

Thank You Notes

Thank you to everyone who helped with the September newsletter assembly.

Thank you for your donation from V.B.S. for the Mid-Sioux Cherokee County Outreach Office. These funds will be used to help those in need right here in our Cherokee community through the food and crisis assistance programs.



Thank you to all the congregation members who sent us cards and well-wishes following the arrival of our daughter, Liliana Grace. We appreciate and love our church family.

Scott & Katie Brown

A big "thank you" to all of you for sending cards to Mom (Dorothy Clow) on her 98th birthday. She enjoyed all her greetings.

God Bless You All!
Monica Cowan-Schmidt

Thank you to Bruce Dagel with Fellowship of Christian Athletes for providing six Bibles for the Teen Time group to use.

Thank you for your donation at my benefit. It is truly appreciated.

Josie Parker and family

Thank you, Meribeth Adams, for the kind words and generous donation you gave for Teen Time. We appreciate all the support we get from members and friends of St. Paul's UM Church. On behalf of all the youth who enjoy food and fellowship on Wednesday nights, we say, "Thank You and God Bless."

Craig & Monica Schmidt

Have Personal News You'd Like to Share?



If you have an engagement, marriage, new baby, graduation, milestone birthday or anniversary, etc. that you'd like the church family to

know about, please contact the office with the details you would like included in the weekly bulletin and/or the monthly newsletter. Please keep in mind that our newsletter is posted on Facebook and on our website, if that is a privacy concern for you.



Church Family News

Belated Birthday Blessings

Dorothy Clow and Della Wolf had milestone birthdays in September. Dorothy turned 98 on September 1st, and Della turned 99 on September 19th. Happy belated birthday, Dorothy and Della!

Marriage Announcement



Congratulations to Ben and Mari Kait Sampson, who were united in marriage on Saturday, September 14th, in Ankeny. Ben is the son of Kirk and Lisa Sampson, and Mari Kait is the daughter of Diane and Kent Bahrenfuss of Webster City and Dave and Tina Keane of Burlington.

With Sympathy & Prayers

Mary Annette Saner, 79, of Viroqua, WI, passed away on September 5th at Vernon Manor in Viroqua. Visitation was held on September 13th, with a memorial service on September 14th, both at the Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home in Cherokee. Burial was at Marcus-Amherst Cemetery in Marcus. Mary is the sister-in-law of Ervina Scott.

Laura L. Schmidt, 62, of Cherokee passed away on September 5th at MercyOne Health Center in Sioux City. Visitation was held on September 13th, and a memorial service was held on September 14th, both at Boothby Funeral Home. Laura is the wife of Russell.

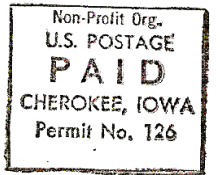
Josie DiAnn Parker, 36, of Cherokee passed away on September 10th at her home. Visitation was held on September 13th, and a funeral service was held on September 14th, both at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Cherokee. Josie is Ryan's wife and the daughter-in-law of Bob and Peggy Parker.

Donna L. Wilkie, 90, of Cherokee passed away on September 14th at Heartland Care Center in Marcus. Visitation was held on September 16th at Boothby Funeral Home, and a funeral service was held on September 17th here at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Burial was at Cedar Cemetery at Larrabee prior to the funeral. Donna is the wife of Bob and the mother of Kevin (Karla) Wilkie.

Bonnie J. Lewis, 85, of Aurelia, passed away on September 23rd at Accura Healthcare of Cherokee. At the time of newsletter printing, funeral services are pending at Boothby Funeral Home.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Everyone is welcome!

Fall Festival

Sunday, October 20, 2024
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Chili Cook-Off!
Sign up by calling (712) 225-3955, and bring your favorite chili to share on Oct. 20!

Supper:
chili, hot dogs, and dessert
(Freewill offering)

Activities:
pumpkin and leaf decorating, bags, sidewalk chalk, temporary tattoos, and guess the candy corn jar

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
cherokeemethodist.com
cherokeespumc@gmail.com
(712) 225-3955





THE DOME

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 2024

A Moment with Mike

It is the first day of autumn as I write this newsletter article, and the weather also happened to change colder at the same time. How fitting. As we enter into this new season, our committees and ministry teams are busy getting things ready and getting back in gear. Our Bell and Chancel Choirs have started their practices, Sunday School is back in session, confirmation is just getting started, and Teen Time has started with twenty kids in attendance at both of their first two meetings! We are planning some special events for Teen Time. On October 16th, they will go to Hoeftling's Pumpkin Patch, and on October 23rd, they will pack some student kits for the Ingathering and learn about mat weaving. Our Outreach and Connections Team is planning a Fall Festival at church on October 20th. This will include many activities for kids, in addition to hot dogs and a chili cookoff in Schuldt Dining Hall!



We are also getting ready for our annual Charge Conference, which is a yearly meeting with the District Superintendent and some other churches in our circuit. In preparation for the Charge Conference, our Finance Committee met to review our 2024 budget and to create a new budget for 2025. While reviewing the 2024 budget, it was determined that we are quite a bit behind. In order to get back on track, we will need to see giving increase about a third more than what it has been so far this year. Though we are concerned about the budget, we also celebrate your generosity to our church and to all of the special offerings we have had this summer for flood relief. You have truly made a difference! For our budget, if you are able to give more, I would ask that you consider giving an extra gift to the general fund for this purpose. If you are unable to give more, we totally understand and thank you for what you do give. We all have different kinds of gifts, and we use them to bless others. Thank you for what you do to make a difference.

God Bless,
Pastor Mike Agnew

Baptism

Laney Mae Pingel, daughter of Emily and Brady Pingel, was baptized on September 15th. Laney's grandparents are Kenny and Melissa Schlenger and Dennis and Kim Pingel. Her great-grandparents are Jim and Betty Harman and Jan Pingel, and her godparents are Jaron and Mandy Hirschman. Congratulations!



Teen Time (High School Youth Group)

You're invited!

Teen Time

Youth Group for High School Students

Wednesday Nights

(except when Fellowship of Christian Athletes meets)

Free Supper at 6:30 p.m.

Bible Fellowship from 7 - 8 p.m.

409 Centennial Drive, Cherokee
(home of Craig & Monica Schmidt)

You don't have to be a member of St. Paul's
United Methodist Church to attend.

All high schoolers
are welcome!

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
531 W. Main Street, Cherokee
Website: cherokeemethodist.com
Email: cherokeespumc@gmail.com
Office Phone: (712) 225-3955



October Teen Time Schedule

- Oct. 2 No Teen Time
Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets at Meriden Evangelical Free Church from 6:30-8 p.m.
- Oct. 9 No Teen Time
Fields of Faith at Buena Vista University
(See poster on page 10.)
- Oct. 16 Hoeftling's Pumpkin Patch trip (See below.)
- Oct. 23 Mission Project (See below.)
- Oct. 30 Teen Time at Craig & Monica's



All high school students are welcome at Teen Time! You don't have to be a member of St. Paul's to attend. Invite a friend, and join us! If you or your parents have

any questions, please call Monica Schmidt at 229-9936.

Oct. Teen Time Special Events



Hoeftling's Pumpkin Patch

Wed., October 16, 2024

6:15 - 9 p.m.

Meet in the Dining Hall at
St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

(531 W. Main St., Cherokee)

We will meet at the church for supper before carpooling to Hoeftling's. There, we will have a scavenger hunt in the corn maze and enjoy s'mores. The group admission fee will be paid by the church, but please bring cash if you'd like to purchase pumpkins or anything from the gift shop. (A signed permission slip is required and available at the September 25th Teen Time and in the church office.)

Mission Project



Wed., October 23, 2024

6:30 - 8 p.m.

Meet in the Dining Hall at
St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

(531 W. Main St., Cherokee)

After supper, we will learn about sleeping mats that are made here at St. Paul's out of used grocery bags and sent around the world for disaster relief and the homeless. Then, we will assemble 100 student kits to be shipped out to those in need around the world. If you helped with the Ingathering during your confirmation class, student kits are some of the kits that you likely helped pack on the truck. Please note that your time spent assembling kits can be counted for silver cord hours.

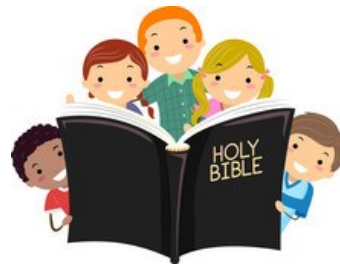
Christian Education News

Sunday School Update

Sunday School for PK-5th grade and adults meets from 9-10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. On the last Sunday of the month, the children's choir sings during our 10:10 a.m. worship service, and we take a noisy offering for children's ministries. If you'd like to volunteer to teach or substitute in the children's classes, please contact Heidi Gerstandt, Miranda Cook, or Pastor Mike. To follow are some photos of the fun they've been having.



3rd Grade Bibles



Third graders from our congregation will be receiving Bibles during worship on Sunday, October 27th. If you would like your child to receive a Bible, please contact the office to get on our list. We want to be sure

we have enough Bibles for all 3rd grade students from our congregation.

Teacher Recognition

Teacher recognition for our Sunday School, confirmation, and Teen Time teachers will be held on Sunday, October 27th, during worship. Join us!




Wesleyan Small Groups Continue

Pastor Mike continues to lead two small groups over the book *Knowing Who We Are: The Wesleyan Way of Grace* by Lacey C. Warner on Sundays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 10 a.m., both in Feller Lounge. The Sunday group is scheduled to conclude on October 27th, and the Thursday group will conclude on October 17th.

Confirmation Class

Pastor Mike and Linda Christensen are leading a confirmation class for seven 6th and 7th grade students. In October, the class will meet on Sunday, October 6th, at 5 p.m. Class begins with pizza for supper.

**Buena Vista University**


FIELDS OF FAITH

Fields of Faith is a student-led and student-driven event where young people gather to stand together against the pressures and temptations in our world and be a generation committed to reading the Bible and applying it to life. Students invite, pray for, share with, and challenge their peers to read God's Word and follow Jesus Christ.

SCHALLER CHAPEL

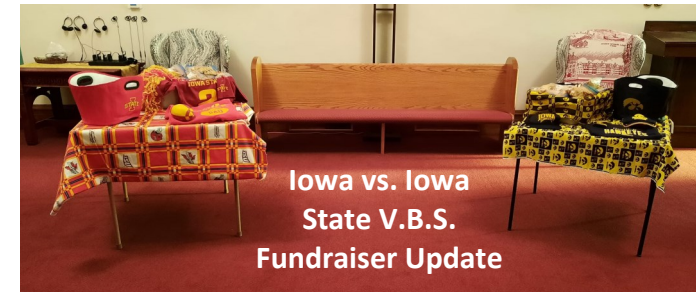
October 9 | 7:15 p.m.

Come worship with the BVU Praise Team, hear testimony from BVU Athletes, and learn from Elijah Gurash, Assistant Men's Basketball Coach. Connect with other high school and college students from Northwest Iowa who are pursuing a passionate relationship with God.



September Happenings

Worship on September 15



Iowa fans won the Iowa vs. Iowa State Vacation Bible School fundraiser for the third year in a row! \$606.27 was given by Iowa fans, and \$458 was given by Iowa State fans, for a grand total of \$1,064.27 given for 2025 Vacation Bible School! Thank you so much for supporting the children in our congregation and community, and thank you to the volunteers who made the snack mix.

Homecoming Parade Update

St. Paul's was represented in the Homecoming parade on September 13th. Thank you to everyone who walked and passed out candy, to Dave Appleby for driving the van, and to all of you who donated candy. We had a little extra candy leftover that is being used for Children's Time during worship.



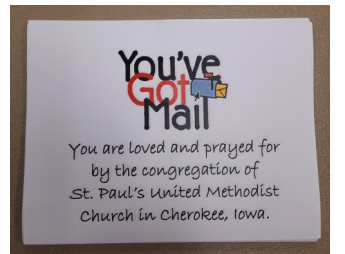
New Projectors Installed

You may have noticed that both screens in the sanctuary are now working and are much brighter, as two new projectors were installed on September 13th. Thanks to the Trustees, especially Jeff Fiedler, for their efforts on this project.



College Care Update

St. Paul's College/Military Care Team met on September 17th to assemble care packages, and Pastor Mike mailed those packages on September 18th. Thank you to everyone who donated items, with special thanks to Sarah Cook of Cherokee General Store who donated the boxes and to Ethan at Dollar Tree/Family Dollar who heard about the project from Linda Christensen and personally donated to the cause. We have 17 college students this semester that we've split between the team, which includes Jan Cook, Darlene Woltman, and Jennifer Agnew. Each month during the school year, the team will send a card or care package. This semester, we have planned a postcard, the September care packages, a Halloween card and care package, a Thanksgiving card, and a Christmas card. (Note: No military members from our congregation signed up this semester.)



September Men's Breakfast



Thank you to Mark Scherbring, Lieutenant Colonel, Retired, U.S. Army, who shared about his experience in the military at Men's Breakfast on September 21st. Mark had a photo presentation and also brought mementos to share with the group. (Note: If you missed out and would

like to hear about Mark's experiences, please see page 3 five of this newsletter for an upcoming opportunity.)

Announcements & Updates

Want to Visit? Give Us a Call.



Pastor Mike’s schedule is quite full with denominational and community responsibilities, committee meetings, visits, studying for and writing sermons, planning for Bible studies, and more. However, he is always willing to make time if you would like a visit or have something you want to discuss with him. We don’t always hear the latest news about your life, health, or family situations, unless you let us know that you’d like to connect. If you have more than a quick question or comment for him, it is very helpful to schedule a time with him in advance. This way, he can block off a specific time to dedicate to you, instead of having to leave for another appointment mid-conversation. To get on his schedule, please contact him, or call the office, and Jennifer can schedule an appointment.

Guide to the New Social Principles

The Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church has a guide to the changes made regarding human sexuality at the May 2024 General Conference. Copies of this guide can be found on the table in the narthex and on the table outside the office. You can also email the office to have the PDF sent to you. If you would like to discuss any of these changes with Pastor Mike, please call the office to set up an appointment.

Charge Conference

Charge Conference, our annual business meeting with our District Superintendent, is scheduled for Sunday, October 13th, at 6 p.m. at Storm Lake UMC. This meeting is open to anyone from our congregation. Contact Pastor Mike if you would like more information or if you would like to carpool. Following Charge Conference, Charge Conference packets will be available in the church office and on the table in the narthex. These will include reports, 2025 committee members, and our 2025 budget.



Fall Festival



The Outreach and Connections Team is planning a Fall Festival! See page one of this newsletter for details. Please sign up in the narthex on Sundays, or call the church office during the week if you are able to provide desserts or pots of chili for this fun outreach event.

Lost a Pearl?



A pearl was found in the coffee area of Schuldt Dining Hall. Please contact the office to claim it.

Men’s Breakfast

Men’s Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, October 26th, at 8:30 a.m. in Schuldt Dining Hall. All men are welcome, so invite a friend or neighbor to join us for a light breakfast and short devotion.



National Custodian Day



National Custodian Day is Wednesday, October 2nd. This is a great day to honor Betty Harman, our custodian who works hard to keep the building clean. If you would like to

leave her a note of appreciation, you can drop it off in the office or in her closet outside the men’s restroom next to the office. Thanks for all you do, Betty!

St. Paul’s Items Available

We have an autumn note card, five different Christmas cards, two magnet styles, and three puzzles available for purchase in the narthex. All items feature photos from here at St. Paul’s, and the proceeds go to the General Fund.



Election Day Luncheon Coming Soon!



Fall is just around the corner! That means it will soon be time for the Election Day Luncheon. Brenda DeRoo will be putting salad pails out in a few weeks. We hope you will pick one up and prepare a salad for us. The recipes will be on the lid of the pail, so you can prepare and return it to the church on November 5th for the luncheon. Also, we will need pie makers, and a pie sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex beginning October 6th. We need the help of all of you to make this as successful as it has been in the past. A majority of the funds have been used to help furnish meals for our Vacation Bible School program. We try to fund as many church projects as we can, so this is truly a whole church function. There is also an opportunity for all you wonderful bakers to bring your delicious treats to the bake sale. Thank you to all!

Carillon Update

You may have noticed that the carillon hasn’t been playing at noon and 5 p.m. The Trustees are aware and are working on a solution.

Worship Notes

North Door Greeters



10/6 Lynn Meikle
10/13 Lowell & Sharon Bennink
10/20 Darrel & Sue Paulsen
10/27 Rod & Liza Parker

Acolytes

10/6 Carter Knippel and Westin Stubbe
10/13 Needed - Sign up at confirmation class.
10/20 Needed - Sign up at confirmation class.
10/27 Carter Knippel



Liturgists



10/6 Barb Kratz
10/13 Betty Point
10/20 Kristal Phillips
10/27 Linda Appleby

Children’s Time

10/6 Peggy Corrington
10/13 Linda Rutter
10/20 Roni Timmerman
10/27 Linda Burkhart



Ushers

10/6 Julie & Chuck Tolzin, Shelley Lenz, Nancy Sears, and Linda Rutter
10/13 Liza & Rod Parker, Ervina Scott, and Mark and Sophie Scherbring
10/20 Bob & Peg Parker, Don Witcombe, Barb Henn, and Linda Rutter
10/27 Janet & Gary Jordan, Linda Burkhart, and Jean & Gene Anderson



Altar Flowers

10/6 Jen & Tim Gaydo
10/13 Bonni Conley
10/20 Tyler & Heidi Gerstandt
10/27 Bonni Conley

The 2024 altar flower sign-up is available on the table in the narthex on Sundays, or you can call Jennifer during the week. If the date you prefer has been taken, it is okay to have more than one arrangement per Sunday.

Nursery Attendants

10/6 Sophie Scherbring
10/13 Heidi Gerstandt
10/20 Needed - Sign up online.
10/27 Needed - Sign up online.



Attendance

Date	Worship	Sunday School	Wed.	Teen Time
9/1	62	-	9/4	-
9/8	102	36	9/11	23
9/15	147	28	9/18	23
9/22	76	25		

Current Sermon Series

Pivot: When God Leads Us to Change Our Understanding of Scripture

Through October 13th, we are looking at a number of instances—both within the scriptures itself and throughout our history—when we have been led to change our understanding of scripture in order to make sense of new discoveries and experiences in life. This should be seen as normative if we believe in a God who continues to be at work.

10/6 “When Discoveries Bring New Perspectives” (Genesis 1:1-19; Job 38:4-7, 22-24)
10/13 “Following Jesus into the Unknown Future” (John 16:12-15)

Upcoming Sermon Series

Tensions are high in America as we head towards another presidential election. Divisive rhetoric, the dehumanization of others, and the entangling of religion and partisan politics have led us to a dangerous place. As a people who seek to follow the way of Jesus, how can we get through this time with our faith intact? How can we be a positive witness for peace and unity? Join us as we explore these topics in a new sermon series.

10/27 “Remember, We’ve Already Got a Savior” (1 Samuel 8:1-20)
11/3 “See the Humanity in Everyone” (Proverbs 28:25, 1 Timothy 1:7, 1 John 4:18)
11/10 “Follow the Leader” (Philippians 2:1-16; Colossians 3:12-17)

Podcast and Online Services Available

Sermons are available on 92.1 FM KCHE on Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. and are also available via podcast. You can find a link to a podcast app on our website (green icon in the upper right on the homepage). Our full service is available live on our YouTube channel and as a recording after the fact both on our YouTube page and on our Facebook page. A link for our YouTube page can be found on our website (red and white icon in upper right on the homepage), and a link for our Facebook page can also be found on our website (blue and white icon in upper right on the homepage). If you need assistance, please stop by the office.

Music Notes

Cherokee Sings Community Choir

Cherokee Sings Community Choir had their debut performance here at St. Paul's on Sunday, September 15th! Congratulations to Becky Lickiss, our Chancel Choir director, for starting this wonderful group. If you missed their debut, videos and photos are available on our Facebook page, and the full worship service is available on our YouTube page. A link for both the Facebook page and our YouTube page can be found on our website, which is cherokeemethodist.com. The community choir's next performance will be at the Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 24th, at 4 p.m. at the First Church of Christ. The October practice schedule is to follow:

- Oct. 2 Pick up music.
Rehearsal at 7:15 p.m. (sanctuary)
- Oct. 9 No rehearsal
- Oct. 16 No rehearsal
- Oct. 23 Rehearsal at 7:15 p.m. (sanctuary)
- Oct. 30 Rehearsal at 7:15 p.m. (sanctuary).

The practice schedule for the rest of 2024 is posted on the bulletin boards at the north and west entrances, above the mail slot at the north entrance, and in the choir room, and the schedule is also pinned on our Facebook page. Rehearsals are here at St. Paul's in the sanctuary. If you'd like to join, just show up for a practice, or contact Becky Lickiss with any questions.



Pictured above: Community Choir practice at St. Paul's



Picture above: Debut performance on 9/15 at St. Paul's

Bell Choir News



Pictured left is Dusty Basten, our amazing Bell Choir director, who is playing eight bells while also directing the Bell Choir! If you've been thinking about joining the Bell Choir, this is your sign. ☺ Bell Choir practices on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary and usually performs during worship on the second Sunday of the month throughout the school year. If you'd like to join, you are welcome to just show up at a rehearsal, or contact Dusty Basten. (Photo credit to Lisa Sampson.)

Chancel Choir News

Chancel Choir practices on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the choir room (one door past the office). Typically, Chancel Choir sings during worship on the first and third Sundays of the month. New members are always welcome! To join, stop by a rehearsal, or contact Becky Lickiss.



Special Music



Thanks to Linda Christensen and Betty Point for sharing special music in worship on Sunday, September 1st. If you missed it, a recording of the service is available on our website and Facebook page. Special music is always welcome in our worship services, be it vocal or instrumental. Adults, teens, and kids are all welcome to share their musical gifts with the congregation. Contact the church office to schedule a date that works for your schedule.

"Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation." Psalm 95:1



Announcements & Updates



FREE Dental Clinic for All Ages
Clínica Dental Gratuita
Pacientes de Cualquier Edad
October 4-5, 2024 | Tyson Events Center
401 Gordon Dr. | Sioux City, IA

Licensed dentists and dental professionals

No fees for services

Fillings, cleanings, extractions and more

No appointment necessary. First-come, first-served

No insurance required

Free childcare provided

IMOM

IOWA MISSION OF MERCY

LEARN MORE

Dentistas y otros especialistas con licencia

Servicios dentales completamente gratuitos

Limpieza dental, resinas, endodoncia, extracción de dientes y más

No necesita tener cita previa

No es necesario tener seguro médico/dental

Guardería para niños gratuita

Doors open at 6:00 AM

Las puertas abren a las 6:00 AM

THANK YOU IMOM 2024 SPONSORS!

Iowa Dental Foundation

Register to volunteer today!

Fall Music Festival

Community UMC (101 Baker Dr., Sgt. Bluff) invites you to join them for Christian music, food, and fellowship on Saturday, October 19th, at 1:30 p.m. Music will be provided by Ernie Couch & Revival from Nashville, TN. A love offering will be accepted.

Community Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 24, 2024

4 p.m. at First Church of Christ

772 N. 2nd Street, Cherokee

Sponsored by the Cherokee County Ministerial Association



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

The Science of Parenting

Online Workshops

Understanding Research and Reality Monday, October 7, 2024
(Approved for foster parent credit)
How can parents use research to help inform the realities of parenting? Learn about how parenting realities are different and discover helpful parenting tools and techniques.
12:00-1:00 p.m. Register online: <https://go.iastate.edu/LW4815>

Understanding Temperament Monday, October 14, 2024
Every child is unique, and their individual temperament is one of the biggest reasons why! This workshop will introduce you to the individual temperament traits and offer an opportunity to explore how your child's temperament can impact their feelings and behaviors.
12:00-1:00 p.m. Register online: <https://go.iastate.edu/EXM4V7>

Children's Ages and Parenting Stages Monday, October 21, 2024
Just like our kids grow through different ages, we go through stages as parents, too! Learn about those stages, your child's development, and tips for adapting your parenting to your child's age and abilities.
12:00-1:00 p.m. Register online: <https://go.iastate.edu/WQ9IXY>

Positive Discipline Monday, October 28, 2024
(Approved for foster parent credit)
Parents often say guidance and discipline is their number one concern. This workshop will help you see positive discipline as an opportunity to build positive parent-child relationships. Learn about the difference between discipline and punishment and strategies for positive discipline, including Stop. Breathe. Talk.
12:00-1:00 p.m. Register online: <https://go.iastate.edu/9MYJIF>

FREE for ALL PARTICIPANTS!

www.scienceofparenting.org

Questions? Contact Hailey Walker:
hburcher@iastate.edu | 641-895-9037

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ ext. ADV20.04 July 2020.

Other Upcoming Meetings and Events

Mon. & Wed.	7:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous (NE door and downstairs)
Tuesdays	1:30 p.m.	Sleeping mat weaving (Feller Lounge)
Tues., 10/1	9:30 a.m.	Visitation Team (library)
Thurs., 10/3	7 p.m.	Administrative Board (Feller Lounge)
Wed., 10/23	10:30 a.m.	Bible study at The Gardens
Thurs., 10/24	—	Newsletter info due!
Tues., 10/29	10:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 1:10 p.m.	Communion at Viola's Communion at Accura Newsletter assembly (library)

Mark Scherbring to Speak

After hearing that Mark Scherbring spoke recently at Men's Breakfast about his experience in the U.S. Army, several of you have mentioned that you would also like to hear his story. Mark has graciously agreed to speak at Grace Circle on Wednesday, November 13th, at 6:30 p.m. in Schuldt Dining Hall. This presentation is open everyone—men, women, teens, and children—and you don't have to be a member of St. Paul's to attend. Everyone is welcome!



Learn Something New

Articles of Interest

The office is subscribed to various newsletters through the Iowa Conference and the greater United Methodist Church. To follow is a selection of recent articles that may be of interest. If you are interested in an article but don't have internet access, please contact the church office, as Jennifer can print you a copy.

"30 Conversation Starters for Your Marriage"

- <https://jillsavage.org/30-conversation-starters-marriage/>

"Special Needs Ministry: Creating an Inclusive Space for All"

- <https://www.txcumc.org/news/special-needs-ministry-creating-an-inclusive-space-for-all/>

"Church on Front Line Against Mpox in Africa"

- <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/church-on-front-line-against-mpox-in-africa>

"Fostering Unity in the Purple Church" (Living together with political differences)

- <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/fostering-unity-in-the-purple-church>

Inviting and Welcoming People to Church

- <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/what-are-we-inviting-people-into>

"NOMADS: Traveling with Purpose, for Service"

- <https://www.umc.org/en/content/nomads-traveling-with-purpose-for-service>

"UMC Bishops Denounce Political Violence, Authoritarianism"

- <https://www.iaumc.org/newsdetail/umc-bishops-denounce-political-violence-authoritarianism-18654241>

Hungry Kids in Our Community



On Friday mornings, Rotary members and others pack food to send home with kids in the Cherokee School District over the weekend. On a recent Friday, 148 food packets were prepared! That is a lot of hungry children in our community.



United Women in Faith Buzz

United Women in Faith Executive Board

Monday, October 14, 2024
9:30 a.m.
Schuldt Dining Hall

Charity Circle

Wednesday, October 16, 2024
1:30 p.m.

Schuldt Dining Hall

Hostess: Barb Kratz; Program: Deb Samuelson

Grace Circle

Wednesday, October 9, 2024
6:30 p.m.

Schuldt Dining Hall

Hostess: Cheryl Gordon; Program: Chris Feltman

All women from our congregation and from the community are invited to be in a United Women in Faith circle. Contact the church office, or just show up at a circle meeting if you are interested in joining.

UWFaith Iowa Conference Annual Meeting



United Women in Faith

The Iowa Conference Annual United Women in Faith meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 5th, at St. Mark's United Methodist Church (2675 E. Washington Street, Iowa City). Guest speakers include Bishop Kennetha, Rev. Abraham Funchess, and Cristine Nobiss. There will also be breakout sessions, including Be Bold grants, Mission u, bullying, and mat making. Officers will be elected and installed, music will be sung, reports will be given, and food will be shared. You are asked to bring diapers of any size, formula, and baby food to be sent to Great Plains Action. To register, please visit <https://www.iaumc.org/files/websites/www/2024+Oct+5+Conference+UWF+registration.pdf>, or see the flyer on the north and west bulletin boards.

Grace Circle Hosted Guest Speaker



On September 11th, Grace Circle had a guest speaker, Molly Paulsrud, the U.S. Managing Director of United Christians International, a nonprofit that was founded in 2005 and serves Haiti. 12 people attended this special event. Thank you, Molly! If you missed Molly's program and would like to learn more about this ministry, please visit their website at <https://ucihaiti.org/>.

Vacation Bible School Meals

This summer, United Women in Faith and their helpers served Vacation Bible School meals at a cost of only \$1.56/meal. That is some smart shopping!

Missions News

Chicken Dinner for Missions Update

\$928 was given at the chicken dinner for missions on September 8th, with a profit of approximately \$300 going into the Missions account. Thank you for your generosity! Additional thanks go to the Missions Committee for hosting the meal and to Peggy Rasch of the Storm Lake Dairy Queen for donating DQ sundaes.

Tools Needed for Bike Shop at Midwest Mission IA



Midwest Mission Iowa in Jefferson is starting a bike repair shop and is looking to outfit the shop. They are looking for a drill, angle grinder, bench grinder, compressor, or vice. If you have tools to donate, please contact Midwest Mission Iowa at 515-386-2236, or email io-wa@midwestmission.org.

World Communion Sunday

World Communion Sunday is a denomination-wide celebration emphasizing the value of education and training. We commemorate this day by taking a special offering to support young adults and make a global impact for Christ. Half of the offering benefits World Communion scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students from the U.S. and other countries. The remainder provides grants to support training for worldwide inclusion, diversity, equity, and access. Learn more at <https://www.umc.org/en/content/world-communion-sunday-ministry-article>.

UNITED METHODIST SPECIAL SUNDAY
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

50%
FUNDS TRAINING
PROGRAMS & GRANTS

35%
RACIAL & ETHNIC
SCHOLARSHIPS &
MENTOR PROGRAMS

15%
FUNDS LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT
& SCHOLARSHIPS

SUPPORT
Donations support racial
and ethnic students
with scholarships,
grants, mentoring and
training for leadership
development.

PHOTO BY RON LACH

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church

Food & Funds Drive Beginning Soon

October 27th through November 10th, we will be collecting non-perishable food items, toiletries, and monetary donations for our area food pantries. Shopping carts will be available at the north entrance and in the narthex to deposit your donations. Thanks for helping our community!



Ingathering Update

Ingathering is a time when United Methodist Churches gather items for kits and bring them to drop-off points around the state. These items go to those in need in the U.S. and around the world. St. Paul's is a drop-off site for the Camp Clear Lake District, and churches from our area will be dropping off donations in our parking lot on Saturday, November 2nd, from 8-11 a.m. We have supplies for 100 school kits as well as bags for the kits made by Barb Kratz and Jeanne Blackstone. The kits will be assembled by the Teen Time youth on October 23rd. Monetary donations are needed to pay for the items in the kits as well as the \$2 per kit processing fee. To donate, please mark your check memo or envelope for "Ingathering." As of newsletter printing, \$230 has been donated for 2024 Ingathering. To learn more about Ingathering, talk to Roni Timmerman, or visit <https://www.iaumc.org/ingathering/#iac>.

A Note From Our Bishop

September 24, 2024

Dear Iowa United Methodists,

We are in an extraordinary time in our nation—a time of rising extremism, authoritarianism, and violence. As you know, the Council of Bishops recently published a pastoral letter entitled, "Beloved Community—an Antidote to Extremism." If you have not seen it, you can find the statement on our website [here](https://www.iaumc.org/newsdetail/umc-bishops-denounce-political-violence-authoritarianism-18654241).

Over the next weeks, I will write about some of the topics raised in that statement and more. My blog posts will appear every Wednesday, beginning tomorrow, and will address the following questions:

- What is happening and why?
- Why should we care?
- What should we watch for?
- What does Scripture and our United Methodist tradition say?
- What can we do?

In addition, members of the Bishop's Leadership Team will post a daily Bible passage and a prayer beginning this Friday. We are doing this because, as United Methodist Christians, God calls us to be vehicles of God's love and grace in a divided world. May the Lord bless and keep us as we navigate that call in the midst of unprecedented polarization in our country. May we have the courage and wisdom to do no harm, to do good, and stay in love with God.

In Christ,

Kennetha J. Bigham-Tsai

Bishop Kennetha J. Bigham-Tsai

Link for the statement she references:

<https://www.iaumc.org/newsdetail/umc-bishops-denounce-political-violence-authoritarianism-18654241>