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First UMC / Email Blast

Announcements! The Staff at First UMC wants to introduce **Hazely Jo Hula** daughter of administrative assistant Randi Conrad who was born @ 36 weeks to Randi & Brian in Omaha on Thurs. Jan. 10 @ 12:02 PM; she was 4 lbs 13 oz. Randi will be out of the office until around February 25. *Special Thank You to **Nancy Hanna** who will be volunteering in the Church Office on Mondays and Thursdays to help out with answering the phone, selling Scrip gift cards & other duties!*

SPRC Chair Tim Owens & Rev. Cindi would also like to announce that **Lisa Nielsen is being hired to provide some *temporary assistance* working with Sarah Borgman with Christian Education & Youth Ministry responsibilities (10 hours) as well as with some office duties (5-10 hours). She will be assisting First UMC at both locations starting next week: Sunday morning Sunday School (Church); Tuesday afternoons (Church); Wednesday afternoons (Outreach Center) and Fridays (Church). *Welcome, Lisa!***

Membership to Discipleship Class PREVIEW / On Thursday, January 10, there will be a PREVIEW of the “Membership to Discipleship” Class led by Rev. Cindi. Want to *grow* in your faith and move from being a **member** to being a faithful **disciple**? Check out this **NEW** class to remind you of your commitment as a Christian disciple! **Class will begin sessions on January 24 and continue thru February.**

This Weekend in Worship:

Sat @ 6 PM (OC) and Sun @ 8 AM & 10:30 AM (Church) – As Rev. Cindi continues the sermon series “Let It Be,” we will reflect on “Don’t Fear: *Be Brave*” with Isaiah 43:1-7. Join us as we celebrate the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Covenant and remember our baptism.

Ignite on Sun @ 6 PM (OC) –This weekend join @ Ignite as Pastor Joe talks about “Greater Gifts, *You are Beloved*” through Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 and Psalm 29:1-11. **Remember to stay for a light meal after worship.**

Understanding Seasonal Affective Disorder / You are invited to attend an afternoon session on understanding Seasonal Affective Disorder at **4:30 pm** at the Outreach Center in the Wesley Room on **Sunday, January 13**. Led by Jill Colegrove, member of the Care Team. If you have read the article from the Circuit Rider and would like to learn more, please come!!!

Walk to Jerusalem / Did you know walking is mentioned 247 times in the Bible? One of the single most important things we can do for our bodies is to be active. For most of us the simplest form of activity is walking. Join us as we embark on “The Walk to Jerusalem,” an imaginary walk from Columbus, Nebraska, to Jerusalem, Israel, along with many other churches in our community! **The walk begins Sunday, January 27 and ends at Easter**. If you are limited on your ability to walk, you can track your miles with 20 minutes of an activity equaling one mile. We also have a Facebook group that you can join to track your miles! Check out “First UMC Heart & Sole!” Let’s get **100 participants** from First UMC! Sign-up in worship this weekend OR by calling First UMC Church Office at 402-564-8463.

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

Mark Your Calendars:

January 10 - *Preview of Membership to Discipleship Class*

January 13 - *Unhanging of the Greens* after worship & before Ignite!

January 15 – **Circuit Rider Articles are Due!**

January 17 – GriefShare group begins

January 24 – *Membership to Discipleship Class Begins*

January 26 & 27 – Mission Weekend

February 2 – UMW Fudge making day / Fresh Expressions Vision Day

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.

Fresh Expressions Vision Day. The Great Plains Annual Conference invites YOU to participate in conversations about the “Fresh Expressions” movement. There will be several locations around the conference to participate – yet Pastor Joe, Rev. Cindi & others will be attending on **February 2** at Water’s Edge UMC in Omaha. See registration information to sign-up: www.FreshExpressionsUS.org/event/VisionDayTopeka

- [Gallery Gift Gala](#) – Nov. 26 – Jan. 4
- [Walk with the Doc](#) – Jan. 15
- [What the Health?](#)- Jan. 22
- [2019 Healthy Lifestyle class](#)- Jan. 22

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