



# The Leavenworth Christian

## Sowers' Seeds

March 26, 2020

Dear Friends,

It would be fair to say that I was very anxious and nervous going into worship this last Sunday. I know already that there are improvements that we can make, and some improvements that may have to wait until we can procure better equipment, but again we are going to tweak and refine things as we move along. We know we would like to have a sharper camera, but for now this is the best we can do. Next week we are going add, "Stump the Chump". I have talked with a parent, and during service they will text me a picture of some item that the child wants to send. I will describe it to the congregation, and then I will proceed with **"Little People... Big Word"**. I will ask for volunteers as I do every week and then I will select one of the volunteers and inform them. How cool is it that we still can do that moment, if a little differently from our normal in person worship?

I have to share with you two wonderful stories from Sunday. First, two of the people watching were family friends from when I was growing up. Their oldest son graduated High School in 1991 with my brother Joe and their younger son graduated two years after I did in 1997. This couple was in a social circle and activities that often overlapped with my parents. I was asked Sunday afternoon for the church address. This couple wanted to send a bit of an offering, because in their words, "every little bit helps." Suffice it to say, I was deeply humbled, grateful, and overwhelmed by their kindness. There were tears in the corners of my eyes. I think it is their plan to be in attendance again next week.

Closer to home, we had a member of the congregation attend the digital service Sunday, who had not been to service since I got here. Sometimes there are challenges to coming, and for the first time they were able to hear and see the service. Wow! Think of the people we are reaching as we begin to do church in a new way! There is no reason our digital worship would have to stop even if we have two in person services going on. We still have so many people that we can reach out to.

Consider the parent, who after a long week, finds it tough to get the kids ready for service or has some concern about disruptions. There still would be that avenue of going to our webpage or dialing in on the phone and hearing our Worship Service. What about our military families, who we come love, but then they go to their next duty station? Those families would still have the opportunity to be with us every Sunday. What is more, when someone goes on vacation, they still could attend service with us on Sunday morning. The potential and the possibilities are nearly limitless in scope and size. In fairness there are churches engaged in this kind of ministry already, but would we have been ready to take this step if life had not mandated it? We are called and invited to makes disciples of every nation and every people, but there are no limitations placed on how we do it. What we know is that church is about meeting people where they are, and not demanding that they meet us where we are. Is a vibrant digital service about meeting people where they are, even if they are spread across the globe?

(continued on pg 4)



## ***Praises!!!***

Praise! ***Jim Bliss*** is clean with the ability to shower & shave and has after shave as well.

Thankful for Pastor John's newsletter article. *Don & Linda Bohnsack*

## **PRAYER MINISTRY**

Prayers for ***Luke Euler*** – Still at Children's Mercy. Prayers for ***Family*** as well.

Pray for ***Educators & Students*** who are exploring a new style of education. *Penny Paradies*

Pray for Penny Paradies' Mom's cousin, ***Mel Cortum***- his sister, Bonnie died a few weeks ago. He lost both of his sisters within 8 days.

Ongoing prayers for ***Lillian Scott*** as she transitions into Rehab at Twin Oaks. No family visitors to support her in her transition to this new environment. *Kim Mattingly*

Pray for our ***Human Community***. *Vanessa Wagner*

Prayers for all those dealing with deaths and funeral arrangements. *Deedie Thrasher*

***Dorothy Gravenstein***- broken hip

Prayer for ***Everyone*** to stay healthy. *Don & Joyce Bachtel*

Prayers for ***Eli, Felicia & Baby Liberty Bagley***- health & Recovery for both Felicia & Baby. Only Eli will be allowed to be with her. This is very stressful for Felicia.

***Pat Barnhardt***- Everyone to stay well & be safe. She is also available to help where needed)

Prayers for the coronavirus to end soon. *Jim Bliss*

Prayers for the Nicodemus' daughter, ***Avonda***- surgery has been postponed due to the virus. Pray that this pandemic ends soon.

### ***Pray for those in the hospital***

***Lillian Scott*** – Twin Oaks Rehab

***Luke Euler*** – Children's Mercy

### ***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

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

Melissa Van Valkenburgh, Lucy Collings,  
Hannah Bond, Dustin Phillips, 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.*

***Worship Schedule***

*Keeping you in the Loop!*

*Sunday's On-Line Worship Service went well! Thanks for joining in Worship.  
We will probably be continuing with this format even after we are able to meet  
together in person! If you missed it, watch it now at:*

[https://zoom.us/rec/share/xpVFDzQsVILUM\\_9w3zVZY56T4fGX6a80CNL\\_fpcnxs6kuL2zy4CjjslAoxj3gw](https://zoom.us/rec/share/xpVFDzQsVILUM_9w3zVZY56T4fGX6a80CNL_fpcnxs6kuL2zy4CjjslAoxj3gw)

*The beginning is just set-up time so you will want to go forward to about the  
14:30 min mark.*

*Here are 3 ways you can connect to this Sunday's Service at 10:30am:*

**\*On your Computer**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://zoom.us/j/6823543423>

**Meeting ID: 682 354 3423**

**\*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:**

**+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)**

**+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)**

**+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)**

**+1 301 715 8592 US**

**+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**

**+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)**

**+1 253 215 8782 US**

**Meeting ID: 682 354 3423**

**(These are toll free numbers. We have paid for this with our subscription.)**

# Children's Director

We're  
Hiring!!!



First Christian Church Leavenworth, values mission, family, empathy, acceptance, and integrity. We continue to strengthen our strong foundation and create new and vibrant ministries for our children. We would love for you to be part of our emerging story! We are hiring an individual to fill the position of: Director of Children's Ministry.

Resumes can be submitted to Rev. John Sowers at [pastorjohn@leavenworthchristian.org](mailto:pastorjohn@leavenworthchristian.org)

(continued from pg 1)

Sunday, at our high point, we had fifty-four connections to service. That meant that people had either used their phones or their computers to link in. For some, they were the only people on the connections, but others like my friends in Florida, had five people watching. If we assume an average of two per connection, which is safe, that is 108 people in attendance. A high normal Sunday for us is 100 people in attendance between the two services.

One thing I do want to note, even if a person does not have a computer, they can still phone in to the worship with phone numbers that are provided. They will be prompted to punch in the access code, which is provided, and then they will have a listening connection. Imagine, that this is the modern "Old Time Gospel Hour." The phone numbers can be used on a landline phone. The numbers might seem to be long distance numbers, but they are not long-distance numbers because we paid for them to all be toll free calls. If members are struggling with this technology, please let us help you out, and consider inviting a friend to worship next week. I have a notion it is less intimidating to attend a digital service for the first time!

God is so good! There is light and hope in what may seem to be the darkest of places. Thank you again, to everyone who has helped us put our toe in the digital water.

All the Best and God's Blessings, Pastor John

*Giving is Worship*  
GIVING BACK TO THE ONE WHO FIRST GAVE



## From Budget & Finance Ministry

In these changing times we need to remember our financial commitment to the church. If you contribute by eGive, nothing need change. For those who give by check, just mail your check to the church. If you donate in cash, you can drop your payment by the church office. If the office is open, you can give it to Diane. If the office is not open, you can put it in the mailbox. Please have your donation in an envelope- either an offering envelope or a regular envelope. Thank you and stay safe!



**Our VBS theme this year is “Knights of North Castle which will be held July 13-17, 2020 with a program/service/potluck held on July 19, 2020.**

**VBS registration is available now online on the church website or you may click here: You may register your children and/or volunteer to help during VBS! Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help.**

<https://vbspro.events/p/events/1d0259>



*No Choir Practices till further notice*

**Please consider helping the Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope**



As you can imagine The Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope is struggling at the night shelter to have enough volunteers. Many of our volunteers are older and a number of them do not feel they should come in which we completely understand. We are wondering if there are some younger people who either are not working now or have a different schedule and might be able to volunteer at night. There are four shifts 8--11; 11--2; 2--5; and 5-8.

We must keep the night shelter open. These folks have no place to go. We are keeping the day shelter open mostly with staff and a few stalwart volunteers for those who stayed the night at the night shelter.

If anyone would be willing and able to help please contact us at 913-704-8053 or [margaretdebbio@gmail.com](mailto:margaretdebbio@gmail.com).

Thank you so much. The one thing we all know for sure is that we have God walking with us.

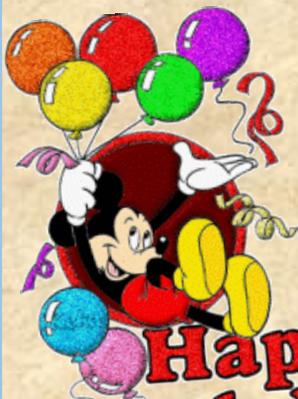
Sister Vickie Perkins, SCL  
Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope, Welcome Central, 311 Kiowa, Leavenworth  
913 530 4535

# First Christian Info

Wednesday  
Morning  
Communion  
Service  
Cancelled

## Food for Thought

*I believe churches are meant for praising God. But, so are the precious sounds of children playing, showers, coffee shops, long walks and conversations with friends and strangers, etc. Don't let a building confine your faith because we will never change the world by just going to church. We need to be the church!*  
Don Bachtel, Evangelism Committee



## Happy Birthday

March 27<sup>th</sup>

Steve Kilgore  
Bethlynn Spath

March 28<sup>th</sup>

Emily Dating  
Natalie (Groves) Blaney  
Rob Sack  
Wende Torres-Butler

April 1<sup>st</sup>

Seth Kincaid  
Missy Davis

## Attendance March 22<sup>nd</sup>

On-line Worship  
10:30am

54

(Logged in live connections)

## Offering March 22<sup>nd</sup>

General	\$2,905.00
Shelter	250.00
Backpack Buddies	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,175.00</b>

(Thru eGive & Mail)

Please remember your commitment  
to the Church by Mail or through  
our website with eGive  
[www.leavenworthchristian.com](http://www.leavenworthchristian.com)

## Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> - Scripture

### The Valley of Dry Bones

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath<sup>[a]</sup> to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath<sup>[b]</sup> in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath:<sup>[c]</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath,<sup>[d]</sup> and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

Ezekiel 37:1-14

## First Christian Calendar February March 29-April 4, 2020

### Thursdays

Choir Practices cancelled till further notice

### Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>

Worship **Zoom Mtg** 10:30am  
No Book Study

### Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

Prayer Breakfast **Zoom Mtg** 6:30am

### Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>

#### ***NO Communion Worship***

Prayer Group **Zoom Mtg** 8:15am  
Elders Mtg **Zoom Mtg** 6:00pm

### Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>

Prayer Vigil (arrangements pending)

*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

