

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

### *Technology Changes Persist*

The pandemic certainly pushed the church to quickly adopt and adapt to new technology. Thank you to everyone working with our technology to get us up to speed and using technology for worship and ministry. Moving forward here is what we anticipate doing from what we have learned through the pandemic.

1. *Weekly Newsletter.* We now have the capability to easily publish an email newsletter once a week to keep the congregation's family and friends updated and informed. A few paper copies will be available each week in the outside boxes and in the church office.
2. *Live Streaming* will continue. We will continue to live stream both of our Sunday morning worship services allowing folks to worship from home or away.
3. Bulletins. We will continue the full page format for the bulletin which will be available to download from our church website. We will have a few paper copies available for those who attend worship in person; however, we anticipate that most folks will simply follow along with the information provided on the screens in the sanctuary. We figure this will be a good way to save a bit of paper!

I, too, will be adapting to new technology. I plan to shift to using a tablet for my sermon manuscript rather than printing the sermon out on paper. Wish me well with this endeavor!

Grace, Peace, Mary Kay

### *Fellowship Volunteers Needed*

Given the progress in getting the pandemic under control, we are all enjoying a return to regular activities and ways of being in the world -- including the return of coffee fellowship on Sunday mornings following each worship service.



Coffee fellowship volunteers are needed. You may sign up to host coffee hour on the clip board near the front door of the church or you may call Terri in the church office (402-643-4156) and she will get you signed up.

## *Weekly Activities and Meetings*

- June 13th - Blood Pressure Checks after each service
- June 13th - Gather and Grow - 9:15am - UMYF Room
- June 14th - Team 1 CWNF (No Nurses meeting this month) 6:15pm - Parlor
- June 15th - BBCDC Board Meeting - 6:00pm- Parlor
- June 15th - Finance and Trustee Meeting- 7:00pm - 9:00pm - Fellowship Hall
- June 16th - UMW Reading Group - 5:00pm - 6:30pm - Maxine Moore's home
- June 17th - Yoga Class - 9:00am - 10:00am - Parlor and UMYF Room
- June 17th - Building Improvement Committee - 3:00pm - 4:30pm - Parlor
- June 17th - FoodNet - 5:00pm - 6:00pm
- June 17th - UMW Evening Circle - 7:00pm - 8:00pm

## *Calling all Middle & High School Youth!*

This year, the Great Plains Conference is hosting a re-imagined [ONEevent](#), September 3rd - 5th, 2021. Youth will participate across Nebraska and Kansas at the five Great Plains camps. The event includes worship, workshops, and activities unique to camp - such as

campfire worship. Youth from churches across the conference will come together to participate in these activities, share the love of God through service to local communities, and grow deeper in their faith.



If you or a youth you know is interested in participating in this meaningful experience, please contact the church office or Wess Robotham. Early bird registration deadline is July 1 - so we hope to hear from you soon!

## *Yoga Returns To Seward United Methodist Church*



Beginning Thursday, June 17 at 9:00am Yoga Classes for all skill levels will be available at Seward United Methodist Church. *Om Shanti Studios* will provide an instructor and offer the classes. Students may purchase a pass for 8 classes for \$64 (\$8 per class). Another option is to attend as an occasional drop in and make a donation of \$5-\$8 when one drops in for a class. Cost of the classes are paid to the instructor by check or cash. The class will meet in the Parlor.

## *Pine Ridge Reservation Mission Opportunity*

Several Seward churches are coordinating efforts to transport mattresses from the Concordia dorms along with summer clothing to the reservation in early July. Here's how you can help:

- Pray for the success of this mission project.
- Volunteer on Thursday, July 8th at 6:00pm to remove the mattresses from the dorm and load them into the truck. The task usually takes less than one hour.
- Volunteer to drive the truck and deliver the mattresses and clothing to the Pine Ridge Reservation - the weekend of July 9 - 11th.
- Donate clean, lightly worn, summer clothing for men, women, boys, girls, and infants. Details to come for drop-off and tagging.
- Donate funds to the project to cover the costs of a truck rental and fuel, along with meals and the possibility of lodging for the drivers.



Thank you from the Pouring Out Team (mission/outreach/witness) for your support! Call Jeanne Gee with questions or to see how you can help.

## *United Methodist Women Hosts an Evening with Ruth Karlsson*



After Prison – Then What?

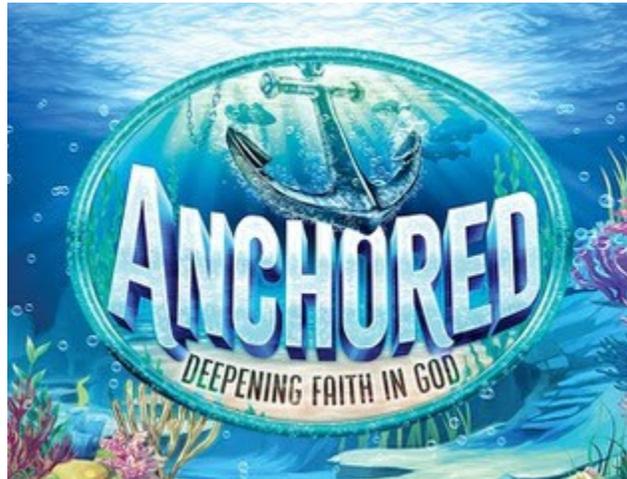
Thursday evening, June 17th at 7:00pm our United Methodist Women will be hosting Ruth Karlsson, the inspiring and dynamic Founder and Executive Director of *Released and Restored*, an effective prison ministry that for the past 17 years, has been proven to prepare women and men for a successful return to their communities. Did you know that 2 out of every 3 people released from Nebraska prisons will re-offend and return to prison?

Thankfully, Released and Restored programming provides inmates and ex-offenders with the tools and support systems needed for learning how to live moral, ethical and legal lives in our communities. Reverend Ruth Karlsson is a passionate speaker and always has a great deal of information to share with us about her volunteers, the classes and especially the inmates participating in this program. All are welcome to join the UMW ladies. Light refreshments will be provided.

***PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS & MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND!***

## *Vacation Bible School Will be the Week of July 26-30th*

We are so excited to be planning and preparing for Vacation Bible School this summer! This year, we have an underwater theme, encouraging all who participate to deepen their faith in God. Our main Bible point this year: God is faithful. "Give thanks to God, for God is good! God's faithful love endures forever." (1 Chronicles 16:34). The curriculum is prepared for all ages, preschool - pre-teen.



VBS is hosted in coordination with Seward United Methodist Church, Faith Lutheran Church, and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and will take place the week of July 26-30, 2021 in the evenings. A meal will be provided for all children/families that choose to participate before each night's activities begin. Children will experience God's faithful love through Music & More, Deep Bible Adventures, Sea Crafts, Anchors Away Play, and Coral Reef Closings.

As we continue to prepare, we are in need of volunteers! There are numerous ways in which volunteers make VBS a success. We need shoppers, decorators, meal prep chefs, station leaders, and crew leaders. If you are available, willing to help, and have a heart for children, please contact Wess Robotham to volunteer or [register online!](#)  
Bright Beginnings