

Sunday, February 8, 2026
ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

601 North Cedar, Abilene, Kansas 67410

785-263-2623 — www.abilenefirstumc.org

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME, GOD SIGHTINGS, AND JOYS

Please fill out the insert in today's bulletin to register your attendance
and place in the offering plate when it is passed.

OPENING PRAYER

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP** (congregation response in **bold**)

Liturgist: You belong to God.

People: In God, we are holy, for God is holy.

Liturgist: You belong to Christ.

People: In Christ, we are loving for Christ is loving.

Liturgist: You belong to the Spirit.

People: In the Spirit, we are perfect, for the Spirit is perfect.

Liturgist: Come! Let us worship the God of love.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

*May the Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.***

***GATHERING HYMN**

Freely, Freely

UMH 389

FAMILY TIME (children of all ages are invited to come forward)

CHORAL ANTHEM (10:30)

Blessed Be Your Name

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Matthew 5:23-24
Matthew 5:38-48 (NRSV)

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

15 See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. **16** If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. **17** But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, **18** I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. **19** I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, **20** loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Matthew 5:23-24

23 So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, **24** leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 5:38-48

38 'You have heard that it was said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." **39** But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; **40** and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; **41** and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. **42** Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you. **43** 'You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy." **44** But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **45** so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. **46** For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? **47** And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? **48** Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God

***GLORIA PATRI**

UMH 70

PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayer concerns will be listed in the bulletin for 4 weeks unless the church office is notified otherwise.

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

The families of Dennis Schwarz and Terry Schwarz of Carlton, nephews of the Lehman's, The family of Jonna Rider (niece of Janice Hoffman and Dwight & Leslie Hoffman) Steve Leyerzapf (Son of Jim L.) Alexis Dutt (Daughter of Greg & Sandi, lives in Minneapolis-St. Paul) Sean Zernickow (Son of Chuck & Sandy, prayers for medical testing and impending surgery) Dustin Rabeth (SIL Janice H., had a stroke, has started PT) Jim Barlow (awaiting gallbladder surgery) Luke Hunter (in a skiing accident in Colorado, is now home) Sally & Jordan Cullor (sister & nephew of Linda Bankes), Al Jones, Jim Leyerzapf, Myckie Spencer, Pam Jackson, Ed & Velda Becker (continued prayers of strength & determination), Carl Hansen (has moved to a nursing home in Junction City), Carl & Barb Funston, Scot Budden (Pastor Libby's brother), Delores Schmidt (Mother of Velda B.)

COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS:

Mike Jantz, Angie L'homme, had a stroke, The Family of Oscar Garza, Steve Parker, battle with cancer, Dr. Ben Smith, principal of AHS, had two surgeries at KU Med last week to remove cancer from his back, spinal cord area, prayers of healing, The Family of Jane Foltz, Bob Dishman, Rachel Prichard, Tom Litke, Kathy Ducker, Barbara Webster-Haynes, Nathan Robbins, Deb Daniel, Jamye Comp, Kim Decker, Jacque Havice, Macie Heller.

THOSE WORSHIPING FROM HOME: Norris Marshall, Bonnie Byers, Karen & Steve Crump, Dorothy Veach, Dorothy Snider, Linda Chase, Carl Hansen, Myckie Spencer, Charles Spidell, Hope Higgins, Jim Leyerzapf, Evelyn Carter, Al Jones, Jolene Hunt, Glen & Joan Dawson, Don & Mary Rickley, Phyllis Welton.

THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:

Please contact the office or write the name of your loved one serving on the back of your attendance sheet. Cory Donley, Colby Miller, Evan Middleton, Kayla Lee, Derek Lipson, Daelan McKnight, Tanner Harwood

THOSE IN AUTHORITY: The World Leaders, The President, the Governor, the Mayor, County Commissioners, the County Attorney, and other elected officials and the judiciary (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RADIO BROADCAST

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Amanda Cormack in loving memory of her father, Patrick Edward McGinnis.

A THANK YOU FROM MYCKIE SPENCER

Myckie would like to thank the anonymous angel that bought her a radio so she will be able to join us on Sunday mornings during service. This act of kindness means so much to her.

WEEKLY LEARNING CONVERSATIONS IN WORSHIP

What do you appreciate about your church/neighborhood/community? What is your hope for the church or community in the next 5 years?

CHURCH LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

After last year's successful devotional, we would like to ask the congregation to join us in creating another Lenten Devotional for 2026. Here's how you can help: Write your own devotional with a similar format to most daily devotionals that usually start with a short scripture, then a body with a meditation, then a short prayer. A good example would be like that found in The Upper Room or Daily Bread. (This is not a mandate but a suggestion.) If that seems overwhelming or scary you could choose a published devotional. Perhaps it would be something you have saved. A poem or very short essay or even just scripture would be appropriate. Just make sure you give credit to the author. We need 40 entries, so if you feel led to submit more than one, that would be appreciated. We want to include every member including youth. **We have a deadline of February 9 in order to get the booklet printed in time for Ash Wednesday on February 18.** The booklets will be available for your use starting with our Ash Wednesday Service.

PAM JACKSON 80TH BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE

You are invited to celebrate Pam's 80th birthday on Sunday, February 15, 3-5 pm in Wright Hall. If you can't join us and would like to send Pam a card, please mail it to 1102 N. Vine St. #701 Abilene, KS 6710.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE SOUPER-BOWL?

The Youth will be sponsoring the Souper-Bowl again this year. Bring a canned good (soup, chili, tuna, vegetables, fruit) or shelf stable food to support your team. Each item will count as 1 point for that team. But... If you want the other team to lose, bring a paper product (napkins, toilet paper, facial tissues). Each package will count as 1 point AGAINST that team. There will be baskets representing the teams playing in the Narthex beginning Wednesday January 28th. All of the donations will be given to the Little Free Pantry! We hope you support your team and the Little Free Pantry.

NEW DIRECTORY UPDATE

Work continues on updating information to have the new directory printed. Unfortunately, some of the photos taken in the office didn't download properly, so I will reach out to you if we need a new photo. The office apologizes for the delay.

2026 SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships for high school and post secondary students are available on the church website. abilenefirstumc.org This application must be completed in full and submitted to the church office by 12 Noon or the AHS Counselors' office by 5 p.m., Monday, April 13, 2026, to be eligible for consideration.

AUBURN MEDICINE LIDS AND BEST CHOICE LABELS

The Questors Sunday School class continues to collect Best Choice labels and Auburn Medicine lids to raise money. You can bring your donations to the office any time during regular hours or on Sunday mornings.

COOKIES FOR SUNDAY MORNING

We are again in need of cookie/treat donations for Sunday mornings. Please bring donations to the office on Sunday mornings or during office hours M-Th 8-12. Thank you for your generosity!

WE ARE ON THE RADIO AND STREAMING ONLINE

If you can't make it to church, but would like to listen to our service live, simply tune into KABI 1560 AM or 95.9 FM at 10:30 a.m. You can also stream the worship service at abilenefirstumc.org.

OFFERING Needed each Sunday - \$ 5870.81 Last Sunday - \$ 5628.50

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
- 9:20 a.m. Small Groups & Sunday School Classes
- 10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / KABI 1560 AM or 95.9 FM
- 11:30 a.m. Balcony Tech Training - Sanctuary balcony
- 11:45 a.m. Disciple Fast Track Bible Study - Library

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

- 10:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group - 208
- 5:30 p.m. Core Meeting - 204
- 6:30 p.m. Women's AA/NA Meeting - B9

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

- 10:00 a.m. Exercise Group - Narthex

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

- 9:30 a.m. Cancer Support Group - Narthex
- 3:30 p.m. Power & Light - Peatling Hall
- 5:15 p.m. Bell Choir Practice - Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group - Peatling Hall
- 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice - Sanctuary

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13 OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
- 9:20 a.m. Small Groups & Sunday School Class
- 10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / KABI 1560 AM or 95.9 FM
- 11:30 a.m. Mardi Gras Potluck - Wright Hall
- 11:45 a.m. Disciple Fast Track Bible Study - Library
- 3:00 p.m. Pam Jackson 80th Birthday Open House - Wright Hall

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please note that **bold type** indicates congregational participation. An asterisk (*) indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able. "UMH" stands for *The United Methodist Hymnal* (blue book); "FWS" stands for *The Faith We Sing* (black book); and "WS" stands for *Worship and Song* (green book).

OUR MISSION AND VISION

Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Vision: A church of Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors.

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Piano: Amanda Cormack

Liturgists: Kevin Bailey & Kent Wyatt

Slides/Sound/Livestream: Linda Kolacny & Cecilia Clemence

Gospeltality Greeters 8:15: Ellen Jones & Mary Jane Oard

10:30: Kent & Diane Wyatt

FIRST UMC STAFF

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Cecilia Clemence, Treasurer

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Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor Emeritus