

# NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026



## CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

BY LACEY WHEELER

I love traveling. Beginning in High School when our youth group would travel for music mission trips all around the U.S. every summer, I caught the bug. Since then, I have had the complete honor of traveling to Sweden, Italy, Burundi, Kenya, Saint Lucia, Switzerland, Burundi, Canada, Mexico, and if you count sitting in an airport, Belgium and Denmark. Each place with their own culture, language, customs and traditions. Each with its own challenges and its own beauties.

These places have filled my spirit with excitement, joy in the presence of a Creator who has crafted each of these places, a yearning for life and the life that God is inviting me.

It seems navigating the geographical landscape is much easier than navigating the landscape of one's soul, and especially more difficult when navigating the landscape of one's journey with God, and where God is inviting a person to go, to journey.

Throughout scripture we see people invited to journey with God. Moses, after leaving Egypt, is invited back to Egypt by God to help his people out from under oppression. Abraham moves with his dad to a place called Haran until God calls him from his home to venture to "a land I will show you" (Genesis 12:1). Really clear, God, thanks. Of course, we see the who follow Jesus in the Gospels following Jesus, saying yes to a mysterious request "Follow me". Simon Peter and Andrew are invited with "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of people" (Matthew 4:19). Philip is called to follow Jesus with a personal invitation in John 1:43.

And, even these invitations seem a bit easier to navigate as they are face to face with Jesus, saying yes to a person in front of them.

We are faced with a question in 2026. A question of journeying with God. A question of navigation. A question of discernment. A question of new beginnings and resurrected traditions. A question that holds within it opportunities we have yet to see or imagine:

**WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BE IN THIS TIME  
AND IN THIS PLACE?**

CONTINUING THE JOURNEY CONT.

# WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BE IN THIS TIME AND IN THIS PLACE?

This question requires that we dig deep into the desires of our hearts, the passions of our souls and the places where our hearts break when we see hurting in this world. This question requires that we open our eyes to our communities, our neighbors and the people around us, because God does not call us to transform us only for our good, that's a piece of it. However, God calls us to transform us for the good of the world. In this conversation, we must ask also, "what is God doing in the world around us?" and "how can we work with God in what God is already doing in those places?"

Throughout 2026, our Leadership Board will be discerning this question together. We will be having conversations with you all as well, because this is a "we" approach, rather than a "me" approach. It is the life and the passion of the church, the people in the church, who will breathe into this experience and from this we will be focused on Who God is calling us to be in this time and place.

Throughout the year, we will seek to align even more our resources (both building, financial, people energy and more), to the vision that God has given us. We will seek to align our ministry teams and the work we do to focus and make a larger impact in our communities.

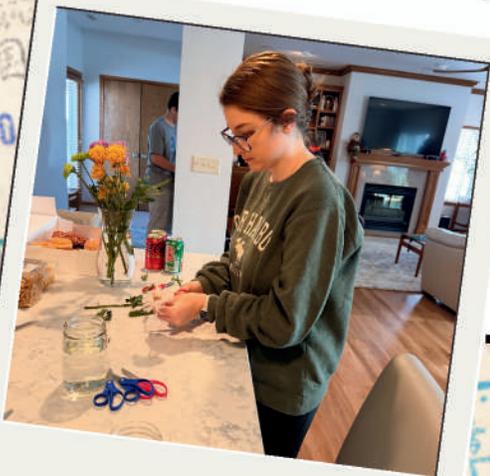
This journey might be similar to Abraham's invitation to "Go to a land I will show you." We have been on a journey together stopping for a while in Spiritual Practices, for a few months in listening to the community, a few months of taking a rest in deep listening in our congregation, and even years of sitting in places of prayer and practicing rest and seeking wisdom.

We are ready to continue to embark on the next leg of our journey together:  
Who is God calling us to be in this time and in this place?



Ever wonder what our Leadership Board does? Overall, we look at the mission of our church and look at strategic ways for us to live out this mission. And, on occasion, we retreat together! Actually, this was the first time in awhile and we were so grateful for the time together. Jeanne Erikson graciously hosted and we were able to do a few spiritual practices (yes - one of these was adorning Jeanne's house with flowers!) We also spent time discerning who we are as a church overall and who God is calling us to be in this season, Jeanne also taught us about Conflict Resolution as well and we are excited to practice it! Be in prayer for our board as we continue to faithfully serve and discern God's work for this church in this place and time!

*-Lacey Wheeler*



UWfaith met on January 14 for their Annual Soup for Missions meal and Call to Prayer and Self Denial program. We enjoyed vegetable beef soup hosted by Jessie Poston. Bobby Reed assisted with the meal and provided dessert. Bobby presented the program on children and support given by many National Mission Institutions. Our next general meeting will be March 30, at 6:30pm with Diane Reed leading the program. We are, also, starting work on our Annual Mother Daughter Banquet for April, and our Potting Flowers along with Other Activities Event for May.

*-Dita McGinnis*



United  
Women  
in Faith

As we start 2026 we feel blessed to have fully stocked shelves and freezers. We have completed our yearly plan and are working on revising our bylaws to reflect our changing needs. We are seeing between 35-45 families a month! We continue our personal shopping model and feel it works well as we can connect, love and serve our community. Thank you for your continued support.



*-Meggin DeMass*

# HOPE CONNECTIONS Christmas Distribution



# WORSHIP MOMENTS





# SUNDAY MORNINGS



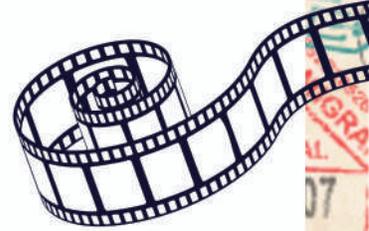


# SUNDAY MORNINGS





# SHEPHERD ON THE SEARCH



# DAVID MOVIE NIGHT





# PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

# CELEBRATIONS



## Birthdays

### JANUARY

- 1 - Floyd Dowell
- 1 - Delynn Nelson
- 4 - Rick Nelson
- 5 - Beverly Grunder
- 6 - Adyson Shallah
- 6 - Joyce Webster
- 9 - Christopher Paddock
- 12 - Dan Heinz
- 12 - Tonja McCulloch
- 15 - Patrick Konecny
- 15 - Larry Shiblom
- 16 - Greg Bird
- 18 - Amber Wyssman
- 24 - Abigail McCulloch
- 24 - AJ Reed
- 27 - Miranda Shackelford

### FEBRUARY

- 1 - Carolyn Whitesell
- 5 - Annika Naillieux
- 6 - Patty Dahl
- 10 - Clinton Bextel
- 10 - Hannah Mowder
- 14 - Priscilla Rinehart
- 15 - Bella McCulloch
- 15 - Joyce Merritt
- 16 - Bonnie Dowell
- 17 - Tracie Duncun
- 17 - Harper Leis
- 19 - Evelyn Diehl
- 20 - Roger Santo
- 21 - Daryl Futhey
- 22 - Christine McKee
- 27 - April Grunder
- 28 - Brian Grunder

## Anniversaries

### JANUARY

- Greg & Alicia Bird
- Mike & Tonie Rollins
- Jack & DeLaney Redifer

### FEBRUARY

- Ken & Virginia Morgan
- Paul & Patty Shaver
- Stephen & Jan Lindner



## Special Thanks

Congratulations RHUMC! We have paid 100% of our apportionments in 2025! This is 10% of our budget for the year that we offer to the conference to help with conference funding, mission work and more. This is a thank you from our District Superintendent, Reverend Dr. Kalaba Chali!

Dear Rose Hill UMC,  
 Thank you for your faithfulness in paying more than 90% of your Mission Share.  
 I am grateful for your Ministry among us.  
 Thank you!  
 DS Chali



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 ROSE HILL, KS 67133

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

And pray  
 in the Spirit  
 on all  
 occasions  
 with all kinds  
 of prayers  
 and requests.  
 Ephesians  
 6:18

**January 4, 2026**

- **Christine & Riley McKee:** Christine's Mom, Diana, for a smooth transition as she moves to Rose Hill :)
- **Harper Leis:** For my Grandma's knee to heal properly

**January 11, 2026**

- **Priscilla & Greg Rinehart:** Prayers for Greg as he has started chemotherapy treatment.

**January 18, 2026**

- **Kendra Tharp:** Friends, Claire Graham and Edna Lewis died. Neighbor, Evelyn Smith, died.
- **Michael Conley:** Prayers for Cassie as she continues on the road to recovery.
- **Prayers for Tony Jones and his parents.** Tony is having health concerns.

**February 1, 2026**

- **Christine & Riley McKee:** Prayers for everyone starting new jobs this year.
- **Bobby Reed:** Prayers for Peyton Dugan (2 ½ years old) who has a tumor between her stomach & spine. The Doctors will determine course of action once diagnosis is complete.

