

On Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:18 PM, Program Coordinator  
<ProgramCoordinator@columbusfumc.com> wrote:

## **First UMC / Email Blast**

**Reflections from Rev. Cindi.** Face Book “On This Day” reminded me that *one year ago on March 15*, our congregation voted to purchase the building at 3602 16<sup>th</sup> Street for the purpose of serving as our Outreach Center. That vote was the culmination of many hours of meetings and prayers and visioning sessions to determine how First UMC could best provide space for our many programs & outreach ministries. One year ago, our Outreach Center had many vital community partnerships including the Backpack Program, American Red Cross Blood Drives and the National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI). Since then, we have gained additional partnerships with community organizations including a 4-H Robotics Team, Destination Imagination, Crisis Navigators and more. Our early prayers for the LORD to “enlarge our territory” have been answered in many ways! Keep praying for God’s will to be done, and keep praying for our congregation to be a vital community of faith in Columbus, Nebraska. Blessings!

### **Lenten Journey Continues!**

**This weekend in worship @ the Church**, we will continue the “Go...” Series with “Go: This Changes Everything” by our talented youth! Worship on Sat @ 6 PM; Sun @ 8 AM & 10:30 AM.

**This weekend at Ignite worship @ the Outreach Center**, Rev. Seong continues the new series, *Transforming*, talking about a Samaritan woman in John 4. Check out the Ignite service on Sunday @ 6 PM & invite others to join you!

**Lenten Lunches /** Lenten Lunches are in Fellowship Hall at 12:05 to 1 PM with a meal served after each worship service. The cost is \$5.00 a person. Rev. Cindi Stewart will be speaking on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and Rev. Seong Lee will be speaking April 5<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year is “Praying our Story.” If you would like to help with the meal on March 22<sup>nd</sup> or April 5<sup>th</sup> please call the office or Patti Luebbe @ (402) 564-4310.

### **CALENDAR:**

**March 17 ~ Saint Patrick's Day; Circuit Rider Due**

**March 19 ~ YOUTH SUNDAY! Peanut & Stretch Offering for Habitat for Humanity!**

**4:00 PM, He Chose the Nails @ OC MR; 6:00 PM, Ignite!**

**March 21 ~ 6:45 PM, Administrative Committee Chairs –CR; 7:00 Finance, SPRC, Board of Trustees**

**March 22 ~ 12:05 PM, Lenten Lunches FH; 7:00 PM, Simplify @ OC MR;**

### **United Methodist Women:**

**United Methodist Women's A Day at the Legislature - Thursday, March 23, 2017.** A day at the Legislature is an opportunity to see the Nebraska Unicameral in action, observing Senate Hearings and having lunch with our Senator Paul Schumacher. We will be conversing with Senator Schumacher about bills concerning: Education in regard to Charter Schools and Union Dues, Human Trafficking, Pay Day Loans, Explanation of Minimum and Maximum prison sentences, and the Environment. We will be have lunch with Senator Schumacher, cost is \$20.00 for Jimmy John's lunch and gas for those not driving plus whatever you want at Toast (if you are unable to pay contact Marilyn Zehring) For more information contact Susan Haskell or Marilyn Zehring. If you plan to be part of this day let Marilyn know by Monday, March 20th 402-564-0756 or mbzehri@megavision.com

### **MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:**

**Are you part of a community club and/or service organization that would like more information about our Outreach Center?** We have had numerous groups and organizations that have scheduled visits and/or tours to see what's happening at our Outreach Center. To schedule a tour, contact the Church Office, Rev. Seong Lee, Sarah Borgman and/or Marilyn Zehring.

**Would you like to help at this year's Great Plains Annual Conference in Grand Island?** The Conference office requests volunteers for the 2017 Annual Conference, especially from the Prairie Rivers District churches. If you would be able to volunteer, please go to the website below and sign up. Here is the link to the volunteer registration form for the 2017 Annual Conference Session. <https://gp-reg.brtapp.com/VolunteersSignUp-2017AnnualConferenceSession>

## **Community Connection!**

**Prairie Rivers District Advanced Lay Servant Training** – Lay Servant Ministries include teaching, leading, guiding, and reaching out to others to demonstrate and proclaim the love of God in Jesus Christ. Leading worship course- this course focuses on the ministry of the Lay Servant who either regularly or occasionally leads a group or congregation in worship. Participants Book is *Worshiping with United Methodist A Guide for Pastors and Church Leaders*. Order your own books through [Cokesbury.com](http://Cokesbury.com) or [UpperRoom.org](http://UpperRoom.org), you must have your books in order to attend the class. Located at Sutton Federated Church (407 N Saunders, Sutton, NE) on **March 24<sup>th</sup>** from 6:00pm to 9:00pm and **March 25<sup>th</sup>** from 9:00am to 5:00 pm. Cost is \$10.00 payable upon arrival. Includes snacks and Saturday lunch, \$5.00 payable to Great Plains UMC- Prairie Rivers District (mail with your registration) register by March 17<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanie Leeper at 308-894-5275, email is [leeps4christ@gmail.com](mailto:leeps4christ@gmail.com).

**Books Are Fun/ Collective Goods**– The Columbus Community Hospital Volunteers Collective Goods Flash Sale held **March 17<sup>th</sup>** in the third floor conference center from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Come purchase books and gifts at great prices for your family and friends.

**2017 Great Plains UM Cowboy Trail Bike Ride or Walk** – 16<sup>th</sup> annual ride or walk for the mission project, and sponsored by the great plains UMM. Donations will be given to Upper Room Prayer Line, Society of St. Andrew, Stop Hunger Now, Imagine No Malaria, disaster response, camping ministry, jail ministry, youth ministry, and scholarships for Christian service. On **May 27**, Bike or walk from Norfolk to Tilden Nebraska. Breakfast and check in at Norfolk is at 7:00 A.M. Will start walking/ ridding at 8:00 A.M. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided. Registration for biking family is \$25.00 which includes on t-shirt; additional t-shirts are \$15.00 each. There is no registration cost for walkers. T-shirts are 15.00 each. To ensure getting a t-shirt please register by May 17<sup>th</sup>. Rest stops with snacks will be at Battle Creek and Meadow Grove. Enjoy the fresh air, good exercise, tasty food and good fellowship.

**Child Well Being Community Service Array** – The Zero2Eight Child Well Being Coalition would like your help to identify needs and direct efforts to improve the wellbeing of families in our communities. This is a chance to share your thoughts and help impact the lives of children and families in Platte and Colfax counties. Located at St. Luke's United Church of Christ (1072 21st

Avenue, Columbus) on **Wednesday April 5** from 10:00am to 2:00 pm. Lunch will be served so please be sure to RSVP by March 31 to Heather Buttarro (hbuttarro@ecdhd.ne.gov 402-563-9656)

**Columbus Rescue Mission 8th Annual Ladies Brunch** – Columbus Rescue Mission is having their annual ladies brunch on **Saturday, April 22nd from 9:30 - 11:30 AM** at FUMC Outreach Center. This year's theme is "let your light shine." Guest speaker is Denise Skrobecki, warden Nebraska correctional Center for Women plus Special Music, Testimonies and Door Prizes! Please **RSVP no later than Tuesday April 18** (402-563-1096) A free will offering will be taken for a new boiler & Women's Ministry Needs.