

First Edition

A bi-weekly publication of the First United Methodist Church of Iowa City, IA

Vol. 37, Issue 1, Jan. 11, 2012
Looking Ahead in Worship...

January 16, 2011
Second Sunday after Epiphany
Services at 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30

Scripture

Mark 1:4-11

Sermon

Baptism of the Lord

Rev. Jonathan Fell

January 22, 2011
Third Sunday after Epiphany
Services at 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30

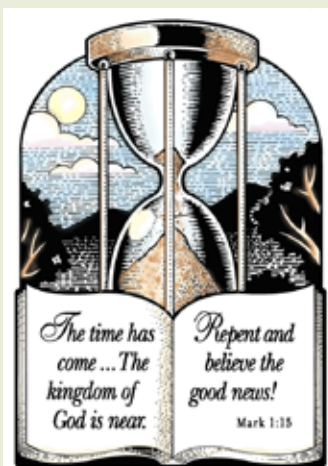
Scripture

Mark 1:14-20

Sermon

Follow Me

Rev. Dr. Barrie M. Tritle



You are the Church



A new series for a new year. Please enjoy the first in our new series, You are the Church, a monthly column dedicated to thanking those who go above and beyond in their commitment to the church, who tirelessly give of their time and talents. If there is someone you would like to thank, please email Liz-Swanton@icfirstchurch.org the church member's name and a short paragraph of the ways this church member has helped the church.

ADAM RAAB

For over a decade, Adam Raab has been behind the camera videotaping the Koinonia service for broadcast on Iowa City's Public Access TV cable channel. In addition to videotaping the service, he edits the broadcast, burns it on a DVD and delivers the DVD to the PATV studio, so that the Koinonia service can be seen at 7:00 PM the same day as the service took place. Adam has missed only a handful of Sundays during the fifteen years he has been videotaping. I would like to recognize Adam's steadfast service to our church and thank him for all that he does to make the broadcast possible.



Submitted by Charles Thiede

Growing in Health & Wholeness:

The New Year

I think most of us think of the beginning of a new year as a 'fresh start' in some way, even if we don't all make a list of resolutions. It's been a beautiful year so far (as I write this on a late January 5th afternoon), and regardless of the winter that will in truth come, I feel optimistic about the year. I'm not sure why, as this country doesn't feel especially optimistic at this time, but I do anyway, and since hope is a better feeling than despair, I'm choosing it.

I keep coming across things that remind to be hopeful: in the chaplain's office at University Hospital, there is a small sign on the desk which has these words from Jeremiah 29:11 inscribed: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

That feels really encouraging, calming, and hopeful to me. One of my favorite poems, *Desiderata* by *Max Ehrmann*, contains similar thoughts that bring me peace and hopefulness:

*Beyond a wholesome discipline,
be gentle with yourself.
You are a child of the universe
no less than the trees and the stars;
you have a right to be here.
And whether or not it is clear to you,
no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.*

*Therefore be at peace with God,
whatever you conceive Him to be.
And whatever your labors and aspirations,
in the noisy confusion of life,
keep peace in your soul.*

*With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams,
it is still a beautiful world.
Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.*

So I guess my aspirations for this new year include being at peace with God, trusting, and knowing that in spite of all evidence to the contrary, it is a beautiful world unfolding in God's divine plan, and I'll continue to feel hopeful and strive to be happy. I'll also strive to relieve suffering along the way, because I know that's part of the plan, as well.

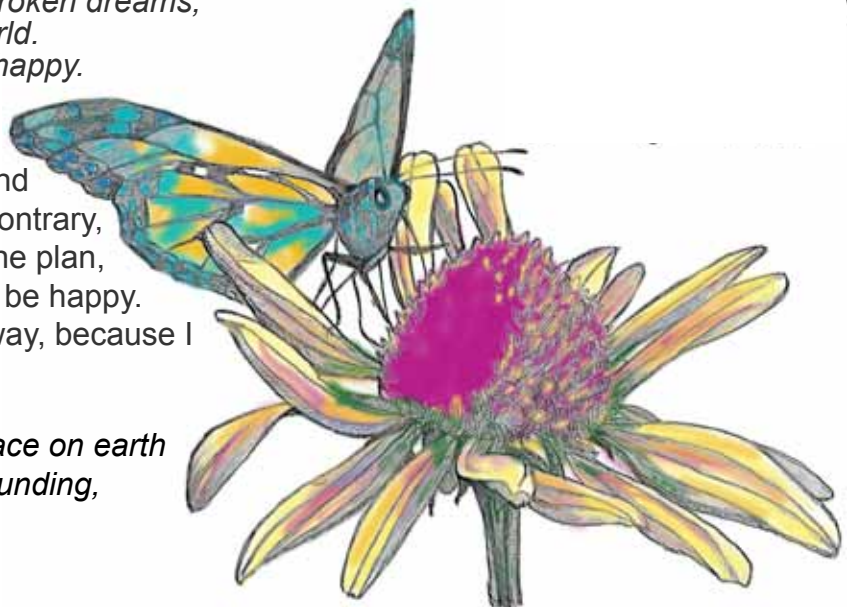
*Wishing a good new year for us all, with peace on earth
and in all our souls, with goodwill for all abounding,
Sage River
Wellness & Caring Ministry*



UMW
Valentine's Day
Bake Sale

Find your favorite valentine a sweet treat on **February 12 at 11:30AM in Fellowship Hall** for the red, white cookies, cakes, and sweets bake sale.

The UMW will help you find the best that day.



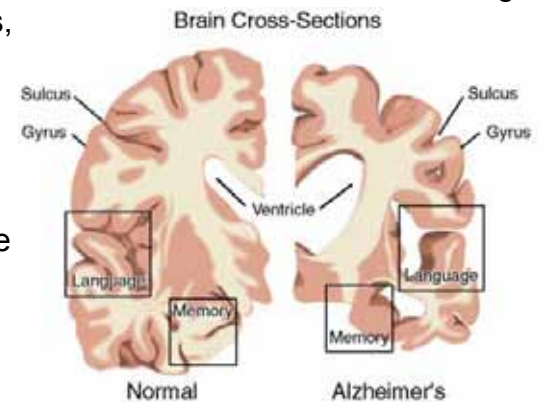
A New Support Group for People Who Have a Spouse or Loved One Who Has any Type of Dementia

Alzheimer's is the kind of dementia we're most likely to think of first and certainly the most prevalent, but there are many other types of dementia. A couple of folks here at the church and I have discussed the possibility of a support group for people who have spouses or family members with dementia, including Alzheimer's, vascular (stroke related) dementia, degenerative neurological diseases (e. g. Parkinson's and Huntington's) that can lead to dementia, brain injury, and others.

This is meant to be as inclusive as possible for those who are living with this situation and needing some support. Leora Hein, who lost her husband to complications from Alzheimer's a few years ago, has agreed to be part of facilitating and helping me with getting this group going, if people want it. It would be held here at the church during daytime hours, or possibly in another location with more parking, but also during daytime hours. It could be as small as 3 or 4 people, and it would be a drop-in weekly support group: not a group that requires a commitment to come every time, but one that is there for people weekly, hopefully with a core of regulars who find it useful. It would be more about learning through sharing with one another than any kind of teaching series, though we could certainly invite guest speakers, and there is a wealth of material available, depending on what the needs are.

As you can see, this is still in the nebulous newly forming stage, but if you are someone who is interested and think this could be of use to you, please do let me know, so we can begin to organize and choose a time and place to meet. Call or email me, please!

*Sage River
Wellness & Caring Coordinator
sage-river@icfirstchurch.org or 354-5484.*



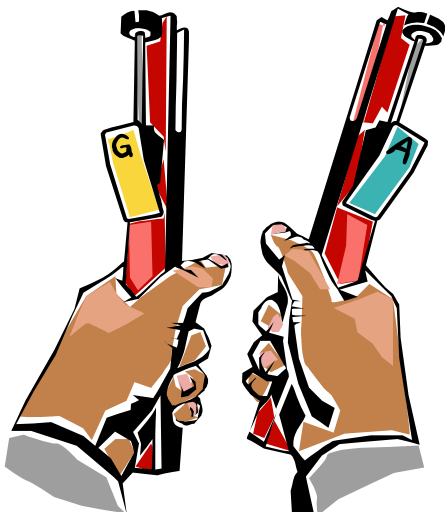
M. L. King, Jr., Interfaith Service on Jan. 15

All are invited to the M.L. King, Jr., Interfaith Service sponsored annually by the Consultation of Religious Communities of Johnson County. The service will be at 7:00 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 15, 2012 at Coralville United Methodist Church, 806 13th Ave. in CV. The service will include a talk by local activist Royceann Porter, along with interfaith music, readings, and prayers for the world. Refreshments and conversation will follow. A free will offering will be received to support the CRC's Family-to-Family Partnership Program, which helps newly arriving families settle successfully in our area.

WESLEY CHIMES

Calling all kids, ages 1st through 8th grade. Have you ever wanted to try playing chimes with the group? This is your perfect no-pressure opportunity to have fun and learn about music during January. On the last 4 Sundays in January of 2012 the Wesley chimers and friends will gather at 8:30 am in Room 205 and have a party playing chimes. We will not perform in front of the congregation. The purpose is to introduce music to young folks and have fun.

If you would like your child to participate in one, some, or all the sessions, please email Joyce Marner at jmarner@southslope.net. If you forget to do that and your youngster decides to participate, just show up. All are welcome.



Handchimes

Free Lunch Program Coordinator Needed

Every month a team of people from our church gather to serve the Free Lunch program on the fourth Tuesday. They are a faithful group of volunteers who have been doing this for many years on our behalf. We appreciate each person who comes to setup, serve and cleanup. Our coordinator has been Mark Brown for the past few years but his work duties and travel have led him to need to pass the responsibilities on to a new coordinator. First we want to express our appreciation to Mark for his leadership of our wonderful team of volunteers and second we want to invite you to consider becoming our Free Lunch Coordinator for the First UMC team. Please contact Mark Brown with questions or Pastor Barrie. Our next meal date is January 24 and we would love to have a new

FREE LUNCH



Free Lunch at the Wesley Center **January 24**

If you would like to help, please call Pastor Barrie at 337-2857.

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.

Books & Bagels

January 15th at 7:00PM at Oaknoll join the Books and Bagels group to discuss *"Please Look After Mom"* by Kyung Sook-Shin. Jean Hill will be the discussion leader. See you there!

Please consider joining one of these Affinity Groups.

Group Theme

Contact Person

Senior Friendship & Support Group

Sage River (sage-river@icfirstchurch.org or 354-5484)

Bicycling Affinity Group

Jan and Jim Down (jjdownic@mchsi.com or 354-1820)

Bluegrass Books And Bagels

Maynard Smith (maynards@q.com or 337-9901) Betty Mitchell (354-1225) or Nancy Johns (njohns@q.com)

Doers of the Word Dorcas Group

Sue Mullins (339-0984) or Linda Fink (338-2860) Bernie Mulford (337-6680)

Environmental Action Families with Children

Mark Madsen (mark-madsen@uiowa.edu) Tricia Ross (351-0823)

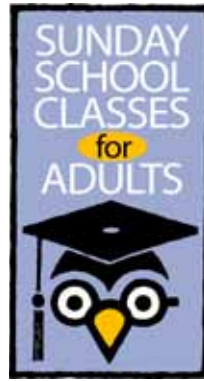
Films For Fun 'N Faith Flames Softball Team

Lou Crist (338-5014) Jane Driscoll (JDRISCOL@aol.com)

Adult Sunday School

Healthy Balance

The Adult Healthy Balance Sunday School Class with resume Jan 22 and continue until the beginning of Lent. We will be discussing how Reaching-Out to others; family/friends, our wider community, meaningful work, and life purpose impact our healthfulness. All interested persons are invited to join us. We meet at 9:15 in the downstairs fellowship area. Kae Tritle is the facilitator of information with open participation and discussion with others.



Casserole Committee

Is cooking one of your gifts? When you're preparing a meal for the family, or for yourself, would you be willing to make a little extra for someone else? Wellness & Caring Ministries is looking for folks who would like to be part of a team that is asked to help with meals for people in our church family who need some additional support. We have a small pool of a few people right now, but would love to have others to share in this work. It may be for a family with a new baby, or for someone who is hospitalized and whose family would appreciate a meal or two, or for families who are facing long-term care of a family member and need extra support.



If you think you would like to be part of this caring team, please contact Sage at 354-5484 or sage-river@icfirstchurch.org for more information.

Coffee Fellowship Volunteers Needed!!

Coffee Fellowship needs your help for the coming months! We want to encourage affinity groups, small groups, Sunday School groups even families to consider hosting fellowship time for the coming year, preferably a month at a time. Coffee and store bought cookies will be provided to each group of volunteers and making coffee is SO EASY - plus serving others is fun! For more information on how to share in hosting coffee fellowship time, please contact any of the Coffee Committee members below or the office staff.



Please call us before we have to **call you.**

Sue Mullins #339-0984
Angi Roemerman #430-6663
Ken Brown #466-0774
FUMC office #337-2857

January 29, 2012: District Leadership Training Event: Creating New Places for New People

All are invited to attend a District Leadership Training Event on Sunday, January 29, 2012 from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Shueyville UMC. Keynote speaker will be Rev. Eric Guy, Leadership Development Minister for Young Adult and Generational Ministry. A flyer is available, at http://www.iaumc.org/console/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Jan_training_brochure_ZATEWVGJ7.pdf

Brochures are also available in the Gathering Space. Members of all of our various committees and working groups will find this a valuable workshop for them as well as the great key note message. Those interested in carpooling contact a staff member.

Liturgists Needed for 8:00 am services

On occasion we have had liturgists at the 8:00 am service when one of the pastors have been absent but now we seek to have a liturgist each Sunday. This will allow us to have more folks involved in leading worship and will allow Pastor Jonathan to be engaged during that hour as he works more directly with our Education Program in classroom preparation and support for our teachers. Please contact Steve Marner at smarner@southslope.net to volunteer as a liturgist.



Take time to pray - Our Church Family

We Pray For:

- The family of Barbara Barnes. Barbara died at Mercy on December 28th, and her services were held on Jan. 1. As we lift her to God in our prayers, we also hold her husband Bud and her entire family in prayer.
- The family of Carl (Jud) Demory. Carl died on December 31st, with graveside services held on January 3. As we lift Carl to God in our prayers, we also hold his family and all who knew and loved him in prayer.
- Those recently discharged from area hospitals: Florence Millsap- now at Lantern Park for physical therapy, and Martha Johnston.
- All those in need of continued healing including:
 - Mike and Jan Tschantz on the death of Mike's father, Dwain Tschantz, on January 2nd,
 - Leslie Kimura, 5 year old daughter of Joe & Lori Kimura, who is being treated at UIHC for leukemia, as well as for her mother, Lori, as she recovers from January 4th surgery,
 - Deb Even, new FUMC choir member, who is recovering from January 4th surgery at UIHC,
 - Wyonna Hartwig as she continues treatment for melanoma,
 - Dave Powers, husband of Mary Jane (Janie) Woolridge Powers and niece of George and Marj Dane, as he recovers from January 3rd surgery to remove a kidney, and faces more surgery,
 - Glenda Gabel, Jan and Jim Down's sister-in-law, who continues to work towards recovery,
 - John & Allie Dane's great granddaughter, Angel Rose, born prematurely on October 14, and recovering from surgeries,
 - Mary Schroeder, dear friend of Diane Duncan-Goldsmith, who has non-smoking related lung cancer,
 - Rita Howe, daughter of Florence & Meredith Maas and friend of Leah & Harold Adams, as she receives treatment for lung cancer,
 - Kaidyn Alexander Shayde Cleveland, born at 24 weeks and in the NICU at UIHC; the great-grandson of Pam Berven Jackson, former member here, and grandson of Kimberly Brockman,
 - 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 at home,
 - 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, as she continues treatment for cancer,
 - 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,
 - Barbra Johnson, friend of Jan Vaught Brezina, as she undergoes chemo and radiation for breast cancer in Kansas City,
 - Evelyn Price at home, and all those in our congregation who are homebound or residing in nursing homes or extended care facilities.
- Those serving in our military:
 - Nathan Bontrager, son of Carol Bontrager, has returned safely from Afghanistan and is now stationed with his unit at Ft Polk.
 - Luke Tschantz, son of Jan & Mike Tschantz, Ensign in the Navy stationed in Hawaii,
 - Todd Royar, who has is 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,
 - 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 Center Grove United Church in Dubuque and Pastor Kathy Moore.
- 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.

Attendance @ FUMC

1/1/2012 PRESENCE

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| <u>10:00</u> | <u>155</u> |
| Total | 155 |

1/8/2012 PRESENCE

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| 8:00 | 54 |
| 9:15 | 75 |
| <u>10:30</u> | <u>170</u> |
| Total | 299 |



HUMAN RELATIONS DAY SUNDAY - JANUARY 15, 2012

THE HUMAN RELATIONS DAY SPECIAL OFFERING will be received during worship next Sunday, January 15. This offering is used to support the more than 30 church-based Community Developers working in racial and ethnic-minority communities in the U.S, as well as a multiracial network of grassroots social-justice organizations and Christ-centered Youth Offender Projects focused on giving teenagers a chance to succeed. Please plan to give generously to this offering in support of these ministries of the United Methodist Church.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jan. 11

Kazi Alward
Stacey Moss
William Flermoen

Jan. 14

Betty Ketchum
Linda Boyles
Charles Thiede
Errin Frank

Jan. 16

Martha Symons
Phyllis Zinkula
Joann Moss
Barbara Barnes
Lou Crist
Janis Brezina
John Millsap
Mitch Beckman
Courtney Ball
Nathan Danielson

Jan. 19

Thomas Rath

Jan. 20

Phyllis Hicks
Julie Brown
Daniel Metz

Jan. 23

Amy Mulford
Bob Fox
Russ Bay
Justin Jones

Jan. 12

Barb Hansen
John Nichols
Ashley Wolfe

Jan. 15

Mary Sewall
Robert Weir
Amy Ostrem
Joseph Larkin

Jan. 21

Wyonna Hartwig

Jan. 24

John Dane
Jacob Feuerbach
Alexander
Henderson
Emma Seydel

Jan. 13

Bill Shaffer
Elaine Swails
Robert Gilroy
Jolene Raab

Jan. 17

Maxine Miller
Jeremy Faden

Jan. 22

Doug Warner
Duane Nollsch
Cleo Studt
Pat Bowman
Linda Bywater
Mary Kay Hubbard
Allison Corlette

Jan. 18

Penny Hall
Glen VanDell



CHRISTMAS 2011



STAFF

Lead Pastor
btritle@icfirstchurch.org
Rev. Dr. Barrie Tritle

Director of Worship & Music Ministries
samuel-kwok@icfirstchurch.org
Samuel Kwok

Office Manager
liz-swanton@icfirstchurch.org
Liz Swanton

Organist
michaeldavidson84@gmail.com
Michael Davidson

Associate Pastor
jonathan-fell@icfirstchurch.org
Rev. Jonathan Fell

Director of Parish Care
sage-river@icfirstchurch.org
Sage River

Membership Secretary
claire-bartleson@icfirstchurch.org
Claire Bartleson

Custodian
Teresa Schulte

Director of Little Angels Learning Center
little-angels@icfirstchurch.org
Cathy Stange

Business Manager
hillarybiancuzzo@icfirstchurch.org
Hillary Biancuzzo

Facilities Manager
charles-thiede@icfirstchurch.org
Charles Thiede

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Return Service Requested

214 East Jefferson Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52245
Phone - 319.337.2857 Fax - 319.337.0485
Email - businessoffice@icfirstchurch.org
WEB: www.icfirstchurch.org

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