

St. John's United Methodist Church
Monthly Newsletter

Tidings

AUGUST 2023



THE GAME OF LIFE

Thoughts from the Pastor— Reflections from a Family Reunion

We used to spend holidays and vacation times with Susan's oldest sister. Her 5 children were well matched with our 4, but things changed over the past 10 years. Weddings added spouses, and families added grandchildren. This spring we began planning for a "cousin reunion." The date arrived and it was a perfect 80-degree July day on the farm. I offer the following faith reflections for all who have had gatherings this summer. I wonder if your family has any similarities to mine.

Mary and Martha, the two sisters, were there. Busy with all the food and hosting, they didn't get to talk with everyone as much as they would have liked... (because they both got stuck in Martha mode) but isn't that why we have reunions? To talk? Yes... but everyone likes to eat too!

The prodigal son made it back. The one who moved to California and hasn't made it to many family gatherings in the last 10 years; the one who missed most of the cousin weddings and doesn't know all the new faces very well.

All the quirks were on display between the generations and overlapping parenting styles. Add a little extra stress to the 19 grandkids age ten and under and it made for a chaotic time. Whatever happens to cause the tears puts that family on display for all the rest of us to watch. Some discipline was administered with a scream across the yard. Some discipline came after the infamous countdown...1-2-2½ -3 slowly drawn out. Some didn't discipline. I got to sit back and compare the results.

Two of our 60-year-old cousins died a few years back and both husbands have remarried. The new wives came hoping to be accepted into the family gathering even though they don't know the history and haven't heard all the old stories. It was a joy to extend the welcome and see renewed happiness for the men touched by grief.

Susan's great aunt was present. Her aunt used to be the "Martha" at all dinners but on this day, she simply watched from beneath the shade tree. She was one of the reasons we planned this gathering. The legacy of her faith was celebrated but we could tell she was a little closer to the finish line since the last time we saw her. She came with the sad news that some of our cousins were moving her belongings into assisted living that same weekend. The "great cloud of witnesses" was also present in the stories told about those who have died in Christ and no longer seated in the circle. One such story included the memory of how one summer Grandpa Don (who was a pastor) baptized a few of the younger cousins in the family swimming pool. We did further reminiscing around the campfire after fireworks the first night.

Isn't it interesting to consider how each of us has a mission field for Christ in our own family interactions? The time we spend together can plant seeds of faith in the young or put up obstacles and barriers for the future. We make a positive witness for Jesus when we're gracious and accepting. We create a stumbling block when we're impatient. We create a positive memory of faith when we're forgiving and kind. We throw down a line of hurt when anger is dished out with no repair of the relationship. The making of disciples isn't something that only happens at church. The nurturing of faith actually happens best in the authentic interactions between friends and family.

I love being one of your pastors,

Rev. Jeff Dadisman



Holy Land trip update: Pastor Jeff & Susan are leading a group to Israel (2024) January 30-Feb. 8

There are 16 people registered for the trip at this time.

Team meeting: Sunday, August 27 @ Pizza Ranch at 12:15 in Duck Creek Plaza



Be the change and pass it on!

St. John's Christian Education and Youth Programs

August 2023

Backpack Blessing



August 19th & 20th Students and teachers of all ages and subjects are invited to bring their bags to be blessed for a safe and fun 2023-2024 school year. We will take a moment in all worship services to pray over the bags (and people).
Saturday @ 5:30
Sunday @ 9am or 11am

FALL PROGRAMS ARE FAST APPROACHING and WE NEED YOU!

Needed: Sunday School Teachers, Wednesday Kids and Youth Leaders, & Wednesday Night Meal Providers.

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

*Contact Megan Keller at
megank@stjohnsusumcdav.org*

Last Splash

Join other SJUMC families for some fun in the sun as the summer comes to an end.

When: Aug. 20 @ 4:30-6:30pm

Where: Splashpad & Pavilion
Lincoln Park Bettendorf, IA
(951 27th Street)

What: Food, Fun, & Fellowship



Thank you to all who supported our students for camp this year. Whether it was financially, prayerfully, or other, you helped make an impact in our student's lives.

We so appreciate you!



Older Church Organizations

St. John's has been the home of numerous service, study, and social groups throughout its history. Many of us know about the Boy Scouts of America. St. John's troop was started in 1913, just three years after the organization's start in the U.S. Some of us remember the In-Bees Club. Started in 1946, this organization was a social group for single adults and led to several marriages at the church. Trophies in the cloak room cases outside the sanctuary were

won by the St. John's bowling team and its softball team. The trophies represent St. John's bowlers' participation from 1947 through 1981. The softball teams played in a number of different leagues from at least 1950 through 1987. The Club of '89, a book club, was founded in 1889 by local celebrity and St. John's member, Phebe Sudlow

Here are names and some details on more of the earlier groups which we are aware of. Dates represent records we have found and may not represent actual years of existence. Some of the groups have left little information and we are unclear as to time period or purpose. If you have information about a St. John's group from any time period, which is no longer meeting, please let the History Committee know about it.

Women's Foreign Missionary Society (WFMS) founded nationally in 1869- fundraising for foreign missionary work- started in Davenport in 1883

Ladies Aid Society started in 1910, fundraising for local needs.

Standard Bearers (a junior branch of the WFMS organization for supporting missionary work) for teen and young women- nationally from 1910- Standard Bearers known to be active here in 1924 – 1929.

Women's Home Missionary Society, Marian Warner Missionary Society, Della Hayward [Missionary Society], Mary Porter Gamewell Missionary Society, Business Women's Division of the Ladies Aid

Queen Esthers, a women's group, was active here in 1936. Queen Esther Circle gave a program and candy sale 1913; we don't know if these are the same organization.

Epworth League, originally for 18–35 yr. old men and women, founded in 1889, ended in 1939, and became **Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF)**, History Committee's earliest records are from 1929.

Woman's Society of Christian Service (WSCS) started in 1940, name later changed to **Women's SCS**, combining the WFMS, the **Ladies Aid Society**, and all the other Methodist women's groups

Mothers' Study Club was in existence by 1941 continued at least to 1961, met monthly to discuss children's problems and for socialization.

Young Adult Group, active 1940-1950 and possibly before and/or after those dates.

Fisherman's Club, 1946 – a group of men doing local evangelism for St. John's.

United Methodist Women (UMW) started in 1975 and combined all previous women's groups. Known as: **United Women in Faith (UWF)** since March of 2022 and continues today.

The Alpha Circle of King's Daughters

Missions Update



Serve our Community!

Café on Vine is ongoing. Thank you for serving our neighbors. 4-6 people are needed each time to prep the meal, which takes only 2 hours. Please let Jan Johnson (hawkeyejan@mchsi.com) know if you are interested.

*June Café on Vine cooking crew
Roy Congrove, Marilyn Congrove, Mike Thomas, Scott Johnson*

Upcoming Mission Offerings

Self Help International, August 5-6

Self-Help works to alleviate hunger by assisting the rural poor, small-scale farmers, and related enterprises in developing countries. We help them become self-reliant in meeting the needs of families and communities through training, education, leadership development, and other forms of assistance. Self-Help is not a relief organization — our focus is on development and sustainability to improve the quality of life with dignity. Headquartered here in Iowa, Self-Help operates sustainable development programs in Ghana and Nicaragua. Given our current resources, our objective is to expand our services to new communities within those two countries before expanding into other countries in need.

Gifts of all sizes make a difference...

\$25 per month: Offers a farm family training and financing to increase yields and better feed their families

\$55: Feeds a child a healthy daily breakfast for an entire school year

\$100: Empowers a mother with a business expansion loan to better provide for her family

\$150: Helps a girl in Ghana stay in school past puberty

\$250: Sponsors a training session on women's health, vocational skills, improved agronomic practices, or sanitation and hygiene

\$1,000: Feeds an entire class a healthy daily breakfast for a semester

\$1,500: Sponsors clean water for an entire community in rural Nicaragua

Offering for Jason Otten, TeachBeyond, August 19-20

This is your chance to support Jason's work with TeachBeyond. He needs ongoing donations to keep his mission work funded. TeachBeyond's primary emphases are on educational initiatives such as schools, English language camps, teacher education, professional seminars, and much more. Currently, TeachBeyond owns or operates 16 schools and programs and additionally has sent more than 600 educators to work in more than 30 other educational institutions, serving populations from pre-kindergarten through graduate school in formal and informal settings. TeachBeyond uses the medium of education to engage with the needs of the world—physical, relational, and spiritual. (<https://teachbeyond.org>)

August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 1:00pm Club of 89	2 12:00pm Lunch w/the Pastors - Panera W. Kimbrly	3	4	5 Communion Mission Offering: Self Help Intl 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal
6 Communion Mission Offering: Self Help Intl 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship	7 6:30pm Missions 6:30pm Children's Bazaar Committee	8 11:00am Sudlow Sisters Questors 6:30pm Family Night @ River Bandits	9 10:00am UWF Board	10 12:00pm Lunch w/the Pastors - Tantra Asian Bistro	11	12 11:00am Private Event 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal
13 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship 2:00pm Cafe on Vine Meal Preparation	14 7:00pm SPPRC	15	16 12:00pm Lunch w/the Pastors - Famous Dave's	17	18 Tidings Deadline	19 Backpack Blessing Mission Offering: TeachBeyond (Jason Otten) 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal
20 Backpack Blessing Food Pantry Sunday Mission Offering: TeachBeyond (Jason Otten) 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship 4:30pm Last Splash	21 5:00pm Trustees 6:30pm Steering Committee 7:30pm Church Council	22	23	24 8:30am Tidings Assembly 12:00pm Lunch w/the Pastors - Waterfront Deli	25	26 1:00pm Private Event 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal
27 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship 12:15pm Holy Land Meeting - Pizza Ranch	28 11:30am Ridgecrest Lunch	29 12:00pm Lunch w/the Pastors - Granite City	30	31		

Music Ministry

August is the time we need to think about fall programming, AND how we can build our music ministry, enhancing worship weekly.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, the music department will "kick off" the season with a pot luck at the Harris home: 7116 120th St. in Blue Grass. Come join us. Families are welcome. The pool is open! If you want to swim....plan to come at 3:00. The potluck will start at about 5:00. We will provide sandwiches, drinks and all paper products. If you have a busy day, just come....there will be plenty of food!

Choir and bell rehearsals will actually begin the first Thursday after Labor Day: 5:45 for Chancel Bells and 7:00 for Chancel Choir. Please know that YOU ARE WELCOME and we have plenty of room for you in the choir or bells.

Thank you to all the people who have stepped up this summer to lead the hymns in worship and/or play or sing special music. We have been blessed with all the talent and willingness to share!

August will bring the Langs and Tisingers doing a quartet, Doug Koester singing a solo, hymn sings, and Danielle Dadisman sharing her musical talent with us before she heads off to the University of Iowa. There is still time for you to volunteer!

Come see me! 😊 🎵

 *Mitzi Harris*

August Sermon series: **The Game of Life**

Ideas for the series come from a book entitled: "When the Game is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box," written by author and storyteller Pastor John Ortberg.



- August 6:** Monopoly: There is One Rule You Have to Follow
- August 13:** Softball: Dealing with Distractions
- August 20:** Chutes and Ladders: God's Scoring is Different
- August 29:** Golf: Mastering Your Inner Game
- September 3:** Euchre: A Card Laid is a Card Played



United Women in Faith

Hope everyone is having a great summer and staying cool. Until we get all the paperwork set up at the bank, please make checks out to St. John's UMC. Eventually we will be set up and you can write checks to United Methodist Women or United Women in Faith.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUE: **Lunch with the Pastors**

Wednesday, **August 2** @ Panera
(414 W. Kimberly)

Thursday, **August 10** @ Tantra Asian Bistro
(589 E. 53rd Street)

Wednesday, **August 16** @ Famous Dave's
(1110 E. Kimberly)

Thursday, **August 24** @ Waterfront Deli
(1813 Kimberly Rd)

Tuesday, **August 29** @ Granite City
(5270 Utica Ridge Rd)

We collected 128 food items in the month of July. Congratulations and thanks to those of you who are watching the ads. We received 34 boxes of macaroni and cheese. The children are out of school and need snack items like pudding, Jell-O, fruit roll ups, chips and whatever else you would like to contribute.



by Sharon Imming

Money collected for June was \$255.

Remember our Food Pantry collection is the third weekend of each month. Feel free to bring your items to the church anytime during the week during church office hours, 9AM to 2PM, Monday through Friday

Stay cool and stay safe.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

109 E. 14th St. | Davenport, IA 52803

Church office hours:

9AM-2PM, M-F

Appointments are encouraged

After 2PM by appointment only

Church office phone:

(563) 324-5278

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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 our YouTube channel)

11:00 AM Sunday Contemporary Worship in the Sanctuary

(simulcast online on our YouTube channel)

It's time for an updated church directory!

We will be self-publishing an updated church directory this fall and we invite you to participate. Visit the link on our website to update your contact information, and you will also have the opportunity to self-submit a photo to be used in the directory. Or if you prefer, our staff will be on hand August 20 and 27 to take your photo at church—or drop in during office hours, Monday through Friday, 9AM to 2PM.

<https://forms.gle/Z7d4eGgzTw6Ksmnb8>



Family Night at the Ball Park!

Modern Woodmen Park
Tuesday August 8 @ 6:30pm

RSVP to the church office
by August 4

Financial Update

by Karen Weimer, Treasurer

The following is a summary of the church's financial position as of June 30, 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	456,054	486,348
Cash Disbursements	365,624	412,545
Receipts in Excess of Disbursements	90,430	73,803