

first Edition

A weekly publication of the First United Methodist Church



Vol. 35, Issue 9, March 3, 2010

This Week in Worship...

March 7, 2010

Third Sunday of Lent

Services at 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 am

THIS SUNDAY is the 3rd Sunday of Lent and we will continue to explore our 2010 Lenten Theme, **The Signs of Lent**, by focusing on the image of **"Water."** In addition Holy Communion will be served at all three of our morning worship services. Scripture texts for the day include Exodus 17:1-7 and John 4:5-42, which tells the story of Jesus' encounter with a Samaritan woman at the well. Join us for worship next Sunday as we continue on our spiritual journey through the prayerful, penitential Season of Lent and invite a friend or a neighbor to share in worship with you.

Scripture

Exodus 17:1-7; John 4:4-42

Sermon

The Signs of Lent ~ Water
Rev. Paul Akin

Music Ministry

@ 8:00 a.m. Cornerstone Service
Michael Davidson, organ

@ 9:15 a.m. Sanctuary Service
*Fill My Cup, Lord & Here is Bread,
Here is Wine*
The Sanctuary Band

@ 10:30 a.m. Koinonia Service
Shine, Jesus, Shine by John Jacob Niles and Lewis Henry Horton
The Children's Choir
Greater Love Hath No Man
by John Ireland
The Chancel Choir

Renew~Rededicate~Rejoice

Renovation Projects Up-Date

Great progress is being made towards the initiation of the Building Renovations Projects being funded through the *Renew-Rededicate-Rejoice* three-year Capital Funds Stewardship Campaign. At this point about \$850,000 has been pledged in support of this work. On Monday, February 15th, Scott Palmberg from the Newmann-Monson Architectural firm, met with the members of the church's building committee and the design engineers for the electrical and mechanical work to be done, plus Dennis Boelk of the General Contractor, Hodge Construction, to review the plans for the installation of a new elevator, the re-design of the Upper Room and expansion of the Narthex, the re-modeling of the Kitchen and the updating of the church's three Entries. During that session questions were asked and answered and suggestions for changes were made, setting in motion the following schedule:



- March 1: Bid sets of drawings will be delivered to Hodge Construction and bids on the projects will be let.
- March 15: Bids will be received and the Building Committee will meet to review the bids and to prepare a recommendation to the Board of Trustees setting the scale and the order of the projects to be undertaken.
- March 16: The Board of Trustees will meet to review the recommendations and to prepare a motion to be presented to the Church Council for approval.
- March 25: The Church Council will act on the motion, making a final decision on the work to be undertaken. All members and friends are invited to attend this session.
- April 5: Actual work on the projects begins.

This is an exciting time in the life of our church but it will also be a time when there will be some inconveniences due to the construction as it gets underway. Every effort is being made to anticipate and plan for ways to meet the accessibility needs of those coming to the church during the time of construction. Your patience is most appreciated as this exciting step forward is being made.



TUESDAYS IN LENT have begun! Join us each **Tuesday in Lent** for a soup and sandwich supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by Lenten study groups **for all ages**. Children ages Preschool – 6th grade will meet in Room 205 and Youth will meet in the Youth Room from 6:30 – 7:30 each week for activities and discussion about the meaning of Lent for our lives today. The study for adults is described below. A free-will offering will be taken for the supper each week.

Dinner at 5:30 p.m.
Study Groups at 6:30 p.m.



Please make reservations for you and your family by calling the church office at 337-2857.

The LENTEN STUDY, *The Signs of Lent*, continues next Tuesday evening, March 9th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Temple Teachings Room (#204), 2nd Floor of the Education Building. This is a “Pastor’s Preaching Class” based on our Lenten theme and the scripture texts to be used each Sunday of Lent. Participants are invited to join Pastor Paul and Pastor John in exploring the texts more deeply and to offer ideas for the message to be proclaimed the following Sunday. The topic/image for this week’s discussion is “Earth.” *Those planning on attending are asked to pick up a devotional study guide in the Narthex this Sunday.* Everyone is invited to share in these discussions which will continue to be held each Tuesday evening through March 30th.

The Crisis Center Food Bank

The Crisis Center Food Bank regularly distributes to over 900 families per week. Currently they are most in need of **rice, diapers (sizes 4 & 5) and toilet paper**. Please consider donating any of those items if you can. Other donation items that are greatly appreciated are:

- Soups**
- Canned meats**
- Meaty stews**
- Canned fruit**
- Canned vegetables**
- Pasta**
- Jam/jelly**
- Potato products**
- Juice**



The Crisis Center is located at 1121 Gilbert Court, Iowa City. Donations can be taken from 8am-5pm, Monday-Friday. Or, you can leave your donation here at church this Sunday in one of the Food Bank barrels located in the Narthex or on the Dubuque Street entrance landing.

Thank you.

“BUCK BOX” MINISTRY CONTINUES

THE BUCK BOXES will be placed on the narthex Tables this Sunday, 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.

Sunday Afternoons for Youth & Children

4:00 – 5:30

Youth in the Youth Room

4:00 – 4:45

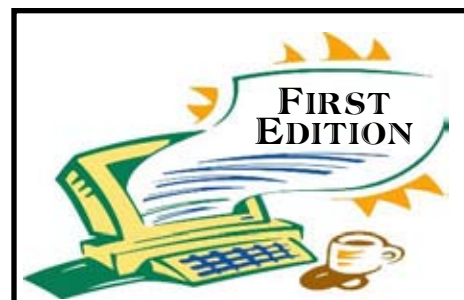
K – 2nd Grade with Samuel Kwok in the Choir Room

3rd – 6th Grade with Pastor Patte in Room 206

4:45 – 5:30

3rd – 6th Grade with Samuel Kwok in the Choir Room

K – 2nd Grade with Pastor Patte in Room 206



Did you know you can receive the First Edition by email?

Please contact the Church Office if you would like to be put on our newsletter email list.



CHILD CARE WORKER NEEDED!

We are seeking a responsible caregiver with the following attributes:

- ~ At least 18 years old
- ~ Must like babies and young children
- ~ Able to make a commitment to Sunday mornings from 9:00 – 12:00

This is a paid position. For more information or to apply, please contact Pastor Patte (338-9514 or Patte-henderson@icfirstchurch.org

Faith Formation DVDs

If you have one of the DVDs from the Adult Legends Class, please return it to Lorna Cress or Pastor Patte.

The Living Water



Thanks to the Jubilation Ringers, FUMC Chamber Choir, Sanctuary Band, Chancel Choir, Joan Felkner and Michael Davidson for their worshipful music! The **Sign** of this Sunday is **Water**. The Chancel Choir will be singing *Greater Love Hath No Man* in the Koinonia Service. This anthem was composed by English organist and choirmaster John Ireland (1879-1962) in 1912. The composer chose the words from the Scriptures. The anthem starts with “*Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*” Then Joan Felkner and John Marshall will be singing “*Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, That we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.*” The rest of the words are: “*Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus. Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation; That ye should show forth the praises of him who hath call’d you out of darkness into his marvellous light. I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto to God, which is your reasonable service.*”

In the Sanctuary Service, we will be singing *Fill My Cup, Lord* by Richard Blanshard. I still remember this simple prayer that I learned in Sunday school. “*Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it up, Lord. Come and quench this thirsting of my soul. Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.*” May we all receive the *Living Water* from our heavenly Father!

Your brother in Christ,
Samuel

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.

Senior Affinity Group

The next meeting of the Senior Affinity Group is Wednesday, March 10th, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Walden Place. George and Ida Belle Paterson will be our co-hosts for our time of fellowship and fun this month. If you have never come to the Senior Group, consider giving it a try! It is informal, warm, and welcoming, and anyone who is a senior (you determine that!), is warmly invited to come. Please contact Sage at 354-5484 or sage-river@icfirstchurch.org for more information.

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 (jdownnic@mchsi.com or 354-1820)
Bluegrass	John Raab (pastor-john@icfirstchurch.org or 338-5075)
Books And Bagels	Betty Mitchell (354-1225) or Nancy Johns (njohns27@mchsi.com)
Doers of the Word	Sue Mullins (339-0984) or Linda Fink (338-2860)
Dorcas Group	Bernie Mulford (337-6680)
Environmental Action	Mark Madsen (mark-madsen@uiowa.edu)
Families with Children	Tricia Ross (351-0823)
Films For Fun 'N Faith	Lou Crist (338-5014)
Flames Softball Team	Jane Driscoll (JDRISCOL@aol.com)
Hiking Affinity Group	Bruce Tarwater (bruce-tarwater@uiowa.edu or 325-7595)
Bridge Affinity Group	Danette Frauenholtz (frauenholtz@mchsi.com or 351-2911)

Take time to pray - Our Church Family

We celebrate with:

- Jeremy and Jin-Ah Yoo Knapp, our former church organist, on the birth of a son, Peter Knapp, born in Seoul, South Korea, on February 26, 2010. We rejoice with them in welcoming this new life into our world.
- Tony & Kelli Rossetti on the baptism of their daughter, Gianna Scarlett Rossetti. With joy we welcome her into the Body of Christ and the fellowship of our faith family.

We pray for:

- Those from our congregation whom we know to be hospitalized at this time, at UIHC: Lois Andre
- Those recently discharged from area hospitals: Evelyn Price
- All those in need of continued healing including:
 - Miriam Johnson, who is receiving Hospice care in Gowrie, Iowa; she is the sister of Joyce Stumme, and aunt of Deb Stumme,
 - Bernice Goode, grandmother of Steve Ballard, as she receives Hospice care in Lacona, Iowa,
 - Loris DeGroff, former FUMC member, who is recovering from a fall in her home,
 - Ken Smalley, who has developed an infection following heart surgery and requires extended care; Ken and his wife, Marcia, are friends of Mary Lou Russell,
 - Rhonda Mullen, who underwent surgery in Loyola, IL after suffering a torn aorta; Rhonda is the sister-in-law of Ken & Christine Mullen, and mother of two small children,
 - Mitch Beckman's father Ray, who is receiving chemotherapy for Stage IV lung cancer at a hospital in Wisconsin,
 - Rev. Vaughn Wright, brother of Marla Swesey, who has been diagnosed with A.L.S. disease,
 - Barbra Johnson, friend of Jan Vaught Brezina, as she undergoes chemo and radiation for breast cancer in Kansas City,
 - Chris Goodale and family, friends of the Zierke family, as Chris undergoes chemotherapy for Non- Hodgkin Lymphoma in Indianola,
 - Jerry Allison, father of Susie Lundberg, who is recovering from a heart attack and facing more surgery,
 - Perle Cowen, who is receiving chemotherapy at Mercy Hospital,
 - Donna Rayner, daughter of Don and Jean Rayner, as she receives chemo and radiation therapy for breast cancer in Vancouver, BC,
 - Phillip Bruhwiler, whose father has been diagnosed with stage IV cancer; Phillip is the grandson of Loris DeGroff, former FUMC member,
 - Steve Wade, brother of Terri Wade, who is receiving chemotherapy for Stage 3 colon cancer,
 - Keith & Betsy Starman and their children Emily and Zac as Keith receives chemotherapy for cancer. They are friends of Stacey Abel,
 - Kathy Fisher, a friend of Wilma and Larry Rettig, who has returned home from the Mayo Clinic following chemo, surgery and radiation treatments for mesothelioma.
 - Vicki Burketta, a friend of many in our congregation, who is receiving chemotherapy at UIHC,
 - Paul Weber who is receiving treatment for lung cancer; Paul is the father of a good friend of Danette Frauenholtz,
 - Carolyn Kirkman, granddaughter of a friend of Doris Hughes, undergoing treatment for colon cancer,
 - Conan Dalton, brother-in-law of Jennifer Ballard, who has an inoperable brain tumor,
 - Marion Settelmayer at Crestview 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:
 - Jen Young, granddaughter of Judy & Dick Stachour, who is being deployed to Kuwait,
 - Joel Petry, nephew of Becky and Bob Hall, who is serving in Afghanistan,

Nathan Platz, son of Bob & Kristy Walker, who is serving in Afghanistan,
 Todd Royar, son of Ken Royar, who has returned home from Iraq,
 Joseph Russell, son of Mary Lou Russell, serving in the military,
 Michael Hobart, cousin of Steve & Jennifer Ballard, who has returned home from Iraq and is stationed at West Point,
 Alan G. Kellogg, the son of Gary & Catherine Kellogg,
 Andrew Olson, nephew of Jan and Lou Crist, serving in Kuwait,
 Chris Miller, son of Harvey & Maxine Miller, who is a student at the Army War College.

- 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, the members of the Clinton Living Faith Parish and Pastor Christine Minor-Heilig.
- All those who have been impacted by the devastating earthquakes in Haiti and now Chile, as well as those who have been impacted by floods, tornadoes, hurricanes and other natural disasters in Iowa, the United States and throughout the world.
- Peace with justice for the world.

2/28/2010 PRESENCE

8:00	78
9:15	69
<u>10:30</u>	<u>208</u>
Total	355

Faith Formation for All Ages

Sunday Mornings at 9:15 a.m.

Adult Faith Formation Opportunities:

- o **LEGENDS CLASS:** Uses DVDs and discussion to learn about the history of Christianity
Led by Lorna Cress, Fellowship Hall Room 6
- o **LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE NEW TESTAMENT:** the Epistles
Led by Robert Weir, Fellowship Hall Room 3
- o **CELEBRATION OF DISCIPLINES:** Techniques for Practicing and Deepening your faith
Led by Ronda Marshall, Jan Down, and Joyce Leff, Fellowship Hall Room 7

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

New Story:

Lost and Found

Luke 15: 1-7, 8-10, and 11-32

February 28 - March 21

at 9:15 a.m. in Room 205



Grow in Faith. Have Fun. Change the World.

WHAT is this? This summer's weekly program for ALL church members, families and friends

WHEN is it? Five Wednesday evenings, June 30 – July 28

WHAT's involved? Supper at 6:00 pm with programs from 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Is there a COST? Yes. One-time \$10.00 registration fee per person

HOW do I register? Contact Pastor Patte at 338-9514 or patte-henderson@icfirstchurch.org

Growing in Health & Wholeness:

The Shoe Box

The man and woman had been married for more than 65 years. They had shared everything. They had talked about everything. They had kept no secrets from each other, except that the old woman had a shoe box in the top shelf of her closet that she had cautioned her husband never to open or ask her about.



For all of these many years, he had never thought about the box, in fact, he had forgotten its existence. But one day the woman became ill and the doctor told her husband he was not sure if she would recover.

In trying to sort through their affairs, the man sorted through many boxes and drawers, and noticed the shoebox on the closet shelf. He took down the box and brought it to his wife's bedside. They talked about it, and she agreed that it was time that he should know what was in the box. When he opened it, he found two beautifully crocheted dolls and a stack of money totaling \$95,000. He was astonished and asked her about the contents.

"When we were to be married," she said, "my grandmother told me the secret of a happy marriage was to never argue. She told me that if I ever got angry with you, I should just take a few deep breaths and crochet a doll."

The man was so moved, he had to fight back tears. Only two precious dolls were in the box. She had only been angry with him two times in all those years of living and loving. He almost burst with happiness.

"Honey," he said, "that explains the dolls, but what about all of this money? Where did it come from?"

"Oh," she said, "that's the money I made from selling the dolls."

*May you enjoy this as much as I did,
Sage River*

Sound of Friendship

The COMPEER Program presents the *SOUND OF FRIENDSHIP* concert on Saturday, March 6th, at 7 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1300 Melrose Avenue. There will be great music, including Dan Moore, the Kol Shira Singers from Agudas Achim Synagogue, the Pan American Steel Drum Band, the Spontaneous Combustion Jazz Band, and more, followed by Gourmet Desserts. Tickets are \$20, and are still available at the door, or by calling George Paterson at 338-3146. All proceeds go to benefit the COMPEER Program..



FREE LUNCH



In March we are serving Free Lunch at the Wesley Center **on March 16th, during Spring Break, the third Tuesday of the month (not the 4th Tuesday), so note that change on your calendars.** Please consider contributing food (vegetarian lasagna, cans of green beans or a desert) to serve that day or by being there to help serve the lunch. You can drop off cans of green beans anytime at the church office (and many thanks for your very generous contributions of those – they are a popular item for lunch). If you would like to help on March 16th, please call Pastor John at 338-5075.

Thank you for your help with this important ministry!

Alzheimer's Support Groups

Iowa City

1st and 3rd Thursday of the month

1:00 p.m.

Pathways Adult Day Health Center

817 Pepperwood Lane

Facilitator: Brittany Black

Early Stage Support Group

The Alzheimer's Association East Central Iowa Chapter is now offering an Early Stage Support Group for those individuals and families experiencing the early stages of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. The monthly support groups are free of charge. If you have questions or are interested please contact Tracey Robertson at 800.272.3900 or 319.294.9699 or by email at tracey.robertson@alz.org



UMCOR COFFEE PROJECT

Think CHOCOLATE

EQUAL EXCHANGE:

Small Farmers. Big Change.

Chocolate is big business, but small-scale farmers see few of the benefits. As large, profit-driven corporations tighten their grip on the food industry, small farmers find themselves increasingly vulnerable, with little say in matters that affect their families, their farmland and their communities.

At Equal Exchange, we believe there's a better way to do business. We guarantee our farmer partners a fair and stable price, as well as a long-term relationship. The farmers are organized into co-ops, owned and run by the farmers themselves. By choosing Equal Exchange products, you help keep farming communities alive and keep rural cultures strong. And because our products are grown sustainably, you also get healthy foods that won't harm the planet.

About Equal Exchange

Equal Exchange is a worker-owned Fair Trade company founded in 1986. We are building equitable trade relations with co-ops of small-scale farmers, while also working to reform an increasingly consolidated and unjust food system. We are proud to offer fairly traded and organic coffees, teas, chocolates and snacks from small-scale farmers all over the world.

Organic Chocolate Bars

The premium Fair Trade Certified organic cacao in our chocolate bars is grown by small farmers organized into co-operatives in the Dominican Republic, Panama and Peru. The organic sugar and organic vanilla are both Fair Trade Certified. The sugar comes from small farmer co-operatives in Paraguay and Costa Rica, while the vanilla is grown by a farmer association in Madagascar. Enjoy!



FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS

available March 14, 2010

9:00 a.m. - Noon
in Fellowship Hall



Items needed before or after the above date, please call Linda Watkins (338-8134) for pick up or delivery.

*Note: chocolate bars are not shipped between April- September



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 3

Janet Greenwald
Joshua Pogue
Alex Maass

March 4

Brett Crouse
Jennifer Maiers
Tim Irwin
Roy Carpenter

March 5

Joseph Cermak
Bonnie Williams
Judy Cryer
James Houghton
David Fleener
Jessica Drobot
Katie Goldsmith

March 6

Sarah Burger
Nicholas Biancuzzo

March 7

Jackie Benson
Sonya Moss
Terry Neuzil
Randi Ricker

March 8

Neil Hubbard
Ashlyn Geasland

March 9

Miriam Blakely
John Lennarson
Theresa Hobbs
Emmy Ball
Jessa Karnell



Easter Lily Order Form



If you would like to place an order for an Easter Lily to be placed in the Chancel area in honor of a loved one or in celebration of the season, please indicate your order and place the form and payment in the collection plate or call the church office at 337-2857. **The deadline for ordering an Easter Lily is March 22.**

Cost: \$15.00 Quantity: _____

In Memory/Celebration (please circle) of: _____

Given By: _____

Will Claim Plant(s) After the Season: Yes ___ No ___

(Plants left after Easter services will be donated to Care Facilities/Shut-Ins)

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March 3, 2010

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