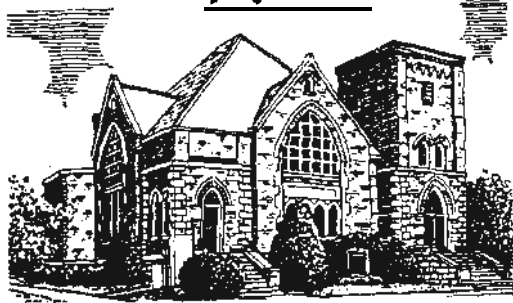


United Methodist News



First United Methodist Church

607 Lynn St., Tipton, Iowa
563-886-2331

office@tiptonumc.org (church office)

www.tiptonumc.org (website)

Paul E. Frederiksen, Pastor

pastor@tiptonumc.org

December 2014

December Events

- Dec. 3 — YOUth Group
- Dec. 5 — Kids Night In / Parents Night Out
- Dec. 7 — UMW Nativity Walk & Soup Supper
- Dec. 13 — Shared Blessings
KFC Christmas Pageant at Cedar Manor
- Dec. 14 — Sunday School Christmas Program
- Dec. 16 — Newsletter Articles Due
- Dec. 21 — Service of Long Shadows
Christmas Caroling & Soup
- Dec. 23 — Meeting of the Holy Folders
- Dec. 27 — Shared Blessings

Newsletter articles are due
Tues., Dec. 16th.

Meeting of the Holy Folders is
Tues., Dec. 23th.

This year the Sunday School is going to have a party!

A Birthday Party for Jesus! So mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 14th at 6:30 pm.** We are having Birthday cake and ice cream in the dining room after the show.

It's the same story, but with some fun additions.
Come join the party!

Save the Date

December 7th 4:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

***UMW Nativity Walk,
Soup Supper and Bake Sale***

Christmas Caroling and Soup

We'll be Christmas caroling **Sunday, December 21 at 5:00 p.m.** We will carol at Cedar Manor, Prairie Hills and individual's homes. Meet at the church and wear warm clothing. We'll return to the church for supper after we're done caroling around 7:00 p.m. Crock pots of soup, relishes, cheese, crackers, and beverage are needed. Please sign up for what food you'll bring ahead of time in the breezeway. If you know of someone who doesn't have a church home, this is a perfect time to invite them to come along. Everyone welcome!!

Parents Night Out/Kids Night In December 5

We are planning a "Parents Night Out/Kids Night In" event on Friday, December 5th, from 6:00-9:30 p.m. All ages are welcome. Please register kids by **Wednesday, December 3rd** at noon. Kids are asked to bring a sack supper. There will be plenty of fun activities offered to keep kids busy. Parents are encouraged to enjoy the evening!

In order to offer this event, we need to have enough youth and adult volunteers to help out. If you are willing to hang out with the kids at the church and give parents a break, please contact the church office or Denise Cartwright by **Wednesday, December 3rd.**





Paul's Ponderings

Perhaps the movie "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" can be on your 'to do' list, whether on TV, DVD, Hulu or Netflix, or... Remember how the Grinch, disguised as Santa Clause, enters all the homes by way of their chimneys. He takes all the presents and ornaments, the trees and stockings, and even their food down to the last morsel. He drags his loot up to his mountain and then looks down upon Whoville with a sinister grin. He is listening for the cries and wailings of the people to start as they wake up on Christmas morning to discover – he thinks – a Christmas lost.

What he hears instead surprises him. Up from the town of the Whos comes a joyful Christmas carol!

"Why?" he asks.

It is because, he learns, Christmas resides not in things but in the heart. The Grinch could not steal their gratitude. That makes THANKSgiving a gateway to receiving the gift of Jesus Christ.

I was perusing the latest *Christian Century*, the edition of Nov. 12, 2014, trying to be dispassionately enlightened. But then, in pretty blue print, was an October 16 quote (p. 9) from a candidate during the fall elections. It was impossible to remain dispassionate by these words:

"We have lost a reliance on not only our own families, but so much of what our churches and private organizations used to do. They used to have wonderful food pantries. They used to provide clothing for those who really needed it. But we have gotten away from that. Now we're at a point where the government will just give away anything."

Wow! Where does a person begin to process that?!?! My first thought is that this person has NO CLUE what churches or even "private organizations" are doing today! Of the six pantries in Cedar County (I am aware of) every one is in a church and is stocked by committed volunteers connected to churches. Every time, every time a word has gone out that someone is in need of bedding or clothing you have responded. The Clarence UMC has a clothing closet from which people get what they need at no cost. The owner of Mom's Crowded Closet has worked with churches to be sure people can access what they need; or she just hands it over!

I wonder if the candidate even has a relationship with a church. I know it's not with THIS church! I want YOU to know and celebrate that the many ways you are in ministry with persons next door, down the street and in the world are appreciated and have an impact and are honoring God. I hope no church conducts missional ministries just to be noticed, but I pray that someone got hold of that candidate and has

begun to provide an education. The Methodist tradition is not just "God loves me; God loves you;" but then goes on to, "What am I going to do about it?"

"Lost reliance on families?" If you are a grandparent raising a grandchild, niece or nephew, I want you to know that I pray for you and others in such situations. If you are a spouse or offspring dealing with challenges of aging, be it physical, emotional or spiritual, I want you to know that many people realize the total drain that work can be. If you are a parent who goes to work to provide for your family and then you come home to more work, I applaud your drive... and frequently wonder where you get the energy to do it again tomorrow!

On the matter of "the government will just give away anything." **Really???** If the candidate could provide a phone number for that "government," we've had quite a few people come in to our church this year who could really use it. Meanwhile, because we are called by Christ to love God and neighbor, we will celebrate Christmas... singing *Joy to the World, the Lord has come*. And we will seek to discover, now and in the new year, more about our neighbors. And we will seek to be a blessing to one another, especially the least, lost and lonely because that is, in fact, the mark of the Christian. And we will continue to love our neighbor, in all the related vagaries, into 2015.

Thank you for carrying the Light of Christ into the world. Even if some folks haven't seen it; and don't believe it.

Pastor Paul

[In case you're curious, I checked. Yes, "the candidate" above was elected.]

Missions

Shared Blessings Meal – 2015 Sign-up

Shared Blessings meals are served on the second, fourth, and fifth Saturdays each month from 11:00-Noon. If you are interested in helping to cook, serve and/or clean-up, 2015 sign-up sheets are available now in the fellowship room. If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities, please contact Carmen Hoffman or the church office.

Make A Difference Community Work Day

A group of 19 people of all ages raked 3 yards, cleaned gutters on 6 homes, and trimmed bushes on Sunday, November 2. Thanks to Alec, Adam, Brian & Mary Jo Heil, Zoe, Lea & Melinda Stonebraker, Chris & Mary McKinney, Twyla Hein, Sara Webb, Rhonda Waugh, Maddie Peters, Bailey Schmidt, Sommer Daniels, Elliot Cummins, Paul Frederiksen, Renee Mente and Jane Moen for helping out. Working together on these projects was FUN AND the work was done in less than 2 hours!

Share the Love

The goal of Mission: “Share the Love” is to have our church be more intentional in reaching out and sharing God’s love in the community. Making desserts for the two meals provided to high school teachers during parent-teacher conferences was the first of many projects we plan to coordinate.

THANKS to all who provided desserts for the high school teachers. Renee Mente was at the high school for conferences around the time the teachers ate and said “They raved about the desserts! It was a big hit!! So glad we could do something for them; they really did appreciate it! :)” As you can see, they loved getting some extra TLC, so thank you for helping to make it happen.

In December, we’re looking at delivering treats to those who have to work on Christmas Eve.

If you have suggestions for future “Share the Love” projects and/or would like to be actively involved in this ministry, please let anyone on the Mission team or the church office know. Thanks!

Thanksgiving Ingathering

We reached our goal of putting together exactly 100 kits for the Thanksgiving Ingathering on November 1st. Thank you!

Christmas Offering

The Missions team has designated that the Christmas offering will be split between the Ronald McDonald house in Iowa City and the church’s Benevolence fund. The Ronald McDonald House is that “home-away-from-home” for families so they can stay close by their hospitalized child at little or no cost. The Benevolence Fund is used to assist people in Cedar County with anything from utilities to food assistance to transportation costs. You may use the envelope enclosed in this newsletter or indicate “Christmas” on the memo line of your check. Your offering may be given any time in December. May Jesus Christ be Praised!

Angel Tree

Our church often receives requests for assistance throughout the year. To supplement the benevolence fund and assist numerous individuals and families this Christmas and into 2015, we are asking you to purchase gift cards/certificates. We also have identified two families with a total of 5 children (4 in high school & 1 in middle school) needing assistance with specific gift requests. Please consider your blessings and help as you’re able.

Here’s all you do...

1. Select ornament(s) for gift cards(s) or requested gifts you’d like to purchase off the Angel Trees located in the dining room or the fellowship room. For gift cards, you purchase the requested gift cards for the amount you’d like to give, put the gift card in an envelope, write the amount of the card on the envelope and then attach it to the ornament. For requested gifts, please wrap the gift and attach the receipt to the ornament. Please only buy the number of items requested on the tag. We try to make sure each child gets about the same number of gifts.
2. If you’d prefer to donate money, write “Angel Tree” in the memo line of your check and put it in the offering plate. The copper kettle offering on December 7 has been designated for the Angel Tree families.
3. Please return any gift cards, gifts or contributions to the church office by Friday, Dec 12.

Thank you for sharing God’s love and helping to make Christmas brighter for our friends, neighbors and strangers!

"Shiny Gods" Class Starts Nov 30

On November 30, the adult "Friends" class will be starting a new study, "Shiny Gods". Here's a brief description of the class: In today's culture that is guided by shiny, life-promising distractions, "enough" seems elusive and keeps us chasing the next "quick fix." If God gave us the freedom from this downward spiral, would we take it? In "Shiny Gods", pastor and author Mike Slaughter helps us reassess priorities to create a culture and lifestyle of giving, based on God's word and Jesus' example. In his challenging and humorous style, Slaughter helps us consider these topics: 1. Naming Our Idols, 2. Money, Work, and Debt, 3. Be Faithful, Save, and Give and 4. Heart Giving. If you're not a part of a Sunday School class, now is a great time to get started.

YOUth Group Fall Recap

YOUth Group started the year with a picnic in the church lawn. Activities included a tape head relay and building egg carriers. In September we again enjoyed the beautiful weather with a scavenger hunt ending with exploding a pumpkin. Who knew you could do that with a bunch of rubber bands?

A jack-o-lantern carving competition helped us get in the mood to host the Halloween Party in October. Young & old had a great time at the Party.

In November we enjoyed an oriental meal complete with bible verse fortune cookies and reflected on what we are thankful for. The Jennifer Bricker story and an "adopted" disability for the evening made us appreciate how blessed we truly are.

YOUth Group will meet again on Wed, Dec 3rd 6:15-8pm in the Dining Room. We will be making Christmas cookies & candies. All 7th-12th graders are welcome.



Christmas Cards

We need volunteers to write in as well as deliver Christmas cards to those who don't get out and about much anymore. We'll be writing in cards during fellowship coffee on Nov 30. Cards will be ready to pick up and deliver after worship on Sunday, December 7 during fellowship coffee. They just need to be delivered at your convenience by Christmas Day. Thanks!

Christmas Cookie and Candy Donations Needed

As you do baking for the holidays, consider donating 2-3 dozen cookies or candies to the church. With the additional events and opportunities for hospitality in December, it's helpful to have a supply of cookies or others snacks on hand. We plan to use the cookies and candies for events such as the Children's Christmas pageant (Dec 14), caroling with the home-bound (Dec 21), fellowship time after the Long Shadows service (Dec 21), and Christmas Eve services (Dec 24). Donations are needed on the dates listed above. Please bring your donations to the church kitchen and label as "December treats". Thank You!

Jane and I plan to be out of town Dec. 25 – Jan. 2. Pastors have been asked, and have consented, to being on-call. Jennifer will be in the office a couple mornings that week. Call her or Lay Leader Bob Cummins and they will make contact with the on-call clergy.



Kids for Christ

Saturday, December 13th

2:30 - 4:30

We will be presenting a Christmas Pageant, including costumes and singing, for our friends at Cedar Manor. It will take a lot of kids and helpers to fill all the parts and get everyone in a costume, so please plan to attend! This is a great way to share the joy of the Christmas season and bring smiles to Cedar Manor! We will also enjoy snacks and crafts. If you have any questions, please contact Denise Cartwright (319-430-6172).

Birthdays and Anniversaries

(members and constituents)

- 1 – Phillip Hargrave, Donald Kallenberger, Kinley Williams, Ferris & Red Davis
- 2 – Madelynn Peters, **Esther Witmer (106)!!**
- 3 – Abby Cummins-VanScoy, Alicia Harper
- 5 – Mike Eisele, Teri Ford
- 6 – Courtney Klouda, Morgan Lanning
- 7 – Amanda Paul
- 8 – Gordon Esbeck
- 9 – Mark Lukemyres
- 10 – Cassidy Eicher, Christopher McKinney, Kay Miller, Jim Shontz
- 11 – Jack Fraseur, Jim & Vivian Shontz
- 12 – Henry Wiskus, Ken & Deb McKay
- 13 – Nancy Burroughs
- 14 – Mason Griebel, Dawson Mente, Judy Ohrt, Colbie Schultz, Corbey & Angela Swick
- 15 – Adam Calonder, Bobbie Lieser
- 17 – Kris Kuehl, Dustin Morden
- 18 – Jim Jorgensen, Keaton Schultz, Caden Schultz, Nathen & Kim Anderson
- 19 – Max Keller, Lonnie Krenz, Griffin Ormsby
- 20 – Drew Oberfrank, Jada Schmidt
- 21 – Steven Eiler, Derek Nebergall, Lea Stonebraker
- 23 – Cameron Wallick
- 24 – Scott Anderson, Koby Johnston
- 25 – Allan Baird, Ron Burroughs, Todd Swick
- 26 – Red Davis, Greg Royer, Ryne Schroeder
- 27 – Corina Lanning, Judy Rouse
- 28 – Tucker Ormsby
- 29 – Marjorie Stonerook
- 30 – Jenny Boldt, Carly Paustian, Mike & Connie Semotan
- 31 – Lisa Allen, Noah Johnson, Jen Royer, Irene Wood

(Please contact the church office for additions and/or corrections.)

Have you been receiving email from the church?

Email providers constantly update their SPAM filters. We have had many reports of emails being “lost” in the SPAM folders. Be sure to add office@tiptonumc.org & pastor@tiptonumc.org to your safe sender list.

If you need assistance with this please contact the office.

SERVICE OF LONG SHADOWS

Sunday, December 21st at 2:30 p.m.

Refreshments and fellowship are an important part of this event. If you'd like to help provide hospitality, please contact Pastor Paul. (“Hospitality” involves serving hot cider/coffee and snack-stuff which is already provided.)

Hosted by First United Methodist Church
607 Lynn St., Tipton
563-886-2331

Community welcome Invite/bring friends!

The most recent research in cognitive science, which is a fancy name for the science of “how the brain works,” reveals that remembering the past and visualizing the future use the same neural mechanisms. Memory and prophesy are flip sides of the same mental coin. Human memory works forward, and the very skills that enable you to remember your past enable you to envision your future. Or as one scientist puts it, “Memory constructs, stimulates and predicts possible future events in an ever-changing environment.”

(Susan Gaidos, “Thanks,” Science News, 21 June 2008, 27ff.)

To walk down memory lane is, at the same time, to follow the yellow brick road into your dream future.

THE CARROLL MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The scholarships are awarded as follows: 1) to someone who has demonstrated a commitment to working in the ministry, Christian education, mission training, etc.; 2) to students attending an accredited college, technical school or area school. Applicants of all ages and levels beyond high school shall be considered but first year post high school will be given preference [for the undergrad scholarship.] Applicants must disclose a realistic financial plan; and must be a member or constituent of 1st UMC-Tipton.

Applications are available at www.iumpf.org; go to Other Scholarships; scroll down to Carroll Mitchell. If you have questions contact Pastor Paul.

There are other scholarships listed at the website. Read the qualification guidelines – you may be eligible!

CHRISTMAS is a celebration and observation of God working in the world in mysterious ways. The prophet and psalmist give us the images of a strong-armed God:

*The LORD has bared his **holy arm** before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.* (Isaiah 52:10)

*O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his **holy arm** have gotten him victory.* (Psalm 98:1)

We might think of God in the world using this image:



As we've read THE STORY this fall, we've had numerous stories of God's 'strong arm,' making Pharaoh quake, parting the waters of the Red Sea and the Jordan River, making Gideon a hero with his motley squad of 300 soldiers, giving David victory over the massive Goliath. Such stories are one after another.

But now we come to the incarnation, to God becoming flesh. ("Carne" is the Spanish word for meat, flesh!) But God does not come in the form of a powerful warrior. Nope, this time, the strong arm of God comes differently:



As we prepare for and then celebrate Christmas, let's try to leave enough room for God to come into our lives creatively, just the way you and I will be challenged and engaged.

*Blessings on Your Advent Journey
and Merry Christmas!*

Merry Christmas from your church staff.

Dee Wallace
Alice Ann Gallagher
Sylvia Gould
Jamie Bahr

Denise Cartwright
Don Griffith
Nifer Comstock
Paul Frederiksen

Holiday Coffee Fellowship

You are enthusiastically invited to the annual holiday coffee at the **First United Church of Christ at 10:00 a.m., Friday, Dec 5, 2014.** We will gather in the Sanctuary for music and a reading, followed by warm fellowship, pastries, and delicious foods we have loved from past Smorgasbords. You may, if you choose, donate a non-perishable item that will be presented to the local food pantry.

Tipton Community Soup Supper Saturday, Dec. 13 from 4 to 8:00 p.m. St. Mary's Hall.

Any profits will be divided three ways:

1. The Community Food Pantry hosted by Calvary Foursquare Church
2. Tipton Ministerial Association for the 'assistance fund'
3. The Backpack program coordinated by Trinity Lutheran

Mike Boyle, coordinator of the Soup Supper, is asking each church to provide 4 – 6 volunteers to work during the meal. People are also needed to make soup: 3+ roasters of Chili; 3+ roasters of Chicken Noodle. Desserts, cookies, bars or cakes can be donated. Sandwiches and relish trays are also part of the meal. SO, a lot of work goes into this event. If you would like to coordinate the participation of 1st UMC, contact the church office ASAP. Or, if you'd like to volunteer directly through Mike Boyle, you can contact him at 563-272-8564 or mike.boyle@ia.usda.gov

Two of the regular guests at Shared

Blessings are Dennis Byrnes and Pat Ciha. Dennis and Pat have a pretty active ministry with the homeless population of Iowa City. This time of year they take an informal attendance at community meal programs and if someone is missing, it's not unusual for them to go to their camp and see if there's any way to help. If you are cleaning out closets and have winter wear, blankets, good socks, etc. that you no longer use or need, bring it to church and leave it in the Gathering Place. When Dennis and Pat come to Shared Blessings they'll check to see if there's anything there and will get it to people who need it.

Let me take this opportunity to say THANK YOU for the items you've donated toward Iowa City homeless the past two years, too. (Dennis and Pat worship in the Roman Catholic tradition, but I like to think they have Methodist hearts.)

R Healthy Church Initiative

The focus of our work on the Consultation Prescriptions will move us closer to the mission statement:

Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

That statement reminds us of a few things, first and primarily that our focus is on world-changing work! Wow! We are accepting as fact that the world can be transformed starting with you and me right here in Tipton Iowa at the United Methodist Church!!

It's pretty mind-boggling to read the last few verses of the gospel of Luke and then the first few verses of the book of Acts. Clearly, the disciples are waiting for Jesus to do "Act 2" but Jesus says to them, via Paul's paraphrase, 'Nope, YOU GUYS are going to be my witnesses near and far and around the world!' The rest of the Acts of the Apostles relates their on-going discovery of what that means. That discovery continues today.

We also read in those few Luke-Acts verses that the disciples are to remain in relationship and context until clothed with power from on high. They had been personally mentored by Jesus for three years but they were not yet ready to be of utmost service. One nuance is the change from "disciple" to "apostle." In Luke, the last time the 12 are called disciples [in the NRSV] is Luke 22:45. The first time we read it in Acts is 6:1, where the apostles have been doing their job and now "the disciples were

increasing in number..." (Acts 6:1) Every person of the church is called to do their part, whatever it is, to **increase the number of disciples**. Disciples, "students," grow and are sent to serve, which is the meaning of apostles.

The Healthy Church Initiative is not about making churches larger. But it is unmistakable that in a world with ever-increasing numbers and percentages of people professing no faith or a faith so private that there is no ethical substance to it, that Christians are not understanding nor fulfilling the gospel commands! Forgive us, Jesus.

We know there is no such thing as "spectator" in the call to be or make disciples. One definition of a "healthy church" can be a church where no one sits on the sidelines; everyone has a ministry – in the church and in the community. You can be part of our corporate response to the prescriptions as you see ministry possibilities and eagerly welcome the opportunity to participate.

One role we have not filled is a HCI Coordinator. This position would keep us on track to work toward fulfillment of the HCI prescriptions. This will be a multi-year process. There are many old habits to break and exciting new ones to adopt; old mind-sets and attitudes to cast away or refocus and some new ones to embrace. This person would connect and coordinate the teams working on the prescriptions; and would be the primary link with Coach Colleen Petaros. Talk to Pastor Paul if you are curious or interested or want the role! (By the way, I said I would put Coach Colleen Petaros' email in the newsletter: tpet@mchsi.com.)



<tap><tap> Is This On?

Audio equipment is sensitive and can be very expensive to acquire, and when necessary, repair. I'd like to offer some reminders about audio system usage to help us get the most from the system as well as protect our investment.

Please do not tap on microphones! The sound board operator will ensure the mic channel is on and the volume level is set appropriately. If using the lectern or handheld mics simply begin talking.

Do not worry about switching on or off the lectern microphone. Part of the sound operator's preparation for each service is to check the microphone to be sure that switch is in the correct position. I know turning the mic off when finished can be a tough habit to break, but it avoids an awkward moment for the next user of the microphone!

Unless you are very tall or very short you should not need to adjust the lectern mic position. It is set to pick up most people's voices. If the gain needs to be adjusted the sound board operator will adjust the setting as needed.

When using the handheld mic hold the microphone approximately 6 to 12 inches from your chin and speak

directly into the mic. Speak in a normal voice – the sound operator will ensure the volume level is appropriate.

When using a lapel mic, ideally place the microphone in the middle of your chest 6 to 8 inches from your mouth. Place transmitter in a pocket or clip to your clothes. Speak in a normal voice, and avoid turning your head too far to either side. Be aware that brushing the microphone or excessive movement can cause loud noises through the sound system. If possible come early and work with the sound operator to check the level of the mic.

Please always use/wait for the handheld mic when making an announcement or sharing a joy or concern. We tape the service for broadcast on the city cable channel, and also make the audio available in the nursery, meeting place, and dining room/kitchen during worship. Additionally, next to no sound goes from under the balcony to on the balcony, and vice-versa. Have I mentioned persons with hearing loss? Using the mic ensures that everyone will hear what you have to say!

We try very hard to have a trained sound operator behind the audio board for every service. By following these suggestions the sound system should be trouble free and easy to use.

Dear FUMC,

Thank you so much for the baby blanket. It was nice to know that so many people have been thinking about us. Warmly, **Kevin & Liz (Houstman)**

Dear Tipton UMC,

Thank you for hosting the lay servant training this past weekend. Your hospitality made us feel very welcomed. The food, snacks, friendly smiles and beautiful facilities contributed to good training sessions. Thanks. We appreciate you!

Sincerely, **Collen Peteros**

“**Caring Ministries**” is one way we seek to bring value, the value of being a loved child of God, to people who do not get out and about as much as they were formerly able. Here’s a note from Roberta Gesling about the impact you can make by participating in Caring Ministries:

I visited my mom who is at Crestview nursing home yesterday evening. She was so happy! She had a visitor with one of the care packages from caring ministries earlier in the day! It meant so much to her to have the visit. Just wanted everyone to know what a difference the congregation is making in lives! God bless. **Roberta Gesling**

LEADERSHIP CALENDAR 2015

January 11

Commissioning of Leaders at worship

All-Church Potluck

beverages, table service provided

LEADER ORIENTATION

from 12:40 to 2:00 p.m.

January 14 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Leadership Council

January 25

District Leadership Training Event

Shueyville UMC from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Carpool (bus full??) will leave Tipton at 1:20 p.m.

Back Pack Buddies

Some of us have been working on the back pack buddy personal bags; these are small items that they hand out to about 70 kids once a month. Saturday the 15th we packed 21 boys, 26 girls, 12 elementary kids... They could use a lot more items... such as small shampoos, conditioners, soap, hand lotion, deodorant for both boys and girls... these can be purchased in the travel section of Walmart, Target, drugstores... and if you have traveled some and keep the hotel items they can be used too... You may place the items in the PEO tote in the breezeway of the Tipton UMC... and we thank you for your help.

SIGN UP TO BE HOSTS FOR SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP COFFEE

Longtime chairman of the Fellowship Coffee committee, Rick Rouse, has turned in his chairmanship, and Dixie Martin and Barb Rickard are going to try to “fill his shoes!” Rick, we hope we can do as good a job as you have done in the past several years! Every one of you can help us greatly by signing up for at least 2 times, and we would love it if you would like to sign up for 3 times to serve in 2015! Don’t hesitate to sign your name in the first slot. All that means is that you are chairman for that Sunday and you just need to remind the other one or two families that they are “on tap” for that Sunday. If you need instructions on how to make coffee, lemonade, what to serve, where the coffee pot is located, where the pitchers are, etc., just call Dixie 563-357-2396 or Barb 563-886-6018 and they will be glad to help you learn to navigate the kitchen. If you find that you cannot serve when you are scheduled, please change dates with another person(s) and let the church office know of the correction. REMEMBER, you are NOT serving lunch to those who attend Fellowship Coffee. KEEP IT SIMPLE!! Sunday Fellowship Coffee is well attended and Much appreciated by many so Dixie and Barb hope you can help by getting the 2015 calendar filled in by the middle December. Thanks in advance for your enthusiasm and willingness to help!!

P.S. – THE SIGN-UP NOTEBOOK IS LOCATED ON THE COUNTER IN THE KITCHEN. SIGN UP TODAY!!

Tipton FUMC’s Sunday service is shown on MediaCom Cable Channel 5 on the following Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. and then again Thursday at 2:00 p.m.



United Methodist Women

December Circle Meetings

Abigail — Wed., Dec. 17th at 8:00 p.m.
Hostess: Sylvia Ferguson

Mary Martha — Fri., Dec. 19th at 1:30 p.m.
Hostess: Lois Salmonson

Priscilla — Thurs., Dec. 18th at 7:00 p.m.
Hostess: Sandy Childs

Worship in December

Dec. 7 — Communion, 2nd Sunday of Advent

Scripture: I Kings 2; 1-4

Theme: “The King Who Had It All” (The Story chapter 13)

Music: Chancel Choir & keyboards

Dec. 14 — 3rd Sunday of Advent

Scripture: Ruth 1:6-18; John 9:1-13

Theme: “A Kingdom Torn in Two” (Chapter 14)

Music: Christian Chaos, Choir Kids

Dec. 21 — 4th Sunday in Advent

Scripture:

Music: Chancel Choir & keyboards

2:30 p.m.: Service of Long Shadows

6:00 p.m.: Children’s Christmas Program

Dec. 23 — Christmas Worship w/residents at

2:30 p.m. Prairie Hills Assisted Living!!
Bring your voices, readings, instruments
and let’s have a great time with them!

Dec. 24 — Christmas Eve Worship

3:30 p.m. This is a celebration, music new and old;
and some ‘suprises’ during worship!

10:00 p.m. “Traditional” Christmas Eve with carols,
communion and candles.

*(Following both services you are invited to a time of
fellowship in the Gathering Place around cookies,
snacks and hot cider.)*

Dec. 28 — 2nd Sunday of Christmas!

Music: Chaos and Carols



Prayers

Healing: Joyce Abbot (Candi Duesenberry’s mom), Linda Black(J. Keller’s sis), Joe Cheshareck (G.Fleming’s bro-in-law,) Darlene (Marjorie Stonerook’s sister), Dorothy Feldman, Jean Heil (Brian’s mom), Arlene Hein, Betty Hopkins (Deb Bothell’s mom), Lee Huff, (M.Stonebraker’s bro), Rex Idlewine, Ken McKay, McKay’s nephew Joel and wife Holly, Lillian (Deb Bothell’s grt-grand-dau), Edna Miller (J Ohrt’s sister), Marvin Miller, Owen Ozburn (B/ B Young’s g’son), Jim Shontz, Joe T [in NJ; friend of McKays], Gary Taylor, Carolyn Wiggins (S. Gould’s sis), and others under care or treatment.

Prayers for those in Life Transitions:

Persons/people persecuted for religious convictions

Persons uprooted due to “natural” and/or “human” disaster; and those who are called to help.

Families struggling with the impact of drug and alcohol abuse or other addiction.

Couples/Families searching for the way forward.

Persons & families of incarceration;

Persons in employment limbo;

In Treatment: Wally Reidel, Carol Cartwright (Jack’s sis,) Barb Knack (B. Cummin’s sis), Sarah Ann Wellendorf (F. Kuehl’s sis), Oscar Wilson

Hospice/Palliative Care: Elmer Flory, Henry Wiskus

Armed Services: Thomas Brown (Seydel’s son-in-law), Sean Hannes, Billy Hoffman, Kyle Marchik, Corey Ormsby, Mike Ploeger (McKinney’s Nephew), Jake Reidel, Cole Weih

Calling all instrumentalists! Dusty Johnson will lead a band for the afternoon Christmas Eve service December 24th at 3:30. We will practice at 4:00 Sunday, December 21st at the church. The music is very accessible and can be played by musicians aged 11 to 111. Please let Dusty know at dusty.johnson@tipton.k12.ia.us if you or your children can play in the band. You are welcome to play, even if you can’t make the practice Dec. 21st.

December Sunday Servants

Liturgists Twyla Hein - Coordinator

- 14 – Deb Conant
- 21 – Gail Fleming
- 24 – 3:30 p.m. _____
- 24 – 10:00 p.m. _____
- 28 – Alec Heil

Power Point Becky Young - Coordinator

- 7 – Brian or MJ Heil (both)
- 14 – Becky Young (create), Daniel Charette (run)
- 21 – Alec Heil (both)
- 24 – 3:30 p.m. Melinda Stonebraker (both)
- 24 – 10:00 p.m. Heil Family (both)
- 28 – Carmen Hoffman (both)

Fellowship Coffee Barb Rickard and Dixie Martin - Coordinators

- 7 – Ron & Lois Salmonson, Mike & Deb Eisele, Kevin & Dawn Spickermann
- 14 – Rick & Judy Rouse, Randy & Tina Nau, Heil Family
- 21 – Brad & Bobbie Lieser, Larry & Kathy Houstman
- 24 – 3:30 p.m. Jane Moen, Rhonda Waugh
- 24 – 10:00 p.m. _____
- 28 – Karen Strefling, Murry & Renee Mente, Rick & Heidi Shumaker

Ushers Lorna Muller - Coordinator

- 7 & 14 – Renee & Murry Mente, Michelle & Gary O'Leary
- 21 & 28 – Renee & Murry Mente
- 24 – 3:30 p.m. _____
- 24 – 10:00 p.m. _____

Greeters Becky Young - Coordinator

- 7 – Bob & Ginny Cummins
- 14 – Ryan & Melinda Stonebraker
- 21 – Steve & Cheryl Person
- 24 – 3:30 p.m. _____
- 24 – 10:00 p.m. _____
- 28 – Kris Clark & Danny Ford

Nursery Office - Coordinator

- 7 – Deanna & Steven Licht
- 14 – Jen'Nifer & Zoe Comstock
- 21 – _____
- 24 – 3:30 p.m. _____
- 24 – 10:00 p.m. _____
- 28 – _____

Children's Lesson Office - Coordinator

- 7 – Pastor Paul
- 14 – Dusty Johnson
- 21 – Berrie Glick
- 24 – 3:30 p.m. _____
- 24 – 10:00 p.m. _____
- 28 – Deanna Licht

Communion Stewards Donna Gault - Coordinator

- 7 – Judy Rouse

Video Camera Mary McKinney - Coordinator

- 7 – Alec Heil
- 14 – Comstock Family
- 21 – McKinney Family
- 24 – 3:30 p.m. _____
- 24 – 10:00 p.m. _____
- 28 – Ruel Wehde

Acolytes Kim Walter - Coordinator

- 7 – Davis Webb & Levi Daniel
- 14 – Jacob Boedeker & Ian Spangler
- 21 – Caleb Shumaker & Adam Heil
- 24 – 3:30 p.m. _____
- 24 – 10:00 p.m. _____
- 28 – Volunteers

Flowers Coordinated by - Becky Young

- 7 – Rhonda Waugh
- 14 – Becky Young
- 21 – Jane Moen & P. Paul Frederiksen
- 28 – Berrie Glick



Presence and Gifts from Oct.

Presence: Worship: 5 – 111, 12 – 140, 19 – 114, 26 – 132

Sunday School: 5 – 77, 12 – 92, 19 – 73, 26 – 90

Average attendance:

Worship: 124, **Sunday School:** 83

Gifts: General Fund \$9,645.00, • Upper Room \$14.00, • Copies \$120.75, • Apportionments \$110.00, • The Story \$68.25, • Shared Blessings \$17.00, • Copper Kettle \$174.83, • Missions - Festival of Talents \$1,331.90, • Missions - Soup Luncheon \$375.00, • Thanksgiving Offering \$10.00, • Blanket Sunday \$427.49, • Mission Market \$18.15, • Ingathering \$56.00, • **Grand Total \$12,368.37**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
607 LYNN
TIPTON, IOWA 52772

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Mission Statement:

Tipton First United Methodist Church

“To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

Tipton First United Methodist Church Staff:

Pastor - Paul Frederiksen	Administrative Ministries Coordinator - Jennifer Comstock
Accompanist - Sylvia Gould	Custodian - Don Griffith
Chancel Choir Director - Alice Ann Gallagher	Choir Kids Director - Denise Cartwright
Choir Kids Accompanist - Dee Wallace	Christian Chaos Director - Denise Cartwright
Bishop of the Iowa Annual Conference - Julius Calvin Trimble	
East Central District Superintendent - David Crow	
East Central Iowa District Field Outreach Minister - Jill Sanders	
Ministers of Jesus Christ in the World - All the People of God!	