



First United Methodist Church

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United Methodist News

October 2015

CHURCH CONFERENCE

(a.k.a. 'The Annual Meeting')

October 18, 2015 in the Gathering Place

5:00 p.m.

NEW MEMBERS were recognized September 20 in the service of worship. This group consisted of those students who participated in the confirmation experience from September 2014 through September 2015. Participation in confirmation training and experiences does not necessitate now becoming a professing member of the church. One student chose to wait; another student moved from this area in the summer. Here are the 13 who chose to be confirmed:

Franklin Curtis Bierman son of Greta & Kirby

Kamryn Kay Chapman daughter of Stacy & Brad

Andrew Blue Comstock son of Jennifer & Aaron

Elliot Frank Cummins son of Abby and Chris

Christopher Jason Eicher, Jr. & Abbigail Marie Eicher
children of Chris & Tina

Tiger James Emrich son of Stacy & Steve

Landan David Hill son of Trina & David

Jesse James Lieser son of Bobbie & Brad

Madison Marie O'Leary daughter of Michelle & Garry

Bailey Jo Schmidt daughter of Amanda & Brian

Amanda Carol Smith daughter of Michelle & Jason

Sara Lynn Webb daughter of Duane & Penny

Frank and Sara were also baptized at this time. May all these people watch us as we exercise discipline to grow in our discipleship!

October Events

Oct. 1 — UMW General Meeting

Oct. 4 — Mission Soup Luncheon

Oct. 10 — Shared Blessings

Oct. 11 — KFC

Dominoes

Oct. 14 — Grief Group; 6-session series
begins

Oct. 18 — Church Conference @ 5 pm

Oct. 21 — Newsletter Articles Due
Grief Group

Oct. 24 — Shared Blessings

Oct. 25 — Trunk or Treat

Oct. 28 — Meeting of the Holy Folders
Grief Group

Oct. 31 — 7 am-7pm All Saints 12-Hour
Prayer Vigil
Shared Blessings



Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



GIG = Growth & Impact Group

My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

John 15:8-11

The Neighbors and Disciples Team has made numerous invitations to you to become involved in transformative small group ministry. But this month, we are not doing that! Nope, we're bringing in a 'heavy hitter,' none other than **Jamie Pollard, Athletic Director of Iowa State University!!** The Fall 2015 ISU Alumni magazine, "Visions," includes an article about Pollard, who experienced a heart attack in the spring of 2015 while attending his high school daughter's track meet at Cedar Falls at the UNI Dome. Here are the last three paragraphs of that article: ¹

Here's one last thing that's really important to Jamie Pollard: his faith. It's that faith, he says, that got him through the 15 minutes when he was waiting for Ellen to come to the hospital before he went into surgery.

For two years, Pollard has been a part of a men's group at Cornerstone Church in Ames. The group meets at 6 o'clock on Thursday mornings. He goes every Thursday, even in the winter when it's dark and cold. Even when he wants to sleep in, he's always glad that he goes.

*"When I think back to that 15 minutes when I was waiting and had to collect my thoughts, I was at peace," he says. "And I was at peace because I'd already done my work. **I'd put in my time with my faith so that when I needed my faith it was there for me without me having to worry.** And I owe that to that men's group, because it better prepared me for the fact that we're all mortal."*

Pollard's story seems to me to be a parable of what Jesus was saying to his followers – then and now – about his joy being complete! When one tethers to Jesus Christ, there is experienced truth that all the benefits and promises of Christ hold up; that whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. Therefore we can be totally invested in living and life; and have peace beyond our circumstance.

The same day I read that article, the "Christian Century" (Sept. 16, 2015) included an item about happiness. It related that a study of 9,000 Europeans over age 50 assessed what gave people lasting happiness. They compared four different areas:

1. Volunteering or working for a charity.
2. Taking educational courses.
3. Participating in a religious organization.
4. Participating in political organizations.

The only one of these four that resulted in sustained happiness was taking part in a religious organization. Now, it may be worthy to note that the survey didn't cover just being a member or hanging around, but spoke of **active participation**.

In his *Strength to Love*, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. offered the same reminder. After yet another death threat, King affirmed,

"Only God is able to give us the interior resources to face the storms and problems of life When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds and our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember there is a great Power in the universe whose name is God (who) is able to make a way out of no way, and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows. This is our hope for becoming better [people]. This is our mandate for seeking to make a better world."

A "better world" begins with each one of us! Be part of a GIG!!!

Grace to you and peace,
Pastor Paul

¹ A copy of the article is available on request and is posted on the bulletin board outside the pastor's office.

Missions

Copper Kettle Church World Service Blanket Sunday October 18

Our church has a long-standing tradition of giving to CWS Blankets+. With over 60 years of experience, Church World Service applies its expertise in overseas disaster and recovery work to our work in U.S. communities recovering from catastrophe. In partnership with local organizations, CWS can make a big difference to people displaced by a hurricane or economic hard times. You can provide warmth and protection to victims of a disaster, seeds and tools to struggling farmers, and water and health to impoverished communities by giving to the Church World Service Blankets+ offering on October 18.

The copper kettle on Sunday, October 18 is designated to CWS Blankets+. Thank you for your donations to CWS!

World Communion Sunday & Missions Lunch October 4!

World Communion Sunday, October 4th, promises to be a great day to celebrate Missions. Following the worship service, the Mission Team will be hosting a soup lunch. We'll have an assortment of homemade soups, breads/crackers, cheese, veggies, desserts, and drinks available. A freewill offering will be taken to support mission projects. Please come and enjoy a home-cooked meal!

Community Work Day – November 1

The **Make a Difference Community Work Day** will be held **Sunday, November 1 from 12:30-2:30 p.m.** Please SIGN UP anytime between Sunday, October 4 and Sunday, October 25 to HELP with projects AND sign up if you HAVE PROJECTS to be done in the Gathering Place. We're looking for projects such as raking leaves or cleaning gutters. Sign up early – we will do as many projects as we are able based on the time available and the number and skills of volunteers on hand.

Volunteers of all ages welcome. Parents are encouraged to make this a family outing and get kids and youth involved in mission work/helping others early! We'll have a simple lunch for volunteers right after worship, then head out to work on projects. Making a Difference in our own backyard and around the world!

Ingathering Kits

The Thanksgiving Ingathering will be held on Saturday, November 7th in Mount Pleasant. The dedication of Ingathering Kits will occur during worship on Sunday, November 1st. Please turn in any Ingathering kits by November 1st. Our goal is 120 kits! Please help us to reach our goal! Thanks!

Food Pantry

Our church has an emergency food pantry. We always want to have a supply of food on hand when someone needs assistance. Here's a list of what's needed most: SOUP (all kinds – creamed or regular), canned fruit, baked beans, packaged rice or noodles, egg noodles, and spaghetti sauce. Drop off your donations in the container in the Gathering Place. Your generosity is appreciated.

Halloween “Homebound” Visitation

The Caring Ministries group is putting together Halloween care packages for those who don't get out and about much anymore. On Sunday, October 18, please stop for Fellowship Coffee after worship and pick up a few care packages. The packages just need to be delivered anytime before Halloween, October 31, so you can pick a time that works for you to do the visits. We have 50-60 people who receive care packages so LOTS of helpers are needed. Those who are “homebound” appreciate the visits AND YOU will be blessed as well!

Prayer Bear and Prayer Shawl Ministry

Have you noticed the stuffed animals in the pew near the pulpit OR the prayer shawls in the Gathering Place? Each of the animals or shawls has a prayer attached to it. If you know of someone who would benefit from some extra TLC, please read the prayer and give them a stuffed animal or shawl to remind them of God's love.

Church T-shirts

Church T-shirts are for sale until October 27. The shirts have the “Deeply Rooted, Branching Out, Bearing Fruit” logo on the back and our church name on the front. They will be sapphire (bright blue) and cost \$15 for sizes S–XL. Add \$1.50 for 2XL and above. Make your check out to the church and write “t-shirt” on the memo line. A sample shirt is in the office. If enough interest is expressed, we will check into shirts for kids.

College Connections

Thanks to all who supported the recent School Kick-Off lunch and fundraiser for college care packages. It was a fun way to start the fall programming at church. A total of \$242 was raised to offset postage costs and reduce the amount needed from the general budget. Our plan is to reach out to students once a month. Students included in our mailings are: Ashley Beers, Emily Beers, Ben Charette, Daniel Charette, Josh Eiler, Brandon Fleming, Blake Huston, Clayton Keller, Kolton Mente, Derek Nebergall, Tucker Ormsby, and Kellie Rouse. Thanks to students and parents for sending up-dated address information. As you can imagine, it is quite a task to keep college student addresses current. If you'd like other undergraduate students from our church family to receive support and care packages from College Connections, please give the church office their current contact information. Thanks!

SAFE SANCTUARY is an effort by churches to live out the command of Jesus, "Let the children come to me." We want the children to not only be welcome but safe. Therefore, if you are working with children or youth, or if you'd like to, and you are between grade 7 in school and 110 years old, we expect you to be on the approved "safe sanctuary" list. It's simple and easy:

- 1) Attend a one-hour class
- 2) Complete a waiver form so we can do a criminal background check and have it on file.
- 3) Youth: We need a statement from your parent/s.

Did you know many insurance companies will no longer provide coverage to churches that are not following their Safe Sanctuary program? Jen Johnson is the Administrator of the Safe Sanctuary program. Talk to her if you have questions or want to get approved for ministry with children and/or youth.

Speaking of SAFE CHILDREN... At the Cedar County Extension & Outreach office on **Monday, October 19** they are offering a series of trainings we all should consider:

- 6:00 p.m. Universal Precautions
- 7:00 p.m. CPR
- 8:15 p.m. First Aid

More information is available from Julie Orris at 319-465-3224 or jorris@iastate.edu or call the Cedar County office at 563-886-6157.



There are two classes of eight 3 year olds. That's the most we can have with one teacher. One class meets mornings M-W-F and

the other one Tu- Th. Teacher Sam Semotan is in the groove as the Director/Teacher – and newest employee of 1st UMC-Tipton; and the Board of Jess Goode now, Jen Hertert, Kim Walter and Pastor Paul has begun providing direction and oversight. We are seeking full licensure by the DHS and to increase to level 3 on the Quality Rating Scale (QRS.)

In MORE good news, in June we applied for a grant through the East Central District Connectional Ministries Council. They have some funds, called "Matthew 25 funds," to help churches with new ministries. It's part of the "District Asking," which this church has paid in full the last 10 years. Little Friends is, to the church, a 'new' ministry as we have now become owners. We have recently been notified that 1st UMC-Tipton and Little Friends Preschool has been **approved for a \$2,000 grant!!!** Praise God!!

We had been walking a slippery fiscal tightrope. (Kim Walter is our excellent treasurer who keeps us from slipping! Receipt of this grant will help tremendously. We do anticipate some expenditures to be incurred in the licensing process so we're sitting tight on the funds at this time. But it does allow us to consider, down the road, what's new in curriculum and instructional materials without needing a subsidy "from the offering plate."



Sunday, October 11th
2:30 to 4:30
All ages are welcome!

Helpers are welcomed and blessed! It is so heart-warming to see the smiling faces (sometimes with tears of happiness) at Cedar Manor as they interact with the kids and then watch them singing. It truly is a blessing to be able to share our children with them!

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. For more information, contact Denise Cartwright (319-430-6172).

CHURCH CONFERENCE

(a.k.a. 'The Annual Meeting')

October 18, 2015 in the Gathering Place

Begin at 5:00 p.m.

It will be convened by Rev. Heecheon Jeon, who began serving the Mt. Vernon UMC July 1st.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Church Conference and all members, even the newest confirmands, have full rights of voice and vote. Child Care will be available if prior request is received.

We are required by Discipline to act at a Church Conference relative to the receipt and disposition of bequest funds. We have received a bequest in the name of Edith Ford in the amount of \$31,227.27. We are humbled by Edie's spirit and generosity; inspired by her love of Christ and the Church – evident even after her death.

Your Leadership Council has discerned a proposed manner of using and growing Edie's gift. It's kind of a 2-part idea, and it's all subject to approving, at the Church Conference, the receipt of the funds.

1. That the proceeds be utilized in this percentage: 25% toward the Endowment; 10% Children's Ministries; 50% Trustees and 15% various ministries known or emerging but might include finishing the Gathering Place, Leadership Development, technology desk in the balcony; etc.
2. They are challenging us, we who are yet alive and who will benefit from the vitality of this church, to grow Edie's bequest from \$31,000 to \$93,000!!! Yes, we mentioned this on September 27th in worship because it was Edie's birthday and it is proposed we have that 'done' in six months, by March 27th, which is Easter Sunday 2016.
3. A group is forming to give structure to this effort. Contact Pastor Paul to be part of it.

The MEMORIAL COMMITTEE invites groups, work areas and individuals to give them project ideas for the 2015-16 Memorial brochure. What would your group do FOR Christ's sake... if only they had some funds?! Disclaimers: 1. Financing your idea depends on availability of funds! 2. If you have a ministry that is urgent and the time is 'now,' put it in the General Budget.

Members of the Memorial Committee are Lois Salmonson, Teri Baird, Sylvia Ferguson, Ken Muller, Gordon Esbeck and Jenny Boldt.

2016 Apportionments

If you have always dreamed of being an informed lay person, the 2016 Apportionments have been calculated and are now posted on the conference website on the Apportionment Resources page under Finance and Administration. (www.iaumc.org/ApportionmentResources) There you will find the following items.

[2016 Apportionment Letter from Terry Montgomery, Conference Treasurer](#)

[2016 Apportionment Formula as adopted by 2015 Annual Conference Session](#)

[2016 Apportionments by Church](#)

[2016 Apportionment Calculation Report by Church](#)

[2016 Apportionment Fund Breakdown with Pie Charts](#)

Clicking on these links will provide volumes of information about the finances of your United Methodist Church. You will be amazed at the breadth and depth of work being empowered by your dollars and cents; by the people doing ministry for us because we are faithful to give our finances. Pastor Paul is willing to meet with anyone.

LOOK! Up in the Air.

It's a bird. It's a plane.

It's... it's... it's Trustee Will!!!!

Yes, three of your Trustees took a [beautiful] Saturday morning and did a ton of work around the building, scraping and painting the (4) main tower louvers, windowsills, exterior door frames and the three small windows at the very top of the south, east & north peaks. We appreciate them doing these specialized projects. However, a reminder: the building is all of ours, and we can each contribute to the ministry functionality of it.



WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST... IN THE WORLD...

... so we need candy to pass out!? Confirmation Sunday you heard the testimony of one of the students, who said, in part, “most of my friends don’t go to church.” Ask some of your unchurched friends why they don’t participate in a church. Ask someone who has never been ‘to church’ (It’s not hard to find someone.) what they think we do on Sunday morning. After a couple conversations like that, you’ll know that the church has to go to them ‘cause it’ll be a long time before they come to the church!

That’s the purpose of our 4-year run of hosting of the Tri-County Community Band. It’s the purpose of the outreach events mentioned in our May 2014 Healthy Church Initiative Consultation Report. It’s the missional reason we are in the 4th of July parade. AND NOW, that’s why the Leadership Council and the Little Friends Preschool Board have both voted to **participate in the “Trunk or Treat” event at the Tipton Fire Station Sunday, October 25.**

We will be distributing literature and invitations as well as handing out candy. Here’s how you can help: For ‘the church’ and Little Friends, **we need candy to pass out.** The candy needs to be individually wrapped. (To give an example, if someone brought in a bulk bag of candy corn it would need to be re-packaged into small bags.) You may bring the goods any time between now and noon the 25th.

At this time, there are no plans for the church to hold a Halloween Party for the children.

FALL CLEAN-UP

It’s nearly time to get the dead bugs out of the light fixtures; the Cheerios from under the pew cushions; the shrubs off the sidewalks; and chase the dust bunnies out of their summer burrows. On **October 16** the Trustees will post, in the Gathering Place, a list of Fall Clean-up Projects that anyone may do at any time it works for you between

October 16 and November 16.

All we ask is that you mark the project “done” when you’ve completed it, so someone else doesn’t come along and do it again, thinking, “that wasn’t bad at all.”



Birthdays and Anniversaries (Members and Constituents)

- 1 – Steve Yerington, Thomas & Sara Hembry
- 2 – Brandon Fleming, McKenna O’Leary
- 3 – Forrest & Gloria Willer
- 4 – Jennifer Boedeker, JoAnne Johnston, Chris VanScoy
- 5 – Caleb Shumaker
- 6 – Brad Anderson, Carson Chambliss, Ferris Davis, Lyle Fitch, Brad Wendel
- 7 – Lee Fraseur, Corey Wallick
- 8 – Judy Reidel
- 9 – Keith & Carolyn Wood
- 11 – Tyler Baird, Gary Eichhorn, Beverly Hancock
- 12 – CJ Eicher Jr.
- 13 – Angie Chambliss, Amy Schmidt
- 14 – Ayden Crock, Levi Daniel, Jan Esbeck, Jennifer Rinas, Amanda Smith, Brandon Thomas, Mark & Shelby Wiskus
- 15 – Garret Fitch, Robyn Nebergall, Corbey Swick,
- 16 – Avary Calonder, Bev Fitch, Dave & Trina Hill
- 18 – Kris Clark, Christy Schilling, Ron & Laura Hembry, Henry & Vivian Wiskus
- 19 – Brian Heil, Ron Salmonson, Jackson Timmerman
- 20 – Joseph & Heather Davidson
- 21 – Vicki Daniel, Clayton Keller, Stephanie Ruby, Donnie & Michelle Miles
- 22 – Molly Chapman, Colette Crock, Mike Smith, Alicia Walter
- 23 – Sommer Daniel
- 24 – Tawnya Johnson
- 26 – Ava Boldt, Beckham Daniel, Dale & Mindy Williams
- 27 – Angela Driscoll
- 28 – Brooke Boedeker, Maggie Bormann, Ginny Cummins, Craig Puffer
- 31 – Steve Daniel, Adam Davidson, Jeanette Kirkpatrick

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



United Methodist Women

October Circle Meetings

Abigail — Wed., Oct. 21st at 8:00 p.m.

Hostess: Kathy Houstman, Co-Hostess: Barb Rickard,
Devotions: Carolyn Wood, Program: Ingathering

Mary Martha — Fri., Oct. 16th at 1:30 p.m.

Hostess: Mary Wright, Co-Hostess: Mary Wright,
Devotions & Program: Mary Wright

Priscilla — Thurs., Oct. 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Hostess: Mary Jo Heil, Co-Hostess: Leanne Zearley,
Devotions: Mary Jo Heil, Program:

General Unit Meeting

Thursday, October 1, 2015

6:30 p.m.

Potluck

Please Bring A Dish To Share

(this will not be guest night)

Committee—Abigail Circle

Greeter & Devotions—Mary Martha Circle

United Methodist Women

Members of UMW as you will remember last spring we started the discussion on the future of our UMW. Being aware of the difficulty of finding women to serve as officers was one of the hurdles we faced. Then there was the lack of support when working the projects. With our shortened calendar of meetings, getting information to each circle was a challenge. Consistency of our whole program has been almost impossible.

Your Executive Board has spent quite a lot of time considering what course to take. At our last meeting it was decided to bring this issue up at our **September Circle meetings** to discuss this matter. At our [General Unit Meeting Potluck, Thursday, October 1st at 6:30 p.m. you will be given an opportunity to vote on this. **Shall we disband? YES NO.**

It is always hard to let go of something that has been with us for so long. There are many memories of things we have shared in Christian Fellowship and Love. But, in this fast moving world with many new avenues opening up and many ways that the young women are finding new a different opportunities to

show their love for Christ and new ways in serving him, perhaps it is time to bring the Tipton United Methodist Women Unit to a close. If there is a **NO** vote then those that voted as such should be prepared to step up to the plate and be a leader.

Special Mission Recognition form can be picked up from your circle leader. Any member of UMW may submit a name to be nominated. It can be a member of UMW or any one from our church who is actively involved in helping with the ideals of UMW.

Only past recipients of Special Mission Recognition are allowed to **vote** on those nominated people. **Voting will be immediately after worship on November 8th in the Wesley Room behind the office.**

UMW Sunday is November 15, 2015 at which time the recipients will be announced and recognized. We are asking all United Methodist Women to make a special effort to be in attendance.

Member News

MARRIAGE was celebrated September 19 as **Bailey Steere and Alex Anderson** expressed their vows. Bailey is an elementary teacher in the Tipton District and Alex works for the Cedar County Secondary Roads Dept. Bailey is originally from the Greene, Iowa area and Alex is the son of Scott & Karen Anderson and grandson of Richard Anderson & Bea Fulwider.



Scraping (& some wood putty) and painting being done by Trustees J. Gesling and Jason

Worship in October

Oct. 4 — World Communion Sunday
Theme: “We Need This Table and the World Needs This Table”

Scripture: Ephesians 4:7, 8 & 11-15

Music: Keyboards, Chancel Choir

Oct. 11
Theme: “Digging Clay; Waiting for the Potter”
Scripture: Romans 12 & Mark 10:17-22
Music: Christian Chaos, Choir Kids

Oct. 18 — Baptism!!
Theme: “Not Done Yet”
Scripture: John 14:12-16, I Corinthians 1:18-31
Music: Chancel Choir, Keyboards

Oct. 25 — Stewardship: How to Have a Thriving Life
Theme: “Save It; Or Live It?”
Scripture: I Chronicles 29:14-17, Mark 10:46-52
Music: Choir Kids, Christian Chaos



Prayers

Hospitalized/Procedures:
Karen Strefling @ Genesis West

Healing: Bob Brown (Greg's dad), Joe Cheshareck (G.Fleming's bro-in-law), Darlene (Marjorie Stonerook's sister), Jany DeWulf, Jerry Ferguson, Donna Gault, Jean Heil (Brian's mom), Arlene Hein, Dean Hoffman (Kent's dad), Linda Huff (M. Stonebrakers mom), Rex Idlewine, Ron Martin, Mark McKay (Ken's bro), Murry Mente, Grace Nichols (J.Comstock's mom), Warren Nielson (L & K Houstman's bro-in-law), Ray Penningroth (M. Stonerook's bro); Jim Shontz, Ray Steinberg, Gary Taylor, Jim Thiele (L. Salmonson's bro), Joel Wehde, Keith Wood, and others under care or treatment.

Prayers for those in Life Transitions:
Harvest workers, in the field, at the 'elevator,' in the kitchen, feedlots and farm-offices...
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: Chris Keller, Gary Kline, Katie Ryan, Linda (Kay Miller's sis)

Hospice/Palliative Care: Elmer Flory, Judy Keller, Mabel Lamp, Richard Wallick (Jeff's father), Henry Wiskus

Armed Services: Thomas Brown (Seydel's son-in-law), Sean Hannes, Kyle Marchik, Corey Ormsby

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*Pray the hardest
When it's hardest to pray!*

*In happy moments, praise God. In the difficult moments,
seek God. In the quiet moments, trust God. In every
moment, thank God.*

—Bryan Clay, Olympic decathlon champion

October Sunday Servants

Liturgists Twyla Hein - Coordinator

- 11 – Roberta Gesling
- 18 – Berrie Glick
- 25 – Kallie Wallick

Power Point Becky Young - Coordinator

- 4 – Brian Heil (both)
- 11 – Trina Hill (both)
- 18 – Alec Heil (both)
- 25 – Renee Mente (both)

Fellowship Coffee Barb Rickard & Dixie Martin - Coordinators

- 4 – Mission Soup Lunch
- 11 – Jane Moen & Paul Frederiksen, Stonebraker family
- 18 – Rick & Judy Rouse, Jeff & Mary McKinney, Gail Fleming
- 25 – Ruel & Jan Wehde, Ron & Dixie Martin, Jerry & Sylvia Ferguson

Greeters Becky Young - Coordinator

- 4 – Pat Fankhauser & Judy Ohrt
- 11 – Adam, Katie & Danica Rippentrop
- 18 – Nate & Kim Andersen Family
- 25 – Larry & Kathy Houstman

Communion Stewards Donna Gault - Coordinator

- 4 – Mission Committee

Nursery Office - Coordinator

- 4 – Kim Walter
- 11 – Karen Andersen
- 18 – Vicki Daniel
- 25 – Liz Simons & Maddie Peters

Children's Lesson Office - Coordinator

- 4 – Pastor Paul
- 11 – Dusty Johnson
- 18 – Deanna Licht
- 25 – Webb Family

Ushers Lorna Muller - Coordinator

- 4 – 18 Deanna, Ted, & Steven Licht
- 11-25 Jason & Kim Walter, Ruel & Jan Wehde

Flowers Becky Young - Coordinator

- 4 – Glenda Holets
- 11 –
- 18 –
- 25 – Donna Gault

Acolytes Kim Walter - Coordinator

- 4 – Caden & Hanna Schmidt
- 11 – Danica Rippentrop & Meredith Coppess
- 18 – Adam Heil & Nicholas Eicher
- 25 – Gwen VanScoy & Avery Calonder

Presence & Gifts from Aug.

Presence: Worship: 2–75, 9–82, 16–64, 23–83, 30–90

Average Attendance: 79

General Fund \$14,446.00, Upper Room \$6.00, Copies \$20, Gathering Place Furnishings \$500.00, Apportionments \$10.00, Book \$90.00, Shared Blessings \$876.78, Missions \$50.00, Copper Kettle \$190.68, Mission Market \$10.79, Ingathering \$100.00, UMW Bake Sale \$18.00,

Grand Total \$16,318.25

Please notify the church office if you wish to have the newsletter sent to you electronically.

*Make every effort to
live in peace with everyone
and to be holy;
without holiness no
one will see the Lord.*

- Hebrews 12:14



**Newsletter articles are due
Wed., October 21st.**

**Meeting of the Holy Folders is
Wed., October 28th.**

NOTE: A while back I received an email that included this article. I've lost track of the source, but it has some good food for thought. My one additional thought: Take care in how you read romans 8:28! God does not create every circumstance but in "everything God works for good..." PEF

"Not Everything Happens For a Reason"

Have you ever found yourself, in the midst of unimaginable grief, pain, heartache, or despair, wondering how you are going to make it through another day? Wondering where your next breath is going to come from? Your world has crumbled beneath you and has left you feeling shattered, empty, and hopeless.

And then a well meaning friend or family member comes along and drops the infamous "*Everything happens for a reason*" bomb. You smile kindly and nod. That's all you can do to keep yourself from punching them in the face.

You can't possibly imagine a reason for what just happened.

The more you stew about a possible reason for your pain, the angrier you become. You try desperately to make sense of a situation that won't ever make sense. You reach for answers but none come.

I spent years searching for answers, trying to find the reasons that would bring an end to my pain. I thought that if I could find the cause, I could treat the condition. But what I found through the years of searching, experiencing, and living is that often there is no reason for why tragedy has occurred.

Sometimes bad things happen for no reason other than we are human beings having a human experience. Pain, heartache, grief, loss, disease, and death are inevitable parts of the human experience.

We hear people say "Life dealt me a crappy hand" as if pain and hardships are not the norm. We assume that life is supposed to be easy and when things don't go our way, we feel like we have been wronged. Human beings seem to have an innate sense of entitlement. We think that we are owed a pain free existence.

But the truth is that *human beings are not exempt from the human experience. And struggle is an innate part of the human experience.* None of us are exceptions to this rule. **We all struggle. We all suffer. We all experience pain, heartache, and loss.** And sometimes, there's just no reason other than we are human and pain is part of the process.

I recently had a conversation with a friend who was struggling to find peace with "God's plan" for her life including the recent death of a loved one. "How could this possibly be God's will? she asked.

Here's the thing about God's will. Are you ready for this? Listen closely:

God's will is not the path we walk, but rather how we walk the path.

God's plan is never for someone to have cancer.

God's will is not for an innocent child to be brutally murdered.

God's will is not for a teenage girl to be raped.

God's will is not chronic pain, illness, disability, or death.

God's will is not an event that happens to us, it's how we respond to what happens.

God's will is for us to walk with him through the cancer. Through the abuse. Through the death. Through the illness. *God's will is for us to use our painful life events to carry his message of hope, grace, forgiveness, and mercy.*

God's plan was never for pain to be part of the human experience. His plan was for us to live in peace and harmony with Him. The human experience became painful when sin entered the world. Our own free will weaved threads of tragedy, loss, heartache, and pain into the human experience.

God is not responsible for our pain. What happened in the Garden of Eden is responsible for the human condition. And the human condition is hard wired for pain and suffering. God is not causing us to hurt. He is hurting with us. What we do with our hurt is what matters. How we handle tragedy is what brings purpose into our pain.

We have to create the good. We have to choose to respond in a way that brings good into an impossible situation. We have to choose to give purpose and meaning to our suffering.

Not everything happens for a reason. But in everything that happens, there can be a reason to bring hope and healing to others. God can use our pain for a greater good if we choose to let him in.

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
October 2015				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Every Sunday

8:30 a.m. Choir Kids Practice
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:00 a.m. G.I.G.s
10:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

Every Wednesday

1:30 p.m. Bible Study - WR
1:00 p.m. G.I.G. - 113
6:00 p.m. G.I.G. - 113 (starting
October 14)
6:30 p.m. G.I.G. - Berean Rm.
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Every Thursday

10:00 a.m. G.I.G. - 113

Thurs/Fri, Oct. 1 & 2: Pastor,
Melinda, Bob Y. & Jane @ Church
of Resurrection Leadership Institute.

Thursday, October 1

10:00 am G.I.G Location: Rm
113
6:30 pm UMW General Meet-
ing Location: DR/K

Sunday, October 4

World Communion Sunday
11:30 am Missions Soup
Luncheon

Tuesday, October 6

4:00 pm Communion @ P.Hills

Wed. Oct. 7

6:30 pm THS Homecoming
Parade

Thursday, October 8

9:30 am Communion @ Cedar
Manor
10:00 am Senior Park Program
12:00 pm Pastor @ TMA
6:30 pm Xn Chaos Practice

Friday, Oct. 9

Pastor out of town

Saturday, October 10

Youth Funding @ Kinnick
11:00 am Shared Blessings
DR/K

Sunday, October 11

2:30 pm Kids For Christ: DR
3:00 pm Cedar Manor Worship
6:00 pm Dominoes: DR

Monday, October 12

10:30 am Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Xn Chaos Practice
6:45 pm Mission Meeting
in the Wesley Rm

Wednesday, October 14

1:30 pm Bible Study: WR
4:30 pm Grief Group
7:30 pm Leadership Council:
WR

Thursday, October 15

6:30 pm Trustees: WR

Friday, October 16

Fall Clean-up List is posted!!
1:30 pm Mary Martha

Sunday, October 18

1:00 pm Ron Salmonson 80th
Birthday Open House: DR/K
5:00 pm Church Conference

in the Gathering Place

Monday, October 19

3:50 pm LFP Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 21

Newsletter Articles Due
4:30 pm Grief Group
8:00 pm Abigail Circle: DR/K

Thursday, October 22

9 am Pastor @ Cedar County
Consortium @ ISU Ext.
6:30 pm Xn Chaos Practice
7:00 pm Priscilla Circle
Location: Gathering Place

Saturday, October 24

11:00 am Shared Blessings
Meal: DR/K

Sunday, October 25

3:00 pm "Trunk or Treat"
@ Tipton Fire Station

Monday, October 26

6:30 pm Xn Chaos Practice

Tuesday, October 27

9:00 am Pastor @ Cluster
1:00 pm Pastor @ Peer
Ministry Group
2:00 pm Prairie Hills Program

Wednesday, October 28

Meeting of the Holy Folders
1:30 pm Bible Study: WR
4:30 pm Grief Group

Saturday, October 31

7 am—7 pm: All Saints Prayer
Vigil in Worship Center
11:00 am Shared Blessings

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 - Karis Horstmann
Accompanist - Sylvia Gould	Custodian - Don Griffith
Chancel Choir Director - Alice Ann Gallagher	Christian Chaos Keyboards - Jamie Bahr
Choir Kids Accompanist - Dee Wallace	Choir Kids/Christian Chaos Director - Denise Cartwright
Little Friends Preschool Director - Sam Semotan	
Bishop of the Iowa Annual Conference - Julius Calvin Trimble	
East Central District Superintendent - Kiboko Kiboko	
East Central Iowa District Field Outreach Minister - Jill Sanders	
Ministers of Jesus Christ in the World - All the People of God!	