

Sunday, October 11, 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.

***THRESHOLD MOMENT** (congregation response in **bold**)

There is so much to fix about this world.

We wonder what we have to give that would make any difference.

Like Jesus' disciples, sometimes we are not sure what to do.

It feels like a daunting task.

But Jesus reminds us that just sitting down to have a meal is one way to be God's love.

We are called to give in the ways we can, treating each other...

as neighbors,

as neighbors.

Not "others."

Not "others."

***PASSING THE PEACE**

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

***GATHERING HYMN**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

UMH 384

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

SCRIPTURE READING

John 14: 8-14

"Rabbi," Philip said, "show us Abba God, and that will be enough for us." Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and still you don't know me? Whoever has seen me has seen Abba God. How can you say, 'Show us your Abba'? Don't you believe that I am in Abba God and God is in me? The words I speak are not spoken of myself; it is Abba God, living in me, who is accomplishing the works of God. Believe me that I am in God and God is in me, or else believe because of the works I do.

The truth of the matter is, anyone who has faith in me will do the works I do— and greater works besides. Why? Because I go to Abba God, and whatever you ask in my name I will do, so that God may be glorified in me. Anything you ask in my name I will"

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

My Shepard Knows

Chancel Choir 10:30 a.m.
Directed by Anna Gugler

SERMON

Pastor Libby Themis

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Beloved, Let Us Love One Another by Pepper Choplin

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***THE DOXOLOGY**

The Mandate: Love in Action

“The truth of the matter is, anyone who has faith in me will do the works I do—and greater works besides.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***SENDING HYMN**

The Spirit That Sends Us Forth to Serve

FWS 2241

***THE BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Hope Higgins, Colston (great-grandson of Ed and Velda Becker), Family of Joanne Barthels, 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, 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), 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

PLEASE JOIN US FOR WALK & TALK

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

NOISY OFFERING

This month's noisy offering will be received on October 25. This month, it will fund mailing Operation Christmas Child boxes, so please give generously with coins, bills, or checks.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

October kicks off our collection of items for the 2026 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes! This month, we're focusing on toys such as balls, Frisbees, blocks, fingerpuppets, slinkies, yo-yos, magnets, kaleidoscopes, and other fun toys for children. Please note: no liquids (bubbles), please. Your monetary donations will help cover the cost of mailing our boxes, so please donate if you are able.

POWER & LIGHT AND YOUTH GROUP

Power and Light **will not** be meeting on October 14th and 21st. Youth Group **will** meet on both the 14th and the 21st. 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.

COMMUNITY MEAL

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.

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.

First UMC Needs You!

We need volunteers to serve as greeters at the 8:15 a.m. worship service once a month. Greeting worshipers with a warm smile is a simple but meaningful way to help create a welcoming atmosphere for everyone who walks through our doors. If you are willing to help, please contact Kat at office@abilenefirstumc.org.

OFFERING Needed each Sunday - \$ 5,870.81 Last Sunday - \$ 2,662.00.00



October is Clergy Appreciation Month

Throughout the month of October, we invite you to join us in expressing our gratitude to **Pastor Libby Themis** for her faithful leadership and continued shepherding of the congregation at Abilene First United Methodist Church.

Pastor Libby's dedication, compassion, and commitment to sharing God's love have been a blessing to our church family. We give thanks for her ministry and the many ways she guides, encourages, and cares for our congregation.

Please take a moment this month to thank Pastor Libby with a word of thanks, a note of encouragement, or a prayer of appreciation.

Wednesday Oct. 21, 1 p.m.

 NATIONAL FIRE SAFETY COUNCIL, INC.

SAFE SENIORS

LIFESAVING TIPS FOR YOUR ACTIVE LIFESTYLE

- Preventing Falls
- Safe Driving
- Health & First Aid
- Life & Fire Safety
- Burns & Scalds
- Water Safety
- Violent Crimes
- Cons & Scams
- Drugs & Medication
- Accidental Poisoning
- Advice & Helplines

Abilene First United Methodist Church
601 N Cedar
Abilene, KS 67410
Wright Hall
Brought to you by
United Women of Faith



CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

Happy Birthday, Dwight Hoffman!

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, OCTOBER 12 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

COLUMBUS-INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

1:00 p.m. Card Ministry Group - 208

5:30 p.m. Core Group

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

10:00 a.m. Exercise Group - Narthex

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

Happy Birthday, John Schwarting!

Happy Birthday, Emily Vinduska!

3:30 p.m. **NO** Power & Light

5:00 p.m. Missions & Outreach

5:15 p.m. Bell Choir- Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 OFFICE HOURS 8-12 NOON

5:30 p.m. Blockheads Quilt Guild - 200

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

Happy Birthday, Angela Holt!

Happy Birthday, Kent Wyatt!

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: Michael Linenberger & Sandi Dutt

Slides/Sound/Livestream: Jamie Linenberger & Cecilia Clemence

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

10:30: Janice Hoffman & Bette Engelhaupt

FIRST UMC STAFF

Libby Themis, Pastor

Phone: 785-564-1977 libbythemis@gmail.com

Kat McKee, Administrative Assistant

Phone: 785-263-2623 — office@abilenefirstumc.org

Wendy Robinson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

wendy@abilenefirstumc.org

Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries

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Darrol Dunham, Director of Maintaining the Church

Cecilia Clemence, Treasurer

treasurer@abilenefirstumc.org

Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor Emeritus