

the outreach

Happy New Year Andover!

As we end 2025 and move to 2026 I invite you to consider a passage from the gospel of John:

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

This was a very troubling thing for Nicodemus to hear. He questioned what did it even mean to be "born again". Jesus was speaking of starting life on a new path. By embracing the path of Jesus, we are embracing a new way of living. In essence we are made new. Jesus invites everyone to experience this grace of letting go of the old so they can walk in the light, joy and love of God.

What would it look like for you to be made new in 2026? The start of the new year is a great time for making a change. I encourage you to take a moment and reflect who you want to be at the end of 2026. What is God calling you to change? How is God challenging you to grow?

Jesus told Nicodemus to be born again; to live a new path. It can be difficult to do yet when we are willing to try we can experience the life God has for us. It reminds me of the hymn Day of New Beginnings:

This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.

For by the life and death of Jesus, love's mighty Spirit, now as then, can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.

Blessings,

Pastor Ryan



**ANDOVER UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

P.O. Box 519 -1429 N Andover Rd
Andover, KS 67002

SUNDAY SERVICES

9am SUNDAY SCHOOL
10am SERVICE

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.-Thurs. 9am-5pm
Closed Friday



Andover UMC January Worship

Jan 4th - 10am Worship and Communion

Worship Series: Don't Bowl Alone



In the late 1990's Dr Robert Putnam noticed an interesting trend- there were no more bowling leagues. A stable presence of his youth Dr Putnam saw that instead of a bowling league which included a great amount of fellowship, people were bowling alone. This insight led to a study that discovered the decline in all social fellowship activities from bowling, service clubs, political parties, and even church.

In January we will look at Putnam's research and explore how we can follow Jesus' call to not bowl alone.

Jan 11th - Bowling with Jesus ***Matthew 3:13-17***

Accepting Jesus' invitation to go bowling

Jan 18th - Bowling with Friends ***John 1:29-42***

Why we need to bowl with our Friends

Jan 25th - Bowling for Others ***Luke 10:1-7***

How bowling together can help others



Join us for bowling on January 25th at 5:30pm. Location to be set by January 18th

➤➤➤ FOR YOUR INFORMATION

DECEMBER 2025'S YEAR-END GIVING NOTICE

A few ways to have your contributions recorded in the 2025 giving year:

- * Contributions mailed to the church office with a postmark of **Dec. 31st or earlier.**
- * Contributions given in the offering plate up to and including **Dec. 28th.**
- * Contributions brought to the church office before **noon Dec. 31st.**

The church will be sending year-end contribution statements in Jan. which will include all of the above described giving ways.

JUSTICE TOGETHER

The next meeting of Justice Together will be on Thursday, March 26 at First UMC in Wichita at 6:00 pm where we will hear the reports of the research committee at the Solutions Briefing. Finally, mark your calendar for the 2026 Nehemiah Assembly which will be on Thursday, April 30 at 6:00 pm.

ANDOVER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1429 N ANDOVER RD
ANDOVER, KS 67002

SAFE GATHERINGS
— A BELIEVING COMMITMENT —

VBS IN DECEMBER
MONDAY DECEMBER 29

8 AM - 5:30 PM

\$20 PER CHILD

Adventure Island

ACTIVITIES
BIBLE LESSONS, SKITS & STORYTELLING, GAMES, MUSIC & DANCING, ARTS & CRAFTS AND MORE!
ELEMENTARY AGE CHILDREN
BRING A SACK LUNCH
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN
PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

NEW ONLINE DIRECTORY

The new online directory is up and running you can use the directory on your phone or other devices. How to instructions are printed and are at the Welcome Center. If you have any trouble accessing the online directory, please email barbarah1834@gmail.com and Barb will be glad to help you. Remember, you must be a part of the directory to access it. So, if you are not yet on the directory, there is a form to complete on the Welcome Center too. We also need updated photos for the directory. Take them yourselves and send to michelle@andoverumc.com or catch Barb Hartness or Cathy Durano any Sunday morning for a quick picture of the family and each individual in the family, Thank you!

Adult Sunday School Classes

Love at the Center Meet in Room 8 at 9:00am

Pathfinders Meet at 9:00am in the Parlor.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS CELEBRATIONS & PRAYER REQUESTS

JAN 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 Food	29 Bank	30 Winter	31 Break	1 New Year's Day-Office Closed Food Bank Winter	2 Break	3 9:30a Wickham basketball practice
4 9a Sunday School-all ages 10a Service	5 6p Wickham basketball practice 6:30p Open Door Lunch Packing	6 9a Tuesday Coffee Bible Study 10a Food Bank 10a-1p	7 9a Women's Pickleball 3p Food Bank 3-6p 6p Crossfit 6:45p Choir Practice 7p Praise Night	8 9a Pickleball Co-ed 6p Shadow Rock HOA	9	10
11 9a Sunday School-all ages 10a Service	12 6:30p Cub Scout mtg.	13 9a Tuesday Coffee Bible Study 10a Food Bank 10a-1p	14 9a Women's Pickleball 3p Food Bank 3-6p 6p Crossfit 6:45p Choir Practice 7p Confirmation	15 9a Pickleball Co-ed 6:30p Light & Lamp Women's Bible study	16	17 5p Lord's Diner - offsite
18 Human Relations 9a Sunday School-all ages 10a Service 3p Dellmont recital 3p Chat, Chew, & Do Winter	19 M L King Day-Office Closed - Youth Retreat	20 9a Tuesday Coffee Bible Study 10a Food Bank 10a-1p	21 9a Women's Pickleball 3p Food Bank 3-6p 6p Crossfit 6:45 Choir Practice	22 9a Pickleball Co-ed	23	24 10a Eagle Scout Court of Honor
25 9a Sunday School-all ages 10a Service-Outside onsite 5:30p Youth Game Night	26 6:30p Unified Board meeting 6:30p Cub Scout mtg.-	27 9a Tuesday Coffee Bible Study 10a Food Bank 10a-1p	28 9a Outreach Team 9a Women's Pickleball 3p Food Bank 3-6p 6p Crossfit 6:30p KidsConnect 6:45p Choir Practice	29 9a Pickleball Co-ed	30 Scout Pinewood	31 Derby Impound

BIRTHDAYS

03 Monalisa Vining
05 Melissa Hellon
14 Lee Kaze
15 Abbie Fulghum
16 Sharon Wenzel
23 Trina Gilliland
24 Lydia Bechtel-Edmonson
28 Karey Padding
28 David Brown

ANNIVERSARIES

30 Will & Sharon Wenze.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Melissa Heath
Kasey, Justin Kneisel's co-worker
Will & Sharon Wenzel

Pray for those facing surgery, those who have lost love ones, and those struggling with cancer diagnosis.

Pray for the family and friends in the loss of Carolyn Goering, a former member.

INFORMATION

Winter Weather Cancellations/Delays Instructions

Sunday: We will have Sunday Services at regular time, 10am, if the roads are passable. We will only cancel the service in the worst of situations. If this occurs, we will send out a One Call Now message, notify channel 12, KWCH-TV, and post on FACEBOOK.

***First of all, please consider your safety and only attend if you are comfortable being out in the weather.

Wednesday: On Wed., our plan is to have the lot cleared for evening activities unless we are in an active snow storm. Our cancellation policy for Wed. is if the Andover schools are cancelled, we will cancel as well. We will send out a One Call Now message, notify channel 12, KWCH-TV, and FACEBOOK.

Parking Lot Conditions: When snow falls prior to Sunday, we will clear the front half of the parking lot, if sufficient depth warrants. If it is still snowing on Sunday mornings, we may wait until the snowfall stops before clearing the front half of the lot. Feel free to use the covered drive to drop off passengers at the front door.

Delays or Cancellations: In the event Pastor Ryan Lynch and the General Board determine that a delay or change in schedule is necessary for church activities, information will be distributed via our One Call Now, notify channel 12, KWCH-TV, and FACEBOOK.

***Remember to first of all consider your safety and only attend if you are comfortable being out in the weather.

**Andover Community
Food Bank**

**Open: Tues. 10a-1p
Wed. 3-6p
Resumes: 1/6/2026**

To find out opportunities to
volunteer at Andover Community
Food Bank, join this sign up genius.
[//tinyurl.com/FoodBankAndover](https://tinyurl.com/FoodBankAndover)

FILL MY CUP

Annita Evans hosted Fill My Cup circle at her home on Dec. 11, 2025. Eleven of us enjoyed her hospitality. We packed bags for shut-in church members, enjoyed a wonderful lunch (including homemade noodles and cinnamon rolls) and lots of visiting. Afterwards, we delivered the goody bags.

Box Tops for Education—AUMC has long been a supporter of McCurdy Charter School in New Mexico, which is associated with the United Methodist Church. You can download an app on your phone and scan your grocery receipts (digital or paper) to support this school. It takes only seconds. One person in our congregation has earned \$90.40 over the years she has been scanning to support the school.

Pop Tops for Ronald McDonald's House—AUMC collects pop tops from soup cans, vegetable cans and pop cans. Just bag them and drop them in the box inside the office. They are collected and taken to Ronald McDonald House which assists people with loved ones in the hospital.

Small Batteries—AUMC accepts small batteries and takes them to Interstate All Battery to be recycled. Just drop them in the box inside the office.

January CROSSFIT YOUTH

Hello AUMC Family! Last month the youth had a great time caroling for a few members of the church. We also had the opportunity to help serve the Lord's dinner on the 20th. The youth were able to give back through both opportunities with a great sense of pride. Thank you for all your support.



Upcoming Events

1. Jan 4th Poptarts and PJs
2. Jan 7th Crossfit resumes
3. Jan 10th Chili Cook off
4. Jan 18th & 19th Winter retreat
5. Jan 25th Game Night
YLT: Sarah, Mike, Christie, Justin

May the New Year fill your home
with joy, your heart with love, and
your life with laughter. & may God
bless you today and every day.

Happy New Year.



January Newsletter

Children's Ministry

NOTE FROM ERIN

Hi AUMC family! Happy 2026! I love that special moment where we celebrate the ways God moved through us in this past year, then begin to envision where God might be leading us in the future. As we buckle up and dive into what this year holds, I would like to encourage all of us to try something new. Maybe there is an area of ministry that piques your interest. Maybe there is a new family in church you could strike up a conversation with. Maybe you are on the verge of making a new lifelong friend but just don't know it yet. Let's greet each other with a spirit of adventure as we explore the realm of new possibilities because with God, ALL things are possible.

Blessings, Erin

FAMILY IDEAS

Host a "Pajama Day" at Home: Stay cozy, read favorite books, make pancakes for dinner, and enjoy a slow day together

Build a Blanket Fort and Read Winter Books: Perfect for toddlers and preschoolers who love imaginative play, and winter-themed books

Try Ice Painting: Freeze water in a tray with popsicle sticks, then let kids paint with the colorful ice.

Try a New Family Tradition: January is the perfect time to start one – like a monthly family night. My own family started "pizza Friday's" this year and it's been a huge hit.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Faith in Community: What Does It Mean to You

Focus: God's community grows and changes

Verse: All of the people shouted with praise to the Lord because the foundation of the Lord's house had been laid
-Ezra 3:11

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sundays - Sunday School - 9am

IMPORTANT EVENTS TO NOTE



**VBS
IN
DECEMBER- 12/29**

**8AM-5:30PM
\$20 PER CHILD
Bring a sack lunch**

**Women's Pickleball
Wed. 9a-12p**

**Co-ed Pickleball
Thurs. 9a-12p**



OUR STAFF

Pastor— Ryan Lynch ryanl@andoverumc.com

Youth Ministry—

Children's Ministry— Erin Murray erinm@andoverumc.com

Music Ministry— Aaron Weatherbie jonathanw@andoverumc.com

Nursery Cor.— Mary Vaughters churchoffice@andoverumc.com

Financial Secretary— Michelle Morris michelle@andoverumc.com

Pianist— Laurel Delimont churchoffice@andoverumc.com

Office Adm/Treasurer— Mary Robey maryr@andoverumc.com

Custodian— JaCoby Wells churchoffice@andoverumc.com

Office Hours —: Mon.—Thurs. 9am-5pm; closed Fri.



Andover United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 519

Andover, KS 67002

Return Service Requested

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