



Christmas Eve Services:

Kanopolis—4:00 pm
Ellsworth—5:00 pm &
6:30 pm

Pastor:

Rev. Dennis Carter
Phone: 620-272-7262
E-mail: pastor.umcew@eaglecom.net

Sunday Worship Times:

Sunday School at 9:30am
Worship at 10:45am
TV Ministry—Eagle Cable channel 2
at
10:45am and 12:45pm
TV Ministry email:
Video.umcew@eaglecom.net

Church office:

402 N. Douglas Ave.
Ellsworth, KS 67439
785-472-3870
Email: first.umcew@eaglecom.net
Website: www.umcellsworth.org
Facebook: uumcellsworth

Church Office Hours:
Tuesday through Friday
8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
(Other times available by appointment)

From the Pastor's Desk:

Because of Bethlehem (Love Is Born, Hope Is Here)

Every year Advent invites us to prepare our hearts once more for the gift—the gift that seemingly is too good to be true but is, in fact, miraculously and joyously true! And each year, we have the opportunity to say yes to that invitation, to prepare our hearts for the miracle of Immanuel, “God with us.”

The word advent comes from the Latin word adventus and simply means “coming” or “arrival.” Advent begins each year on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, which is the Sunday closest to November 30. It is a season in which Christians around the world celebrate the First Advent, Jesus’ birth, and also anticipate the Second Advent, Christ’s return. Although the themes of Advent sometimes vary, those most commonly observed during the four weeks of Advent are hope, peace, joy, and love.

As you reflect on the miracle of Christ’s birth and the promise of his return, may you experience the true meaning of Christmas: Immanuel, God with us—God with you.

Sermon Titles

Dec. 06	Worship Works Wonders	Luke 2:8-20
Dec. 13	God Guides The Wise	Matthew 2:1-12
Dec. 20	Every Heart a Manger	Philippians 2:5-11
Dec. 27	How Can I Overcome Temptation?	1 Corinthians 10:12-13
Jan. 03	How Can I Get Victory Over Worry?	Matthew 6:25-34

Temp-Return Service Requested
Ellsworth, KS 67439
402 N. Douglas Ave.
First United Methodist Church





Kids of the Kingdom/Kids with a Mission:



One of our recent lessons was in the Old Testament, the life of Joseph. After he forgave his brothers for selling him into slavery, he declared, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." Genesis 50:20. The pandemic has messed with everything we hold near and dear. Events are cancelled, anxiety is increasing—what possible good can come from all this? We have had to make adjustments at Kids, but God is still working in our midst! With smaller numbers attending, the children can have more individual attention and our bonds are stronger. There are still nearly 50 children hearing God's Word, and around 10 adults and 3 student helpers volunteering their time, as well. Romans 8:28 states: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." Days can be challenging, but God has promise to never leave or forsake us. "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9. Please continue to pray for our children and volunteers! Thanks so much!!

MEMO FROM: Stewardship & Finance (S&F) Team RE: Pledge Cards and North Building Loan

As the Stewardship & Finance Team works on the 2021 budget, we have narrowed it down to knowing our expenses. As you can imagine, due to the unfamiliar challenges we all have been facing, the Team is short in receiving back some of the pledges that we would normally receive. That makes it difficult when setting up the income side of the budget. If you have not made your pledge, we urge you to turn in your pledge card to help us finalize the income portion.

Regarding another note of business, following worship on November 8, the congregation met to review the charge conference documents and to receive a short report on the building loan status. At that time, S&F reported that we were very close to paying off the loan by year end. It was shared that if all loan pledges are honored, the loan balance would be \$2,200. The congregation agreed to pay off the remaining loan balance by year end and approved taking funds from other line items to pay off the loan, if needed. Our appeal is if you are feeling the lead or are lead to helping pay off the loan, we would welcome and appreciate your gracious gift. Please memo your special giving "building loan."

Finally, and most importantly, we extend our thanks to everyone for their continued financial and prayerful support throughout these campaigns.

Stewardship & Finance Team

Curt Glaser, Team Leader, Linda Davis, Mason May, Janice Black, Roberta Waymaster, Sharon Marsh, Dale Hoosier and Pastor Carter



Poinsettias for Christmas

If you would like to bring a poinsettia to the church for the Christmas season, please bring it to the church office Friday, Dec. 18 during office hours (8:30 am—12:30 pm). We will begin displaying the plants on Sunday, Dec. 20. Also, please let the office know if the poinsettia will be in memory of someone, and who it is from. Plants can be picked up after the Christmas Eve service.



Dear Church Family,

I want to thank you for all the cards and gifts that I received for pastor appreciation and my birthday. Betty and I feel blessed to be in ministry with our church family.

God Bless and Thank You,

Pastor Dennis Carter

Ellsworth United Methodist,

Thank you so much for participating in the Annual Trunk-or-Treat. It was so great seeing the community together again. I'm so glad that the church did a canned goods drive!

Hope we can fill up those shelves.

Thanks again,

Nathan King (Mosaic)

Dear First United Methodist Church,

Thank you for your donation of \$150.00 to the Food Bank. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and your generosity to help our community.

As you know, we serve many families that are facing challenges. While all of us are susceptible to hard times, families are at the most risk, and they make up the largest number of clients we service.

With your support, we are able to help many of these families and individuals with their daily needs, but also to work toward a brighter future. Our team will put this money to good use in helping families cope in these difficult times.

Thank you again for the wonderful donation and support!!

Karin Renard

Ellsworth County Food Bank



ELLSWORTH COUNTY CHRISTMAS STORE

2020

The Ellsworth County Christmas Store (ECCS) is in its 20th year of helping families across our county. The Mission of the Christmas Store is helping those less fortunate in Ellsworth County at Christmas time - giving families a hand up instead of a hand out while maintaining parents' dignity, in the name of Jesus Christ. Those who register receive the opportunity to give their kids brand new gifts for Christmas. Last year we helped over 80 families and over 205 children have a wonderful Christmas.

We thank all the individuals, businesses, churches and organizations who have supported The Christmas Store in the past and ask for your continued support going forward. The program simply would not exist without the kind donations from all of you.

MONEY is of course the greatest need. Purchasing gifts for kids just couldn't happen without funds. We will once again be allowing \$50 per child, so as you can see if we help over 200 children again this year, this becomes a project of over \$10,000. Checks can be made out to ECCS and mailed to The Christmas Store c/o Tami McGreevy, 1302 Spring St, Ellsworth, KS 67439, or your donation may be taken directly to First Bank Kansas in Ellsworth. You may also donate securely through our website ellsworthcountycares.org.

Due to COVID-19 and the strict guidelines that are set in place we will not have the shopping area set up for the registered children this year, or the Main Event in which parents pick up their gifts. We will, however still be getting those families their presents!

That's why VOLUNTEERS are also essential! We will need some help with the following: calling registrants, shopping, sorting, wrapping, crafts kits, and hosting families as they look through items at Caring Families. We will not host a "main event" as we have done in the past - rather we will have several dates to provide curb side pick up for the registered families. Those dates will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday, December 11, 12 & 13. If you'd like to volunteer please call Tami at 785.531.0003, or Chelle at 785.531.2373, or look up Ellsworth County Christmas Store on Facebook and leave us a message there! You can also email us at Ellsworthcountychristmasstore@gmail.com.

GIFT WRAP SUPPLIES. It's always important to have plenty of gift bags, tissue, wrapping paper and bows, to complete the gifting process and get the families all ready for a wonderful Christmas!

We look forward to another great year, as we continue to brighten the season for those who need our help. For it is in Jesus' name that we spread the light and celebrate His birth!





Weekly Activities:

Sundays:

- 9:15 am—Seekers Sunday School (Zoom)
- 9:30 am—Sunday School (in person)
- 10:45 am—Worship in sanctuary
- 6:00 pm—Pastor’s Bible Study

Tuesdays:

- 1:00 pm—Grief Support Group (Arts Council)
- 6:00 pm—Confirmation Class

Wednesdays:

- 3:05 pm—Kids of the Kingdom/Kids with a Mission
- 6:15 pm—Jr/Sr High Youth Group

December Calendar:

Tues, Dec. 1

- 1:30 pm—Missions Meeting
- 7:00 pm—Leadership Meeting (Zoom)

Sun, Dec. 6

- 7:00 pm—Trustees Meeting (Zoom)

Thurs, Dec. 10

- 2:00 pm—Faith & Hope Circle
- 7:00 pm—Honor & Glory Circle

Fri, Dec. 11

- 12:00 pm—Blood Drive (Catholic Church)

Sun, Dec. 13—Moment for Missions (Food Bank)

- 5:00 pm—Blue Christmas Service (Sanctuary)

Mon, Dec. 14

- 7:00 pm—Finance/Stewardship Meeting (Zoom)

Tues, Dec. 15

- 2:00 pm—USDA Commodities Distribution
- 6:30 pm—Worship Team Meeting (Zoom)

Sun, Dec. 20

- 8:00 am—United Methodist Men Breakfast
- 12:45 pm—Blue Christmas Rebroadcast

Tues, Dec. 24

- 4:00 pm—Christmas Eve Service Kanopolis
- 5:00 pm—Christmas Eve Service Ellsworth
- 6:30 pm—Christmas Eve Service Ellsworth

Mon, Dec. 28

- 6:30 pm—SPPRC Meeting (Zoom)

Recent Prayer Requests:

Jim & Par Schulz, Vernon Davis’s Family, Good Samaritan residents & staff, shut ins and our community

Continued Prayers for:

Dorothy Thomas, Roger Samuelson, Gavin Webber, Robert Blanchard, Mason May, Charlie Thrush’s family, Neva Chastain, Donna Wooten’s Family, Deb & Gregg Gordon, Gene Meitler’s Family, Ron Singer’s family, Betty Carter, Polly White’s family, Rosemary Whitley, Wesley Chastain, Nancy & David Stonebraker, Penny Swift-Kelly, Tom Maze, Julie Thompson, Lois Myers’s Family, Rose Doubrava, Lu Adams, Alan Falk, Frona Lorimer, Rhonda Hoffhines-Blair, Steve Noren, Judy Gebhardt, Bonnie Stinchcomb, Judy Toman, Karen Kerr

Salina Rescue Mission ~ Ashby House ~ Youthville/Ember Hope ~ Shut-Ins ~ Nursing Home Residents ~ Mosaic Clients ~ Our Nation’s Leaders ~ Youth ~ Unemployed ~ Unspoken Requests ~ Missions/Missionaries

Continued prayers will be listed for 3 months. Please contact the church office to continue on the list.

December 80+ & Shut-In Birthdays

23rd— Tom Maze

1156 HWY 14, Room 202
Ellsworth 67439

(diabetic items appreciated)

A reminder that the Ministerial Alliance is the go-to place for those in the community needing utility bill assistance. For more information please contact Pastor Exie Barber at 785-531-0067.



Bulletin Mission Outreach

Good Sam Shut-Ins

Postponed until further notice

(* Deliver Upper Rooms)
(Bulletin Delivery contact: Deb Furgason 472-8956)

Task Force Co-Chairs

Judy Scritchfield (472-4168)
Linda Davis (472-1151)

Task Force List

Kourtney Maisog, Jean Soukup, Brenda Koralek,
Norma Nicholas, Roberta Waymaster,
Shelby Cravens, Sharon Marsh, Heather West,
Lesa Houston, Abby Janssen

Ushers

Andrew Ridinger, Head Usher
Maynard Cunningham
Mark Hoffhines

(Usher contact:
Mason May 472-4261)

Young Disciples

6—Pastor Dennis
13—Pastor Dennis
20—Roberta Waymaster
27—Rosemary Whitley

(Young Disciples contact:
Nancy Stonebraker 472-4208)

Communion

No Communion

Altar Flowers

The Honor & Glory
Fellowship is in charge of
Altar Flowers.

Year-end Contributions:

Any money received by the church (in the offering plate or otherwise) after December 31 shall be reported as 2021 giving for tax purposes. This is true even if the check is dated in 2020.

The only exception is for checks that are mailed and bear a 2020 postmark.

Liturgist

6—Karen Shriner
13—Lesa Houston
20—Roberta Waymaster
27—Cunningham Family

(Liturgist contact:
church office 472-3870)

Guardian Angels

6—Dora Maze
13—
20—Lesa Houston
27—Sharon Marsh

(Guardian Angel contact:
Deb Furgason 472-8956)

Websites

Hutchinson District Office:
www.hutchinsondistrictumc.org

Great Plains Conference Office:
www.greatplainsumc.org

United Methodist Website:
www.umc.org

General Board of Disciples:
www.umcdiscipleship.org