

first Edition

A bi-weekly publication of the First United Methodist Church



Note from Pastor

Dear Friends,

Ultimately, the goal of our *Sharing God's Bounty* stewardship campaign is to help us secure ministry resources so we can be obedient to fulfill the Great Commission. We want to become more loving and generous with our friends, family, co-workers, and neighbors.

I know as we work together and combine our resources, just like the first century church did, we can meet our ministry goals for next year. Please be in prayer that the Lord will provide as well as lead us so that we are open to God's call.

I truly want your decision to give to be based in prayer, not pressure. Name your blessings, ask yourself how is God calling me to respond to these blessings and then deliberately make a plan to act that will leave you with no regrets because you have given your best to the Lord.

As you give generously the result is becoming more joyful, and more giving, and more concerned with what is on the heart of God. Remember that God will lead you if you ask for guidance.

It's a joy to serve as your pastor.

In Christ,
Rev. Dr. Barrie M. Tritle

Excelling in the Grace of Giving

"But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in the grace of giving.

—2 Corinthians 8:7

This passage from 2 Corinthians has a powerful message about giving. As you consider what you might give to the church next year, here are a few observations to meditate on that may help and guide you. Please make your decision to give based on prayer.

- Consider those who have helped you grow in your faith, just as Paul helped the Corinthians. Thank God for these people.
- Are you growing in your ability to give ("excel in the grace of giving")? In what areas of your life could you be more giving?
- Paul gives the Corinthians some nice complements about their faith. Perhaps you are doing better than you thought in your walk with God. How are you growing in Sharing God's Bounty?
- Paul goes on to explain in 2 Corinthians 8 that he wants them to excel in giving in order to help others. When we give generously, our faith will grow and we will bless others.

Please mark your calendar:

COMMITMENT SUNDAY
October 30

In your mailbox, you should have received the *Sharing God's Bounty* annual stewardship campaign packet. Your packet will include:

A Letter from Pastor Barrie
Pledge card
Return envelope

Please call the church office if you did not receive your packet.



Vol. 36, Issue 22, Oct. 26, 2011
Looking Ahead in Worship...

October 30, 2011
20th Sunday After Pentecost
Services at 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30
Pledge Sunday

Sermon & Scripture

Love: The Heart of the Matter
Matthew 22:34-46
Rev. Dr. Barrie Tritle

Music Ministry

@ All 3 Services
Love the Lord Your God
by Jean and Jim Strathdee
John Marshall, vocalist (8:00);
J.P. Marshall, vocalist (9:15);
Rev. Jonathan Fell, vocalist (10:30)
Duet by Paul Koepke
Ron Mirr, flute; Suzanne Smith,
clarinet
Air
Ron Mirr, flute;
Suzanne Smith, piano (8:00 & 9:15)
Look at the World by John Rutter
The Chancel Choir;
Michael Wright, guest conductor
(8:00 & 10:30)
Lord, I Want to Be a Christian
Afro-American Spiritual
arr. Joyce Marner
The Wesley Chimes; Joyce Marner,
conductor (10:30)

November 6, 2011
21st Sunday After Pentecost
Services at 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30
All Saints Sunday
Holy Communion

Sermon & Scripture

Children of God
1 John 3:1-3

Rev. Dr. Barrie Tritle

Music Ministry

@ 8:00 a.m. Cornerstone Service
Michael Davidson, organ
@ 9:15 a.m. Sanctuary Service
Sanctuary
Come, Now Is the Time to Worship
Open the Eyes of My Heart
In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful
Let Us Be Bread
Shout to the North
The Sanctuary Band
@ 10:30 a.m. Koinonia Service
Long Time Traveller
arr. by Michael Wright
The Chancel Choir; Michael Wright,
guest conductor
Agnus Dei from Solemn Mass
by Louis Vierne
The Chancel Choir

"Finish Strong" Silent Auction Ends October 30



Finish strong! This is the motto the Finance Committee has adopted as we head toward the closing of our fiscal year. To provide an opportunity for all of us to join together in achieving this goal, the Finance Committee has been holding a silent auction these past few Sunday morning. This Sunday, October 30, is your last chance to get in on the fun and help support the church. A few new items have been added to the list, so please take a look this Sunday and bid on the new items or re-bid on the items that you were excited about. All bidding will end at 10:30 am before the Koinonia Service.

Help us Finish Strong!

CHARGE CONFERENCE, NOV 6

Our 2011 Charge Conference will be held in Solon at a location yet to be determined, Sunday evening, November 6, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Conference Superintendent David Crow will preside at the conference which we will share with the members of the St. Mark's UMC, Iowa Korean UMC, Solon UMC, and the Amish Circuit. During this session we will worship, celebrate the ministries of our current year, and set goals for 2012.

All Church Council members are expected to attend and all friends and members of our congregation are welcome to attend.



Flu Clinic in Fellowship Hall

Wellness and Caring Ministries will be offering a **Flu Clinic** at the church on Sunday, **Oct. 30 from 9 until noon**. The **Visiting Nurse Association (VNA)** is bringing this clinic to us, and it also open to the general public. Flu protection has been recommended for everyone aged 6 months and older.



Prices are as follows:

- Flu shot - \$24
- FluMist - \$30
- Pneumonia vaccine - \$67

VNA can bill your insurance company, Medicare B, or Medicare Replacement policies. Please bring your current medical insurance or Medicare card with you. Free vaccine is available to children enrolled in Medicaid or children who do not have insurance.

If you questions, please contact Sage at 354-5484 or sage-river@icfirstchurch.org.

STAINED GLASS WINDOW PHOTO BOOK

The History Committee would like to publish a book on the windows of our church. We have some excellent pictures (but could always use more) as well as history and potential copy, but **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** We're sure one or more of our talented congregation has the ability to navigate one of several websites, scan photos, and enter information which can result in producing such a book. Are YOU who we are looking for? Please get in touch with Pastor Barrie Tritle (337-2857), History Committee Chair Pro-Tem, Lorna Cress (354-1842), or Ilene Hammond (337-5199). It would be a blessing for everyone who loves these windows and this church we are so fortunate to worship in!



East Central District now has a Facebook page

Do you want up-to-the-minute information about what's happening in the East Central District? Would you like to participate in conversations about "making disciples for the transformation of the world?"

Like us on Facebook! Click on the following link and then click: "Like"

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/East-Central-District-of-Iowa-Conference-United-Methodist-Church/206916956044845?sk=wall>



Stewardship Campaign Prayer

Loving and Gracious God,

I am grateful for the countless blessings that You have given to me. You have shown me so many times how the time and money that I offer to You and Your work are never missed yet always multiplied. You always return to me your goodness and abundance. Strengthen my faith that I may give sacrificially of my time, talents, and treasure to our church so that Your ministries may be sustained and expanded.

Thank You for my church where I find strength, comfort, peace, and grace. Help me to Share God's Bounty this year; help me to grow in love and generosity. Please let your blessings flow through me to bless others.

In Jesus name I pray,
Amen

From the Archives Dillon's Furrow

Signs along Highway 1 north of Iowa City indicate the road is named "Dillon's Furrow," and there is an interesting story about this 100 mile long line, considered the longest furrow in the world. Lyman Dillon, of Cascade, Iowa, is said to be responsible for it. He used a team of five oxen for this work, because these animals did not require the long rest period each night that horses would have. He covered the distance from Dubuque to Keosauqua by way of Iowa City, the then capitol of the Territory, all in 1839. Congress appropriated \$20,000 to create a road that could be used by the military in case of an Indian uprising along the route. Few bridges were built at that time, although ferries were often used to permit progress. A second grant of \$20,000 was necessary to finish the furrow. At times this effort was called the National Road, or possibly the Military Road. Sometimes you will find one of those titles on a map. The route essentially is the same as the present day Highway 151 and 1 in Iowa, and as you drive that road today image the view of 172 years ago.



Stonework from original bridge on Old Military road that crossed Kitty Creek near Langworthy.

Note: Please use the prayer to the right during our annual stewardship campaign to direct your prayer time about how you can share your time, talent, and treasure to further our church's mission.



**DIRECTOR
of WORSHIP
& MUSIC**



*Love the Lord
Your God*

*“Give thanks to the Lord our God
and King; His love endures forever!”*

“Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ his Son.” We just sang *Forever* and *Give Thanks* in the past two Sundays. I want to say thanks to the Joyful Chimers for playing “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” last Sunday! They are **Leah Adams, Judi Barta, John Dane, Joanne Herrick, Darlene Hoskinson, Carol Lach, Margaret Morgan, Chris Ostrander, Cleo Studt, and Martha Symons**. If you want to join us, please talk to **Leah** our team leader!

October 30 is a very special Sunday! It will be the last Sunday of our **“Sharing God’s Bounty”** Series! All of our three worship services will be sharing ONE worship bulletin. The Chancel Choir will be singing *“Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation, Give us thankful hearts, that we may see: All the gifts we share, and every blessing, All things come of thee!”* at both Cornerstone and Koinonia Worship Services. **Michael Wright** will be our guest conductor! Our talented friends **Ron Mirr** and **Suzanne Smith** will be playing in all the services. **Joyce Marnier** will be conducting her own arrangement of “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” with the Wesley Chimes at the Koinonia **Service**. **John Marshall, J. P. Marshall, and Rev. Jonathan Fell** will be singing “Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart...your soul...your mind...with all that you are” in our three worship services respectively. **J.P. Marshall and Michael Davidson** will be leading music at the 9:15 a.m. Sanctuary Service. It will be a great Sunday!

Michael Wright will be conducting his own arrangement of “Long Time Traveller” on All Saints Sunday, November 6. Our Chancel Choir will be singing *“Ye fleeting charms of Earth, farewell, your springs of joy are dry. My soul now seeks another home, a bright world on high. I’m a long time travellin’ here below, I’m long time travellin’ away from home.”* We will be sing French composer Louis Vierne’s “Agnus Dei” during the Holy Communion.

I am taking a week off to prepare my comprehensive exam. I am studying very “serious music” and I need all your prayers and God’s help! Many thanks to the great support from **Pastor Barrie**, our wonderful **FUMC staff** and special thanks to **Michael Davidson** for leading the Music Ministry during my leave. I look forward to praising the Lord with you next Sunday!

May you have an abundant life in Christ!

*Your brother in Christ,
Samuel*

*Sign Up for
Altar Flowers*

Altar flowers certainly make a beautiful addition to our worship experience at First United Methodist! Let us help you celebrate a special occasion by signing up to have an arrangement made for display at church. Simply choose a date that works for you and sign up on the Floral Calendar located in the Alley Entrance, or call the church office. You will place the order for your arrangement with the florist of your choosing; and they can deliver the flowers to the church on the Friday before your chosen Sunday. To avoid obscuring the cross on the altar; an ideal arrangement size is no more than 26” in height. You are welcome to take your arrangement home after the last service or allow the office staff to enjoy it the remainder of the week. If you have questions, please contact the office staff.

Please consider the gift of flowers to FUMC!



“BUCK BOX” MINISTRY CONTINUES

THE BUCK BOX will be in the back of the Sanctuary Sunday, November 6, providing all in attendance at worship with an opportunity to drop their loose change or folding bills into the boxes in support of the Iowa City Common Fund and our church’s Friendship Fund, both of which are used in meeting the emergency needs of persons in our community. The demand on both funds is extraordinarily high at this time and support is desperately needed. Thank you for your generous support in helping to meet the needs of others.

ASP Smorgasbord

ANOTHER DELICIOUS A.S.P. SMORGASBORD will be served Sunday, Nov. 13, in Fellowship Hall, beginning at 11:30 a.m. You are invited to share the fun, the fellowship and the food ("You price it; you eat it") while supporting an important Outreach Ministry of our church.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Oct. 26

Maggie Ballard
Lauren Trent

Oct. 27

Melinda Seegmiller
Kara Rayner
Laura Houghton

Oct. 28

Mike Tschantz
Aaron Seegmiller
Ben Crouse
Caroline Flermoen

Oct. 29

Jim Ponto
Billy Besgrove



Oct. 30

Ila Zimmerman
Pat Palechek
Amy Trent
Laura Schafbuch
Kelsi Salter
Jordyn Stammeyer
Neil Jordan

Oct. 31

Dell Boersma
Jean Hill
Diane Hudachek
Jonathan Skarda

Nov. 1

Jean Kendall
Bonnie Wyllie
Dave Reynolds

Nov. 2

Brian Hudachek
Jeff Haring
Ken Brown
Spencer Lundquist
Erika Zierke

Nov. 3

Kimberly Fesler
Leah Jirsa
Margaret Utterback

Nov. 4

Corrine Ashby
Madelyn Schafbuch

Nov. 5

Jack Ashby
Lisa Hammer
T.J. Palechek

Nov. 6

Janet Smith
Jay Herlein
Brandon Hanes
Ashley McMahon

Nov. 7

Joyce Leff
Deb Jordan
Lisa Irwin

Nov. 8

Judy Stachour
Donald Fink
Gayle Royar
Jon McPheron



Take time to pray - Our Church Family

We Celebrate With:

- Julie & Gabriel de la Garza on the birth of their daughter, Caitlin Elizabeth, on October 7. She joins her big sister, Allison, at home.
- Jackie & Isaac Hodgins on the birth of their daughter, Mercy Gabriela, on October 10.
- Jodi Siebrecht & Ross DeVolder, who were married in our sanctuary on October 15. We pray God's blessings upon them as they begin their lives together.
- Lauren & Justin Schappe on the baptism of their children, Collin James and Lillian Clara, October 23. Collin & Lillian are the grandchildren of Jack & Corrine Ashby. We join in welcoming them into the body of Christ and our church family.

We Pray For:

- All those in need of continued healing including:
 - Grace Barron, mother of Michael Barron, as she continues her recovery at Crestview Care Center,
 - Rita Howe, daughter of Florence & Meredith Maas and friend of Leah & Harold Adams, as she receives treatment for lung cancer,
 - Ed Schaap, brother-in-law of John & Allie Dane, who has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer,
 - Gloria Dunlap who is recovering at home from breaking both ankles,
 - Joyce Stoddard, undergoing treatment for stomach cancer at UIHC,
 - Kaidyn Alexander Shayde Cleveland, born at 24 weeks and in the NICU at UIHC; she is the granddaughter of Pam Berven Jackson, former FUMC member,
 - Cher Wojnicki, family friend of the Ries family, undergoing treatment for stage 3 cancer,
 - Dr. Jim Skarda, his wife, Jennifer, and their children Jonathan and Juliann, as Jim is receiving hospice care,
 - Jan Menzel, sister of June Judge, as she undergoes chemotherapy for breast cancer,
 - Maurine Schmeiser as she undergoes treatment for illness and pain management,
 - Darrell Allman, brother-in-law of Charles Thiede, as he receives chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer,
 - Conan Dalton, brother-in-law of Jennifer Ballard, as he recovers from brain surgery,
 - Sergeant Collin Raaz, dear friend of the Sue & Sam Mullins family, who lost both legs in an IED explosion in Afghanistan, and is now in San Diego continuing his recovery,
 - Vicki Burketta, friend to many in the congregation, whose cancer has returned,
 - Sharon Campbell, who is suffering from an aggressive bone cancer; Sharon is the aunt of Sherry Mars,
 - Ron Krueger, friend of Connie & Jim Olson, as Ron undergoes treatment for lung cancer,
 - Michael Flynn, friend of Cindy Cobb, as he is treated for Stage IV cancer,
 - Ginnie Woodard, who has been diagnosed with adenocarcinoma; she is a friend of Matt Downen,
 - Barbra Johnson, friend of Jan Vaught Brezina, as she undergoes chemo and radiation for breast cancer in Kansas City,
 - Steve Wade, brother of Terri Wade, who is receiving chemotherapy for Stage III colon cancer,
 - Elma Honn at Briarwood Care Center, and all those in our congregation who are homebound or residing in nursing homes or extended care facilities.
- Those serving in our military:
 - Luke Tschantz, son of Jan & Mike Tschantz, Ensign in the Navy stationed in Pensacola FL,
 - Todd Royar, who has is serving in Afghanistan,
 - Nathan Bontrager, son of Carol Bontrager, serving in Afghanistan,
 - Nathan Platz, son of Bob & Kristy Walker, now stationed in Italy,
 - Joseph Russell, son of Mary Lou Russell, serving in South Korea,
 - Alan G. Kellogg, son of Gary & Catherine Kellogg, now serving in Iraq,
 - Chris Miller, son of Harvey & Maxine Miller, who is serving by Army Special Operations,
- The healing of breaking and broken relationships,
- For those struggling with mental illness that they may receive the medical care they need,
- The mission, ministries, and staff of First United Methodist Church,
- Bishop Julius Calvin Trimble, East Central District Superintendent David Crow, Field Outreach Minister Jill Sanders, the Iowa Annual Conference, and the First United Methodist Church of Marion and Pastor Mike Morgan.
- All those who have been impacted by violence, oil spills, earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, and other natural disasters throughout the world,
- Peace with justice for the world.

10/16/2011 PRESENCE

8:00	78
9:15	75
<u>10:30</u>	<u>230</u>
Total	381

10/23/2011 PRESENCE

8:00	73
9:15	71
<u>10:30</u>	<u>222</u>
Total	366



“Fall Back” One Hour

Remember that Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, **November 6**. Please remember to re-set your clocks so that you can arrive at church for worship and Sunday School at the correct time.

Help Us Honor Our Veterans

The First United Methodist Men's Group would like to identify our church members who served in



the military and for them to be recognized on Veteran's Day church service November 13. We need a picture, dates, and branch in which you served and a current picture. If you need help with the pictures the men's group will help. There is a photo collection box in the back of the Sanctuary next to the Prayer Request Box.

You can contact Steve Marner 319-330-8765 or smarner@southslope.net.



November 24 & 25: CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED

On Thursday & Friday, November 24 & 25, the Church Offices and the Little Angels Learning Center will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Normal office hours (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) will resume on Monday, November 28.

AFFINITY GROUP NEWS

What is an Affinity Group? It is a group of people who collectively pursue a common interest. And, at First United Methodist Church, there are several such groups covering a variety of interests.

Please consider joining one of these Affinity Groups.

Group Theme

Senior Friendship & Support Group
Bicycling Affinity Group
Bluegrass
Books And Bagels
Doers of the Word
Dorcas Group
Environmental Action
Families with Children
Films For Fun 'N Faith
Flames Softball Team

Contact Person

Sage River (sage-river@icfirstchurch.org or 354-5484)
Jan and Jim Down (jjdownic@mchsi.com or 354-1820)
Maynard Smith (maynards@q.com or 337-9901)
Betty Mitchell (354-1225) or Nancy Johns (njohns@q.com)
Sue Mullins (339-0984) or Linda Fink (338-2860)
Bernie Mulford (337-6680)
Mark Madsen (mark-madsen@uiowa.edu)
Tricia Ross (351-0823)
Lou Crist (338-5014)
Jane Driscoll (JDRISCOL@aol.com)



Newsletter Submissions

Next Newsletter
Deadline: Nov 9

The First Edition needs your help! We would like to hear from you.

- Share your thoughts and reflections on a recent sermon, scripture reading, or Sunday School class discussion.
- Let us know about your awesome Christmas plans.
- Show off your story writing or photography skills.
- Invite others to an event or to start a group.
- Thank someone for the hard-work they have done.
- Wish a church member a happy birthday or anniversary.



Help us make the First Edition as useful and interesting as it can be!

Please send your submissions to Liz-Swanton@icfirstchurch.org.

Radio & Television Ministry: You can listen to a 30 minute radio broadcast of a portion of one of our services on Sunday mornings over KXIC (800 AM) from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. Our Koinonia Service is broadcast on Public Television Channel 18 on Wednesdays @ 2:00 p.m. and on Sundays @ 7:00 p.m.

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Return Service Requested

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