



# *The Leavenworth Christian*

## Sowers' Seeds

October 15, 2020

Dear Friends,

Many years ago, I remember having a conversation with Jake Buckley. Jake was a sensitive child who was attending JYF camp in Illinois for the first time. Jake was from the Peoria Illinois area. Peoria is good sized city for central Illinois and has a population of about 112,000 people. I did not realize how rural the state was until I lived there. Other than the areas around Chicago, Saint Louis, Peoria, and Springfield, most of Illinois is fairly rural, disperse, and bucolic. Pilgrim Park was a camp very near Princeton, Illinois. It was a camp that located on a pleasant gravel road comfortably away from town, cellular service, and light pollution. One night I happened to be walking back from evening worship with Jake and he stopped suddenly and said, "I have never seen the stars look like that." It was very dark and clear that night, and the stars filled the sky. It was as if there was a celestial canopy above our heads. One almost felt as if they could touch the stars. I said, "The stars usually look a lot like this in Rushville too." Of course, Rushville is a town of 3100 people in a county of 8000 people. It isn't very hard to get away from light pollution. I was stunned by Jake's amazement, and by my own sense that such vistas were commonplace. That is the way it works sometimes; we often take for granted the things that we know well. We might even assume that everyone has the same experiences we do, and then suddenly at some moment we come to realize how different our experiences might be even though we often share the same world. These experiences affect what we know, believe, and assume others believe.

In the same way, when I began divinity school, it is likely that I took for granted the way I envisioned and thought of God. Our perspectives on the Infinite "I Am" are formed in large part by the congregations we attend, our families of origin, and the things we discern and pick up along the way. I reflected on the Creator that I knew at that point. It was and is one that is fundamentally loving, graceful, kind and patient. I have often wondered if the way God was depicted made it easier and somewhat more comfortable to consider and pursue a pastoral vocation. I can't say that I was ever afraid of the First Person of the Trinity, but instead it was always more of a reverent wonder and awe. Yet, as I talked to classmates, it was clear that my assumptions were not always shared assumptions and impulses. Very different ideas and metaphors were often offered in classroom discussions and interactions around the lunch the table.

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## *Praises!!!*

Praise! **Brooke Gilfert's** surgery went well. Continued prayers for healing. *Ruth Kenton*

Praise for **Penny Paradies' Mom's** Birthday. Penny had the opportunity to celebrate with her this weekend.

## *Prayer Ministry*

**Bill Wilson:** Possibly come home Wednesday.

**Sandy & Alice Bushman, Teresa Groves:** Prayers for continued healing & strengthening.

Pray for **Donna Bailey's Family:** Services will be Wednesday, October 14th at Leintz Funeral Home on 10th Avenue. Visitation will be from 10am-12pm, memorial service begins at 12pm.

**Jerry Moore:** healing from Covid.

**Brooke Gilfert:** Pray for healing following surgery. *Shanda Gilfert*

Prayers for **Diane Hall:** Fell and broke her hip. She will be having surgery. *Fran Gast, Kathy Powell & Ruth Kenton.*

Unspoken Prayers. **Lois Steineker**

Pray for **First Presbyterian Church, Leavenworth,** as they seek to tend to Covid in their midst.

Pray for **our country:** learn to speak across divides & bridge disagreements in this election season.

Prayers for **all those fighting fires and are in harm's way** at this time.

**President & Leaders:** We pray for those who have been infected with Covid 19 and we pray that healing will take place.

Prayers for **School Systems & Colleges, Teachers, Support Staff & students.**

Pray for **Those with the Covid-19 virus, First Responders, Those offering care and a Cure.**

(please send in your praises and prayer concerns or call the office and leave a message)

**Ongoing Cares & Concerns**

Steve Martin, Sandy & Alice Bushman, Marilyn Vance, Noah Kincaid, Helen Nowlan,  
Kathy Ramirez, Rose Marie Theel, Ruby Corbet, Don Bohnsack, Katie Boyer, Winnie  
Henderson, Brian Onasch, Pearl Stonebraker, Danielle & Doug Euler,  
Ann Crum, Bill Cass, Jim Snell

**Pray for our out-of-town Active Duty Personnel**

Melissa Van Valkenburgh, Hannah Bond,  
Rob Widmyer, Jim & Rachel Sullivan,  
Nelson Hanson, Cameron Brown,  
Christin Collins, Nickalas Derringer,  
Rose Uy, Edison & Faviola Urquiza



*Please help us update our  
Active Duty list with  
members or those in direct  
relationship with our  
members.*

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**Concerned Clergy  
of Leavenworth County**

**Presents...**

**“Town Hall Meeting for General Election Candidates”**

**Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>  
10am-12pm**

**Location: Sunflower Missionary Baptist Church  
(fellowship hall)**

**Bishop Calvin Lewis, Host Pastor**

**(Social Distancing - Wearing of Mask Required)**

# Worship Schedule

*Thanks for joining us in Worship.  
If you missed Sunday's Service, watch it now*

[www.LeavenworthChristian.com](http://www.LeavenworthChristian.com)

click on "Sermons" on the upper Right of the Homepage

*Here are 4 ways you can connect to Sunday Worship at 10:30am*

**\*In-Person here at the Church!**

**\*On your Computer - Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://zoom.us/j/6823543423?pwd=cWRSTVQ3TGhGK2JIQTR5N1JTdG9GZz09>

**Meeting ID: 682 354 3423**

**Password: 838807**

**\*One tap mobile phone**

**+16699006833, 6823543423#**

**+13462487799, 6823543423#**

**You can also reach Zoom through  
a link on our Website:**

[www.leavenworthchristian.com](http://www.leavenworthchristian.com)



**\*Home phone (no video)**

**Dial any of the following numbers:**

**833 548 0282 US Toll-free**

**877 853 5257 US Toll-free**

**888 475 4499 US Toll-free**

**833 548 0276 US Toll-free**

**Meeting ID: 682 354 3423**

**Password: 838807**

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As way has given way to way, I wonder if a stumbling block for churches as we engage people is assuming that we are all coming from the same place. That is, that we view God, worship, church structure, and any other matter in roughly similar ways. Yet, what if as a focusing point of the Kingdom of God we put our initial assumptions to the side and just embraced people as they are? Perhaps after that initial embrace we would invite people to share their stories rather than forcing them into a narrative that we already know. Wouldn't it be wonderful to be a church for those who were seeking a first-time relationship with God, who had little knowledge of church "grammar," but then also a church for a fourth-generation member who knew only a life raised inside the safe confines of the church. We could even seek to be a church for people who find themselves somewhere in between. In short, that would be a church where all means all. Perhaps, the first step to becoming that church is recognizing that we all come with different stories, different assumptions, and as a beloved child of God.

All the Best and God's Blessings, Pastor John

# Children's Moment

Monday starts a new Zoom series for us. We will be doing art and science projects. Our God is so amazing that he can be found in all things especially art and science. God is also in the beginnings and endings of things. Each day is a new beginning, each Monday a new week and all that comes with chances to be kind and to look for God. So, as we prepare for our new series, I want you to be looking for God in your life.

Mrs. Danielle Euler, Children's Director

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## Thirty Days of Thanksgiving

November has traditionally been a time that the harvest is brought in and stored. We also celebrate Thanksgiving with family. This season will be like no other previously experienced in our lifetimes. Big thanksgiving dinners will most likely not happen and will be down-sized. But, during this time we will have an opportunity to help others while being thankful for all of the blessing we have received throughout the year. Let's call this the "thirty days of Thanksgiving" opportunity. Please note that this is very similar to what the First Presbyterian Church has done in the past. For each day in November, you can place an item of food into a bag or box to be given to Catholic Charities food bank. The food items will be dedicated on December 6<sup>th</sup>. On or about December 7<sup>th</sup>, arrangements can be made to pick up your donation either at your home or at the church. If you plan on participating, please contact Lonnie Dalrymple or Dea Nicodemus so that those arrangements can be made. Below is a list of suggestions for each day; remember, substitutions are ok.

- |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| November 1 – box of adult cereal    | November 16 – package of oatmeal      |
| November 2 – peanut butter          | November 17 – package of pasta        |
| November 3 – stuffing mix           | November 18 – spaghetti sauce         |
| November 4 – boxed potatoes         | November 19 – chicken noodle soup     |
| November 5 – macaroni and cheese    | November 20 – tomato soup             |
| November 6 – canned fruit           | November 21 – can of corn             |
| November 7 – canned tomatoes        | November 22 – can of mixed vegetables |
| November 8 – canned tuna            | November 23 – can of carrots          |
| November 9 – dessert mix            | November 24 – can of green beans      |
| November 10 – jar of applesauce     | November 25 – hamburger helper        |
| November 11 – canned sweet potatoes | November 26 – jar of jelly            |
| November 12 – cranberry sauce       | November 27 – cornbread mix           |
| November 13 – canned beans          | November 28 – can of chicken          |
| November 14 – box of crackers       | November 29 – can of pork             |
| November 15 – package of rice       | November 30 – box of kid's cereal     |

Thank you in advance for prayerfully considering this opportunity.

World Outreach and Action Team

# First Christian Info

## 2020 Tawakoni Virtual Gala

This year's virtual Gala will feature an online auction, open November 7-14, 2020, but will not include the Gala dinner that we usually offer. You may bid beginning November 7<sup>th</sup>. Go to:

[www.tawakoni.org/auction](http://www.tawakoni.org/auction)

Watch this video:

<https://ksdoc-videos.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/2020+Gala/Gala+Promo+1.mp4>



October 15<sup>th</sup>

*Gary Kenton*

October 16<sup>th</sup>

*Jeremy Marchbanks*

October 18<sup>th</sup>

*Pat Barnhardt  
Sheri Schmidling*

October 20<sup>th</sup>

*Ginger Young*

October 21<sup>st</sup>

*Lynn Dickson*

## Attendance

October 11<sup>th</sup>

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| <b>In-Person Worship</b> | <b>27</b> |
| <b>On-Line Worship</b>   | <b>31</b> |

October 11<sup>th</sup>

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>General</b>          | <b>\$4,744.00</b> |
| <b>Reconciliation</b>   | <b>5.00</b>       |
| <b>Backpack Buddies</b> | <b>75.00</b>      |
| <b>DWF</b>              | <b>20.00</b>      |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>\$4,844.00</b> |

**Please remember your  
commitment to the Church  
by mail or through eGive:**

[www.leavenworthchristian.com](http://www.leavenworthchristian.com)

# *First Christian Calendar*

## September 30-October 11, 2020

**Thursdays**

Choir Practices cancelled till further notice

**Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>**

|              |                         |        |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Prayer Group | <b><i>Kitterman</i></b> | 8:30am |
| Steineker    | <b><i>Kitterman</i></b> | 1:00pm |
| alive        | <b><i>Zoom</i></b>      | 7:00pm |

**Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

***Children's Sabbath***

|                  |                                    |         |
|------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| Worship          | <b><i>in-Person &amp; Zoom</i></b> | 10:30am |
| Seekers SS Class | <b><i>Zoom</i></b>                 | 3:00pm  |

**Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

|                 |                              |        |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--------|
| Prayer Bkfst    | <b><i>Pullman's/Zoom</i></b> | 6:30am |
| Children's Zoom |                              | 6:00pm |

**Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**

|            |                              |        |
|------------|------------------------------|--------|
| Book Study | <b><i>Kitterman/Zoom</i></b> | 3:00pm |
|------------|------------------------------|--------|

**Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**

|              |                         |        |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Prayer Group | <b><i>Kitterman</i></b> | 8:30am |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------|

**Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

|                  |                                    |         |
|------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| Worship          | <b><i>in-Person &amp; Zoom</i></b> | 10:30am |
| Seekers SS Class | <b><i>Zoom</i></b>                 | 3:00pm  |

*(Calendar subject to change)*

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***Board Meeting***

***Tuesday***  
***October 13<sup>th</sup>***

***7:00pm***

***Zoom***



***Elders Meeting***

***Wednesday***  
***October 28<sup>th</sup>***

***7:00pm***

***Zoom***

*First Christian Church  
130 N 6th Street  
Leavenworth KS 66048*



**Contact US**

Telephone Number: (913) 682-3222

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:30 – 4:00

Church Email: [church@leavenworthchristian.com](mailto:church@leavenworthchristian.com)

Website: [www.leavenworthchristian.com](http://www.leavenworthchristian.com)

Pastor: [pastorjohn@leavenworthchristian.com](mailto:pastorjohn@leavenworthchristian.com)

Reverend John Sowers: (309) 231-2665

