



October 2017
issue 205

ABOUT FIRST

First United Methodist Church, Cedar Falls, Iowa



First UMC
WHEN WE SHARE



MIRACLES HAPPEN

Thoughts from Steve

One of my favorite places to visit in the Holy Land is the Sea of Galilee. Jesus spent most of his three-year public ministry in the towns and villages around the Sea of Galilee. I particularly like the area because it is natural, and not much has changed since Jesus' time. You can stand on the shore of the Sea of Galilee and imagine the many stories about Jesus' ministry.



The Sea of Galilee is all natural. You can smell the sea air and the water glistens in the sun. There are fishing boats with fishermen casting their nets. The sea is surrounded by mountains and palm trees, banana and orange groves. My favorite time is to get up and watch the sun rise from its shore. For me, it is like getting up for the sunrise service on Easter morning. It is a place that is good for my soul.

One of the ancient sites on the shore of the sea is the traditional place where Jesus fed the 5,000. Other than the Resurrection, the Miracle of Loaves and Fishes is the only miracle that is shared in all four gospels. Each gospel has their own twist to the story, but they are all pretty much the same.

An ancient chapel named Tabgha marks this site. Inside the chapel is a "table rock" where this miracle took place which is now used as the altar. On the floor before the altar lays a beautiful mosaic that depicts two fish flanking a wicker basket filled with loaves of bread symbolizing the miracle that happened there. The mosaic is a popular symbol of Galilee and you see reproductions on cups, plates, mugs and t-shirts all over the Holy Land.



I like the story from John's perspective because he includes the little boy with his lunch. Andrew spots the boy in the crowd with his lunch and pulls him out to bring him to Jesus. When they finally reach Jesus, the boy looks into the carpenter's eyes and wonders. Because of the generosity of this boy, lunch is shared and all 5,000 guests were fed. Amazing!

God takes small things and makes them great. That was clear at Tabgha. It is also evident in our daily lives and in our prayers. This is illustrated for me nearly every day in our church. When we share - miracles happen. Great things happen when we give Jesus our time, talents and gifts. Like the little boy with his lunch we can point to many miracles that happen when our congregation shares our gifts. All you have to do is look at the faces of the children as they learn about Jesus in Sunday School or seeing over 1,000 jars of Peanut Butter collected for the hungry. Amazing things happen when we share our gifts!

We begin our annual stewardship campaign this October based on the theme "When We Share - Miracles Happen!" We will discover the symbolism of the 5 loaves of bread that was shared by the little boy. I invite you to support our efforts to make great things happen in the name of Jesus!

When We Share - Miracles Happen!
Pastor Steve



World Communion Sunday - October 1

We will be celebrating Holy Communion with Christians around the world on Sunday, October 1. Communion will be served at all services. As we share in communion, we will be reminded that Christ is the Savior of the world. Christians will gather under trees in Africa and in Chapels in the Holy Land to break bread and share in the cup of salvation.



World Communion Sunday Special Scholarship Offering

A special offering will be taken on World Communion Sunday. On World Communion Sunday your special offering helps to provide scholarships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve. Imagine what the world would be like if the church today imitated Jesus' affirmation of the full dignity and God-given potential of all women and men—especially those who've historically been assigned to the world's margins. Use the special offering envelope in your bulletin to support this.

Sing With Us

"I believe that music, like medicine, is a form of ministry. It is also a great way to bring people together, and I am looking forward to working with our choir," says new Chancel Choir director, Dr. Ted Bonebrake. One of his goals as choir director is to recruit new members, and expand the role of the choir in our worship services.

The choir practices every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in joining, you can just show up. For new members, Ted says, "You can come as often as you are able, and don't need to commit to be there every Wednesday or every Sunday. The only requirement is that you must love to sing." If you have any questions regarding the choir, you can email Ted at tbonebrake@hotmail.com or call the church office if you need his phone number.



Ingathering Sunday, October 29

We will dedicate our Ingathering Kits on Sunday, October 29. We have already reached 600+ School Kits, and we working on filling others such as the Health kits and Layettes. It is a great way to be involved in the worldwide mission work of the church. We invite you to bring them on the 30th as we box them up for the Ingathering.

You will want to attend this year's Ingathering on Saturday November 4. We have hosted this event for over 20 years. We always need help throughout the day. Contact Jan Benson, Kris Rash or your Pastors if you would like to volunteer. The event is incredible as churches from across the Northeast corner of Iowa come to bring their kits and learn more about missions. Rolls and Coffee are served in the morning, and lunch is served beginning at 11:00 am. A quilt auction begins at 1:00 p.m. in Scott Hall. Craft and bake sales run through the morning with beautiful hand work. It is an excellent time to do some Christmas shopping.

Be the Second-Most Popular Person at Church

Everyone knows that Jane Wyckoff, the rose lady, is the most popular person at First UMC. But, we have an opening for you to be one of the second most popular people in the church – a Sunday morning bus driver!! It's a once a month commitment AND you get to drive the cool new bus. Are you interested? Do you have questions? Contact Steve or Janet MacTaggart at sjmac@cfu.net or 277-6882.

Wear Pink on Sunday, October 8th for

Breast Cancer Awareness

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and we would like to show our support for those of our church family who are or have battled Breast Cancer. We invite you to wear pink or wear a pink ribbon. We will decorate the altars with pink roses. A pink candle will be lit as a sign of hope and a moment of silence taken for those who have been affected by Breast Cancer.

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, Debbie Dance and Jan Hoover

Altar Flowers

The altar flower calendar for 2017 & 2018 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.

Rake & Run

Fall has arrived and soon the leaves will be covering our yards. That means our Rake & Run event will be happening soon! Mark it on your calendar!! Saturday, October 28th at 9 a.m. we need your help raking our church members' yards. We had a WONDERFUL group of volunteers last year, and we hope to see you all again, as well as some new comers!



Rakers & Rakees:

We need volunteers to help rake AND we need nominations of fellow church members who could use some help this Fall. There will be a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center for nominations. Bring your rakes, tarps and trucks and have a great time with your church friends! If you have any questions, contact Kaleb or Linsey Zimmerman at linseyfletcher@gmail.com or (641) 777-6402.

Youth Lock-In

An Ingathering tradition is that youth from all over northeast Iowa come for a party the night before, stay all night "locked-in" a local church, and then get up bright and early to help with the kit-packing and other Ingathering work.

This year's lock in is November 3-4, and it is to be hosted by our friends at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Cedar Falls. Watch for more details.

INGATHERING

annual celebration of missions, Saturday, November 4

Every year, Methodists from all over Iowa come together for the Ingathering - a big church-mission party, where we send-off our health kits and school kits and layette kits to the United Methodist relief agencies which will then deliver the kits to where they are needed most. Ingathering is also an information-sharing day, where representatives from church missions can tell their stories to the rest of us. There are five Ingathering sites in Iowa, and Cedar Falls First UMC is happy to be one of those hosts again this year. You're invited to be a part of the Ingathering, as we throw open our doors to United Methodists from all over northeast Iowa. The day begins with tabulating and re-packing the various kits, and also includes a craft bazaar, mission displays, a worship celebration, bake sale, lunch, and a giant quilt auction.

This year's Ingathering features a speaker from UMCOR to tell us about disaster relief efforts of the United Methodist Church

If you get excited about the outreach efforts of our church, you should be excited about Ingathering! At Ingathering, you can join us in celebrating the causes we have supported this year, or find a new one for next year! And, you can meet a lot of other Iowa United Methodists who are as passionate as you are about the work of the church. Of course, we could use your help to make this big party happen.

Seize the Day!

What day? November 4th, the 38th annual Ingathering of the Iowa United Methodist Church. Many of you have taken part in this unique event in the past. If you haven't, now is your chance. In the next few weeks there will be opportunities for you to sign up as

greeters, ticket sellers and takers, kitchen workers and kit packers. As the host church for the northeast district we want to show our best hospitality to those attending. To volunteer call Kris Rash or Jan Benson.



United Methodists from all over Iowa help pack and load donated items @ Ingathering



INGATHERING

Rummage Sale Launches Parking Lot Project

The Trustees would like to thank all who helped and supported our Rummage Sale. The leadership of this event puts much time and energy in making this a successful event for our church. From the proceeds of the Rummage Sale the Trustees received over \$3,000 earmarked for the parking lot. That gift has become an incentive for the Trustees to get the Parking Lot completed this fall.

The Trustees have a bid of \$13,000 to repair and repave the parking lot with asphalt. They are going to sell the old van, and apply the proceeds of the sale to this project. It is hoped that we receive \$5,000 for the van. The endowment committee has stepped forward with funding to cover the difference in hopes that we can expedite the project and have it completed before the winter season. Thank you to the trustees and the endowment committee for addressing this need.

When We Share – Miracles Happen!

About 2,000 years ago, a crowd of 5,000 had gathered to spend the day with Jesus. As the day went on, the people got hungry. Jesus told his disciples to feed the people, but the disciples didn't know where to start: there was no food, there was no money, there were too many people. But while the disciples saw nothing but problems, Jesus saw nothing but opportunity. He accepted the gift of a child's lunch, blessed it, gave it back to the disciples, and everyone was fed.

This October we'll be looking into the power of sharing as we launch our annual stewardship effort. When we share our faith, our presence, our prayers, our gifts and our witness, a powerful multiplication occurs and together we can impact lives in ways that we never could on our own. When we share, miracles happen.



Peanut Butter Challenge - Final Count

We sent 1,036 jars of peanut butter to the Food Bank – a total of 1383 pounds! Apparently the folks at Cedar Falls First UMC prefer crunchy to creamy. The count was 529 crunchy to 507 creamy. Great job exceeding the audacious goal of 1000 jars for our summer peanut butter challenge!

Wee Care Could Use a Boost

Grateful parents of wee ones come to our church every Tuesday afternoon to pick up a supply of much needed baby goods. This gap ministry through LoveINC helps struggling families stretch their dollars. Wipes, rash cream, teething gel, pacifiers, 8 oz & 4 oz bottles, receiving blankets, and sippy cups are always in demand. Donations of diapers size 2-5 are always appreciated (Aldis has good ones at a reasonable price). We have a designated shopper who finds good deals on these items, so monetary donations are put to good use. Put Wee Care on the memo line of your check to First UMC

First Kids Positions Open

1st Kids is looking for a full time 2 year old teacher (7:30-3:30- Monday thru Friday) and a preschool associate (7:30-1:00, Monday thru Friday). For more information, contact FirstKids by phone at 319-266-9289 or email at firstkids@aboutfirst.com.

Trunk or Treat

Date: Wednesday, Oct 25th

Time: 6:00-7:15pm

You are invited to a TRUNK – OR – TREAT! The night will kick off with a home style Barbeque dinner at 5:00pm in the Gathering Place. Dinner is brought to you by Matt Porter at Ornerly Uncle Roy's. After dinner everyone will begin our Trunk-or Treat! We would like to invite all to dress up in family appropriate costumes to celebrate Halloween at First UMC. Groups of adults are asked to decorate the trunk of a car and pass out candy to the kids as they walk trunk to trunk in their costumes. Adults can dress up as well to go along with the theme of their trunk.

Once you have stopped by all the trunks continue the fun by enjoying a crafts, S'Mores and Hot Chocolate. If you would like to have a trunk please sign up at the Welcome Center. Please note spots are limited. Contact Jenna Engel at jenna.engel@aboutfirst.com with any questions.

events

October 1 - Flu Shots

Where: Chapel

When: 9:30 - 11:00

The flu can be a devastating illness, especially for the younger, older and weaker among us. First UMC want to help you be healthy. Cheryl Neill will have flu shots available on Sunday morning, October 1. Stop by the chapel anytime between 9:30-11:00am. Most insurance is accepted. Medicare is 100% covered.

October 3 - Grief Support Session

Where: Church Parlor

When: 2:00 to 3:30 pm

If you are grieving a loss, often it can help to meet with others who care and understand. These sessions provide a safe, confidential setting in which to share your feelings and concerns. Please call Carol through the church office with questions.

October 3 - Food Bank Work Crew

Where: Northeast Iowa Food Bank

When: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

A crew from our church helps at the Food Bank the first Tuesday of each month and you're welcome to join in this great community outreach. 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

October 10 & 24 - Crafter's Corner

Where: Church Parlor

When: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Attention crafters - please join us! This is a laid back and hands-on group for all skill levels. Bring your own craft project to work on or apply your talents to make sleep mats for the homeless, handmade gifts, or prayer shawls for those in need. Donations are always greatly appreciated! We need clean used plastic grocery bags, yarn, and crochet hooks. You may leave your crafting donations in the bin in the little hallway across from the drinking fountain on the main level of the church. Please contact Crystal Wilken at crystalwilken@gmail.com with any questions.

October 19 - 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.

October 20 - Haunted Hayride

Where: Meet here at First UMC, CF

When: 7:30 - 9:30 pm

All 7-12th grade students are invited to join us on October 20th from 7:30-9:30 for a fall party. We will gather together at 7:30 for a light dinner, and travel as a group out to the Waterhawks haunted hayride. Cost is just \$10. Costumes are encouraged! RSVP by October 18th, contact Becca Nims at rebecca.nims@aboutfirst.com.

October 23 - LifeServe Blood Drive

Where: Gathering Place

When: 12:30 - 6:00pm

We are hosting the next blood drive on Monday, October 23 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.

Every Thursday - Zumba

Zumba with us on Thursdays at 5:30 pm in our Fellowship Hall! A free-will contribution of a couple of bucks is appreciated. Contact mary.friedrich@cfu.net if you have questions. Come and dance...it's never too late to join us on this fun fitness adventure!

M T **W** T F

Wednesday is Your CrazyFunBusy Church Night!

- 5:15 - 6:00 **The Filling Station**
- a meal for everyone. Eat & go on to
- 6:00 - 7:10 **Jr / Sr High Youth**
- fun & connections for 7th - 12th graders
- 6:00 - 7:15 **BLAST! (for kids)**
- Bible Learning And Service Together
- 6:00 - 7:15 **More Than Moms**
- helps for the real life of womanhood
- 6:00 - 7:15 **What Are We Fighting For?**
- A Study of Controversy and Purpose
- 6:00 - 7:15 **Men's Group**
- hangin' with the fellas
- 6:00 - 7:30 **Tower Bells**
- weekly bell choir rehearsal. Want to play?
- 7:15 - 8:00 **FUSION Tonight**
- live talk show / worship
- 7:30 - 8:30 **Chancel Choir**
- for adults who love to sing

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
 9:45 New Member Class
 10:00 Frederika UMC worship
 10:30 Washington Chapel Worship
 10:30 Frederika UMC Worship
 11:00 Traditional Service, sanctuary
 6:00-7:30 Disciple Bible Study, library
 6:30 Les Cloches d'Or rehearsal, sanctuary
 7:00 Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall
 7:30 Chapel Ringers rehearsal, sanctuary

Tuesday

7:00 Men's Breakfast
 9:30 Quilters/Stitchers, O59
 9:30-10:30 Tuesday Bible Study, chapel
 4:30-6:00 Community Meal, Fellowship Hall
 6:30-8:00 men's group
 7:00-9:00 AA, O55

Wednesday

9:00 Women Connected by Prayer, parlor
 5:15 AA, O55
 5:15-6:00 Filling Station, Gathering Place
 6:00-7:15 More than Moms, parlor
 6:00-7:15 BLAST
 6:00 Youth Group, 3rd floor
 6:00-7:15 WAWFF, library
 6:15-7:30 Tower Bell rehearsal, sanctuary
 6:30 WOW AA, O55
 7:15 FUSION Tonight
 7:30-8:30 Chancel Choir rehearsal, choir rm

Thursday

5:30-6:30 Zumba, Fellowship Hall
 7:00 Transformation Band, Fellowship Hall

Also Scheduled....

SUNDAY October 1

World Communion Sunday
 Flu shots in the chapel - Cheryl Neill
 CROP Walk this afternoon
 10:00 Chris Werling-Wittkoske at Frederika
 Come Home for Dinner, Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY October 3

2:00-3:30 Grief Support, parlor
 6:00-8:30 Food Bank Work Crew

WEDNESDAY October 4

7:15 FUSION - Shawna Fransdal

THURSDAY October 5

6:30 Trustees, O57

SUNDAY October 8

Wear Pink Today
 6:00-7:00 Webelos, parlor
 6:00-7:30 Girl Scouts 1871, chapel

MONDAY October 9

9:30 UMW Board Meeting, library
 6:00 HOME Team, chapel
 6:30 Cub Scout Pack 44, Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY October 10

1:30 Miriam Circle, library
 6:00-8:00 Crafter's Corner, parlor
 7:00-9:00 Feed Starving Children
 7:00 Transformation Band

WEDNESDAY October 11

2:00 communion service, Western Hm
 6:30 Finance committee, O57
 7:15 FUSION Tonight - Randy Blackford

THURSDAY October 12

1:00 UMW Unit meeting, Fellowship Hall
 6:30 SPRC, O57

SATURDAY October 14

12-2:00 Girl Scouts, Gathering Place

SUNDAY October 15

10:00 Chris Congdon @ Frederika

MONDAY October 16

10:00 Deborah Circle, parlor
 6:30 Worship Committee, library

WEDNESDAY October 18

11:00 Pinnacle Care chapel service
 7:15 FUSION Janet W & Liz German

THURSDAY October 19

12:00 1st Friends Potluck, Gathering Place
 7:00 Transformation Band

FRIDAY October 20

Newsletter Deadline
 5:30-9:00 Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY October 21

6:00 New member dinner

SUNDAY October 22

New Member Sunday
 10:00 Padma Templeton @ Frederika

MONDAY October 23

12:30-6:00 Blood Drive, Gathering Place
 6:00-8:00 CRUSH, O58

TUESDAY October 24

1:30 Miriam Circle, library
 6:00-8:00 Crafter's Corner, parlor

WEDNESDAY October 25

2:00 Windermere communion service
 6:00-7:15 Trunk or Treat!
 7:15 Fusion Tonight - Jan & Dean Hoover

THURSDAY October 26

9:30-11:30 Mary Circle, parlor
 1:30 Joy Circle, parlor
 6:30-7:45 Girl Scouts, parlor

SATURDAY October 28

Rake n Run
 6:00 Indian Food Dinner

SUNDAY October 29

Ingathering Sunday
 10:00 Lisa Congdon at Frederika
 6:00-7:30 Girl Scouts 1871, chapel

MONDAY October 30

1:00 Grief Support Team, parlor

TUESDAY October 31

Noon newsletter mailing crew

Sunday School Classes for Everyone

Preschool through 6th grade rooms are down stairs. 7th-12th room is on the 3rd floor. If you are new to the church or have a three year old and would like to get them involved with Sunday School please contact Jenna Engel.

Adult Sunday School

Everyone is welcome - you do not need to be a member of First UMC to attend.

CCF (Christ Centered Families)

This class will focus on strengthening our families and developing our young children into strong Christians.

Room: 055

Growing Christians

Our studies generally vary during the year from Bible studies, applying Biblical principles and the gifts that God puts into our lives. Room 056, Kris Rash

Open Door

Where friends meet to study God's word and apply it's principles to on-going spiritual development. Contact Sue Mutchler or Margery Andrew

Kaleidoscope

This group is for anyone willing to tackle any topic! Room 058 Gil Hewett

Seekers

The Seekers present several small studies/discussions each year (no homework) to help grow our faith in Jesus Christ. Room: 060

Pathfinders

Our newest Sunday morning group for adults. We gather to share our lives and discuss God's presence in the world today.

Plan Now for a Fall Faith Renewal

This three-day retreat will take you away from the distractions of life and allow you to refocus on your faith. You'll be immersed in a Christian community, and will be encouraged to find ways to live out your faith in your home church. This is the **Walk to Emmaus**. During your "walk" you'll be amply fed, comfortably housed, and you'll have plenty of time for a good night's sleep. Guided activities and scheduled break times allow opportunities to enjoy the natural environment of the retreat location near Lake McBride.



How far? This walk is symbolic, not an actual physical challenge. Facilities and activities are fully accessible to pilgrims of all abilities. The name, **Walk to Emmaus** refers to Luke 24:13-35 where Jesus walks with two travelers who do not recognize the risen Christ in their midst until he breaks bread with them. In this weekend, you'll learn to see Christ in the world around you, and will be inspired to be an instrument of His love.

The Walk to Emmaus is an experience for adults, and there is a similar youth experience called Chrysalis. If you have interest in learning more about the **Walk to Emmaus** or Chrysalis, contact the church office, and we can arrange for you to meet someone who has already been - there are many in our congregation. Check out this video at www.vimeo.com/8697255.

Upcoming retreats:

October 20-23 men Solon, IA

November 10-13 women Solon, IA

Holy Land Trip – Walk Where Jesus Walked – Spring Break 2018

Pastor Steve and Janet are planning a trip to the Holy Land during Spring Break in 2018 leaving March 6 and returning on March 15. This is a trip of a lifetime. We will visit significant sites such as Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jericho, Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem. We will be walking where Jesus walked! Going to the Holy Land has made a dramatic difference in traveler's



faith and reading the Bible. There are some individuals looking for roommates to share this experience. If you are interested in going, please contact Pastor Steve or Janet.



School for Lay Ministry - Equipping You For Your Role in Ministry

Jesus tells us in Matthew 20:28 *“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

Several years ago dedicated people with great vision initiated the School for Lay Ministry in the Iowa Annual Conference. Since that beginning in Indianola at Simpson College, the school has expanded adding campuses at Morningside in Sioux City and at Cornell in Mount Vernon. In 2014, a Spanish language class was added at Simpson.

The purpose of the school is to prepare people to follow in Jesus’ footsteps by serving. The program provides supplemental leadership training to facilitate ministry in Iowa United Methodist Churches. We can be the best servants when we are trained, informed and well prepared. The school offers 12 weekends over a three year period covering 12 carefully selected ministry areas and are held on Saturday and Sunday at a cost is \$140 per weekend. Classes are scheduled to begin this fall at all three campuses.

You will gain knowledge and insight that will be a tremendous asset to your pastor and your church. Additionally, you will grow personally beyond your expectations. You will build relationships that will enrich your life and you will surely become much closer to our Lord and Savior. We don’t know of any church in the conference that could not use more trained lay persons in their ministry. We invite you to prayerfully consider this opportunity. The application, class schedule and other details can be found on the School for Lay Ministry website: www.iaumc.org/slm. Or feel free to contact Barb Mann at barb.mann@iaumc.org or 515-974-8905.

Morningside School for Lay Ministry: Nov. 11-12, 2017; January 13-14 2018 (tentative); March 17-18, 2018; April 21-22, 2018 (tentative)

Cornell School for Lay Ministry: October 14-15, 2017; November 11-12, 2017; January 13-14, 2018; March 10-11, 2018

Simpson School for Lay Ministry: November 4-5, 2017; January 6-7, 2018; March 3-4, 2018; May 5-6, 2018

Extended Learning Opportunities from SLM

The School for Lay Ministry (SLM) Commission is once again excited to offer some Extended Learning Opportunities at Cornell College this fall. Classes are open to all clergy, laity or anyone interested so please get the word out. We hope many can take advantage of these opportunities. If you are interested in attending any of the classes that will be offered, additional details and the registration form is posted on the SLM Website, Cornell Campus. Contact Barb Mann at barb.mann@iaumc.org or 515-974-8905. We hope to see you there!

Start a Daily Devotion The Easy Way

“The Upper Room” daily devotional is available in the literature rack outside the church office. The Upper Room magazine’s mission is to provide a model of practical Christianity, accessible in varied formats, to help people feel invited and welcomed into God’s presence to:

- listen to scripture as God’s personal message, linking their stories to God’s story;
- commune with God in prayer;
- see their daily choices and small acts of obedience as part of God’s work;
- realize our connection through Christ as a universal family of believers;
- encounter the living Christ and be transformed into Christ’s likeness.

Cost \$1.25

more to do!

M T **W** T F

Filling Station

We will kick off our fun packed Wednesday nights with a meal. The filling station is great time for us to reconnect half way through the week while enjoying supper together. Please join us beginning Wednesday, Sept 13th. The Filling Station is in the gathering place 5:15-6:00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Cost of the meal is a free will donation to help cover the cost of the meal. We do need help at the Filling Station with serving and clean up. Can you help once in a while? See Jenna!



B.L.A.S.T:

Bible Learning And Serving Together.

Please join us Wednesday nights. BLAST is for students turning 5 this school year -6th grade. This fall we will be taking the kids back to Old Testament. We will be learning the Story of Creation, The Fall, The Flood, Father Abraham, Ten Words and The Great Commandments. If you would like to be involved with this Ministry please contact Jenna Engel at jenna.engel@aboutfirst.com

Indian Food fundraiser – October 28

Like nothing else, food brings people together. Everybody has to eat, and what an adventure it is when we can share a meal with someone from another part of the world.

Varina Timothy is a UNI student from India who attends our church on a regular basis. Varina is struggling to pay her tuition and we have teamed together to help her create a special dinner featuring food from her home country of India. This will be a unique opportunity to eat food she has helped to prepare, and to hear her story. We will be selling advance tickets in preparation for this event with a suggested minimum donation of \$25/ticket.



Tickets will be available beginning October 1st. Checks should be made out to FUMC with "Varina Education Fund" on the memo. Please note that this will not count as a church tax-deductible donation.

Menu includes: samosa, chicken curry, mutter paneer, black-eyed peas with spinach, saffron rice, raita, pappadum, and dessert.

Please contact Padma Templeton, Janet Williams or Lisa Congdon with questions.

Feed Starving Children

Westminster Presbyterian Church in Waterloo has invited everyone to join them for the 11th annual food packing event for Feed My Starving Children. Join your friends at First UMC at our reserved time on Tuesday, October 10 from 7-9. Sign up on the clipboard at the Welcome Center. Or, register yourself on their website at www.wpcw.org or on the Feed My Starving Children website for a shift that works better for your schedule. Dates are Monday, October 9 - Wednesday, October 11. Packing shifts are 12-2, 4-6, and 7-9. It's a great event - a lot of fun - and a FREE hairnet is given to all!

CROP Hunger Walk is October 1

The annual CROP Hunger Walk is Sunday, October 1 (registration at 1:30, walk at 2:00). This year the walk will make a three mile loop beginning and ending at St Luke's Episcopal church in Cedar Falls. (2410 Melrose Drive)

Our goal is to raise funds and awareness for those who are hungry - in our own community as well as elsewhere in the world. 25% of the money raised will support our own NE Iowa Food Bank and the remaining 75% supports world hunger projects through Church World Service.

The CROP Walk team is collecting peanut butter or canned food for the Food Bank, too. Bring your peanut butter or canned food to St. Luke's Episcopal Church when you register for the walk at 1:30 on October 1.



October mission is House of Hope

The House of Hope in Waterloo is a 2-year transitional house for homeless single mothers and their children which works with the families to provide skills and support necessary to break the barriers holding them down and help them attain self-sufficiency. With a waiting list of 40+ families, the House of Hope is expanding from 10 apartments to 15. In 2015, the Christensen Family donated a building to accommodate this expansion and the renovation cost will be \$1.85 million. To raise the necessary funds, the House of Hope is asking for your help by providing some of the building materials and paint needed to bring down the cost of this expansion project and to give families a place to live.

Easy as 1 - 2 - 3

1. Check out the Hope House display in the Gathering Place.
2. Select a tag with an item to purchase at Menard's or Sherwin-Williams (Waterloo stores).
3. Bring the item back to the church.

The Waterloo Menard's and the Waterloo Sherwin Williams stores have agreed to support House of Hope by offering special pricing to those who are purchasing materials for the project. .

October Volunteer opportunities for individuals or groups to come help build with House of Hope will be available as soon as dates are determined.

Contact House of Hope for further information, 319-232-3823.

Help us Build Hope for House of Hope.



Pull a tag from the "house" display, go shopping, and bring the item back to the church

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 Jan Benson. 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.

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.



“There is Power in Hope”

We are living in a time when circumstances are causing many people to be discouraged and in need of hope. One only has to look at the devastation and loss of life in the hurricanes and substantial flooding during the last few weeks to know that people are hurting. You may be suffering the loss of a loved one or have family or friends who are facing serious health issues.

During times of crisis, it is difficult to find hope and joy. Ultimate hope is found only through faith in Christ. But that kind of hope usually flows through people who give of themselves to help other people. We can look to those who rush in after the storms of life and are there to help us pick up the tattered pieces of our lives. Here at First UMC, hope flows through people involved in various congregational care groups. Stephen Ministry is one of them. If you have questions about Stephen Ministry or would like to have a Stephen Minister walk with you through some “hope stealing” set of circumstances, please talk to a pastor or call the church office.



Congregational Care Thanks

During the past year, and for many years now, several teams of over 60 volunteers have worked in many ways to provide care to members and friends of our congregation during times of stress, joy, loneliness, and grief. They have provided transportation, comforted the grieving, prayed with someone, made and sent cards, provided hugs or a listening ear, visited the home bound, brought joy to a nursing home resident, or served as a Stephen Minister. We thank those who have given of their time and talents in these important ministries. If you feel you have the spiritual gifts and would like to be involved during the coming year, please call the church office, and you will be directed to the appropriate person. Loving God and each other is what we as Christians are called to do.

Hospital reminder

Please call us, or have a family member or friend call us, if you are hospitalized. The hospitals are not able to contact us to give us this information. We want to support you and your family when illness or surgeries happen, but cannot do so if we are unaware.

Reading Buddies

Our Partner In Education, Lincoln Elementary School, has appreciated the great group of Reading Buddies who read with K-3rd grade students throughout the school year. Principal Ralph Bryant is looking forward to another year of this partnership. There is room for more Reading Buddies. Sign up on the sheet outside the chapel to be a part of this great partnership to Change a Child's Story.

Continue to Change a Child's Story

Your monetary donations provide books for students to take home as well as funds to enhance classroom libraries. You may help with this by using the special offering envelopes at the display or note “Change a Child's Story” on your check to FUMC.

UMCOR kit needs

During the month of October we will continue to collect items for various United Methodist Committee on Relief kits. UMCOR Supply kits help to care for the most vulnerable people during times of crisis. They also help to sustain everyday life by providing basic necessities to people who lack ready access to essential supplies. Your donations of supplies make a direct and tangible difference to alleviate human suffering around the world. You can also support the kit project by contributing money to cover toothpaste and shipping/warehousing costs.

We could use some items to complete Health Kits and Layettees. The list of items to complete the full kits are on the Welcome Center, but here are the items we could use right now.

For Health Kits:

Hand towels (15"x25" to 17"x27") new and unwashed
Bath-size soap (no Ivory or Jergens)
Bandages (3/4"- 1")
Gallon zip lock bags

For Layette Kits:

cloth diapers (new and unwashed)
Receiving blankets (30"x30" or 32"x32")

Got extra fabric? Bring it in!

Along with the supplies to fill the school kits, there is also a need for fabric to make the school bags and other stitching projects. The Quilters & Stitchers are looking for durable material for school bags, 3+ yards of cotton material for sewing kits, and flannel, fleece, and quilting materials for various other uses. There is a designated bin for your fabric donations in the church collection site on the main level in the little hall across from the drinking fountain.

Heifer Update, and a New Project

Our back to school goal this fall is to send a girl to school. Each gift of \$275 will provide a family with training and livestock so they can earn the income needed to pay for their daughter's school fees and supplies. Girls often suffer the most from gender discrimination.

They are often denied the opportunity to go to school because resources are limited.

This gift empowers girls and young women through education, equips them with books, paper and other learning materials, and provides for their tuition and other school expenses.

Heifer International and their partners support programs designed to give every girl the chance to fulfill her potential. Join us in breaking this cycle.



Check out the display in the church office window for more information about our current Heifer International project and to note our progress on this goal. Offering envelopes are available near the office, or simply make your check out to FUMC with Heifer on the memo.

News From

“The Connection”

Does First UMC give you a feeling that you're connected to something big? That's by design. “Connectional” is a word we use to describe the structure of the global United Methodist Church. Each local church is connected to every other local church through a network of districts, jurisdictions and conferences. It's a structure that allows churches to function locally, while still being “connected” to the ideas and resources of a global faith community. It is the connectional nature of our United Methodist Church that makes our relationship with Banyam Seminary possible, and has led to real friendships between congregations across town and around the world.

If you'd like to know more about how the United Methodist Church is working around our state, our nation and the world, check the news updates on the following websites. We think you'll be encouraged and inspired to know that you're a member of an organization that promotes the Gospel, justice and works for the peace of Christ worldwide.

For Iowa UMC news:

iaumc.org

For global UMC news:

umc.org

2017 Mission U (formerly SOCM):

Learning Together for the 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, Living as a Covenant Community. Also, attendees may choose to attend either the geographic study Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the U.S. or the social issue study Climate Justice: Call to Hope and Action.

WHEN: October 20-22. Fall Mission U, including Spanish, Korean, Children's, and Youth studies (register by September 20).

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

You may obtain a copy of the brochure and registration form at the counter on the back of the Welcome Center in the Gathering Place.

If you have any questions please contact Chris Werling-Witkoske (cdwwitkoske@hotmail.com or phone 319-594-2404).

UMW OCTOBER

The Purpose of the organized unit of UNITED METHODIST WOMEN shall be a Community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

On September 16th, we participated and provided a "Street Fair" Open House sharing information with attendees about our local UMW Circles and projects completed. We had a nice turnout for a Saturday afternoon! We learned more about each other as well as resources available to us through the UMW in Iowa and the national organization.

A group of us also attended the NE District Annual Meeting and Officer's Training in Dysart on September 22nd.

Our next Unit Meeting will be held on October 12th at 1:00 pm. We will have our Annual Memorial Service followed by a presentation on the services of the Family & Children's Council. Marilyn Teig will be our speaker for that event.

Come Home for Dinner

The UMW invites everyone to a free will donation dinner which will be served at 11:00 and again at noon on Sunday, October 1. Come join us and enjoy ham balls, corn bread, green beans, mashed potatoes, and dessert bars.

UMW Calendar:

- Oct. 1 - Come Home to Dinner, 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall
- Oct. 4 - More than Moms, 6:00 p.m. to 7:10 p.m., Parlor
- Oct. 7 - Iowa Conference UMW Annual Meeting, Washington, Iowa
- Oct. 9 - Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Library
- Oct. 10 - Miriam Circle, 1:30 p.m., Library
- Oct. 10 - Hearts & Hands Circle, 5:30 p.m., Gathering Place
- Oct. 11 - More than Moms, 6:00 p.m. to 7:10 p.m., Parlor
- Oct. 12 - Unit Meeting, 1:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Oct. 16 - Deborah Circle, 10:00 a.m., Parlor
- Oct. 18 - More than Moms, 6:00 p.m. to 7:10 p.m., Parlor
- Oct. 20-22 - Fall Mission U, Iowa Valley Continuing Education Center, Marshalltown
- Oct. 24 - Miriam Circle, 1:30 p.m., Library
- Oct. 25 - More than Moms, 6:00 p.m. to 7:10 p.m., Parlor
- Oct. 26 - Mary Circle, 9:30 a.m., Parlor
- Oct. 26 - Joy Circle, 1:30 p.m., Parlor

Hearts and Hands

The Hearts and Hands group will be meeting on a somewhat-regular schedule this fall.

Planned meetings for Hearts and Hands are as follows:

- October 10: Report from Janet on the trip to Nigeria. Gathering place 5:30
We are also signed up for "Take a Meal" that night by 4:30
- November Help with the Ingathering on Nov 4 or before as needed
- December 13?? Decorate cookies with the youth (a Wed night)

We will plan activities for the rest of the year at one of the fall meetings. Questions? Call Karen Page at 319-230-7200 or e-mail kp224@cfu.net.

Thank Yous

A special thank you to the Congregational Core Team and to Jane Wyckoff for her visit and the beautiful red rose she delivered for my birthday. I always look forward to Jane's visit.

Chuck Roudebush

Thank you for the rose and the card. It's great to be remembered. Also, so enjoy Flo's visits always. God bless all!

Dolores (Dee) Berger

First UMC and Jane Wyckoff,
Thanks so much for the birthday rose. What a great reminder of the blessings of another birthday. I have enjoyed it so much.

Lura Treloar

It is so nice to be remembered on my 86th birthday. The red rose, the delivery by Jane with the chat and the hug was special. Many thank also to the staff for the card.

Hube Gaard

Thanks to the church and Jane Wyckoff for the beautiful red rose and the birthday card. It made my day!

Thelma Macheska

Thanks to Jane Wyckoff for delivering the beautiful rose for my 83rd birthday. Having a birthday beats the alternative. We are happy to be a part of First United Methodist Church.

Aileen Anderson

I did appreciate your greetings, the rose, and Jane's visit. Thank you all so much.

Margaret Willoughby

We wanted to thank everyone for all the warm wishes and thoughts as we moved to Michigan in August. We dearly miss our church family and our many friendships formed during our 12 years in Iowa. We have found a Methodist Church in our new town and are starting to get involved in it. The boys are also starting to settle into the new schools and routines. Lori's parents definitely have appreciated having us here, and we are cherishing the limited time we have left with her dad. If anyone is ever in the north Detroit area, please look us up.

With Christ's love,

Kevin & Lori Price & boys

Thank you so much for separating the math topics for the second grade teachers and students at Lincoln Elementary School. You saved us MANY hours of work and helped us get out school year off to a great start! We really appreciate all the volunteer and financial assistance you provide to us. FUMC is an amazing Partner in Education to Lincoln Elementary School. Thank you for EVERYTHING!

*Mrs. Witt, Mrs. Lindgren,
Mrs. Mounce, Mrs. Bishop and
the second grade students*

We thank you for SO many things: A few items from the garage sale that are being used at the GreenHouse, the hamburgers and buns, chips and pies for our block Party, the friendly faces of folks who attended out Block Park, and the \$50 donations from a church member. We are so appreciative of ALL of the ways you provide support!

On behalf of all the students and staff at Threehouse: A Wesley Foundation, we send you our heartfelt thanks.

David Glenn-Burns, Director and Campus Minister

I just wanted to take a moment to let you know what having the space at First UMC means to us. There is much love, gratitude and support. This special group is changing lives around them as well as their own. Thank you for your support and for sharing your beautiful space!!

Mary and the Zumba Ladies

Sympathy to:

- Debbie Grover and her family on the loss of her sister.
- Lori Murphy-Stokes and her family on the loss of her father on September 8.
- Family and friends of Jack Fortune. Jack passed away September 18. His service was held September 21.

Congratulations

- Tim and Melinda (Heichel) Duggan were married in our church on August 26.
- Sam & Shawna (Springer) Fransdal were married in our church on September 2.
- Scott & Laurie (Geis) Burgett were married in our church on September 9.

Financial Update--

August Receipts:	\$51,296
August Expenses:	\$73,012
YTD Receipts:	\$550,882
YTD Expenses:	\$550,290
Mortgage balance as of Sept 29 is	\$502,863

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, Debbie Dance for details. 319-266-1713 or email debbie.dance@aboutfirst.com.

Attendance- week ending

	9/3	9/10	9/17	9/24
Transformation	95	89	107	82
Traditional 8:30	99	141	125	123
Traditional 11:00	73	102	116	98
FUSION	x	x	23	31

First United Methodist Church

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Sunday, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Traditional services

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Transformation Worship

Van rides are available for the 10:00 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

Steve Williams, Senior Pastor, steve.williams@aboutfirst.com

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

November newsletter deadline is October 20.

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