



A publication of First-Faith United Methodist Church

MESSENGER

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Brothers and Sisters we have arrived at summer. I know that for many, this is a season that you will be going on vacations or to visit friends and family. Natalie and I are also taking a vacation this summer and we pray for safe travels for everyone.

There is so much that is continuing to happen here at First-Faith and I am so happy with where we are going as a congregation. I know that while this may be a season of vacation and relaxation, summer sports and camps, I pray that you will still take the time to continue to look to your faith and your relationship with God.

Maintaining our relationship with God and cultivating strong spiritual habits are important all the time, but even more so when we may be focused on other things. I hope that you will take time to come and worship with us this summer and join us in fellowship.

This summer brings with it a new excitement for me as well. On June 10th, I will be ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church at our Annual Conference. I am so excited for my family to join me for the worship service. I am grateful for the love and support they have shown me throughout this long process. I am also incredibly grateful to all the churches that have helped me along my path to ordination.

I would not be the person or pastor that I am without the wonderful support of the people of First-Faith. This congregation has helped to form and shape me and has given me a place to grow. I am so thankful to all of you for helping me reach this goal.

When I think about all that God has done in my life and in the life of this church I feel like celebrating. That is what our worship series in June will be about, celebration. The heart of worship is celebration! We celebrate who God is, what God has done for us in Jesus, and the new Spirit-filled lives we get to live because of it. By taking the time to celebrate God's gifts to us, gifts of diversity, promise, and new life – we are attuning ourselves to the good things in life, so that, even in times of struggle and hardship, we can be sustained.

May God continue to bless and keep you all, that we may come together again to praise Jesus Christ!

Pastor Ray



WORSHIP In Person and Online

Every Sunday

Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.
Join us in person or online on our
Facebook page
(First-Faith United Methodist Church)!

Meetings and Circles



Tues, June 7th - Ruth Circle at
Jean Chesnut's home, 1:30 pm
Mon, June 13th -
Finance Team Meeting, 5:30 pm
Church Council Meeting, 6:30 pm
Tues, June 14th - United Women in Faith (UMW)
Executive Board Meeting, 1:30 pm,
United Men's Ministry (UMM) Meeting, 6:30 pm
Mon, June 20th - Trustees Meeting, 7:00 pm
Thurs, June 23rd - SPRC Meeting, 1:00 pm
Mon, June 27th - Susanna Circle, 6:30 pm
Tues, June 28th - Friendship Circle, 1:30 pm

Imagine the possibilities of
being together again!

**REIMAGINE
2022
DISCIPLESHIP**
Great Plains Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

La Vista Conference Center
June 8-11, 2022
[greatplainsumc.org/annualconference](https://www.greatplainsumc.org/annualconference)
#GPAC2022

The Great Plains Annual Conference 2022

Annual Conference this year is being held at the La Vista Conference Center in La Vista, Nebraska, June 8-11. Pastor Ray and Duane Coates (Lay Leader to Annual Conference) will be in attendance. Everyone is encouraged to follow or watch the conference online at <https://www.greatplainsumc.org/livestream>.
Pastor Ray's Ordination Service will be on Friday, June 10th, at 7:30 p.m., if anyone would like to attend.



**The righteous man walks with integrity;
blessed are his children after him.**
Proverbs 20:7

SPARCC (Single People Achieving Real Christian Connections)

On Saturday, June 25th, we'll meet at Lee's Family Restaurant at 11 a.m. After lunch, we will head over to Pete's Safari to see some animals!
Each person is responsible for their own costs.



SUMMER MUSIC!

Randi Pennell is starting a new group this summer for anyone who would like to sing modern, contemporary, praise music or who plays the guitar, bass, drums, keyboard, etc. The practices will be each Wednesday, at the church, at 6 p.m.
Also, if you would like to sing a solo, duet, trio or play an instrument for special music in the morning worship service, please let Randi know or call the church office.

BIBLE TIME FOR KIDS!

The Education Committee is going to try something new during the month of June. As a church family, it is important to get our children involved in the practice of going to Sunday School (SS). We have decided to provide a SS experience for them beginning on June 5th and we hope you will bring your child/children to participate!

On Sunday mornings, children ages 3-years-old through 5th grade will come up front during the service to participate in children's time with Chyna Hayes, our Youth Director. After this, Chyna and Randi Pennell will take the children to the SS room for a song, Bible verse, and follow up activities that pertain to the content Chyna has started with them during children's time. Children's time has a close connection to what Pastor Ray's sermon topic is about. This will be during the time that Pastor Ray is preaching his sermon. Children will return to their parents at the end of the sermon (during the response hymn) to experience the rest of the worship service.

We feel this will be a valid SS experience for kids, as well as parents, who will be able to listen more intently to Pastor's sermon. We welcome your feedback on this endeavor and hope you will bring your children to participate! Thank you for your active involvement in your child's spiritual growth at First-Faith United Methodist Church.



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|--------------------|----------------------|
| 6/1 Pam Flynn | 6/17 Holden Moural |
| 6/2 Brenda Bandt | 6/26 Gordon Bigger |
| 6/4 Eric Luplow | Dona Hawk |
| 6/5 Nance Reynolds | Gerri Hoagland |
| 6/6 Vera Thiem | 6/27 Amelia Nicolaus |
| 6/9 Brett Forsman | 6/29 Gloria Craven |
| 6/11 Jim Bogus | 6/30 Jodi Awtry |
| 6/14 Sam Reynolds | Daryl Glos |

- LeRoy and Jan Wells - June 8, 1958*
Ken and Trish Ross - June 8, 1969
Ted and Julie Berggren - June 9, 1990
Ron and Dorothy Ammerman - June 25, 1961
Alan and Gena Hess - June 25, 1977
Michael and Anna Sorensen - June 25, 1994
Dale and Geri Hoagland - June 27, 1959
Bryan and Pam Flynn - June 29, 1996



American Red Cross Thank you so much to all of you who came in to donate blood (or tried to) on Friday, May 13th. The American Red Cross sends you a huge thank you! They collected 18 lifesaving units that will help to provide blood for 54 patients. The raffle prize winner of 4 tickets to Oceans of Fun and Worlds of Fun in Kansas City, Missouri is Bruce Kleint. Congratulations Bruce and Sharon!

WOMEN'S EXERCISE CLASSES

- Strong Women:** Every Monday and Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.
- Chair Yoga:** Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and also at 6:30 both nights
- Step Aerobics:** Every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 5:15 p.m.

Wear comfortable clothes and come and join us!



Our next Lunch Bunch Potluck will be on Wednesday, June 8th, at 12 noon. It will be at the church and everyone is welcome! Bring a dish to share and then join in the fun afterwards as we play RUMMIKUB!!!



With Spring upon us, we encourage you to take time to walk through the Prayer Walk this month to see the new prayers and encouragements and spend time reflecting. Look for the painted rocks that someone has anonymously left on the prayer path with encouraging words.



Join us for Pitch (a card game)!
 Monday, June 27th,
 7 to 9 p.m. at church.
 Bring a partner or we'll find you one!



Our Refresh “Grandmas” would love to give you a break. We provide FREE quality child-care for ages 6 and under. If you need a few hours to get things done, bring your little ones by the church and our ladies will take great care of them! They will have fun during play time, reading, snack and a craft.

We will be open on Wednesdays, June 8 and 22, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Please feel free to invite friends and family to use this service.

Questions? Call Sharon Sorensen at 308-382-7543.



We celebrated the high school graduates on Sunday, May 1st. Left to right: Stephen Hayes (Youth Leader), Casey Sorensen, Meghan Pennell, Tyler Salpas and Chyna Hayes (Dir. of Youth Ministries). Congratulations!

Thank you everyone for the cards, gifts and for coming to our parties. Thank you for the special day at church, too! We appreciate your kindness and caring.
Meghan, Tyler and Casey



A Perk & A Prayer

is available every Wednesday morning in June from 7 to 9 a.m. Come and enjoy a free cup of coffee and have someone pray with you.

Ladies' Sewing Group June 14 & 28 9:30 a.m.

We meet at the church and all are welcome!



Sunday, July 17th

10:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

4-years-old through

5th grade!

Lunch will be provided.

GRAND ISLAND LITTLE LEAGUE GAMES Concession Stand Help Needed

The new season is in full swing! Every year, we sell snacks and beverages to the teams to be a blessing to our community.

With that, we still need volunteers to help in the Snack Shack, Mondays through Thursdays, from June 2 to 16. The hours are from 5:45 to 8:15 p.m. If you would like to help, contact the church office or sign up in the narthex.

MEN'S COFFEE TIME

Come and join us every Tuesday at 9 a.m. for some coffee and great fellowship at the church!



Men's Fellowship Cornhole

Men: Even if you've never played before, come out and join us for some fun! We'll be playing every Thursday night, from 7 to 9 p.m., in the sanctuary at the church. Enter through the kitchen door. Call Alan Hess, at 308-737-0389, if you have any questions.



Ministry of the Month

BOY SCOUTS FOOD PANTRY

The little food pantry was the Eagle Scout project of Benjamin Kelley. In the spring of 2020, Ben led the project to build and install several 'Little Food Pantries' in Grand Island. They get used quite a bit. We appreciate the on-going donations that are made to the pantry. Recently, the UMM purchased shelving to put where the Boy Scout desk was in Chyna's office area. Two of those shelves are now dedicated to storing donated food. When we meet on Mondays, we check the pantry, and restock it as needed, with the donations made to the church. Please feel free to bring in any non perishable food items and place them on the food items shelves.



There is a Facebook group called "Grand Island Little Free Food Pantry Project" created by Brian Jens Whitecalf. Please join the Facebook group to learn more.

Here are several other little food pantries around town:
Calvary Lutheran Church, 1304 North Custer, Grand Island, NE
Grace Cancer Foundation, 3310 W. Capital Avenue, Grand Island, NE
Trinity United Methodist Church, 511 North Elm Street, Grand Island, NE
Elks Lodge #604, 631 South Locust Street, Grand Island, NE



NAME CHANGES

The United Methodist Women are changing their name to United Women in Faith and the United Methodist Men will now be the United Men's Ministry. The church agencies are also getting new logos (see pictures) and updated websites to introduce new and improved programs. The changes are designed to address the different needs and life stages of current members and new women and men, and to expand options for membership and engagement.

The website for the women is <https://uwfaith.org> and for the men it is <https://www.gcumm.org>.



United Men's Ministry (UMM) Annual Steak Feed

All men and women are invited to join the United Methodist Men for a steak feed on **Tuesday, June 28th**, at **6:00 pm** at Stolley Park.

Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased from Bob Trosper, Doyle Henke, Duane Coates, Stephen Hayes or Doug Ferguson. This includes a big, juicy steak and a drink. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert for all to enjoy and your own table setting. Fellowship and games will follow the meal.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



First-Faith United Methodist Church
 4190 W Capital Ave
 Grand Island, NE 68803

Return Service Requested

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 U.S. Postage
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 Permit #22
 Grand Island, NE

Worship Schedule

Sunday

9:30am - Morning Service
 10:30 am - Sunday School
 and Fellowship Time

Office Phone:

(308) 384-5620

Office Email:

firstfaithumc@gmail.com

Website:

http://firstfaithumc.org

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30
 (Closed 12-1 pm - Lunch Hour)

Pastor: Rev. Wm. Ray Stone



New Steps Youth Group



Summer is here and so is the season to play outside and, of course, barbeque! New Steps Youth will meet on the following dates for these summer fun activities. If you are going into 6th through 12th grades, you are invited to attend AND you may also bring a friend. **Please let Chyna know if you are coming by Monday prior to each event so that she can let our host house know how many kids to expect.** We gather, eat, play games outside and have a ½ hour Bible lesson. All this happens between 6:30-8:00 pm on Wednesdays on the dates below. Chyna and Stephen Hayes plus Pastor Ray (when he is available) will lead the fun with the host family. Please come and join in!

June 8: FFUMC Snack Shack...this time only from **5:30 to 8:00 pm.**

Youth will help run the snack shack, eat a meal provided by Susanna Circle UWF, and have a Bible Lesson. If it rains, we will meet at FFUMC in our youth room for games, food and fun!

June 22: Pastor Ray and Natalie Stone's home at 4214 W. Capital Ave. 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

July 6th: Stephen and Chyna Hayes' home at 4316 Claussen Rd, 6:30 to 8:30p pm. Dunk tank, rope bridge, Kubb game and s'mores at the firepit! Bring a towel!

July 20th: Kuebler's home at 2323 W. Anna, 6:30 to 8:30 pm



Everyone had a great time
 at the Young Adult/Family
 Get-Together on April
 24th!



Article Deadline for July Newsletter: June 23, 2022