

**Sunday, July 5, 2026**  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

601 North Cedar, Abilene, Kansas 67410

785-263-2623 — [www.abilenefirstumc.org](http://www.abilenefirstumc.org)

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**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**)

We gather to worship God with our full, imperfect selves.

**We come to delight in the law of God, who is Love.**

We gather as people who don't always know what to do in the face of difficult and complex circumstances.

**We come to delight in the law of God, who is Love.**

We gather as people who desire to follow God with our actions but struggle to connect what we want to do with what we actually do.

**We come to delight in the law of God, who is Love.**

Whether you come to worship today wondering if there is anything good left in the world or rejoicing in the small moments of goodness that remind you grace is still at work among us, you are welcome here.

**We come to delight in the law of God, whose grace shows us how to live,  
work, play, and rest as a community of faith woven together by Love.**  
**Amen.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

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

**GATHERING HYMNS**

*America the Beautiful*  
*The Battle Hymn of the Republic*

UMH 696  
vs. 1,3,5 UMH 717

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

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Thank God, I Do*

solo, Clark Williamson

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Romans 7:15-25a (CEB)**

<sup>15</sup> I don't know what I'm doing, because I don't do what I want to do. Instead, I do the thing that I hate. <sup>16</sup> But if I'm doing the thing that I don't want to do, I'm agreeing that the Law is right. <sup>17</sup> But now I'm not the one doing it anymore. Instead, it's sin that lives in me. <sup>18</sup> I know that good doesn't live in me—that is, in my body. The desire to do good is inside of me, but I can't do it. <sup>19</sup> I don't do the good that I want to do, but I do the evil that I don't want to do. <sup>20</sup> But if I do the very thing that I don't want to do, then I'm not the one doing it anymore. Instead, it is sin that lives in me that is doing it. <sup>21</sup> So I find that, as a rule, when I want to do what is good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> I gladly agree with the Law on the inside, <sup>23</sup> but I see a different law at work in my body. It wages a war against the law of my mind and takes me prisoner with the law of sin that is in my body. <sup>24</sup> I'm a miserable human being. Who will deliver me from this dead corpse? <sup>25</sup> Thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then I'm a slave to God's Law in my mind, but I'm a slave to sin's law in my body.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

UMH 70

**SERMON**

Pastor Libby Themis

**RESPONSIVE HYMN**

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

UMH 400

**PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS****OFFERTORY**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (in unison)

Lord, we come before you this day confessing that we don't understand our own actions. The very things we want to do, we don't do. Too often, we find ourselves doing the very things we hate. We need you this day, Lord. The harmful behaviors we tried to put down, we keep picking back up, and our soul is hurting. The chance we had to fix that broken relationship came, but anger and rage rose up again, inflicting harm and abuse upon the very people we said we loved. We need you this day, Lord. The opportunities we have been praying for came, but fear, lack of confidence, and low self-esteem drove them away. Lord, the good we want to do, we don't do; and the evil we hate doing, we just keep doing. Lord, what messed-up souls we are. We need you now, Lord, this day. Rescue us from works that lead to death; save us from self-destructive behaviors. We submit our lives into your hands right now.

**Thank you, God, for your Son Jesus, who will make it all right. Thank you for your Son Jesus. He will heal our sin-sick souls. Thank you, God, for Jesus Christ, our Lord. When we find it difficult to do the right thing, we will place our trust in you. We are convinced that we can do all things through Christ who gives us strength. Glory to God! Amen.**

**LITANY FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD**

...hear our prayer.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER****PRAYER RESPONSE***O Breath of Life*

vs. 3 WS 3146

**HOLY COMMUNION****ANNOUNCEMENTS****\*SENDING HYMN***Let There Be Peace on Earth*

UMH 431

**\*THE BENEDICTION****\*POSTLUDE**

# PRAYER CONCERNS

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

## **MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:**

Eli (Tandy B's cousins son, has osteogenesis Imperfecta, has some setbacks from surgery)  
The Family of Linda Terwort (cousin of Anna G. who passed last week)  
Marcia Garner for strength and healing (cousin of Anna G.)  
Dorothy Lehman (has moved to Village Manor #303)  
Lisa Ricker (the loss of her mother)  
Keith Emig (broke his LH leg, prayers of healing)  
Bruce Pauley (husband of Kathy, needs prayers for his sight to be returned in his eye)  
Susie Smith (daughter of Eunice Gay, had surgery on May 21, prayers for healing)  
The Family of Paul Lehman  
Pastor Libby Themis  
The Family of Marilyn Jordan  
Gisela Pauley (mother of Kathy, prayers of healing)  
Pam Jackson (prayers of strength & comfort)  
Connie YBarra (Friend Wendy R., multiple amputations)  
Amy Peterson's Family, grandmother isn't doing well  
Richard Blanchard (Father of Leslie H., prayers for peace, comfort, & healing)  
Steven & Mary Cairns (prayers for decisions with Steven's health)  
Leonard Schmitz (friend of Kent & Diane W., treatment for Acute Myeloid Leukemia)  
Scot Budden (Pastor Libby's brother)

## **COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS:**

Julie Reid (that her missing dog is found), 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, Karen & Steve Crump, Dorothy Veach, Dorothy Snider, Linda Chase, Charles Spidell, Hope Higgins, Jim Leyerzapf, Evelyn Carter, Barb and Carl Funston, Al Jones, Glen & Joan Dawson, Don & Mary Rickley, Phyllis Welton, Pam Jackson, Myckie Spencer, Dorothy Lehman.

## **THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:**

If you have someone to add to this list, please include their name to the back of the attendance sheet.  
Cory Donley, Colby Miller, Kayla Lee, Derek Lipson, Daelan McKnight, Patrick Senart

**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**

## **TODAY'S RADIO BROADCAST IS SPONSORED BY**

The Diedre Dunham Memorial Fund.

## **PAUL LEHMAN MEMORIAL**

It is the family's wish that memorials in Paul's name go to The Little Free Pantry.

## **PAT CORMACK 90th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

Saturday, July 18, 2026, **5-7 p.m.**, Seelye Mansion, 1105 N. Buckeye, Abilene. Please join us for a come & go reception in honor of Pat Cormack's upcoming 90th birthday! Light refreshments and beverages will be provided. Feel free to bring a card to share your birthday wishes, but no gifts, please.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS**

We have a handful of folks who would love to see us in person on Sunday morning, but are unable to drive themselves. If you feel this is something you could help with from time to time, please let the office know. What a wonderful opportunity to help others.

## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

July continues our collection of items for the 2026 Operation Christmas Child Boxes! This month is small bags or purses, hair accessories, hats, watches or jewelry, flashlight, clothes or undergarments, flip-flops, and sunglasses. No liquids

## **COMMUNITY MEAL**

The May 11 Community Meal served 330 people. Our next time to host is August 10. The Community Meal is served the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, at 5:00 p.m., Sterl Hall, 619 N. Rogers. Please contact Jacque Saffell, 785-342-6223 or Toni Schwarting, 785-479-6353 with questions or to volunteer.

## **BREAD MINISTRY**

To all who are able to support the Bread Ministry for first time visitors, please bring loaves of homemade bread to the church on Sunday. All types & sizes of bread are appreciated, quick bread, yeast bread, artisan bread. Please wrap in saran wrap &/or baggies. Your willingness to help donations are greatly appreciated.

## **SPONSOR OUR RADIO BROADCAST**

One way we are able to reach out to those who are homebound or unable to attend worship in person is through our weekly radio broadcast of our 10:30 worship service. To do this costs approximately \$70 every Sunday. We welcome any individual or family who might be willing to sponsor a Sunday Service for \$70. You will be recognized both in the worship bulletin and over the air on the radio for your sponsorship. You may dedicate your sponsorship in honor or memory of a loved one. Please contact the church office to pick a Sunday to sponsor.

## **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](http://abilenefirstumc.org).

**OFFERING** Needed each Sunday - \$ 5870.81 Last Sunday - \$ 1405.50  
Noisy Offering \$101.58

## **SUMMER BIBLE TRIVIA**

Answers are on the kiosk in the narthex or call the office, 785-263-2623, if you receive this bulletin in the mail.

1. What was the total number of the children of Israel that went down to Egypt?
  - A. 1000
  - B. 70
  - C. 53
  - D. 560
2. How long were the children of Israel in Egypt?
  - A. 150 years
  - B. 40 years
  - C. 430 years
  - D. 666 years
3. How were the children of Israel guided in their forty years of wandering in the wilderness?
  - A. By a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night
  - B. By the voice of God
  - C. By Moses
  - D. By Aaron's rod

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## **SUNDAY, JULY 5**

- 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

## **MONDAY, JULY 6 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON**

- 5:30 p.m. Core Group
- 6:30 p.m. Women's AA/NA Meeting - B9

## **TUESDAY, JULY 7 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON**

### **Happy Birthday Ann Brussow!**

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

## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 8 OFFICE HOURS 8-11:30**

## **THURSDAY, JULY 9 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON**

### **Happy Birthday Herbert Romme!**

## **FRIDAY, JULY 10**

## **SATURDAY, JULY 11**

### **Happy Birthday Wyllow Romme!**

## **SUNDAY, JULY 12**

- 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

## 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 & Steve Schwarting

Slides/Sound/Livestream: Heather Heger & Leslie Hoffman

Gospeltality Greeters 8:15: TBD

10:30: Barb Leckron & Chris Seets

## FIRST UMC STAFF

Libby Themis, Pastor

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Darrol Dunham, Director of Maintaining the Church

Cecilia Clemence, Treasurer

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Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor Emeritus