

The Activator

October 2019

A monthly newsletter from the United Methodist Church of Hudson

Mission Statement of the Church:

As followers of Jesus Christ we want to lead our community to a growing faith.

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PASTOR OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays

As a bit of continuation of last month's message about giving because the church needs the support, here's another concern.

I believe it more important to subscribe to the Biblical method of tithing or working toward tithing, giving 10% of income to the church. Tithing began in the first book of the Bible, Genesis chapter 14, 18. God never commanded Abram to tithe; he did it simply because he wanted to give back to God.

Later in the Old Covenant law God does command the Israelites to tithe to support the priests and the Levites (the temple/church.) Then, at the very end of the Old Testament, God speaks about the tithe through his Prophet Malachi and reveals two huge promises that are attached to the spiritual act of tithing. God says, *"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. Try Me in this,"* says the Lord of hosts, *"If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground."*

In the New Testament, Jesus had more to say about money than he did about heaven and hell combined! In fact the only subject Jesus talked about more than money is the Kingdom of God! And some of his teaching on the Kingdom of God dealt with money. When we choose to tithe from our own free will, it releases God to be able to actively act on our behalf in two very specific ways. He can then open up additional heavenly blessings into our lives and our finances. And he can act on our behalf to prohibit the devourer from wasting away our finances. Why would you not want to enjoy those extra blessings?

Next month we'll focus on giving from the gratitude that fills our hearts and lives because of what Jesus did for us.

I will always pray for you and ask for your prayers for me,
Pastor Audrey:)



Where Our Apportionment Dollars Go
Conference Ministries

Board of Ordained Ministries provides for the recruitment and credentialing of individuals who believe they have been called and have special gifts for ministry. Through a process of interviewing and mentoring, the Board recommends individuals to become and ordained elder or deacon and to receive licensing as local pastors. The Board provides educational opportunities for all clergy through loans, grants and continuing education programs.

Board of Pensions direct bills the health insurance and pension costs of active clergy to each local charge. However, apportionments are collected to pay the Conference share of retired clergy Medicare Supplemental Insurance, to provide assistance for those congregations struggling to meet their benefit obligations, provides a wellness program for clergy and covers the cost of administering these plans.

Board of Trustees funds are used to provide support for the Conference Center located at 2301 Rittenhouse Street in Des Moines, property and casualty insurance for the Conference, and maintenance of properties owned by the Conference.

Commission on Equitable Compensation sets the minimum compensation for a full-time clergy and provides grants to local congregations who, for missional reasons, need a full-time pastor, but do not have the resources to pay the required salary.

District Funds support the salaries and benefits of the District Superintendents, the Field Outreach Ministers, and the District Administrative Assistants. This fund also pays for the expense of District Offices as well as the travel and related expenses for the District Ministry Team.

Clergy Support Ministries are funds administered by the Administrative Cabinet of the Conference to support the work of the clergy. These funds include the cost of moving clergy from one appointment to another, grants for clergy in transition, recruitment and appointment consultation for clergy, and in special circumstances grants for clergy or a congregation.

Episcopal Funds supports the salary and benefits for the staff in the Episcopal office which includes the Administrative Assistant to the Bishop and related secretaries as well as the Conference Office of Communications. Other funds are used for the ministerial ethics committee, legal fees of the Conference, Task Force funding in addition to support of General and Jurisdictional delegates.

Pastoral Care and Counseling provides counseling services for clergy and their families. This office also is a resource for clergy who may need feedback and assistance as they counsel with families within their charge and offers continuing education possibilities for clergy who wish to expand their knowledge and skills in the area of counseling.

Conference Administrative Committees support the work of the Annual Conference such as the Annual Conference Session held in Des Moines. This includes committees such as the Rules of Order, Human Resources, the Conference Secretary, the Journal Publications, Nominations and other related program that are needed to home the Annual Conference Session each June.

Council on Finance and Administration funds the work of the office of the Conference Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services and for the audit of financial statements as well as other work required by *The Book of Discipline*.

Connectional Ministries Council funds the salaries, benefits, travel, and other related costs for the Assistant to the Bishop for Connectional Ministries, the Leadership Development Ministers, and other related staff. This fund is also responsible for the cost of meetings and other administrative expenses for program boards and agencies of the Conference.

Cash Reserves Replenishment was established a number of years ago to make available a reserve fund equal to at least a minimum of 10% of the apportionments. This fund can then be used to help pay expenses during months when receipts from apportionments are less than disbursements. It also would be used in the case of a catastrophic event within the Annual Conference.



in October

- 2 - Diane Roberts
- 5 - Greyson Sadler
- 8 - Hillary Rickert
- 9 - Wilbur Mumm
- 12 - Isabella Robbins
- 15 - Jacob Patterson
- 15 - Jordan Patterson
- 22 - Todd Patterson
- 27 - Edward Smith



Carol Ann Cowling
Carolyn Mumm
Ed Smith
Mavis Floss
LaVonne Kerr
Dave Tolander



Mel Bartels
Margaret Mumm
Barb Doughty
Dee Vandenberg
Lila Epling

Don't forget to check out the Church Library



MEDIA OPERATORS FOR OCTOBER



- October 6 – Dave Tolander
- October 13 – Nancy Patterson
- October 20 – Nancy Patterson
- October 27 – Nancy Patterson



to the family of Richard Vandenberg who passed away on August 28th and Marcy Kristensen, whose sister, Jane, passed away on September 9th.



Food Bank Sunday
October 6, 2019

"If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness. -- Isaiah 58:10 (NRSV)

We continue to request your support of the Northeast Iowa Food Bank by donating non-perishable food and non-food items and money through the church. The first Sunday of the month, October 6th, will be designated "Food Bank Sunday".

The Student Food Drive is an effort conducted by high schools to collect and donate food to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. In addition to collecting food and funds for those in need, the drive gives students a chance to help their school, promotes volunteerism, and gives students the opportunity to develop organization skills. This year, the Drive runs from October 8th through November 9th.

There is a container in the entryway for your donations of food and non-food items. If you prefer to give a monetary donation, make your check payable to the church with a notation that it is for the Food Bank. Your donation will show on your statement of giving to the church.

For every \$10.00 the food bank receives, they can provide approximately 40 meals. Your donations do make a difference. Can you help this month?



CROSSES

LaVonne and Wilbur's nephew is making crosses out of the blue glass that was in the sanctuary windows prior to the stained glass. If you are interest in having one, let Mary know.



Weekly Offering For September 2019

Offering:		
September	1	1,111.00
	8	4,430.00
	15	260.00
	22	327.00
	29	575.00
		\$ 6,703.00

Also received:

Apportionment:	\$	445.00
Ingathering		250.00
Matthew 25 Grant		135.08
Rent		500.00
Lions Club		25.00
TOTAL	\$	1,355.08



Approved 2019 budget:	\$85,866.00
Approved budget through September	\$64,400.00
Apportionments due for 2019:	\$11,912.00
Apportionment payment per month:	\$ 993.00

	<u>Monthly</u> <u>Thru 9/22</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving towards budget:	\$ 6,128.00	\$41,797.01
Budget Expenses:	\$ 5,478.00	\$48,018.00
Giving Apportionments:	\$ 435.00	\$ 1,470.00
Apportionment Payments:	\$ 0	\$ 0

With 3/4 of the year completed, our giving is at 87% of actual expenses and 65% of budget through September. Our expenses are 56% of total approved for 2019 budget.



We want to thank Pastor Audrey and all our church friends and family for the love and sympathy shown to our family at the time of my sister, Jane's, death. We are thankful for all of you!

Marcy and Ken



FROM THE PASTOR

October Preaching Schedule

6	Jesus is Kind	John 5:6, Matthew 18, John 12
13	The Intelligence of Jesus	Matthew 13:54
20	The Creativity of Jesus	John 1:3
27	The Hardness of Jesus	John 2:16; Psalm 18:2; Matthew 8:22, 12:48, 25



Pizza and Planning was held on September 11th. Here is a description of the new fall activities. **Youth Group** – Catherine and Dylan Armstrong are excited to lead HUMC Youth Group for grades 7 – 12. The plan is to meet weekly beginning on October 9th, from 5:45 – 6:30 p.m. As the Group develops, plans are flexible and any changes will be announced.

Kids' Class for ages 4 through 6th grade will also be held weekly beginning on October 9th, from 5:45 – 6:30 p.m. We need volunteers for Kids Class and nursery. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

Lunch and Bible Study – The 2nd Wednesday of each month, beginning October 9th, lunch will be served at noon followed by Bible Study.

Evening Dinner and Fellowship will be the 4th Wednesday of each month. October 23rd, at 6:00 p.m. will be a Chili Cook-off. Come sample the chili, have dessert, decorate cookies. There will also be a bake sale. Free will donations.

Time for Bible Study on the 4th Wednesday is yet to be determined. Are you interested in fitting in a time for dominos and/or games?



There will be a Church Council meeting on Wednesday, October 9th, at 6:30 p.m.



The time for our annual Mission Ingathering is fast approaching. This year we will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of this great mission endeavor of the United Methodist Church. As usual, the ingathering for Northeast Iowa will be at First United Methodist Church in Cedar Falls on Saturday, November 2nd. There will be activities throughout the morning and early afternoon with mission presentations, worship service, luncheon, bazaar and quilt auction. This is also when we turn in the kits that we have been working on and the money for various other mission projects.

A number of you have been helping Diane Schulz with the purchasing and assembling of school kits and sewing school bags. We greatly appreciate everyone's help.

In addition to the school bags, we also have the opportunity to contribute to the following mission projects tied in with the Ingathering.



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE works worldwide to meet human needs and foster self-reliance for all whose way is hard. In the US, CWS assists communities in responding to

disasters.



Self Help International was founded by Vern Schield in Waverly, Iowa in 1959. It is celebrating 60 years of alleviating hunger by helping people help themselves.

Their focus is on improving agriculture, fighting malnutrition, providing access to clean water, and empowering women around the world.



HEIFER INTERNATIONAL works to help hungry families feed themselves and care for the earth.



MOBILITY WORLDWIDE (formerly known as **Personal Energy Transportation** {(PET)}) is a global charity that builds and provides three-wheeled, off-road wheelchairs to those unable to walk in the developing world.


The men will meet for breakfast on Saturday, October 26th, at 8:00 a.m.



Charge Conference is scheduled for Sunday, October 13, at 6:00 p.m. at Janesville UMC. Mark your calendars now!



Thank you, Doug and Sharon Coonrad, for hosting the fall gathering. We had great food and conversation!



Rules to Live By

God wants us to live our lives in His way.
In Exodus 20 you will find some special rules to live by.

Use the code to fill in the blanks and see the rules.

A = ♡ E = ∞ I = ☺ O = ☾ U = ☆ Y = ☼

sh__ll h_v__ n__ th__r g__ds b__f__r__ m__.

sh__ll n__t m__k__ f__r __rsel__f n__ d__l__.

sh__ll n__t m__s__s__ th__ n__ m__ f__ th__
L__rd __r G__d.

R__m__mb__r th__ S__bb__th d__y b__.

k__p__ng t__ h__l__.

H__n__r __r f__th__r __nd __r m__th__r.

sh__ll n__t m__rd__r.

sh__ll n__t c__mm__t __d__lt__r__.

sh__ll n__t st__l__.

sh__ll n__t g__v__ f__ls__ t__st__m__n__.

g__nst __r n__ghb__r.

sh__ll n__t c__v__t __n__th__ng th__t
b__l__ngs t__ __r n__ghb__r.

Th__ T__n C__mm__ndm__nts

(1) You shall have no other gods before me. (2) You shall not make for yourself an idol. (3) You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. (4) Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. (5) Honor your father and your mother. (6) You shall not murder. (7) You shall not commit adultery. (8) You shall not steal. (9) You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. (10) You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor. (11) The Ten Commandments