

## *Seward United Methodist Church News Stream September 13th*

### *Worship news this week...*

Thank you to everyone who filled in the survey -- it was very helpful. None of the three schedule options for Sunday morning received a majority response. Pastor Jo Ellen, Wess, and I had several conversations about options for the Sunday morning schedule. We finally all agreed to a schedule going forward which is based on a couple of guiding principles 1) it is important to have *margins* of 15 minutes between events on Sunday morning and 2) almost everyone prefers for worship to conclude before lunchtime. Keeping these principles in mind, starting September 20<sup>th</sup>, this will be the Seward United Methodist Church Sunday morning schedule:

8:00am \*Traditional Worship

9:15am \*Confirmation and Adult Sunday School

9:15am \*\*Fellowship Time

10:30am \*Praise Worship (child care available in the parlor)

11:30am \*\*Fellowship Time

Both Sunday services will be live streamed online.

*\* All indoor in-person ministry will be with masks and socially distanced.*

*\*\* Bring Your Own Chair and Coffee Fellowship outside, socially distanced, weather permitting.*

Thank you to everyone for patience, flexibility, and grace during these unusual times. As the management of this pandemic improves, we look forward to when it will be safe for our most vulnerable members to return to all our regular Sunday ministries. How to offer as many different ministries as possible *while* keeping all of our members safe and healthy keeps me up at night. Our pandemic protocol is a living guideline that can be reconsidered and updated by the Administrative Council as may be appropriate.

I have been lead pastor here for just over two months. While there is still *much* I need to learn, I already have a long list of things about Seward United Methodist Church for which I am grateful. Maybe you heard me read the list for [Wednesday devotions](#) this week? What might *you* add to the list???

Grace, peace,  
Reverend Mary Kay

## *The Blessing of Children*



I don't know about you, but spending time with children helps me understand how very much God delights in time with us. To watch them explore their surrounding, learning and leaning into new adventures... little giggles and smiles which light up a room and a heart... to see them begin to understand the world around them... to know their deep souls full of love and wonder... this is what God must take great delight in!

We are so very blessed to support and extend ministry to our community with the Bright Beginnings Child Development Center at Seward United Methodist Church. What joy we have to share in the daily care of little ones and big ones with families all over our community. What joy to get to know these little humans!

Love and prayers, Pastor Jo Ellen

## *Love and Prayers extended...*

When our church family and friends experience loss of any kind, we pray. We lift one another up in love during seasons which are difficult. We lift the following in love and prayers:

The family of Andrew and Tammy Duff and the family of Leslie Stratton upon the death of Leslie's and Andrew's dad. Know that we hold you in prayers.

The family of Daina and Gary Sain upon the death of Daina's brother. Know we hold you in prayers.

## *Request for Card Showers...*

Virginia Cattle is celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday this coming week! Cards can be sent to her at *500 Heartland Park, #211 Seward NE 68434*.

Lavonne Orr Meyerott has moved to Fallbrook Memory Care and her daughter is requesting a card shower to uplift her at this transition time. Please send cards to her at *6600 Juliet Ct. MC5. Lincoln. NE 68521*.

*Meetings/Gathering Dates this week...*

- Monday 5:00pm Faith Community Nurses
- Monday 5:45pm CWNF
- Tuesday 9:30am UMW Program Book Meeting.
- Tuesday 6:00pm BBCDC Board.
- Tuesday 7:00pm Finance and Trustees.
- Wednesday 5:30 UMW Reading Group.
- Wednesday 7:00pm Bell Choir.
- Thursday 4:00pm Building Team.
- Thursday 7:00pm UMW Evening Group.