

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

The Messenger

Prayers & Concerns

Gifts

Presence

Recent & Continued Health Concerns:

Cathy Babcock	Curly Norris
Janet Kroeger	Scott Dillon
Lois Darr	Mellisa Sones
Betty Conklin	Richard Spangler
Ruth Laning	Phyllis Lee
Leatha Hansen	Eileen Tomlinson
Shirley Leeper	Lois Van Wyk
Emily Johnson	Shirley Leeper
Dolores Teas	Dana Starr Petersen
*Enola Disbrow	Nancy Starr
Dick Starr	*Elna Bricker
Virginia Nelson	Mae Dillard
Jim Ford	Ron Zumwalt
*Denotes Hospitalized	*Austin Tritch

Financial Summary through January

Operating Fund

2011 Annual Budget	\$720,000
Budgeted Revenues thru 1/31/11	\$123,700
Actual Revenues through 1/31/11	\$139,811

Capital Campaign

Gifts Received in 2011	\$106,434
<i>Because We Built It</i>	
Pledged	\$1,178,740
Received through 12/31/10	\$286,186

Sunday Worship

2/20/11

8:30 a.m.— 232
9:45 a.m.— 153
10:45 a.m.— 117

2/27/11

8:30 a.m.— 203
9:45 a.m.— 177
10:45 a.m.— 109

Thank You

Thanks so much for my beautiful prayer shawl. Thank you to those who knitted it and to Carolyn and Rodney Erb for delivering it to me and spending time with us on Sunday afternoon.

Mary L. Sandy

Thank You

Thank you to our "new" Snow Angels Herb and Dean Dutcher for shoveling snow on Saturday the 26th. It was a great help with all the activities at FUMC last

Service Opportunities

What is WE CAN? WE CAN is a multi-congregational collection of what we hope is to be more than 100,000 food items collected during Lent. Working together with other churches, we will push our congregations to see hunger in new ways and give more to combat hunger in central Iowa and around the world.

WE CAN originally started in the Polk City United Methodist Church in 2008, collecting over 29,000 food items. This number is significant because it represents the number of children who die each day of hunger related causes. Since 2008, this effort has grown beyond Polk City to other congregations in collecting 1,000 items each. In 2010, 34 congregations collected more than 61,000 food items. Let us make this figure even higher.

What are we collecting? Food items which can be distributed to food pantries and homeless ministries in central Iowa. We will accept any food items, cleansers, toothpaste, other personal items, toilet paper, and other small items used around the house. Cash gifts and checks are welcome. Checks should be made to the church with "WE CAN" in the memo line. At least half of what we collect will go to Helping Hand in Indianola. A celebration is planned at the State Fairgrounds on Sunday, May 1, 2011.

There are more needy people than a year ago. Please help us with this very worthy cause.

Knit-Crochet-Quilt-Prayer Shawl

For all who love to do crafts and socialize, bring your work and enjoy the company every Wednesday from 4-5 p.m. in the church library. For information, contact Dee Morrison at 961-6877

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Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postal
PAID
Indianola, IA
Permit No. 49

Upcoming Events

UMW Schedule

March Sunday School Schedule

Ash Wednesday

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

First Sunday of Lent

NO T.G.I.W! due to Spring Break

Book of the Month Club

March 2011

See page 4 for details!

See page 3 for details!

March 9, 2011

See Page 6 for details!

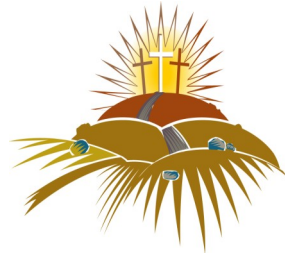
March 13, 2011

March 13, 2011

March 16, 2011

March 22, 2011





THE MESSENGER

A bi-monthly publication of Indianola
First United Methodist Church

Date: March 2, 2011
Vol 65, No. 5

SERVING IN WORSHIP

March 6, 2011

Pastor Kay Hooper

Scripture:
Exodus 24:12-18
Matthew 17:1-9, 14-22

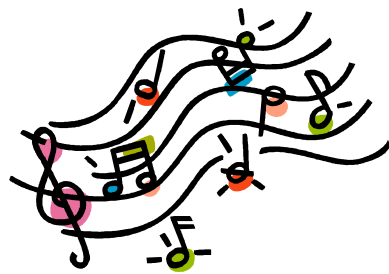
Music:
8:30- Chancel Choir
9:45- Celebration Singers
10:45- Chapel Bells

March 13, 2011

Pastor Kay Hooper

Scripture:
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-
Psalm 32
Matthew 4:1-11

Music:
8:30 - Karin Hooper
9:45 - Celebration Singers
10:45- Chancel Choir



Coffee & fellowship from 9:15 to
10:45 a.m. Sundays in the
Hospitality Room.

What if? What if we took seriously the command to 'go and tell?' What if we took seriously the command to 'go and make?' You see, what is a command for those of us on the inside becomes a wonderful gracious hospitable invitation when we move out of our comfort zone and move beyond ourselves to others.

In the next few weeks, we intend to send out teams of our people into various neighborhoods in the community and do simply this: knock on their door, invite them to church and give them a door-hanger which tells a bit about upcoming events in which they might participate. If we had 10 teams of 10 persons, we could cover a lot of ground extending a lot of invitations. If we do this exercise a few times a year—before Holy Week and Easter, before VBS, before Rally Day, and before Easter... and do this regularly-- with joy, what a difference we could make.

Of course there would be training before we send teams out. And for those who are not able to go out, you can help in other ways-- like offering radical hospitality to visitors and guests when they do come. Invite someone to sit with you in worship. Invite someone not only for coffee in the hospitality room, but invite someone to sit with you there, walk that someone over to one of your pastors and introduce them, be helpful, give directions, better yet—walk them where they want to go...

If special guests are coming to your home, there are many things to do to prepare for their arrival. The same is true for us in the church. Growing the church is more than inviting, it is more than preparing, it is also follow-up.

Do You Know the Key Numbers for Great Guest Follow-Up?

- 36: The number of hours you have to make your initial contact with a first-time guest. The rate at which guests return for another visit goes down considerably if you wait longer to contact them. This person should never be a pastor or staff member. Why?—They get paid. Laity who are excited about their church show it!
- 5-10: The number of contacts you want to make with first-time guests in the thirty days after their visit. These can be a combination of letters, email, phone calls, "thank you for being our guest" cards, newsletters and perhaps even a doorstep visit.
- 1: The number of chances you have to make a great first impression. Guests are much more likely to return if you provided great hospitality and a worship experience which engaged them and spoke to their heart.

Company's coming, let's get ready.

Pastor Kay

Dear FUMC Family,

Greetings from Kansas! My family and I are in Kansas City now and are enjoying it here--especially the warmer weather. I enjoy reading The Messenger and reading about all the many things going on there.

I was so pleased to read that you are forming a ReST team for Reentry Support for the women coming from the congregation at the Iowa Correctional Institution in Mitchellville. Twice I had the honor to worship with these women, the Women at the Well, and was immensely blessed to worship with them. I was humbled by the care they show for each other and by Pastor Arnette Pint's teaching and guidance. I just wanted you to know that supporting these Women at the Well congregation members may be challenging, but you will be so blessed. I will be praying for you that you may continue to do the Lord's work and that you will open your hearts and show them radical hospitality.

Blessing to you all,

Carol Mathews and family

Join the United Methodist Men on March 8, 2011 for a Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner from 4:30 to 7:00pm in Parish Hall. The proceeds from the



Pancake dinner will go to support the Reentry Support Team (ReST) at FUMC.
The speaker for United Methodist Men's Breakfast Meeting at 8:00 a.m. in the John Wesley Room on March 12th is Agi Gavin. Agi Gavin is the Executive Director of Warren County Habitat for Humanity.

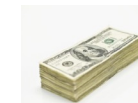
Caution! May Be Addictive and Life Changing

Is it well with your soul? Is it well with your body? Do you have friends who will pray for you? Are you connected with the "True Vine," Jesus who frees you to live a healthy life? Explore the concept of spiritual fitness. Each session encourages inner reflection followed by outer action. Join us for "Fit in Four" starting Monday, March 21 at noon in the Charles Wesley Youth Room. Pack your lunch and invite a friend. (March 21, March 28, April 4, and April 11) Contact: Jana Tanner jana@indfumc.org or 961-5317, ext. 217

Congratulations to Pastor Andrew who was approved for Provisional Membership of the Annual Conference and will be commissioned in June.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Board of Church and Society of The Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church is conducting an essay contest and will present three \$500 scholarships. The essay contest is open to students who are high school juniors or seniors during the current school year (2010-2011) and who live in Iowa or attend an Iowa high school. Students need not be members of a United Methodist Church nor any other religious body. "Immigration Reform" is the topic for this year's essay contest. Essays must be less than 1,000 words and sent to Paul Linn by e-mail at linnchurchandsociety@gmail.com before March 21, 2011. Please include a brief summary of activities that you have participated in at school or community, including efforts for social justice. Awards will be presented during Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in June of 2011.



Join us on Wednesday, March 9 (Ash Wednesday) for an adult lesson on the meaning of Lent from 6:30-7:00 in Parish Hall, then stay for the worship service from 7:00-7:30 in the Sanctuary.

Save the Date!!!....

Youth Sunday is March 27th! Come and share with our Youth, and watch their faith in action, with our "Got Jesus?" Sunday.

This year's ministries are **Mary's Meals** and **Indianola Hope Foundation**, which support other kids with needs through the schools both locally and internationally.

We are teaming with another Indianola Youth Group to support Mary's Meals by doing a **T-shirt Sale on March 27th**.



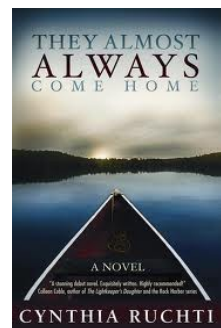
Then join our Youth for a **Pancake Breakfast on April 3rd**, with proceeds going to Indianola Hope Foundation.

Member demographic information is being updated. Please call Barb at 961-5317 or email her at barb@indfumc.org with your current contact information, including your email address. Thank you for your assistance in keeping our records current and up to date!



March Book of the Month

When Libby's husband fails to return from a solo canoe trip, the authorities write off his disappearance as an unhappy husband's escape from an oatmeal marriage and an unrewarding career. With the help of her father-in-law and her best friend, Libby plunges into the wilderness to search for Gregg



and the remnants of her flagging faith. We will meet on Tuesday, March 22 at 10:00 a.m. in the Wesley Youth Room. See Jana Tanner to get your copy of They Almost Always Come Home by Cynthia Ruchti. Please read the book prior to our meeting as we will discuss the whole book.

Wonder what your children will be learning about in Sunday School? Here are the upcoming topics that will be covered each Sunday morning:

3/06/2011 The Transfiguration Matthew 17:1-13

3/13/2011 Jesus Feeds 5,000 John 6:1-14

3/20/2011 The Wedding Banquet Matthew 22:1-14

3/27/2011 The Greatest Commandment Matthew 22:34-46

TGIW! Menu

Salad Bar includes: Caesar salad, chocolate pudding, cottage cheese, peaches, green & black olives, carrots, celery, and peanut butter sandwiches



March

9— Ash Wednesday-Maid rites, hot dogs, chips, dip, salad bar, dessert
16— No T.G.I.W! due to Spring Break

Simpson College

Smith Chapel

Thursday, March 31

6:00 PM



Africa's Longest Running War

Since 1986 (the beginning of the war), in northern Uganda: 100,000+ innocent civilians have been killed. 30,000+ children have been abducted. 1.8 million+ were displaced.

Two decades of war has left behind devastating effects.

Invisible Children is focusing on raising the standard of education. These are the secondary school students (Grades 7-12 in North America) Invisible Children is working with:

- 45% of students are girls; 55% are boys
91% are orphans—44.9% are partial orphans, 46.1% are total orphans
26.1% are orphaned by HIV/AIDS
23.9% are orphans due to war
5.5% are members of child-headed families
4.3% are child mothers
13.7% have been abducted by the LRA at least once

Invisible Children is working in trying to provide radio towers, rescue (search teams finding former child soldiers deserted by the LRA), and rehabilitation (for child soldiers when they return home).

Come to view the film "Tony," experience a speaker from Central Africa, participate in the Bracelet Campaign and be informed so you can make a difference. Help Return the Displaced to their Homes.

Discover the Unseen

Do you feel that? It's SPRING FEVER!

Mark your calendars now for Vacation Bible School!

June 20-June 24, 2011

9:00-11:30 a.m.

Shake It Up!



Fun for 3 year olds through 3rd Grade

And, back by popular demand....

The 4th and 5th Grade Youth

are invited to join in The "Amazing Grace"



We will share music and what we've learned on Sunday, June 26th during the 9:45 worship service.

During Lent, the Pre-K Sunday School Class will be taking up the collection plate during the 9:45 Service. This is their way of helping in the Church. They will each bring in a can of food to bring back to our room for our special families as well. If you would like to contribute food to help, please drop off a can in the Pre-K Sunday School Class.

Does your group have an event that needs attention? Does your group have a cause that needs support? Do you have a special prayer request? Do you have a thanks you'd like to shout out? If so, let us know! We are here to help you spread your word. Contact Tracey Stark, Communications Coordinator at tracey@indfumc.org or call the 961-5317.

Are you looking for a way to help FUMC?

Any time you see snow in the forecast, we would be so grateful for your presence at FUMC to help clear the sidewalks. If you are wanting to test out that new snow blower you got for Christmas, or you just enjoy the exercise of shoveling snow, why not come be our "snow angel?"

Ed Tierney or Jo David

United Methodist Women Schedule March 2011 Unit Meeting, March 10, 7:00 PM

Hospitality Room

Program: "Restorative Justice"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Fred Jones

Hostess: Ruth Circle

Circles

Elizabeth, March 16, 1:00 PM

Hostess: Mary Lou Staubus, 1221 Wesley Lane

Program: "Women's History Month, United Methodist Women Style"

Hannah, March 28, 7:00 PM

John Wesley Room

Program: "Our Trip to China" by Joyce and Lois Godwin

Hostess: Joyce Cook

Devotions: Jane Harman

Rachel, March 16, 11:00 AM

Private Dining Room at The Village

Program: Marjorie Moore

Ruth, March 24, 7:00 PM

John Wesley Room

Program: "Easter" by Tricia Vermace

Call to Prayer and Self Denial

Hostesses: Ida Mae Hatcher and Marilyn Trotter

Sarah, March 23, 9:30 AM

John Wesley Room

Program: "Were You There?" (Last Supper) by Joyce Cook

Hostesses: Betty Narigon and Eleanor Smith



FUMC MARCH MADNESS!!!

For those of you not aware, FUMC is doing something special in support of the capital campaign from last year. First, we need to celebrate that our church raised nearly \$1.2M! Second, to ensure everyone is in the loop and understands our progress, the Barnabus committee will be holding special events throughout the next 3 years. These events and announcements will ensure us of several things:

1. We keep everyone informed of our progress.
2. We keep the church excited for how we are continuing to serve the Lord and being responsive to our sacrifices.
3. To have some fun!

Our first event is **March Madness!** Fans? We're all on the same team! We need some additional support-we can't do it alone....we need everyone on the team to help the church see the victory through to the end. We need everyone to help chip in and do their part. Each FUMC teammate has an opportunity to make an additional sacrifice during the month of March. Big or small, we'll take 'em all! Achieving success means working at it every day. There is no off season! It's about personal sacrifice....it's about what's best for the team. 110%!

So we're asking folks to see if they can cut one thing out of their routine for a month. Just a morning stop at the coffee shop for that big café' mocha....which by the way is horrible for training anyway. Or, maybe it's going out to eat lunch 1 day a week. Definitely a no no at our training table! Or, maybe giving up the delivery pizza each Friday night. Do you know how many carbs are in a piece of pizza? And when you add it all up after just one month, it turns into something to help throw in a little extra for "the team."

All you have to do is: Think about what you're willing to sacrifice. Pick up a ticket at the church, make your pledge, write it on the ticket, place it in the big basketball in the narthex of the church, then bring in the money from the sacrifices each week in March!

By giving up a little, we can all cheer on FUMC to victory!! Because We Built It!!



Library News

By Bernice Pickup

Jenna's Cowboy Hero tells of a football player that comes to a small town to fix up a camp for underprivileged kids and doesn't know horse tack from a touchdown. This book was given by Nita Lewis and can be found in the Fiction Section.

From the Heart of a Bear is a collection of true stories of faith and courage by Amanda the Panda (JoAnn Zimmerman) that visited and loved the children that were sick and grieving. This will make you laugh and cry. This book was given by Norma Norris and can be found in the Christian Beliefs Section.

A Prairie Christmas Collection is a great book of nine historical stories from the Great Plains and are filled with inspiration and faith that can be enjoyed by us all. This book can be found in the Fiction Section and was given by Darla Kickbush.



Children and Family Urban Ministries

The next Trinity Supper Club meal is scheduled for Thursday, March 10th. The following individuals have signed up as food contributors, meal preparers and servers. Please drop off your food items in the 1st floor kitchen and mark your items "Trinity" by noon on Thurs or any time before.

Vegetables: MaryKay Pendgraft, Kay Crossett, Nitza Dovenspike, Sam & Jane Martin, Lora Appenzeller Miller, Barb Gould

Fruits: Roger & Joan Betsworth, Jo Eddy, Lisa Gray, Eleanor Smith, Leona Weeks

Salads: Ida Mae Hatcher, Carolyn Fellows, Ruth Dutcher, Lois Godwin

Desserts: Marilyn Trotter, Cathy Wintermantel, Amy Fuson, Lea Jamison, Stacie Baker, Anita Christensen

Potato Chips: Kathy Wonderlich, Sally VanDorin, Jan Teas, Wanda Bonnes

Paper Plates & forks/spoons: Gordon & June Blacksmith

Dixie cups, styro cup, and napkins: Shelley Bandy

Sandwich Prep: (meet in Parish Hall at 9:00 am): Terry Stockstrom, Jill Stockstrom, Alice Riley, Ruth Rasko

Meal Servers: Carolyn Fellows, John & Jouce Cook, Jamie & Jen Bradfield, Ida Mae Hatcher, Barb Gould, driver

Spotlight on...

The Pace Family



On December 19, 1999, the world and our family as we knew it was destroyed. We were headed home from a Christmas family celebration when tragedy struck. We left for the long journey on a familiar back highway in two cars. Our son Brian, and daughters Michelle and Laura, were about an hour ahead of Chris and me. It started to rain, then it turned to heavy snow and the road became a slushy mess. The temperature was in

the 30's when it started to drop. Suddenly, the wet looking highway became a slick glaze of black ice. There were over 200 accidents that night and 5 people lost their lives. Our kids' car was hit broadside and our son Brian and our daughter Michelle were gone in an instant.

Everyone in our families was hurting and needed help and support. But, who do you turn to when your family has been devastated? A relative of Chris's told her about Camp Amanda. I did not want to go, but I said I would to support Chris and Laura.

As a typical male, I did not want to talk about our loss or show my emotions, especially to strangers. But, when you are going through the stages of grief: shock, denial, anger, depression, guilt, etc. you need help even though you do not think you do.

Camp Amanda turned out to be a life-line for me and my family. In less than a day and a half, we found the support we needed to help us learn to cope with the tragedy as we began our own grief journey. The camp leaders were warm and understanding and were only there to provide the support we needed. We could open our vulnerable hearts and share our thoughts and feelings. They knew how we felt because they had similar tragedies in their lives.

The school kids had their own leaders that helped them resolve their questions. They come away from camp with the helpful knowledge that there are other kids who are going through the same emotions as they are.

By: Ed Pace

The Pace Family is now Paying it Forward..

In time, Ed and his wife Chris returned to help as adult leaders at Camp Amanda. Chris says she came back for the same reason most people do, "I had been helped and wanted to give back and help others. Camp Amanda was truly an inspiration to me and I wanted to be an inspiration to other people who were hurting. I wanted to lift their spirits and help them as they begin their grief journey. I wanted to shed a little light in their world and to let others know that although it is dark and cloudy now, the sun will eventually shine again. I wanted to bring hope and healing to other hurting families.

***Taken from the 2009-2010 Amanda the Panda Annual Report*

For more information, visit www.amandathepanda.org

