

Seward United Methodist Church News Stream May 9th

Mothers Day Thoughts

Mother's Day is this week. For many, Mother's Day is a time of joy and celebration as families celebrate moms and bring gifts and cards, plan meals out. For others, Mother's Day is a hard, difficult day -- and this can be for any of a number of reasons -- the death of their mom or their child, strained or broken relationships between mother and child, women who long to be moms and who do not have the blessing of children. In the midst of this spectrum of reactions to Mother's Day, the church needs to be able to hold both extremes at one and the same time because we are all community together. So we will rejoice with those who rejoice on Mother's Day AND we will weep with those who weep on Mother's Day, making space for everyone and whatever they may feel on this day.

Grace, peace, Mary Kay

Weekly Activities and Meetings

- May 9th - Blood Pressure Checks after both services
- May 10th - 5:30pm - Team 1 CWNF -Faith Community Nurses in Parlor
- May 12th - 6:15pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary
- May 12th - 6:45pm - Music Ministry Ice Cream Social - Courtyard
- May 12th - 7:00pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary
- May 13th - 10:00am - Bible Study in Fellowship Hall
- May 13th - 5:00pm - FoodNet

Fellowship Returns and Volunteers are Needed

Fellowships are resuming again. We will have coffee and snacks after the 9:00am and 10:30am services. We need hosts to sign up for each service. There are sign up sheets just inside the red doors on the table, or you may contact the church office with dates that you are willing to serve.



Pastor Mary Kay on Vacation

Pastor Mary Kay is away for a week of vacation May 5 - 12th. She will be back in the office on Thursday, May 13th. Pastor Jen is on call during this time and will preach on Sunday. Pastor Mary Kay and Steve will travel to Baton Rouge to visit her father. She appreciates prayers for safe travels.

Thanks for Lou and Marv Bauman's Leadership of Foodnet



Effective May 1st, Lou Bauman is stepping down as coordinator and Marv Bauman as co-coordinator of Food Net. We are so grateful for the five years that they have worked tirelessly to keep this valuable community service running so smoothly. During an especially challenging pandemic time they managed to adapt new methods of pick up and delivery and kept everyone safe. Our thanks!

E.V. Walsh will be the new coordinator of Food Net for the next three years. Susan Walsh will be a co-coordinator, please contact her with questions and volunteer opportunities at 402-430-2539. Juanita Hill has agreed to stay on as a co-coordinator and we thank her! Randy Halder has agreed to stay on as an active volunteer as a co-coordinator. We are so appreciative of their commitment and dedication to this ministry.

Blood Pressure Checks available May 9th

The Faith Community Nurses will be checking blood pressure's after each service Sunday, May 9th. Please remain socially distanced and with your mask on in the pew and they will come to you! Thank you for participating.

Thanks for Cards and Prayers from the Axthelms

Dear SUMC family and friends,

Thank you so much for the ways you've supported our family during Dad's / Grandpa Mark's cancer walk and walk to heaven. We were so thankful to celebrate his love of farming & ranching, deep faith in Jesus, and his service to his church family this past week. The messages, cards, hugs, memorials, and prayers are all so appreciated! Your kindness and thoughts have meant so much to all of us. We thank you!

Love and prayers,

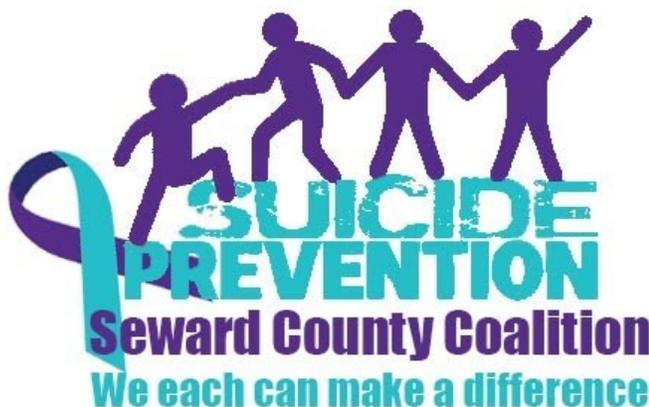
Jamie, Jo Ellen, Alexa, and Ander

Congratulating the 2021 Graduates

May 16th will be Seward High School's Graduation. On this day during the 8:00am service, we will recognize the seven graduates from our congregation: Ander Axthelm, Hunter Novacek, Jaci Opfer, Sydney Parra, Breanna Placke, Samantha Rojewski, and Alex Sick. The United Methodist Women will provide a reception on the lawn immediately following the worship service. As you make your worship plans for May 16th, be aware that the early service will have more attendees than usual and make your decisions accordingly.

United Methodist Women Host Suicide Prevention Seminar

United Methodist Women will hosts Christine Blanke from Four Corners Health Department to talk about suicide prevention on Thursday May 20th at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. Come and learn what resources are available locally and statewide to help someone get the support they need. Also, learn how one can support people who are grieving the loss of a loved one who died by suicide.



Handbells Receive a Polish



This week, all five octaves, 61 handbells were provided routine maintenance and cleaning by The Bellman in their mobile Bell Shop! Father and son, Mark and Aaron Bond travel from Texas to all 47 continental states throughout the year to provide on-site handbell services. Each bell is made of 25 separate components, many of which are friction-bearing parts that experience wear each time the bell is rung.

Over the course of three years, the Seward United Methodist Church handbells ring an estimated 200 hours and 20,000 rings per bell! We are thankful to the SUMC Foundation for their generous grant to provide for the needed maintenance and cleaning of the bells so that they can be enjoyed for many more years to come.

Holy Scrappers are Back at it Again

The Holy Scrappers are starting up again, but are in need of quilts to hand quilt. Please call Rosie Westerhoff (402) 643-2773 if you can help.

