

**PLEASE NOTE: The First UMC Email Blast has grown so much, and we are currently working on some new formats with “links” to click instead of this long form. Thank you for your patience & stay tuned!**

## **First UMC / Email Blast**

**This Weekend in Worship...***let's offer our praise to the Risen Christ!*

**Sat @ 6 PM and Sun @ 8 AM & 10:30 AM** – Join Rev. Cindi as we continue A Way Forward sermon series with “Do Good: Caring Forward” inspired by Reuben P. Job’s book, *Three Simple Rules* with a focus on Luke 24:44-48 and Acts 4:32-35.

**Ignite on Sun @ 6 PM** – This weekend, Rev. Seong will begin the *new sermon series, Word for the Church* with “Ephesus: The Loveless Church” from Revelation 2:1-17. Remember to stay for snacks & fellowship in the evening!

**Family Fun Friday’s** – Come over to the Outreach Center on **Friday, April 13** for Family Fun Night. Friday we will be playing board games from **7 pm to 9 pm**. Bring board games, and snacks to share!

**Peanut & Stretch Offering** – This weekend, **April 14 & 15**, the Peanut & Stretch Offering will go toward Camp Fontanelle.

**Confirmation RE-Visited Starting April 18 & 19** – Is it time to RE-affirm & RE-claim your faith in God, Jesus Christ & the Holy Spirit? This is a great opportunity **for adults** to RE-visit the *Confirmation* journey. Whether you are new to the Christian faith and/or “been around for a while,” you will enjoy learning & growing with others! **TWO SESSIONS HELD from 6:30 to 8:30 PM: Wednesdays @ OC** (Meditation Room) on **April 18, 25 & May 2. Thursdays @ Church** (Chapel Parlor) on **April 19, 26 & May 3**. Sign-up in the Church Office & get a FREE devotional book!

**Financial Peace University** – FPU is coming on **April 25** to First UMC! Sign-up to experience financial peace in your life! Call the Church Office at **402-564-8463** for more information!

**Ignite T-shirts** – Ignite worship service has T-shirts available to purchase. Ordering forms are located in the church office or over at the Outreach Center. T-shirts are \$12 for a short sleeve, and \$15 for a long sleeve. Example shirts can be found in the church office as well. *Please order before April 23.*

**YOUTH RUMMAGE SALE** – Spring cleaning those closets? Youth Sale will be on **Saturday, April 20** from **8 AM to 2 PM** at our Outreach Center. Bring your gently used treasures to the OC on Friday, April 19 – and then shop for some new-to-you treasures!

**Conversation on Racism with Dr. Karlos Hill** – *Racism is a problem we can't ignore or run away from. It's an issue today.* The Christian Social Witness Group is sponsoring “A Conversation on Racism” with Dr. Karlos K. Hill, PhD. on **Monday, April 23** at **7 PM** in the Church Sanctuary. Dr. Hill is the Chair & Associate Professor of African and African American Studies at the University of Oklahoma. *Please invite other community members to this lecture & discussion around racism.*

## **CALENDAR:**

**April 13 / 6:30 PM** First Comes Love Retreat (engaged couples)

**April 14 / 9:30 AM** First Comes Love Retreat (engaged couples) / **6 PM** Worship Service / *Blood Pressure Checks / Peanut & Stretch Offering*

**April 15 / Blood Pressure Checks / 8 & 10:30 AM** Worship Service / **9 AM** Sunday School / **10 AM** Fellowship Time (FH) / **12 PM** Noon, Connections at Dusters / **6 PM** Ignite! (OC-WR) / **6 PM** Children's Church

**April 16 / Circuit Rider Due / 12 PM** Bible & Bag – Mark 11 (OC-WR) / **6:30 PM** Prayer & Healing Service (OC- MR)

**April 17 / 9 AM Quilters (OC-QR) / 9:30 AM Bible Study (CP) / 12 PM OPS Meeting (OC-WR) / 6:45 PM Administrative Committee Chairs / 7 PM Finance / 8 PM Board of Trustees**

## **Mark Your Calendars:**

**April 23** – Conversation on Racism with Dr. Karlos Hill

**May 6** – Graduation Recognition / First Sunday Potluck

**May 19 & 20** – Day of Pentecost / Peace Pole Dedication / Peace with Justice Offering

**June 23** – First UMC Habitat for Humanity Work Day

## **More Announcements**

**MMDC “Crayons” Needed!** With an unexpected number of requests for student school bags MMDC is in need of brand new 24-count crayons. 4,177 bags were sent to Central America and Watseka, IL. Midwest Mission is quickly running out of crayons. Please bring your donation to the office.

**MMDC “Personal Dignity Kits” Needed!** Year after year PDKs are the #1 kit requested from MMDC and we have seen the demand double from 15,906 in 2015 to 36,456 in 2017. In the last three years we have sent out \$1,156,960 worth of PDKs with each kit valued at \$14. PDKs are sent all over the Midwest and internationally to help people maintain basic hygiene, an essential component of human dignity. PDKs contain: bath hand towel, bath washcloth, comb, nail/toenail clippers / adult toothbrush / shampoo/ deodorant / bar soap / razor with guard / toothpaste. All items are placed in a one gallon plastic bag. PDKs are being shipped to Puerto Rico to help with Hurricane relief. Please bring your items to the church office.

**Community Connection! – please check-out the Community Bulletin Board located outside of the Church Office!**

- **Columbus & Living Water Rescue Mission Annual Ladies Brunch** – We would love to have you join us Saturday morning **April 14, 2018** for our Annual Ladies Brunch. It will be at Trinity Lutheran Church (2200 25<sup>th</sup> Ave) from **9:30 -11:30 AM** with child care provided.
- **2018 Cooking Classes** – Columbus Community Hospital will be putting on cooking classes starting in January of 2018. The list of classes is: **April 17 (In A Pinch- Homemade Mixes and Substitutions)**, **May 15** (South American Flair), **June 19** (Cooking with Beans), **July 17** (Healthy Carb Cooking), **August 21** (Garden Fresh Delights), **September 18** (FODMAP Cooking), **October 16** (Cooking for a Healthy Heart), **November 20** (Holiday Spectacular), **December 18** (Cooking with Whole Grains). Class time will be 5:30 – 7 PM in the Multipurpose Room at Columbus Wellness Center. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Register today by calling 402-562-4462
- **Basic Lay Servant Training** – The Basic Course encourages people to recognize and use their spiritual gifts for work in the church, helping each congregation to become an outpost for mission and transformation. The course is located at Fairview United Methodist Church (2398 13<sup>th</sup> Road, Central City, NE 68826) on **Friday, April 20 from 6 to 9 PM and Saturday, April 21 from 9 AM to 5 PM**. Cost is \$10 payable upon arrival.
- **Healthy Lifestyle Class** – On **April 24 from 6 to 8:30 PM**, Columbus hospital is having a healthy lifestyle class that is free to the public. Session topics include carb counting – what is a carb, fat and calories – do they make a difference, weight loss – how much and strategies for success, importance of increasing physical activity, setting goals for success, and healthy snacks. To register call 402-562-4462 or go to [www.columbushosp.org](http://www.columbushosp.org).
- **Bike Fit Seminar** – Join us for a short presentation on **Thursday, April 26 from 12 to 1 PM or 5:30 to 6:30 PM** in the Columbus Wellness Center Multipurpose Room to learn about how you can fit your bike for comfortable and safe rides. This seminar will be presented by our physical therapists who can assist cyclists with common mechanical alignment problems which can cause knee pain, back pain, hand pain/numbness, leg numbness. Bike and equipment options, safety checks, helmet use, and general road safety rules will be discussed, as well as, local area trails and rides. Physical therapists from Rehabilitative Services at the Wellness Center will be on hand to answer questions. Be sure to bring your bike to be personally fitted after the presentation.

- **Columbus BIG GIVE** – On **May 10** there will be a community-wide day of giving people in the Columbus area will have the chance to contribute to the community's goal of raising around \$100,000 in a single day by contributing to the 36 nonprofit(s) of their choice.
- **Babcock or Bust Bike Ride or Walk** – **May 26** Columbus, Nebraska – donuts, juice and coffee at **8 AM**, then **main departure by 9 AM** later starts ok for short distances. Lunch on return. You can join the mission fundraiser by riding or walking in your own hometown, or just donate to us and we'll get your contribution sent on to the good mission causes. To register to ride or to walk, contact Rocky or print the registration document attached to the Great Plains Event Calendar for May 26 shown at [www.greatplainsumc.org/events](http://www.greatplainsumc.org/events). There is no registration cost for walkers. Registration for a biking family is \$20. Donuts, juice and coffee on check in at 3602 16th Street at 8 AM. Ride / walk begins at 9 AM. A hearty lunch upon return back at the starting point.