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Organization  
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**PAID**  
Indianola, IA  
Permit No. 49



# THE MESSENGER

A bi-monthly publication of Indianola  
First United Methodist Church

(reposted from Feb. 2011)

After reading a review, I look forward to seeing the movie Tangled.

The reviewer said he was startled by the subtle Christian motifs woven through the story; the interplay between light and darkness, and the infinite power of love, and the beautiful sting of sacrifice.

At the beginning of the movie we're told that a pure drop of sunshine (pure Light?) fell to earth and created a flower with the power of life, healing and immortality. (Uh, see what I mean!?) This flower is found by an old woman who uses it to keep her forever young.

But, instead of sharing this gift of light and life, she hoards it; and, literally, she hides it under a bushel basket. Gasp—scripture comes to life!

A direct reference to Matthew 5, when Jesus (still in the sermon on the mount) proclaims that we are 'the light of the world' and that we aren't to hide our light under a basket, but put it on a lamp stand for all to see by.

The movie highlighted something about Jesus' words.

From the days I sang the words in Sunday School, "Hide it under a bushel - NO! I'm gonna let it shine!," I've always interpreted this to be about getting past the fear and shyness of telling others about our faith.

What the evil 'mother' in Tangled teaches is that hiding the Light and Life of God under a basket is also an act of selfishness.

It's a hoarding of God.

In this day and age we're all about sharing ideas. We'll tell people about a new diet, a great book, a sale that's going on, or a new restaurant. We'll do that in person, over the phone, or via Facebook. Entire companies - billion dollar companies - are springing up around the premise of sharing with others.

We don't let a shoe sale, a good movie, or a decent restaurant go by without telling someone else about it. We don't put those things under a basket. We let them shine. Let's let our faith shine too.

Living in the light of Epiphany,

Pastor Kay Hooper

Date: February 1, 2012  
Vol 66, No. 3

## **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

### **February 5, 2012**

**Pastor Kay Hooper**

Scripture:

Music:

8:30- REJOICE! Band

9:45- Celebration Singers

10:45- Chancel Choir

### **February 12, 2012**

**Pastor Kay Hooper**

Scripture:

Music:

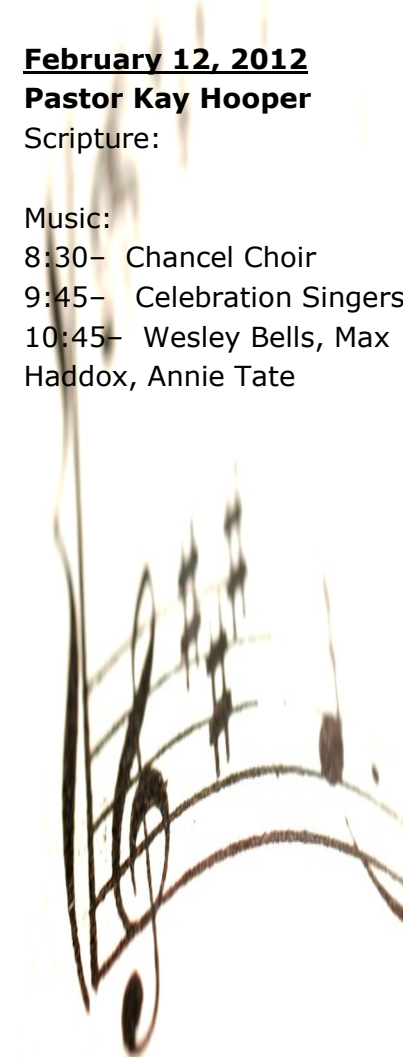
8:30- Chancel Choir

9:45- Celebration Singers

10:45- Wesley Bells, Max  
Haddox, Annie Tate

## Upcoming Events—Check inside for more details!

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| February 11 | 9:00 a.m. New Places for New People (see page 4 for details!)                        |
| February 12 | 9:00 a.m. Sunday School Youth Pancake Breakfast (see page 2 for details!)            |
| February 21 | 4:30 p.m. UMM/F.U.S.E. Sr. High Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper (see page 2 for details!) |
| March 4     | Family Matters Outing: Iowa Energy Game (see page 5 for details!)                    |
| March 31    | 9:00 a.m. Scrapfest! at the American Legion (see page 3 for details!)                |





**High School Sunday School Youth  
And  
F.U.S.E. Sr. High Youth  
Fundraisers**

The High School Sunday School Youth will be hosting a pancake breakfast on Sunday, February 12 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Hospitality Room.

All proceeds will benefit the Sunday School Youth Trip to Missouri.

The United Methodist Men and the 11th & 12th Grade F.U.S.E. Youth Group are joining together to present a **Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper February 21, 2012 4:30-7:00 p.m. Parish Hall**

All proceeds will benefit the F.U.S.E. Sr. High Youth Group's Spring Mission Trip.

**Fat Tuesday  
Pancake Supper**



**What's for Supper?  
TGIW! Meals**

**2/8/12: Beef & noodles, MP, Green Beans, Salad Bar, Dessert**

**2/15/12: Pizza, Salad Bar, Dessert**

**The Messenger**

You are invited to participate in the **2012 Lenten Bible Study on Immigration** Feb. 8-April 4 6:30-7:30 p.m. Carver Room Discussion leaders: Roger Betsworth & Bruce Haddox

Bishop Trimble, the Iowa Conference Immigration Task Force, and a writing team led by Rev. Denny Coon and Rev. Roger Betsworth have created a Lenten Bible Study on Immigration. The study will spark conversations, intentional reflection and outreach/relationship building with immigrants during Lent 2012 and beyond.

The study focuses on themes of

- Hospitality
- Welcoming strangers into our midst
- Building meaningful relationships
- Ministries with new people in our communities

The six-week study explores biblical stories of immigration and connects scripture with personal narratives of recent immigrants from around the state. It offers questions to consider, activities and suggestions to engage more deeply with the realities of immigration in the community and congregation.

**Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22**

Join Pastor Kay for an informal class on "What is Lent" in Parish Hall from 6:30-6:50 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service will be held on at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



**Women at the Well Turns Five!**

Our prison congregation, Women at the Well, celebrates its fifth anniversary in February 2012! The churches of Iowa are invited to join in this celebration by receiving a special offering during February in honor of this sister congregation. Watch for more information regarding this special offering request.

To kick off our anniversary festivities, a celebration dinner and program will be held on Saturday, February 4, at the Iowa United Methodist Conference Center. This will also be the grand opening of an art show exhibiting works from women inside the walls as well as area artists including Ted Lyddon Hatten and Mary Muller. Throughout February the art show will then travel to four different locations in Iowa: Cedar Falls, Shueyville, Davenport, and Atlantic. The art will be sold through a silent auction (online, so you can follow your favorite pieces as they travel), with proceeds supporting the ministries of Women at the Well.

Plates at our celebration dinner can be reserved for \$25 each by sending your check, made payable to Iowa Annual Conference, to Women at the Well, P.O. Box 93241, Des Moines, IA 50393. Please contact Pastor Lee Schott (revlas333@gmail.com or 515.360.3977) if you have questions. We hope you will join in this celebration of our shared ministry through Women at the Well!

For information about Women at the Well, go to [www.womenatthewellumc.org](http://www.womenatthewellumc.org)



**The Messenger**

Be a part of the 1st Ever FUMC

**Bean Bag Drive!**



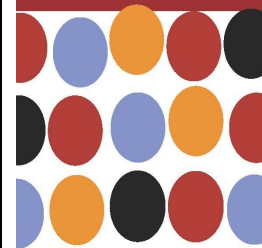
How can you help-

- Donate a new bean bag chair (drop off in the church office or give to your Sunday School Teacher)
- Give a gift of money (\$20 will buy a Bean Bag Chair—memo your check "Bean Bag Drive.") Place your gift in the offering or drop off in the church office.

Our goal: 35 new bean bag chairs

For more information, contact Ellen Defenbaugh at 961-5317.

**SAVE the Date!**



**MISSION POSSIBLE**

**ScrapFest!**

**Saturday, March 31**

**American Legion Hall  
105 W. 1st Ave, Indianola**

**9:00am - 5:00pm**

**\$30 (non-refundable)  
Includes Gourmet Lunch**

prepared & served by the 11/12th FUSE Youth Indianola First United Methodist Church

for more information contact:  
Gaylene Jones 515.962.7117  
gjones717@aol.com



**All Proceeds Go Toward:  
ALABAMA TORNADO DISASTER RELIEF!**  
First United Methodist Church  
11th/12th Youth Mission Trip!

On April 27, 2011 62 tornadoes ripped through the state of Alabama. The 20 mile wide path of the tornadoes traveled 1,177 miles damaging 23,000 homes and causing an estimated \$1.1 billion in damage. 250 people died from the storms.

## New Places for New People

This winter, you and other laity and clergy from your district will have the exciting opportunity to participate in training and equipping gatherings that will provide space to prayerfully discern where

God may be leading you and your worshipping community to be engage in creative relationship building, outreach, and transformational ministries in 'New Places' with 'New People!'

During the one-day gathering, there will be time spent in discussion and framing around what "New

Places for New People" is about; stories shared from local churches in your district and around the

Conference about some ways that they have creatively contextualized ministries in new places with new people; as well as intentional time spent discerning together with others where God may be

leading you and your congregation to engage in creative and contextual ministries reaching outside the walls of your church.

The gathering will provide resources and practical tools that you can take home and begin to put into action in your local church and community. New Places for New People is an intentional process of ministry and leadership development that will provide continual support, new resources, and mutual mentoring and collaboration with other laity and clergy in your district.

We hope that you will take part in this exciting opportunity and bring other leaders from your congregation to begin to engage in the movement towards ministries for 'New People in New Places!'

For more information, please contact any of the Leadership Development Ministers:  
scott.hibben@iaumc.org; eric.guy@iaumc.org;  
nsy.wittstruck@iaumc.org;  
dave.hobbs@iaumc.org.

ALL CLERGY AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS IN MINISTRY ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THIS EXCITING OPPORTUNITY TO DISCERN WHERE GOD IS CALLING YOU TO BE IN RELATIONSHIP AND MINISTRY IN NEW PLACES WITH NEW PEOPLE!

**February 11th, 9am - noon**  
**Immanuel United Methodist Church**  
**2900 49th Street, Des Moines**

## The Messenger

### Times have changed for job seekers

It used to be that a person could get a job with a handshake. Most anyone looking for a job these days – especially folks 55 and over – will find that things are different now. The economy is challenging and finding work can be a whole new ball game. But there *are* resources available to help.

Experience Works is hosting a Resources Job Club with a panel of 4 speakers presenting information on the free services they provide to assist those seeking employment. So if you are **55 or over and unemployed**, plan to attend the **Resources Job Club, Tuesday, Feb. 14** from **10:00 'till noon** at **WeLift**, 106 E. 2<sup>nd</sup>, across from A&W. Please pass it on.

Sponsored by US Dept of Labor SCSEP funds.

**Lent is the time to give things up, right? Could it be more than that? For those of you who joined us last year, 40acts will need no introduction.**

If you're new to 40acts, this year will be both a treat and a challenge in equal measure. What if you could give up chocolate and give the money to your favorite cause? What if you could turn the TV off, and spend more time helping your neighbor? What if Lent was a preparation for a lifetime of big-heartedness?

40 days, 40 reflections, 40 simple acts this Lent. Join us and create a movement of generosity this Lent. For more information, go to [www.40acts.org.uk](http://www.40acts.org.uk).



## The Messenger

### Community Lenten Services



**Feb. 22**-The Mount of Temptation

**Feb. 29**-The Mount of God

**March 7**-The Mount of Prayer

**March 14**-The Mount of Challenge

**March 21**-The Mount of Transformation

**March 28**-The Mount of Hope

**April 4**-The Mount of Calvary

**The first 4 weeks will be held at First Baptist. The last 3 weeks will be held at Trinity Presbyterian.**

**Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. and worship will begin at 12:15 p.m.**

**Family Matters invites you to join us on March 4 for an Iowa Energy Game!** For only \$11 (price may be subject to small change), you get a corner seat to the game, a pop, hot dog and popcorn and a concert by Johnny Diaz following the game. Tickets must be purchased in advance. To reserve your spots, contact Jessica Eginore at [jess\\_eginoire@msn.com](mailto:jess_eginoire@msn.com) or 710-0703, or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex.



United Methodist Men's February meeting will be held February 11th at 8:00am. Our guest speakers will be Ron and Marcia Peeler. The Peelers are the long time leaders of the 11th and 12th grade youth group at Indianola First Church. Come join Methodist Men for a free-will offering breakfast and fellowship. No reservations required. For more information about Methodist Men contact David Betsworth at 961-6409 or [Betsworthd@aol.com](mailto:Betsworthd@aol.com).

## Library News

By Bernice Pickup

Love in Bloom, Pursuit, Serendipity, The Nine Lessons is a collection of stories. These were given in Memory of Ron Stierwalt by Louis and Carol Kenney and can be found in the Fiction Section.

The following books are all on the UMW Section: Contemplative Crochet is a hands-on guide for interlocking faith and craft. Disfigured is a Saudi Woman's story of triumph over violence. Middle School Confidential tells about how to find out who our real friends are. Half the Sky tells of turning oppression into opportunity for women worldwide. This Child Will Be Great is a story of life by Africa's first woman president. Inheriting the Trade tells of a Northern family confronting its legacy as the largest slave-trading dynasty in US History. Unchristian tells of finding faith in a new generation. Following God's Call tells of individual volunteers in Missions. Slant is a story about friendship and identity. The Heart of Racial Justice shows us how soul change leads to social change. Being a Christian in the Wesleyan Tradition is about belonging, believing, living and growing. Just Choose Happiness is a guide to joyous living. Getting to the Heart of Interfaith is the eye-opening, hope-filled friendship of a Pastor, a Rabbi and a Sheikh. Like Breath and Water is an inspiring look at the reality of the African continent in both its beauty and tragedy. Kiki's Hats is a children's book about how our gifts live on and on. Remember Me is a wonderful story that describes not only the magic and mystery of our ancestral homeland but the giving nature of our elders.

The Christmas Singing is a story of romance, heartache and restoration in an Amish community at Christmastime. This was given in Memory of Virginia Nelson by Eldon & Joanne Appenzeller and can be found in the Holiday

# Teacher Feature

Julie Middleswart is a PreSchool Sunday School Teacher. This is her first year as a teacher but she has helped in the 3 year old room for two years. She is a mom to Alex (7), Anna (4) and Grant (15 months). She works full time as an accountant and likes to read and cook in her spare time.

**Indianola Pre-School Registration Information**  
2012-2013 School Year Registration will be held on Saturday, February 25 at Indianola Preschool. Registrations will not be accepted prior to February 25th.

Complete a registration form, found at [www.indianolapreschool.com](http://www.indianolapreschool.com) and bring it with you to registration.

**Timeframe: Registration Open For**

8:00 - 8:45 a.m. Families with students currently enrolled at IPS  
9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Alumni - Families who've had children at IPS during the last 3 years  
9:30 - 10:15 a.m. New families

A completed Registration Form and FULL payment of registration fees (and any outstanding balances due) must be received at the time of registration in order to reserve your child's spot. Please come prepared with a check or cash!

Registrations will be accepted on a first come first serve basis according to the times listed above.

A parent or family member must register their child at the preschool. Registrations will not be accepted by friends.

Registrations will continue to be accepted after February 25th, to fill any remaining openings.

Please enter through the classroom door on the east side of the building.

## The Messenger

# Education Corner

What BIG plans we have! The time has come, the moment is upon us. We are beginning the New Year with some over-the-top happenings at First UMC!

When is the last time you have taken the opportunity to wander the halls at FUMC? In particular, when is the last time you visited the lower level? If it's been awhile, please take a moment to go down and LOOK around. What you will see is awesome children, and colorful artwork. What you will also see is OLD water damage that needs repaired. Stairs that need attention, and walls that haven't been painted in 15 years. We have such big plans. We are beginning a project to create a space down in the lower level that kids will be enthused about going to every week. We are going to create a space just for them; a welcoming space that says to members and visitors alike, "this is where I belong". So take a moment and walk the halls, and join us as we take the lower level to the next level.

I also want to say how overjoyed I am at the response to the bean bag drive! After only two weeks we are over half way to our goal! We have enough for 20 bean bags, and our goal is 35! The kids are so excited, and feel so loved!!! Only 15 more to go!!!

In Christ's Love,  
Ellen Defenbaugh  
Christian Education Director

# The Messenger

## Thank you for your Prayers, Presence, Gifts & Service...

*Thanks*

*Gifts*

*Prayers & Concerns*

We would like to thank you for your support in the Warren County diaper drive. This is a big need for many families in the county. We appreciate your participation.  
Thank you,  
Warren County Health Services

Indianola First United Methodist Church,  
Thank you for thinking of us at Good Samaritan with your baskets of food. They were greatly appreciated.  
Sincerely,  
Good Samaritan Staff

Financial Summary through January	
<b>Operating Fund</b>	
2012 Annual Budget	\$730,000
Budgeted Revenues thru 1/31/12	\$81,683
Actual Revenues through 1/31/12	\$72,714
<b>Capital Campaign</b>	
Gifts Received in 2012	\$29,465
<i>Because We Built It</i>	
Pledged	\$1,188,210
Received through 1/31/12	\$671,670
<b>PRESENCE</b>	
<b>1/22/12</b>	
8:30 a.m.-	161
9:45 a.m.-	156
10:45 a.m.-	80
<b>1/29/12</b>	
8:30 a.m.-	171
9:45 a.m.-	144
10:45 a.m.-	123

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Scott Dillon      | Lila Ruch        |
| Lavonne Bertleson | Phyllis Bloom    |
| Gladys Trotter    | Mary Lou Borts   |
| Beth Puderbaugh   | Roberta Kerr     |
| Chris Johnson     | Chuck Kerr       |
| Kelvin Brown      | Barbara Grimes   |
| Jim Holland       | Jean Howe        |
| Craig Tassin      | Missy Spurgeon   |
| Gordon Smith      | Joyce Koehler    |
| Paul Lee          | Phyllis Abels    |
| Phyllis Lee       | Kay Hayden       |
| Joey Spurgeon     | Shirley Brittian |
| Terri Juelsgaard  | Blake Putney     |
| Erica Davidson    | Mellisa Sones    |
| Tina Walker       | Lori Tassin      |

Prayers of sympathy and comfort to the family and friends of Cathy Babcock, who passed away on Thursday, January 26, 2012.

Prayers of sympathy and comfort to Wayne & Deloris Collins on the passing of Wayne's brother.

Prayers of joy at the baptism of Brandi Doyle on Sunday, January 29, 2012.

Prayers of sympathy to Mary and Mitch Cunningham on the death of their grandson, Bradley Goodrich.

Prayers of sympathy to Jani Wren, Gary Coleman and Marilyn Wren, on the passing of Pam Wren.

Prayers for Ev Laning on his VIM work trip to Puerto Rico.

