

St. John's United Methodist Church
Monthly Newsletter

Tidings

APRIL 2023



Where, O death,
is your *victory?*

Where, O death,
is your *sting?*

1 Corinthians 15:55



Jesus used “words” and “actions” to convey God's message

During Lent the weekly study and the sermon each week have focused upon one of the 7 last words of Jesus while he was dying upon the cross. Those 7 words include the following:

- a word of **FORGIVENESS** “...Father forgive them...”
- a word of **SALVATION** today you will be with Me in paradise”
- a word about **FAMILY** Mother, behold your son...”
- a word of **ABANDONMENT** “my God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”
- a word of **DISTRESS** “...I thirst”
- a word of **COMPLETION** “It is finished!”
- and Easter gives us one more word: **He is Risen!**

As our themes focus on the important and significant words Jesus spoke at the very end of his life; there is one action in the Garden of Gethsemane that Jesus used to send a final message to Caiaphas the High Priest. John's gospel tells of Peter drawing his sword and slicing off the right ear of Malchus, a soldier in service to the chief priest. Why include all these details? Have you ever wondered why John names this servant but not the rich young ruler? (John 18:10)

We have all kinds of people in the gospels who don't get named, why does this slave? What does it mean to have this information from John and also in Luke's gospel? Consider what would have happened as the Centurion in charge returned with his report to the Chief Priest.

The temple guard could have included up to 200 soldiers (a cohort is from 100-200 men). After the arrest, the centurion and his servant would have gone back to make his report to Caiaphas the chief priest. The conversation might have gone like this: **Caiaphas: well how did it go?** Centurion: We got him. **Any problems?** Yes. **What?** One guy drew a sword. **Who?** That big fisherman. **Peter?** Yup. **Did anybody get hurt?** Yes. **He hit someone?** Yes. **Who?** My servant. **Let me see. He looks ok.** He is now. **What do you mean?** Well...?

Caiaphas (to the servant): Let me get this straight. He hurt you? Yes. **Where?** Cut my ear off. **He cut your ear off? It looks ok now.** It is.

Caiaphas (to the Centurion): So what's wrong? Centurion: This whole deal is wrong! **What do you mean?** Centurion: Do you really want to go through with this execution? He touched my servant's ear and healed him. **Right there in the garden?**

It was Jesus' last miraculous act, a gift of love to God's high priest. He saw what was coming. He knew it was his time. Jesus saw where the sequence of events were leading: Judas—the betrayal; Peter—his denial; the other disciples—they all ran away; Caiaphas—the treachery; The soldiers—father forgive them for they know not what they do. Jesus named the action of his followers and extended them grace even before they failed.

He poured out grace and forgiveness all along this agonizing journey to the cross. Even on the cross he spoke it. He didn't run out, he didn't reach his limit, it wasn't like a charge card—maxed out before he reached the end. His capacity for forgiving was not exhausted by all the evil around him. He never ran out—contrary to us.

May we open ourselves to the depth of God's love and mercy and extend the same to others,

I love being one of your pastors,

Rev. Jeff Dadisman



Be the change and pass it on!

St. John's Christian Education and Youth Programs

April 2023



SJUMC Family Ministries Easter Morning Breakfast & Egg Hunt

St. John's families are welcome to join us any time between 8:30am and 10:30am in Fellowship Hall to enjoy delicious bacon, eggs, casseroles, muffins, pancakes, sausage, coffee, juice, and fruit. Come before worship or for brunch after. We will not be having Children and Youth Sunday School on Easter Morning, instead let's fellowship over breakfast followed by an Easter Egg Hunt in the church lawn at 10:30am.

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed! Let us praise and celebrate!

SJUMC Kids & Youth Learning Opportunities



Sunday Learning Hour for all Ages. **Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings 10am-10:45am** directly following fellowship time with donuts and juice. This time is filled with Bible stories, connecting activities, and music time. **Classes are located in the "Kids & Youth Zone" left hallway of the lower level.**



Kid's Bible Club **4:30pm-5:30pm with the family meal at 5:15pm**. This time includes games, Bible lesson, and activity. Rides provided if needed. Pick ups 3p-4p and drop offs 5:45pm-6:15



"The Edge" Youth Group meets **Wednesdays from 5:30pm-7:30pm**. This time includes a meal, large group activity, message, and small group discussions. Rides provided if needed. Pick ups 5:15pm-6:00pm and drop offs 7:30pm-8:30pm

For questions about details or ways you can get involved in our Children, Youth, and Family Ministries,

Contact Megan Keller, Director of Christian Education & Youth Programs

megank@stjohnsusumcdav.org

Palm Sunday Campership Bake Sale

April 2, 9AM - 12PM

If you would like to help our students experience summer camps, please consider participating in our bake sale on Palm Sunday morning, April 2nd 9AM-12PM. You can participate by purchasing the goods or donating the baked items to be able to purchase. If you are planning on donating baked items, please contact Megan Keller to coordinate a time to deliver them to the church.



Are You Graduating from High School in 2023?

Consider applying for our St. John's Scholarship! If you are planning to go to college or a trade school, St. John's would like to express our love and support for you.

To qualify, the applicant must be an active member of St. John's UMC. There are applications available on our website or you can get one from Megan Keller. As a part of the application, you are asked to write a 250-500 word essay on how St. John's has helped you develop a belief in God and how that belief will help you going forth in life. We ask that you also give the church ideas on how we can make the church more relevant to youth. Please also obtain 2 letters of recommendation with the application. The application, essay, and letters of recommendation are due in the church office no the Sunday, April 3. Awardees will be announced Mother's Day weekend, 2023.



Staff positions in transition



Financial Secretary—Don Sprosty will be retiring this spring; he is finishing his time in the church office on May 8. The church has been blessed by his attention to detail and good work with all the financial needs in the office. He has served faithfully since 2011 as a staff member at St. John's. **Staff-Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC) is seeking qualified applicants and will be interviewing candidates in the coming month.**

SUMMARY OF THIS JOB DESCRIPTION--The Financial Secretary processes financial data in accordance with standardized accounting practices, and maintains the data in confidence as pertinent. Will support the pastoral staff and lay administrators with financial data and information. This position is the initial and primary point of contact for the congregation regarding finance questions.

Building Maintenance—Bill Otten has agreed to fulfill a half-time position as our Senior Building Maintenance specialist. We will be seeking a second person to partner with Bill in the coming months, and Bill will oversee the training of this second person. The new person will begin in a half-time position with the possibility of growing into a full-time responsibility as training is successfully completed. The Eager Beavers will continue as volunteer helpers on Monday and Thursday mornings. **SPPRC is seeking qualified applicants and will be interviewing candidates in the coming month.**



Bill and Lori Otten

You have several special worship experiences during holy week... times intended to enrich your faith experience as we journey towards the celebration of Easter. Take advantage of all God has for you this month. I hope to see you along the way!

April 2 Palm Sunday

April 6 Maundy Thursday @ 6PM

(Seder Meal 5-6PM, please RSVP)

April 7 Good Friday Choir Cantata @ 6:30PM

April 8 Jesus Country Easter @ 5:30PM

April 9 Easter Sunday @ 9&11AM

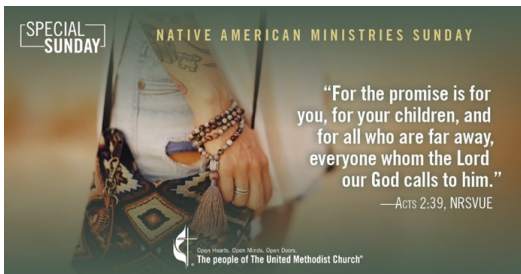


February 2023 Mission Offering Report

Blanket Sunday \$918 | Teach Beyond \$1,485 | UMCOR \$845 | Kids Against Hunger \$100
Thanks for your generous support!

Upcoming Mission offerings

Easter Offering *April 1-9*



Native American Ministries Sunday, April 22-23

Donations support vital ministries and churches in the Native American communities and allows the UMC to partner with existing native ministries to develop new programs on behalf of Native Americans. Half of the donations collected remain within the Annual Conference to provide hope to children and youth, hope for a brighter future in impoverished communities, and a voice to those who have felt voiceless for years. This fund is distributed by

the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. When you give generously on Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. You empower congregations to find fresh and culturally appropriate ways to minister to their communities with Christ's love.

Café on Vine, A Serving Opportunity to the Community

On Sunday, March 12, a group of volunteers cooked meals for Café on Vine. This is one of the ways we practically serve our community.

We do this the second Sunday of each month, 2-4pm. Please let the church office know if you'd like to serve the community by providing hot meals.

Blessings, Pastor Jae.



Save a Date for Change the World Sunday

Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023

The Change the World Sunday Team is still working on details, but we have established the date for it; May 21, 2023. Please save the date, and please let us know if you have any project ideas. Stay tuned for future announcements about Change the World Sunday. (Contact: Pastor Jae or Don Buser, Coordinator)



April 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 Communion 9:00am Emmaus Reunion Group 9:00am Danny White Visitation 11:00am Danny White Funeral 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship |
| 2 Communion PALM SUNDAY 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship | 3 5:30pm PEO Meeting - Alison Henry 6:30pm Missions | 4 1:00pm Club of 89 6:00pm Hebrews Study | 5 9:30am Men's Bible Study 1:00pm Lenten Study 4:30pm Kid's Club 5:30pm Family Meal 5:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Study | 6 5:00pm Seder Meal 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship | 7 6:30pm Good Friday Cantata | 8 9:00am Emmaus Reunion Group 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship |
| 9 EASTER 8:30am Easter Breakfast 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 10:30am Easter Egg Hunt 11:00am Contemporary Worship 2:00pm Cafe on Vine Meal Preparation | 10 7:00pm SPPRC | 11 6:00pm Hebrews Study 6:30pm Davenport Horticulture Club | 12 9:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am UMW Board 4:30pm Kid's Club 5:30pm Youth Group 5:30pm Family Meal 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study | 13 9:30am Drive By Food Pantry 3:00pm Drive By Food Pantry 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal | 14 | 15 9:00am Emmaus Reunion Group 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship |
| 16 Food Pantry Sunday 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship | 17 5:00pm Trustees 6:30pm Steering Committee 7:30pm Church Council | 18 2:00pm Deborah Circle 5:30pm The Center Board 6:00pm Dorcas Circle 6:00pm Hebrews Study | 19 9:30am Men's Bible Study 12:00pm Priscilla Circle 4:30pm Kid's Club 5:30pm Family Meal 5:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study | 20 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal | 21 Tidings Deadline | 22 9:00am Emmaus Reunion Group 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship |
| 23 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship | 24 11:30am Ridgecrest lunch | 25 2:00pm Joanna Circle 6:00pm Hebrews Study | 26 9:30am Men's Bible Study 4:30pm Kid's Club 5:30pm Family Meal 5:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study | 27 8:30am Tidings Assembly 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal | 28 | 29 8:30am UWF Mission Day Apart 9:00am Emmaus Reunion Group 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship |
| 30 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship | | | | | | |



✦ ALL ARE INVITED

STATIONS OF THE CROSS performed by St. John's UMC Chancel Choir and Chancel Bells, plus guest oboist Keshav Wagle, and special readers, on **April 6, @ 6:30 p.m.** This is truly a special service to invite a guest. (or 2).

Please note: Holy Week actually begins April 2 with Palm Sunday... a mixture of joyous procession with children and the beginning of a passion-filled week for Christ.

The Maundy Thursday service (April 6) begins with music by our bell choir, followed by a collaboration with First Baptist choir and St. John's Choir as we celebrate this special time near the end of Jesus' ministry here on earth. (6:30 p.m.)

Easter Morning includes Bells, Choir and our Organ is back!

Music is such a key element of worship. If you can take time to be part of any music group, your life will be enriched like nothing else. We would love to have you be part of choir or bells....or any other musical way you would like!

Please chat with any bell or choir member. We welcome all!

God bless,

 *Mitzi Harris*

As of this writing (March 20), our organ is being readied for its return to the sanctuary this Saturday, March 25! Some additional electrical work and other finishing touches will be completed the following Monday and Tuesday. The organ will then be fully functional for Palm Sunday Service and Holy Week.

This past week, members of the Organ Restoration Committee visited Fabry, Inc. for a final look and approval before shipment. What they found was a stunning new console cabinet that bears our church name and the United Methodist logo. In David Fabry, Jr.'s words, 'I started to replace wood that was damaged before I refinished the rest and decided to just start over. I used the original lid, though.'

The organ's operating system and controls have been updated and all components will again be functional. Please feel free to come forward after worship to see the beauty of this makeover! ~ Mark Tisinger



United Women in Faith

On **May 7** at 3pm, United Women in Faith will again be sponsoring **Spring Fling** (formerly *Jazz and Just Desserts* and *Swing and Sway*) so mark your calendars! Ray and Scott Wierson will be providing the music to go along with desserts and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets will be on sale Sundays, April 23 and 30, at the Perry Street entrance, and will also be available in the church office during the week and at the door on May 7. Come and join the fun! All proceeds go to support the mission projects of UWF. See you then!

Circles, remember that April is Love offering. It is collected and sent to the district. They make recommendations for that money going into a special project or to any of the projects from our organization. Check your calendars for where your circle is meeting in April. Joanna has diapers and DVAP.

Enjoy the coming spring!
Linda Jantz

I have been hearing and seeing robins. Sure hoping Spring weather is around the corner.

Food Pantry Update

ST. JOHN'S FOOD PANTRY @ THE CENTER



by Sharon Imming

The Drive-by/Drop-off gave us 95 items. The second round at 3PM was cancelled because of the weather. Hopefully April 13 will be better weather. Food Pantry Sunday brought us an additional 130 items. Money donated for February was \$290.

Current Food Pantry needs are canned fruit, canned meat and canned chili.

Thanks again for all the donations. Every can and every dollar is very much appreciated and needed.

Happy and Blessed Easter to all!

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

109 E. 14th Street
Davenport, Iowa 52803

Church office hours:

9AM-2PM, M-F

Appointments are encouraged

After 2PM by appointment only

Church office phone:

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Rev. Jaeseong Lee

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Podcast: <https://anchor.fm/stjohnsumcdav>

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

5:30PM Saturday Jesus Country in Fellowship Hall

9:00AM Sunday on WOC 1420 AM radio
(previous week's sermon)

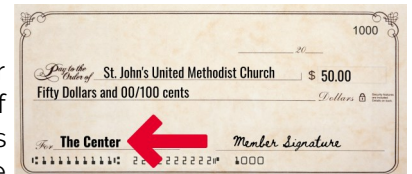
9:00AM Sunday Classic Worship in the Sanctuary
(simulcast online on YouTube and our website)

11:00 AM Sunday Contemporary Worship in the Sanctuary
(simulcast online on YouTube and our website)

The St. John's Foundation wishes to thank the following members of St. John's for their contributions to the Foundation Birthday Fund: **Verna Cudmore, Mary Hanson, Janet Carlton, Cindy Carpenter, Duane Pogge.**

ATTENTION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

If you write a check payable to The Center to make a donation to them, a couple of procedures need to change. The Church's bank will no longer accept checks made out to The Center and will not allow us to deposit them into the Church's bank account. Starting immediately when you write a check for a donation to The Center that is separate from your donation to the Church, you need to make the check payable to St. John's United Methodist Church and then put "The Center" in the Memo line on the check. The Church office will ensure that the money is credited to The Center. If your donation to The Center is included in your check for your donation to the Church, you do not need to change anything. Your check can still be made out to the St. John's UMC and you can continue to break out your donation between the Church and The Center in the Memo line. In addition, we cannot accept checks made out to UMCOR or other Church projects/missions. They need to be made out to St. John's UMC; UMCOR (or other project/mission name) should be put in the Memo line on the check. If we receive checks made out to UMCOR/similar outside organizations, we will have to return them to you and have you rewrite the check to St. John's. Again, we will make sure that the noted organization receives your donation.



Financial Update

by Karen Weimer, Treasurer

The budget for the church for 2023 was approved at the February Church Council meeting. This year's budget is in good shape with the cash receipts and disbursements both being almost equal. We want to thank all of you for your pledges and also those who give even if they don't pledge.

The following is a summary of the church's financial position as of February 28, 2023. The year-to-date cash receipts and disbursements compared to the budget are as follows:

| | Actual Year-To-Date | Budget Year-To-Date |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Cash Receipts | 288,694 | 309,662 |
| Cash Disbursements | <u>127,484</u> | <u>151,982</u> |
| Receipts in Excess of Disbursements | <u>161,210</u> | <u>157,680</u> |