

The Messenger

NOVEMBER, 2017 Newsletter

PASTOR JOSH'S MESSAGE



“A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition” (UMH 607):

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low by thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and
disposal...Amen.

“Bless Thou the Gifts” (UMH 587):

Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought; bless thou the work our hearts have planned.
Ours is the faith, the will, the thought; the rest, O God, is in thy hand.

Acts 4:32-37 (NIV):

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need. Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means “son of encouragement”), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

Pass It On (UMH 572):

It only takes a spark to get a fire going...That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it...you want to pass it on.

These are 4 of my favorite songs, prayers and scripture I use as reflections when it comes time to consider my pledge for the New Year. Since taking confirmation and first joining a United Methodist church in 1992, I have pledged every year, with the goal of exceeding a tithe. I thank God for each year that I have accomplished my goal. If you do not usually pledge, consider that it helps the finance team be realistic, accurate, and frugal in their budgeting. As always, I thank you for all the ways you give.

Peace,

Pastor Josh

Sheridan Park United Methodist Church

**4100 E. Sheridan Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50317
SheridanParkUMC.org**

**Pastor: Josh Steward
Josh's Cell Phone: (515) 991-6368
Church Phone: (515) 266-6404**

DISTRICT LAITY GATHERINGS

We will be having our second round of District Laity Gatherings starting in November. We plan to continue these quarterly in four different locations throughout the district. Our goal is to have time for laity to share ideas, concerns, fellowship, and come together to discern how we can become Difference Makers for the future of the United Methodist Church. We plan, at times, to have guest speakers and will have a different topic each quarter.

Dates and Locations for these quarter's gatherings are:

November 14th Van Meter UMC
November 16th Prairie City UMC
December 12th Bloomfield UMC
December 14th Ankeny 1st UMC

Please contact Angela Hansen-Abbas if you have any questions. ahansenabbas@gmail.com

OUTREACH UPDATE:

The Hickory Grove apartments were contacted and we were told they do not allow fliers from churches to be put up. Calls to the Maple Lane and Maple Leaf apartments with the same question have not returned. Prairie Woods Apartments (4014 Hubbell) said they do and we could bring fliers to their office. If you would like to help create or deliver the fliers, let Pastor Josh know.

CHURCH HISTORY – There will soon be a group working on our church history. If you have artifacts or pictures, please bring them to be included. Please include the date when possible.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS NEEDING OUR PRAYERS:

Jeff Benz (Jen Medina's step father): As he awaits a liver transplant.

John Ratcliffe: As he recovers from back surgery

Mike Prey (Jen Medina's uncle): Has received his heart transplant and is home for recovery

Continue to pray for those members and friends that are unable to be with us on Sunday:

(Mae Fuller, Pat Hartzler, Phyllis Moore, Marilyn Overton, Evelyn Tolkan, Mildred Philpott and Pearl Van Fleet)

NOTE – *If you have knowledge of someone that is hospitalized, may need a visit or phone call, please let Pastor Josh know. Also, if you wish to have a visit from Pastor Josh, please contact him at the church at 266-6404 or on his cell 991-6368.*

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

➤ Administrative Board will meet Tuesday, November 21st @ 7:00 PM.

The 2017 Administrative Council includes the following: Josh Steward, Sharon Baker, John Ratcliffe, Marjean Moyle, Erin Lowe, Carole Gassaway, Margie Brown, Melissa Myers, Mary Brown, Lois Nolte, Jennifer Medina, Carlos Medina, Phyllis Roe, Doris Sheeder, Dick Smith and Jeff Woodard. Note – Mission team rotates attendance.

Note – Anyone is welcome to attend Ad Board meetings and minutes are posted on the board for your information.

EDUCATION REPORT by Erin Lowe, Christian Education Chairperson:

- **Heifer International project:** The children/youth education department are sponsoring this project. The quarter “cow” bank will be set out in the coffee room. As well, there are garbage cans for deposit of your rinsed redeemable cans and bottles. *(Thanks to those that have already brought cans, we have redeemed \$12.55).* If you would like to donate financially, please put your contribution in an envelope and mark it appropriately. We finish this during the Thankful Alter Service on November 19th.
- There are blessing bags available for those interested. There have been some donations for our bags – thanks to those of you that have been helping us. The bags have been distributed at convenience store parking lots; freeway and Interstate exits/entrances; and at an Asian restaurant.
- Pastor Josh will be leading an Advent study series starting November 26th at 9:30 AM.

WORSHIP REPORT

- ✓ November 19th – “Thankful Altar Ceremony”. Please participate by sharing an item/picture of something that you are thankful for. It is also youth Sunday and the children will be sharing their thankfulness.
- ✓ November 26th – “Hanging of the Greens” will be in preparation for a joyful advent season of worship. Easy speaking parts are in need of volunteers. Please consider participating as a family, or as an individual, as a reader by contacting Jen Medina. Thank you and God bless you for your help with this service.
- ✓ **Reminder** – Pastor Josh leaves from our worship service so that he can be at Wesley UMC by 11:30 AM.

FINANCE REPORT by Margie Brown, Chairperson

The following shows the “budget” income as of October 22nd and expenses received, due and paid as of October 17th 2017:

General Budget Income	1st 9 Months 2017	October 22nd, 2017	2017 Year to Date
Pledge Envelopes = currently 29 giving units	54,216.53	4,855.00	59,071.53
Non Pledge Envelopes = 19 giving units	7,971.51	764.80	8,736.31
Unknown Giving	55.00	.00	55.00
Special Budget Giving “Friends”	1,173.00	180.00	1,353.00
Extra Budget Giving “Members”	1,556.02	31.79	1,587.81
Sunday School	485.84	40.00	525.84
Loose Money	115.43	6.00	121.43
Special Giving for CAT	150.00	.00	150.00
Mid American Energy Rebate	513.78	.00	513.78
UMW Budget Giving	880.00	314.64	1,194.64
Church and Parking Lot Usage Donations	580.00	.00	580.00
May 21 st Luncheon	100.00	.00	100.00
Postage for mailing Newsletter	10.00	.00	10.00
Reimbursement for Tree Trimming at Church	400.00	.00	400.00
Bank Correction for Duplicate Check Order	60.85	.00	60.85
Total Budget Income	68,267.96	6,192.23	74,460.19

Expenses Incurred and Paid			
Apportionments	3,002.00	.00	3,002.00
Direct Health & Pension	15,595.20	1,361.94	16,957.14
Pastor Salary/Support (Based on 71% eff. 7/1/17)	30,036.57	1,577.70	31,614.27
Janitor Salary & SS Paid	4,521.27	430.96	4,952.23
Stewardship Programs	.00	.00	.00
Church Office Expenses (includes phone beg. Sept.)	1,106.18	104.65	1,210.83
Christian Ed. & Media Resource Center	963.19	.00	963.19
Ministries (Children/Youth/Coffee Time)	215.81	45.54	261.35
Worship Material & Programs	291.97	.00	291.97
Evangelism	63.90	27.05	90.95
Property Maintenance to the Church	2,077.73	106.39	2,184.12
Insurance (Property & Workman's Comp)	3,150.00	350.00	3,500.00
Utilities			
• Mid American Energy	2,661.21	167.29	2,828.50
• Century Link (Jan. - Aug.)	504.01	.00	504.01
• Des Moines Water Works	2,308.47	250.91	2,559.38
Total Expenses Incurred and Paid	66,497.51	4,422.43	70,919.94

Total Income Less Expenses	1,770.45	1,769.80	3,540.25
Carryover balance from prior year end			2,517.60
Check book balance for Budget Items			6,057.85

Your finance team wants to **THANK EACH OF YOU** for your financial support to the church. In preparation of pledge Sunday on November 12th we ask that you be in prayer as you start thinking about how you can support your church financially in 2018.

MISSION REPORT –

- **UMCOR** responds. Yes, United Methodist Committee on Relief is the UMC agency that deals with disasters of all kinds. We take an offering during Lent that was called “One Great Hour of Sharing” but is now called UMCOR Sunday Offering. These funds help in the operation of disaster coordination.
- UMCOR has responded to Hurricanes Maria, Irma and Harvey. When Hurricane Maria made landfall early Sept. 20 in Puerto Rico as a Category 4 storm, It is said that the wind speeds were 155 miles per hour killing at least 9 people in the region. UMCOR is in contact with the Methodist church in Puerto Rico and with other partners in the Caribbean region. Assessment analysis will indicate where and when work teams will be needed to help in the disaster response.
- The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reported Sept. 13 that Anguilla, Antigua, St. Martin, British Virgin Islands, Turks and Caicos are the islands most affected by Hurricane Irma. Critical needs for supplies and support are being addressed around the clock. Cuba withstood damage to 13 of its 15 provinces, reporting 10 deaths and damage to agriculture, water supply and telecommunications. Humanitarian partners continue to work and coordinate with regional organizations and local governments through the affected countries as assessments continue to reveal the range and depth of the needs caused by Irma.
- Relief comes in many forms...monetary grants, flood buckets, a variety of kits, early response teams and later, work teams will address needs in the affected countries. Your funds given to UMCOR help make a difference!

- The children will conclude their **Heifer Project** fundraiser on Nov. 19. You are welcome to feed quarters into the cow bank or make a donation which will supply peoples around the world with livestock enabling them to become self sufficient.
- **The United Methodist Student Day offering** will be taken on Nov. 26. This offering helps United Methodist students with their academic pursuits in U.M. Institutions of learning.
- **Food Pantry Sunday** is always the third Sunday of each month. As the weather gets colder and the holidays approach there is a need for more food items and funds to help people feed their families.

SPRC REPORT: by Mary Brown

There is Charge Conference information on the table behind the pews in the sanctuary.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT by Jeff Woodard, Trustees Chairperson

- There continues to be problems with the lower level door not shutting completely. Please make sure when leaving the church that you double check the door to make sure it is completely shut.
- Thanks to those that have kept the church lawn looking good all summer long.
- We have had service calls regarding the furnace in the sanctuary. The heat has not been turning off. Thanks for your patience during worship.
- During November we will be putting up a snow removal schedule. DM Schools will continue to care for the parking lots.

If you know of something at the church that needs to be fixed please let me know.

PRAYER BAND GROUP:

This group meets every other Tuesday morning at 9:30 A.M.

November 14th - Hosted by Lois Nolte @ her home

November 28th - Hosted by Phyllis Roe @ her home

MEN'S BREAKFAST:

No meeting in November

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES:

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

While Bidwell no longer works with these box tops, Brubaker still does. If you don't have another school that you donate these to, please trim, bring to church and Marjean will get them to Brubaker.

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY SITE:

DMARC's mobile pantry is at the Norwoodville Community Center, 3077 NE 46th Avenue, each Thursday from 1:00 – 4:00 PM. If this would help you, or someone else, please check it out. For more information and other sites see www.dmarcunited.org/food/mobile.

SUPPORT GROUP: Mary Benz, mother of Jennifer Medina, runs an Alzheimer's support group for caregivers of those who have a loved one diagnosed with any type of dementia. It is the first Tuesday each month at Prince of Peace Lutheran from 1-2pm. Use the fellowship hall door on the church's north side. This is an Alzheimer's Association support group run out of the greater Iowa chapter.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist women want to thank everyone who helped with the fall sale. It takes everyone working together, whether you help set up for the sale, donate items, make baked items for bake table, make pies for the kitchen, work the day of the sale or came up the day of the sale to have lunch and stayed to help pack away all the left overs. It was a great time to fellowship with one another, working together while supporting the church.

Some of the money we earned from having the spring and fall sale, we give back to the church budget. So far this year we have pledged \$180.00 for general budget, gave \$100.00 for church office supplies, \$500 for church roof, an additional \$500.00 towards special budget giving, cover the monthly maintenance fee for the copier in the church office and 10% of the fall sale profit.

Thank you again to everyone from the UMW

Martha Circle is sponsoring gifts to Hope Ministries and Bidwell for Christmas. You can bring personal items, non-perishable foods, paper products, socks, mittens, gloves, hats etc. A box will be in the coffee room until December 10th .

Church Copier The copier expense is paid for by the UMW and no one is objecting to anyone using it to make a couple personal copies but we do ask that all copies made be recorded on the sheet provided. During the month of September there were a total of 2,839 copies made with only 2,217 being recorded. This means there were 622 copies not recorded. We did exceed our allotted monthly contract amount by 923 copies.

YOUTH:

The youth group (4th – 12th grade) meet each Wednesday at the church from 6 to 7 P.M.

. If you are able to assist with a light meal please see the sign up sheet in back of sanctuary.

Our youth do enjoy “breaking bread” together as they begin their discussion and activities..

This can be very simple (\$5.00 pizza, cold cut sandwiches, etc.) and they are very appreciative.

SCRAPBOOKING:

This group meets every third Sunday in the Fellowship Hall. They often order food and share in fellowship. They invite anyone with any project or hobby that might benefit from the space to join them on **Sunday, November 19th from 11:30 to 3:30.**

GLEANERS CLASS - Fellowship Opportunity: Saturday, November 18th – Simpson UMC, fall dinner

CONGRATULATIONS to Kaytlyn Andrews, Alyssa Medina and Kade Dolphin, EHS sophomores, for their hard work. These three received Academic Letters for maintaining a 3.5 (or better) GPA during both semesters of their freshman year. KEEP UP THE HARD WORK. Your church family is proud of you.

November Birthdays

1st Lynsay Nieland
5th Courtney Williams
8th Mary Brown
10th Nicole Mendieta
15th Mae Fuller
18th Skyler Van Riper
20th Alan Hulsebus
21st Connie Thrasher
24th Heather Ruffley
26th Jackson Isaac
26th Jordan Isaac
27th Erin Lowe
28th Barbara Hunt
30th Rita Fleener

Worship Volunteers

November 5, 2017:

Greeters: Lois Nolte & Alice Marnin

Nursery: Margie Brown

Transportation: Lois Nolte

Ushers: Shirley Wilson (Capt.), Rosie Hollingshead, Joan Foresman, Doris Sheeder

Communion Stewards: Ray & Barbara Potter

Bulletin: Lisa Karen Hankey

November 12, 2017:

Greeters: Jerry & Alice Nelson

Nursery: Lois Nolte

Transportation: Marvin Barton

Ushers: Jeff Woodard (Capt.), Marvin Barton, Dave Strock, Susan Strock

Bulletin: Eldon Nolte

November 19, 2017:

Greeters: Belle Lemley & Joan Foresman

Nursery: Jerry & Alice Nelson

Transportation: Barb Ratcliffe

Ushers: Dick Smith (Capt.), Steve Piper, Marvin Barton, John Ratcliffe

Cookie Sunday: Carole Gassaway (Hostess), Lois Smith, Barbara Potter, Shirley Wilson

Bulletin: Sharon Andrews

November 26, 2017:

Greeters: Richard & Lois Smith

Nursery: Sharon Baker

Transportation: Dick Smith

Ushers: Phyllis Roe (Capt.), Charles Sears, Carlos Medina

Bulletin: Mary Brown

Note: Coffee Servers has been removed from the Volunteer list. Please serve yourself.