

Seward United Methodist Church News Stream October 10th

FOCUS Report

Our fall FOCUS theme for the 4:00pm hour with the Preschool/PreK and Elementary grades K-4th will be the same for both the Music and More and Bible and Activity times. We are going to lean into “Short Stories... Tall Truths, the parables of Jesus.”

We will hear about the Sower of Seeds and the Good Samaritan in October. In November we will hear more about the Vineyard Workers, God’s Workers, and Giving Thanks! December will find us exploring Advent Workshop Stations. Christmas is for all of us, and the Children’s Christmas Musical is on the 15th. Sign up soon and join us if you have not already. We have a few more seats on the bus coming over from the elementary school if needed, or you can join us directly at 4:00pm

We are having a great fall thus far and the children are growing in faith in so many beautiful ways! I know they are learning as I listen to what they have to say, as I watch how they interact in our “centers” time, and as they pray or ask for prayers. What a joy it is to be with the children again on Wednesdays! God has missed time with them as have I.

Watch for pictures on our Facebook and the Bright Beginnings Child Development Center Facebook page. Thank you for supporting the ministry of FOCUS. We are blessed to spend time with all the children as we walk in faith together.

Love and prayers,
Pastor Jo Ellen

2021 CROP Walk Ending hunger ... one step at a time

Join us out on the front lawn of Seward United Methodist Church at 1:00pm this Sunday, October 10th for a fun walk to support hunger awareness... give to this cause as you are able as an extension of generous love for others!

One Sunday School

One Room Sunday School on Sunday, October 17th for all ages and stages. We will meet in the Sanctuary to pray together and then head to the large room downstairs. Older students will have the opportunity to help lead this day and younger children are sure to enjoy time with all of them together!

Weekly Activities and Meetings

- October 10th - Blood Pressure Checks after each service
- October 10th - Foundation Meeting - 11:45am - 12:45pm - Parlor
- October 10th - Crop Walk - 1:00pm
- October 10th - Gather & Grow - 4:00pm
- October 11th - Team 1 CWNF (nurses not meeting) - 6:15pm - 7:15pm - Parlor
- October 12th - Finance Meeting - 7:00pm - 8:00pm - Fellowship Hall
- October 13th - No Bible Study - No Handbells - No Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- October 13th - The Skit Guys - 7:00pm - Friedrich Arena @ Concordia University
- October 14th - No Bible Study
- October 14th - Women's Retreat Planning Meeting - 1:30pm - 2:30pm - Parlor
- October 14th - FoodNet - 5:00pm
- October 17th - Administrative Council Meeting - 12:00pm - 1:30pm

Support Youth Missions and Witness to Your Faith



Working with the local company Middle Creek Printing (previously known as Sports Express), we are delighted to offer SUMC Family and Friends the opportunity to buy a shirt with our new logo. Simply click the link below, choose the sizes, colors, and styles you want. Pay the company directly and a percentage will be designated for SUMC's youth mission trip. Sale runs through October 15th. Thank you for supporting youth missions and a local business.

Save the Date – Welcome Pastor Mary Kay Totty Dinner

Save the date! Following the second service, you are invited to join in the noon meal on Sunday, October 31st. The SPRC Committee is hosting this "Welcome, Pastor Totty!" event. Officially, she has been leading our congregation since July 1st, 2020. With your participation, SPRC wants to honor Pastor Mary Kay's appointment and commitment to Seward United Methodist Church. It will be a catered meal.

The Skit Guys at Concordia

October 13th at 7:00pm join us at the Concordia Friedrich Arena for the SKIT GUYS!!!! They use humor to work with difficult topics. The main audience is middle, high, and college but adults are sure to appreciate their humor and work on topics such as anxiety, depression, and our pressure culture.



Our UMYF and Confirmation classes are going as a group. Some of the Godparents group folks are also going! [Sign up](#) for a free ticket and meet us at the north side of the arena to sit with us. Hope to see you there!!!

Empty Soup Bowl Luncheon

Our Seward United Methodist Church family and friends have hosted a soup booth for the past several years. This year we thank Deb Moberly, Wess Robotham, and Mary Kay Totty for cooking, decorating, and hosting this year!!! The soup is Vegan Black Bean and Ginger Chili!!! Yum... come out to support this community

fundraiser sponsored by the Noon Kiwanis on Tuesday, October 19th from 11:00am - 1:00pm at the Harvest Hall in the Seward Fairgrounds. We hope to see you there!

Trunk or Treat 2021 is Sunday, October 31st

Trunk or Treat will be in the parking lot on Sunday, October 31st from 4:00pm – 7:00pm. There will be treats, pumpkins, bounce houses, snacks and crafts. We invite you to bring candy to share and to sign up to host a trunk. We also need helpers. If you have any questions please contact Amy Miller or call the church office. Thank you for all you do with this seasonal community outreach!

Save the Date for the Annual Church Bazaar November 13th

If you know how toBuild Grow Bake Glue Stitch Design Mix Cook Create Color Draw Paint Decorate Re-purpose Then you could contribute to the annual Four Seasons Bazaar! Ask a friend to help. Surprise us! Contact Jeanne Gee or the church office with questions.

September FoodNet Report

This month we served 147 family units that impacted 408 individuals. Thank you to our amazing team of volunteers again this month—Randy Halder, Jane Pallat, Linda Eberspacher, Jeff Sugden, Jody Pelan, Lori Shriner, Sherry Menze, Deb Snell, Sue Imig, Carol LaVelle, Franklin Hronik, Cade Bartels and Karla Sierra. Because of their dedication and hard work, we recently passed the Foodnet Organization's annual audit with flying colors!

Wow---we are so grateful for all the wonderful garden produce and other food donations! Thank you, Lloyd Schulz, Marvin Bergman, Amy Miller, Lou and Marv Bauman, Cindy Foley with the Faith Lutheran Community Gardens, Gail Brand and Andrew Bollinger. All donations are always welcome, due to limited refrigerator space if your donation is perishable, please contact us for coordinating those deliveries.

Thank you--We could not continue this ministry without all your support, please encourage anyone in need to participate in this program!

E.V. and Susan Walsh

Bell-issimo Handbell Choir Coming to SUMC

Bell-issimo, Lincoln's auditioned Community Handbell Choir, is coming to Seward United Methodist Church! Bell-issimo performs a variety of musical styles in concerts and programs throughout the area. Seward United Methodist Church will host their fall concert on Sunday, October 24th at 4:00pm. The concert is free of charge, donations are welcome to support the choir. Bell-issimo inspires and promotes the distinctive beauty and uniqueness of handbell ringing through various means, including promoting the arts through outreach projects and concerts such as this one.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this wonderful fall concert. Invite your family and friends to join you! Fellowship and cookies will follow the conclusion of the concert.

Soup Dinner and Raffle at St. Patrick's Church, Utica

Soup Dinner and Raffle Sunday, October 24th from 11:00am-1:00pm at St. Patrick's Church, Utica. Homemade Chili, Chicken Noodle, Clam Chowder, Cinnamon Rolls, Pie, and beverages will be served. Free will offering.

Remembering Loved Ones All Saints Day

All Saints Day brings us a season of celebrating the lives of those we miss and opportunities to remember them in special ways. As part of remembering the past 12 months we will invite you to share some digital information or drop off, in person, the following. We remember from October 1st last year, until the end of this month.

During our worship gatherings on Sunday, October 31st, 2021 we will share these as part of a special time during worship. We invite you to [contact the church](#) with your information. We will be watching for your photos and information until October 28th.

Please include a picture of your choice, full name of your loved one and how they are connected to you (aunt, neighbor, Grandma, best friend, etc.), their "dash" dates ____ - ____, and your names.

2021 Charge Conference

The Seward United Methodist Church's Annual Charge Conference will be held on Monday, November 8th, 2021 at Wahoo United Methodist Church at 6:00p.m. Our charge conference will be part of the North Network of the Blue River District. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Nancy Tomlinson will lead us in this new and innovative way of doing charge conferences together with other congregations. Charge conference is the annual meeting of the congregation where we approve candidates for ministry, elect leaders for the coming year, set pastors' salaries, approve the budget, etc. Mark your calendars and organize a carpool with other church members. Hope to see you there!

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Please consider being a part of a card shower to honor the three wonderful pastors in our midst. Cards can be left at the church anytime during the month. Seward United Methodist Church is so blessed to celebrate the many gifts of our three pastors: Pastor Mary Kay, Pastor JoEllen, and Pastor Jen. Thank you, Pastors, for the many gifts which you bring to Seward United Methodist Church!

Thinking About Becoming a Seward United Methodist Member

Have you thought about becoming a member of Seward United Methodist Church? Would you like more information about the church? All interested are invited to attend an information session led by Pastor Mary Kay during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, October 10th. She will meet with interested folks in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15am.