



First United Methodist Church
202 West Main Street
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FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2020

Loving God, Growing Together, Sharing Christ

FEBRUARY FUNDRAISERS



Valentine Cookies
February 9th
Freewill Offering
goes to Missions

Souper Bowl
Sunday,
February 2nd,

Bring Cans of
soup to vote for
your team. Soup
goes to Food Box
and Salvation
Army Pantry.



FEBRUARY

Church Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday
9:00 am - Noon
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Closed on Monday

WORSHIP SCHEDULE
8:30 am—Sunday School (all ages)
9:30am—Coffee time
10:00 am—Worship*
*Nursery available

www.fumc-mtown.org
fumc@fumc-mtown.org

FUMC Staff
Senior Pastor: Jeff Kodis x1002
Organist/Bell Director: Jan Randall
Worship Arts Director: Jenn Pedersen x 1016
Education Director: Jenn Pedersen x 1010
Administrative Assistant: Jo Ruff x1000
Business Manager: Kay Coutts x 1007
Custodians: Steve Cherveney x1001
Becky Goodell

Please send articles for the March newsletter to Jo Ruff
at fumc@fumc-mtown.org by February 21.

An Experiment in Grace

“By means of Grace I understand outward signs, words, or actions ordained of God, and appointed for this end, to be the ordinary channels whereby he might convey to men, preventing, justifying, and sanctifying grace.” John Wesley

God desires to have a deeper and more intimate connection with all of His children, and to this end, He has given us practices that allow us to draw near to Him. One of the original purposes of the Methodist movement was to help Christians pursue God through these Means of Grace. By regularly pursuing God through these practices, a person can experience a deeper relationship with God and other Christians.

Starting Sunday, February 16th we will be experimenting with these Means of Grace as we begin to move into the season of Lent. Each Sunday during worship we will look at a different spiritual discipline and explore practical ways to incorporate them into our pursuit of God.

- February 16th Fellowship
- February 23rd Worship
- March 1st Scripture
- March 8th Prayer
- March 15th Fasting
- March 22nd Giving
- March 29th Serving
- April 5th Lord's Supper



In addition to our worship experiences, our Grow Groups will have an opportunity to reflect on these practices and how they have allowed us to experience God in new ways. If you are not already involved in a Grow Group, now is the time to get involved! Sign up in worship or call the church office for more information.

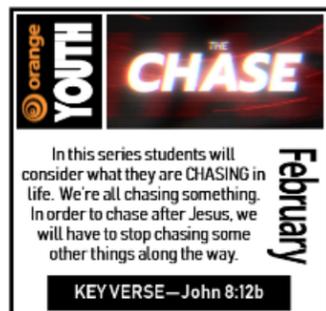
We hope you will join us in this season of pursuing God and Growing Together.

Pastor Jeff

FAMILY MINISTRY by Jenn Pedersen

We continue with weekly learning opportunities each Sunday morning at 8:30 am.

Our February Children & Youth Sunday School Studies:
For PK - Grade 5 -Playlist: Put Love in the Mix- In February love is on everyone's mind. We love music because it can convey the things that are hardest for us to express. The right song, at the right time, can say everything you need to say. As followers of Jesus, we can show love with more than just words. We can show love with our actions, when we choose to treat others the way we want to be treated.



For Grades 6-12 - The Chase - This series will help students consider what they are chasing.

They will explore three main ideas in this series:

1. Chasing Jesus means not chasing performance,
2. Chasing Jesus starts with a step, and
3. Chasing Jesus means sharing Him with others.

WORSHIP ARTS MINISTRY by Jenn Pedersen

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.”
Colossians 3:16



Each Sunday morning we come together to worship God in song together. It is a blessing to be able to worship God each week in varied ways - sometimes in a traditional manner with hymns and organ and corporate readings. Other weeks in more modern forms of worship with guitars and drums. The variety of musical styles we employ as a vehicle to help us engage with God is a unique in my 20 years of leading worship. All the churches I've attended and served in have moved to one side or the other of the musical spectrum, either choosing to have “traditional” or “contemporary” worship music.

I think there is great beauty in employing a variety of styles of music in our worship. I appreciate the different concepts and experiences that each style brings. I appreciate that different worship styles minister to different people. And I think there is a beauty in the deference we can show to others by choosing to engage in worship with them in a style that may not impact us as strongly, but recognizing that it ministers to others.

No matter the style that we employ each week, my goal as I plan services is to draw us into the presence of God and to choose songs that will help the word of God to dwell in us richly as Paul speaks of in Colossians 3.



Grant Fitz
Derek Johnson
Garrett Larson
Rob Larson
Scott Tasler
Scott Vial

This Month's Usher / Greeter Teams

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Al Brennecke | Jerry Clark |
| Dick Cope | Bob Feil |
| Zoe Garber | |

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSIONS by Barb Matya

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” Aesop

Souper Bowl Sunday is February 2. Please bring cans of soup to vote for your favorite team. Donations will be given to the Food Box and Salvation Army. We can have fun and help others!

We helped a family from Rogers School with finances.

Mittens, hats and scarves are still being collected for the local schools. There is a box on the Missions table in the narthex.

We gave \$400 to the Marshalltown Fire Department for Fire Safety classes and materials for our schools.

Supply Closet collection for February is bars of soap. Change for Change will go to Hand in Hand.

Women at the Well, the church at the prison in Mitchellville is once again asking for donations of Bibles for the incarcerated women. You can sign up online to purchase Bibles. We can't send new or used Bibles, but must purchase through this program. You may use this link to sign up www.signupgenius.com or look up Women at the Well on Facebook. I'm glad to help with questions. This could be a project for your Grow Group.

Thank you for your generous donations for our Christmas offering. We are working on dividing the money between our missionaries and local groups. I will include that information in the next newsletter.

I am looking for a couple of people who would like to serve on Missions. We meet the third Tuesday morning usually. Please let me know if you have any interest in serving.

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Hebrews 11:6

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDIES by Reva Roland

Tuesday Bible Study Group: We are studying “One In A Million” by Priscilla Shirer. Classes are held at 10am and 6 pm in the Oasis Room.

FEBRUARY

Monthly Meetings:

Church Council: Tuesday, February 18, at 5:30 pm

Trustees: 6:00 pm, Staff Room

SPRC: No Meeting

Finance: No Meeting

Stewardship: No Meeting

Vision: No Meeting

Endowment: No Meeting

TLC: No Meeting

Hand in Hand: Tuesday, February 11, at 5:30 pm

Missions: No Meeting



In Christian Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go out to:

Kenn and Pam Vinson in the loss of Pam's dad, Chuck Day.



**Communion
February 2**



February Collection:

Bar Soap

**COFFEE
FELLOWSHIP**

Join us!



9:30 am Sundays



**February
Change for Change:
Hand in Hand**



Temple Builders

Exercise Class

8:15 - 9:00 am

Tuesday & Thursday

Fellowship Hall

**All you need is an
exercise ball & mat.**



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

This is a reminder that for inclement weather closings the church office follows the Marshalltown Public School System, and closes when schools are not in session due to the weather.



Prayer Shawl Ministry
**Thursdays at 10:00 am in the
Staff Room.**
Anyone is welcome to join in.

Insurance Requirement
**Please do not sit in the
front row of the balconies.**

SPRC by Dick Cope

- Julie Bousum will retire after serving SPRC for the past four years (most of this time as our Recording Secretary). Julie and her husband Curt will spend more time with family, traveling and enjoying their cabin in the Ozarks. The committee wishes to thank Julie for her valuable support and input.
- Amy Moeller will replace Julie. Amy is a long time member of FUMC. Retirement leaves her with more time to participate in committee work and advancing the needs of the church. We look forward to Amy joining our group.
- This transition establishes the 2020 committee as follows:

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| Mary Cowdrey | Amy Moeller |
| Tim Duden | Brent Nuese |
| Kendall Meyerran | Dick Cope |

Financial Summary 2019 Year End Report

Thank you for your continued generosity towards God's work through First United Methodist Church in Marshalltown. Below you will find a year-end report for 2019 detailing our income and expenses. You will notice that we were able to pay around a third of our apportionments while making significant cuts to the rest of our budget. We also celebrate that as a congregation we gave away over \$90,000 in missions to our local community and around the world. Thank you again for your faithful growth in stewardship over these past years

| Financial Summary | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| 2019 Year End Report | | |
| Income | Actual | Budget |
| Offerings | \$496,590 | \$502,000 |
| Other Income | \$39,152 | \$39,400 |
| Total Income | \$535,742 | \$541,400 |
| Expenses | Actual | Budget |
| Education & Discipleship | \$2,959 | \$5,350 |
| Worship & Evangelism | \$5,593 | \$8,300 |
| Staff | \$320,769 | \$351,269 |
| Facilities | \$133,509 | \$133,900 |
| Administration | \$21,039 | \$49,708 |
| Apportionments | \$34,800 | \$99,871 |
| Total Expenses | \$518,669 | \$648,398 |
| (with "Staff" expenses distributed by ministry role) | | |
| Expenses | Actual | Budget |
| Education & Discipleship | \$80,531 | \$94,881 |
| Worship & Evangelism | \$108,176 | \$123,189 |
| Facilities | \$194,133 | \$195,909 |
| Administration | \$101,030 | \$134,548 |
| Apportionments | \$34,800 | \$99,871 |
| Total Expenses | \$518,669 | \$648,398 |

UMW by Edie Hodges

- Feb. 8 @ 9:00 am in church kitchen decorate Valentine Cookies
- Feb. 9 Valentine Cookie Sale (freewill offering) before and after Church
- Feb. 13 @ 9:30 am UMW Board Mtg. In Lower Tower Room followed by UMW book assembling. **Note change of date

MARK your calendars:

- March 2 - World Day of Prayer
- March 5 - UMW Board
- March 8 - International Bell Ringing for women's rights.
- March 10 - District Spiritual Day Apart, United Methodists Conference Center, Des Moines.
- April 2 - UMW Board
- April 11 - decorate Easter Cookies/
- April 12 - Easter Cookie Sale
- April 14 - Laity Day with the bishop
- April 23 - 47th UMW Salad Luncheon in FH @ 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Begin to pull out those great salad and sweet treat recipes. Have your family, friends, neighbors, colleagues, etc. mark their calendars to be sure to join us for fun, fellowship and great food.

VALENTINE COOKIES AVAILABLE ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, by Mary Cowdrey

The best cookie-makers worship at FUMC. We are working together to make beautifully decorated Valentine cookies, fresh for Sunday, February 10 before and after worship. When you want to say "be my valentine" do it with melt in your mouth cookies. You can get a sweet treat for yourself, too!

The cookies will be ready to grab and go for a free will offering. All of the proceeds will go to local and global missions. Every crumb is fun! And, every crumb builds God's kingdom here and far.

Would you like to help decorate cookies ? We will decorate on Saturday, February 8th at 9 a.m. This is loads of fun. No previous experience necessary! Please contact Mary Cowdrey if you can help decorate. Cell: (515)240-1942. Home: 752-8809.

For those who just can't get enough cookies, we will have decorated Easter cookies on Sunday, April 5. Mark your calendar now!

| LENTEN BREAKFAST SCHEDULE 6:30 AM | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| DATE | LOCATION | Address |
| February 26, 2020 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> | First United Church of Christ | 204 S 4th St. |
| March 4, 2020 | Hope UMC | 2203 S 3rd Ave. |
| March 11, 2020 | New Hope Christian Church | 3901 S Center St. |
| March 18, 2020 | St. Henry Catholic Church | 211 W Olive St. |
| March 25, 2020 | Central Christian Church | 300 W Main St. |
| April 1, 2020 | First Friends Church | 2409 S 6th St. |
| April 8, 2020 | Elim Lutheran Church | 302 W Church St. |

Parking Request

On Sundays, if you are able, please park in the lot across the street to the east or on the north side of the building so people who have difficulty walking can park in our lot. Thanks for being considerate of others.

Weather Cancellations

To find out if church activities are cancelled, check
 Email
 KCCI TV Channel 8
 Facebook

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND



Do you have a team you're planning to cheer for in the Super Bowl this year? We are doing a one day canned soup drive on Super Bowl Sunday, February 2. A day with a name like that naturally lends itself to our Souper Bowl Sunday. Bring in your canned soup, chili or stew and place it on the tables in the narthex to vote for your team (or maybe against a team). All donations will go to the Emergency Food Box and the Salvation Army food pantry. Even if you're not a football fan, it's a fun way to help someone in need stay warm and nourished. And this is one of the few times that you can vote more than once! Each can counts as a vote. We are really excited to see the results of our Souper Bowl collection. Thanks for participating!

UMW 2019 Giving by Ruth Jackson

United Methodist Women is an organization that centers its mission on the needs of women, youth and children all over the world. Thank you for the support the congregation of First United Methodist Church gives to the various fundraising events throughout the year. Thank you for your tasty donations, your service and your money gifts. Here is an accounting of projects we supported in 2019:

| | |
|--|--------|
| District Pledge (National and Global projects) | \$3600 |
| Gift in Memory, Mission | 360 |
| World Thank Offering/Call to Prayer | 533 |
| State Projects (Shesler Hall, Hawthorne Hill, Bidwell-Riverside) | 262 |
| Discretionary Fund/Member's Medical | 400 |
| House of Compassion | 200 |
| Food Box | 200 |
| Salvation Army | 200 |
| Child Abuse | 200 |
| Caring Center | 200 |
| CIRSI | 200 |
| Triumph Recovery | 200 |
| MICA (Tornado Relief) | 483 |
| Packaging Event | 180 |
| Local Family Support | 1000 |