

Seward United Methodist Church News - May 3rd

FOCUS Wednesdays: Drive-Inn Style

We look forward to "seeing" you in our Seward United Methodist Church parking lot, in your vehicles, on Wednesday evenings in May. Weather permitting, we encourage you to head on over a bit early to park in your spot. Plan to bring your dinner or snacks for worship from your car.

According to directions from our Four Corners Health Department, and following our Bishop's lead, we will begin to gather in this way for the time being. You will need to park six feet apart and follow the lead of our parking attendants. The building will not be open, so know that you will not be able to enter the building for any reason, even for the restroom.

By worshipping in this way we can sing joyously and "see" each other! We will continue to offer Wednesday evenings shared on Facebook Live and uploaded to YouTube later on.

We look forward to Wednesdays together, either in the lot or online!

Outdoor Prayer Space Open

We have moved two concrete benches near the crosses out front of the building to create an outdoor prayer space which is open for all to use. Simply stop by, and if the benches are open then you are welcome to sit and pray, read, or meditate. This will allow you the chance to be closer to our worship home and create a prayer space to use as often as you wish to. Enjoy!

SPRC invites prayer for the Church

The Seward Pastor-Parish Relations Committee would like to invite you to pray as we prepare for a pastoral transition. We are working with our District Superintendent, Reverend Dr. Nancy Tomlinson, to prepare to receive a new lead pastor. The appointment will begin on July 1st, 2020.

Please continue to pray for our church staff, our church, and Pastor Perry in this interim time.

Community Groups over Coffee

We are in the process of developing some small community groups, which will meet at first over the phone/zoom and later to meet in person. These will ideally be groups of 12-15 people, of all ages to meet for fellowship, prayer, and community. IF you would like to help host a group, please let Pastor Jo Ellen know by emailing or calling her soon. We hope to have groups ready for the end of May/Summer community, as our process back into the building will be a slow one as we follow the detailed health directives. Thank you, in advance, for prayerfully considering being a host.

Thank you, in advance, for participating as we work to create community again, in a new and different way!

National Day Of Prayer May 7th

National Day of Prayer Goes Digital... Join us on Thursday, May 7th at noon on Facebook Live with the Seward Nebraska Ministerial Association (their Facebook page). We will film live from the National Guard Museum with the National Guard Chaplain as our special guest speaker. Special music and prayers will be shared. Grab your lunch, your tablet/computer/phone, and pray with us next week!

Celebrating Mothers Day

We are requesting you email us your pictures which celebrate those who have mothered you... your *mommas*, your *gmommas*, your neighbors, your loved ones, your friends, your foster *mommas*, etc. We have been "*mothered*" by many people over the course of our lives and Mother's Day gives us an opportunity to celebrate these special folks in our lives or our past.

We hope to create a special musical video to share on Sunday the 10th of May. Please send digital pictures by May 8th. Many thanks!

Birth Announcement

We celebrate the birth of Westyn Wayne Rathjen, born on Friday, April 24th, 2020 at 5:36pm to Shad and Whitney. Proud Grandparents are Todd and Mindy Lavelle. A beautiful yellow rose will be placed on the altar this Sunday, May 3rd in honor of little Westyn.

Congratulations and prayers for a blessed life journey from your church family and friends!

Print copies of the Weekly Seward United Methodist News

Print copies of the Seward United Methodist Church News will be available soon in a clear box near the East/Back walkway. Until the new box arrives, print copies will be placed in the *Give and Gather* box by the East door.

Notes

- Many thanks to all who have donated items and funds to *Food Net* these past few weeks and who continue to help each week as we share with others in our community weekly on Thursdays at 5:30. We will be working on some grants to assist with continued efforts as the need for food security is present.
 - The *Give and Gather* Box continues to be filled and emptied as the need occurs. This box is always available. Anyone can partake of the food in the box or at Food Net. Share with those who may need to know about these, please.
 - Use the links to worship with us on Sundays at 10:30 live, parking lot on Wednesdays at 6:00, Music Mondays at noon, and Devotion Wednesdays at noon. (Facebook Live [fb.com/sewardunitedmethodist/](https://www.facebook.com/sewardunitedmethodist/) and YouTube <https://youtu.be/JKjqM3Kyx1o> following).
 - We are beginning to look for a second person to assist with camera operation at worship. Our new cameras will be installed soon and will require another set of hands and eyes to work. Please visit with Wess if this is of interest to you.
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In Closing

With the gorgeous days and evenings we are having your church family encourages you to spend time outside, going for a walk or even a nice drive in the country. God has made us and desires us to be healthy. Walking helps our hearts and time out helps our souls!