

April 28, 2024

# Weekly Communique



Blair First United Methodist Church



www.blairumc.org

**This Weekend!**  
**Blair First All Church**  
**to work at Spring Service**



**Days at Camp Fontanelle - 9 am, April 27th**

*Come when you can, leave when you must.*

There are a variety of tasks, both outdoor and indoor. Check in at Riverview Lodge to see the list and choose your job. Bring work gloves & tools. You can still join us for the Service Days!

**Contact: Aaron Matson (text or email) 402-306-6988**  
**atmatson@gmail.com**

## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Full Calendar of events may be found on our website.

**Sunday, April 28: 9:30AM, Worship, Fifth Sunday of Easter, (Live Stream and In-Person).**

**9:30AM Sunday School**

Nursery provided, Infants and Toddlers.

Coffee Fellowship after Service in Fellowship Hall.

**Scripture:** John 15:1-8

**Message:** "Withering Vine"

## Sign up for May 4th Event - "Rock the Block Event" For Habitat for Humanity

Looking for assistance on May 4th from 8a-1p for the Habitat for Humanities "Rock the Block" event. It's similar to our church has left the building event. All ages can help. If interested please sign up at link below "Group: First Methodist Church). Scroll down to "Group: First Methodist" <https://cerv.is/0119x2982> Call Craig folkers with any questions. 402-306-3730

## UMC GENERAL CONFERENCE 2024 (POSTPONED FROM 2020)

General Conference is the highest legislative body in The United Methodist Church. It usually convenes once every four years to determine the denomination's future direction. Between 600 and 1000 delegates are elected by their annual conferences—half clergy and half laity, and up to 10 delegates. At General Conference, these delegates gather from all over the world to consider revisions to church law and the official ritual of the church, adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues, and elect officers for a number of church-wide positions. The General Conference also approves plans and budgets for church-wide programs for the next four years. The General Conference postponed from 2020 will be meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, April 23rd to May 3rd. Please pray for our Great Plains Delegates, clergy and laity:

### CLERGY

Rev. Adam Hamilton  
Rev. Amy Lippoldt  
Rev. Dr. Kalaba Chali  
Rev. David Livingston

### LAITY

Oliver Green  
Lisa Maupin  
Scott Brewer  
Randall Hodgkinson

### CLERGY

Rev. Cheryl Jefferson Bell  
Rev. Dr. Anne Gatobu  
Rev. Mark Holland

### LAITY

Dixie Brewster  
Dan Entwistle  
Jesi Lipp

**Also, follow get the latest information and updates by clicking on this link:** [General Conference 2020](#)

## Ways to Serve

### Altar Flower Sign-Up

More than one person or family may sign up for a Sunday. Sign up on the counter in the narthex or call the office 402-426-2165.

**We are collecting toiletries for Joseph's Coat:** We have an ongoing collection of travel size toiletries that we donate throughout the year. Follow the link to see list: [Volunteer/Serve | Blair First United M \(blairumc.org\)](#)

### All Church Volunteer Sign Up for May 11, 2024

8am-Noon  
@ Washington Co. Recycling Center. Sign Up near the Church Office.  
Children are welcome with parental supervision.  
Sign up for 2-hour shifts or all morning (8-12:00).  
Would like a minimum of 12 people for each shift

### Looking for Volunteers

Thank you to all who are keeping the building clean and ready for Worship while Kevin is recovering. If you wish to help in cleaning you may call the office or go to:

[Blair First UMC: While Kevin Recovers \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

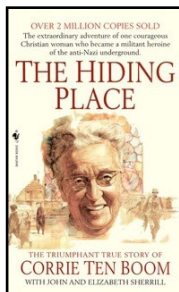
## Announcements

### Help Celebrate Darlene Forst's 90th Birthday

**Tuesday April 30, 2024**

Johansen Manor Activity Room, 805 N. 22nd  
Stop by and share coffee and cookies with us  
No Gifts please.

To send a card: 805 N 22nd St, Apt. 3E, Blair, NE 68008



## Save the date and join us in our Summer Book Study

Beginning on June 3rd we will delve into the life of Corrie Ten Boom reading her story, *"The Hiding Place"*.

Summary: At one time Corrie Ten Boom would have laughed at the idea that there would ever be a story to tell. For the first fifty years of her life nothing at all out of the ordinary had ever happened to her. She was an old-maid watchmaker living contentedly with her spinster sister and their elderly father in the tiny Dutch house over their shop. Their uneventful days, as regulated as their own watches, revolved around their abiding love for one another. However, with the Nazi invasion and occupation of Holland, a story did ensue. Corrie ten Boom and her family became leaders in the Dutch Underground, hiding Jewish people in their home in a specially built room and aiding their escape from the Nazis. For their help, all but Corrie found death in a concentration camp. The Hiding Place is their story.

**Leaders:** Jamie Folkers and Diane Highfill. **Meeting Place:** The outdoor worship pavilion at church. **Time:** 6:30pm, beginning June 3rd. **Bring:** Lawn chair, book, water & snack or your dinner if you wish. Sign up at the church office and stay turned for more information. Books may be purchased through: Christian Book Distributors -<https://www.christianbook.com>, or Amazon



society dinner: Joleene Rewerts, Holly Mackie, Nancy Bellows Gabby, Kim Quick, Craig Folkers, Marty Billings Buckingham, Allison Daley Matson, and Roger Lorsch.

## Legacy Society Dinner

Thank you to Kristine Roberts, Executive Director of the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation, for supporting our efforts to launch a Legacy Society at Blair First UMC. A special thanks to attorney Rachel Truhlsen for sharing additional knowledge of estate planning. Thank you to everyone who attended the dinner.

Thank you to Blair First UMC's Vision & Stewardship Team for their hard work and planning for the Legacy Society dinner:



## Weekly Happenings

(Please submit any entries to the office by Wednesday, 3:00pm.)

**Sunday, April 28: 9:30 AM Fifth Sunday of Easter, Worship** - In Person and Live Streaming; **9:30 AM Sunday School. Acolyte Training** to follow Worship in Sanctuary. **12:30-2:00** Mount Piano Recital Practice.

**Monday, April 29: 3:30-5:00** Recital Practice.

**Tuesday, April 30: 4:00-4:45** Recital Practice.

**Wednesday May 1: 11:00 AM** Helen Booton Funeral with luncheon to follow. **3:30-5:15 PM** Recital Practice. **6-6:45 PM** Celebration Bells (parlor), **7:00 PM** Chancel Choir (Sanctuary).

**Thursday, May 2: 5:30 PM** TOPS (Fellowship Hall); **3:30-6:15 PM** Recital Practice

**Friday, May 3: Office Closed. 8:30 AM** Recital Practice

**Saturday, May 4: 8 AM - 1 PM** Rock the Block (see page 1)

## Graduate Sunday

Sunday, May 12, 2024

We will be giving prayer shawls to our graduating Seniors during the 9:30 service.



## Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, June 2, 2024

We will be acknowledging our 2023/2024 Confirmation Class at the 9:30am service.

All **current 2nd-7th graders** that are not currently acolytes, we are offering training so that you can try it out this summer with the current acolytes. On 4/28 & 5/5 after the church service, meet us in the back of the sanctuary. Please let me or Pastor Gina know if you will be here or if you need a different time to train. There are no commitments until we sign up for the 2024/2025 group later this fall, this is just an opportunity to try it out this summer.



### VBS Noisy Offering

Save the dates and your change to add to our VBS fund. Collection pails will be passed around during the 9:30am service on 5/19 and 6/2. Children and Youth can also bring their change to Sunday School on 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19.

There's still four more Sundays this Spring to meet after Children's Message for Sunday School. 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19 @ 9:30am

On 5/19, **WEAR RED!** And we will celebrate the Pentecost, (and our final day) with games and treats in the Outdoor Pavilion. (weather permitting)



### Sunday Fundays!

Once or twice a month in June, July, and August, Pre-K—6th grade will meet in Fellowship Hall after the Children's Message for a fun-filled activity tied into the day's Bible theme.

**June 2nd**—Letting God's light shine (who likes things that glow-in-the-dark?)

**June 23rd**—Music Day (a morning of songs and instruments to play!)

### Gateway to the West

Saturday, June 8th in the Outdoor Pavilion.

We will have crafts, temporary tattoos, (maybe games) and VBS signup available all morning before the parade that afternoon.

VBS will be at the First Lutheran Church.

June 24-28, 9:00am-12:00pm

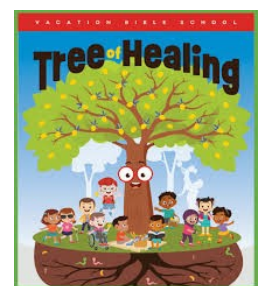
Lunch will be served at noon,

families welcome.

Current Pre-K—5th grade

**6th—12th grade and**

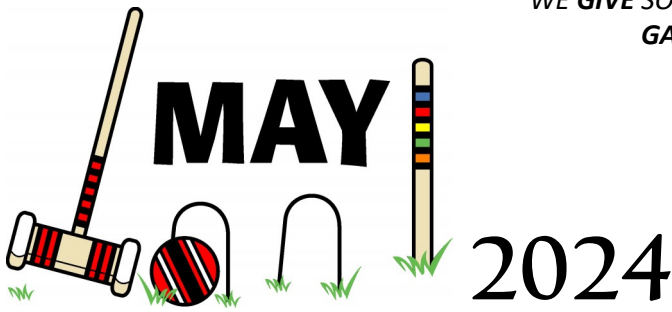
**Adult Volunteers needed!**



**We will need lots of volunteers this summer** from our older youth. Especially for those in Junior High and High School, you'll start to join groups that will want to know how many hours/places you've put in your volunteer hours. And helping at our church activities is a great way to get those hours in!


**We will need helping hands at our Sunday Fundays, Gateway to the West tables,** and tons of help during **Vacation Bible School.** Keep an eye on our Facebook page and Weekly Communique for more opportunities and when to sign up.

**Let me know if you're wanting to help out so we can contact you as we get more information to get you signed up.**



WE **GIVE** SO THAT WE MAY FULFILL OUR VISION TO:  
**GATHER** To Thrive In Community.  
**GROW** To Be Like Jesus.  
**GO** To Be Hope  
 Give->Gather->Grow->Go->

**First United Methodist Church**  
 Office Hours– M-Th  
 9am-3pm  
 Office Email:  
[office@blairumc.org](mailto:office@blairumc.org)  
 Church Office:  
 402.426.2165  
 Church Website:  
[www.blairumc.org](http://www.blairumc.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 11:00 AM Helen Booton Funeral Luncheon to follow. 3:30-5:15PM Piano recital practice (Sanctuary) 6-6:45 PM Celebration Bells 7:00 Chancel Choir	2 3:30-6:15 Piano recital practice (Sanctuary) 5:30 PM TOPS	3 Office Closed 8:30AM Piano recital practice (Sanctuary)	4 8:00am-1:00pm Rock the Block for Habitat for Humanity
5 8:00 AM Appreciation Breakfast. 9:30 AM Worship w/ Holy Communion, In-Person/Live Streaming, 9:30 AM Sunday School . Acolyte training following Worship. Coffee Fellowship following service. 7:00 PM Mount Piano Recital (sanctuary)	6 6:00-7:30 PM Girl Scouts #58121 (5/6)	7 9:30 Faithful Bookworms (Parlor) 7:00 PM NOW Core Meeting	8 9:30-3:00 PM WIC (Fellowship Hall) 6-6:45 PM Celebration Bells, Last practice (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)	9 5:30 PM TOPS 7:00 PM Hospitality Meeting	10 Office Closed	11 7:30 AM United Methodist Men in Fellowship Hall. 8 AM- Noon All Church Volunteer at Washington Co. Recycling
12 GRADUATE SUNDAY - Mothers' Day 9:30 AM In-Person Worship/Live Streaming, 9:30 Sunday School. Coffee Fellowship following service. 5-7:00 PM Girl Scouts #58115 (5/6)	13 1:00 PM Inter-agency Meeting (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 PM Family Ministries (Parlor)	14	15 9:30 AM United Methodist Women (Parlor) 7:00 PM Chancel Choir, Last Practice	16 5:30 PM TOPS (FH) 5:30 PM SPRC (Parlor) 7:00 PM Leadership Team (Parlor)	17 Office Closed	18
19 PENTECOST 9:30 AM In-Person Worship and Live Streaming, Noisy Offering for VBS; 9:30 Last regular Sunday School for year. Coffee Fellowship following service. 6:00 PM Men's Book Club @ the Folker's.	20 10:00 AM Congregational Care (Parlor) 6-7:30 PM Girl Scouts #58121 (5/6)	21 10:00 AM Worship (Parlor)	22	23 5:30 PM TOPS (FH)	24 Office Closed	25
26 9:30 AM Worship, In-Person and Live Streaming, Coffee Fellowship following service.	27 Office Closed MEMORIAL DAY 	28	29	30 5:30 PM TOPS (FH)	31 Office Closed	