



# University UMC News

## Christ, Campus, & Community

June 2025

### Lingering with Libby

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, my heart is filled with gratitude, reflection, and bittersweet emotions. It has been a profound honor to serve as your pastor over the past year, walking alongside you in faith, worship, and community. This season has been one of organizing and spiritual growth, as we reflected on our values and our mission and vision. We have shared challenges, growth, and joys, and it is with both a heavy and thankful heart that I bid you farewell as my journey takes me in a new direction.

Looking back, I am thankful for the grace and love that you have shown not only to me but to one another. Together, we have celebrated milestones, supported each other through challenges, and sought to deepen our relationship with God. From Sunday sermons and Bible studies to moments of reflection, and fellowship gatherings, these memories will be held close in my heart.

Your faithfulness and dedication, whether through acts of service, worship, or simply showing kindness, have been an inspiration to me. It is in witnessing your steadfast faith and commitment to our shared mission that I have been reminded of the beauty and strength of the body of Christ.

Though my journey with you is ending, my prayers for this congregation remain constant. My hope is that you continue to flourish, growing in unity and purpose as you serve God and each other. May you continue to be a beacon of hope and love in the community, embodying the teachings of Christ in all that you do.

Finally, I want to remind you that in keeping with our clergy covenant once Pastor JJ begins on July 1 Chelsea and I will no longer reach out to you so that Pastor JJ gets off to a good start and so we can each focus on our new ministries. This is how we honor one another in our service to God. If we see you in public we will be happy to visit with you, but we will no longer be your pastors. I am confident that God will continue to work through this congregation, guiding you to even greater heights in your ministry.

Though we part ways physically, I trust that we remain united in spirit and faith. May God's peace, love, and blessings be with you always.

Grace, Love, and Peace,

Pastor Libby

PS. Thank you so much for taking the time to break bread together last Sunday and to offer gifts and final words of encouragement. God bless you.

# Discipleship News

## Adult & Youth Sunday School:

Sundays 9:15am

## Bible Study: UUMC Boardroom

April 29-June 24 | Tuesdays, 2pm-3pm

## Garden Gathering: Fridays, 8:00-9:30am

## Leadership Team Meeting: Boardroom

June 1 at 11:30am



The Great Plains Chapter of Methodist Federation for Social Action invites justice-seeking United Methodists to gather for fellowship and dinner **Thursday, June 5**, at Salina Trinity UMC. Dr. Ashley Boggan, General Secretary of United Methodist Archives and History, will be the featured speaker.

Gathering and social time begins at 5:45pm, with dinner at 6:15pm. The menu is pasta and sauces (including a gluten-free option) and salad catered by Martinelli's.

Registration required.  
Sign up at <http://bit.ly/4366kwO>

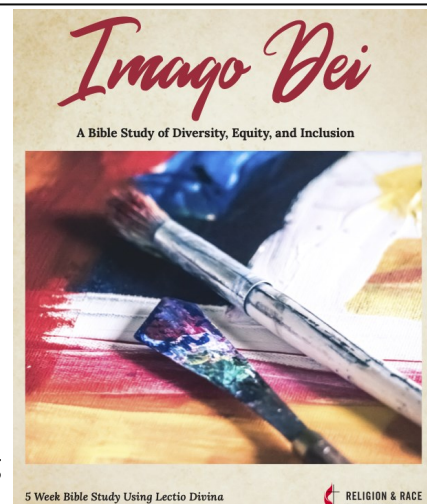
## Trinity Sunday (June 15)

is a day in which we celebrate our love and faith (and mystery) in the Holy Trinity – Father\*, Son, and Holy Spirit. For this year's Trinity Sunday, the General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR) created resources that provide a theological understanding of how the Imago D.E.I.

(Image of Diversity, Image of Equity, Image of Inclusion) is foundational to the work of the Trinity.

[Imago Dei: Lectio Divina Five Week Study](#)

Go to <https://bit.ly/43MINIP>



## SPECIAL SUNDAY

## PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

June 15, 2025

In a world plagued by war and terror, violence and destruction, people of faith have a clear call to build peace with justice.

— CHURCH AND SOCIETY,  
FAITH & FACT CARD  
ON PEACEBUILDING



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.  
The people of The United Methodist Church™



Annual Conference  
Salina, Kansas  
June 5-7, 2025

Deuteronomy 6:5

Kansas Wesleyan University will be hosting the Great Plains Annual Conference from June 5-7, 2025.

This is KWU's first time hosting our clergy and lay members to annual conference. We are excited to share the beautiful campus and the UUMC building with so many from our conference!

For more information, visit <https://www.greatplainsumc.org/annualconference>

Please notify Tara in the church office if you would like to volunteer.

# Missional Service Opportunities

## YMCA Summer Food Distribution: Grab-N-Go Volunteers Needed

### GRAB-N-GO VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE 2025

Shifts: 2-4:30pm, 3:30-6ish, or 2-6pm.

#### 2PM

Gather  
Review purpose and process  
Set up banners and food  
Pack "Shelf stable" bags  
Recycle run

#### 3:30PM

Prepare outside spaces  
Review purpose and process  
Start bagging colds  
Set up condiment area  
>(1 per family and optional)  
Clean up as we go  
Recycle run

#### 4PM

Distribution begins!  
Continue bagging colds  
Condiment area  
>(1 per family and optional)  
Clean up as we go  
Recycle run

#### 5:30-6PM

Final clean up  
inside and outside

### How It Works

- Each Grab N' Go bag includes **5 breakfasts and 5 suppers** for Saturday through Wednesday.
  - Meals are picked up weekly on **Fridays from 4:00pm–6:00pm** (or until we run out).
  - **Families must register weekly.** This helps you know if you'll receive food and reduces wait times.
  - Meals are provided in Grab N' Go style bags for take-home use.
  - **Meals must be picked up by a parent or guardian** if not being picked up by the child themselves.
- If your child receives meals from another SFSP site (such as summer school), they are not eligible to pick up from the YMCA that same week.

### Pick-Up Details (Salina Location)

- **Pick-Up Location:** Parking lot between 1512 Rush St. and 1600 Rush St. (Look for the YMCA flags!)
  - **Pick-Up Day/Time:** Fridays, 4:00pm–6:00pm
- Special pick-up on Thursday, July 3 (Closed on July 4)

- **At 5:30pm**, any remaining bags will be distributed to families not on the list, while supplies last.
- **First pick-up:** Friday, May 23
- **Last pick-up:** Friday, August 8

**Register to volunteer or sign up to receive food at <https://www.salinaymca.org/programs/grab-n-go-summer-food-program>**





### Financial News

Our financial totals for the month of March 2025 are as follows:

Income: \$61,1049.13  
Expenses: \$75,249.70  
Difference \$(14,200.57)

Monthly Income Budget: \$12,668.00  
Monthly Expenses Budget: \$15,825.00  
Difference: \$(3,157.00)

Diane, UUMC Treasurer  
Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 1-4pm

### Leadership Team Updates

We have had Pestinger out working on installing the new air conditioning during the month of May so it will be ready for use in June.

Thank you for everyone who helped to contribute to the meal and the gifts for Pastor's Chelsea and Libby. It is so good to have time for fellowship and to share our appreciation.

We are planning our traditional Red, White, and Blue meal for July 6 as we welcome Pastor JJ in conjunction with the folks from Church of the Cross. University UMC will provide the meat and members of both churches are asked to bring sides to share. We are looking forward to beginning our work with Pastor JJ and living into the future God has placed before us.



### Dillons Community Rewards

Just a quick update on the Dillons Community Rewards. We currently have 47 households participating with a total of \$214.19 collected for this quarter. That is great! If you still haven't signed up for this free benefit, please do.

The easiest way to do this is:

- Go to your Dillons App
- Click on the 3 bars in the top left corner
- Click on Rewards
- Click on Community Rewards
- Now, sign up. We are University United Methodist Church
- You will need to scroll down to find the correct church by its address.
- That is all you need to do.

In the future you can check and see how much you contribute on that same page. If you have any problems or just need some help, stop by and see me in the office and I can help get you started. You will need to have the app downloaded to your phone before you get started. I can help you with that too! What a great way to help the church raise money!!

Diane, UUMC Treasurer  
Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 1-4pm





**"Litany of Peace for Father's Day" Copyright 2009 Jane Sommers**

Loving God, we lift this day our gratitude for the loving men who have brought us the precious heart of your Father Love. We give thanks to you this day

**For those who have shown us kindness, for those who have shown us courage, for those who have shown us generosity, for those who have shown us truth, for those who have shown us compassion, for those who have shown us faith, for those who have shown us love.**

Blessed be the name of all sons and brothers and fathers who reveal a glimpse of your loving presence on earth. O God, you inspire your people in the ways of kindness that lift our world from its disgrace.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer for every son, brother, father, grandfather, who has suffered and endured.**

We lift a stone from the streambed of Living Waters to the forehead of the men and boys in our lives, touching each forehead with the sign of your healing

**for every broken heart hidden from view, for every secret shame buried in darkness, for every untold story of regret and alienation.**

We touch with this stone the brow of every man who has suffered for those he loved; We touch with this stone the forehead of our ancestral fathers who sacrificed their very lives, **inviting you to heal the wars and woes and wickedness within, inviting your everlasting peace, that the world might know your peace.**

Hear our prayer, O God, for this broken world. We pray for peace this Father's Day.

**For wisdom and equity in the hearts and minds of those who lead us.**

**For justice with mercy that seeks equitable access to the earth's resources. For passion and power in our churches to influence public policy for good. For a new day when justice will roll down like waters across this land. For the revelation of Father Love that never leaves nor forsakes.**

And we lift your hope of healing for all sons, brothers, fathers, grandfathers who live in mystery as your creation, who are entrusted with the life and struggles of manhood.

**May they grow in Father Love to your glory.**

Hear our prayer, O God, for this broken world. We pray for peace this Father's Day.

**Amen.**

## June Birthdays

4	Kenton Dreiling
8	Jim Klucas
12	Tim Roeder Amy Collins
16	Chelsea Shrack-Bell
20	Cynthia Adcock
22	Jenny Cairns
23	Bob Ott Theo do Rosario
24	Nyki Vanderford
25	Billy Granzow

## Communication Updates

If you have items for the newsletter please send them to Tara at [office@theuunc.org](mailto:office@theuunc.org).

*Please submit your newsletter items by May 21 to be included in the June newsletter.*

Would you like to receive the monthly newsletter by email?

Email Tara at [office@theuunc.org](mailto:office@theuunc.org).

*Remember we will not regularly send out mid-week news, but will send out reminders and new opportunities that we don't hear about until after the newsletter is published.*

# SALINA JUNE TEENTH WEEKEND

19  
JUN

## MOVIE & DISCUSSION

**SALINA ART  
CENTER CINEMA**  
150 S SANTA FE

Moderated by **Robert M.  
Cunningham Jr.**  
Pastor of Lift Church of God in Christ  
**FREE ADMISSION**

## Juneteenth

FAITH & FREEDOM

**SHOWTIMES**

3PM (MOVIE ONLY) 6PM (DISCUSSION AFTER)

## R&B IN THE PARK

feat. **RUDY LOVE  
& THE ENCORE**

OAKDALE PARK / 730 OAKDALE DR  
special guests **DJ Detroit  
& Cash Hollistah**

FOOD TRUCKS / BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS  
& COOLERS (NO GLASS)

20  
JUN

2023

**FREE ADMISSION 6PM - 10PM**

21  
JUN

## PARADE & CELEBRATION

**PARADE 10AM**

Begins at 9th St & Iron Ave

**CELEBRATION 11AM-4PM**  
OAKDALE PARK / 730 OAKDALE DR

FOOD / MUSIC / VENDORS / KID'S GAMES  
CONTESTS

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT **KIM PAIGE**  
w/ special guest **ZAFAJA**

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER  
**BRENDA McDANIEL**  
2025 KANSAS TEACHER  
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Find more info about this year's celebration at **SALINAJUNETEENTH.ORG**



## Ice Cream Social & Garden Tour at The Salina Food Bank

You are invited to tour the Salina Food Bank  
& their community garden on Thursday July  
3rd to earn about their life skills  
programming & enjoy free ice cream!

July 3, 2025 | 6:00pm-7:30pm  
255 S. Chicago Salina, KS 67401



## SUMMER LUNCHES

May 27-August 1



The Salina Public Library is partnering with St. John's  
Missionary Baptist Church to offer free grab-and-go  
lunches again this summer!

Priority given to youth ages 0-18. If supplies allow,  
adults will be served after children. Lunch will be  
canceled in case of inclement weather.

**May 27 - Aug. 1 | 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**McKenzie Center (north of the library)**

**Drive-up or Walk-up | First come, first served**





6/1/25:	Becoming One	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
6/8/25:	Farewell Address	Acts 2:1-21; John 14:8-17
6/15/25:	The Father Encouragement	Titus 2:6-8
6/22/25:	Seeing-Hearing/Not Yet	Mark 1:21-28
6/29/25:		Galatians 5:1, 13-25

### Prayer List

Our Country, Veterans & Active Military & Families, Leanne Decker, Terry Hauschel, Christina Robin, Steve Blackwell, Kim Duell.

*Homebound individuals*, Van Lett, Patricia Baldwin, Mike Trow, Vanessa Dickson, Chris Dahl, Kristi Hansen.

### How can we pray for you?

Send your prayer requests the following ways:

Pastor Libby

785-564-1977

[libbythemis@gmail.com](mailto:libbythemis@gmail.com)

Pastor Chelsea Shrack Bell

620-546-6059

[chelsea@triumc.org](mailto:chelsea@triumc.org)

Church Office

785-825-9505

[office@theuumc.org](mailto:office@theuumc.org)

**Church office hours:**

Monday 1:30pm-3:30pm

Wednesday 1:30pm-4pm

Friday 9:00am-10:00am (may vary)

Phone: (785) 825-9505

Email: [office@theuumc.org](mailto:office@theuumc.org)

Please call and leave a message or email us at the addresses to the right to set up an appointment outside of office hours.

**Church Staff**

**Libby Themis, Lead Pastor**

[libbythemis@gmail.com](mailto:libbythemis@gmail.com)

**Pastor Chelsea Shrack Bell, Assistant  
Pastor**

[chelsea@triumc.org](mailto:chelsea@triumc.org)

**Tara Baxter, Administrative Assistant**  
[office@theuumc.org](mailto:office@theuumc.org)

**Diane Werth, Accountant**  
[accounting@theuumc.org](mailto:accounting@theuumc.org)

**Rick O'Rorke, Custodian**