

June 14th Seward United Methodist News



Notes from Pastor Jo Ellen...

We have *LOVED* seeing everyone in the parking lot for worship on both Sunday and on Wednesday! It is amazing how good it feels to gather again, even in a different way. Please know that you will be receiving information soon about details for July and how we will begin to re-enter the worship space. We thank you for keeping the front red doors for *church family/friends* related entry/exit. This will be our doorway for worship as well to keep traffic flowing one way into the worship space.

Please prayerfully consider how you will assist in keeping everyone safe with the wearing of masks, use of hand sanitizer, and keeping aware of physical distance measures we are taking.

- ✓ begin to think about if you will worship in person or continue online
- ✓ begin to have conversation with your loved ones and children about coming back to the building
- ✓ begin to think about how it might look and feel different in our worship space

If your looking for Summer [faith building ideas](https://www.childrensministry.com) for children, check out [childrensministry.com](https://www.childrensministry.com).

Thank you for all you do and for who you are! You are deeply loved!

Love and prayers,
Pastor Jo Ellen

Drive-Inn Worship Continues in June

We continue to worship in the parking lot, under the east trees, on Sundays at 10:30am with our series 'Open Our Eyes'. This week we will focus on 'See All the People'.

Wednesday's Midweek FOCUS is also in the parking lot at the East grassy end of the building. You are welcome to sit in your own chairs in the shade if you wish, but we ask you keep your family units Six feet apart.

Transition Sunday

Sunday, June 28th at 10:30am our Transition Sunday will share worship in the parking lot. Join us as we thank Pastor Robert and pass the mantle to Pastor Mary Kay. Our District Superintendent Nancy Tomlinson will join us for the message this special Sunday.

Returning to the Sanctuary in July

Volunteers for our new *Welcome Team* are needed. These folks will assist with entering the building, greeting folks for worship, and steering folks to seats in the sanctuary at worship gatherings. Please let us know if you would be able to assist in this way. Masks are needed for this task and hand sanitizer will be available.

Watch for the gathering information sheet coming soon... this will detail the July plans for re-entering the sanctuary space and how you might best prepare yourselves and your loved ones for this time together. Online worship will always continue for those desiring this option.

Tuesday Evening Prayer Walk

We encourage you to take time on this coming Tuesday evening to take a prayer walk. One of our conference District Supervisor, Rev. Dee Williamston, has invited all churches in our conference to stop to pray at 7:00pm for 8 minutes and 46 seconds. We invite you to go on a prayer walk at this time and pray for peace, listening, solidarity, and solutions for change. We invite you to pray with your loved ones as you walk together, wherever you are located. Post a picture to Facebook as you walk and note your prayers for a hurting world as United Methodists in our Great Plains Conference gather to pray simultaneously.

Arts Week 2020

Save the dates... the last week of July, the 26th to the 30th will find us gathering in smaller groups and mostly outside as we are able for this fun week.

Camp Fontanelle Virtual Vacation Bible School Camp

[Sign-up](#) now for virtual camp, as our offering for VBS this summer, with Camp Fontanelle. This is our local United Methodist Church Camp and its a lot of fun. The United Methodist Women will pay for half of the donation for camp, which is \$50. If you need, we will pay the other half of the donation so that all children/youth are able to attend camp this summer. Please email [Pastor Jo Ellen](#) to let her know you have signed up. We encourage all of our children and youth to try this option this summer!

Cocoa and Coffee Fellowship

Fellowship Zoom style with us! [Sign-up](#) continues for Cocoa and Coffee Fellowship small group virtual meetings.

Kahoot Game Night

Sunday, June 28th 5:00-6:20pm. Sign up by emailing [Wess Robotham](#) by noon on the 28th. Email directions will be sent that afternoon. Cindy Butzke will facilitate the game night. We encourage children/youth/families/folks of all ages to sign up for this fun time together in Zoom!

Mission Opportunity

Concordia University is in need of sewn face masks for returning students and also in need of small toiletry supplies for them as well. Donations are asked o be sent to:

Concordia University
Nebraska Attention: Mask Drive
SLO 800 N. Columbia Ave.
Seward. NE 68434

Mission Sharing

Recently we had two of our leadership teams and the Seward Foundation vote to share a love mission offering with our friends at Re-Member. The Mission, Outreach, Witness Committee and United Methodist Women each gave \$500 towards this love gift. The Seward Foundation graciously matched this gift of \$1000. A card and checks for Re-Member, our dear friends on the Lakota Reservation in SD, will be on its way soon. Many thanks to these groups for supporting mission around our area and to those in need!

Peace with Justice Sunday Offering

Recently we shared love offerings for Peace with Justice Sunday. You can still give to this special offering of the United Methodist Church connectional church by sending your check in soon. Please note in the memo Peace with Justice. Thank you to those who have already given!

Birth Announcement

Join us in welcoming *Maisie Mae Christine* and *Tuff Matthew*, born on June 6th, 2020 to Lindsey & Matt Meyer, and big brother is Riggs.

Lindsey is our Co-Director of Bright Beginnings Child Development Center at Seward United Methodist Church. We pray God's blessings upon these two precious little ones for a life of joy and love!



