

FIRST CHURCH NEWS

Here's the latest!



Sunday
March 23, 2025

**TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

SPECIAL OFFERING SUNDAY

First Church Justice Matters Congregation Commitment

Providing funds for administrative costs and training for participating congregations to organize efforts to address justice issues in Lawrence.

Donate by cash, check, or online at fumclawrence.org/#help

NOTE: Justice Matters

ANNUAL CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNTS SEEKING DONATIONS

Nut free treats please! We need pre-filled Easter Eggs, or individually wrapped candy or small toys and Med/Lrg plastic eggs. Collections bins are available at both campuses. (Now-April 11.)

YOUTH 3.12 IS BACK—TONIGHT!

5:30 –7:00 PM | WEST CAMPUS | 3-12 GRADERS

DINNER | GAMES | BIBLE LESSON

Questions? Contact: Julia at nextgen@fumclawrence.org

SASS LUNCH BUNCH | MONDAY | MAR. 24 | 11:30 AM

MAD GREEK | 907 MASSACHUSETTS ST

Accessible to all. No reservation needed.

NEW NORTHEAST KANSAS DISTRICT UWIF SPRING MEETING

SATURDAY | MAR. 29 | 9:30 AM | FUMC WEST CAMPUS

No registration fee | Questions? Contact Jan Harper harperjan54@gmail.com

CHILI COOK-OFF | SUNDAY | MARCH 30 | 1-4PM

WESTWOOD HOUSE | 1421 W 19TH ST.

Register to enter your best recipe!

1st Place \$150 & trophy | 2nd Place \$50.

Or just come eat some great chili — all you can eat \$5

Raising funds for our student food pantry!

CAMP CHIPPEWA and INSTITUTE Registration is open.

Scholarships available to those in grades K-12

Apply Now—nextgen@fumclawrence.org

MAKE A DIFFERENCE — MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

JUBILEE CLOSET NEEDS DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS

Providing new or gently used clothing for our Jubilee clients.

For details, needs & signup, go to fumclawrence.org/serve/mission/.

First in Prayer

Peggy Salyer; Carrie Hildenbrand;
Jeff Eisenhauer; Becky Downing;
Jan Vaughn; Janet Fike;
Terry Williams Taylor;
Dave Petersen; Dennis Salyer;
Alexis Soby's friend, Barb Runge;
Cindy Rivera's mother Beverly Barnett;
Jane & Bob Clinton's niece; Lori Madaus' sister;
Fred & Carolyn Madaus', daughter, Marcia Davis;
JoAnn Hundley's daughter, Mitzi;
Carol Seively's cousin, Jeanelle Fast;
Phyllis Pitzer's daughter in law, Karen Pitzer;
Susan Mercer's mother, Carolyn Todd;
Alexis Soby's friend, Megan Ebke;
Karen Ely's friend, Donna Lew;
Bob & Jane Clinton's sister Bonnie Kramer;
Jenny Nyberg's grandmother, Marilyn;
Cathy Crispino's aunt, Flo Worland;
Vickie Miller's mother.

Our Sympathies

to Bob, Steven, and Katie Davis,
and their families and friends,
on the loss of Linda Davis.

to Kimmie Miller, family, and friends
on the loss of her mother.



Contact: care@fumclawrence.org
to be added or removed from a list.



- When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up?
- As we grow, learn, and experience life, our ways of thinking change and evolve. We no longer dream only of a career but of becoming a certain way—becoming wise, becoming kinder, becoming more patient, etc. Who are you becoming in this phase of life?
- When life gets confusing, it may feel natural to reflect on the why. Why does everything feel so difficult? Why do I work so hard and do not feel satisfied? Why is it so hard to find the good? What do you imagine is the “why” for the people in the story of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11b-32)? Have you ever pondered these same questions?
- During the season of Lent, we are called to reflect, to repent, to return to God - much as the son does with the father in Luke 15. What if we considered repentance as a new way of thinking or becoming? What would that look like in your own life?
- There are so many things in life that are so hard and so beautiful. How has drawing close to God helped you through the hard and beautiful parts?

THE IMPACT OF COMMUNITY INVESTMENT



JUSTICE · MATTERS

Affordable Housing

Affordable Housing Trust Fund has created 700 units to date.

Mental Health

The Treatment and Recovery Center has served over 1,500 unique individuals since opening in 2023.

Crisis Intervention Training to train police officers how to respond to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.

The Vera Report created recommendations for reducing the number of individuals who are jailed.

The Jail No Campaign stopped the proposed jail expansion, saving \$30 million in proposed building costs

Restorative Practices

Teams trained in each district school to resolve conflict by repairing harm, decreasing out of school suspensions, and dropping rates of incarcerations.

Elder Care Workforce

Dwyer Workforce Development will provide supportive, wrap around services for unemployed and underemployed individuals receiving their certified nursing assistant (CNA) training. The program anticipates serving 25 students in its first class.

Ending Chronic Homelessness

The “A Place for Everyone” plan was created by the city and county commissioners. The strategic plan will end chronic homelessness by 2028.

www.justicemattersinkansas.org