



April, 2025

Dodge City First United Methodist Church is a place where people encounter Christ, believe, are made new, and go out in service to Christ and neighbor



Everyone is invited to the all church pot luck dinner on April 6, 2025 at

12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite pot luck dish and join us for fun, food, and fellowship.

Needing donations of plastic eggs, candy, small toys, money for the Easter Egg Hunt that is scheduled for Saturday, April 12, 2025. You may bring your items to the church office. Thank You!



SCHOLARSHIP FORMS AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

Members of FUMC who are planning on college in the fall or current college students who are members of FUMC are encouraged to apply for scholarships provided by the Church Scholarship Fund. Applications must be received by June 16.

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The church office will be closed on Good Friday, April 18, 2025 and Monday, April 21, 2025 after Easter.



I have been thinking a great deal about the importance of being part of a team, how fantastic it is and how devastating it can be when the team fails one another. Jesus invited the Disciples to join His ministry team, a team that ultimately became family for Him. They were the ones working alongside Him when He was feeding the thousands, healing the sick, and offering salvation to the multitudes. They were the ones there to cheer Him on when the crowds were waiting for Him to bless them and minister to them. They were the ones He chose to be with Him in the good times and in the bad times. They saw firsthand the incredible things Jesus was able to do through the mighty power of God. They watched as He transfigured in front of them as His true identity manifested. They were with Him when He called Lazarus out of death that had enclosed him in the tomb into life anew. These holy men of God watched Jesus be verbally attacked by the religious leaders. They heard the people question His power and authority. Yet they also watched as Jesus displayed incredible grace and mercy upon those the world looked at as sinners. They were Jesus team members; they were in it together.

They accompanied Him into Jerusalem and watched the people bow down in worship and scream in praise! Then one of them agreed to do the unthinkable. He sold his Rabbi, his brother, his friend, he sold Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. The others scattered when the Roman soldiers arrived ready to take Jesus into custody abandoning Him when He needed them most. And of course, there was the one, who was engulfed in fear for his own safety, denied even knowing Jesus. I cannot imagine how it must have felt for Jesus to watch His beloved Disciples betray, abandon, and deny Him at this darkest hour. It was a level of pain that I

don't think any of us would ever want to experience. Yet, on some level we all do. We have people whom we allow to get close enough to betray our trust and the pain that ensues is devastating. Trust is something holy and sacred and when it is taken from us the vulnerability of our hearts becomes glaringly obvious. We might not have ourselves experienced that kind of pain, but it is likely we have all witnessed the devastation of broken trust in the life of someone else.

Lent is a time when we journey with Jesus the last leg of His earthly ministry. It is where we are reminded of the pain our sin inflicted on this loving, gentle, and holy soul. It is a time when we are faced with our own failures. It is a time when we realize the full depth of Jesus' love and devotion for us as He laid down His own life for each and every single one of us. That is love. Jesus has proven over and over again that when others fail us, He will be there. He will wipe our tears and soothe our pain because He knows all too well what that feels like in the depths of our souls. He also proves to us that even though our world is shattered and caves in around us because of the actions of others, through the power of God, we will be resurrected! We will rise through the ashes of pain and heartache and the wounds will heal into beautiful scars that show us over and over again that death does not have the final say.

Friends, I just want to encourage you to first be intentional in those whom you invite to be a part of your team. Next to know that even if, even if, they break your trust, let you down, and cause you pain, Jesus is still greater than all of it. He will never leave you but will sit with you in the heartache. He will breathe new life into your heart and will restore you. Easter is proof. Amen? Amen!

“For it is by Grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God” (Ephesians 2:8).



GRACE is one of the greatest New Testament words to describe God’s capacity to forgive and rehabilitate us. It is expressed in terms of freedom, generosity evaluation of heart, humor, original inspiration, confident enterprise, wonder and gratitude. A mother relates how her young daughter tried to make noodles and somehow messed up on the recipe. The mother and daughter reviewed the instructions to see what went wrong and discovered that the little girl had used sugar instead of salt. With a few deft substitutions the experienced mother did seemingly miraculous thing as she helped the girl rescue the project by making sponge cake out of the ingredients. That is exactly what God does in human life; it is the sweetener that turns noodles into sponge cake.

The personification of Grace is found in the character of Maria, in the Rogers and Hammerstein musical, “The Sound of Music.” Maria did not fit into the discipline of the order. Her vivacious, optimistic approach to life clashed with the austere atmosphere of the serious minded environment of the Abbey and she was thought to be a problem. By the Grace of God, she, who was a problem in one setting, became a blessing in another. It was

her very vivaciousness, which unlocked the natural joy of a group of children. I believe with all my heart that God has a place for each of us, which will fulfill the desires of our heart and give meaning to our life. Brothers and sisters in Christ, Easter reminds us that God can even take life’s tragedies and help us infuse them with the mystery of God’s Grace in such a manner as to make them count for something meaningful in the life of people we meet. In this Easter season, I invite you to experience the new life and joy we all have received with the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Praise God, Christ is risen, He has risen indeed!

“HAPPY EASTER”

Your Servant In Christ,
Rev. Juan Espinoza



OBITUARIES

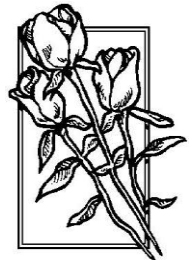
Joyce Rumbaugh

Dodge City- Joyce Ann (Maley) Rumbaugh, 80, passed away peacefully on February 21, 2025 at Reflection Living in Dodge City, Ks. Though her mind had been compromised by Alzheimer's over the past few years, she now knew full-well where she would reside and who she would see waiting there.

Born to James and Edna (Wolfe) Maley in Superior, Nebraska on July 10, 1944. Joyce attended Superior Public Schools, graduating in 1962. Shortly following her graduation she married Jerry Rumbaugh and they began building their dreams together. Their marriage was blessed with sons, Jeffrey and Jason, as well as their daughter Jennifer. In 1964 they moved to Meade, Kansas where Joyce worked as a mother, wife, and paraprofessional in Meade Public Schools. A job opportunity took them to Solomon, Kansas in 1988 where they lived until retirement and choosing to spend a few years in the sun in Arizona. The love and activities of the grandkids brought them back to Kansas in 2001, calling Dodge City home since then. Joyce especially enjoyed reading and sewing in her free time, making many wedding and prom dresses. She spent many hours gardening as well as needle work and refinishing antique furniture. Sharing these activities with her grandchildren brought her so much joy as she helped them on 4-H projects. She and Jerry loved taking their family camping and made many memories with Joyce's parents, and later with their grandkids.

Joyce is survived by son Jeff (Lisa) Rumbaugh, Dodge City, KS and daughter Jennifer Rumbaugh, Manhattan, KS; three grandchildren, Tanner (Samantha) Rumbaugh, Dodge City, KS; Lauren (Spencer) Bromm, Craig, NE; Blake Rumbaugh, Dodge City; and step-grandson Vinny (Erin) Lyman, Salina, KS; three great grandchildren, Emery and Cayson Rumbaugh, Dodge City, KS; Jack Buschman-Rumbaugh, Perryton, TX; and nephew Travis Maley of Omaha, NE. She is preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, son, Jason Rumbaugh; brother, Larry Maley; her parents and grand daughter-in-law Rachel Buschman-Rumbaugh.

Memorial services were held at Swaim Funeral Chapel on Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 2:00 PM with Rev. Berniece Ludlum presiding. A family burial will take place at a later date. Memorials are suggested to Ford County Humane Society in care of the funeral home. Thoughts and memories may be shared in the online guestbook at www.swaimfuneralhome.com.



Funeral Meals

HELP NEEDED

Persons are needed to help with funeral dinners. Help is needed with the cooking, serving, and clean-up. Any help is appreciated. You may choose to do all three or just one. Your choice. Let us know in the office at 620,227.8181. Thank You.

Jim Nightengale

Dodge City – James “Jim” A. Nightengale, 70 passed away March, 9, 2025 at Wesley Medical Center, Wichita, Kansas.

James was born to Rudolf “RA” and Geneva (James) Nightengale on September 21, 1954 in Dodge City, Kansas.

On March 29, 1985 he married Janice Seibel in Wichita, where they made their home until moving back to Dodge City in 1988.

In Wichita, James worked for N J Datsun and then for Davis-Moore Nissan where he achieved the ASE certification of master tech and Nissan Master Tech. After moving back to Dodge City, he worked a brief time at Dillons and then G&G Motors. He eventually went to work for J-A-G Construction as a mixer driver and then moved up as the Batch Plant Manager. He continued to work for a couple of years after Croell, Inc., bought out J-A-G construction.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church and Ducks Unlimited both in Dodge City.

He proudly served in the United States Army as a Track Vehicle Mechanic and a Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic.

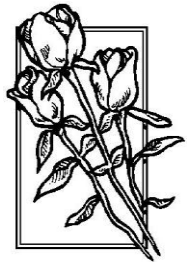
James is survived by his wife; daughter, Erica Nightengale and husband Josh Smith, Omaha, Nebraska; son, Jarred Nightengale and wife Kim, LaCrescent, Minnesota; daughter, Evanne Avant, Columbiana, Alabama and son, James Nightengale and wife Socorro,

Spearville, Kansas. From a previous marriage, son, Christopher and daughter, Angel both of British Columbia, Canada; grandchildren, Mia, Hazel, Charlotte, Camden, Keziah, Eternity, Valor and James Jr; brother, Jeff Nightengale, Dodge City, brother-in-law, Daryl Seibel, Mt. Home, Arkansas; and sister-in-law, Twilla Oman, Georgetown, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, father and mother-in-law, Stan and Norma Seibel; grandson, Eli Nightengale; sisters, Mary Duffield and Peg Reimann; brothers-in-law, Alton “AB” Reimann and Grover Duffield and one nephew, Todd Reimann.

A private family service will be held at a later date. There will be no public viewing as cremation has taken place.

Family suggests memorials to the Dodge City Animal Shelter, Ford County Humane Society or SWKS K9 Pawsibilities all in care of Ziegler Funeral Chapel, 1901 N. 14th Ave., Dodge City, Kansas 67801.



We express our sympathy to...
...the family of Joyce Rumbaugh.
...Alan Castillo & family on the death of his grandfather.
...Brooke DuPree & Howard children on the death of their grandfather.
...Terry Hamilton & family on the death of his brother.



UMW READING PROGRAM

In the Presence of my Enemies by Gracia Burnham

Seventeen vacationers were kidnapped in the Philippines on May 27, 2001. Among them were two American missionaries from Kansas. He was a bush pilot taking food, medicine and other supplies to remote areas on the islands. His wife operated the radio, scheduled flights and otherwise supported the program. Those missionaries were Martin and Gracia Burnham and this is their story.

Martin was 10 when his family moved to the Philippines to begin their New Tribes Mission. Martin was sent to boarding school in Manila, and during this time he became interested in aviation because of his many flights home to visit his parents. After high school and in his year at New Tribes Bible School in Michigan, he began to consider mission work. Still longing to fly, Martin left for Wichita and received his flight training and pilot's license.

Martin and Gracia met at Calvary Bible College in Kansas City. She was a senior studying music and Christian education. He transferred in as a junior, taking classes while teaching in the flight program. Two years later they were married and moved to Imperial, Nebraska, where Martin had a summer job as a crop duster. Martin was soon offered a permanent position. They loved the work and the location, but they knew God had other plans for them.

Pat Kolb
Non-fiction (2025)

LISTS, LISTS, LISTS!

Below are the names of those who are sponsoring flowers, broadcasts, bells, and Upper Rooms for the month of April.

PULPIT FLOWERS

April 6	Shirley Lewis
April 13	Palm Sunday
April 20	Easter
April 27	Doug Austen

RADIO BROADCASTS - \$100

April 6	in memory of James & Velma Faulds
April 13	available
April 20	available
April 27	Dorothy Lowry

TOWER BELLS - \$75

WEEK OF	
March 30-Apr 5	available
April 6-12	Dorothy Lowry
April 13-19	available
April 20-26	available

UPPER ROOM SPONSOR 2024

Ann Frigon, Financial Advisor, LPL Finance



THANK YOU

Thank you to all our friends who comforted us during the loss of our Grandson, Tucker. Your cards, prayers, and hugs have helped us to move forward as we find our new normal.

David and Sharon Robb



Welcome Guests



JOY! NEWS

Guests in Worship Sunday

We were delighted to welcome these guests at our services:

(February 23, 2025)

In – Town

Ruth Weitz Tadeo, Sofia Gomez.

Out – of – Town

None.

(March 2, 2025)

In – Town

None.

Out – of – Town

None.

(March 9, 2025)

In – Town

None.

Out – of – Town

Toby, Marty, Riley, Conor & Lily Burger, Erin & James Ross & Anderson Gleason.

(March 16, 2025)

In – Town

Sabrina Quinonez, Reina, Louisa, King & Rafael DeLira, Javier Francisco Gamboa, Francisco Solano.

Out – of – Town

None.

“ Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature.” 2 Corinthians 5:17

Spring is a tangible way in which we see how are lives are changed by God’s grace. All around us, the “dead “is “coming back to life” and growing, by the grace of the Holy Spirit. Spring time is the perfect time to talk about the new life that Christ brings to us through His death and resurrection, as we see the miracle of new life all around us in the season. The world of nature is coming alive all around us, the dawning of springtime..... It goes on to speak of repentance as a flower that is opening. We honor the spring not just for it’s beauty or for the joy that the warm sun brings, but rather, we celebrate springtime because God uses it to remind us of the glory of resurrection: especially of Christ’s resurrection. And the resurrection of Christ is truly worth celebrating.

The children of Joy! CDC are looking forward to a lot more warmer days so they can take advantage of spending more time playing outdoors. They always enjoy getting to go outside and get some fresh air and exercise! It’s always a welcome sight and sound when the children are playing and laughing on the playground after they have been stuck inside due to the colder weather.

As winter is coming to the end lets “Stop, Look, and Listen,” for there is a resurrection in nature, and enjoy the beauty of spring.

“Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain: so the Lord shall make clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every on grass in the field.” Zechariah 10:1

Peace and Joy!
Christina Brown



Unit 2: Grow in Faith

Faith Focus: Jesus helps us grow in our faith.

**Grow in Prayer, through Praise, through Love, through Grace,
“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus
Christ. “ (2nd Peter 3:18)**



Spring is upon us even as the March Blizzard brought snow just this morning. As I walked outside to see God’s beauty as the sun began to shine, the snow was melting off the trees, and the ground saturated in the much needed moisture, I saw green peeking through. I can’t wait to see the buds appear and the flowers bloom. Even in the dormant bare times, we are reminded how God is always at work within his creation. Just as we see growth in his creation, so do we grow in Christ.

As his children, God is working within us. He places his love and beauty all around us to nurture what he has planted in our hearts. He yearns for our closeness in prayer and meditation. He awaits our praise. His love is overflowing in a servant heart, and oh those waves of grace are flooding in.

This season of Lent as we embark on the celebration of Easter is filled with the stories of Jesus’ ministry on earth and the holy week that leads to resurrection. Joining children in the seek and find of the symbols of Easter in an egg hunt mirrors our faith in this lenten journey. We are seeking Christ. We may go through the wilderness to find our prize. While chocolate and treats are simple treasures, the love and grace of Jesus is our gift. The empty tomb (egg) proclaims that Christ indeed is risen!

As we continue lent for the next few weeks and enter Easter, I wonder what you will find as you seek Jesus? I wonder what Christ is speaking to you in prayer, praise, love and His grace? Who will walk beside you? I look forward to hearing your stories as you journey through lent.

Many Blessings ~Melyssa Walker

If you are interested in learning more about what is offered for children or serving with children in our faith groups, please see Melyssa, find us on FUMC Kids Facebook Group, call or text 620-682-3931, email at melyssawhtie@gmail.com

Come on a Road Trip with us this summer!

**Save the Date for VBS!
Check out the dates and times as well as scan the QR Code to sign up to serve and/or register a child for VBS.**

VBS First United Methodist Church

July 13th-17th Evenings

5:45pm-8:00pm

Scan to sign up to Serve or Register to participate

The LORD your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

Dodge City is at the intersection of 14th Ave. and Central. 210 Soule is the location.

ROAD TRIP
ON THE GO WITH GOD

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
BOARD MINUTES**

Mach 10, 2025

6:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall and ZOOM

Chairperson Kyle Parker called meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the One Board meeting. He asked Rev Berniece for opening prayer. She offered a prayer for guidance in our time of need.

ATTENDANCE: Sign-up sheet - 15

15 in person, Kyle Parker, Doug Austen, Connie Penick, Marcy Taylor, Michael Morrison, Kacee Richards, Kathy Ramsour, Matt Gerard, Beth Love, Ann Frigon, Joe Finley, Jaime Hernandez, Rev Berniece Ludlum, Lisa Rumbaugh, and Jennifer Medina.

Minutes of the February 10, 2025 meeting were presented. **Joe Finley moved to accept the minutes as presented. Matt Gerard second. Motion carried.**

Chair Kyle Parker invited Jennifer Medina to attend the meeting for discussion regarding JOY! Child Care.

Information was provided regarding current fees and method of payment. In addition, availability of grants for future funding and staff wage increase were addressed. Following lengthy discussion and a Q & A session it was determined the Board for JOY! Child Care is an advisory board and will bring recommendations to the church board to consider funding. Jennifer mentioned several fund-raising activities currently in place and ask church members and others to participate. The church board urged Jennifer to involve church members as volunteers and on call staff when possible.

Doug Austen presented financial reports for First United Methodist Church and FUMA – Joy Child Development. JOY! Child Care he noted a positive for the month of February; however, he will do a comparison with year 2024. To continue the mission financially there is much work to be done.

Regarding the financials for First United Methodist Church, giving continues to be down for February and we are not meeting budget. Monies held in Endowment and Investment are delegated and can only be used for specific needs of the church. Annual expenses of the church are based on monthly pledge giving and collections during services. Following a Q & A session consideration will be given to budget cuts and members honoring pledges. Ann Frigon announced the opportunity for auto giving through VanCo. She has the online giving set up and the opportunity is open to everyone. Members and others are encouraged to use the online option and for more information contact Ann Frigon with questions. **Joe moved to accept the financial reports as presented. Lisa second. Motion carried.**

Joe Finley reported on the building and the recent water damage in the basement. Service Master is working on cleaning ducts and drains and running a humidifier. Many thanks go to all those who helped with the clean-up. The insurance adjuster has been in and assessed the damage.

Rev Berniece announced the approval of the Church pictorial directory. Dates scheduled are May 13-17 and Sign up is on line. **Lisa moved to accept the company providing this service. Doug second. Motion carried.**

She indicated the Scout Troup has requested to borrow the church van for various activities. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the members present **to decline** the request due to liability and the current condition of the van. The scouts also requested permission to paint the room where they meet. This request was **granted**.

At Conference a grant was given for multi-cultural congregations. FUMC qualifies for this "Biggest Table Event". The excitement for this event is to assist and understand cultures and unify our church. **The event will happen in Dodge City on Sunday, September 14, 2025.**

Consideration is being given to a request of space for a music studio to provide music lessons and storage of equipment at the church. The consensus of members present was to grant the request; however, the details need to be worked out and an agreement signed.

Rev. Juan is out of town. Jaime Hernandez had nothing to report for CASA at this time. He reported Rev Juan was available during the basement clean-up and cooked breakfast and lunch for the group of workers.

Rev Berniece has finalized plans for her trip to Mexico to attend an immersion Spanish class. She will be gone March 22nd through March 30th.

Additional topics for consideration:

Connie Penick, One Board secretary will be leaving Dodge City and has resigned.

There has been some miscommunication regarding Cox Communication auto renew. We may be responsible for another year. This is being investigated further.

Kacee reminded everyone about the Community Rewards through Dillons. Consider FUMC for community giving.

Marcy Taylor had several announcements: 1) There is only one custodian at this time. There will be no maintenance position filled. There will be a full-time janitor with additional duties. There will be some training, and there will be other staff changes. 2) Wednesday Night meal is beneficial to church activities and will begin in April. There are nine opportunities between April and the summer. Staff Parish committee is asking various groups of the church to plan and staff a Wednesday Night meal. The One Church Board is scheduled for April 9th. Please say 'Yes' when Marcy asks.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 14, 2025, 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Rev. Berniece closed with prayer of thanks and blessing.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Penick, Secretary

Date	Worship Attendance	Last Year Worship Attendance	Sunday School	Last Year Sunday School	Giving	Last Year Giving
2/16	142	210	41	35	3,706	4,019
2/23	150	161	43	30	4,848	3,215
3/2	172	180	38	35	10,225	8,174
3/9	161	167	36	37	3,173	16,983
YTD	1,296	1,606	342	339	46,663	79,068
YTD avg.	144	178	38	38		

Ministry & Mission
 Apportionment for 2025: \$84,108
 Received as of 3/16: \$5,453

Persons From Our Congregation Living in Nursing/Rest Homes

(Does not include those in Independent Living Apartments at Manor of the Plains)

Please remember in prayer those in nursing/rest homes.

**If you know of anyone we have missed,
call us at 227-8181.**

Trinity Manor

Patsy Craven

Norma Ward

Manor of the

Plains

Jack MacNair

Bobbie MacNair

Eldon Becker

Sun Porch

Dana Chamberlain

Brookdale

Leawood

Joyce Barnes

Hutchinson

Shirley Ullom

Reflection Living

Florence Hill

Fort Dodge

Richard Long

Kansas City

Jean Taylor

First United Methodist Church
...a community of joy!
210 Soule
Dodge City, Kansas 67801
(620) 227-8181
April 2025

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Dodge City, Kansas 67801

Change Service Request

OUR MINISTRY and MISSION GIVING



Great churches. Great leaders. Great disciples. Transforming the world.

Each church within the Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church is asked each year to support the ministry of the United Methodist Church through our Ministry and Mission fund. For 2025, that “apportionment” for First United Methodist Church of Dodge City is \$84,108.00.

We join all the churches of the Conference and throughout the world in our commitment.

The faithfulness of churches to contribute means support for mission agencies such as United Methodist Universities and other missions across Kansas and Nebraska. Through our faithful participation of paying our Ministry and Mission askings, we put our faith into action, we live out John Wesley’s call, to “live out our faith by doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all people”.

Watch for More Information Here Each Month!

Your Lay Member to Annual Conference: Mike Morrison and Dan Love.