



University UMC News

Christ, Campus, & Community

July 2025

Friends,

What a joy it is to finally be with you in Salina!

Before anything else, let me join you in giving thanks to God for Pastor Libby and celebrating her ministry among you. Throughout our transition, it was evident just how much she cared for University UMC, Church of the Cross, and the Roxbury United Parish. We will continue to pray for her as she begins her next appointment in Abilene.

During the last three months, I've had in my spirit the words of Mary's Magnificat (Mary's Song of Praise) from Luke 1. Odd, I know, considering we're in the middle of summer and a long way from Advent. But read again these beautiful words from Scripture:

"And Mary said: 'My soul praises the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, because He has looked with favor on the humble condition of His servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed, because the Mighty One has done great things for me, and His name is holy'" (Luke 1:46-49, CSB).

I surely know this: God has already done great things among you. And as we begin writing the next chapter together, let our spirits rejoice because God has looked on us with favor—we are already blessed. We are already loved. We are already God's own.

I am so looking forward to meeting you and worshipping together on my first Sunday, July 6. Whether it's your first time or your first time in a long time, I hope you'll join us.

As we start getting to know one another, please know I am here *for you*. Do not hesitate to reach out, introduce yourself, and let me know what you or someone you know needs. And over the coming weeks and months, I'll be doing the same. I'll be reaching out to you, sharing more about who I am, and imagining with you all that's possible in this place.

Lastly, in that spirit, I ask you to pray for me as I pray for you. Let us begin our journey together in sure faith that the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit is with us now and always.

In love and excitement,
Pastor J.J.

Discipleship News

Adult & Youth Sunday School: Sundays, 9:15am

Garden Gathering: Fridays, 8-9:30am

Leadership Team Meeting: Boardroom, July 2 at 7pm

2025 Great Plains Annual Conference was hosted by Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, KS. God-sightings and joys abounded as we gathered together for business, education, and worship.

A new vision statement for the United Methodist Church was unveiled and we had the opportunity to delve deep into what this new vision means for the Great Plains conference and our individual church.

What do you love about this new vision statement? How can we continue to love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in our church and community?



The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.

How can we serve others?

United Methodists have long participated in God's work in the world. We pray, worship, and offer well wishes. We also serve, lend a hand, and meet a need. Through our service, we often find healing for ourselves as the Holy Spirit moves in and through us.

A great guide for finding ways to minister to our neighbors is Jesus' story of the sheep and goats in Matthew 25:31-46. Jesus tells the helpers that they served him by serving those in the greatest need.

- Give to the Blessing Box
- Embrace love, care for the elderly, do no harm on social media
- Donate clothing, give blood, care for your neighbors
- Work for justice, learn about prison ministry, support addiction and abuse ministries



Interested in what happened at Annual Conference?
Check out the videos on the Great Plains website.

<https://www.greatplainsumc.org/videos>

**LOVING
GOD**

Annual Conference
Salina, Kansas
June 5-7, 2025
Deuteronomy 6:5

Missional Service Opportunities

Worship Tech Position - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Did you know that our livestreamed University UMC Sunday worship service reaches an average **200+** viewers every week? This is a vital part of our ministry reaching beyond our church walls to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

We are in need of someone to help run the audio/video booth on Sunday mornings. This would consist of turning on microphones, setting up the livestream, and running the slides during the service. *We will teach you everything you need to know and have written instructions. It's easier than you may think!*

Please contact the church office at office@theuumc.org if you are interested.

Salina Area United Way Volunteer Platform

A Salina non-profit organization has launched a volunteer platform which will empower community members to easily find and engage with organizations that are actively seeking support.

To view the current list of organizations offering volunteer opportunities, visit:

salinaareaunitedway.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer



Please contact: Ian Green
(785)833-9313
ian@salinagrace.org

Volunteers Needed

Volunteer Help Needed in our
Laundry, Shower & Clothing Room
M-F 9a-11a

- *Training Provided
- *Assist with laundry
- *Hand out hygiene items
- *Help guests choose clothing

Don't have time to volunteer?

Please consider making a purchase
off of our Amazon Wish List
<https://a.co/f5gZL2s>



Financial News

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

Income: \$15,527.61
Expenses: \$9,745.76
Difference \$5,781.85

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 working air conditioning! Woo hoo!

Thank you to everyone who helped contribute to the meal and the gifts for Pastors Chelsea and Libby as they prepare for this next chapter in their lives. They greatly appreciated it and enjoyed the time of fellowship that was created.

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





July Birthdays

- | | |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Ky Eustice |
| 6 | Alex Baker
Bonita O'Rorke |
| 7 | Heather Jarboe |
| 11 | Jaron Bell |
| 12 | Elsie Boyles |
| 16 | Leo do Rosario |
| 17 | Jane Anderson |
| 24 | Mary Lett |
| 25 | Laura Widen |
| 27 | Kristi Hansen
Bryan Thompson |
| 28 | Marianne Welch |



How can we pray for you?

Send your prayer requests
the following ways:

Pastor J.J. Martinez

jjmartinez@greatplainsumc.org

Church Office

785-825-9505

office@theuumc.org



Communication Updates

If you have items for the newsletter please send them to Tara at office@theuumc.org.

Please submit your newsletter items by July 21 to be included in the August newsletter.

Would you like to receive the monthly newsletter by email?

Email Tara at office@theuumc.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.

Prayer List

Our country, veterans & active military & families, our homebound individuals, Leanne Decker, Terry Hauschel, Christina Robin, Chris Dahl, Kim Duell, Kristi Hansen, Steve Blackwell, Joyce Wiese, Avonne Anderson, Velma Howie, Van Lett, Mike Trow, Vanessa Dickson, family of Leona Gormley, family of Patricia Baldwin



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 learn about their life skills
programming & enjoy free ice cream!

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



BACKPACK GIVEAWAY & COMMUNITY EVENT

July 26, 2025
9am-12pm

Church of the Cross
1600 Rush St.
Salina, KS 67401

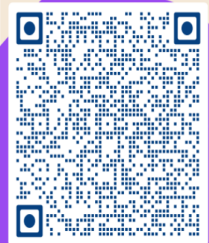
Come at 9am to enjoy free food, games, and
get to know your community & neighbors!

- Backpack giveaway will start at 10am
- Backpacks will be filled with school supplies for each grade, K-12
- All school aged kids welcome
- **No** income/eligibility/signup requirements
- Available while supplies last



VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

bit.ly/COCbackpack



SCAN ME


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

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

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

Juan Josue “J.J.” Martinez, Pastor

jjmartinez@greatplainsumc.org

(915) 337-7074

Tara Baxter, Administrative Assistant

office@theuumc.org

Diane Werth, Accountant

accounting@theuumc.org

Rick O’Rorke, Custodian