

Welcome to **Sandy Martensen** as Program Coordinator & her inaugural Email Blast!

## **First UMC / Email Blast**

**This Weekend in Worship...come, now is the TIME to WORSHIP** this weekend! Let's worship & celebrate what God is doing thru our Church!

**Sat @ 6 PM (OC) and Sun @ 8 AM & 10:30 AM (Church)** – This weekend, Rev. Cindi will continue with the sermon series “**Wilderness Lessons**” with a focus on “**The Exodus Idol**” and a reflection on Exodus 32:1-14. *What “idols” do we put before our relationships with God and others?*

**Ignite on Sun @ 6 PM (OC)** – This weekend join Pastor Joe @ Ignite in the series “**Love Does**” (from book by Bob Goff) with “Be Not Afraid” from Mark 6:45-52. **Remember to stay for snacks & fellowship in the evening.**

**Small Groups** – It is time to **SIGN-UP** for **Small Groups** in the Gathering Area at the Church and/or on the easel in Wesley Room at our Outreach Center! \***NEW**\* Groups are starting soon! The **parenting ♥4:13 support group** (for parents of children & youth) will be meeting on **Wednesday, September 19 @ 7:15 PM** in the Outreach Center (Meditation Room); talk to Rev. Cindi for more info. An **Evening Men's Bible Study** meets on **Thursdays @ 8 PM at the Outreach Center**; talk to Pastor Joe for more info.

**UMM** – UMM Rally with Bishop Saenz on **Monday, September 24** from **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm** at **First Faith UMC, Grand Island**. Helping men grow in Christ so others may know Christ. There will be a meal, entertainment, and our main speaker Bishop Saenz. All for just \$5. **RSVP to the Prairie Rivers District Office 308-384-0603 or [prairierivers@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:prairierivers@greatplainsumc.org) ASAP.**

### **Forward in Unity Town Hall Meeting –**

**Sunday September 30, 2018**

**3:30 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Trinity UMC Grand Island**

*On Feb. 27, 2019, will United Methodists wake up united, divided or in limbo?*

You've read stories and heard the news about The United Methodist Church's upcoming special session of General Conference to address concerns around human sexuality. The special called 2019 General Conference, set for Feb. 23-26 in St. Louis, will focus on moving the denomination past its decades-long struggle with issues around homosexuality. Proposed plans offer a way to stay together and ways to split.

Join Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. as he addresses the recent recommendation by the Council of Bishops and leads discussions on this important subject. You're invited to come listen, learn and, most importantly, share. *FUMC would like as many as possible to attend this meeting. Sign up in the church office to ride in a van and/or carpool.*

**Blessing Box** – **THANK YOU** for supporting our blessing box! We are still in need of a few items. Please drop them off at the Church on the landing in the donation chest. Some of the items that we are in need of include:



- 1. Cereal (Is a HUGE treat for the box)**
- 2. Boxed meals**
- 3. Canned Fruits**
- 4. Peanut Butter and Jelly**
- 5. Toilet Paper**
- 6. Individual snack items (crackers or pop tarts)**
- 7. Microwavable Meals**
- 8. Pudding & Applesauce**

**CALENDAR:** <https://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/74025457>

## **Mark Your Calendars:**

**September 16** – *Camp Fontanelle BBQ*

**September 22** – *Annual Peace Conference @ Kearney (more info in church office)*

**September 24** – *Columbus Open House (4-6 PM) for Centro Hispano & Immigrant Legal Center / UMM Rally with Bishop @ First Faith UMC, Grand Island*

**September 30** – *Forward in Unity Town Hall Meeting @ Trinity UMC, Grand Island*

**October 14** – Strategic Planning Session @ OC

**October 22** – Network Church Conference meeting @ Osceola UMC

**November 30** – Nebraska Brass Concert @ First UMC

***Community Connection!*** – *Please check-out the Community Bulletin Board located outside of the Church Office! Click on the hyperlinks to go to learn more about the events listed below.*

- [\*\*Fill My Cup - Women's Retreat\*\*](#) – September 22
- **Bible Exploration Trip** – September 17-20
- [\*\*Signature Cocktail Hour\*\*](#) – September 20
- [\*\*Kids Safety Day\*\*](#) – September 22
- [\*\*Little Annie Fundraiser\*\*](#) – September 23
- [\*\*Good Life Counseling Parenting Class\*\*](#) – October 6
- [\*\*8<sup>th</sup> Annual We Can Run, Walk & Roll\*\*](#) – October 6
- [\*\*Diabetes Awareness Day\*\*](#) – October 9
- [\*\*For the Transformation of the World\*\*](#) – October 27