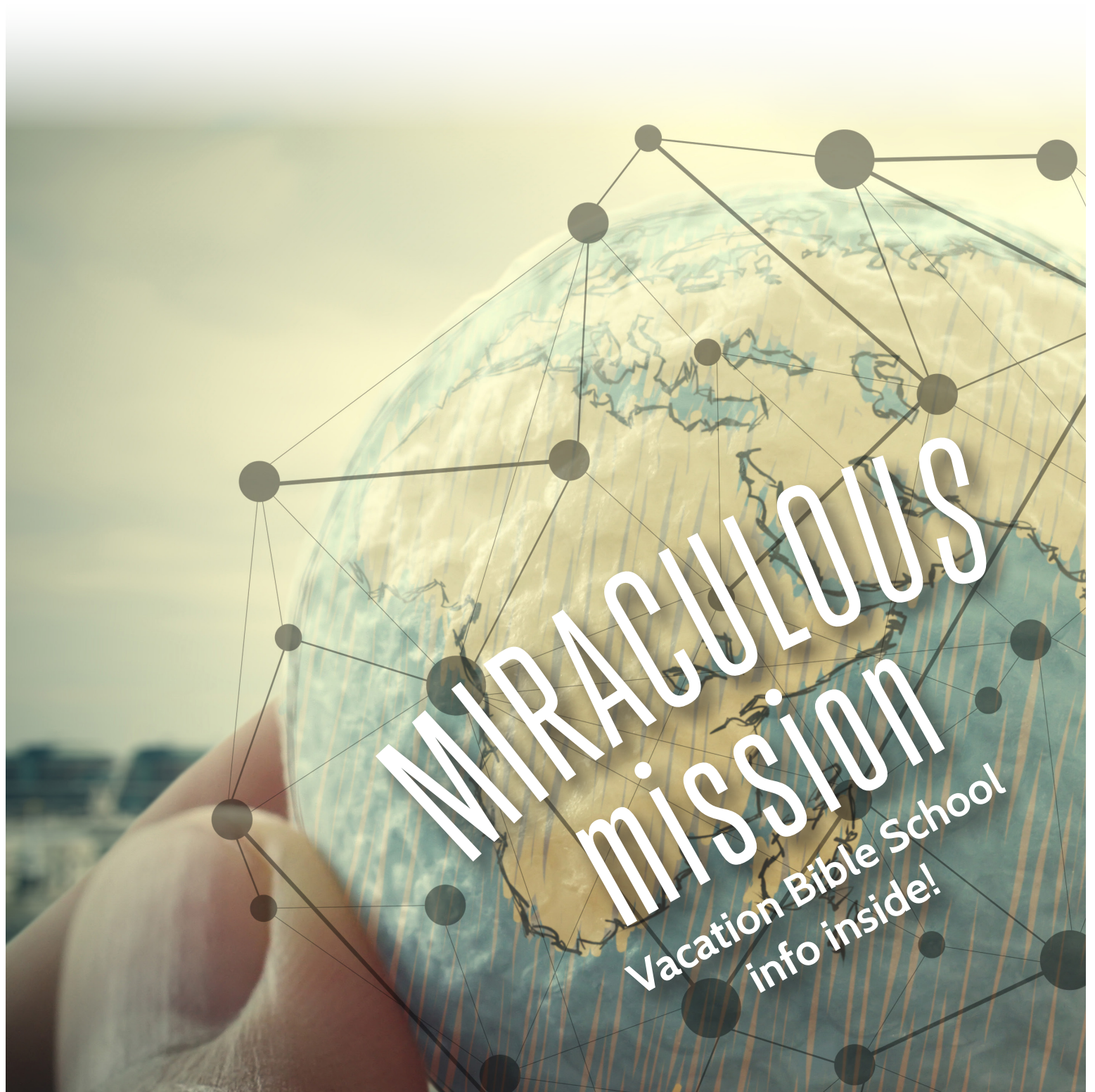


aboutfirst news

June, 2019 First United Methodist Church, Cedar Falls



Love First. Let's Gather, Grow, Go Together



MIRACULOUS mission

Vacation Bible School
info inside!

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issue 224, June, 2019

First United Methodist Church
718 Clay Street
Cedar Falls, Iowa, 50613
aboutfirst.com

Announcements and editorial content for publication may be submitted to the First UMC media office by the 20th of each preceding month. Email to: chris.congdon@aboutfirst.com

Ecclesia: Authentic Christian Community

Imagine you find yourself stranded on a deserted island with nothing but a copy of the bible. You have no experience with Christianity whatsoever, and all you know about the Church will come from reading of the bible. How would you imagine a church to function? Seriously. Close your eyes for two minutes and picture "Church" as you would know it. Now think about your own experience with church. Are they even close? Can you live with that?

After the resurrection of Jesus, he appeared to his disciples on several occasions. He told them to go to Jerusalem and wait to begin their mission until power came from on-high. It was not until the disciples received the Holy Spirit that they were fully equipped to go out and make disciples for the transformation of the world. We call this event Pentecost. It was the birth of the New Testament church. During the weeks after Pentecost, most mainline churches focuses on their mission and vision.

In our "Love First" teaching series, we have been spending a lot of time doing just that. We want to be clear about why our church exists. It is easy for churches to become inward focused and stray from what the early church was. When we read the bible, we find the description of the early church in Acts 2:42-47. It reads like this.

"42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

When we think of a church, we often think of a building or a location. In the early church, the Greek word for that was ecclesia, which meant assembly or gathering. The church was not centered on a building, or a pastor, but rather, it was entirely centered on the genuineness of the gathered community. It was a place where bread was broken, sound teaching was experienced, and there was no one among them in need. This is the vision for the Church. A Church that above everything, loves first.

Based upon a biblical vision of what church is to be, has that been your experience? If the answer is no, I ask again, can you live with that? And third, I would challenge us to consider ways we can give of ourselves to make that Kingdom vision a greater reality in the Cedar Valley. Let's be an Acts 2 church...one that above all...loves first.

Be Bold, Be Strong,
Pastor Matt



Miss A Sermon?

If you miss a Sunday message from Pastor Scott or Pastor Matt, you'll find it on our youtube channel.

Go to our website at aboutfirst.com and scroll down to the "sermons" graphic, which will link you to all of our sermons and public videos.

- SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE -

8:30 am Contemporary & Traditional

10:00 am Traditional

Peace With Justice offering – June 16

From the Democratic Republic of Congo where local United Methodist church members mentor former child soldiers, to a peace march organized by United Methodists in Iowa, to developing nonviolent strategies that address the cold war in the Korean Peninsula, Peace with Justice is a faithful and biblical expression of shalom. It calls the church to strengthen our capacity to advocate publicly in communities and nations throughout the world by saying, “Here I am. Send me.”

Funds have been used to:

- *Create a United Methodist peace ministry uniting Arizona border communities
- *Equip Liberian United Methodists to implement the denomination’s Social Principles and address social-justice issues contextually.
- *Provide resources for Pennsylvania students to educate their community about sex-trafficking at home and abroad.

Connectional giving through offerings like Peace with Justice Sunday provides an opportunity for us to share the costs of worldwide ministry with other United Methodists.

You Might Be On Camera

Here’s some news that’s exciting to share, and maybe a concern for some. We are now livestreaming the sermon/teaching portion of our Sunday worship services on Facebook. We’re thrilled to be able to share our sermons with the whole world in real-time. If you can’t make it to church on Sunday, the Transformation message goes live about 9:00, and the Traditional message goes live at about 10:25 – please tune in.

Sharing our message with the whole world is important, and so is your personal security. The ability to stream video to the internet means that there are live cameras in our worship spaces. For some people, this might be a concern. There are all kinds of reasons that any particular person might not want the world to know where they are at that moment on a Sunday morning. The vast majority of the time, the pastor is the only person visible in the livestream, but sometimes portions of the crowd are visible, too. If you have any questions about where to sit in our worship spaces so that you will not be visible to the cameras, please talk to Chris in the media office.



One Service Only June 30

The last Sunday in June is our local Sturgis Falls celebration. We will be having one worship service only on that Sunday, 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Three Ten Connect

Here’s an easy way to welcome our guests in Sunday worship called **3 • 10 • Connect**.

It’s simple: in the **first three minutes** after a worship service has ended, look around in a **ten-foot radius** and see if there’s someone you don’t know. If so, stick out your hand and say “hi”. Make a little conversation. Ask them if they have any questions about our church, and if so, volunteer to introduce them to a pastor, a staff person, or someone you know to have the answer. Then, be sure to say that you, personally, are glad that they are here, and that you hope to see them again. It’s that easy. **3 • 10 • Connect**.

Worship Teams

What could be a better way to reach out to others than to lead them and assist them in worship? There are opportunities in both Transformation Worship and in Traditional Worship to lead the time of welcome and announcements, read scripture, lead prayers, make music, serve communion, present the children’s message, and help on the tech team. There also are roles to fill on our hospitality team as greeters, ushers, Welcome Center hosts, and snack servers. There are plenty of jobs for everyone to have one! Talk to Jenna or one of the pastors about how you can help others have a great Sunday morning!

Like Coffee?

We all do! And we need one more person to help with our coffee fellowship time on the third Sunday of the month. Talk to Jenna if you can be our 3rd Sunday Coffee Hero.

Youth Game Nights Continue Through the Summer

Youth in grades 7-12 are invited to join our monthly game nights! These happen once a month on the Friday before the first Sunday of each month, from 6-9pm, and will continue throughout the summer. If you are in grades 7-12, you are invited to join us for pizza, games, and fun! We hope to see you there!



Softball season is here!

Softball season is here! Games are Monday nights at Birdsall Park.

Come on out! Games last no more than an hour, so bring your family and cheer on the FUMC softball players! New uniforms this year...check them out.

June 3 6:30 on field 2
June 10 6:30 on field 3
June 17 6:30 on field 2
June 24 7:30 and 8:30 on field 2



All Women's Outing – June 5

Women of the Church are invited to an all-women's outing to the Cedar Valley Arboretum and Botanic Gardens. Many of the flowers will be beginning their summer bloom. It will cost \$5.00 per person. Meet at the church before 5:30 p.m. or meet us there at 1927 E Orange Rd. Waterloo IA 50701. The goal of this event is for women from our church to be in fellowship with other women. Join us Wednesday June 5th 2019 from 5:30p.m. - 7:00p.m. and go see the flowers of June in our

beautiful Arboretum and Botanic Garden.

Any questions please contact Elizabeth German at Elizabeth.german33@gmail.com

8th Annual Love INC Golf Tournament

Looking for a way to have a great time and serve your community? Love INC is hosting their annual Golf Tournament on Monday, June 17. It's a best shot tournament designed for all skill levels and the proceeds make a huge difference for Love INC's ministry. Love INC networks 31 churches in the Cedar Valley to meet the tangible needs for the under-resourced in our community in the Name of Christ. So, form your foursome and go to golfloveinc.com for more information and to sign up.



Why Sign In?

In every Sunday worship experience, you are invited to sign-in on the attendance pad. It is more important than you may realize.

First, it lets us know that you were here. We DO track this in the church office. If you don't sign-in, you were not here.

In our weekly church staff meetings, we review reports of new visitors who have signed-in. We look to see who else may have been sitting near them and greeted them. This information helps us to refine our hospitality and outreach efforts.

When visitors in our worship services see our members signing-in, they are more likely to do so, as well, and that provides our pastors with information to follow up with them later in the week.

If you see a visitor sitting nearby (or perhaps a longtime member whose name you don't remember) the sign-in pad gives you a place to look so that you may greet that person by name.

Finally, we also look at reports of regular attenders who are uncharacteristically absent. Many times we know why this is, but sometimes an absence is unexplained, and may trigger a call from a pastor or parish visitor.

We are a family of faith. Knowing our people is the core of our operation as a church community. By signing-in every Sunday, you help us to have good information to work with, so thanks for doing so!

“. . . To the Ends of the Earth” (and Iowa Falls)

Cedar Falls First United Methodist Church has much to celebrate this year. We have always been a congregation that raises up leaders. People lead in many ways in our local church, but the local church also exists to raise up leaders and then send them out to the world. This month we celebrate with those who are responding to their call to ministry.

Rev. Jordan Derhammer has graduated seminary and will be commissioned as a provisional elder at this year’s annual conference. The Bishop has appointed her as pastor to Iowa Falls First, (associate), and Alden UMC

Padma Templeton has completed licensing school and the Bishop has appointed her as a local pastor to Slater and Sheldahl United Methodist Churches.

Lisa Congdon is a certified lay speaker and has been assigned as pulpit supply to Washington Chapel United Methodist Church. She will also be continuing as our office manager.

We give thanks to God for the new thing God is doing in the lives of these leaders and the congregations they have been called too!



Pastor Scott addresses the confirmation class before worship on Sunday, May 5.


Confirmation Class Graduates Fifteen New First UMC Members

May 5 was Confirmation Sunday and the culmination of a season of learning and growth for our confirmation class. The fifteen confirmands have been meeting throughout the school year for study and discussion in classroom sessions, field trips, and eight weeks of meeting with adult faith mentors. It was a celebration to see a class this size. You can see by the picture above that your media guy doesn’t even have a camera lens wide enough to get them all in the shot. Congratulations to our new confirmands:

Amelia June Bryant, Gabrielle Annamae Burton, Trevor Glenn Dirks, Abigail Grace Dvorak, Matthew Eugene Edler, Keegan Thomas Herzmann, Anna Lee Jacobsen, Ryan Andrew Johnson, Maya Faith Potter, Grant Donald Redfern, Nathan James Standing, Joseph David Ulrich, Cian Lynden Wenzel, Cole Ryan Wilson, and Logan David Wroe.

Q Why should I consider participating in the First UMC Endowment?

A Making a gift to the Endowment fund is an important commitment to the future of the 1st United Methodist Church and its programs. By making a gift, you are helping to ensure that 1st United Methodist Church will continue to be a vibrant and beautiful spiritual home for generations to come.

 **First UMC Endowment Funds**
securing your legacy - ensuring our future

CONGRATS GRADUATES *Class of* **2019** YOU DID IT!

Katelyn Fincher

Daughter of Darin and Lori Fincher
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
Plans to attend St. Ambrose University
and major in Nursing

Hannah Grace Rapp

Daughter of David and Ronda Rapp
Cedar Falls High School
Plans to attend Iowa Central to major in
Nursing and participate in cheerleading

Jacob Frances-Arden Bonebrake

Son of Ted and Amy Bonebrake
Cedar Falls High School
Plans to attend University of Northern
Iowa to major in Social Work and
participate in the UNI choir

A Little Help, Please

Tiffany Waller is moving back to Cedar Falls on June 12. She'll have a single story place on Fairview Drive very close to Peet Junior High School (single story is great news for movers!). She needs help unloading the truck, probably mid to late afternoon. If you are willing, contact the church office for Tiffany's phone number and email.

Here's What's Up With The Rummage Sale

We are looking forward to another great year in our mission goal to serve others in our local community. Start sorting and bring useable, saleable "stuff" to the Church. Pre-sort as much as possible the items you bring and deliver them to the appropriate rooms. If you need help carrying items in, contact Maxine Kehret or Stephanie Buchs and plan to come on Wednesday evenings when the sorting crew is available. Please do not count on church staff to be available at a moment's notice, and please do not drop the donations at the entrances.

Classrooms under the Fellowship Hall are marked as follows for your donated items:

Room 56 - all non-clothing items

Room 57- Women's clothes/accessories

Room 58 - men's clothes/accessories, holiday items, bedding, towels; Room 59 - books, videos, DVD's, records

Room - 61 children's clothes/accessories, costumes, toys

Items we will not accept are paint, computers, tires, mattresses, TV's, pianos/organs, and encyclopedias.

Additional sorting of these items occurs every Wednesday evening from 6:30 p.m. until done. All volunteers accepted!! Any questions, please call Maxine Kehret at 296-1518 or Stephanie Buchs at 277-2916.

The sale is scheduled for August 1st, 2nd, and 3rd this year.

Rummage Sale Help Needed: Someone to assist in the Men's Clothing and accessories rooms

Questions - please call Maxine Kehret at 296-1518 or Stephanie Buchs at 277-2916.

Retiring our Mortgage

Once again a very generous family in our church has offered to cover our mortgage interest from Mother's Day, May 12th - Fathers' Day, June 16th. That means every additional dollar we pay toward our mortgage during this time period will go directly to reducing our principle mortgage amount. This is another great opportunity to take a big bite out of our outstanding debt.

Let's not forget the amazing progress we have already made on this loan. The total investment for our renovation / construction project was nearly \$4.5 million dollars. At the completion of the project just six years ago, we were left with a loan of \$1.4 million dollars. In just those six years we have reduced that debt to \$260,640!

We are so close to paying this off, and just think of how nice it will be to be out from under this debt!



Remember this? First UMC CF 2012

If you can help with a special contribution to the building fund during the month of May, please drop your contribution in the Sunday offering plate, or bring it to the church office by June 16th. Make sure to note on the memo that your donation is for the mortgage.

Worship:

Prayer Team

Everyone is invited to join the prayer team any Sunday morning as we lift up worship in the chapel at 8:00 a.m. Contact one of the prayer team members if you have any questions: Jim Larson, Genny Van Dorn, and Jan Hoover.

Sunday Morning Hospitality

How many people does it take to make a Sunday morning happen at First UMC? A lot! We have greeters, Welcome Center hosts, refreshment servers, ushers, chair-setter-uppers, communion stewards, bus drivers, musicians, Sunday School teachers, camera, sound and tech operators and more. Everything happens because someone makes it happen. How can you help? Contact Jenna Engel to fill one of these slots!

Altar Flowers

The altar flower calendar for 2019 is at the Welcome Center. Sign up now to recognize a special date or to honor a loved one with flowers for the altar. Have the flowers delivered to the church on Friday, please.

Outreach & Missions:

Community Meal

This is a great ministry of feeding and fellowship and you can be a part of it. Once a month - the fourth Tuesday - we plan, prepare, and serve the meal. Meals are served from 4:30-6:00, and the prep work begins early afternoon. If you would like to help with meal preparation or serving, contact Stephanie Buchs. We can use donations of desserts, too. We welcome new faces. There are opportunities for everyone.

Remember, while our team only serves on the fourth Tuesday, other churches are here cooking and serving every other Tuesday of the month. You're always welcome to come and eat - the community meal is completely free and open to everyone.

Food Bank Work Night

A crew from our church helps at the Food Bank the first Tuesday of each month. Expect to be there from 6:00 to no later than 8:00pm. They love to see the Methodists come to work. Would you like to be on the reminder email or do you want to know more? Contact Lisa in the church office. lisa.congdon@aboutfirst.com

Ongoing Wish Lists

For those who like to shop, we have an opportunity for you! There are several in-church groups that can always use supplies to support their ministries. For your convenience, we have compiled the wish lists for Wee Care, UMCOR School Kits, FirstKids Daycare & Preschool, and Sunday School all on one sheet. And, we have also compiled a list of items that you may have at home that could be repurposed for another use by Lincoln School, our Cardmakers, and River Hills School.

Pick up the Wish Lists sheet on the literature rack outside the church office, or at the donation collection site in the little hallway near the drinking fountain on the main level of the church.

Some people might think of these ministry opportunities as the “little things”, but little isn't the right word.

These are the needs of the church that are on-going in our weekly and monthly cycles of ministry.

These are the support roles that need to be filled and the easy contributions that we all can make to enhance the worship experience for others and to ensure that our ministries are well-equipped and well-staffed.

How can you help?

8 Events

June 1 - Waterloo Bucks

When: evening

Where: Riverfront Stadium

Fun & Fellowship and Relay For Life Night at the Waterloo Bucks is coming up, Saturday June 1, gates open at 5:30 with first pitch at 6:35.

June 4 - Food Bank Work Crew

A crew from our church helps at the Food Bank the first Tuesday of each month. Expect to be there from 6:00 to no later than 8:00pm. Would you like to be included in the reminder email or would you like to carpool to get there? Contact Lisa in the church office. lisa.congdon@aboutfirst.com

June 4 - Grief Support Session

When: 2:00-3:30pm

Where: church parlor

Grieving the loss of a loved one is a difficult journey. Your church family cares and offers several forms of support including: one-to-one individual support, social outings, and a monthly support session. Our June grief support session will be held in the church parlor on Tuesday, June 4th from 2:00 to 3:30 pm. If you have suffered the loss of someone special, you are welcome, whether you are a member of our church or not. If you know someone who is grieving, please pass along this information. You may call Carol through the church office at 266-1713 for more information.

June 20 - First Friends Potluck

Where: Gathering Place

When: noon - 2:00pm

Everyone is welcome! Spend some time enjoying good food, card games, dominos, cribbage, etc. Fellowship is an important part of the gathering. Check us out! Come and get better acquainted with others in the church. Couples and singles are welcome. Bring a dish to share and your own table service. We meet on the third Thursday of every month from noon until 2 pm in the Gathering Place.

June 24 - LifeServe Blood Drive

Where: Gathering Place

When: 12:30-6:00

We are hosting the next blood drive on Monday, June 24 from 12:30-6:00. Donors, cookie bakers, and hosts are needed. They have quite a few appointments slots to fill. Sign up to donate at www.lifeservebloodcenter.org. Use the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center to let Lisa know if you can donate cookies or chat and serve cookies to the donors for an hour or so.

June 25 - Crafter's Corner

Where: Parlor

When: 6:00-8:00

Attention crafters! Join us on Tuesday, May 28 from 6:00-8:00 in the parlor. This is a laid back and hands-on group for all skill levels. Bring your own craft project to work on or volunteer your time and talent to make sleep mats for the homeless, handmade essentials for those in need, or prayer shawls. Thank you to all who have donated craft items - we are well stocked and need to use up what we have. Please contact Crystal Wilken at crystalwilken@gmail.com with any questions.

Zumba Taking the Summer Off

Mary Frederich who leads a Zumba session at First UMC every Thursday night is taking the summer off. She encourages you to get outside and be active in these warmer summer months, and she'll be back next fall.

Boy Scout Can Drives

Our chartered Boy Scout Troop is planning monthly can drives to raise money for troop activities. The plan is to collect cans the last Saturday of each month from 9:00-noon in the north parking lot of our church. Save your cans to support the scout programs of our church.

Next Month . . .

July 7 - Pool Party!

Where: The Falls

When: 10:00 a.m. - noon

Everyone is invited to The Falls Aquatic Center on Sun, July 7, for a pool party! Kids of ALL ages are welcome: bring yourself, your kids, grandkids, neighbor kids, friends' kids, neighbors, friends . . . you get the idea. Frolic in the water, relax on the lazy river, zoom down a slide, or simply sit and visit and enjoy the scene. Yes, this is a Sunday, and yes, it conflicts with the 10 am service a little. You can solve the situation by attending one of our 8:30 worship services, or by wearing your bikini to the 10:00 service, and heading to The Falls immediately following.

Recurring Weekly:

Sunday

8:00 prayer in the chapel
 8:30 Transformation Worship
 8:30 Traditional Service, sanctuary
 9:30 Fellowship time, Gathering Place
 9:45 Sunday School for all ages
 10:00 Traditional Service, sanctuary
 7:00 Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday

7:00 Tuesday Men's Breakfast, CF Family Rest.
 9:30 Quilters/Stitchers, O59
 9:30-10:30 Tuesday Bible Study, chapel
 4:30-6:00 Community Meal, Fellowship Hall
 7:00-9:00 AA, O55

Wednesday

9:00 Women Connected by Prayer, parlor
 5:15 AA, O55
 6:30 WOW AA, O55
 7:30 - 8:30 Chancel Choir

Also Scheduled....

SATURDAY June 1

11:00-1:30 Meals From the Heartland
 Waterloo Bucks Relay for Life night

SUNDAY June 2

Summer worship schedule begins 8:30 & 10:00
 Padma Templeton at Frederika UMC
 Roberta Robbins at New Hope Parish
 Mark Fransdal at Parkersburg
 Lisa Congdon at Waterloo First UMC
 Noon Circuit Riders -pizza, parlor
 3:00-7:00 Kaytlyn Osborn Grad Open House

MONDAY June 3

First Day to bring rummage for sale
 6:30 Softball game, Birdsall Pk, field 2
 6:30 Stephen Ministry

TUESDAY June 4

2:00-3:30 Grief support, parlor

WEDNESDAY June 5

5:30-7:00 Women's Outing to Arboretum
 6:30 Rummage Sale sorting - lower level
 6:30 SPRC, library

THURSDAY June 6

2:00 UMC Clergy Cluster, library
 6:30 Trustees, library

FRIDAY June 7

Iowa Annual Conference begins, Des Moines

SATURDAY June 8

Iowa UMC Annual Conference, Des Moines

SUNDAY June 9

Iowa Annual Conference, Des Moines
 Roberta Robbins at New Hope Parish
 8:30 Trad and Trans combined in sanctuary
 6:15 - 8:15 VBS

MONDAY June 10

Iowa Annual Conference, Des Moines
 9:30-11:00 UMW Board meeting, library
 6:30 Softball, field 3
 6:15 - 8:15 VBS

TUESDAY June 11

Iowa Annual Conference, Des Moines
 8:00-1:00 Girl Scouts kitchen/parlor or GP
 6:30 Finance Committee, library
 6:15 - 8:15 VBS

WEDNESDAY June 12

8:00-1:00 Girl Scouts kitchen/parlor or GP
 NO Rummage sorting tonight
 6:15 - 8:15 VBS

THURSDAY June 13

8:00-1:00 Girl Scouts kitchen/parlor or GP
 6:15 - 8:15 VBS

SUNDAY June 16

Father's Day
 Roberta Robbins at Frederika-UMC
 Padma Templeton at New Hope Parish

MONDAY June 17

6:30 Softball, field 2

TUESDAY June 18

12:00-5:00 Girl Scouts, Gathering Place

WEDNESDAY June 19

11:00 service at Pinnacle Care
 12:00-5:00 Girl Scouts Fellowship Hall
 6:30 Rummage Sale sorting - lower level

THURSDAY June 20

Newsletter deadline
 9:00-1:00 NE District UMW, library
 Noon-3:00 First Friends potluck, Gather Plac
 12:00-5:00 Girl Scouts Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY June 21

9:30-11:30 MOMs group, library/nursery

SUNDAY June 23

Pat Benda is at Frederika UMC
 Roberta Robbins is at New Hope Parish

MONDAY June 24

12:30-6:00 Blood Drive, Gathering Place
 7:30 & 8:30 Softball games, field 2

TUESDAY June 25

6:30-8:30 Crafter's corner, parlor

WEDNESDAY June 26

1:00 Communion Service, Windhaven
 6:30 Rummage Sale sorting - lower level

THURSDAY June 27

6:30 Rummage Sale planning, chapel

FRIDAY June 28

newsletter mailing crew

SUNDAY June 30

ONE SERVICE TODAY, 10:00 a.m.
 Chris Werling at Frederika UMC
 Roberta Robbins at New Hope Parish

Vacation Bible School

Sunday, June 9 - Thursday, June 13

6:15-8:15 pm

Pre- registration is suggested. Please return completed forms to Jenna Engel. You can drop off in church office or mail forms to Jenna Engel, First United Methodist Church, 718 Clay Street Cedar Falls Iowa, 50613. Cost: \$15.00 suggested for one participant or for families \$20.00. Contribution is voluntary, and is not a requirement to attend. Make checks payable to First United Methodist Church and mark "VBS". Please complete one registration form per child.



Participating Child

Child's Name _____ Child's Date of Birth _____

Age _____ Grade in Fall 2019 _____ (must turn 3 years old by September 15 to attend this year)

Names of Parents and adults authorized to pick up children. _____

Child's Home Address _____ City/State _____

Contact Information

Primary _____ phone _____ relationship (circle): parent / trusted adult

Additional _____ phone _____ relationship (circle): parent / trusted adult

Additional _____ phone _____ relationship (circle): parent / trusted adult

Health information

Please indicate any information about your child that we should know, I.E. allergies, medication, special restrictions, special needs, special friendships we should encourage, etc. _____

In the event of emergency, I authorize the First United Methodists' VBS Staff consent to appropriate medical treatment for my child _____ (signed)

If you are helping and will be here during VBS you do not have to complete the physician information.

Child's doctor's name and phone are listed below:

Physician _____ Physician's Phone _____

media release

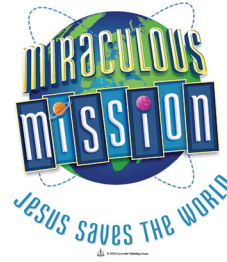
First United Methodist Church may use photographs and video of my child's participation in VBS activities. I understand that photo and video images will NOT be labeled with children's names. circle: yes / no initial: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ date _____

Miraculous Mission This Summer at First UMC

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 9th -12th

At Miraculous Mission Vacation Bible School, your children will look into the Bible, God's Holy Word, and discover God's miraculous missions to save you, me, and the whole world! The Bible accounts of God's mission for us to share how God made the universe; His promise of a Savior to Abram; the birth of Jesus, our Savior; Jesus' death, resurrection; and ascension!



We are looking for volunteers if you would like to become a part of Vacation Bible School, please contact Jenna Engel.

Pre-registration is suggested. Forms are available at the Welcome Center, or on the church website at aboutfirst.com. Please return completed forms to Jenna Engel. You can drop off in office or mail forms to Jenna Engel, First United Methodist Church, 718 Clay Street Cedar Falls Iowa, 50613. Cost: \$15.00 suggested for one participant or for families \$20.00. Contribution is voluntary, and is not a requirement to attend. Make checks payable to First United Methodist Church and mark "VBS". Please complete one registration form per child.



Make Your Summer Camp Plans Now at iaumc.org/camps

The Iowa UMC has three camps: Pictured Rocks, Okobiji, and Wesley Woods. All three have exciting summer camp options for kids and youth: Boats, horses, go-carts, hiking, fishing, nature, learning, exploring, new friends, and, of course, a bunch of Jesus make summer camp an experience our kids will remember for a lifetime. Camp information is available at iaumc.org/camps.

We want every kid to go to camp, and we can help with scholarship funds for camping fees. If you have contributed to this fund, thank you - it makes it possible for a kid to have the summer of a lifetime. Talk to Jenna Engel for more info regarding camp scholarships.

Tuesday Bible Study

The Tuesday morning Bible Study always welcomes new friends - men and women! This group meets in the chapel near our main entrance at 9:30 on Tuesday mornings. Bring your Bible - whichever one you prefer - and be prepared to read through and discuss the Bible. It's an easy group to join at any time. They are almost through the New Testament and then they will begin with Genesis and start through the Bible again. No homework or study guide is required, just read along with this group and offer your insight. Shirley Bolin and Linda Berneking are the contacts for this group.

Men's Tuesday Breakfast

Start your Tuesday with a great bunch of men - the Tuesday Men's Breakfast is back! Join them at 7:00am at the Cedar Falls Family Restaurant (2627 Center St) every Tuesday. After a quick devotion, you'll have time to eat and be on your way by 8:00. Start your Tuesdays with a great group of guys.

12 Reaching Out & In

June mission focus- UMCOR Hygiene Kits

We can't plan for disasters – they simply happen, often without warning. Floods and tornados have hit Iowa communities and our neighboring states hard this year. For those who have been driven from their homes, it becomes difficult to perform even the most basic bits of personal care. The United Methodist Committee of Relief (UMCOR) is quick to respond with practical items for our neighbors and friends but, they can't do it without help. You can help by providing supplies for UMCOR hygiene kits. These are distributed at shelters for those who have been displaced by a disaster in the USA.

Hygiene kits include:

- 1 hand towel (15x25 to 17x27 inches) – new/unwashed
- 1 washcloth – new and unwashed
- 1 comb – sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth
- 1 toenail or fingernail clipper
- 1 bath-size bar of soap in wrapper (no Ivory or Jergens)
- 1 adult toothbrush in the original sealed wrapper
- 10 adhesive bandages (3/4 x 3 inches)

Bring enough for a kit, or simply find a good deal on one or more of the items and donate a bunch of them. We can also use one gallon size re-sealable bags. Bring the items to the display in the Gathering Place.



Bibles for Our Sisters in Mitchellville

A very tangible way we can help our sisters behind the razor wire is to provide Bibles for them. We have an opportunity to order new Bibles to be sent to the women's prison directly from Cokesbury. They are given to the ladies in Bible Studies and to keep for their own use. We have send dozens of Bibles in past years and they are so appreciated. The Common English Bible for is an easy to read Bible. This is the Bible that Lisa in the church office has been using, and it's sturdy and feels nice and is easy to use.

These Bibles normally sell for over \$20, but Cokesbury has made special arrangements for friends of the Women at the Well UMC to order them for only \$10. Use the special "Bibles for our Sisters" envelope at the display at the Welcome Center. You can take a look at the type of Bible that your \$10 will provide, too.



Midwest Mission Crew Returns

Last month a crew from First UMC CF spent a week volunteering at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Chatham, Illinois. MMDC is a United Methodist facility which collects and distributes supplies for humanitarian relief in the USA and abroad. Our crew of Lisa, Jane, Chris, Jan, and Kris spent much of the week verifying the contents of kits like the ones in the article above. They report that the MMDC warehouse has been especially busy this spring shipping relief supplies to flooded areas of

the American mid-west. They also reported having a fantastic time traveling and working together for a great cause.

Be a Blessing to Someone Through Love INC

People in need will often approach a church for assistance. Unfortunately, many churches are not equipped to meet the variety of needs that are presented. That's not a failure of the churches - at their core, they are faith organizations, not relief agencies. But, the Christian imperative is to help. Love INC works like this: when someone approaches a member church for assistance, they are referred to Love INC. Love INC then conducts an interview to fully determine the need, and which church is best able to assist. Love In The Name of Christ (Love INC) pools the strengths of area churches and agencies to reach out to those in need - our church is one of 29.

You can be a blessing to someone today by volunteering with Love INC as a Clearinghouse or Community volunteer. If you're interested in serving with Love INC, fill out a volunteer form found at loveincv.org or call 266-1264. They'll get back to you in the next couple of days.

What is Stephen Ministry?



Stephen Ministry is a system through which members of First United Methodist Church are trained and organized to help provide Christian care giving to members of our congregation and community. This will multiply the amount of caring ministry our church can provide by giving us a whole team of skilled caregivers who are equipped to bring Christ's healing love to people who are grieving, in crisis, or experiencing other stresses in life.

Stephen Ministers

- Are lay Christians selected, trained, and supervised by Stephen Leaders to provide effective Christian care.
- Make a commitment which includes 50 hours of training, ongoing supervisory meetings, and an average of one, one-hour visits per month with the person receiving care.
- Are named after St. Stephen, one of the first deacons in the early Christian church, commissioned by the apostles to care for the needs of the people in the Christian community.
- Recognize this as a confidential ministry in which continuous effort is expended to maintain the body of trust between the person receiving care and the caregiver.

Ministering to those Experiencing...

- Loneliness
- Loss of a loved one
- Retirement changed
- Unemployment
- Discouragement

Stephen Ministry is equipping lay people for caring ministry.

Hospital Reminder

Government regulations prohibit health care facilities (this includes hospitals, assisted living and nursing homes) from sharing information about their patients and residents, so if you want your church family to know you need our love and prayers, please call the church office.

email Prayer Chain

If you would like to be on the church "eprayer" list, please let the church office know by emailing Lisa at lisa.congdon@aboutfirst.com. We send out prayer requests by email as they come in, and also include prayer requests noted on the attendance slips. Remember, to ensure privacy, please make sure to get permission from the party that you feel needs prayers.



Communion At Home

Are you or someone you know unable to attend Sunday services and wish to receive communion at home? Every month as we share Holy Communion in our sanctuary, a portion of the bread and wine on the altar is reserved for those who cannot be with us in-person. The next day, our parish visiting team extends that communion table to the homes of others. If you would like to be included, please call the church office at 266-1713, and you will be placed on our regular rotation.

Homebound? The Library Will Come To You

Church members who live in their own homes, apartments, or in senior retirement communities may be eligible for home bound library services (especially if they do not have anyone living with them who comes to the library for materials.) If you are interested in having library materials delivered to you by library volunteers, please call the Cedar Falls Public Library at 273-8643. This is a free service proved by the Cedar Falls Public Library.

VISION STATEMENT OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: We are “turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world.”



On May 11th, over 25 members of the UMW Unit met for their Spring Luncheon in Fellowship Hall. Members of Joy, Deborah, and Mary Circles provided the meal. Pat Huxsol, Shepherdess for our Unit from Charles City was our guest. She provided devotions. Table grace was provided by Faye Rohwedder. The Response Moment was provided by Pauline Harding. The Worship Center was decorated with angel figurines by Stephanie Buchs.

The World Thank Offering was taken after a wonderful explanation was given by Arlene Fleming. She described places world-wide, as well as in the U.S. that utilize funds from the World Thank Offering.

Got extra fabric? Bring it in!

There is always a need for fabric to make school bags and other stitching projects. The Quilters & Stitchers are looking for durable/sturdy material for school bags. They also could use decent sized lengths of cotton quilting fabric for comfort quilts, baptism quilts, quilts for foster kids, and of course – for the beautiful items they make for the quilt auction each November. There is a designated bin for your quality fabric donation in the church collection site on the main level of the church in the little hall across from the drinking fountain.

UMW does not meet over the summer months, but upcoming events include:

June 9 – 150th Celebration of UMW at Annual Conference

July 15 – NE District Board Meeting at FUMC – we are to provide lunch/snacks

July 21-13 – Summer Mission U, at Marshalltown

September 6 – NE District UMW Annual Meeting – Strawberry Point UMC

September 29 – Come Home to Dinner – Ham Ball Menu

2019 Mission U: Learning Together for Transformation of the World

The United Methodist Women (UMW) Mission u summer and fall events are wonderful mission education opportunities to study current issues impacting society. Whether you are young or old, laity or clergy, a UMW member or not, a first timer or attend every year, you are invited. All participate in the Spiritual Growth Study - “Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship”. Also, attendees may choose to attend either the special anniversary study “Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission”, or the social issue study “What About Our Money? A Faith Response”.

WHEN: July 21–23 Summer Mission u (Sunday afternoon through Tuesday afternoon)
October 18–20. Fall Mission u (Friday afternoon through Sunday afternoon)

WHERE: Iowa Valley Continuing Education Center, 3702 S. Center Street, Marshalltown

You may obtain a copy of the brochure and registration form at the counter on the Welcome Center in the Gathering Place. If you have any questions please contact Chris Werling (contact info is on the brochure)

Thank You

I would like to thank Pastor Scott, Carol Dick and Jim Larson for their visits during my recent hospitalization and rehab. You visits were greatly appreciated. Thanks also to the quilters for the very nice quilt that Carol brought me. It was a pleasant surprise. Thanks also to the Kaleidoscope class for their concern and their continuing on with the Sunday School lessons.

Gil Hewett

Thank you! What a blessing the congregation has been to me and my family! I want to offer my gratitude to the congregation for all the prayers, cards, emails and encouraging words following my hospitalization and time of recovery. The gift of a quilt was comforting as well. Together you have truly been the body of Christ expressing God's love and grace.

Blessings,

Pastor Scott

Many thanks to Carol Dick for the lovely visit and for the wonderful quilt she brought for Carl. It was a wonderful surprise. We also want to thank the quilters and stitchers of First UMC who made the quilt. It is beautiful.

Carl & Christine Belz.

Can't thank you enough for the lovely birthday card on my 87th birthday! That was very much appreciated. Also I need to thank the church for the beautiful pink rose delivered by Jane Wyckoff. She is so much fun to visit with.

Jean Pierce

We feel a very deep sense of gratefulness and gratitude for your willingness to allow us to use your beautiful facility for May Breakfast again this year. This is not only in support of the hospital but a great event for the community. Thank you very much.
Friends of Mercy One

Thank you so much for your donation to the church World Service Blankets+ fund! Your support will help supply blankets and other needed resources to someone after a national disaster or to provide basic necessities. Thank you for partner with CWS as we continue our work together.

Peace and grace always,
Church World Service

Sympathy to:

Dean and Jan Hoover on the loss of Dean's mother, Eileen Hoover, on May 5.

Ashley Marks on the death of her father, Jeff Assink, on May 5.

Family and friends of Harold Powell. Harold passed away May 25. His service was held May 29.

Welcome to:

Wyat Beltz joined our congregation May 5.
Jeff Wickersham joined our congregation May 5.
We're glad to have you in our family of faith!

Baptism:

We would like to welcome Aaron Duane Sullivan to our family of faith. Aaron was baptized on May 12. He is the son of Gabi Sullivan, and grandson of Diane Sullivan.

Card Making Thanks

Profits from the first quarter's card sales were \$208.28! the money was donated to the N.E. Iowa Food Bank. We thank all who make and purchase cards. See the card rack outside the church office to find some beautiful cards for all occasions. All recycled cards are only \$.50 each.

Card shower for Bill Morse

Long-time member Bill Morse will be celebrating his 90th birthday on June 2. He would be greatly surprised and very glad to receive a card or short note from his friends at First UMC.

Please send to:

Bill Morse
310 N. Morgan #5
St. Charles IA 50240

Financial Update as of May 19

YTD Budget Received:	\$ 306,461
YTD Budget Needs:	\$ 324,290
Difference	\$ - 17,828
Mortgage Balance	\$ 260,640

Mobile Giving Options Are Now Available

First UMC Cedar Falls is now able to accept financial contributions through the mobile giving apps Venmo and Shazam Bolt\$. Both apps are available for Android and Apple devices. The apps are free to download, and after you link your bank account, transactions are handled much like debit card payments. Don't carry cash or a checkbook? No worries - just use your phone! Send contributions to contributions@aboutfirst.com

Consider Automatic Giving

You'll never need to remember to write a check again! It is quick and easy to set up. Contact our Financial Manager for details. 319-266-1713..

Attendance- week ending

	5/5	5/12	5/19	5/26
Transformation	69	104	73	59
Traditional 8:30	130	117	111	115
Traditional 11:00	263	107	86	102

First United Methodist Church

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First United Methodist Church, Cedar Falls



Sunday, 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Traditional services

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Transformation Worship

Van rides are available for the 11:00 Sunday service.

Child care is provided in the nursery for infants and babies for Sunday Services.

Spreading the Word

If you miss a Sunday, or want to hear a message again, find us on the local Public Access cable television channels. If you are unable to receive the television broadcast, weekly dvds are also available, or find the video links for sermons at www.aboutfirst.com

Cedar Falls (CFU) Channel 95.5, Friday @ 8:00 pm, Sunday @ 9:00 am

Waterloo (MediaCom) Channel 17, Sundays @ 11:00am & 9:00 pm

Our Pastors

Scott Kober, Lead Pastor, scott.kober@aboutfirst.com

Matt German, Associate Pastor, matt.german@aboutfirst.com

Staff (in alphabetical order)

Sam Barr, Transformation Music Coordinator

Dee Behr, Parish Visitor
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John Bentley, Head Custodian

Ted Bonebrake, Chancel Choir director
tbonebrake@hotmail.com

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Lorri Schofield, Youth Co-Coordinator

Doug Shaffer, Organist
musicman52151@gmail.com

Emily Terpstra, Custodian

Jane Wyckoff, Parish Visitor