-Connie

Sunday Service

10:15am

Online and in person

Sunday School

9:30am

September through April

Upcoming Events

September 7 -
Labor Day

September TBD-
B. Huff Circle to
Hildebrand Dairy

September 13 -
Sunday School Resumes
at 9:30am

September 20 -
Fellowship Coffee

September 22 -
First day of fall

September 23 -
Community Dinner





- **Janet M.** for your beautiful bathroom decorations, and to Darlene for providing the cabinet she uses.
- **Sarah** for her work to bring our kitchen to code.
- **Ray and Sharon** for fixing and cleaning up leaky restroom facilities.
- **Bob** for working with Eaton roofing and KVK to solve our ceiling leaks.
- **Love-Grow-Serve team** for providing a welcome sign on north Marshall.
- **Gardeners** who share your lovely produce.
- **Everyone who helps make our community dinners a success.** You have 2 more opportunities to help in 2026.
- **Brian, Chandler, and Debi** for the wonderful paint job in the basement.



Plan to join care group two for fellowship coffee of Sunday, September 20th after regular service. Enjoy coffee, light refreshments and great fellowship.



September 6 & 7, 2026

Chapman Lion's Club and City of Chapman are proud to honor all veterans and active duty military members as the collective Grand Marshals of the 2026 Labor Day Parade in Chapman, KS. We invite all who have served, and those currently serving, to be part of this special tribute during one of Chapman's most treasured traditions. Veterans and active-duty military interested in participating in the parade are encouraged to contact the Chapman VFW or American Legion for parade details and participation information. Thank you for your service, sacrifice, and dedication to our country. We look forward to celebrating and honoring you this Labor Day weekend! Find a schedule of all events at chapmanlaborday.com



United Methodists worldwide participate together in mission and ministry. We also connect through discipline.

Many of you participated in Discipleship Ministries challenge to Read a Chapter a Day and it's time to do it again. You are invited to join United Methodist siblings across the world reading through Paul's letters, chapter by chapter, day by day. Mark your calendar and make your plans to read Galatians-Philemon this fall. We will start on Sept. 8th and complete our journey on Oct. 19th. Read on your own or with your friends. Sign up at <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/read-a-chapter-a-day-2026> and connect with others around the world. Here you will find new ways to read scripture that will help you connect with the Holy Spirit. Daily scripture reading provides growth in relationship with ourselves and God. It establishes a beneficial habit in which we can be encountered by God. Through this disciplined practice, we will grow and develop as hearers and doers of God's word.

Outreach Report

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

September Mission of the Month

The Missions Committee is always looking for a way to help community organizations. In September we are collecting donations for the special medical needs of students from Chapman Elementary School. Needs can include gas money for a trip to the doctor, help toward buying needed eye glasses, or helping to purchase medications. If you would like to contribute to this mission you may put your donation in the donation box in the Narthex or send your donation to:

CUMC Missions
P.O. Box 349,
Chapman, Kansas 67431

All of the money collected, as well as a donation from the Missions funds, will be presented to Chapman Elementary School. Thank you for showing your love for these children by making a donation. This is another way we are reaching others as we love, grow, and serve through faith.

Our mission of the month for August was the 4:10 den. With the loving generosity of the congregation (and a \$100 donation from the missions fund) CUMC made a donation to the 4:10 in the amount of \$445. Thank you for your support of this mission.

August Community Dinner Serves 72

Seventy-two community members were treated to a ham and potato casserole, green beans, and ice cream for dessert on August 26th. Greeted, seated, and served by the great kitchen team, everyone left full and happy. In September the meal will be chicken and stuffing casserole on the 23rd. Please make plans to join us, and bring a friend.

Changes to Operation Christmas Child Packages

A few changes have been made through OCC due to customs activities. No Soap or toothpaste is allowed to be included in the shoeboxes sent through OCC. However other hygiene items are allowed and encouraged. These items include toothbrushes, combs, brushes, and washcloths. It is also encouraged to send fun toys and special clothes as “WOW” gifts for each box. Remember, these boxes are to represent the love of God and fellow Christians to the children receiving them. Thank you for your continued support of this important mission. As a reminder, there are boxes in the Narthax for you to put items in. It’s never too early to start contributing!



Circle Ladies Salad Luncheon with Special Entertainment

The Bernice Huff Circle met on Tuesday, Aug. 11th, at 12:30 in Fellowship Hall for a salad luncheon and entertainment by Laney Thornton. Fifteen women met and enjoyed a variety of salads and good conversation. Laney, with the help of Lexie Thornton, tested those attending by playing some hymns to be identified. She then stumped most of us with Taylor Swift songs. Jo Osbourn and Collette Erickson proved to be the Swifties of the group and won prizes.

We made plans to tour Hildebrand Dairy Farm in September to learn about their operation, see the robotic milking machine, and enjoy ice cream. The date will be determined. [Please watch for more information and make plans to join us!](#)

A devotion about saying grace and inviting God to dinner was given. It reminded us that by saying grace we are inviting God to dine with us and letting him into our lives. When we become mindfully aware that Jesus is with us and is a part of our life, He will begin to shape our attitude, our thoughts, our speech, and our perspective on life for the better. All because we invited Jesus to dinner!

[An invitation is extended to all the women of the church to join us as we serve others in our community and nurture our relationships with each other.](#)



Women's Fall Bible Study Scheduled

Ladies are invited to take part in a fall Bible Study exploring the question, "Who IS Jesus?" The six-week study will be held on Thursday afternoons beginning October 1st. Information and sign up is on the table in the Narthex.

New Welcome Sign

Have you entered Chapman from the north? Did you notice the beautiful new sign that says, "The United Methodist Church Welcomes You"? If you haven't yet had a chance to check it out, we encourage you to do so. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible!

CUMC Youth

• BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

Sunday, August 16th Pastor Connie provided a back to school blessing and blessing of the backpacks for all the students and staff within CUMC. Members were encouraged to wear their Irish green and pastor passed out faith bracelets for those getting ready for back to school. We hope everyone has a safe and blessed 2026-2027 school year. We pray for you today and everyday!



Sunday School

RESUMES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH 9:30AM



Thank you to Care Group four for hosting the Chapman United Methodist Church annual ice cream social on Sunday, August 23rd at Sheeran Park. It was a beautiful evening with members gathering for fellowship, several different homemade ice creams and deserts.





Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 5th - Linda Roskens
- 12th - Rykin Chamberlain
- 13th - Amanda Hutchison
- 15th - Cynthia Francis, Dawn Albers
- 18th - Casey & Kami Poell
- 19th - Craig Chamberlin
- 22nd - Mason Will
- 24th - Justin & Megan Espeseth
- 25th - David & Mandy Will
- 30th - Clint & Kate Thornton

Worship Assistance



Greeters

Sept 6: Doug & Marlene Lindahl,
Sarah & Dennis Will
Sept 13: Joyce & Chester Leach, Jo
Osborn and Jean Gobber
Sept 20: Lynn & Ray Kruse, Ray &
Sharon Alaman
Sept 27:

Liturgists

Sept 6: Danielle Klein
Sept 13: Trudy Barker
Sept 20: Collette Erickson
Sept 27: Conni Suther

Ushers

Sept 6:
Sept 13:
Sept 20: Ray Kruse
Sept 27: Kevin Suther

Contact Us

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CHURCH**

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