

Seward United Methodist Church News Stream April 18th

Welcome Pastor Jen Davidson

Pastor Jen looks forward to working with BBCDC, Food Net, and various other ministries during her time with us. Pastor Jo Ellen and Pastor Jen are sharing a special God and Me digitally on this coming Monday about making a new friend. The children are sure to enjoy time with Pastor Jen!



Love and prayers,

Mary Kay, Jo Ellen, Wess, and Terri

Weekly Activities and Meetings

The Administrative Council will meet this Sunday, April 18th for its regularly scheduled quarterly meeting. We will gather at noon in the fellowship hall and will have a zoom link available for those who prefer.

- April 18 - Linger on the Lawn Fellowship 9:30am and 11:30am.
- April 18 - Administrative Council Meeting 12:00pm.
- April 18 - Work on Nature Area, Trustees and SHS 1:00 - 3:00pm.
- April 20 - BBCDC Board Meeting 6:00pm.
- April 20 - Finance and Trustee Meeting 7:00pm.
- April 21 - UMW Reading Group @ Maxine Moore's 5:30pm.
- April 21 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm.
- April 21 - Bell Choir 7:00pm.
- April 22 - FoodNet 5:00pm.

Prayer Request

Mark Axthelm, Jamie's dad, passed away April 15th following his struggle with cancer. A service to celebrate Mark's life will be on Monday, April 19th at 2:00pm. in Gothenburg. Cards may be sent to Jamie at his home here in Seward: 119 S. 2nd Street, Seward NE 68434. Please hold the Axthelm family in your prayers during this tender time.

Fellowship - Zoom in April - Linger on the Lawn in May

Coffee Fellowship will resume on May 2nd -- with a couple of risk mitigation measures in place. Coffee Fellowship will be on the front lawn. Refreshments will be individually packaged. Hosts may make refreshments and individually wrap them or purchase prepackaged refreshments. We will be looking for folks to sign up to be coffee fellowship hosts starting in May. When the 4 Corners Risk Dial moves into green, we will be able to shift coffee fellowship back to the social hall. While outside, if the weather is uncooperative, coffee fellowship will be canceled for that week.

Zoom Fellowship on April 18th and 25th. The Zoom fellowship will continue through the end of this month. The link will be sent on Saturdays. The final zoom fellowship for the time being will be April 25th. Thank you to everyone who has taken a turn hosting the Zoom Fellowship times.

Call to Prayer for Societal Injustice (UMC Discipleship Ministries)

Join United Methodist Church Discipleship Ministries, Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century, the Native American Compensation Plan, and The Upper Room for a series of Facebook Live events and other resources that can help equip and strengthen our journey to stand up for the ongoing society injustice, unrest, and pain. Facebook Live events include:

- Friday, April 16th at 11:00am. - Call to Prayer, featuring Dr. Ron Bell
- Monday, April 19th at 11:00am. - Panel Discussion f
- Wednesday, April 28th at 11:00am. - Upper Room Live with Dr. Ron Bell and Rev.

Tyler Sit

Summer Camp at Fontanelle Packets Available

Camp is getting ready for a safe, fun year with all ages. Camps are already listed on their website. Camp packets are available at the church, on the table just inside the red front doors. After the forms are completed please turn in at the church office and we will submit them to Camp Fontanelle, our local United Methodist Women provides for half of the camp fees... this is a great way to attend a wonderful camp and enjoy learning more about Jesus at our United Methodist Church Camps.



Opportunity to Support Local Music at Concordia University

Join the community in supporting and celebrating the music of Concordia University. Over the next couple of weekends, Concordia University will be providing public concerts from their vocal choirs and handbell choirs. All performances will be at St. John Lutheran Church in Seward and live-streamed on the St. John YouTube channel.

- Sunday, April 18th at 7:00pm. - University A Cappella Choir
- Sunday, April 25th at 3:00pm. - Cantamus Women's Choir and Concordia Male Chorus
- Sunday, May 2nd at 3:00pm. - Concordia Handbell Choirs

Tickets are free, but spaces must be reserved in advance to ensure proper social distancing. Masks are required for all St. John and Concordia events. You can reserve your spot at the [St. John's Website](#).

Bright Beginnings CDC, God and Me

Bright Beginnings CDC will meet in person weekly, and we will still share the recorded version on Mondays at 10:30am on our Facebook and YouTube pages. We invite you to continue with us as we get to know our new friend, Pastor Jen!

We met this week with Pastor Jo Ellen, in the sanctuary. It was so good to be together in person again! The children had great questions, prayers, and interest in Pastor Jo Ellen's Sabbath backpack. They look forward to seeing Pastor Jen's backpack next week.



Our Pre-K class heads out to see the welcome center windows and ribbon prayer harp from Easter. Pre-K, missing just a couple, had a great day! Preschool had a great day!!!

Week of the Young Child

This is [Week of the Young Child](#), which is an annual celebration of all children. This special week is sponsored by the National Association of Education for Young Children (NAEYC). Read more on the celebration of WoYC hosted with our BBCDC family. We also want to express our thanks for the lovely gifts that the students went together on -- we both received a beautiful cross which each student has signed on the back -- a beautiful and meaningful gift we will treasure. Thank you!!



Seward United Methodist Church Foundation

The Seward United Methodist Church Foundation challenges all the congregation to support the Six Special Offerings the United Methodist Church receives each year. These special offerings support mission, outreach, and educational ministries of the denomination, and is one way we can make a difference beyond Seward.

The SUMC Foundation will provide a dollar for dollar match for each special offering up to \$300 per offering. So, for example, this Sunday, April 18th is the Native American Ministries special offering and for every dollar the congregation donates the foundation will match up to \$300. And the Foundation will do the same for the other five offerings in 2021 (including the ones that have already happened): Human Relations, UMCOR, Native American Ministries, Peace with Justice, World Communion, and United Methodist Student Day.

New Members Seward United Methodist Church



Welcome Jack and Elaine Vrbka. They have decided to make Seward United Methodist Church their home.