

Whose Birthday???



GRINNELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Messenger

Mike Slaughter named the irony of Christians, whose self-indulgent holiday celebrations make a mockery of the One whose birthday we honor. He challenged members to give as much for others as they spend on themselves. John Wesley once said Christians are called to return money in excess of basic necessities to God “through the poor,” whom God “had appointed to receive it.”

There has been conversation about how the GUMC family can

be more authentic in celebrating Christmas this year. How are you doing in making your 2011 Christmas arrangements? Are you keeping track and setting aside an equal amount you’ll spend on gifts, meals, travel and decorations to give as a gift to One whose birthday we’re celebrating? These gifts will go to provide support for the ministry at Women at the Well UMC in the Mitchellville Prison, camping opportunities for the children of inmates and support a stronger

reentry into society upon release. We do this because it’s Jesus’ birthday and because he said care for those in prison (see Matthew 25) is to be one of our fundamental expressions of Christ-like love.



If Christmas is Jesus’ birthday, then why do we give one another presents?

I think it’s time that changed. Jesus ought at least get as much as we do!

Extravagant Generosity



The finance campaign “Extravagant Generosity” is drawing to a close. The commitment folder looks different than the pledge card we’ve used in the past so some of you did not realize what it was. Additional copies of the tri-fold commitment folder are available from an usher at worship or from the church office. If you haven’t yet turned in your commitment folder, please bring it this Sunday, mail or turn it in to the church office.

Inside this issue:

Len’s Letter	2
Deacon Diane	4
Youth	6
UMW	9
Finance	12
Birthdays/Anniv	12
Calendar	13

Special points of interest:

- News from the Foundation on p. 3.
- See the upcoming Confirmation events on p. 4.
- It’s time to become a verb! See Rally Day info on p. 8.
- Check out all of the opportunities for spiritual growth on p. 8.

Len's Letter

Dear Mom,

It's said that "Change" is one of the few constants. I'd say the enduring love of God far outpaces change of any kind, yet in the large scheme of things, "Change" in its many facets does seem to come about with regularity. It probably won't be of any great surprise for those who keep track of birthdays that there is a change under way for me personally. In fact I've had members of the congregation ask me straight out in the past year or so, "Are you retiring?"

So whether people have been anticipating or not, the reality is I've been in conversation with the appropriate people – District Superintendent Dave Weesner and the Staff Parish Relations Committee about my intention to retire effective June 30, 2012. The process will officially begin with a letter to Bishop Trimble requesting this change in my status. The SPRC has been in conversation about what sort of staffing will be needed to help the congregation continue vital ministry. Superintendent Weesner will be meeting with the SPRC on Nov. 2nd to begin developing a church profile used in making clergy appointments. He will also be the preacher in Grinnell on Nov. 13th with some time for conversation with members of the congregation during

the Sunday School hour.

Deacon Diane intends to submit her resignation effective June 30th as well. Since she is hired by the church and then has her employment blessed with an appointment by the Bishop, this seems like a good way to explore the strongest staffing options. Diane and I have both spoken highly of GUMC as a strong, healthy congregation that needs skilled, seasoned leadership.

The Bishop's Cabinet will be working on matching a new clergy appointment which will likely be announced sometime in late winter. My role in all of this will be minimal. I am and will continue to do all in my power to facilitate a strong, smooth transition. It's my hope I can be the sort of solid support for the new pastor as former pastors like Del Dawes and Raymond Lott have been for me. These colleagues, along with the blessing of other retired clergy at GUMC, have been a God send.

Personally, all of this is still pretty surreal. I'm well aware of going through a "last" cycle of experiences. It's something that will continue happening throughout the year. I'm seeking to stay fully engaged in every act however so that the ministry of GUMC remains strong. There isn't any room for "lame ducks"

in this work!

It sure seems like a short/long time since Dad accompanied me to the Dakotas Annual Conference of the Evangelical United Brethren Church in Grand Forks, ND where I received my License to Preach in June of 1968. That was the same year of the EUB/Methodist merger. So the next year I was ordained Deacon in the United Methodist Church. In 1973 I was ordained Elder. The church has since separated these orders to be on parallel tracks. So by next June it will be 43 years since I received my license to preach and 40 years since I begin my first appointment in 1972 following graduation from Seminary.

"Change." That's something we're all going to be living into during these next months. Speaking of change, we're looking forward to having you at our house for Thanksgiving.

Love,

Len

HE'S COMING!

Dave Weesner, Superintendent of the Central District will be the preacher at both services on November 13th. Come and share in worship and then take the opportunity for conversation during the Sunday School hour .



Providing for God's Future Work Today!

Over the past few months we have answered many of the frequently asked questions about our church's foundation and in the next few months you will be learning more about planned giving.

Our Foundation Board has recognized that planned giving is not separate from Christian stewardship, but is rather an important part of it. With this in mind, the foundation board has contracted with Doug Lockin, a planned giving advisor, to help members of our congregation create their own planned gifts for the charities they care about.

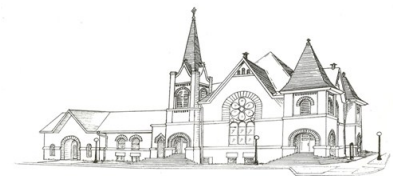
A planned gift is any gift, large or small, given with forethought. A planned gift to GUMC is a financial gift structured to serve the needs of our church as well as the giver. A planned gift may take the form of an outright gift during a donor's lifetime, a bequest through their will or other estate plan, a trust, or a life income gift.

These gifts usually come from accumulated assets such as personal property, real estate, stocks, bonds, life insurance policies, cash, or other assets of tangible value. In most cases, planned gifts are given after your lifetime as part of your estate plan. Often these gifts can

be structured to take advantage of allowable income and estate tax incentives.

Watch our newsletter for more information on Doug Lockin and planned giving! If you would like to meet with Doug Lockin, please call Lyle Roudabush (236-8139), Mike Allen (236-6712) or the church office for more information.

The GUMC Foundation Board!



Foundation Corner: Questions and Answers about the Foundation

What are the ways I can give to The Foundation?

Gifts Of Cash:

Simplicity and ease of giving are the reasons that cash is the most popular type of giving. A gift of cash is considered given on the date it is made to the fund.

Gifts Of Security:

A gift of long-term securities generally results in several federal tax benefits. You are entitled to an income tax deduction for the full market value of the

securities as of the date of your gift. You are not liable for the capital gains tax you would incur if you sold the securities.

A Gift Of Property:

Real property in any location may be given to the foundation, provided it meets certain criteria. If the property is owned one year or longer, the fair market value is deductible, no capital gains taxes are payable on appreciation and the property is removed from your taxable estate. Donations of a personal

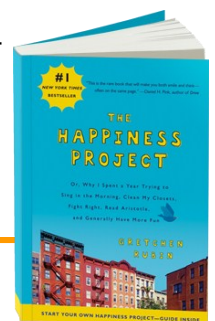
residence or farm are welcome and you can retain use of them throughout your lifetime.

A Personal Will Or Estate Planning:

In your will you may decide to bequeath a percentage of your estate, or a specific amount, or the remainders after bequests to other beneficiaries are made.

Book Club!

The GUMC book club has started back up for the year! We began reading "The Happiness Project" by Gretchen Rubin at the end of October and will be meeting several times throughout the next month. Our first meeting time will be Thursday, Nov. 17 at 7pm. If you'd like to join the discussion, contact Ashley Risting. For more information about the book, the author, and the "happiness project," check out www.happiness-project.com.



Deacon Diane's Corner

If you have read Len's article, you know by now, that he has announced his retirement! Ten years just flies by! I will be submitting my resignation to the SPRC effective June 20, 2012. Since I am a bit younger, I will still have a few years left to be in ministry. As a Deacon, I can work within the walls of the church, connecting the church and the world. I may also serve in the community or in an agen-

cy, connecting the world and the church. I will be patiently discerning where God may be calling me next, whether in Grinnell or a neighboring community. It may mean that I commute to another town.

At times like this I have a tendency to be anxious about the future. But I have a sense of peace that God will continue to guide and lead me. It may be in a totally unexpected direction. I

covet your prayers during this time of discernment. And I will be praying for Grinnell UMC as you await the exciting plans that are in store! Jeremiah 29:11!!!

Serving with you,

Deacon Diane

Buy A Sweet Treat So Others May Eat

As part of "Give Back November" our Confirmation youth are planning to raise money to pay for a team to package meals for Kids Against Hunger on Nov. 13th. They will be having a Bake Sale after both worship services on Nov. 6th in order to try to raise \$360 for cover a team of twelve. Please be generous with your donations that day!! Thank you!



Confirmation Comments

Thanks to all who walked on the CROP Walk in October! Upcoming November events include:

Nov. 6- Bake Sale to raise funds for Kids Against Hunger after both worship services

Nov. 13 – 1:35 pm – Kids Against Hunger Packaging Event at St. Mary's Education Bldg.

Nov. 19 – 5:30pm – Mass at St.

Mary's Catholic Church

Nov. 20 – 9:15 am – Faith Friend Sunday

Please note that the date has changed for the Live Nativity at Jingle Bell Holidays. It will be on Friday, December 2 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm on the corner of 4th and Broad Streets.

Women at the Well Update

Many of you read about or heard about the identity thefts that were experienced by some who visited the Women at the Well Congregation in Mitchellville Prison. Please keep Pastor Lee

in your prayers as well as the members of this congregation as they deal with this disappointing news. For more information and a complete statement, please go to: <http://goo.gl/GZBHQ>



Christmas is coming!! One of the traditions at GUMC is to provide a meal on Christmas Day for anyone in the community. It's been a great way to offer hospitality to persons who may not have anyone to share the day with and with whom to eat a meal. Past experience has been that willing persons have stepped up to provide coordination and most importantly, willing hands to prepare, serve and clean up after the meal. Is your heart being prompted to help make the 2011 Christmas meal happen and experience wonderful fellowship while making lasting memories?! Call the church office to indicate your interest. A brief meeting will be called after 10:30 worship on Oct. 30 of those interested.

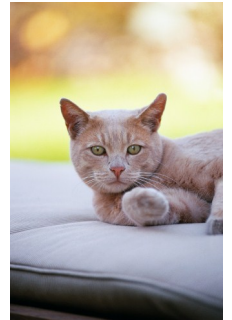
Memorial Donations go to PALS

PALS was chosen, by the families of Walter Bender and Heidi Jo Pederson, as one of the organizations to receive memorials to honor Walt and Heidi's lives. The animals at PALS have been sincerely blessed by the generosity of the families and members of this congregation. I understand from the families that Walt and Heidi both had a love for animals, yet had a special place in their hearts for cats and kittens. PALS will be using the combined memorial money donated to enhance and improve our cat havens. We will be add-

ing two new windows with cat perches, one for haven 1 and the other in haven 2. These two haven's do not have windows or natural light today, so this will be a wonderful benefit for the cats in those rooms. Additionally, we will purchase cat climbing trees, shelves/ramps and/or play apparatuses for all of the havens to enhance play and social time for the cats at PALS. Finally, Walt and Heidi's names will be added to our plaque in the cat room, as donors and supporters of our cat facilities. These memorial dona-

tions have truly made a significant impact for our cat kids and it has allowed us to provide these extras to ensure their quality of life while at our shelter. THANK YOU to the Bender and Pederson families! Thank you to everyone who donated to Walt and Heidi's memorials.

PALS Board
Member,
Treasurer
Wendy S Kadner



We're brought up to be strong, self-sufficient, independent people.

We tend to think that if we ask for help, it is a sign of weakness. So we try to keep our struggles hidden, stuffed deep inside. However, that's not God's plan. Galatians 6:2 says "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of

Christ." God wants us to care for others--and allow others to care for us in our time of need.

If you're sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. (It's confidential too!) Find out more about

Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders: *Deacon Diane, Barb Norman, Wendy Ramsey or Tammy Nekola.* **Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!**



Prayer Vigil

Spiritual Nurture and Outreach will hold the 4th quarter prayer vigil on November 5th. We will be celebrating All Saints day and invite you to sign up for 1/2 hour time slots by yourself or with a friend. It will begin at 8:00 a.m. and continue until 8:00 p.m. Sign up sheets will be available on October 23rd and 30th. Please sign up for a time for reflection and prayer.

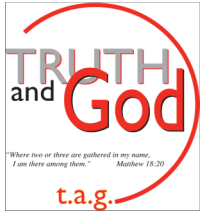


We Remember

We will be recalling the saints who have gone before us during both services on All Saints Day, November 6th. The lives of these saints will be remembered during the Eucharist liturgy. Families of persons who have died during the past year are welcomed to this important day. We will be dedicating

memorials that have been designated during the services.

Lindsey Stewart is one of our saints that we will be remembering. All are invited to wear their Live or Fight Like Lindsey shirt or to dress in pink in her memory.



t.a.g. 5th through 8th grades

Join us EVERY
WEDNESDAY:

Last month we clothed ourselves in the Amazing Clothes Race, gave thanks with Bible Smuggling, and paired up Bible facts with Balloon Burst! November promises some more

awesome activities and study!

6:30-7:45pm

Fireside room

t.a.g. "The Journey" Advent Study

The t.a.g. group will be using Adam Hamilton's Advent study, "The Journey." We will begin on November 16th and end the study on December 21st. Last year's study was such a blast; we're so excited to embark on this new study and "journey!"



Romans & Christians- THANK YOU!!

During the football season home games, our t.a.g. program of 5th-8th graders gathered in our Friendship Center for huge Romans and Christians games. We have had 80+ youth running around our church, having fun, and enjoying their fellowship time! I THANK EVERYONE who was able to

participate and help chaperone these nights! Not only have these youth had a safe, fun place to gather, but they've also done a fantastic job of taking care of our church! I look forward to more Romans and Christians nights in the future!

Wednesday Adventures- K through 4th grades



For the month of November, the Wednesday Adventures crew will be traveling to Newton's YMCA for swimming and a variety of games! We'll meet in the Fireside Room on November 2nd at around 12:30. If you want to come along, pick up a



permission slip by the large screen TV. or talk to Ashley in the office.

Here's what else is coming up!

- ◆ December 7th: Christmas Caroling (our service project for the year!)

- ◆ January 4th: Movie Day
- ◆ February 1st: Bowling



Chaperones are always needed, and they always enjoy the adventure too!
Contact Ashley to help!

Gifts for Jesus

One way to Give Back in November (and continue through January)...the Gifts for Jesus tree! Each year, the Sunday school classes and congregation decorate this tree with donations of hats, gloves, food, and other necessary items to be sent to an organization in need. This year, donations will go to MICA. A more

specific donation list will be available closer to the date.



Don't forget to save the date for the Children's Christmas Program on December 11th at the 10:30am service!



Senior High

Check out what we're doing this month, and be on the lookout for other activities.

SS Theme "Forgiveness"

Each month, the Senior High Sunday school class has a theme on which all their lessons focus. The theme for October was "Courage." Among their Sunday lessons, they watched the movies "Soul Survivor" and "Courageous." This month, their theme is "Forgiveness." The plans so far include watching the new movie "Heaven's Rain!"



Homework Night November 13th, 7 pm, Fire-side Room

Join us for a time of fellowship and homework sharing-help. Bring any homework you might need help with. We'll also have time for a puzzle or game; bring one along if you have a favorite!

Wrapping Paper Thanks & Delivery!

THANK YOU for supporting the youth this year in their annual wrapping paper and calendar sale. The proceeds from this fund raiser will go toward the Senior High missions, events, and schol-



arships for Youth Strike for Christ. We will receive the wrapping paper orders in time for Thanksgiving—so you can be ready for Christmas!

If you weren't able to get your calendar ordered, check with Ashley for any extras!

Baking Cookies

November 22, after 10:30 service, Friendship Center

We'll be baking up some delicious home-made cookies for the college care packages on November 22nd. Meet in the Friendship Center for the gooey good time!



GIVE BACK NOVEMBER

Last year, our Sunday

School classes took on a challenge to dedicate the whole month of November as a time to focus on "giving back" and paying it forward. Each class completed at least one mission during the month, if not more!

So, this year, we're challenging the church...it's time to be a verb, change the world, make a fingerprint, and give back! Join us at Rally day on November 6th and watch for more information on how to get involved in "Give Back" November.



Youth Strike for Christ- February 3rd-5th "Soul Survivor"



Registration for Youth Strike for Christ 2012 "Soul Survivor" is OPEN! The date is set for February 3rd through 5th. The Keynote Speaker is our own Wesley Woods Director Deke Rider, and the praise band, Inner Rain, is back from last year because you all loved them so much! For more information check out

www.youthstrike.com or talk to Ashley!



All Sunday school teachers! Mark your calendars for our 2nd teacher training session on Sunday, November 20th during the 8am service. We'll have some snacks, warm drinks, and great conversation! See you all there!



“Fingerprints On Grinnell” Rally Day, Sunday, Nov. 6th 9-10am!



The Education Committee invites the whole congregation to join us in the Sanctuary at 9am on Sunday, November 6th, to kick off Give Back November with a Rally of epic proportions! It's time to make church a verb, and serve!

Here's the schedule of events:

- ⇒ **9am:** Meet in the sanctuary for a short introduction & directions
- ⇒ **9:15am:** Groups gather at their sites for the volunteering!

⇒ **10-10:15am:** Groups gather back in the sanctuary to check in and wrap up our rally.

***Don't forget to sleep an extra hour before you come to volunteer (Day Light Savings Time ends)!

Options for Adults

Have you noticed the new studies popping up for adults in our community and congregation?! Below are *a few* that are happening on Sunday; hope you can join us!

Time to Grow

9:15-10:15am Sundays (Room LL 216)

Join us for our study by Lee Strobel, "The Case for Christ: A Journalist's Personal Investigation of the

Evidence for Jesus." Is there credible evidence that Jesus of Nazareth really is the Son of God? Retracing his own spiritual journey from atheism to faith, Lee Strobel, former legal editor of the Chicago Tribune, cross-examines a dozen experts—recognized authorities in their own fields. Strobel's tough, point-blank questions make this Gold Medallion-winning book read like a captivating, fast-

paced novel. But it's not fiction. It's a riveting quest for the truth about history's most compelling figure. What will your verdict be in The Case for Christ? This should take us to Christmas. As students of faith, we're offering a safe, welcoming, and interactive place for persons of all ages and faiths and beliefs to grow and share.

MASS (Methodist Adults in Study and Service)

9:15-10:15am Sundays (Wesley Room)

Join us for a variety of conversations and studies (ranging from faith in the work place to gambling, to the new Adam Hamilton study, "The Journey.") This class is for adults interested in a Christian perspective toward social issues. We welcome all people and perspectives with open hearts as we hold open forums to broaden and deepen our

We've got all the activities lined up, but we'll need some help with transportation for all the youth and volunteers. If you can help, contact Ashley!

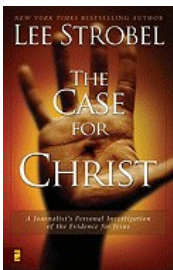
faith.

Living the Questions

9:15-10:15am Sundays (Chapel)

6:30-8/8:30pm Sundays (Fireside Room)

Questions, Questions, Questions...basic ones about religion, the bible, faith, church, ect... Are there answers? Living the Questions is a video series that helps to initiate conversation and share ideas. Be prepared to hear and share thinking outside of the box. This series is a response to the search for a practical tool to bring together, equip, and re-educate thinking Christians.



New Member Orientation in November

If you have been part of the worshipping family at GUMC and would like to take the step to become a member, you are invited to two sessions during the Sunday school hour, November 13 and 20th. We will meet at 9:15 in the Fireside Conference Room on the lower level. Individuals are encouraged to attend both sessions in order to become better acquainted and to provide adequate time for conversations and questions. The reception date will be set during our conversations.



Just a Reminder...

Remember the rainbow we built last January to introduce our Rainbow Covenant avenue of mission giving? Did you decide then that you would make a commitment of a

Rainbow Reminder

dollar or two per week sometime during 2011? Well if you haven't done it yet, tie a rainbow ribbon around your finger now as a reminder that there are only a couple months left in 2011!



UMW Spiritual Bazaar

Roger and Lisa Henderson will entertain us on Sunday, November 13, at 6:30 p.m. in our sanctuary. This is our annual event to celebrate spiritual gifts and receive a freewill offering to support United Methodist Women's projects. Roger is the choral music director at Grinnell High School, and Lisa

is a voice instructor at Grinnell College. They will perform a variety of selections including duets and solos from the Broadway, tin pan alley and sacred music repertoire. Kathy O'Connor will be their accompanist. Refreshments will be served following the entertainment.



Help Us Help Others

A Winter coat drive sponsored by The Beta Sigma Chi Chapter of

Phi Theta Kappa at Iowa Valley Community College will begin on Oct. 14, and run through Nov. 15.

A drop box can be found at the entrance of Iowa Valley Community College or at local area churches. We are accepting new or gently worn coats, hats, scarves, snow pants, gloves, and boots.

Donations will be given to the local MICA office to be distributed to families in need throughout Poweshiek County.

2011 Annual Charge Conference Nov. 15

In the fall, each congregation has an "annual meeting" called a Charge or Church Conference. This is the time to review ministry we've engaged in the past year and make preparations for the year ahead. In recent years GUMC has had this annual meeting in a cluster with other area UMCs. This year District Superintendent Weesner has authorized our congregation to have this meeting in

the context of our November Church Council meeting. Members of the Church Council are voting members of the Charge Conference, however all members of the congregation are invited to the gathering and may participate in the conversation.

Save the Date- Start gathering your Nativity sets for the Jingle Bell Holiday display at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Please bring them to the church office by Dec. 1. Watch for more announcements in church.

2012 Mission Work Trip Planning

Extending our "Give Back November" theme, there will be an interest-gathering meeting on Sunday, Nov. 6, following the 10:30 worship to discuss a 2012 work trip to tornado-ravaged Joplin, Missouri.

If you are excited about the possibility of working along side other church members in disaster recovery; --if you are interested in making new friends and showing love and support in a

constructive way; --if you've always hoped to share a mission experience with your spouse, parent or young adult son or daughter; --if you have already experienced a work trip and you want to encourage others to go for it; OR, if you're just plain curious about work trips in general, JOIN US FOR THE DISCUSSION ON NOVEMBER 6. We want to find out WHAT you want to do, and WHEN the best

time would be for us to do it together.



FRB Growing Project



It seems like just yesterday the farmers were putting the seed into the ground,

and with God's care, the summer growing season was fruitful. The GUMC Foods Resource Bank soybeans are coming in for harvest. If you feel moved to help support this amazing pro-

ject, this year or next, designate your donations to "FRB." And thank a GUMC farmer.



Apportionments— Where do they go?

One way to think about these funds we send to the Annual Conference and the General Church is "a portion meant" to carry on the greater work of the United Methodist Church. As a single congregation we couldn't begin to adequately respond to disasters when they happen, so we have staff and resources at the General Church level ready to do so. We have a Bishop and Cabinet of leaders who offer direction to carry out fruitful ministry and provide the matching of clergy leadership when a change happens. We couldn't pos-

sibly sponsor the level of camp facilities by ourselves which are enjoyed by all ages.

So if you've wondered where all the money goes (in 2011 GUMC's share is \$82,232), check out the summary in the latest issue of the *Conference Treasury Report*. http://www.iaumc.org/console/files/oNewsletter_Archive_HP9B4E/October_Treasury_Notes_SZNEFMTD.pdf

Happy Holidays Party:

Nov. 3 at Noon at the Grinnell Senior Center. Please join us as we celebrate Christmas, Thanksgiving, and New Year's Eve all in one day. Bring a small "dust collector" gift from home to use in our special gift exchange. Call 236-2612 to reserve your meal.

Thank you notes:

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your contribution to the Kids Against Hunger event on Sept. 18. With your help, 13 teams packaged 18,360 meals. These meals were sent to Joplin, MO. The next KAH event will be Nov. 13. We hope to see you there.

Sue Drake

LETTERS OF THANKS



Dear friends,

Thank you for a wonderful retirement celebration. I so appreciated those who shared special memories and kind words that day, as well as the flowers and the plaque that was presented to me. Thank you for all of the wonderful notes, the love gift, and for all you did to make the day special. Your friendship and support, not only at my celebration, but throughout all the years of my service have meant so much to me.

It has certainly been my pleasure to serve as the organist at Grinnell UMC these past 55 years. Thank you for allowing me

to share in the special moments of the lives of your families—the weddings, the funerals, the baptisms, and the other special church occasions. I have so many wonderful memories of these meaningful moments. Thank you so very much.

Kathleen Heffner

P.S. Thank you, Kathleen, for the beautiful music you have provided on the organ and through your life of service!



Update from Brian Tukamushaba:

Brian greets you in the name of Jesus Christ. He loves you and your family. He says he is studying well and his teachers are supporting him. His is learning how to write, to draw some pictures, and they are preparing the garden for planting millet beans and sorgum. It is currently a wet season in his village and it is conducive for planting crops.

He likes playing football with his friends. Brian would like to know whether you also grow enough crops. Brian would like to know whether you also have marrum roads (well developed) in your country. Brian thanks God for creating him in his own image.



Haiti- Peanut Butter & Shoes Update

Thank you to all who donated to this worthy cause. Here are the totals of what was sent to Haiti:

- 1,012 jars of peanut butter
- 244 men's shoes
- 546 women's shoes
- 546 children's and infants shoes
- 16 bags of clothing

Christmas Share Sign-Up

Christmas Share sign-up for Poweshiek County is Monday, Oct. 31 through Nov. 4 from 9:00am to 4:00pm and Sat., Nov. 5 from 9:00am to 1:00pm at the First Presbyterian Church, 1025 5th Ave. Please bring a

current utility bill or other proof of residency.

Financial Corner: What's Happening at GUMC through September 2011?

Financial Information

The 2011 operating budget

- Total giving in Sept. \$ 32,439.11
- Total giving YTD \$331,180.34
- Budgeted Expenses YTD \$383,871.21
- Giving minus budget exp. YTD -\$ 52,690.87

Actual Spending YTD

- Local Ministry \$ 15,913.79
- Missions \$ 67,299.00
- Building \$ 39,118.96
- Staff \$220,608.73
- Total YTD \$342,940.48

Actual deficit through Sept. 2011 -\$11,780.14

Attendance

- Total attendance this September 1276
- Total attendance last September 1231
- Avg. attendance YTD 299
- Avg. attendance last YTD 297

Approved Budget

- \$29,430.00
- \$67,374.00
- \$49,500.00
- \$2237,477.21
- \$383,781.21

Bank Charges \$20.00



November Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Birthdays:

1-Judy Cook; **2-**Drew Coffman; **3-**Judy Agnew, Reghan McNaull; **4-**Alyssa Hulsing, Sheila Latcham; **5-**Braden Blackford, Jack Mutti; **6-**Del Dawes, Ashley German; **7-**Joey Breeden, Zac Latcham, A.J. McNaull; **8-**Jenna Murphy; **9-**Jake Mawe; **10-**Shirlee Murphy, Tammy Sieck; **11-**Devon Baker, Davis DeNooy, Jake Harris, Steve Staerk; **12-**Jim Ahrens, Jarren Halstead, Scott Kennett, Velma Phipps, Martin Wright, Bryce Bagur; **13-**Lucille Reavis; **14-**Carol Ahrens, Jodie Blackford, Kyle Conn, Tawny Ferraz, Todd Reding; **15-**Rieslynn Goetzinger, Brian Onthank; **16-**Nick Clark, Bev Postels; **17-**Jack Gustafson, Deb Larson; **18-**Cynthia Hanevy, Jennifer Johnson, Merna Nelson; **19-**Jason Conn, Lynn Stone; **20-**Kurt Brennecke, Keaton Mitchell; **21-**Cole Baker, Russ Motta, Zacora Triplett, Kassie Wilkins; **22-** Broc Heishman, Janelle Nekola, Kate Wiley; **23-**Grant Lender, Eugene Van Ersvelde, Rick Van Wyhe; **24-**Charlotte Bailey, Larry Buter, Kathleen Heffner; **25-**

Sherry Shults; **26-**Kurt Brennan, Brandy Coomes; **27-**Alan Cline, Carolyn Meredith, Revae Nelson; **28-**Haydlee Harter, Robert Kneirim; **29-**Phyllis Armstrong, Evan Ely, Jim Ramsey

Anniversaries:

3-Bruce & Mindy Tokle; **6-**Jason & Cindy Pollock; **7-**Rodney & Sandy Allen; **8-**Bart & Teresa Benson, Lowell & Suzanne Bunger, Mark & Lynn Mawe; **14-**Reggie & Mary Wells; **16-**Floyd & Janyce Heishman; **17-**Keith & Charlotte Bailey; **23-**Tim & Laura Doyle; **24-**Stuart & Paula Porter, Brent & Teresa Wells; **25-**Larry & Diana Buter; **29-**Homer & Jean McDonough; **30-**Roger & Janice Stewart



NOVEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 * 12:15p UMW Exec. Board mtg.; Wed. Adv.; 7p SPRC	3	4	5 8a Prayer Vigil
6* 9a Mini Rally Day; bake sale; 11:45 Mission trip mtg; 4p Stephen Min. Cont. ed.	7	8	9* 6p Finance; 7p Trustees	10 Flu Shot Clinic 11a	11	12 2p Communi- ty Meal Prep
13* 1:45 Kids Against Hunger; 6:30p Spiritual Bazaar; 7p SH homework night	14 7p Lydia Circle	15 6p Great Mtg. Night; Charge Conf.	16* 9:30a Trini- ty Circle; 6:30p Church & Society	17 7a Founda- tion; 7p Book Club	18	19 5:30p Conf. to St. Mary's
20* 11:45 SH cookie baking; 4p Stephen Ministry Cont. Ed.	21 10a Advent Decorating	22	23 No Choir practice	24 Thanksgiving. Office Closed	25 Office Closed	26
27*	28 7:30p Rachel Circle	29	30*			

Set your clocks back one hour Sunday, Nov. 6!



Recurring Events:

Sunday:

8:00am Worship
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Worship
4:00pm Disciple Bible Study
6:30pm Living the Questions Study

Wednesday:

5:30pm Radiant Ringers
6:30pm Carillon Choir
6:30pm t.a.g.
7:30pm Chancel Choir

Mark your calendar:

Christmas Eve: 4pm Candle and Carol; 9pm Candle, Carol and Communion

Christmas Day: One service only at 9am. No Sunday School that day.

New Year's Day: One service only at 9am (Covenant Communion Service). No Sunday School that day.



U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 90
Non-Profit Org.
Grinnell, IA 50112

**GRINNELL UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

Return Service Requested

916 5th Avenue
Grinnell, IA 50112

Phone: 641-236-3757

Fax: 641-236-5755

E-mail: officegumc@iowatelecom.net

Living, Loving, Sharing God's Word

**We're on the web:
www.grinnellumc.org**

We Faithfully Participate in the Ministries of the Church by...

Len Eberhart, Pastor
pastorlen@iowatelecom.net

Diane Eberhart, Deacon
deacondiane@iowatelecom.net

**Ashley Risting, Ch.Ed./
Youth**
tootsie0013@gmail.com

**Stephanie Onthank, Direc-
tor of Music Ministry**
stephonthank@gmail.com

**Shannon Reding, Office
Manager**
officegumc@iowatelecom.net

**Jennifer Cogley, Office As-
sistant**
officegumc@iowatelecom.net

**Cindy Pollock, Tech Assis-
tant**

Jack Allgood, Custodian

Prayers Continue to pray for the farmers as they finish up harvest. Give thanks for family and extended family as well as our church family. Pray for those who are sick or hospitalized, those who have lost loved ones, all those who will be traveling, those who are unemployed/underemployed, those in the military and their loved ones who will miss them at the Thanksgiving table, those who have a hard time putting food on their tables, and those on our long-term prayer list. Pray for guidance as you look for opportunities to do good and to pay it forward

Presence Worship, meetings & practices, t.a.g., Wed. Adv., Communion at nursing homes, Bible study, Community meal, Fall sanctuary cleaning, World Thank, & Camp Fire Worship.

Gifts Building Fund, Music position, Good Samaritan, Rainbow, MICA, Christmas match, Sunday School, MINE, Memorial, Kathleen Heffner love gift, Windows, Compassion International, & UMCOR.

Service Community meal, Fall sanctuary cleaning, World Thank offering, CROP walk, Acolyte recognition & Blanket Sunday.

Witness Join us Nov. 6 to be a verb!

Hospitalized Jim Dale, Mary Grosenbach, Larry Rosenow, Avis Tone, & Grace Stephenson, Winnie Porter, Pat Saxton, & Earl Kinnaird.

Baptism Lucas John Dressler, son of Levi & Julie.

Births Ashtyn Kent McVicker, son of Kim & Aaron, grandparents Doug & Ginny Cameron.

Deaths Heidi Pederson, Kirk Pederson.