

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- ◆ 10/1: Lemonade on the Lawn, play practice
- ◆ 10/3: Women's Bible Study (1:00)
- ◆ 10/4: Wednesday Nighter (5:30)
- ◆ 10/14: Men's Breakfast
- ◆ 10/15: Safe Sanctuary Training, play practice
- ◆ 10/25: Trunk or Treat
- ◆ 10/29: 5th Sunday Breakfast

Join us for Lemonade on the Lawn after worship today for fun, fellowship, and refreshments!

There will be a mandatory Safe Sanctuary Training on Sunday, October 15 following worship for volunteers with children & youth, including Sunday School teachers, nursery workers, Wednesday Night helpers, van volunteers, security team, and anyone else who might help with the children or youth at any time. Lunch is provided and the training will last approximately 2 hours.

Food Pantry Items of the Month

For the month of September, the Food Pantry is collecting items to supplement food for our neighbors in need. The needed items are canned chicken, canned fruit, & laundry detergent. In addition, the food pantry can always use canned meat. Donations can be placed in the boxes in the narthex and the connector.

Prayer Cover: Art Eckerson

Prayer List

Randy & Pat Adams
Family of Dr. Steven Berk
Bob & Carla Brown
Travis Buchanan
Family of David Burleson
Catherine Cartus
John Cradic
Vernon Crawford
Family of Lauren Dake
Jackie Denny
Jenny Durban
Paul Duncan
Phyllis Eckerson
Vivian Eckerson
Marvin Feagins & family
Cecilia Fleckstein
Jim Furches
Betty & Earl Gouge
Pam Hagen
Mendy Hall
Jacob Haun
Nora & Tony Haynes
Sharon Herzer
Cindy Holmes
Scott Huff
Keith & Jean Jones
Joyce Josie
Karl Kapoor
Deni Kiehl
Tammy Kosa
Linda Kostreva
Aubrey Lee
Karen Martin
Bonnie Marrs
Bob & Wanda May
Family of David McElveen
Jim & CarolAnne Milliken
Tom Palmer
Ruby Payne
Bob & Athena Peebles
Carolyn Peeples
Bobby Seay
Steven Schmidt
Anna Grace West
Manna House



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP GUIDE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prelude "Festive Celebration on 'Arlington'" Gilbert Martin

First Things First

Call to Worship

Leader: God is always calling out to us.

People: Sometimes loudly, and sometimes softly, but God is always calling.

Leader: God calls to us through the beauty of creation.

People: God calls to us through the eyes of everyone around us.

Leader: God promises strength and hope to all who wander.

People: God promises life and salvation to all who follow.

Leader: Let us turn aside from the world and listen for God's voice.

People: May we be attentive to God's call, and challenged to follow wherever God may lead.

Invocation

Hymn of Praise "My Hope is Built" #368

Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Gracious God, when we were lost and alone, You sent Your Son to heal our brokenness and draw us close to You,

People: but time and again, we reject Your gift of grace.

Leader: We bow before false gods of the world and forget Your command to serve the least of these.

People: we fill our days with self-serving agendas or trivial tasks, and neglect to nurture our relationship with You.

Leader: Forgive us, Lord. Call to us once again, and set us on the path to life.

People: Forgive us, Lord, and welcome us once again into Your arms of grace and love.

(a time for personal reflection)

Leader: Look ahead and have faith. The goal is in sight. Press on and take hold of it, as Christ has taken hold of us. Leave your past behind and live boldly in the good news of the Gospel:

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and called to try again. Thanks be to God! AMEN

New Testament Reading Luke 9:57-62

Morning Prayer

Hymn of Reflection "The Summons" Screen

Mission Moment

Doxology #94

Discipleship Testimony

New Testament Reading Philippians 3:7-14

Anthem "Lord, You Have Been Our Dwelling Place"
Flute: Megan Schramm & Sammi Uelhof

Sermon "Committed to Christ" Rev. Gary Ihfe

Celebration of Holy Communion

Hymn of Commitment "Jesus Messiah" Screen

Benediction

Benediction Response

Jesus Messiah, Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel, the rescue for sinners
The ransom from heaven, Jesus Messiah Lord of all
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all

The UMW Executive Committee will meet October 5 at 9:30 in the conference room. (Please note the change in time.) The general meeting will follow at 11:00 in the parlor for a coffee. Please bring your jelly jars.

It's time for candy and costumes! We will host a neighborhood Trunk or Treat on Wednesday, October 25. We will serve dinner at 5:30, decorate trunks at 6:00, and welcome friends and neighbors at 6:30 for candy and games. Please bring individually wrapped candies and sign up to decorate a trunk. The Sunday School class with the most trunks will win Breakfast Tacos!

We have replaced our salad bar and our old one is looking for a new home. If you or someone you know are interested in purchasing it and its accompanying support cabinet, please contact Finley Cook.

The next 5th Sunday Breakfast is October 29 at 9:15 in the fellowship hall. The youth group will prepare a waffle bar. You may give a donation to cover the cost of breakfast and support their trip to Resurrection.

Clare's Closet is accepting donations of slightly used winter outerwear (coats, hats, gloves, scarves, or hoodies) for the upcoming season of giving. All donations may be taken to the box located in the connector. As always, your generous support of this ministry is greatly appreciated. Distributions will begin in October.

Wednesday Night Fellowship

Program: Committed to Christ

Menu: pork loin, green beans, mashed potatoes, salad, bread, dessert

Dinner begins at 5:30 and the worship service begins at 6:30.

Please make reservations by **Monday, 10/2 at noon** by returning the slip found in the pew pads or by contacting the church office.

Offering boxes are located at the front and rear of the sanctuary and in the narthex.