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Sandy Martensen

First UMC / Email Blast

This Weekend in Worship... *let us break bread together with Holy Communion and First Sunday Potluck!*

Sat @ 6 PM (OC) and Sun @ 8 AM & 10:30 AM (Church) – This weekend, Rev. Cindi will begin a new sermon series called “**Uncharted Territory**” with a focus on *Courage* and a reflection on Joshua 1:1-9. The Chancel Choir will share an anthem at the 10:30 AM Worship Service!

Ignite on Sun @ 6 PM (OC) – This weekend join Pastor Joe @ Ignite in the series “**Fight Fear**” with *Light* from Romans 8:31-38 & Psalm 23:1-6. **Remember to stay for snacks (AND CAKE) & fellowship in the evening.**

First Sunday Potluck / The Care Team is hosting this weekend’s First Sunday Potluck on **Sunday, October 7** at **11:45 AM** in Fellowship Hall. The Care Team is providing CHICKEN for the meat dish – please bring side dish to share! The Care Team will be sharing their programs & ministries – check out their tables!



Happy Birthday OC & Ignite / Our Outreach Center and the Ignite praise gathering are celebrating **TWO YEARS** (Outreach Center on May 31 & Ignite on Sept. 25). Let’s have some cake & celebrate this milestone on **Sunday, October 7** at **6 PM**.

Effective Immediately! / Key codes have been changed at the Church (and the Outreach Center is in process). If you need a code, please contact the church office and fill out an application form.

NEW* 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! An **Evening Men's Bible Study** meets on **Thursdays @ 8 PM at the Outreach Center**; talk to Pastor Joe for more info. ***NEW* "Connect"** starting on **Thursday, October 4 @ 7 PM at the Church** (Chapel Parlor); improve your discipleship "serve" by connecting with others!



*Wanna taco
bout it?*

***NEW* TACO TUESDAY** / Check out Taco Tuesday – meet the pastors on **Tuesday, October 9** at **El Tapatio** (downtown Columbus) at **11:30 AM to 1 PM** for dutch lunch and conversation. Feel free to invite a friend – and stop by over your lunch hour & schedule; we'll save some tacos (or tamales) for ya!

Where is God leading First UMC in the future? / You are invited! **Strategic Planning Session** will be held on **Sunday, October 14** from **3 to 5 PM** at our Outreach Center (please use the EAST entrance) to talk about mission, vision, dreams & goals! Rev. Rick Saylor, retired pastor and district superintendent will be leading us in conversations, beginning with Sunday worship services and continuing in the afternoon session. Rev. Saylor now serves the Great Plains as a consultant and coach. His leadership & wisdom will guide us in our conversations about the future as a vital congregation!

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 a box)

2. Boxed meals (we are running low on items such as Hamb. Helper)

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

Are you ready for a Spooktacular Halloween? First UMC will be hosting the *First Annual Trunk or Treat Extravaganza* on **October 28 from 3 – 5 PM**. Prayerfully consider volunteering your “Trunk” to help our little ones “Trick or Treat” in a safe and fun environment. There is a sign up form in the Gathering Area or contact Sandy Martensen. Prizes will be awarded to the **MOST CREATIVE TRUNK**. Fun for all, adults as well as children.

SOUPER SOUPS COMING SOON! / UMW is beginning to prepare for Souper Soups which will be held on **Thursday, November 15**. If anyone has a yard sign, please return them to the church office so that the signs can be updated and sent out with accurate information. Please return signs as soon as possible so Jane Schneider can move forward with this. Thank you!

CALENDAR: <https://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/74025457/month/2018-10-01>

Mark Your Calendars:

October 4 – *FREE Meal Night for College Students @ OC*

October 7 – *Holy Communion in worship services!* Beginning & Belonging (9 AM, Gathering Area); First Sunday Potluck, Hosted by Care Team

October 11 – *Epworth Village Heart of the Matter Fundraiser @ York*

October 13 – *UMW Prairie Rivers District Fall Meeting in Wood River*

October 14 – Strategic Planning Session @ 3 to 5 PM (Outreach Center)

October 20 – Outreach Center Cleaning Day

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

October 28 – Trunk or Treat @ OC

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.*

- [Center for Survivors Drive Thru Coffee](#) - October 2 & 9
- [Good Life Counseling Parenting Class](#) – October 6
- [8th Annual We Can Run, Walk & Roll](#) – October 6
- [Center for Survivors Chili Feed](#) – October 7
- [Diabetes Awareness Day](#) – October 9
- [Peace Lutheran's Salad Luncheon](#) – October 11
- [Gem & Mineral Society Rock Show](#) – October 13 & 14
- [Living Hopeful: A breast cancer survivor event](#) – October 15
- [For the Transformation of the World](#) – October 27

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