# aboutfirst news

March, 2021 First United Methodist Church, Cedar Falls Love First. Let's Gather, Grow, Go Together





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issue 245, March, 2021

First United Methodist Church 718 Clay Street Cedar Falls, Iowa, 50613 aboutfirst.com

Announcements and editorial content for publication may be submitted to the First UMC media office by the 20th of each preceding month. Email to: katie.greuel@aboutfirst.com

## aboutfirst.com



## **30-Day Reading Plan from Pastor Scott**

Over the years of my personal bible study, I have taken an interest in the chronological order of the writing that make up the Bible. Did you know that Paul's letters were actually written before the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John?

Here's another thing, most scholars who have studied Paul's letters have reached the conclusion that only seven of the letters were actually written by Paul when he lived in the early 1st century, around 20 to 30 years after the death of Jesus. Where did the other letters come from? They were written by other people in Paul's name in the late 1st and early 2nd centuries.

The seven authentic or "undisputed" letters of Paul, in roughly chronological order, are as follows:

- 1 Thessalonians
- Galatians
- 1 Corinthians
- 2 Corinthians
- Philemon
- Philippians
- Romans

So, this season of Lent I thought I'd offer a 30-day plan for how to read Paul's letters chronologically put together by Cassandra Farrin.

This reading plan should get you through the seven authentic letters of Paul in 30 days. If you find this to be too much to read at one time, you may find that you want to slow the pace down to 60 days instead (which you can accomplish by reading 1 to 2 chapters a day instead of 2 to 3).

If you try it, let me know how it worked for you! What sort of Paul did you discover? Blessings on your Lenten journey!

Pastor Scott

## 

## 30-day Reading Plan

	1 Thessalonians 1-3
Day	1 Thessalonians 4–5
Day -	Galatians 1-2
Day S.	Galatians 3-4
Duy	Galatians 5–6
Day .	1 Corinthians 1–2
Day 6:	1 11 1000 2 1
Day 7:	in this 5.6
Day 8:	
Day 9:	0.40
Day 10:	
Day 11:	12 11
Day 12:	15 16
Day 13:	0.11 2.18
Day 14:	4 6.12.7.2-4
Day 15:	10 13
Day 16:	1.1 2.13.7.5-16
Day 17	
Day 18 Day 19	<b>.</b>
Day 20 Day 21	<ul> <li>Philippians 4:10–20</li> </ul>
	1.1 2.12: 4.4-9
Day 22 Day 23	01 23
Day 2. Day 2	2.1h 1.3
Day 2 Day 2	1.2
Day 2 Day 2	
Day 2 Day 2	7.0
Day 2 Day 2	10.10
Day 2 Day 2	10 15
Day 2 Day 2	10
Day	





If you are new or newer to First United Methodist Church, our pastors want to get to know you! Come have a coffee with the pastors on Sunday, March 14 at 9:30 am on Zoom to hear about what is happening at First United Methodist Church and how you can begin to take next steps in getting connected. We look forward to seeing you there!

### A Letter to the Congregation

letter

Our associate pastor, Matt German, has accepted a senior pastor position at Salem United Methodist Church (UMC) in Cedar Rapids, Iowa beginning July 1, 2021. This news may come as a shock and with a sense of sadness. However, in the United Methodist Church, all clergy enter a covenant with one another. Part of that covenant is that we will go where the bishop and cabinet sends us. The cabinet consists of the district superintendents of our conference. From January through May, the cabinet has many meetings to make church appointments for the appointment year, which starts in July. The cabinet spends time in prayer and discernment as they seek to match churches in need of a pastor with someone whose gifts will match what that church needs. The pastor of Salem UMC is going on to serve the Waukee UMC, and the cabinet has decided that Matt is the best fit for Salem UMC. You'll probably wonder, "What's next?"

The bishop and district superintendents will now be looking to find an associate pastor for our church. During this process, our district superintendent, Rev. Moody Colorado, will be in conversation with the SPRC committee to hear what attributes they feel our church needs in a new associate pastor. The input of the SPRC will be taken into account as the cabinet makes their decision. This process could take a number of weeks. When a pastor is chosen, he or she will meet with the district superintendent and our SPRC committee to make the appointment official. On a Sunday shortly following that meeting, an announcement will be made in church as to who our next associate pastor will be. We realize you all may have further questions, and please do reach out to either of us.

Blessings,

Pastor Scott Keele Kober Mark Fransdal, Chair of Staff Parish Relations Committee



## Soup and Chili Carry-Out Cook-off

Our beloved Chili and Soup Cook-off is back!! This time in Carry-Out style to meet our Covid safety standards! This year we will feature a drive thru pick up of our selections and an online voting method. To submit your homemade soup or chili visit: http://aboutfirst.com/carryoutcookoff We are asking for 10 Chili's and 10 Soups.

Details for submission and voting:

#### For those providing a soup/chili:

1. Sign up to bring soup/chili-http://aboutfirst.com/ carryoutcookoff

2. Drop off your soup/chili at the church at 2:30pm on 3/7/21.

3. Volunteers will safely prepare your soup/chili into sample cups for the drive thru.

#### For those picking up a soup/chili:

1. RSVP to pick up your soup/chili between 4-5pm on 3/7/21 - email jenna.engel@aboutfirst.com

2. Drive up under the awning of the church and a volunteer will bring your pre-portioned samples of soup/chili.

3. VOTE! Vote using http://aboutfirst.com/carryoutcookoff or email Jenna Engel at jenna.engel@aboutfirst.com - remember, you get one vote for soup and one vote for chili.

## The Power of Listening

Sandy Noelting, Dee Behr, or Jan Hoover.

A few years ago an office supply store advertised a high quality speaker phone. They boasted that it had "hand-set-quality". The main selling point on the box was, "Now you can talk and listen at the same time." Isn't this the primary obstacle to effective human interaction- that we have a tendency to try to talk and listen at the same time? Do we need technology to make the situation worse? For many, conversation isn't about communication, it's about competition – verbally outmaneuvering the other side to win an argument. Stephen Covey says, "Many people do not listen with intent to understand. They listen with intent to reply." Of course, this kind of non- listening gets us nowhere. The Bible tells us to be "quick to listen and slow to speak". (James 1:19) This is a major key to success in relationships. The more we listen, and less we speak, the more likely we are to communicate effectively. To know you have been heard has a healing effect. That is why the Stephen Ministry training emphasizes reflective listening skills. If you

are experiencing a tough loss of some kind and need a good listener in your life, please contact our church office or one of the Stephen Leaders:

## Join the Facebook Group

We have created a Facebook group called **First Friends and Family** to allow everyone to interact and share the ways they are finding to Love First. This group was developed so we as a church family could stay connected while we are social distancing. Head over to our church Facebook page, select 'visit group'. You should find the button under the banner. Want to join? Click the member request button and we will be sure to add you, or send a note to Chris or Jenna and we'll connect you.

## **G** reaching out & in

## Send a Card or Note

Many care facilities are not allowing visitors, even family. Send a card or a letter to our friends who are isolated right now. Phone calls and cards are also much appreciated for those who are staying home. Think of who sits around you in worship or in a group, and give them a call or a card. We still have updated photo directories at our Welcome Center. Pick one up Monday-Friday.

Doris Crandall, Marilyn Pape Martin Suites 420 E. 11th St Cedar Falls IA 50613

Marlys Cook, Nola Kelly, Faye Rohwedder Stanard Assisted Living 420 E. 11th St Cedar Falls IA 50613

Wanda Anderson, Marian Christiason, Ruth Gooden, Mardy Hermann, Homer Leymaster Windhaven Assisted Living 5500 S. Main St Cedar Falls IA 50613

Ellen Opsal, Lura Treloar Deery Suites 5307 Caraway Lane Cedar Falls IA 50613

LaVonne Neese, Irene Raub Thalman Square 5500 S. Main St Cedar Falls IA 50613 Marilyn Geesaman, Virginia Van Tassel Nation Cottage 5111 Caraway Lane Cedar Falls IA 50613

Rudy Grapp, Vivian Hill New Aldaya Lifescapes 7517 University Ave Cedar Falls IA 50613

Darlene Jordan, Perry Thurman Pinnacle Care 1223 Prairie View Rd Cedar Falls IA 50613

Darlene Prashak Heritage Care and Rehab Center 501 S. Kentucky Ave Mason City IA 50401

Linda Rundall Sunrise Hill Care & Rehab Center 909 6th St Traer IA 50675

Noreen Roth Good Neighbor Society 105 McCarren Dr Manchester IA 52057

#### Pray for all who are being impacted by the coronoviras.

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## March 7 - Soup and Chili Carry-Out Cook-off

When: Sunday, March 7th 4:00 to 5:00 Where: Gathering Place Our beloved Chili and Soup Cook-off is back!! This time in Carry-Out style to meet our Covid safety standards! This year we will feature a drive thru pick up of our selections and an online voting method. RSVP to pick up your soup/chili between 4-5pm on 3/7/21 – email jenna.engel@aboutfirst.com.

### March 10 - Card Making Party

Come join the fun at our first Congregational Care Team card making party of 2021!

When: Wednesday, March 10th 1:00 to 4:00

Where: Gathering Place

Note that this is a change of day from our usual meetings. We will again social distance and ask that you wear a mask. No snacks again for awhile. We will just enjoy each others company. Our card rack is still supplied with beautiful cards and the money this time will go to Midwest Mission in Illinois. They are a partner with us in supplying many needed supplies in times of need.

## **United Methodist Committee On Relief**

When: Wednesday, March 14th

Where: Special Offering Sunday

March 14 is UMCOR Sunday. It is a time to lift up and financially support this important mission work. UMCOR Sunday is one of the six special offerings observed across the United Methodist Church.

## March 22- LifeServe Blood Drive

#### Where: Gathering Place

When: 12:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Our monthly Blood Drive will be Monday, March 22. They have quite a few appointments slots to fill, and the need is great. Sign up to donate at www.lifeservebloodcenter.org.

## Crafters' Corner

#### Crafter's Corner will resume in April.

It's been too cold to want to go out in the evenings, so Crafter's Corner is taking a break for the month of March. Get your crafting project lined up and join the group again on April 27, the fourth Tuesday of the month, from 6:00-8:00 in the Gathering Place. Please contact Crystal Wilken at crystalwilken@gmail.com with any questions.

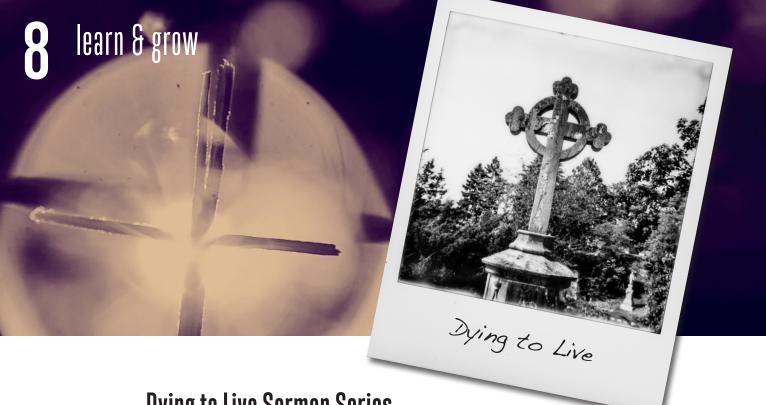
## **Easter Lilies**

Easter will be here soon – April 4. Once again we are inviting you to purchase a lily in honor or in memory of a loved one. You may come into the church and find an order form at the Welcome Center or in the office, or you can mail your check to the church and include a note clearly indicating who the lily is in memory or honor of, and by whom. Cost for each lily is \$10. Checks can be made out to FUMC. The deadline to order your lily is Thursday, April 1.

## Become a Virtual Greeter!

Help us connect with more people in our digital sanctuary!

During the sermon, log on and say hello! You can then engage with people as they log on or comment, and help identify visitors and interact with them. Let's treat our Virtual space as a home and welcome people in!



### **Dying to Live Sermon Series**

The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are being destroyed. But it is the power of God for those of us who are being saved.î 1 Corinthians 1:18 Crosses are iconic. They make great jewelry and tattoos. They also appear to be the focal point of most church sanctuaries. Virtually all Christians across the globe acknowledge it as the symbol of our faith but when was the last time we discussed why Jesus went to the cross and what that REALLY means? The duration of Lent, we will be discussing angles of atonement. Atonement simply means "being made right". What Jesus did on the cross makes things right again in a broken world. We will look at the different ways that plays out in our lives today. Join us for some deeply theological conversations that make a difference for when the rubber meets the road in our Christian beliefs.

March 7: Atonement Theory: Redemption/Ransom March 14: Atonement Theory: Substitution/Satisfaction March 21: Atonement Theory: Moral Influence March 28: Palm Sunday April 4: EASTER

Blessings,

Pastor Scott and Pastor Matt



## Miss A Sermon?

If you miss a Sunday message from Pator Scott or Pastor Matt, you'll find it on our youtube channel. Go to our website at aboutfirst.com and scroll down to the "sermons" graphic, which will link you to all of our sermons and public videos.

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## umw news

## Mission Focus - Prayer Calendar 2021

"Sahwira" is a Shona word for "special friends." Such friends share joys and sorrows. As a missionary, many women have become my friends. Friendship with Jesus is above all and He continues to invite us to be his close, special friends.

Grace Musuka, United Methodist Women Regional Missionary serving in Central Africa

## RESPONSE Moment - Message From the President, Ainise Isama'u

"I believe that we are called to stand in our faith, to grow in knowledge and be motivated by the world's need for women to be in mission for women, children and youth. God calls and we answer. We speak up and show up. We learn more about God's love the more we work together. United Methodist Women members accept God's invitation to be part of God's work for the transformation of the world. I can't wait to get started."

President Isama'u grew up a pastor's kid. Her faith journey as well as her career journey have taken many different paths. These paths have led her to a life in ministry. She is a lay member of United With Hope UMC in Long Beach, CA and a pastoral intern at Faith Torrance UMC. She hopes to graduate this year from Claremont School of Theology with a master of divinity degree.

The complete article appears in the january/february 2021 RESPONSE magazine. A copy is located in the church library. Submitted by Stephanie Buchs, Education and Interpretation Coordinator

## **United Methodist Women News**

There will be no UMW Board or Unit Meeting in March due to Covid restrictions; however, our United Methodist Women have been far from idle during these gathering restrictions. Many of us have still been quilting, making and sending cards, and most importantly caring for our families and friends over the telephone and with our prayers. These have definitely been strange times but we have found ways to help each other through them.

Please mark your calendars for The World Day of Prayer on March 5th. This is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. We will not be having any formal celebration but welcome all to participate with your prayers.

We are hoping to resume many of our regular meetings in April when we will be welcoming Ali Parrish, Executive Director of the Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity, at our Unit Meeting on April 8th.

## Bible Verse for March– Romans 8:38-39

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love that is in Christ Jesus our Lord (NIT)

### Got extra fabric? Bring it in!

There is always a need for durable/sturdy fabric to make school bags and other stitching projects. The Stitchers & Quilters also could use decent sized lengths of cotton quilting fabric for comfort quilts, baptism quilts, and quilts for foster kids, as well as school bags for Midwest Mission. There is a designated bin for your quality fabric donation in the church collection site on the main level of the church in the little hall across from the drinking fountain.

## **10** monthly mission



## Lincoln Elementary Book Drive

March Mission Focus: Books for Lincoln Elementary School. Lincoln Elementary School is First United Methodist's Partner In Education. Because of this partnership, many students have received age-appropriate books to assist with their reading education. Ralph Bryant, principal at Lincoln School, shares this comment, "Due to the pandemic, we have worked diligently this year to help our students make progress in all subjects. Reading continues to be a major focus for all of our students, and we appreciate the opportunity to provide them with the gift of reading. Thank you for your generosity." The pandemic has impacted Lincoln Elementary in many ways and one close to the hearts of FUMC members is the inability to provide reading assistance through our Reading Buddies. This has been a difficult loss for the school. One way FUMC can make a positive impact for their major focus on reading is to provide students with at least one book by the end of the school year in June. Because there are many students learning online at home, the school student numbers are lower this year. Let's donate money to purchase books to allow each of the 345 students to have their own book. We met the goal last year of 400 books, so we should be able to help out to get 345 students their own book this year!

To donate, you can write a check to First United Methodist Church and put "books for Lincoln School" in the memo area. Bring or mail your donation to the church office. Your generous donation will be doubled through an endowment from Bill and Ione Zach. What a great way to show you support reading and the education of our children.

#### United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR) Sunday–March 14, 2021

Sunday, March 14 is UMCOR Sunday. It is a time to lift up and financially support this important mission work. UMCOR Sunday is one of the six special offerings observed across the United Methodist Church.

Here are only two ways that UMCOR has assisted in relief efforts recently.

#### COVID-19

The UMCOR Rapid Response COVID-19 grants have helped United Methodist National Mission Institutions such as Gum Moon Residence, Red bird Mission and Henderson Settlement as they battled keeping people fed, housed, and connected during the pandemic.

Faithful UMC institutions stretch to serve communities. Additionally, UMCOR has been working with local churches to be in mission with their communities. Collaboration with annual conferences and nonprofit organizations has increased the ability to care for one another and show compassion during the pandemic.

#### DISASTER

UMCOR prayerfully works with communities that are overwhelmed by natural or man-made disasters using their strengths and actively involves the people who are affected in recovery efforts. UMCOR trained conference disaster response staff helped with relief efforts after the "derecho" in Iowa and Illinois. Emergency response teams were deployed and UMCOR stayed in communication with the impacted conferences. The Iowa conference received a solidarity grant related to this disaster response.

On Sunday, March 14, we invite you to join with other Methodist congregations in donating to support UMCOR. These generous donations collectively enable UMCOR to remain strong in their day-to-day efforts around the world. How can your donation make a difference? Along with thousands of other Methodists, these donations allow UMCOR to direct 100% of contributions to the projects that donors specify, rather than using that money for administrative or fundraising costs.

Please prayerfully consider a donation to UMCOR. You may send your check (write UMCOR donation in the memo area) to the church office.

## in mission together

Lav

aboutfirst.com

## A Mission Trip Opportunity, Not so far from home!

Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Pawnee Illinois

Since opening for ministry in 2000, Midwest Mission has been showing God's Love in practical ways through the distribution of education, health, micro-business, and disaster relief supplies meeting basic human needs around the world and around the corner. A "hands-on" mission experience is provided to those who serve at Midwest Mission which brings hope to those receiving supplies.

Midwest Mission distributes its kits, resources and supplies locally, nationally, and internationally to those in need during a time of crisis. All supplies are given free of charge regardless of gender, race or religion.

Midwest Mission is one of nine cooperating depots in the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Supply Network. Midwest Mission distributes UMCOR supplies in response to disasters within the United States.

Midwest Mission also partners with Christians in Mission, Food for the Poor, Franciscan Mission Warehouse Project C.U.R.E Kansas City and US Southern Command to bring the hearts and hands of God's people together to transform resources into humanitarian relief.

Midwest Mission has few staff, so the vast majority of their mission is carried out by missionaries. Midwest Mission needs and loves its missionaries. Anyone from the age of 11 and up are welcome to join their Mission!

They strive to accommodate a wide variety of ability levels, from sit down work to manual labor. While at Midwest Mission, missionaries will:

- Pack kits
- Sort items
- Sew
- Help with mailings
- Build desks
- Repair bicycles & sewing machines
- Help load/unload supplies
- Or whatever the current requested needs are at the time

Groups from our church have travelled to Midwest Mission for several years. We have reservations for four missionaries to join the staff at Midwest Mission May 10 - 14. The reservation includes two bedrooms in their dormitory and use of the kitchen for meal preparation. Midwest Mission has taken strong precautions to prevent the spread of Covid. Your safety is of primary concern.

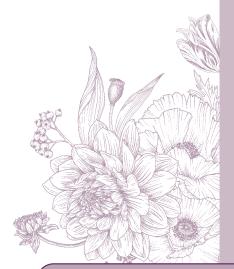
Sound interesting? Is a mission trip on your list of things to do? This may be the opportunity for you! **Reservation confirmation is due by March 15th.** 

Check out the Midwest Mission Distribution Center's website for more information: www.midwestmission.org/mission-journey/missionaries or contact Jan Benson at jbenson@cfu.net.

## **12** worship & digital church

## How to Worship Online

### Option 1



#### Facebook Live Stream

Watch Sunday worship live, as it happens on our First UMC Facebook page. facebook.com/firstumccfmedia/

#### **Option 2**

#### aboutfirst.com

The online worship page at aboutfirst.com has service videos and worship resources including: links to the teaching scripture passage, kids' video, online sign-in, and online offering.

#### **Option 3**

Youtube Channel Go to aboutfirst.com and click the 'sermons' graphic for a link to our channel

## First UMC is on Cable TV

We have an hour timeslot on public access cable TV in both Waterloo and Cedar Falls. Our program includes a Sunday School story for children, a devotion from a church staff member, and the teaching session from last Sunday's service.

**Cedar Falls** (CFU) Channels 18 and 95.5, Friday *@* 8:00 pm, Sunday *@* 9:00 am **Waterloo** (MediaCom) Channel 17, Sundays *@* 11:am & 8:pm

## **Tune In To Evening Reflections**

Every evening at 6:00, a church staffer or volunteer will be live on our Facebook page with a reflection for the day. Gather the family and tune in for a word of encouragement and something to think about. Feel free to share comments with others who are watching it's good to hear from each other!

## Give Through Our Website or Your Phone

Online giving is great for you, because you can do it any time, any place, and you don't need to carry cash to church. Recurring (automatic) giving is great for you, because you won't have to try to remember to write the check. Recurring giving is also great for the church because it provides a predictable income stream for budgeting and planning purposes.

Our secure online giving portal allows you to make one-time offerings, or to set up a recurring gift. Check it out today.

http://aboutfirst.com/giving

or, download the GivePlus app to your mobile device and give directly from your phone. Available for androids and i-people.



## SUNDAY MORNING

- 8:30 Traditional Worship Service in-person or join us on the livestream
- 9:35 Sunday School virtual Sunday School, join us online!
- 10:00 Transformation Worship Service in-person or on the livestream

#### Children's Sunday School Online

The monthly newsletter for Sunday school is up. We hope you are enjoying it and that it is useful to you. In this newsletter you will find out what lessons we will be teaching that month. You will also be able to find and print the Family Page and any other activity pages for each lesson and a template for our crafts. Be sure to continue to tune in on Sunday mornings at 9:35 on our Church's Facebook page to see the latest Sunday school video.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT

#### your church night

Have your mid-week church night online for a quick and easy connection and spiritual pick-me-up. Tune in each Wednesday night at 6:30 on Facebook. Be sure to use the comments to tell us that you're watching, share some discussion, and to say "Hi" to your friends from First UMC.

March 3: Lessons on Jesus' life with Haleigh, Lorrin and Jenna.

March 10: Join us as we Interview a member of our congregation.

**March 17:** First UMC cooks! Watch from a safe distance (Facebook) as we prepare dishes from the First UMC cookbook. We will post the recipes in advance so you and your family can follow along with us.

March 24: Lessons on Jesus' life told by a few of our youth.

March 31: Lessons on Jesus' life told by a few of our youth.

#### Fusion Tonight: from the Front Lines

Isolation hasn't been an option for everyone in this pandemic: public safety officers, teachers, healthcare workers, grocery store workers, and others have had no choice but to keep working in high-exposure jobs. Beginning in this month, we'll hear stories from these front-line workers at our weekly worship talk show, Fusion Tonight.



## **14** youth news



## Iowa United Methodist Summer Camps

Iowa United Methodist Camps are open and waiting for campers! They have camps at Lake Okoboji and Wesley Woods. If you are interested in signing you child up to attend a camp contact Jenna Engel at jenna.engel@aboutfirst.com

## Sonday School

The monthly newsletter for Sunday school is up. We hope you are enjoying it and that it is useful to you.

In this newsletter you will find out what lessons we will be teaching that month. You will also be able to find and print the Family Page and any other activity pages for each lesson.

Be sure to continue to tune in on Sunday mornings at 9:35 on our Church's Facebook page to see the latest Sunday school video.



## **Sole Hope Mission Night**

Does anyone have an old pair of jeans they want to get rid of? The youth will be having a mission night on April 21st. We are going through a ministry called Sole Hope. This ministry creates shoes for kids in Uganda to help prevent Jiggers and other footrelated parasites. The shoes have to be made out of denim jeans and each kit needs \$14 to help with the creation of the shoes, shipping cost, and cleaning products for the feet. If you would like to help with the cause we would really appreciate any jeans or donations you have. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Haleigh at haleighderhammer**@** gmail.com!

## **Thank Yous**

I am sending a hearty thank you for the lovely red rose delivered to my door by Jane Wyckoff from the Congregational Care Team. It sparks up my meal setting each day. Thanks, also to First's staff for each signing the card recognizing my 95th birthday. The church is such a blessing to me and the community. *Rowena Hardinger* 

Thank you for the card and the pretty rose delivered by Jane Wyckoff for my 87th birthday. *Richard Fanning* 

Thank you Jane Wyckoff for delivering a beautiful red rose for my birthday. It was great seeing you and had a fun time visiting. Also, thank you church staff for the birthday wishes. Can't wait until we are all together again. *Larry Maas* 

Thank you Jane Wyckoff for delivering a beautiful rose for my birthday. I really enjoyed the little visit with Jane, and the rose was an added bonus. *Grace Rapp* 

Dear friends at First United Methodist Church. I want to thank all of you and especially your courier, ane Wyckoff, who delivered your gift of a beautiful red rose for my birthday. It was very thoughtful. It is nice to be remembered! *Jim Harding* 

Thank you for the Valentine card. Very thoughtful of you. *Homer Leymaster* 

We want to thank everyone who expressed condolences to us with phone calls and cards in the loss of my brother. Our most caring church family and friends are very special to us. We miss seeing everyone. *Jim Schwab* 

Our Drive-thru Cookie Sale was a "bone-chilling" adventure due to the low temperature and wind on Saturday, February 6. That didn't keep us from having a good day. Thanks to FUMC for allowing us the opportunity to still sell GS Cookies. Profits from this year's sale will help fund our Gold Award projects. Troop 6581 - Audrienne, Sydney, McKenzie, & Elise

I would like to send my thanks to all of you who sent cards of encouragement and get well wishes after my heart surgery at the Mayo Clinic. I also want to thank those who called to check on me and for their kind words. This all made me appreciate my friends and church family. Thanks again to all of you. Thank you for the beautiful red rose Jane delivered to me for my birthday even in these zero temperatures. It was extra special to receive the card from the church staff! I surely do miss seeing my church family. *Donna Cuvelier* 

short notes **'** 

The family of Gary Pease would like to thank our church family for the many prayers, cards, phone calls, emails, and some snow clearing with our double loss of Gary and then Annette's mother. Thank you to Pastor Matt for his visits at the hospital during Gary's last days. Your caring support has been a real blessing and is greatly appreciated. Annette Pease, Angela Waseskuk, and family

## Sympathy

Family and friends of Dotty Rokes, who died January 25.

Annette Pease on the death of her mother, Ruth Gelhaus, on January 31.

Donna Mincks and her family on the death of her sister, Dorothy Callaway, on January 31.

Family and friends of Jeaneene Kemmerer. Jeaneene died February 2.

Michele McFarland and her family on the death of her Aunt Carol.

#### Hospital reminder

Governmental regulations prohibit health care facilities (this includes hospitals, assisted living and nursing homes) from sharing information about their patients and residents, so if you want your church family to know you need our love and prayers, please call the church office.

#### **Altar Flowers**

The altar flower calendar for 2021 is at the Welcome Center. Sign up now to recognize a special date or to honor a loved one with flowers for the altar. Have the flowers delivered to the church on Friday, please.

#### Card shower for 90th birthday

Colleen Crow will be 90 years old on March 13. We can help her celebrate this big birthday by sending a card to: 353 Joy Drive, Waterloo IA 50701

Joe Cook

#### First United Methodist Church

718 Clay Street Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613 Phone: 319.266.1713 Fax: 319.266.1715 Email: churchoffice@aboutfirst.com aboutFirst (USPS 671-710) is published monthly by First United Methodist Church 718 Clay Street Cedar Falls, IA 50613. Periodical postage paid at Cedar Falls, IA. <u>POSTMASTER</u> Send changes to: aboutFirst 718 Clay Street Cedar Falls, IA 50613

## aboutfirst news



First United Methodist Church, Cedar Falls

#### Worship

Sunday, noon Daily, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Livestream on Facebook & in-person Video and worship resources at aboutfirst.com Reflection and prayers, Facebook Live

#### Television

Cedar Falls (CFU) Channels 18 or 95.5: Friday @ 8:00 pm, Sunday @ 9:00 am Waterloo (MediaCom) Channel 1: Sundays @ 11:00am & 8:00 pm

#### **Our Pastors**

Scott Kober, Lead Pastor, scott.kober@aboutfirst.com Matt German, Associate Pastor, matt.german@aboutfirst.com

#### Staff (in alphabetical order)

Sam Barr, Transformation Music Coordinator sam.barr@aboutfirst.com

> Dee Behr, Parish Visitor dee.behr@aboutfirst.com

John Bentley, Head Custodian

Susan Chizek, Finance Manager susan.chizek@aboutfirst.com

Chris Congdon, Media Coordinator chris.congdon@aboutfirst.com

Lisa Congdon, Office Ministry Coordinator lisa.congdon@aboutfirst.com

Haleigh Derhammer, Middle School Youth youth@aboutfirst.com

> Carol Dick, Grief Support Coordinator cdick@cfu.net

Jenna Engel, Christian Education Coordinator jenna.engel@aboutfirst.com

> Katie Greuel. Dir. Communications and Online Media katie.greuel@aboutfirst.com

Bevan Lucas, Music Ministry Coordinator

Lorrin Schofield, High School Youth youth@aboutfirst.com

> Doug Shaffer, Organist musicman52151@gmail.com

Jane Wyckoff, Parish Visitor Coordinator