

The Tower

November 2019

Office Hours: Monday –Friday 8:30-1:00; Phone: 563-382-3835;
Email: decorah-first-umc@iaumc.net; Web: decorahfirstunitedmethodist.org
Pastor: HyeunMee Kang; email: revmeekang@gmail.com
After hours pastoral care: 563-277-1595



Join us Sunday **November 3** at 9:00 a.m.

for **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY.**

We will remember our church members who have passed since November 2018. The service will include a special candle lighting and blessing of all our Saints.

Inez Dolley 10-21-2018

Rose Kittleson 1-24-2019

Robert Eppens 3-28-2019

Lois Roberts 6-23-2019

George Duder 6-25-2019

Phyllis Drenth 7-8-2019

Jean Carter 7-25-2019

Audrey Wohlsdorf 8-9-2019

Madonna Melcher 10-18-2019



Consecration Sunday November 10, 2019.

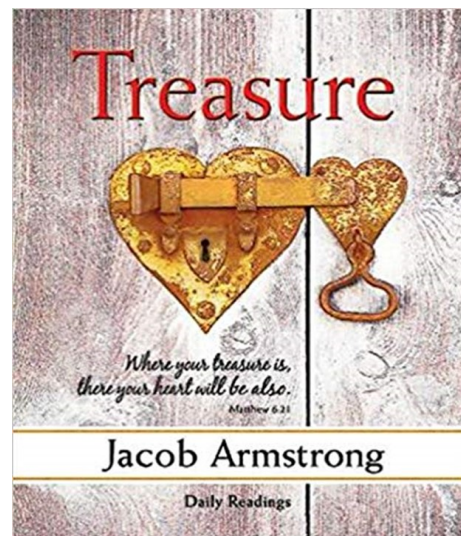
(November Communion will be held on the 10th.)

Even if you have not pledged in the past, please consider doing so this year. Your pledge is vital information to the FUMC leadership team for executing the planned budget and supporting activities throughout the church year. If you have pledged in the past, please consider an increase in your pledge so that we might revitalize and grow our many important ministries. Thank you for your continued support of FUMC.

We encourage you to bring your pledges with you to worship and place them on the Altar as you come forward for Communion.

UMW will be organizing a Congregational Potluck for after our worship service.

Stop collecting treasures for your own benefit on earth, where moth and rust eat them and where thieves break in and steal them. Instead, collect treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust don't eat them and where thieves don't break in and steal them. Where your treasure is there your heart will be also".
(Matthew 6:19-21)



This little piggy went to market.

This little piggy went to church.

To decorate the Altar on 11-10-2019 please let us borrow a bank for that day...tasteful and maybe full.

Bring them with you and place on the altar before worship.

Your Worship Committee.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

FUMC will once again proudly host the Community Thanksgiving Dinner. It will be on **Thursday, November 28, 2019 at St. Benedicts Social Hall.** Deliveries and Carry-outs will be done at **Decorah First United Methodist Church.** Turkey, dressing, green bean casserole, mashed potatoes, gravy, a dinner roll and a beverage will be provided. Please bring community spirit, willing hands and a covered dish to share.

HOME DELIVERIES for shut-ins may be called to the church office between 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at 563/382-3835 beginning Tuesday, November 5, 2019 through Friday November 22 at noon.

VOLUNTEERS – Organizers of the Community Thanksgiving dinner (Tom Hansen and Judy Holthaus) are looking for volunteers to assist in the preparation and serving of this year's meal.

Volunteers are needed to:

1. **Potato Peelers:** Plan to be at the church at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday November 27.
2. **De-Bone Turkeys:** Wednesday November 27 12:00 noon at Luther College Kitchen in the Union (Lower Level)
3. **General Set-up:** Thanksgiving Day November 28 at St. Benedicts 10:00 a.m.
4. **Kitchen Preparation for Carry Outs:** Kitchen at FUMC 8:00 a.m. on November 28.
5. **Prepare Take-outs and Deliveries:** 9:00 a.m. at FUMC Fellowship Hall November 28.
6. **Make Deliveries:** Be at FUMC by 10:30 November 28.
7. **Clean-up at St. Benedicts and FUMC:** November 28 1:00 or 1:30

Serving starts at St. Benedict's at 12:00 Noon on November 28.

Many volunteers are needed to make this a success, Last year 450 people were served with approximately 180 meals delivered.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER



NO Adult Fellowship

Sunday, November 10, 2019
Sunday, December 8, 2019

Adult Fellowship will continue in January.



FUMC Reads Book Club

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Carol Johnston is hosting; we are reading

Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens

Please bring children's books for Helping Services.

Everyone is welcome to join us.



FUMC offers fun and exciting Sunday school classes for preschool to 7th grade.

Join us:

November 3

November 10

November 17

November 24



All classes meet in our education wing from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be **December 8.**

Following the program Children and our Congregation are invited to a Birthday Party for Baby Jesus in the Fellowship Hall. Hosted by the Worship Committee.

Volunteer to be an usher or greeter!

Do you have the gift of hospitality? Are you looking for an easy way to serve our congregation?

The Worship Committee is seeking friendly volunteers to expand our team of ushers and greeters on Sunday mornings. Look for a sign-up sheet for 2020 Sundays near the kitchen bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, please talk to Nancy Lerdall or any member of the worship committee.

December 1: Hanging of the Greens

It's time to decorate our church for Advent and Christmas!

Join in the fun on **Sunday, Dec. 1** starting at **10:30 a.m.** in the sanctuary. We need helpers to assist the McClintock family with decorating a live Christmas tree and sprucing up our church for the season.

The Worship Committee invites people of all ages to bring back the traditional "Hanging of the Greens" event. Many hands will make this festive activity go quickly! A big thank you to Norma Bappe and Holiday Pines Tree Farm for donating the Christmas tree and greenery.



Challenge to the Congregation

Eve Circle would like to present a **challenge to our congregation.**

We have been informed that gloves, mittens, stocking hats and socks for lower elementary, kindergarten thru third grade, are needed. These items would be given to girls and boys who are in need.

You will find a box at the back of the church to place items you purchase and wish to donate to this need.

The box for the donations will be available on two Sundays, **November 3rd** and **November 10th.**

Join Eve Circle in this challenge as winter is upon us and the children need warm clothing! We would like to thank you in advance for your participation in this challenge.

Eve Circle



Administrative Council Minutes October 7, 2019 meeting

Present: Andy Van Der Maaten, Nancy Ruen, Don Stromseth, Alan Lerstrom, Ranell Bolson, Joan Lubke, Michelle Amdahl, Gary Mineart, Nick Rissman, Linda Watson, Kathy Johnson, Pastor Mee, Sharon Rossman, Ken Amdahl, Deb Tekippe

Pastor Mee opened the meeting with prayer

Agenda approved as provided

Minutes of previous meeting adopted with motion by Alan, second by Gary. Motion carried.

Old Business

Congregation Assessment Tool: Kathy gave update. Linda will receive a report on how many surveys have been completed every Friday. Paper surveys will be entered by 4 members of our congregation.

New Business

Budget: Nick presented budget for upcoming year. Questions answered. Motion to accept budget and send to charge conference was made by Alan, with second by Joan. Motion carried

Pastor's compensation package: Deb discussed recommendation from SPPRC for upcoming calendar year. Motion to accept Form I as presented was made by Alan, with second by Kathy. Motion carried

Lay members to Annual Conference: Andy reviewed and answered questions. Alan willing to represent our congregation again. Motion to appoint Alan made by Kathy with second by Sharon. Approved. If anyone is interested in serving as an alternate, let Pastor Mee know. If the conference determines an equalization delegate is needed, our District Superintendent will notify Pastor Mee.

Mission and Ministry plan: reviewed by Council, Andy fielded questions. Corrections made as noted. Motion to submit plan to Charge Conference may by Nancy, with second by Don. Motion carried.

Deb Tekippe was appointed to represent our congregation at the Decorah Area Free Clinic community planning session to be held October 28th.

Next Ad Council meeting will be November 12 at 5:30

Submitted by Deb Tekippe, Secretary



The **United Methodist Women** would like to invite you to attend our **MISSION GATHERING** on **Friday, November 8 between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.** in the church fellowship hall.

The **MISSION GATHERING** will provide an opportunity for fellowship and to support the mission projects of our UMW.

We hope you will come for coffee, dessert and conversation and perhaps a little shopping. We also hope that you will come to learn about our UMW activities, programs, and to support UMW missions. Please join us on Friday, November 10 between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. for our UMW **MISSION GATHERING**.

PECAN SALES-Calmar UMW will be selling pecans at The Mission Gathering and also at Coffee Fellowship on Sunday November 10.



November Altar Flowers –November altar flowers are being coordinated by Pam Ransom (563-382-9408).

November 3–

November 10– Communion Sunday

November 17

November 24



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

THIS MONTH:

November, 2019

November 2 Thanksgiving Ingathering at Cedar Falls

November 8 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Mission Gathering

November 13 UMW– Bus Trip

November 20 UMW Circle Day – Thank Offering

*9:15 a.m. Sarah Circle at Church, Pam Ransom, hostess

*1:00 p.m. Mary Martha Circle at Church, Michelle Amdahl/Sherry Schilling hostess;
Barb Dale, program

*1:30 p.m. Eve Circle at Church Phyllis Nesteby hostess;
Phyllis Wasta, program

Social Concerns Sept. 25, 2019

Present: Nina, Michelle, Sonny, Mary, Virginia

Fall Forums being considered:

*Food pantry will let us know about upcoming needs. Possible forum? (Regarding new location, policies, information).

*Habitat for Humanity-Ken Vandeberg . Dates TBD. Sony will contact Ranell to check scheduling possibilities and then contact possible speakers. **Update: forum will be Oct. 20th, with Ken Vandeberg as speaker.

*Sister Parish

Possible future forums:

Recycling and environmental concerns

Peace and Justice Center information

Senior Center, meals on wheels

First responders, grief groups, hospice care, info and resources

Parish nursing

Mentoring programs such as "Women Empowered"

The Social Concerns committee hopes the congregation will join them in expressing our thanks and gratitude to the many vital and important people who make sure our church is continually running smoothly and providing a welcoming presence to our members, community and visitors. We thank our clergy, office staff, custodial staff, teachers, all committee members, volunteers and congregation for their contributions and service to help our church fulfill its mission.

Next meeting: Oct 23rd, 6:30 P.M.



Social Concerns Oct. 23, 2019

Present: Sony, Nina, Sharon, Michelle

Prayer offered by Sony. Minutes read and new member Sharon Rossman welcomed.

Update on forums:

Reviewed the presentation offered last Sunday by Ken – Habitat for Humanity.

Spring forums mentioned : information, resources regarding blindness. Barb Dale may assist as her mom worked for Dept. for the blind

Additional ideas for Spring: Women Empowered, Nina as resource. Needs include volunteers, membership, funding for rent, programs. 1-2 x per year workshops, mentoring high school girls, free civil defense class, random acts of kindness re girls needs. T shirt fundraiser.

More ideas included Foster Care and we talked briefly about gatherings for men to come together.

Other forum topics were reviewed: Sister Parish, Food Pantry, Health Nurse (Deb Tekippe). It was asked if there was funding available, if needed, for the Health Nurse services. Unknown, but perhaps a good question to ask and see if funding could be raised.

Sony also asked if there might be a different way of us providing Social Concerns presentations. We discussed various approaches to provide for the mental/physical/spiritual needs of our congregation. One different form could be age appropriate Yoga (Chair Yoga) which would provide stretches that are so essential for us as we mature.

Michelle asked if the topic of communication could be presented. Results: Alan Lerstrom may lead a Humor Role Play Presentation wrapped around "Communication Skills".

All topics are tentative and require the next step of securing a presenter and placing the topics within the next calendar year.

Tentative next Forum date December 1, by Sister Parish- The date needs to be checked with the church office and Sony will call either Jan Heikes or Andy VanDerMatten to see about their availability.

Social Concerns next meeting date November 20th at 6:30

NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS

November Volunteers

Worship Leader

11/3 Rebecca Holmes

11/10 Mark Landas

11/17 Syd Stevenson

11/24 Pam Ransom

November Communion Steward Deb Tekippe

Audio Visual

Gary Mineart

Gary Mineart

Gary Mineart

Gary Mineart

Coffee Fellowship

Alan & Edith Lerstrom

Consecration Sunday Potluck

Ross & Kim Bosworth

Jim & Ann Rhodes

To all volunteers, those dedicated people who give selflessly of their time, talent, and treasurers. Thank you for making the world a better place!



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Please call the church office at 382-3835 with any additions or corrections.

11/1 Steve Steinberg

11/4 Emily Mineart

11/7 Elizabeth Peterson

11/12 Nancy Eichinger; Sara Luse

11/14 Cherrie Macal

11/19 Millie Jensen

11/20 Kathy Johnson

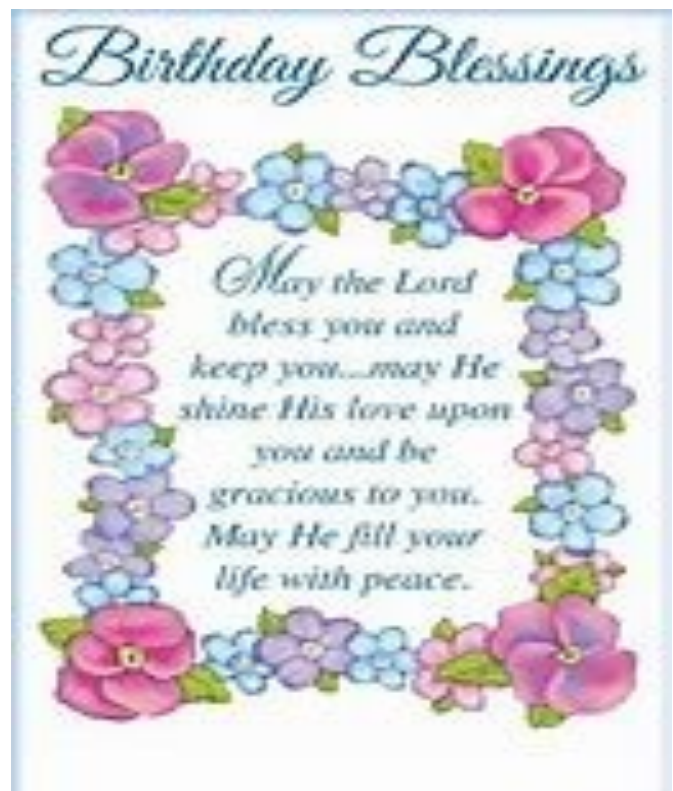
11/21 Randy Graves

11/23 Bob Shedinger

11/24 Eden Northup

11/25 Carole Rambo

11/30 Gary Roberts



Vision 2032: All In — A Visioning Session with Bishop Laurie

WHEN

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

WHERE

Waterloo First United Methodist Church

304 1st St W

614 Randolph St, IA 50702

Email ideas to: vision2032@iaumc.org

You are invited to attend *Vision 2032: All In — A Visioning Session with Bishop Laurie* in your district where we will share dialogue on how we build our future together.

Bishop Laurie will talk about her ideas including new faith communities, healthy relationships, focused programming, empowered laity, effective clergy, our present financial condition, and the probability the Iowa Annual Conference may not continue as we are.

Bring your ideas because this will be a time of sharing. Read Bishop Laurie's [Vision 2032](#).

Please share with other Iowa UMC church members, everyone is welcome to attend.



Join the Caroling



Several members of the choir are creating an informal caroling group on Wed. Nov 27, the evening before Thanksgiving. We have been invited to sing Christmas carols at the 'Walk Through' evening of Holiday Lights. All who love singing carols are invited to join us. We will meet at the church at 6:45 pm to carpool to the campgrounds. Singing will be from 7:00 to no later than 7:30.

Join the fun of caring in the magical campground as walkers enjoy strolling through the Holiday Lights. All ages and singing abilities are welcome!



November 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Mission Ingathering at Cedar Falls.
3 NO COMMUNION All Saints Sunday 9-Worship 10-Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School	4	5	6 Worship Committee- @ 10:30 7:30 Choir	7	8 UMW Mission Gathering @ 1:00 Office Closed	9
10 Communion Sunday 9-Worship 10-Potluck Brunch 10:30 Sunday School No Adult Fellowship	11 Office Closed	12 Ad Council at 5:30	13 UMW Bus Trip 7:30 Choir	14	15	16
17 9-Worship 10-Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School	18	19 Book Club at 7:00	20 Circles Meet 7:30 Choir 6:30 Social Concerns	21	22	23
24 9-Worship 10-Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Inclusive Ministry Update in Sanctuary	25	26	27 7:30 Choir	28 Happy Thanksgiving Office Closed	29 Office Closed	30

You Can't Afford Not to Tithe

By Rick Warren

*“Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce”
(Proverbs 3:9 NLT)*

The Bible says, “Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce” (Proverbs 3:9 NLT). This is the principle of tithing. It’s the principle that says every time you make \$100, the first \$10 goes back to God..

Tithing is an act of worship. We’re giving back to God. We’re saying, “Here is a small portion of my blessing. You deserve far more. And all of it, everything I have, came from you.” God wants you to recognize that every good thing you have—every provision—is a gift from him. He wants you to put him first in your life so you can learn to be generous and then watch what he does—in your life and in the people around you.

You may think you can’t afford to tithe. You may think it’s too much to “give away” 10 percent of what you’re given. But the reality is, you can’t afford not to do it.

There is a universal law called the principle of sowing and reaping. If I sow criticism, I’m going to reap criticism. If I sow generosity, it’s going to come back to me, and I’m going to reap generosity.

Every farmer know this. If a farmer has four sacks of seed in his barn, and he looks at his empty field, he doesn’t complain, “There’s no crop! I wish there was a crop!” He just goes out and starts planting seed. When you have a need, plant a seed.

It seems illogical that when I have a need, I should give. That’s why it requires faith. God says, “My ways are not your ways. But you can trust my ways.”

Why did God set it up that way? Because God is a giver. He is the most generous giver in the universe, and he wants you to learn to be like him.

This is why your’ here: to become more like Christ. Follow God’s example in your giving, and he will build his character in you.