PERIODICAL

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VINE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2002 4th Avenue, Scottsbluff, NE 69361 Phone: (308)635-2069 Fax: (308)632-5723





FIRST OFF, I'M HAPPY TO SEE THAT SO MANY OF YOU ARE ENJOYING THE NEW STREAMING OF OUR SERVICES ONLINE ...



Pastor Craix

in our ministry, loving in our action, and serving from our hearts.

I'm open to coffee and conversation. Let's talk.

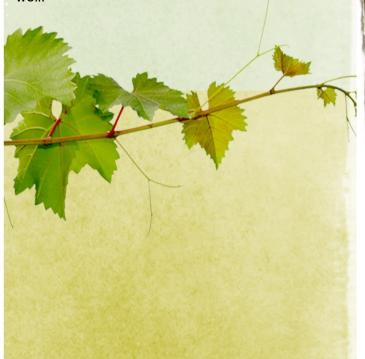
Blessings, Love and Joy to all of you!

WELCOME TO THE VINE!

The Scottsbluff location has had a monthly newsletter called "Connections" for years. The other churches have had different newsletters called different things at different times. At our June meeting, several names were brainstormed for our new church's newsletter, and a strong consensus was to call it "News on the Vine"! We are joined together on the Vine rooted in God's love. We have a beautiful picture of a healthy grape vine bearing fruit.... that's us!

Our Communications Team is made up of volunteers from each of our locations who have a passion to spread the news of the happenings of The Vine United Methodist Church. So much is going on right now that sometimes we can feel separated or excluded from matters; our communications team will be working to help everyone be in the know with information about who, what when, and where. We will be using various forms of communicating to get the word out there, including; this monthly newsletter, the weekly church bulletins and worship slides, social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.), radio and television and more. If there is a way you would like us to communicate information, we would love to hear about it.

If you would like to be part of our communications team, we would love to have you. You can contact the church office (308-635-2069), or talk to Pastor Joe. If you have an article, or something you want to see in the newsletter, you can talk to the church office as well.



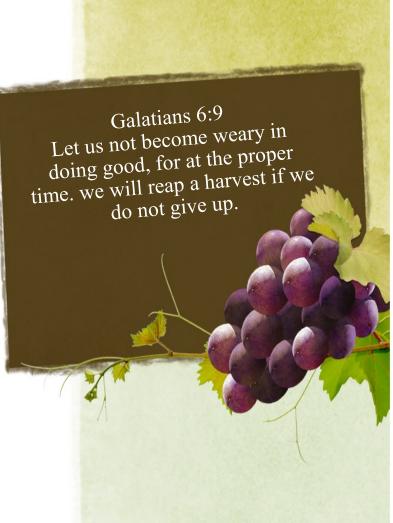
FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

As chair of the First UMC, Scottsbluff Finance, I want to thank all those committee members who have served the last 6 months: Paqui Gonzales, Tom Tomoi, Pat Ropp, Coral Richards, Tim Rounds, Gary Powell, Bob Pile and Glenna Snyder. Your attendance and input are much appreciated. We met every month and discussed the finances of the Scottsbluff church.

On June 4th the new Finance Committee met to finalize a proposed combined six month budget for the Vine UMC. We looked at the budgets for the four churches and made adjustment for the current reality and developed the 6-month budget which was adopted by the Transition Team on 6/10. That budget comes to the Charge Conference on June 17. Those agreeing to serve on the new Vine Finance Committee are: Gary Powell, Joel Lashley, Jon Calahan, Pat Ropp, Bob Pile, Glenda Hinman, Joe Applegate, Coral Richards, and preparatory members Tim Rounds, Joe Knecht, and Deeph Chacko. I have been asked to continue as Chair for the remainder of this calendar year.

I believe we will need to meet monthly, however days and times have not been determined. I look forward to working with all these folks as we build our combined future.

> Linda Redfern. Finance Chair



VINE PASSPORT PROGRAM

The Outreach Committee would like everyone to get to know all the "branches" of the Vine United Methodist Church! Starting August 6th, we invite you to pick up a "passport" at any of our locations; Scottsbluff, Mitchell, Morrill or Henry. Then start you travels! At each worship service you can have your passport signed or stamped by either a pastor, greeter, or usher. Once your passport is full by having attended all five worship services (Saturday night in Scottsbluff included), you will earn a special recognition pin. Just present the passport to the office, one of the pastors or someone on the outreach committee. This will be a fun way for us to get to know other locations and meet great people! Don't delay because the passport event will only last until October 1st.

STELLAR
VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL
SHINE JESUS'



LIGHT

July 23-26, 6:00-8:30 pm

Vacation Bible School will be Sunday, July 23-Wednesday, July 26!! Sunday night we will have a kickoff BBQ from 4:30-6:00pm. Then VBS from 6:00-8:30 pm. All kids—All Ages!! Any kid 6th grade and older will be our crew leaders.

We NEED a lot of adult volunteers to help out this year. We would love for YOU to help. We have a place for everyone in the church to help. If you want to volunteer, please contact Missi Iasillo at 308-225-2527 or miasillo@aol.com. you would like to help in!

Online registration for VBS is open and available at https://vbspro.events/p/events/vineumc or you can scan the below QR code on your smart phone. Being that our church now covers 5 different communities, we are asking that all participants and volunteers register online.



MISSION OUTREACH FOR JULY - STUFF THE BUS & KIDS FIRST

Stuff the Bus is United Way's annual school supply drive to help local children and their families that may be unable to purchase



the necessary supplies for the school year.

United Way of Western Nebraska has a large supply of paper goods on hand -- donations of crayons, colored pencils, glue sticks and other school supplies are welcome. Gift card and monetary donations are always welcome and can be used to purchase specific items needed by students.

Help Stuff the Bus for area kids! Gift card and monetary donations ensure that all children in our community who need help purchasing school supplies have what they need to start the year off right. Your donation directly helps kids in our community.

As is the tradition of United Way of Western Nebraska, money raised stays in the local community. Scotts Bluff County area donations help students in the Scotts Bluff area, Box Butte County donations help students in Box Butte County, etc. 100% of donations will be used to purchase school supplies for local kids in our community.

Will have a Giving Tree on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall and you may pick "apples" for the tree. Apples available will include various school supplies needed by the daycare – i.e. glue sticks, bulletin board



paper, etc. If you prefer to make a monetary donation rather than purchase a specific item you may leave a check in the office or offering plate designating the donation to Kids First.

Transition Team Ends & the Real Work Begins.

Matthew 25:23: His lord said to him. "Well done, good and faithful servant..." I sincerely hope that the Lord looks down on our team with this blessing. The transition team, led by the pastors, started to work immediately after charge conferences voted to form a new church in four locations. We had our last meeting June 10. The work of church will now transition to standard United Methodist committees and leadership as outlined in the book of discipline.

Your first question might be who was on the transition team. We used the administrative councils from each of the churches. Other interested people were welcomed. Why AD council? AD council is made up of members / leaders from all the of other committees and work groups of the church. That gave us expertise of business people, lay leaders, worship leaders, educators, volunteers, finance people, and clergy. Yes, some of these same people were on the exploratory team. That group had already built relationships and were ready to work.

The first order of business was who do we want to be? If we are new, what is important to us? We don't want to lose our rich history but we want to grow as vibrant Christians in our communities. The

mission of the United Methodist church is "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by proclaiming the good news of God's grace and by exemplifying Jesus' command to love God and neighbor, thus seeking the fulfillment of God's reign and realm in the world."

We further defined this as

We value and promote:

- •Spiritual growth and belonging
- •Bible centered connections
- Loving hospitality and
- •Dedication to tangibly serving and caring for all generations.

So what else? With your help we selected a name. - The VINE United Methodist Church. A sub-committee did great work in narrowing down a logo to be used on letterheads, websites, and signage so that the team could choose one. Check it out. We have church leadership and committees nominated to lead our new church. We have a communication group who are working to keep us all informed and developing a marketing plan. We still

have a place for you to share your gifts volunteer. The new and old finance committees have proposed a budget. We are looking into grants and money from the conference to assist us with our plans. Trustees are looking at insurance to cover our assets. An education team is looking at curriculum and education plans that reach both young and old. We all want the opportunity to grow as Christians.

We have grown together to be more than four - we are one church. We have developed deeper respect for the gifts and needs of each community. We are ready to move to the next phase and turn leadership over to the traditional United Methodist structure.

As one member put it "UMC on steroids is our goal...growing disciples in a mainstream protestant environment. The Wesley Boys did it right and they did it with energy and passion "So can we, with the guidance, love and wisdom of our bothers and sisters in faith - that is

By Linda Fowler Ad-Council Chair

DISCIPLESHIP

One area that our new church was created to do, was grow in our discipleship ministry. What exactly is discipleship? Well the UMC website says; "The active living of the individual Christian in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ, that is, being as effective a disciple of Christ as possible. Discipleship involves a ministry of outreaching love and witness to others concerning Christ and God's grace. Discipleship also calls the Christian to ministries of servanthood and service to the world to the glory of God and for human fulfillment. "

The early Methodists devoted themselves to pursuing holiness of heart and life by practicing the "General Rules for the United Societies." Continuation in the societies required that the members demonstrate their desire for salvation, "First, by doing no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind. ... Secondly, by doing good: by being merciful after their power; as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, ... Thirdly, by attending upon all the ordinances of God" (The Book of Discipline 2012, 78-

The Methodists gathered in small groups of classes and bands to "watch over one another in love," to support one another in growing in grace by avoiding evil, doing good and practicing "means of grace." These means of grace are named in the General Rules:

- The public worship of God
- The ministry of the Word, either read or expounded
- The supper of the Lord
- Family and private prayer
- Searching the scriptures
- Fasting or abstinence

When we kickoff programs this fall, we will see some major changes. We will have a Pastor of Discipleship (Pastor Joe), we will have a new children/youth ministry director, and we will begin creating and growing our small groups and bible studies. If you would like to be part of our team, whether helping with children/youth on Sundays and/or Wednesdays, want to lead a small group or Bible Study, or have a new idea, talk to Pastor Joe.

The Vine-Scottsbluff. NE The Vine-Morrill. NE The Vine-Henry, NE

The Vine-Mitchell. NE

CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS

WHEN & Where

July 5-Morrill, NE-Morrill, Henry, Mitchell

July 6-8—Scottsbluff, NE—Scottsbluff families

Times: Weekdays: 2:00-8:30; Sat: 10:00-4:00

HOWP

- Schedule Online ucdir.com. OR code on flver
- church website
- Use church code: ne221
- Use password: photos

Schedule at church:

 Weekends: June 17-18, 24-25, July 1-2 Need Help with sign-ups? Call: Sonia Schumacher---308-631-6774

Please let us hear from you! We want to update our Vine roster with current parishioners. Call the church office at 308-635-2069 if your membership status has



- 1-8" x 10" portrait
- Digital image for app

WHAT ELSE CAN

- Choose other options -**Voluntary portrait** orders
- **Customizable options**

- **Build community**
- Have current family
- **Use Church App with**
- pictures of families

FREE





YOU GET?

- **Multiple portrait** options ranging from wallet-size to 20" x 24"
- **CD** with pictures

WHY Have Pictures? Know names &

- Have 130 families photog
- portraits for families
- The Vine Churches will get a 10% rebate of all sales.

Outreach

Bring on the sunshine! With a new sunrise comes a new beginning with The Vine UMC! We have an exciting month ahead. Our monthly mission is Stuff the Bus for back to school and Kids First Preschool. Monetary donations or gift cards can be brought to the church office. There is a list of items needed for the preschool available as well. If you would like to be part of our Outreach Team, to help plan events, and organize things in all four locations, talk to one of our pastors.

Calling Marthas and Matthews!

Who?.... Martha and Matthew is the name for our congregational call system in Scottsbluff. Every quarter we have a leader who will call members whose name starts with a section of the alphabet when circumstances arise for needed service and extra help. This quarter, July through September, our leaders are Martha Applegate and Carolyn Applegate. They will be using Sign up Genius as well as contacting members whose last name is I through O of the alphabet when help is needed.

Examples of requests include: cookies for fellowship, funeral dinners, or other special events. If you are not a baker that's okay! Hosts and a clean up crew for after the events are also needed! We are working on merging everyone's location with the church they attend to make the process easier. Please consider helping when called upon. As for our other locations they will continue to us their signup methods for worship volunteers and snacks until further notice.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

At it's core, Stephen Ministry is about equipping congregation members to provide distinctively Christian care to those who need it. As a lay caring ministry, it functions as an extension of our own pastoral care ministry and



helps carry out the mission of the church in several

- Equipping God's people for the work of ministry
- Providing Christ-centered care in difficult times
- Helping people identify, develop, and use their gifts in meaningful ministry
- Deepening people's faith and helping them grow as disciples

Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high -quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and community experiencing life difficulties. Stephen Ministers complete 20 sessions (50 hours) of initial training and are then matched with care receivers that they will meet with on a weekly basis for one hour. Stephen Ministers participate in twice-monthly supervision and guidance they need and helps them continue to grow as caregivers so they can offer the best care possible to their care receivers.

We are excited to expand this valuable ministry into our 3 new locations. If you have questions about Stephen Ministry or how to become involved or recommend a person who might bin in need of a Stephen Minister, contact any of the current Stephen Ministry Leadership Team: Julie Schaff, Barb Ropp, Megan Massey, or Marg Dredla. They would love to visit with you one-on-one and provide you with more insight into this very important ministry.



Reminder:

Church Pictures Wed., July 5th (Morrill), Thu.-Sat. July 6th-8th (Scottsbluff)





2023

KEY: SB - Scottsbluff, MT - Mitchell, MO - Morrill, HE - Henry

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						5pm Sat. Worship (SB)
8:30am Worship (HE) 9:30am Worship (SB) 10:30am Bible Study (SB)	9:30am COOL Committee(SB) 1:30pm UWIF Board	4 OFFICE & KIDS FIRST CLOSED	5 11:30am Sack Lunches 5:00pm Community Meal (MT)	6 6:30am UMM Breakfast (SB)	7	5pm Sat. Worship (SB)
9 9:30am Planting the Vine Worship Service and BBQ @ YMCA TrailsWest Pavilion	9:30am COOL Committee(SB)	4pm WWIP	12	6:30am UMM Breakfast (SB) 9:30am Communications Team Mtg 5pm Soup Kitchen 6:30pm Men's Supper (MT)	14	15 11am Horse Creek Rendezvous Parade (MO) 5pm Sat. Worship (SB)
16 9am Worship(SB & HE) 10am Bible Study (SB) 11am Worship(MI &MO)	9:30am COOL Committee(SB) 1:30pm Caring Circle	18 6pm Stephen Ministry	8am Kids First Board 11:30am Sack Lunches	6:30am UMM Breakfast (SB) 10am Outreach Meeting (SB)	21	5pm Sat. Worship (SB)
9am Worship(SB & HE) 10am Bible Study (SB) 11am Worship(MI &MO) 4:30pm VBS Kickoff BBQ (SB) 6pm VBS(SB)	9:30am COOL Committee(SB) 6pm VBS(SB)	4pm WWIP 6pm VBS(SB)	26 6pm VBS(SB)	6:30am UMM Breakfast (SB) 9am Newsletter Folding(SB)	28	5pm Sat. Worship (SB)
30 9am Worship(SB & HE) 10am Bible Study (SB) 11am Worship(MI &MO)	9:30am COOL Committee(SB)					



July

- 1 Tom & Carol Holyoke
- 6 Dan & Linda Barrett
- 7 Garrett & Caitlyn Jackson
- 9 Eldon & Candy Hubbard
- 10 Bob & Marilyn Betancur
- 12 Russel & Tessie Colby
- 13 Bill & Tara DeWitt, Robert & Rossell Kelley
- 15 Scott Phillips & Pam Richardson
- 16 Bob & Margaret Lashley
- 18 Raymond & Connie Spencer
- 21 Adam & Lisa Freeburg
- 25 Pastor Craig & Lori Collins
- 26 James & Pamela Barker
- 29 Jon & Patti Gillen
- 30 Albert & Teri Metcalf, Bob & Ruthie Stowell

NOTES:

To my church family, much thanks to Pastor Craig and the staff and to all who sent cards, phone calls, and most of all prayers of concerns and for healing. I feel much better than I look. It is a blessing to be a part of such a caring church.



Sincerely, Janet Gardner

Thank you church for your support through graduation and for the blanket at Graduate Sunday.

Matt Applegate

A huge thank you to Judy Facinelli. Judy has came in to volunteer to answer phones and has helped with the merging of our membership records in the week of transition before our new Administrative Assistant starts. Her selfless service to the church in so many ways is a blessing, but this past couple weeks she has helped fill the void in the church office. Thank you so much Judy!

Dear Methodist Family,

Thanks so much to all of you for your caring concern during my last couple of medical problems. It was so nice for Pastor Craig & Marilyn Betancur to come visit, and all the prayers, calls, & visits of concern. You're a caring church, and I'm so thankful for you!

God Bless You, Jan Curtright



July

- 1 Patton Knecht
- 2 Pamela Barker, Debbie Beede
- 3 Ava Osborn, Marlow Osborn
- 4 Larry McCaslin
- 5 Josh Vesper
- 7 Megan Chapman
- 9 Roger Derr, Bill Howe, Margo Snyder
- 10 Ron Fulk, Cheryl McCaslin
- 12 Violet Blome, Aspen Cheek, Janet Larson, Arden Wohlers
- 13 Marj Stucky
- 16 Pam Richardson
- 17 Dave Henson
- 20 Pat Halley
- 21 Loretta Russell
- 22 Vern Bourlier, Kenneth Johnson
- 23 Marianne Chapman, Beverly Greenwalt
- 24 Elden Newberry
- 25 Jason Harlow, Lane Karpen, Myrna Sell
- 26 Tessie Colby, Kathy Hickox, Nicki Scott
- 27 Lewis Cawley, Jaimie Clodfelter, Jonah Splichal
- 29 Tim Margheim, Annaliese Schleve
- 30 Judi Freouf, Dalene Louden, Raymond Spencer
- 31 Clancy Anderson



CHURCH OFFICE

- If you have a submission for the August Newsletter, the deadline is July 14th.
- If you have a change in your address, phone number or email, please let the office know.

CONTACT US

Vine UMC 2002 4th Ave Scottsbluff, NE 69361 (308)635-2069

fumcsb@firstumcsb.com

Office Hours Mon-Fri 8am-4pm

LEADERSHIP UPDATES

STAFF/PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS (SPPRC)

The SPPRC serves as a support system for the Pastor, and staff of the church. We are here to encourage, strengthen, nurture, support and respect the pastor and staff and their families.

Annual we review and recommend staff salaries, job descriptions and staff titles. We work with the District Superintendent to provide an assessment of our church and pastor and the impact they have on our members as well as the communities that our church serves.

We evaluate the culture and needs of the communities we live in and find ways our pastor and members can make an impact on those communities. Our committee serves to support the members of our congregation. It is important for our committee to understand the feelings and desires of the church members and appreciate feedback from parishioners so our committee can continue to find ways to serve our staff and congregation

NEW ADMIN ASSISTANT

Morgan Gardner has been hired as our new admin assistant. She will officially begin with us on July 5th. Morgan grew up in the Scottsbluff church and is a member of the Vine UMC. Her and her husband Jason, have two children, Braxton and



Brynlee. She is the daughter of Vern & Dallas Shaffer.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

In Scottsbluff we are currently winding down on a couple of major projects. Jan Johnson, Chris Dill, and Elaine Pile have been instrumental in taking Phase 1 of our courtyard landscaping project from the early planning stages to near completion. Working alongside Anita's Landscaping Company, and numerous other volunteers, work was done to bring in new soil, install a drip irrigation system, and plant flowers, grasses, and trees along the East wall of the building. Completion of Phase 1 will conclude with memorial benches and a fountain which should be available for installation sometime in the next several weeks.

Meanwhile, Sherry Schmidt and Dan Windhorst were busy spearheading a major cleaning project in the downstairs storage areas. With the assistance of volunteers, all of the storage rooms were cleaned and organized. Several of these areas had not been cleaned out for many decades, so many thanks to everyone who participated in making these rooms cleaner, safer, and more functional for both Kid's First and the Church.

Many of you have probably noticed that our fencing on the Southeast corner of the church has been extended to expand the play area for Kid's First. Thank you to Gary Hutzel for leading the way on that project. The Trustees have taken care of numerous other maintenance issues on both the building and the vehicles over the past few months as well.

In Mitchell we are replacing some windows and the front doors later this summer. Allen Gall has been spearheading this work.

The Morrill and Henry locations are both getting new carpet, and lots of repairs have been going on in the parsonage in Morrill. Thank you to Denny & Deb Meyer, Dennis and Conni Ostendorf, Jon & Kathy Calahan for their tireless work.

Finally, we would like to thank the Aulick Family for their generous donation of a 2021 Ford 15 passenger van to the church, as well as, an additional donation for initial paperwork, new tires,

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES

BELOW ARE THE VINE UMC LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2023

Ad-Council—Linda Fowler (Chair), Jennifer Splichal (Vice Chair), Cindy Grauberger (Secretary), Sharyn Wohlers (Treasurer), Mason Stover, Jonah Splichal, Pam Gall, Jeanne Stratton, Marilyn Betancur, Linda Redfern, Pam Gall, Hayley Beaudette, Martin Brandt, Carolyn Applegate, Julie Schaff, Connie Rounds

Trustees—Jeremy Clodfelter (Chair), Paul Snyder, Dan Windhorst, Sherry Schmidt, Elaine Pile, William Baer, Lorie Zimmerer, Dennis Meyer, Allen Gall, Rebecca Shriver, Chris Dill

S/P-PRC—Hayley Beaduette (Chair), Teresa Thomas, Cindy Osborne, Alley Clodfelter, Sherry Preston Cook, Kathy Calahan, Chuck Richardson, Dan Hinman, Libbey Lundgren, Paqui Gonzales, Jason Splichal, Emily Erdman

Finance—Linda Redfern (Chair), Gary Powell, Joel Lashley, Jon Calahan, Pat Ropp, Bob Pile, Glenda Hinman, Joe Applegate, Coral Richards, Tim Rounds, Joe Knecht, Deepu Chacko

Nominations—Jan Fields, John Massey, Sarah Trumbull, Joy Stuckert, Lex Larsen, Don Ewing, Dave Thomas, Jim Duncan, Jan Curtright

Please reach out to any of our committee chairs or members to discuss concerns, comments or questions.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR "NEW" PASTORS

While many of you know both of our pastors, we realize some of you who came to Scottsbluff after Pastor Joe entered the ministry, or weren't around during Covid when our churches partnered together for online worship may not. Here's a bit about our pastors.

Pastor Craig Collins has been the Scottsbluff FUMC pastor since 2015. He and his wife Lori have three children (Joe, Sara, and Michael, as well as 8 grandchildren (Evah, Eston, Fynlee, Collins, Londyn, Asher, Sophia, and Halle).

Pastor Craig graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary and has been in ministry for 23 years, serving in Hemingford, Augusta (KY) Papillion, and O'Neill United Methodist Churches.

Pastor Joe entered the ministry in 2017 out of the Scottsbluff church. He and his wife Sonia, along with their daughter Gabby began serving in Mitchell, Morrill and Henry/Lyman UMC's.

Pastor Joe went through Licensing School for local pastors through the Great Plains Annual Conference in 2017. He is currently finishing up his undergraduate degree after which he will begin his seminary school work.

They both will be rotating on Sundays between churches about once a month or sermon series. Both of them are excited to get to know you all and are available any time you want to stop by and chat, grab a cup of coffee. As we begin the transition, try introducing yourself by name and offer grace as they try and remember four locations of people's name. They look forward to hearing your stories, getting to know you and working in ministry with you!



Here is a list of some items the preschool and day care are always in need of. You can drop them by the Scottsbluff office or bring them to worship and any location and we will make sure they get delivered. Thank you for your support of this ministry of the church. We are excited to see what the next year brings!

- Glue Sticks
- Puffs Kleenex
- Unscented Baby Wipes
- Markers
- Paper Towels
- Uncoated Paper Plates for Crafts
- Pencils
- Books
- Puzzles
- Any type of Crafty Items
- o Construction Paper
- o Googly Eyes
- o Playdough (homemade or store bought)
- o Fans for the rooms





NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

We are excited to participate in National Night Out! This is a community event which will be held in downtown Scottsbluff on Tuesday August 1 2023. We will be serving Sloppy Joe's, chips and a cookie for \$5.00. Proceeds will benefit our Outreach program. Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success! If you would like to donate food, money or your time there is a sign-up sheet in the hallway, a sign up genius online or please contact Carolyn Applegate (308) 631-5371 or carolynapplegate06@gmail.com