

Sunday, September 27, 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 it in the offering plate when it is passed.

OPENING PRAYER

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

We gather today hoping to be fed by God.

Sometimes we worry that what we have is not enough.

Jesus fed thousands with just five loaves and two fish; God will feed us today.

Praise God! The little we have is enough for God to receive, bless, and multiply.

God will provide enough for us and for others.

Glory to God. Amen.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

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

GATHERING HYMN *Lord of All Hopefulness* FWS 2197

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

NOISY OFFERING

ANTHEM *How Great Is Our God* Choir - 10:30 a.m.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 20:1-16 (New Revised Standard Version)

20 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’^[a] ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”^[b]

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God

***GLORIA PATRI**

UMH 70

SERMON

Pastor Libby Themis

RESPONSIVE HYMN

Trust and Obey

UMH 467

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***THE DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

UNISON PRAYER

Faithful God, remind us today that everything big and small can be used to bless the community. Help us to remember that you can take what we have and multiply it to meet our needs. Increase our faith as we trust you for our provision. We recognize that we are better together than alone. You have called each of us to live in connection with each other. God, we give you thanks that as we love you, you give us the heart to love our neighbor. Today we give you praise for all the ways you have blessed us in our personal lives, our church, and our community.

Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

Come, Emmanuel (vs1)

WS 3130

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***SENDING HYMN**

Jesus Is All the World to Me

UMH 469

***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:

Thomas Lovett (Grace Lovett's grandpa, cancer), Dalton Bunch (cancer), Family of Dale Emig, Bette Englehaupt, Myckie Spencer, Steve Crump prayers of healing, Eunice Gay, Pat Cormack (prayers of healing, foot surgery), Jamie Linenberger's great nephew Atticus, 2 yrs old, has been diagnosed with high risk neuroblastoma - prayers for healing, Dorothy Veach, A prayer for those experiencing problems in life, Marilyn Smalley (Prayers for health & healing after a fall), Race Proffitt (BIL Will & Molly Burton (continued recovery from brain surgery), Sue Murry, Dorothy Lehman, Eli (Tandy B's cousin's son, has osteogenesis Imperfecta, has had some setbacks from surgery), Keith Emig (prayers of healing), Bruce Pauley (husband of Kathy, needs prayers for his sight to be returned in his eye), Gisela Pauley (mother of Kathy, prayers of healing), Pam Jackson (prayers of strength & comfort), 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:

Bob Dishman, Rachel Prichard, Kathy Ducker, Barbara Webster-Haynes, Nathan Robbins, Deb Daniel, Jamye Comp, Kim Decker, Jacque Havice, Macie Heller.

THOSE WORSHIPPING 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 on 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

COMMUNITY MEAL

We will host on **THIS** Monday, September 28. We served 321 dinners on August 10. The Community Meal is served on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 5:00 p.m. in Sterl Hall, 619 N. Rogers. Please contact Jacque Saffell at 785-342-6223 or Toni Schwarting at 785-479-6353 with questions or to volunteer.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

We will celebrate World Communion Sunday on October 4th, 2026. Please stay tuned for more information.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

We are joining with St. John's Episcopal Church at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 3rd, for the Blessing of the Animals. Please bring your pet to Eisenhower Park's Rose Garden on a leash or in a crate for this special event. We look forward to seeing you there.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR WALK & TALK

The walking group is leaving from the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. for an approximately 45-minute walk. Days of the week to be determined. Contact Alex Hunter at (405) 837-6754 or Karlene Taylor at (316) 516-7755.

POWER & LIGHT AND YOUTH GROUP

Both groups are meeting on Wednesday evenings. Power & Light is for 1st-5th graders at 3:30 p.m. Youth Group is for 6th-12th graders at 6:00 p.m. Both groups meet in Peatling Hall following the Abilene School calendar. If you know a youth who would like to participate, please see Wendy for more information.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

September continues our collection of items for the 2026 Operation Christmas Child Boxes! This month we are still collecting school supplies: pencils and sharpeners, pencil cases, erasers, pens, crayons, markers, glue sticks, scissors, rulers, index cards and small paper notepads, calculators, small adhesive tape, small coloring books. No liquids, please.

BREAD MINISTRY

If you can 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 and/or baggies. We greatly appreciate your willingness to donate.

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, tune in to KABI 1560 AM or 95.9 FM at 10:30 a.m. You can also stream the worship service at abilenefirstumc.org.

SPONSOR OUR RADIO BROADCAST

One way we reach those who are homebound or unable to attend worship in person is through the weekly radio broadcast of our 10:30 worship service. This costs about \$70 each Sunday. We welcome any individual or family willing to sponsor a Sunday Service for \$70. We will recognize you in the worship bulletin and 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.

CARD OF ENCOURAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY

Leslie Hoffman's father has been on the prayer list for some time. He would love cards of encouragement. They can be sent to him at:

Mr. Richard Blanchard
2530 Edward
Salina, KS 67401

DALE EMIG'S FAMILY

Dale Emig's family is planning a private service to celebrate his life. If you would like to send a card to his family, you can use the addresses below.

Mark and Annie Emig
6111 Chicago Street
Omaha, NE 68132

Cindy and Craig Penzler
4821 Normandy Park
Lawrence, KS 66049

OFFERING Needed each Sunday - \$ 5,870.81 Last Sunday - \$ 3,750.00

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Happy Birthday, Will Burton!

Happy Birthday, Chris Seets!

8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Class

10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service / KABI 1560 AM or 95.9 FM

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

10:00 a.m. Card Ministry Group - 208

5:00 P.M. Serve Community Meal - Sterl Hall

5:30 p.m. Core Group

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

Happy Birthday, Sandi Dutt!

10:00 a.m. Exercise Group - Narthex

5:15 p.m. Lisa's Handbell Group - Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

Happy Birthday, Connie Stewart!

3:30 p.m. Power & Light

5:15 p.m. Bell Choir- Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

Happy Birthday, Virginia Donley!

Happy Birthday, Heather Unruh!

9:30 a.m. EOTT Hospice Committee

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

10:00 a.m. Blessing of the Animals - Eisenhower Park Rose Garden

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service

9:30 a.m. 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: Angie Hoerner

Liturgists: Ray Wyatt & Will Burton

Slides/Sound/Livestream: Luke Hunter & Steve Schwarting

Gospeltality Greeters 8:15:

10:30: Janice Hoffman & Bette Engelhaupt

FIRST UMC STAFF

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Cecilia Clemence, Treasurer

treasurer@abilenefirstumc.org

Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor Emeritus