



The CHIMES



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors.
The people of the United Methodist Church®

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 2012

How Can You Help?

As hard as it is to believe summer is just around the corner once again! That means that Sidewalk Sunday School will be starting up once again. Our ninth season will see some changes as we will be changing some of our sites (these are still in the works). But the one thing that will always remain a constant is the need for us to take it to the streets.

We have the amazing opportunity to take Christ's story and love to the streets of Fort Dodge each week. We have the opportunity to share his life-changing love with people who are desperately seeking the hope that God alone can offer. And while we are watching the Spirit transform the hearts of the people who attend anyone who has helped at a Sidewalk will quickly tell you that we are transformed as well.

As the summer nears, please take the time to prayerfully consider where you can help in this ministry. There truly is a spot for everyone. If you have questions on where you may best fit please feel free to contact me at the church office, via Facebook, or via email.

Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to accomplish his work." -- John 4:34

Jennifer



From the Pastor

A PRAYER FOR NEW BEGINNINGS

May is a month for anticipating new beginnings for many people across Iowa. This month many young people will graduate from high school or college, and make decisions about more education, career, marriage, and family. For many people of all ages some of the most important decisions of one's life will be made in the next few months or years. Included in those decisions will be the nature of one's response to God's claim on one's life.

This is a season of new beginnings in many churches across Iowa. Many pastors will soon be moving to new appointments, and many congregations will be receiving new pastors. Some pastors, including myself, will enter or return to the retired relationship with the Annual Conference. I choose to think to think of retirement in terms of redirection. God's call to me to be in ministry remains strong. However that call will now be lived out in new ways. My role as pastor of First United Methodist Church in Fort Dodge comes to an end. My role as friend will not.

Reverend Andrea Kraushaar will be received into your midst as both pastor and friend. Her husband Josh and their

children Wesley and Gracie will be experiencing new beginnings in a new home and church family. Wesley will be starting the adventure of Kindergarten, and forming friendships that will endure for years. I thank God that as the Kraushaar family finds a place in their hearts for First UMC and the rest of Fort Dodge and pray that you are doing the same in preparing to welcome them.

I trust that God will bless your journey in faith together.

A prayer that has meant much to me and many others seems appropriate as we anticipate new beginnings, whatever they may be. **The Prayer of Saint Francis** seems appropriate as people who trust in God step into a new future:

*Lord, make me an instrument of
thy peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness joy.*

*O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;*

*for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to
eternal life.*

Pastor
Gary Armstrong

2012 Mission Offering

January	\$ 389.05	Salvation Army
February	\$ 643.13	"Souper" Bowl 33 can of Food
	\$ 162.00	Disability Awareness
March	\$ 146.43	Transient Fund
	\$ 421.00	One Great Hour of Sharing
April	\$ 320.00	Heifer Project

Thanks for supporting these
worthy missions!

*"Bear ye one another's burdens, and
so fulfill the law of Christ."
Galatians 6:2*

**LECTIONARY
READINGS**

May 6

5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

May 13

6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

May 20

7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

May 27

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34
Romans 8:22-27
John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

Kid's Night Out

Kid's Night Out will be held on Friday, May 11th from 6 to 8 PM. This is a great time for parents to get a little quiet time while the kids come to the church and eat a light supper, play some games, and learn a short lesson!! Please call Jennifer at the church office to sign up!

On May 31, Teens for Tomorrow will have a Last Day of School party. Students will be picked up or walk to the church as usual. Our annual snack on this day will be a trip to the Dariette. Messy games will be played and we will get a little wet! Please contact Jennifer if you are interested in helping on this day.



CAMPERSHIPS

*May God's many blessings
Be yours forever more
And may you know you're valued
And loved by the Lord
Especially on this day
That we have set aside
To show our appreciation
To the Mothers in our lives*

By M.S. Lowndes

You can help our kids go to **CAMP!** Camp registration fees cost from \$50-\$400 per camper, making fees difficult for some parents. Please consider giving.... **FULL SCHOLARSHIP or PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIP...** to help a child go to camp. If you have a child going to camp—you can help when you register them to pay all or as much as you can to supplement their fees.

MARK YOUR CHECK: CAMP KIDS

- _____ \$350 Full Scholarship
- _____ \$200 Full Scholarship
- _____ \$150 Partial Scholarship
- _____ 50 Partial Scholarship
- _____ \$25 Partial Scholarship

**Spring has sprung and
it's musical time!**

Joyful Noise and King's Kids
choirs along with our family
members are happily and busily
preparing for
our upcoming
performance of

The Old
Testament Fast

Forward, to be
performed in our sanctuary on
Wednesday, May 2nd at 6:30
p.m. This short musical
highlights many of our
foundational faith stories in a
light hearted way. You won't
want to miss it!

Come see what it is all about!
Amy Champagne and Liz
Johnson, Joyful Noise and King's
Kids directors



Camp Sunday!!!

Summer is just around the corner! And
that means it is time to start looking at
summer camps! The Iowa Annual
Conference offers a wide variety of camps
full of fun and excitement!

On Sunday, May 6, we
will be holding a Camp
Sunday. Bryan
Johnson from Camp
Okoboji will be with us
that day—he will

speaking at the
beginning of Sunday School, will offer the
message in worship that day, and will
have a display set up in the rear of the
sanctuary. We are encouraging all kids to
be here on that Sunday for the fun! Also,
if you have camp shirt from a previous
camp experience wear it that day and
share your camp pride!!!



June Chimes Deadline
May 23, 2012

News From the Finance Committee

Through February 2012, expenses exceed income by \$19,991. Last year for the same period we had a deficit of \$21,487. Our income through February exceeds the amount budgeted. Income through February 2012 was \$46,290. Budgeted income for this period is \$41,783. There is still a deficit, though it is smaller than last year at this time.

Finance approved a budget for 2012 with projected income of \$334,000. Projected expenses are \$364,700. This will be reviewed in six months and of course when Pastor Kraushaar arrives. Your Finance Committee is working hard with pastoral leadership and other committees to be good and faithful stewards of the financial blessings we have received so that this church continues to be the hands, feet, voice and heart of Jesus Christ in Fort Dodge.

Thank you for your generous and faithful support of the ministries of First United Methodist Church in Fort Dodge.

Jerry L. Schnurr III
Finance Chair

On Wednesday, May 2, the Teens for Tomorrow group will be going to West Bend to visit the Grotto. Letters and permission forms will be going out to the youth. This is an event that we will definitely need an RSVP for so that we can have the appropriate transportation for the number of youth.



Look Who is Having a Birthday!

**“My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you,
Lord; my hope is in you, Lord; in you, it’s in you.”**

5-1 Mae Sanford
5-2 Richard Jones
Michele McKinney
Aaron Wolfe
5-3 Virginia Godwin
Kaci Halligan
5-4 Dona Pearson
Connie Schnuirr
Jill Conrad
Jasen Nelson
5-5 Sue Black
5-7 Vivian Crinnigan
Patricia Sanders
Helen Stanek
5-8 Melissa Webster
Jason Jones
5-10 Carrie Jackson
5-11 Kyle Miller
Jacob Porter
Breanna Tjebben
5-12 Sonja Schamel
Kimberly Eggert
Ryan Kent
Sylvia Hess
5-26 Kailee Becker
5-17 Robert Anderson
Gail Thompson
Alan McFadden

My Life Is in You, Lord—words and
music by Daniel Gardner

5-18 Jodi Johnson
Ann Lohff
Sara Meyer
5-20 Patricia Salvatore
Tom Salvatore
Dean Underberg
Samuel Keller
Timothy Gaily
5-21 Kirsten Wilson
5-22 Amy Clark
5-23 Velva Skophammer
Gene Moeller
Benjamin Sullivant
5-24 Jeff Conrad
Nicholas Cochrane
Christine Messerly
Jacob Trunnell
Hunter Duncan
Abigail McKinney

5-25 Pauline Lewman
Doris Baker
David Newman
Deb Willett
Blyane Chingren
Matthew Stiles
Katricee Ray
Ben Richardson
45-26 Rose Seaver
Nathan Moore
5-27 Judy McBeth
Alex Schuman
5-31 Jannabelle Olson
Beth Schnurr
Brett Daniel



Wedding Anniversaries



5-13	Larry & Connie Boyd	5-25	Maynard & Eva Koppen
5-14	Cliff & Jeane Burke		Bill & Carol Thatcher
5-16	Edward & Marijo Keller	5-26	Kevin & Malissa Anderson
5-18	Ronald & Evelyn Fevold	5-27	Nick & Barb Garst
5-20	John & Betty Olmstead	5-28	Dennis & Ora Snyder
5-23	Phil & Frances Shroyer	5-30	Sean & Kristi McCall

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- May 2—Teens for Tomorrow to West Bend Grotto, 1:30 p.m
 - May 1-4—Becky—Vacation
 - May 4—Church Women United at Epworth UMC, 9:30 a.m.
 - May 10—Missions Committee, 7:00 p.m.
 - May 10-12—Spring Rummage Sale
 - May 11—Kid's Night Out, 6:00 p.m.
 - May 17—SPPRC, 7:00 p.m.
 - May 18—Teens for Tomorrow—7:00 p.m.
 - May 21—Finance Committee—6:00 p.m.
 - May 21—Central College Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m.
 - May 22—Trustees, 7:00 p.m.
 - May 23—Ruth Circle, 9:30 a.m.
 - May 23—Priscilla Circle, 1:00 p.m.
 - May 24—Vashti Circle, 7:00 p.m.
 - May 24—Administrative Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
 - May 25—Joe Vacation
 - May 28—Memorial Day—Church office closed
 - June 2-5—Iowa Annual Conference, Des Moines
-

Operation Overboard!!

It's almost Vacation Bible School time!! This year we will be experiencing Operation Overboard! We will dive into the depths of the sea with our pal Ocho. "By diving deep kids will learn to depend on God, dare to care, claim Jesus, choose to follow and change the world."

We will once again meet 4 Wednesdays: July 11, 18, 25, and August 1. We will meet from 6-8 PM at Trinity United Methodist Church. All kids age 3 though those who have completed 6th grade are invited to attend; they need not be a member of the church.

We are in need of volunteers in all areas—station leaders, shepherds, people to bake cookies for our snacks, registration, etc. Please contact Jennifer if you are interested in helping.



Let's go deep!!!

*Faith is the reality of what we hoped for, the proof of what we don't see.
Hebrews 11:1*

I am looking to start a new growth opportunity. I have recently started training for a half marathon in June. Along with the discipline of training I am also trying to incorporate a spiritual discipline of focusing on a song or a verse while running and journaling what is revealed to me during the run. I am wondering if anyone is interested in joining me on this journey. You would not necessarily have to train for a half-marathon--any exercise would work. I am thinking we could do our workouts individually but then meet every once in a while and talk about how the Spirit is moving during our time with God. Let me know if you are interested!

Jennifer

News From Joe

I apologize for not having a report in the Chimes for the last couple of months. I have been very busy and it simply slipped by me!

In the time since I last reported to you, I have finished the upper level Sunday School rooms. They now all have a fresh coat of paint, new countertops and switch plates. Please take a few moments to take a look at them—the children indeed have a wonderful place to learn of Jesus' love for them!

One of the injector pumps went out in the basement of the church office building. The injector is what pumps out all the sewer water to the street. It has been replaced and the carpets have all been cleaned.

I have had new signs installed on the south side of the church, along with spending a lot of time outside. I have cleaned up from the winter including patching the sod, fertilizing, thatching, aerating and seeding both the parsonage and church lawns. The beautiful weather in March has certainly made the grass grow! Can't remember when I started mowing grass in March!!

The children's musical is coming up quickly and I hope you will all plan to attend their performance. I know they work long and hard to get ready for this annual event. I have hung all the banners in the sanctuary—what a wonderful tradition!

I have lots of projects coming in the next few weeks and months. With the new pastor coming in June, there is much to do at the parsonage. I will be power washing, sealing and staining the deck as the weather allows. Three bedrooms need to be primed and painted and will be started as soon as I meet with Andrea to discuss and pick out paint colors. Will be exciting to have children in the parsonage and all that goes along with little ones.

I am in the process of getting a quote together for painting the east side of the church trim. The paint is beginning to peel and needs some attention.

I continue to change ballasts and light bulbs—a never ending job, it seems!

I have gone through all the pews and fixed and/or tightened quite a few pew supports that were loose or broken.

In May I plan to start planting the rest of the flowers around the church ground. I think we should be safe from frost now—but one never knows.

Joe Egdorf, Bldg & Grds Supv.

**Central College A Cappella Choir
and Chambers Singers to Perform
at FUMC**

The Central College A Capella Choir and Chamber Singers will be performing on May 21st at 7:00 p.m. First United Methodist Church. Members of the First United Methodist's Chancel Choir will be joining the choir in a performance of "One Faith, One Hope, One Lord". Included in the choir are Christopher Ellerston and Lauren Setterdahl members of 1st UMC. You will not want to miss this wonderful opportunity for beautiful and uplifting music! A reception will be held following the concert as a way to thank the choirs for their hard work and dedication. These students will have been traveling for two weeks and First United Methodist is their final stop on this season's tour. Let's make it a "full house" for their final performance!!

If you, a member of your family, or a member of the First United Methodist Church family would like a visit and/or Holy Communion from a member of The Visitation Team, please contact the church office (576-7586). The Visitation Team would also like to know when a FUMC member has moved to a nursing home. Help us keep in touch!



Thanks,
Donna Esmay

Senior Recognition Day

Senior Recognition will be held on Sunday, May 20. Seniors will be recognized within the worship service and there will be a reception following the service in Wesley Parlor. Please mark this on your calendar to help honor these members of our congregation.





*May Circle
News*

Ruth Circle

May 23—9:30 am
Skylight Room

Priscilla Circle

May 23, 1:00 pm
Rose Legler Room

Vashti Circle

May 24—7:00 p.m.
Friendship Haven

**Monthly Financial
Information**

March Budgeted Income

\$26,600

March Actual Income

\$14,313

March Actual Expenses

29,830

Year-to-Date Budgeted Income

\$66,800

Year-to-Date Actual Income

\$58,805

Year-to-Date Actual Expenses

\$96,512

The Lord's Cupboard

May

The most urgent needs are:

**Spaghetti Noodles
Cereal
Toothpaste
Shampoo
Deodorant
Body Soap**

Plastic grocery bags are
always needed.

As always, there is a great need for
paper products.

Items may be placed
in the shopping cart
in Wesley Parlor or
brought to the church

office. The Lord's Cupboard deeply
appreciates all the donations you
give.



This week members of the high school study group and I have challenged ourselves to help put our priorities back in order. We each picked something to give up for the week. The things that were given up include Facebook, Twitter, pop and video games. The idea is to take these things that consume too much of our time and replace it with God. Each time we are tempted to engage in that activity we will do something to grow closer to God (such as pray). We will hold each other accountable. I challenge all of you to do the same this week. Take a hard look at your life and see what is stealing you away from God. Then take that out and replace it with him!

Jennifer

Teens for Tomorrow will host it's last Friday night activity of the school year on Friday, May 18. We will have a movie night from 7 to 9:30 PM. Popcorn and drink will be provided. Feel free to bring a snack to share and a friend!!!



May Funeral Co-Chairs

Sindy Stiles	576-6496
Mary Fort	573-8897

Spring Rummage & Bake Sale for Missions

REDUCE – REIMAGINE - REUSE – REPURPOSE – RECYCLE - REJOICE

You may bring your donated items to church between Monday, April 30 and Wednesday, May 9. It is very helpful if you can bring them to the church basement by Tuesday, May 8, as we need to sort and price everything. If you need help carrying your donations into the church, you may bring them on Wednesday, May 9, and we will help you.

We want to REITERATE how much fun we have working as a group for a worthwhile cause: missions. The week of the sale provides a way for the whole congregation to be involved. Just check out the photos from last fall's sale that are posted in the back of the church to see how much fun we had that week.

We need volunteers for the following days:

Wednesday, May 9 (8-4) set out items and organize them

Thursday, May 10 (8-4) mark items

Thursday, May 10 (4-6) "sneak peek" event - SALE BEGINS

For a \$2.00 donation per person, you may come and purchase items before the regular sale day on Friday. Church members are welcome to invite their friends to this event. Please support this special sale time.

Friday, May 11 (8-4:30) sale date

Saturday, May 12 (8-12) sale date - \$2 per bag

Saturday, May 12 (12-3) - pack up any leftover items & deliver them to other agencies.

Since October, 2005, we have raised more than \$32,000 for mission support and we would like to add another \$3000 to that total. We hope that you will plan to "shop" our sale! You will find some new-to-you things and benefit the mission work being done.

With everyone's help, the mission sale will once again be a success. You will **REJOICE** in the spirit of friendly good-fellowship of working with many members of the church and raising money for missions.

If you wish to volunteer, have questions, or need help with your donations, please call Phyllis Wilson 515-576-0296 or 515-570-2502, Deanna Rhiner 515-573-4770 or 515-570-3235, or Pat Bennett 515-570-4368.



Youth Page

Sunday Mornings—8:45 AM—Sunday School for all ages—Last Sunday will be May 20.

May 6—Study Group

May 13—Youth Group

May 20—Senior Recognition during worship with reception to follow.

Due to the crazy schedule that May brings this calendar is subject to change. We will take a few weeks off so that we can all attend the many graduation parties and as you prepare for your big end of the year events. We will start up again in June.



Youth News

Children's Page

NEWS

Sunday Mornings—8:45 AM—
Sunday School for all ages—Our
last day will May 20.

May 2—1:30-5 PM—Teens for
Tomorrow will head to the Grotto

in West Bend weather providing. Permission forms and more info to come.
We will need an RSVP for this event to ensure that we have adequate
transportation lined up.

May 2—6 PM—It is musical time!!! Bring mom, dad, grandpa, grandma,
aunts, uncles, anyone you can think of to The Old Testament Fast Forward
the children's musical!

May 6—Camp Sunday—Bryan Johnson from Camp Okoboji will be with
us on this Sunday. He will be doing the gathering time of Sunday School.
**PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO BE THERE AT 8:45 TO HONOR HIS
TIME.** He will also be delivering the message in worship that morning.
Feel free to wear your camp shirt!!

May 9, 16, 23, 30—3:30-5 PM—Discovery Gang— An after school youth
group for those in grades 5-8. Youth will be picked up from Fair Oaks and
the youth from Phillips will walk to the church.

May 11—6-8 PM—Kid's Night Out— This is a great chance to allow the
kids to come and spend some time at the church while the parents have a
little time to do their own thing as well. This is offered for children ages
birth through 12 years. Please email or call Jennifer at the church office to
sign-up! *A light meal is served and there will be activities for children who
attend. Due to the rummage sale we will have to meet upstairs. Watch for
signs on the door for the exact location.*

May 18—7-9:30 PM—Teens for Tomorrow Movie Night—An event for 5-8 grade. Come and enjoy a movie with your friends! Popcorn and drink will be provided. Feel free to bring a snack to share. Friends are welcome!

May 20—Last day of Sunday School

May 31—1:30-5 PM—Last Day of School Party—This is for students in grades 5-8. We will head to the Dariette for snack and will play some of the messy and wet games we do not get to play during the rest of the year!

Your Staff:

The Congregation, The Ministers

Gary Armstrong, Pastor

Becky Ostheimer, Administrative Assistant

Diane Logan, Organist

Jennifer Peterson, Program Coordinator

Liz Johnson & Dave Gardner, Chancel Choir

Shelley Ellerston, Wesley Ringers

Liz Johnson and Amy Champagne,

Children's Choirs Director

Mary Heimbruch, Praise Band Director

Jon Schuman, Chief Financial Officer

Linda Wakeman, Nursery Assist.

*Joe Egdorf, Supervisor of Buildings &
Grounds*

Linda Wakeman, Assistant Custodian

Radio Broadcast at 11:05am each Sunday - KVFD 1400 AM

Office Hours: 8-12 and 12:30-4:30 Mon - Fri

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Pastor: H) 515-576-5617 C) 319-830-4372

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Pastor: worship@fumcfortdodge.org

Program Coordinator: jenniferpeterson@fumcfortdodge.org

Website: www.fumcfortdodge.org

Truck site: www.takingittothepeople.org



Our mission is to provide the people
of the Fort Dodge area opportunities
for spiritual growth, real friendships,
and giving of themselves.

**Worship Service
10:00 am**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
127 NORTH 10TH STREET
FORT DODGE, IA 50501

Vol. XL May 2012

Return Service Requested

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The CHIMES

