



Volume 26, Issue #5

May, 2022

The Connexion



On the Christian Journey...
With Pastor Christopher

"April Showers bring May flowers." I am struck by how fast this year seems to be going. This month we will honor mothers and graduates and we'll wrap up our exploration of the Gospel of John. If you've been with us in person or online since the beginning of April, we will have considered at least one major piece of each chapter of this wonderful and foundational text of our faith.

We have also begun to come out of two years of stagnation due to the pandemic with increasing activities. It is my hope that these times of worship and fellowship will - like the spring rains - bring a beautiful harvest of flowers soon - moments and activities that share the beauty of God with a world that desperately thirsts for it. Thanks to each of you for being a part of this community of faith.



Labyrinth Plans Delayed

Due to heavy rains, a busy to-do list, the upcoming mission trip, and then vacation time for Pastor Christopher in June, we have decided to delay laying out the labyrinth in the Presbyterian's lot until after he gets back. Look for further details in the June/July Newsletter.

If you change phone numbers, addresses or email - please notify the Church Office.

It's amazing how quickly our contact information becomes outdated!



Please help us keep in touch by updating your records frequently - if you are getting emails from us at an address you don't want them - please reply with "Remove from List" and we will do so immediately.

If you *aren't* getting weekly updates, including Pastor's written sermon summaries but would like to - email Zandra at secretary@firstumcfsks.org and ask to be added!
Thank you!



SERVICE PROJECT®

The ASP Mission Trip is getting Close. Thanks to the generous support from the congregation we are about 70% of the way to the fundraising goal of \$7,200. There are some registration fees still to come in and other items which should help us get close to the stated goal.

The Sandwich Sales in April were very successful. Donations were \$235.00 which will help toward the overall expenses of the trip. One more Sandwich sale will be conducted prior to the Trip. That will be the Sunday of May 29. We, as your Mission Trip team are glad to be able to bring this tradition back as a means of donation to this project. During Covid, we fielded several questions as to when the sales would start back up. We are glad things are now to the point where it can happen. As Doug Altic once said, "Never underestimate the power of a ham sandwich."

The First UMC of Fort Scott has been participating in the ASP Mission program for the past 20 years. This church sponsors the group differently than most of the other groups we have met. Most Churches required those going to raise all their funds themselves. Some of it with sponsored activities and the balance from friends and family. If they are unable to raise the funds, then they are unable to attend. No one from the First UMC Fort Scott has ever not been able to attend for financial reasons. That speaks volumes about the support of youth and missions from this congregation. The trip would not happen if not for the support of the congregation. You are the back bone of the program and those of us who are fortunate enough to attend are very grateful.

Sunday June 19, the day after your Mission team returns, will be a celebration day for the Mission Trip with a report from the field, pictures and comments from the team members about what was done, what was experienced and how the week progressed. The trip this year will be to Knott County, KY, which is the same county our team went to last year. The volunteers will be staying in one of the schools and going to the work sites from there. We anticipate a very good trip. Pastor Christopher has made arrangements with Broadway UMC in Bowling Green, KY for us to spend Saturday night, June 11 there again. That church as hosted our group for several years now.

The group has grown since we initially set the goals. We now have a team of 14 youth and adults going on the trip. Four of the team members are from other churches. Those Churches are paying the expenses for those individuals. The team from the Fort Scott UMC has a history of accepting member from other churches as part of its mission team. Doing this extends service and creates friendships into new areas!

The members of your ASP Mission Team are the following:

From Fort Scott First UMC:

Keith Tucker, Delci Tucker, Delaney Tucker, Don Tucker, Lee Davis, Aubree Altic, Doug Atlic, Christopher Eshelman, Robin Eshelman and Tom Braker

From the Oswego UMC

Steve Cole and Marissa Holland

From the Thayer UMC

Revel Stiles and Rayce Stiles

Please be in prayer for our team and thank you for your support ~Tom Braker

FAITH BUILDER'S IN MAY: "Freedom" is the key word for May, as we will discuss several aspects of freedom. Issues include gaining freedom from sin, hope for freedom in the future, ways we can accept God's promise of freedom, the life of freedom, and the spiritual fruit of freedom. We will use Scripture from Romans and Galatians. We invite you to join us in study and fellowship. Come help us kick-start our Sunday activities.

~Ron Wood



MATTHEW STUDY

The "new Sunday School Class," which meets in the Library in the Educational wing will be looking at parables and stories in the 6th and 7th chapters of Matthew during May, June and July. There are chairs available for anyone who would like to join us and take a bit of a deeper dive into these passages.

~Tom Braker



2022 GRADUATES

If you have a graduate from High School, Trade School or College you'd like to celebrate in the May 15th service, please send their names to secretary@firstumcfsks.org

Congrats to these Graduates:

Abby Altec, Lee Davis, Dylan Hazelbaker, and Brennan Popp - all graduating from Fort Scott High School
Aaron Eshelman - graduating with his B.A in Communications from Dordt University in Sioux Center, IA.
Ian Eshelman - graduating with his Masters in Education and Sports Leadership from Dordt University.
Clara Cutbill (granddaughter of Ron and Barbara Wood) graduating with a Master's degree from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California.

May Birthdays: 2-Emily Allshouse, Carol Newcomer, 3-Teresa Gregory, 4-Amari Berry, Tom Braker, 8-Shayn Blanz, Terri Heiser, Garret Tatro, 9-Blair Croan, 11-Abby Altic, 12-Evan Tatro, 13-Beckett Felt, 14-Joyce Allen, Darrick Green, 15-Dakota Hazelbaker, 15-Keatyn Hunziker, 17-Robin Eshelman, 18-Jennifer Engle, Jaime Patterson, 21-Karleigh Arndt, Ron Synder, Ron Wood, 22-Pastor Christopher Eshelman, 23-Toby Denning, Haley Kruse, Troy Post, 25-Deb Anderson, 26-Barbara Schoonover.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

May Anniversaries: 3-William & Kristin Bishop, 7-Rick & Chris Comstock, 9-Lauren & Chad Ammons, 21-Susan & Jim Regan, 23-Janet & Reggie Fancher, 28-Cindy & Randall Hiatt

Upcoming KMDO Radio Schedule:

A recording of our services will run every other week at 1pm on 103.9 (or occasionally 98.3 if there's a Chiefs/Royals game conflict).



Our upcoming dates are May 8, 22, June 5, 19, July 3, 17 and August 14 and 28th.

Tell a Friend!

**DISCOVER
HOW LOVE HAS
ALREADY WON**

Feeding Families in His Name Updates

I would like to take this opportunity to give a little update on our wonderful Feeding Families in His Name program. This year has started with a bang, we are averaging 300 to 400 meals per week! Year to date we have served 5,038 meals. Since starting this program in May 2011, total meals served has been 114,325. I find this number outstanding and proud to help with this program.



Since I took over the reins, I have been fortunate to work with so many volunteers, new people are calling almost weekly to find out how they might be of help. Thank you to all the kitchen help, servers and the cake bakers. I know many of you bake a cake every week and we only hear good praises about the desserts.

Many thanks to all the Churches and individuals that have donated money, I assure you everything helps. I would mention names but Pastor doesn't publish a large enough newsletter ☺.

Thanks, Bonnie Milburn

Visit us online:
www.firstumcfsks.org
 Links to Facebook,
 YouTube, Instagram



Newsletter from:
 Here is your May 2022

Return Service Requested
 Fort Scott, KS 66701-1397
 301 S National
 First United Methodist Church

 Every Sunday: classes and fellowship for all ages at 9:30am, Worship at 10:30am Church Office Hours: 9am - Noon, Monday - Thursday.						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion 2pm Pres. Village service	2 9:30am Pastor at Common Grounds most Mondays.	3	4	5 4pm 1 st Thursday Stitches	6	7
8  1pm MedicalLodge service	9	10 7pm Trustees	11 7pm HOCROC	12 2pm Pastor at Hedgehog Ink! most Thursdays	13	14 Community Baccalaureate Service 
15 GRADUATION SUNDAY 	16	17	18 6pm Memorials 7PM Admin. Council	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Fellowship Café Each Sunday - sign up to share snacks in the Narthex	30	31	Every Monday: Scouts in McCurdy Hall evenings Every Tuesday: Sewing group 9am, Mahjong group Noon. Every Wednesday: Work Crew 9am, Reading Group 1:30pm, Feeding Families 5:30-6:30pm Every Thursday: Pioneer Kiwanis - Fellowship Hall Reserved Noon-1pm			

Check our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/firstumcfsks](https://www.facebook.com/firstumcfsks) and web site at www.firstumcfsks.org for updates.