



# Staying Connected

June 23, 2021

**Farmer City United Methodist Church**

*Staying Connected* is a weekly guide to news, events, and announcements. Send your announcements to Diana Homann by email: [diana.homann56@gmail.com](mailto:diana.homann56@gmail.com).

## Church Activities

- AA:** Mondays at 7:00 PM (FCUMC)
- Sunday Worship:** In House at 10:45 AM
- FOCUS:** Tuesday, July ? at 6:30
- Admin Council:** June 23 6:30 PM
- Trustees:** June 24 at 7 PM
- Food Pantry Distribution:** 6/26
- The Summer Lunch Club:** 6/14-8/17 delivery only

## In House Sunday School

- Pairs and Spares:** Wesley Room at 9:30 AM
- Path Finders:** Office at 9:30 AM
- 101 Kids:** Sanctuary at 9:30 AM

## Online Worship Options

- YouTube:** Farmer City UMC Class Room
- Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/FarmerCityUMC/>
- Webpage:** <https://www.farmercityumc.org/sermons>

**ATTENTION:** To those struggling to find our Sunday worship videos on YouTube; they are no longer on Pastors Sandi's page but can be found by googling **FCUMC Class Room!**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...>

Farmer City UMC Class Room - YouTube

Farmer City United Methodist Church (UMC) Class Room is for video's related to Sunday School or Children's Time or Stories.

## Recycle Bins

Our first Recycle Pick up by Knights Environmental Services will be July 6<sup>th</sup>. Please recycle using the recycle bins located all over the church. Soon we will have a coffee container to recycle coffee grounds. Please help us "Go Green" and use the recycle containers.



## The Summer Lunch Club

The Summer Lunch Club is in its fourth week now. As each week passes, we are seeing an average of 80% increase in need. Last week we delivered 128 lunches for the week. Also last week, a grandmother who has her out of town grandkids visiting signed up for delivery. What a great idea for grandparents! We will continue to provide sack lunches until school starts. August 17 will be our last day.

## In House Worship-For Your Safety



### Welcome to In-House Worship!

For your safety and others, hand sanitizer is available at the doors. You may choose to wear a mask but will not be required to do so. We are a non-judgmental church and therefore, we encourage you to worship and social distance as you feel comfortable. Please remember, children under the age of 12, cannot be vaccinated at this time. So, some precautions will continue to be taken. We will not monitor or ask for vaccination status. **IGRC announced Phase 5 started on June 11.**

## Sunday School 101 Kids, June 27



Last week we visited the Grand Canyon which helped us visualize the splitting of the Red Sea. This week we are going camping. Camping in the wilderness means hunting and fishing for food. Will God provide

for us like he did the Israelites with manna and quail? I believe he will but not until we try hopping around in a sleeping bag. Once we are all worn out, we will be making and eating a snack of mud and worms! The scripture for this week is Exodus 16:1-23. **Attendance on June 20: 2**

Text or Call Pastor Sandi at: 217-834-3165  
Email: [pastorsandihire@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsandihire@gmail.com)



David & Tina Cole on June 24



**TO:** (6/22) Jordynn Wilson (Hammer)  
 (6/23) Stephanie Drake  
 (6/24) Nigel and Henry Kempfues  
 (6/26) Jaimee Weidert...(6/28) Nancy McCartney  
 (6/28) Tonya Evans...(6/29) Brenda Duggins  
 (7/4) Tom Bolton...(7/7) Kevin Barlow

### God's Wonder Lab VBS

**Vacation Bible School** will be in Aug 2-6 from 5:30-7:30 PM each day. We are looking for adult volunteers to help supervise. Please let Teresa Drinkwater know if you can help. Text or call her at 309-212-2592.



### Lord, Hear our Prayers

**We pray for the family of Mickey Stroz & Mark Paulin.**

**Health Issues:** Robert Drake, (Nephew of Laura Enger), Judy & Mike Wallace, Roger Barlow, (hospice), Mary Lou Beggs, (a recent fall), Ron Vance, Red Ulitzsch, (Father of Michelle Cordes), Margaret St. Clair (Cousin to Laura Enger & Stephanie Drake), Ruth Nafziger, Brian Butler (Brother-in-Law of Tim Green, recovering from heart attack), Clarine Tipsord, (recovering from hospital)

**Cancer:** Craig Brock, (Friend of Dan Pearl), Ken Brock, (Friend of Pearls and father of Craig Brock), Dave Harris, (Husband of Katie Copley Harris), John Homann, (brother of Diana Homann), Gary B (friend of Jane Evans), John Baker (Weldon), Lynn Davis (friend of Craig Brock & Dan Pearl), Julie Hubble (Aunt of Terri Green & youngest sister to Johanne Thompson), Moe Winstead,

**Other:** Stefanie Crossover (Nursing Home), David Watkins (Wheelchair Bound), Greg Mosgrove (Lung Transplant), **Dewey Gronau's Family: Mike, Jacklynn, & Maddie Stroz** (car accident)

**Thank you for your thoughts and prayers.**

### Confirmation Classes Begins in August

Is your high school or junior high age child interested in a confirmation class? If so, see Sandi because classes start in August.

### 2021 Annual Conference Meets Virtually

This following article was posted on the IGRC website on 6/14/21 by Paul Black, Director of Communications with permission granted to share in church newsletters.

<https://www.igrc.org/newsdetail/2021-annual-conference-meets-virtually-15276164>

The Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference gathered online for its second virtual annual conference session June 11-12. The theme of the two-day gathering with a two-hour clergy session and a four-hour plenary session was *A Time for Healing*, the first of four themes focusing on a quadrennial theme of God Has Made Everything Beautiful in His Time, based upon Ecclesiastes 3.

The start of Annual Conference came with the announcement by the State of Illinois that it was lifting masking and social distancing requirements for fully vaccinated people. Conference leadership, which has provided guidance for the past 15 months through the pandemic, is now returning such decisions to the local church in consultation with local health officials. Despite the limitations brought about by the pandemic, conferees were able to worship and gather for Christian conferencing. IGRC Communications collaborated to produce a hybrid, part-live, part-recorded Annual Conference. Attendees gathered virtually via Zoom web conferencing or by attending one of the eight remote locations throughout the annual conference. Slightly more than 930 attended annual conference from home and another 90 attended through one of the remote sites and voted manually with marshals reporting vote totals via a roll call vote once voting was completed in the Zoom room. Annual Conference secretarial staff aggregated the vote totals.

Bishops Sharma J. Lewis, episcopal leader of the Richmond (Va.) Area, was the preacher for the Opening Worship and Bishop Frank J. Beard preached the closing worship service.

Leading up to the single-day conference, services were aired recognizing 26 retirees with a combined 635 years of service was held June 11; A Memorial Service remembering clergy, clergy spouses and lay members to annual conference that had passed away in the previous year and remembrance of 10 congregations with a combined 1.405 years of ministry that have completed their mission – East

Peoria Faith UMC, St. Elmo: Fairview UMC, Florence UMC, Granite City Niedringhaus, Iroquois UMC, Girard: New Hope UMC, Sumner: Olive Branch UMC, Roberts UMC, Saint David UMC and Texas UMC -- on June 10.

The Conference also approved the closure of two congregations -- the former United Church of Altona and the former Fairview Heights Christ UMC -- which have left the denomination to become independent. Both resolutions followed negotiations between the congregations and conference leadership.

The Annual Conference approved a 2022 budget of \$11,040,909 – a reduction of 1.48 percent. However, included in the spending plan is the use of \$700,000 from Conference reserves to enable a second straight year of decrease in apportionments of more than 7 percent. While budgets have been relatively flat over the past 10 years, the \$10,340,909 apportioned total returns spending levels to 2005. The \$893,033 reduction comes on the heels of apportionment collections of 90 percent in 2020, slightly higher than the 88 percent in pre-pandemic 2019, and still lower than 95 percent in 2018. The Conference ended 2020 with a \$352,000 surplus.

The 2022 Spending Plan also includes funding for a new position -- a Director of Ministerial Excellence - which will relate to the Conference Board of Ministry, the Bishop and Cabinet, and be a single link for clergy from the beginning of candidacy throughout their active ministry. The position not only includes administrative tasks but it also includes providing direction for the Pastoral Care and Counseling network within the conference. The search process is underway and is being guided by the General Council on Finance and Administration. Applications are being accepted through June 25, 2021.

Legislatively, the conference announced that the health insurance allowance paid to full-time pastors will remain at \$17,500 for 2022. The conference also approved a 2 percent increase to its minimum salaries. In 2022, the salaries will go to \$46,195 for clergy in full connection, associate members and provisional elders; and \$42,391 for full-time local pastors.

Retirees under the pre-1982 pension plan will see a 2 percent increase to \$827 per active service year

in 2022, funded by a gift from Preachers' Aid Society and Benefit Fund.

In anticipation that General Conference action may result in a split of the denomination, conferees approved a change to the Preachers' Aid Society's by-laws that would extend benefits to any pastor who is a member of the IGRC at the time of separation when they retired. The measure, which required a 90 percent affirmative vote was approved 714-14.

The Clergy Session approved the election of one elder in full connection and three deacons in full connection. They also approved the commissioning of seven provisional elders and one provisional deacon; and celebrated the graduation of three local pastors from Course of Study. Ordination and Commissioning Services will be held at Champaign Faith UMC on Saturday, June 19. Commissioning will be at 11 a.m. and Ordination will begin at 2 p.m.

Membership stands at 112,122 in 2020, down 3,249 (2.8 percent) from 2019. Average worship attendance is 35,151, down 14,119 (28.7 percent), although congregations also reported 45,665 person attending online, which would result in a substantial increase. Church school attendance stands at 12,509, down 3,697.

The 2022 Annual Conference will be held June 9-11, 2022, at the Peoria Civic Center in Peoria, IL.

## Ways to Give

Download our FREE App! Search your App Store for GivePlus Church, a free phone app to give a donation to the church. It's easy to use and you can select different funding categories such as: General Operating or Salt Creek Food Pantry. You can donate with checking/debit, savings, or credit card. Watch this short video to learn how easy it is: <https://vimeo.com/262292774>

**Text Giving:** To use Text Giving, text the dollar amount of your gift in the message line to our dedicated phone number: 844-561-0383. For example, if you want to give \$5 your message is 5. It's that simple!