



## First United Methodist Church

607 Lynn Street Tipton, IA 52772

563.886.2331

[www.tiptonumc.org](http://www.tiptonumc.org)

[office@tiptonumc.org](mailto:office@tiptonumc.org)

Paul E. Frederiksen, Pastor

[pastor@tiptonumc.org](mailto:pastor@tiptonumc.org)

## United Methodist News

April 2016

### 2016 Missions Work Trip – Detroit Bound!

The next **Missions work trip** will be held in **Detroit, MI** from **July 18-22, 2016**. Exact travel plans are still to be determined, but we anticipate leaving Saturday, July 16 and returning Saturday, July 23. To prepare for a trip of this magnitude, it's imperative to have our team in place by early May. **The cost is \$100 and the registration deadline is Sunday, May 8, 2016**. Registration forms will be available soon in the Gathering Place or church office. If you've never been a part of a work trip no need to worry. All skill levels and abilities are welcome – there will be something for you to do. In fact, sometimes the most important task is to spend time with the people. If you like to listen and/or talk, you have gifts for service!

To learn more about the trip to Detroit, pick up a brochure and/or attend an **informational meeting** about the work trip on **Sunday, April 17** right after worship. To register, all participants must be at least **16 years old** at the time of the work trip. Prior to the trip, all participants are expected to be a part of fundraising efforts and to spend time as a team preparing for the work trip.

If you have any questions, please contact Renee Mente or anyone currently serving on the Missions Team. Once you've experienced a work trip, you will never be the same and will live life differently. Don't miss out on being a part of this summer's work trip experience.

### April Events

April 3 — Children's Sunday

April 9 — Shared Blessings

April 6 — Youth Group

April 10 — Kids For Christ

Dominoes

April 18 — Grief Group

April 20 — Newsletter Articles Due

Abigail Circle

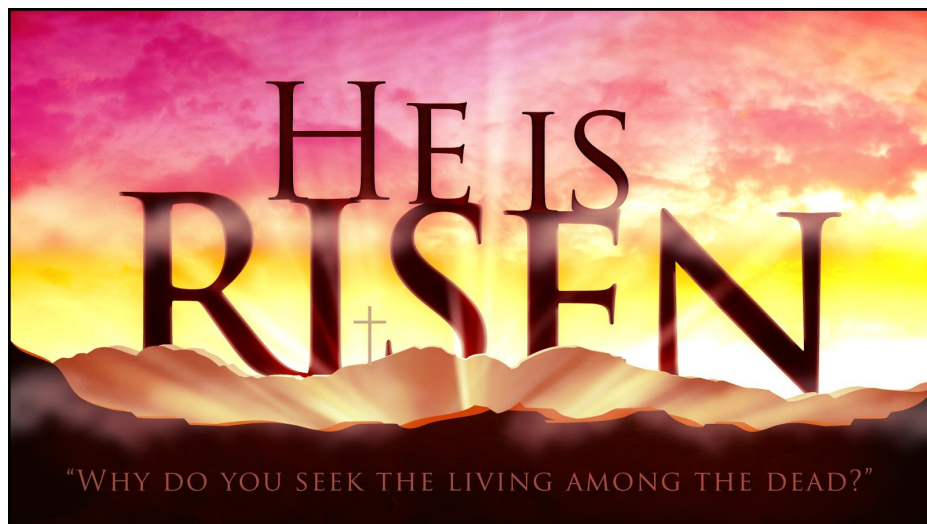
April 23 — Shared Blessings

April 27 — Meeting of the Holy Folders

Grief Group

April 28 — Priscilla Circle

April 30 — Shared Blessings



*Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors*



## Mediocre Grace

from the blog of Rebekah Simon-Peter; March 15, 2016

“Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s classic 1937 book, *The Cost of Discipleship*, describes cheap grace as the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline and communion without confession. It’s the sort of grace that allowed would-be disciples to avoid confronting the evils of Nazi Germany. These days, cheap grace has competition. In an effort to appease a different kind of cultural complacency, grace has come to mean a bar that is set quite low. Offering this grace requires little to no accountability, enforces few if any standards, and bears almost no fruit. In churches, this low-level grace is most apparent in our communal and organizational life. It translates into a kind of *laissez faire*, you’re off the hook, no accountability stance.

This isn’t cheap grace. It’s worse than that. It’s mediocre grace.

But mediocrity is not a biblical value. Jesus killed trees that bore no fruit. He spit out the lukewarm. He counseled followers to let their yes be yes and their no be no.

When it comes to perpetuating a culture of mediocrity in churches, there’s plenty of blame to go around—from the system, to pastors, to lay people, to denominationalism itself. Not to mention the larger culture that is rapidly changing, and lives that are overly busy. The list is long...”

Rebekah Simon-Peter hits us hard, doesn’t she? There’s a reference in the writing of Revelation 3:16 that God vomits the “luke-warm” out of God’s mouth. That’s pretty harsh! Ouch! Yet, as she writes about mediocre grace I can’t help but think about our own situation, when we claim 470 “members” but have just over 100 worshipping on an average Sunday. We are hesitant to tell others about our faith or even to invite them to pray with or for us. Ministries can struggle for viability as schedules and/or priorities don’t allow for servanthood. But Simon-Peter closes her blog with this comment:

It takes practice to move from mediocre to miraculous, from resignation to rejoicing. But church cultures *can* and *do* shift—a bit at a time. The good news and the bad news about this is the same: it all starts with us.

Now that’s exciting! You and I have the ability to frame the future of not only this church, but to offer hope and inspiration to people right now, right here. God has always worked through friends and neighbors and has not changed that protocol.

We have experienced huge transitions at 1<sup>st</sup> UMC. Ken McKay was a member of the “Long-Term Facilities Task Force.” A couple Sundays ago we were talking about January 2007 when the Task Force presented their huge, extensive report. That entire list – and more – is done! That’s a tangible example of going from “resignation” (“We can’t do it.”) to “rejoicing”; “mediocre to miraculous.” But God’s not done! That’s just a tease! In fact, in 2007 we were only dreaming of having small groups for spiritual growth. We are now over 50 people in GIGs and growing.

We don’t want anyone to miss the opportunities. One of the responsibilities laid on your pastor and the Leadership Council is to encourage people to active participation in their church as one means of growing in grace. This is outlined in The Book of Discipline 2012, paragraph 228 (page 159ff). The Leadership Council has recently been presented with the names of people who have been or become inactive. Their task is to pray for them; make a contact; ask if there is anything we might do/offer to help them reactivate; to encourage regular participation with a church, this one or another.

Perhaps we can, with the Apostle Paul, assist people to do this one thing:

*“forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.”* (Philippians 3:13b & 14)

**Pastor Paul**

# Missions

## Rummage and Recycle Sale

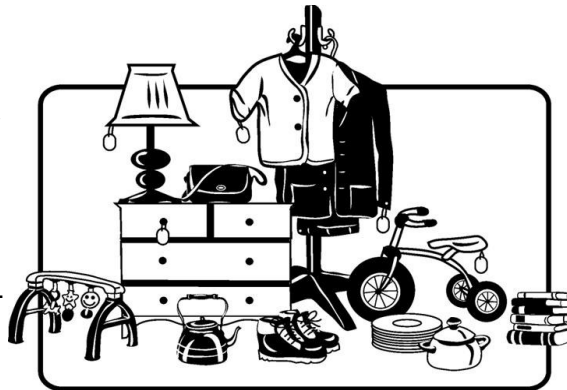
With the rummage sale date set for early May, we decided to get the details out in the April newsletter, so you could all plan ahead. Yes, it's time to do your spring cleaning and gather your donations for the church rummage sale. This will be our 11th annual sale with proceeds supporting mission projects. As in the past, the sale will only be a success with your help! Donations, volunteers, and shoppers are all needed.

### SALE HOURS

Friday, May 6: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Saturday, May 7: 8:00-11:00 am

**DONATIONS** may be brought to the church any-time **AFTER NOON** Sunday, April 24 to the Gathering Place. Here are a few guidelines for donations: 1) all items must be clean and "like new" or "gently used", 2) ask yourself "Would anyone purchase this item in this condition?", 3) household items, books, children's clothing and toys sell especially well, and 4) any large items (i.e. furniture, lawn equipment) **NOT** sold or accepted by charity after the sale must be taken home by the owner. Sorry, we can't accept any large TVs – they don't sell well and are difficult to get rid of. Please bring larger items **AFTER NOON** Sunday, May 1. If you would like someone to pick up your donations, please contact the church office by Sunday, April 24. If you have a truck and would be willing to pick up donations, contact the church office.



**VOLUNTEERS** of all ages are needed to help set up before the sale, work during the sale and clean up after the sale. If you haven't helped out before, it's a great time and your help is needed. A sign-up sheet for the various responsibilities will be posted on the breezeway door in late April.

### SET UP SCHEDULE – FELLOWSHIP ROOM

Sunday, May 1 after worship - move tables and rummage to Gathering Place

Tuesday, May 3, 4:00-8:00 pm – set up Gathering Place and begin setting up for the sale

Wednesday, May 4, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm and 4-8 pm

Thursday, May 5: 8:00 am – 1:00 pm (if needed)

### CLEAN UP SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 7 at 11:00 am

Clean-up will be done immediately after the sale. If you have a truck or van and are willing to haul a load to Goodwill or another charitable organization, please sign up to help out. Usually 5-6 vehicles are needed to haul everything away.

**SHOPPERS** are needed. Please stop by and shop the sale. Better yet, tell your friends and bring them to the sale! The sale is a great way to save a few bucks! We intentionally mark prices low to get merchandise to move.

**THANKS** in advance for your support of this event. Your donations, assistance with the rummage sale, and/or stopping by to shop are all appreciated.

## Are you ready for **MEMBERSHIP**?

On May 15th we will include in worship the sacrament of baptism and the recognition of new members. On the liturgical calendar, seven weeks after Passover/Easter, this day is called **Pentecost**. On the first [Christian] observance of Pentecost, Peter preached a marvelous sermon, Acts 2, and it says, "those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about 3,000 souls." Well, I won't promise a sermon that will move 3,000 people! But, it is a great day for us to recognize and make our commitment in response to the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the great love of God to which it gives evidence!

In preparation for that day, I am offering two classes at which you will have opportunity to ask questions, get answers, and become familiar with the Baptism and Membership Vows. These sessions will be held during the Sunday School hour April 17 & 24. I'd appreciate if you let me know before the 17th if you plan to participate. I realize some people will have conflicts due to other commitments, so we'll work out mutually convenient times to meet one-on-one.

## How 'bout **BAPTISM**?



# Youth News

## Summer Church Camps

It's time to mark your calendar and register for Summer Church Camp. [www.iaumc.org/camps](http://www.iaumc.org/camps); or 1-800-765-1651. Iowa UM Conference Camp Catalogs are now available; and the camps are also on the website.

As a reminder of the usual camp scholarship: *The church, via a generous amount provided when the United Methodist Women (UMW) closed their operations, will pay half up to \$100 of the registration cost for any child attending a United Methodist Church camp. Campers wishing a stipend for a campership are asked to submit a written request to the church office requesting the scholarship prior to the time of the camp.*

Okoboji – [Okoboji.Camp@iaumc.org](mailto:Okoboji.Camp@iaumc.org)  
[www.OkobojiCamp.com](http://www.OkobojiCamp.com)

Pictured Rocks – [PicturedRocks.Camp@iaumc.org](mailto:PicturedRocks.Camp@iaumc.org)  
[www.PicturedRocks.org](http://www.PicturedRocks.org)

Wesley Woods – [WesleyWoods.Camp@iaumc.org](mailto:WesleyWoods.Camp@iaumc.org)  
[www.WesleyWoodsIowa.org](http://www.WesleyWoodsIowa.org)



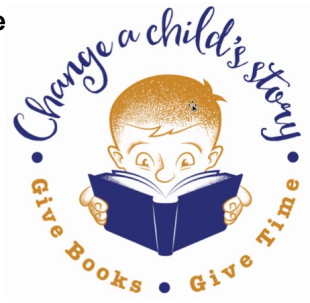
## Change a Child's Story - Update

### Change a Child's Story

team has collected well over 200 books from our congregation and friends. Sixty of those books were given to the Backpack Buddy program to be included in the student's packs before spring break.

Our next step is to select books from the collection to give to several home daycare providers. We want to keep books in the hands of children. Please continue looking for gently used books to increase our collection and place those books in the collection box in the Gathering Place. We will soon be determining more places/groups to donate the books to. We also are encouraging everyone to take a reading form and read to a child or listen to them read. Make a difference in the life of a child!

Kathy Houstman



**Kids for Christ**

**Sunday, April 10th**

**2:30 to 4:30**

**All ages are welcome!**



**The Sunday morning women's GIG** hosted a successful painting on March 20th. We had over 30 women join our group and paint "The Old Rugged Cross". It was a great mixture of church members and other women from the community. We gathered significant food pantry donations and talked with guests regarding our prayer vigil and our Easter service. Look for this to be an annual event!

## YOUTH NEWS!

We had great turnout for our Spring Break events. We had a swimming party at the pool and a fundraiser painting party at Creative Spirits. Thank you to the parents for getting your kids into these events, we all had fun.

Our next meeting is April 6th, meal will be from 5:30 to 6:00 and we will then be watching the movie "WoodLawn", meeting will end at 8. Meal will be a pizza party provided by youth group, but bring along a snack to share during the movie and drinks if you can.

Thinking ahead to this summer, it seems to be coming fast, a canoe day trip is in the works. We will be throwing some dates out as it gets closer to summer as see what we can make work. We are always wanting ideas (and volunteers!) for meetings and outings. Pass them along if you think of any!

Penny, Stacy, and Bobbie

### Youth Group Painting Party Fundraiser



### Youth Group Swimming Party



### 2016 Laity Day with Bishop Trimble

Saturday, April 9, from 9:30 until 3:00  
Aldersgate UMC  
3600 75th St, Urbandale, IA

Bishop Trimble's presentation topics will address relationships between communities of different races and how we should be nurturing our spiritual lives: **From Race to Grace** and **One Day at a Time**. **Special presentations: The Many Faces of Domestic Violence** with Lynn Calvert, Domestic Violence Educator and **Change a Child's Story** with Allison Engel, Change A Child's Story Team.

### Are We Raising Funds or Raising Generous Disciples?

[Register Today! Click here.](#)

Ken Sloane, Director of Stewardship & Connectional Ministry for the United Methodist Church will be with us to share some practical ideas of how we might lead our churches from being focused on raising funds to a focus on raising generous disciples in a changing world.

April 15 – 2:30 pm  
Salem United Methodist Church, Cedar Rapids

*And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.* Colossians 3:17

## Neighbors & Disciples

### John: The Gospel of Light and Life

For the Easter season, many of our GIGs (Growth and Impact Groups) and the Friends class, will be using a new study on the Gospel of John from Adam Hamilton. Adam Hamilton is gifted at producing content that helps both novice and experienced Bible readers gain new understanding. The 6-week curriculum includes weekly readings from the Gospel of John in the Bible, a short teaching video, and discussion questions for groups. Please, if you've never read the Bible, haven't read it lately, or have read it but found it to be difficult to grasp, don't miss this opportunity! Our GIGs are a safe place to learn and grow. If you're not already in a GIG, contact the church office or Melinda Stonebraker to be connected. Most GIGs will start this study during the first or second week of April to coincide with the themes of worship, which will also be from John.

### Discipleship Pathway

#### Growth is everywhere - are you growing?

It's Spring! Many are excited to see the new growth in nature and are eager to get planting seeds in fields or gardens. Use this enthusiasm to look at how you're setting yourself up to grow. What areas of your spiritual life could use some nurturing? Use the discipleship self-assessment to evaluate yourself and pick a way to grow. The self-assessment is available at [tiptonumc.org](http://tiptonumc.org) or from the church office. If you're unsure what to do, let us help! Contact your GIG leader, Melinda Stonebraker, or Pastor Paul.

### Fellowship Night Sunday, May 1 @ 6 pm

Neighbors and Disciples is organizing an intergenerational fellowship evening on May 1. Fellowship gatherings of about 10-15 people will be held in homes. Popcorn will be served and participants will get a chance to talk and get to know one another a little bit more. If you're interested in participating, please contact the church office or Melinda Stonebraker by the beginning of worship on May 1. Then, after worship May 1 we will tell you where your gathering will be. We are also looking for people who want to host. Hosting is simple: provide a space for people to gather, popcorn, and a simple beverage. If you'd like to be a host, please contact Jen Johnson.

### First United Methodist Church

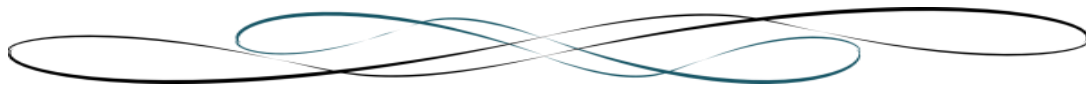
**ENDOWMENT FUND** proceeds were awarded annually at the March meeting of the Leadership Council. Funds dispersed at the March 9 meeting were:

\$300 to be paid from funds in the "missions" category toward the purchase of identification signs for the bus; and any remaining funds to go toward bus upkeep.

\$195 for the initial setup for a class for parents on social media using materials titled "Right Click." These funds come from the "ministries" category.

There were no requests for funds from the "maintenance" category.

Remember, you can donate toward the corpus of the First UMC Endowment Fund.



### WALK TO EMMAUS

A Free Gift for Yourself and Those You Care About

If you want more information you may do an internet search, go to <http://www.cedarrapidsemmaus.org> or talk to Pastor Paul.



July 14-17  
July 28-31  
October 20-23  
November 3-6

Men's Walk #169  
Women's Walk #170  
Men's Walk #171  
Women's Walk #172

Mt. Pleasant  
Mt. Pleasant  
Solon  
Solon

*Faith isn't the ability to believe long and far into the misty future. It's simply taking God at His Word and taking the next step.*

-Joni Eareckson Tada



## People News

**Birth:** Ivy Rae Goodenow, sister of Lucy and Rosie, daughter of Jessica & Cole, born Feb. 23, 2016

**Deaths:** The peace of Christ to the families of:

**Vivian Wiskus**, mother of Mark/Shellby

**Ed Ketelsen**, father of Mary Jo/Brian Heil

**Pearl Conant**, mother of Deb Conant/Allan Charette

**Elmer Flory**, husband of Cuba, father of Bruce

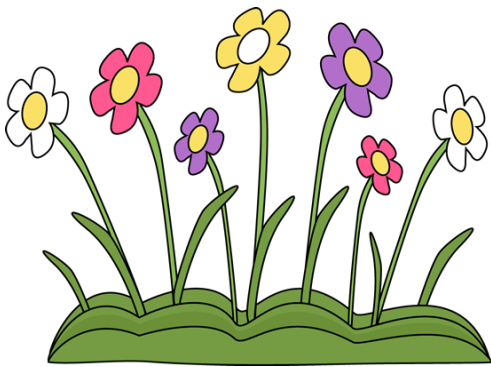
Rev. Eugene Miller, husband of Doris, former pastor of 1st UMC. Memorial service April 9th in Betten-dorf.

### Thank You:

We would like to thank all of you for your kind words, hugs, support and especially all of the prayers during the time of Ed's illness and then passing. The love that flows from this church is truly a blessing.

I (MJ) would also like to extend a special thanks to the members of Christian Chaos. You guys are the best!

The family of Ed Ketelsen



### OTHER NEWS:

A portion of a note received via email March 4<sup>th</sup>:  
*Hi Pastor Paul,*

*Was just looking at your web site and reading the newsletter. I was a member there 20+ years ago. I really enjoyed my church family there but sometimes life dictates a move and mine sure did. I really missed my home. I now live by Whittemore, Iowa and belong to the First UMC in Algona. I have been there for 20 years and a UM for over 50. I like to read your newsletters - kind of feel like going home for a few minutes. LOL. I feel like I really started on my path with the church family there. My daughter was baptized and confirmed there. I am blessed to be on the board of trustees here working on my 4<sup>th</sup> year, 2<sup>nd</sup> as co-chairman. What a challenge!*

*I have learned so much. I really love some of the things you are doing and look forward to seeing if any of them would work for us, always looking for ways to get more people here, making sure we do the tasks that God has set forth for us. Thanks for listening and God Bless.*

*Be a Blessing*

*Be Blessed*

*Vicki Bragg*

[pf] As I read Vicki's note I was reminded of what the apostle Paul had to say in 1 Corinthians 3:6:

*"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth."*

Each of us is, every day, given opportunity to assist someone on their journey. Can you think of someone you assisted this past week? How will you "plant" or "water" this coming week?

It was announced at the 10:30 Easter service that **Melinda Stonebraker** feels a strong call to pastoral ministry. She has applied to and been accepted at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, to begin this Fall. In the United Methodist Church one's call to ministry is first considered not by a group of professors nor even pastors, but by peers who have lived, learned and grown with a person. Your Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is given the responsibility to interview persons who have had a "call". It is then their responsibility to assess evidence of gifts and fruits. They can affirm the call, based on their experience; or they might say "not yet" or they could even suggest that the person has not, in fact and practice, shown potential for leadership in ministry.

At a meeting held March 22, your SPRC affirmed Melinda's gifts and had no shortage of evidence of the fruits of her spirit, leadership and passion. She is now proceeding with further steps to pursue the status of "Certified Candidate" for ministry.

You are invited to support not only Melinda but Ryan, Zoe and Lea as they all continue this exciting—and scary—journey.

{FYI: Alec Amosson went to seminary in response to a "call to ministry" that at this point does not include nor require certification of a denomination.}

## Birthdays and Anniversaries (Members and Constituents)

- 1 – Jennifer Gaunt, Amy Glick
- 3 – Kristen Charette
- 4 – Natalie Coppess
- 5 – Andy Nash, Ethan & Samantha Wulf
- 6 – Scott Cartwright, Christina Eicher
- 7 – Matt Jackson
- 8 – Craig Rekemeyer, Owen Steinman, Coryn Wallick
- 9 – Grady Glick
- 10 – Addison Butler, Stuart Clark
- 11 – Braydon Calonder, Randy & Chris Amosson, David & Ruth Ann Beers
- 13 – Andrew Comstock, Dick Palmer
- 14 – Jerry Ferguson, Kyle & Elizabeth Voss
- 15 – Jack Boldt, KiaLeigh Rickard-Urban, Karen Streffling
- 17 – Danny Ford, Marvin & Kay Miller
- 18 – Tom Ehresman, Chris Schultz
- 19 – Carol Anderson
- 20 – Twyla Hein, Neil & Jennifer Gaunt, Randy & Tina Nau
- 21 – Amber Boedeker, Calvin Kuehl, Mary Wright, Chris & Abby VanScoy
- 23 – Denise Errthum,
- 24 – Wayne & Nanette Behrens, Craig & Gail Jackson
- 26 – Renee Mente, Adam & Kathryn Rippentrop
- 27 – Kelly Smith, Rich Urban
- 28 – Connor Boeve, Adam Heil, Jim & JoAnn Brennan
- 29 – Daulton Mente, Maddie Swick
- 30 – Margaret O'Leary, Duane Webb, Robert & Denise Errthum

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

*If you live close to God and His  
infinite grace, you don't have to tell;  
it shows on your face .*

-Anonymous

## Presence & Gifts from Feb.

**Worship Attendance:** 7–110, 14–110, 21–103,  
28–107: Average: 108

**Sunday School Attendance:** 7–70, 14–65, 21–58,  
28–69: Average: 66

**General Fund: \$11,367.00**, Facility Use \$140.00,  
Upper Room \$13.96, Apportionments \$10.00, Caring  
Ministry \$85.00, Leaving A Legacy \$300.00, GIG  
Books \$286.70, Shared Blessings \$285.08, Youth  
Event \$74.00, L.F. Preschool Salary \$886.32,  
Missions \$75.00, Missions-One Great Hour \$105.00,  
Copper Kettle \$249.14, Missions-Fat Tuesday  
\$506.25, **Grand Total \$14,383.45**

## Prayers

### Hospitalized/Procedures:

Grace Nichols @ Select in Davenport  
(JComstock's mom)

**Healing:** Darlene (Marjorie Stonerook's sister), Jerry  
Ferguson, Marvin/Frances Ford, Donna Gault, Arlene  
Hein, Linda Huff, Rex Idlewine, Leon Kruse  
(V.Shontz's bro), Erma Lyle, Ron Martin, Lynn McIn-  
tosh, Ray Penningroth (M. Stonerook's bro); and oth-  
ers under care or treatment.

### Prayers for those in Life Transitions:

Family, esp. wife Doris, & friends of former Pastor  
Eugene Miller who died March 20.

Aaron/Jennifer Comstock family & the myriad deci-  
sions in this 'wilderness.'

Couples/Families searching for the way forward.

Persons & families of incarceration;

Persons in employment limbo;

Families struggling with the impact of drug and alco-  
hol abuse or other addiction.

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

Persons/people persecuted for religious convictions.

**In Treatment:** Jean (Jayne Erickson's sis), Gary  
Kline, Linda (Kay Miller's sis), Dan Conrad, Rod Fer-  
ris

**Hospice/Palliative Care:** Mabel Lamp, Henry  
Wiskus

**Armed Services:** Thomas Brown (Seydel's son-in-  
law), Kyle Marchik, Kaitlyn McKinney, Corey Ormsby



## LEAVING A LEGACY

There was an article titled “Whom Should You Ask?” An Amish man was once asked by an eager young evangelist whether he had been saved; and whether he had accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

The Amish gentleman replied, “Why do you ask me such a thing? I could tell you anything. Here are the names of my banker, my grocer, and my farm hands. Ask them if I’ve been saved.”

There is a sense that one cannot testify of one’s self. If a person says, “I am the greatest,” it means nothing until results testify to the fact. *[If you have some years, you might recall the ‘empty boasting’ of Mohammed Ali that “I am the greatest” ... until he beat Quarry, Foreman & Frazier, winning the world title three times! Or how ‘bout Joe Namath’s mouth the two weeks prior to Super Bowl III; eventually proving prophetic as the Jets beat the Colts 16 – 7!]* In a sense, someone claiming, “I am a Christian,” is invalid until there is someone or something else that confirms that testimony.

Well, with the LEAVING A LEGACY campaign, we have an opportunity to be a witness to those who have made an impact on our lives. Sure, you can also give money without the attribution, but it is intended to force each of us to consider those who have gone before and those who will follow after.

The target date for the commitments was March 27, Easter. One way we came up with that date was that it happens to be Edie Ford’s half-birthday and it’s her testimony that brought about the conception of this campaign. Well, if you haven’t returned your commitment yet, you may any time. Donations are also welcome any time.



**General Conference**, a global gathering of all parts of the United Methodist umbrella of faith, meets once every four years. This year General Conference meets in Oregon May 10-20.

The rules of the United Methodist Church state that all “conferences”, at the district, Annual, Jurisdictional and

General levels, shall have equal representation of laity and clergy. At the General Conference, the elected delegates discern God’s movement in the world today, and set direction for the global work of the UM Church. There is much prayer, worship and “conferencing.”

This Holy Conferencing us much as the early Church did at the conferences in Jerusalem, as related in the Acts of the Apostles. Chapter 15 tells of the first Jerusalem Conference, when the major piece of discussion was over the admission of Gentiles, non-Jews, to the Christian faith. The other Jerusalem Conference is related in Acts 21, 22 & 23 when the Apostle Paul was “called on the carpet” and said, “I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.” [21:13b] There was a movement to try to get the Romans to do with Paul as they had to Jesus! Well, General Conference 2016 will deal with big issues, too, but I don’t see any danger in people wanting to kill those who hear God differently.!!

Here’s the web address for General Conference: <http://www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2016>

## April Sunday Servants

## Worship in April

### **Liturgists** Twyla Hein - Coordinator

- 10 – Gail Fleming
- 17 – Katie Rippentrop
- 24 – Ruel Wehde

### **Power Point** Becky Young - Coordinator

- 3 – Brian Heil
- 10 – Becky Young (create), Zoe Stonebraker (run)
- 17 – Alec Heil
- 24 – Landon Hill

### **Fellowship Coffee** Barb R. & Dixie M.-Coordinator

- 3 – Larry & Berrie Glick, Gail Fleming
- 10 – Pat Fankhauser, Stonebraker Family
- 17 – Larry & Kathy Houstman, Rhonda Waugh
- 24 – Dusty & Jen Johnson, Don & Melissa Roth

### **Greeters** Becky Young - Coordinator

- 3 – Phil & Patti Seydel
- 10 – Larry & Berrie Glick
- 17 – Jason Walter family
- 24 – Rich & Karen Zobel

### **Nursery** Office - Coordinator

- 3 – Volunteer Needed
- 10 – Kris Clark
- 17 – Cheryl Person
- 24 – Bob Young

### **Children's Lesson** Office - Coordinator

- 10 – Gail Fleming
- 17 – Dusty Johnson
- 24 – Dusty Johnson

### **Ushers** Melinda Stonebraker - Coordinator

- 3 – 7-12 SS class/ Cummins-Vanscoy family
- 10 – Jason & Kim Walter, Lieser family
- 17 – Johnson family & Roth family
- 24 – Lieser family Amy, Carson, Grady Glick

### **Communion Stewards** Donna Gault - Coordinator

- 3 – Katie Rippentrop

### **Acolytes** Kim Walter - Coordinator

- 3 – Avary & Braydon Calonder
- 10 – Kayla & Mackenzie Walter
- 17 – Danica Rippentrop & Gwen VanScoy
- 24 – Morgan & Logan Lanning

Worship themes for April 10 – May 15 will be centered on the Gospel of John. GIGs and classes will be encouraged to utilize the Adam Hamilton materials for their scriptural content these two months.

On page 22 of John: The Gospel of Light and Life, Adam Hamilton quotes from a Russell D. Moore article published in *Christianity Today*:

“For too long, we’ve called unbelievers to ‘invite Jesus into your life.’ Jesus doesn’t want to be in your life. Your life’s a wreck. Jesus calls you into his life. And his life isn’t boring or purposeless or static. It’s wild and exhilarating and unpredictable.”

Hmm, there may be some additional nuggets for transformation in the Gospel of John!!

### **April 3** Children's Sunday

The children of the Sunday School have been preparing special music, a contemporary litany, and a skit: “Indiana James”. It is a special day for the children and it can be an uplifting, inspirational morning for everyone!

Also, our Missionary Mark Stransky, who works at Project Crossroads in Marion VA will be here that morning to bring us insights on the Gospel.

**Scripture:** Matthew 25:31-44

**Music:** Chancel Choir, Keyboards

### **April 10** “Word Made Flesh”

**Scripture:** John chapter 1

**Music:** Christian Chaos, Choir Kids

### **April 17** “Miraculous Signs of Jesus” [re-defining ‘ordinary’]

**Scripture:** John chapters 2-5

**Music:** Chancel Choir and Keyboards

### **April 24** “‘I Am’ Sayings of Jesus”

**Scripture:** John chapters 6-11

**Music:** Chancel Choir and Keyboards

### **May 1** “Jesus’ Farewell Discourse”\

**Scripture:** John chapters 12-17

**Music** Keyboards and chancel choir

**May 8** Arrest, Trial and Crucifixion of Jesus  
(John 18 & 19)

**May 15** Eternal Life & Resurrection (John 20 & 21)

**May 22** We will recognize 2016 HS graduates!!



## **April Calendar**

[GIG =Growth & Impact Group]

### **Sunday April 3, 2016**

Children's Sunday  
8:30 am Choir Kids  
9:00 am GIG  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship  
3:30 pm Junior Lego League

### **Monday April 4, 2016**

Pastor @ Meeting All Day  
6:00pm Prairie Hills - Dementia  
Related Behaviors  
6:45 pm Missions Mtg.  
6:45 pm Creative Worship

### **Wednesday April 6, 2016**

1:00 pm GIG  
4:00pm LFP Board Meeting  
5:30 pm Youth Group  
6:00 pm GIG  
6:30 pm GIG  
7:00 pm Choir Practice

### **Thursday April 7, 2016**

9:30 am Communion @ Cedar  
Manor  
10:00 am GIG  
6:30 pm Xn Chaos Practice

### **Saturday, April 9, 2016**

9:30-3:00 Bishop's Laity Day  
11:00 am Shared Blessings

### **Sunday, April 10, 2016**

8:30 am Choir Kids  
9:00 am GIG  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship  
2:30 pm KidsForChrist  
6:00 pm Dominoes

### **Monday, April 11, 2016**

6:30 pm Xn Chaos Practice

### **Tuesday, April 12**

6:30 SPRC meets

### **Wednesday, April 13, 2013**

1:00 pm GIG  
1:30 pm Bible Study  
6:00 pm GIG  
6:30 pm GIG  
7:00 pm Choir Practice  
7:30 pm Leadership Council

### **Thursday April 14, 2016**

Pastor @ Peer Ministry all day  
10:00 am GIG  
4:00 pm Neighbors &  
Disciples Meeting

### **Sunday April 17, 2016**

8:30 am Choir Kids  
9:00 Membership/Baptism  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship  
11:35 Mission Work Trip mtg.

### **Monday April 18, 2016**

4:30 pm Grief Group

### **Wednesday April 20, 2016**

#### **Newsletter Articles Due**

1:00 pm GIG  
6:00 pm GIG  
6:30 pm GIG  
7:00 pm Choir  
8:00 pm Abigail Circle

### **Thursday April 21, 2016**

10:00 am GIG  
12:00 pm TMA  
6:30 pm Xn Chaos Practice  
6:30 pm Girl Scout Trp 5302  
6:30 pm Trustees

### **Friday April 22, 2016**

3:30 pm Girl Scout Trp 2166

### **Saturday April 23, 2016**

11:00 am Shared Blessings

### **Sunday April 24, 2016**

8:30 am Choir Kids  
9:00 Membership/Baptism  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship

### **Monday April 25, 2016**

6:30 pm Xn Chaos

### **Tuesday April 26, 2016**

9:00 am Pastor @ Cluster  
2:00 pm Prairie Hills Program

### **Wednesday April 27, 2016**

8:00 am Meeting of the Holy  
Folders  
1:00 pm GIG  
1:30 pm Bible Study  
6:00 pm GIG  
6:30 pm GIG  
7:00 pm Choir Practice

### **Thursday April 28, 2016**

10:00 am GIG  
7:00 pm Priscilla Circle

### **Saturday April 30, 2016**

11:00 am Shared Blessings

### **Sunday May 1, 2016**

Accepting Rummage Sale  
Items  
8:30 am Choir Kids  
9:00 am GIG  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship  
11:35 am Rummage Sale  
Setup  
3:30 pm Junior Lego League  
6:00 pm Fellowship Night



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
607 LYNN  
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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!**