

Tidings



Monthly Newsletter | February 2026



St. John's United Methodist Church
Davenport, Iowa

Pastor's Page – February 2026– we have a new front door



We are really enjoying the new lobby space and remodeled area as you come into the church. It's almost like we installed a **new front door**. I really enjoyed greeting people on Christmas Eve and hearing those who have not been here for a while gasp as they came into the new space. The smiles just served to remind me of why we wanted to do this big change.

Look how far we've come—in one year, God has certainly blessed us in this process! January of 2025 the remodeling for the Welcome Space began. Walls were removed, the ceiling tiles came down, the crew ran into asbestos and everything stopped for 3 weeks until the mitigation plan was completed. (Then we were behind schedule.)

When the work resumed, the progress was measured by weekly photos that we posted on Facebook and shared here in the newsletter. Every Thursday several church leaders met with the project manager and head contractor to answer questions for the next step and discuss change orders that were needed. During these weeks I remember thinking; an old building is always full of surprises...when it comes to a remodeling project...yet the challenges have been met with creativity and the problems were worked out. [none of the old walls were square, the ceiling and floor were not level, and where do all these wires in the ceiling grid go to anyway?]

The grand opening was realized on Palm Sunday. Just in time for Easter. It felt so good to be done after feeling so chaotic and dusty for months...but in my reflections, I go back a little further to name what God did in the midst of our process. In the summer of 2024 our Dream Team presented a blueprint to leadership from the architect with a price tag of \$300,000. That was a huge cost compared to where the idea started. How would we ever raise that much support for this project?? Right around this time we were notified that St. John's would be receiving an estate gift for \$600,000. (this has never happened to me in 37 years of ministry!) The leadership of the church was in a discussion for several months about how best to use some of this estate gift while (at the same time) the Welcome Center plans were being shared with the congregation. In October, a congregational meeting was held to explore proceeding with the Welcome Center plans and on that day those present voted to use this estate gift to fund the project. With that affirmation, our leaders went forwards seeking bids and refining the design. We were scheduled to do this work between January and Easter of 2025. We only needed six weeks...or so the contractor said. We ended up using the whole 3 months between those special holidays. But as difficult as it was, the result has been truly amazing.

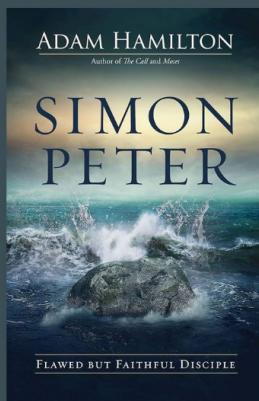
We have a great front door area that draws people into the gathering space and helps our welcome to be something one can actually feel. I want to thank all those who gave of themselves to make this happen.

The next level of work in 2026 involves our Website—that's the front door where visitors first find us when searching for a church. Our staff have attended workshops and that was a revelation to me...to hear how our website is **OUR NEW FRONT DOOR**. Approval was given at our January council meeting to proceed with a new design of the church website and make it ready for those who will find us this year. Be watching for these updates next in the spring!

I love being your pastor!

Pastor Jeff Dadisman

2026 Directory— We would like to allow time for receiving any address, phone or photo updates BEFORE we print new directories on March 16th. Please submit updates to the church office (563) 324-5278 or via email at officemanager@stjohnsumcdav.org.



Pastor Bible Study

Join us on zoom!

6 weeks

February 25 - April 1st

Time: 1pm or 7:30pm

Sign up on the church website under Lent 2026
or call the church office (563) 324-5278

www.stjohnsumcdav.org

SPARK

Be the change and pass it on!

St. John's Christian Education and Youth Programs

February 2026

2026 Graduates...

Are you graduating from High School in 2026, intending to further your education, and an active member of St. John's UMC? Then now is the time to apply for a \$500 St. John's Scholarship!

Ask Megan for an application. The application which includes writing an essay and obtaining 2 letters of recommendation is due in the church office on Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026.



YOUTH CAMP FUNDRAISER

SOUP'S UP FOR SUPERBOWL

FEBRUARY 8TH

10:30-12:30



Winter Weather Policy

Please note we follow the Davenport Schools weather closure decisions. If there is to be a program or meeting and the schools are closed due to weather, we also have to cancel.

We will send a text or phone call communication but if you see that the schools are closed, we most likely are too.

Feel free to call or text if you are unsure, and as always please use your own discretion if it is safe to travel...your safety comes first!

Family Ministries Outing

When: March 1st @ 1:30pm

Where: Malibu Jacks Bowling

Come join your church family in a Sunday Funday experience at the bowling alley.

RSVP by February 22nd so that we know how many lanes to reserve. Call the office or email megank@stjohnsumcdav.org



Wishing you warm blessings and lots of love this winter season!

Megan Keller, Director of Christian Education and Youth Programs.

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Learning Hour 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:30pm Discovery Class	2	3	4 9:00am Bob's Men's Bible Study 5:30pm Kids Club and Youth Group 6:30pm Jange Lange Bible study	5 5:45pm Bell choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	6	7 Communion 11:00am Loom Project 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship
8 Learning Hour 9:00am Classic Worship 10:30am Soup Campership Fundraiser 11:00am Contemporary Worship 2:00pm Cafe on Vine Prep	9 6:00pm Missions Meeting 7:00pm SPPRC	10 6:30pm Davenport Horticulture Board	11 9:00am Bob's Men's Bible Study 10:00am UWF Board Meeting 5:30pm Kids Club and Youth Group 6:30pm Jange Lange Bible study	12 5:45pm Bell choir rehearsal 6:00pm Mission Trip Info Meeting @ Pizza Ranch 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	13 Tidings deadline	14 4:30pm Girl Scout Meetings 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship
15 Food Pantry Learning Hour 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Rental - Emma	16 5:00pm Trustee Meeting 6:30pm Steering Committee 7:30pm Church Council Meeting	17 1:30pm Deborah Circle 6:30pm Dorcas Circle	18 9:00am Bob's Men's Bible Study 12:00pm Priscilla Circle 1:00pm Ash Wednesday Service - St. John's 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service - First Baptist	19 8:30am Tidings Mailed 5:45pm Bell choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	20	21 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship
22 Learning Hour 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship	23	24 2:00pm Joanna Circle	25 9:00am Bob's Men's Bible Study 1:00pm Lenten Study 5:30pm Kids Club and Youth Group 6:30pm Jange Lange Bible study 7:00pm Lenten Study	26 5:45pm Bell choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	27	28 4:30pm Girl Scout Meetings 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship

Mission Report –January 2026

Mission Offering Report

Christmas offering—to The Center: \$4,028

Christmas offering—to Clean Water in Kenya: \$5,176

Undie Sunday: 361 pairs

Thank you for your generous giving!

Upcoming Mission Offerings:

2/1 – Blanket Sunday

2/15 – Paul & Lucy Beatty – Teach Beyond

Mission Updates:

Blessing Box Drive

Hosted at the TV6 News Station—We will deliver all January donations this next week, but the community drive has been postponed until April to avoid the frigid temperatures. The date is yet to be determined.

Midwest Mission Summer Mission Trip

If you are interested in serving together, there is an information meeting scheduled this month. RSVP with the church office or contact Norlan Hinke at (563) 219-5020.

Information meeting: Thursday, Feb. 12th @ 6:00pm at Pizza Ranch in Bettendorf.

Loom Weaving Project

Saturday, Feb. 7th @ 11:00-1:00

Volunteers are invited to meet on this day in the church Welcome Center to help weave plastic bags into sleeping mats for the homeless.

Café on Vine

St. John's volunteers prepare this meal each month on the 2nd Sunday afternoon from 2:00-3:30pm. If you

would like to volunteer, you can call the church office (563) 324-5278 or sign up on the websites under the Mission tab-Café on Vine.



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE
Blanket Offering**

The blanket Church World Services (CWS) buys can be used in many ways: they can be hung in windows where the glass has been broken, can keep the cold out and heat in during the winter, and keep the heat out in the summer. At a cost of only \$10 each, our goal is to collect and donate \$1,300 to CWS.

cwsblankets.org

MISSION OFFERING



**Paul and Lucy Beatty - Teach Beyond
at Lighthouse Primary and Secondary School on Mauritius**



**Make a difference.
Change lives.
Serve others.**



Mission Project



SAVE THE DATE

**Loom Weaving
Saturday, February 7th
from 11am-1pm
@ Welcome Space**

Volunteers meet up and weave plastic bags into sleeping mats for the homeless. Many hands are needed for this big project.

Music Ministry

As February comes, we have lots of special music planned at the 9:00am service: Cassandra Signer will be sharing a special marimba piece on Feb. 1st; The children will sing with the adult choir on Feb. 8th and 15th; The Genesis series on "Joseph" concludes on the 15th, and the choir will sing a piece from the Rice/Webber musical: "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."



OPEN INVITATION: Saturday, Feb. 7th, @ 9:00am, we will have a read-through of the Good Friday cantata and we would love to have you all join us. Rev. Ron Carlson, former pastor at St. John's, will join us on Good Friday, as we present the Lloyd Larsen musical: "YOU ARE THE CHRIST".



Ash Wednesday, we have the 1:00pm service at St. John's (Feb 18) and the choir will join First Baptist to sing "Come Thou Fount", at First Baptist for the evening service at 6:30pm.

Hope you get a chance to come check us out in person. We love to see you.
God Bless—Mitzi

Contact: mitzijoh5674@gmail.com


Note: Daycare is available for Thursday night choir practice and on Sunday mornings.

*Club of '89
For Book Lovers*

*Date: Meets on the 1st Tuesday of the Month
Location: in the parlor at St. John's
Dessert at 7pm before book discussion*

We'd love for you to join us!

RSVP Call (563) 340-5755 or drop in

 St. John's United Methodist Church
Davenport, Iowa

Baskets of Joy



Do you know someone who could benefit from a pick me up?

Baskets of Joy is a ministry of St. John's where we deliver a basket containing 15 or so little gifts to help bring a smile to their day.

Contact Pastor Jeff or Linda Jantz at (563) 271- 9954

Church Updates

Friendly Thrift News

Items that can help out Friendly Thrift this month would be men's clothes-shoes, jeans, sweatshirts and any other warm clothing, along with blankets and pillows. The store hours are 9am-12pm everyday except Sunday and Tuesday. They are staffed completely by volunteers and are always looking for new volunteers to receive, sort and sell merchandise. To learn more about volunteering call (563) 324-2235 or follow them on Facebook for great deals.

Food Pantry

Food Pantry January collection was 57 items.

Below is the year end report for Food Pantry

December food collected 146, December Canned food tree 235= Total 381

Canned food tree total for 2025 was 235 vs. Canned food tree total for 2024 was 287 = Down -52 from LY

Total food collected for 2025 was 3,251 vs. Total food collected for 2024 was 3,275= Down -24 from LY

Contributions for December came to \$685, Total donations for 2025 was \$11,416 vs. Total donations for 2024 was \$14,992= Down - \$3,576 from LY

I am happy with our turnout both food and money. Food Pantry is pretty well stocked at the moment but we need to keep donating. Thanks to everyone who has participated.—Sharon Imming

UWF (United Women in Faith)

Reminder– the Purse Ministry is ongoing and collects purses you no longer need. We repurposes them for the Street Team at The Center and fill them with personal care items. The collection bin for the these items is located in the lobby outside church office. The office received no other updates from UWF. Please see your circles leaders for your monthly updates.

Threads of Love

We wanted to provide an update here for those that might not follow our social media pages. We have found a new partner to disburse the prayer shawls and lap blankets. Since the Fall of 2024 we have been partnering with Friends to the Elderly, a local non profit with connections to St. John's. Lindsey Peterson (related to Wendell Peterson) started and runs this non profit.

A recent report from Lindsey, " Pictured is a resident enjoying one of the quilts and shawls. They work perfect for wheelchairs. She gets cold. Paula, in this photo, has no family or help from outside her facility. She turned 90 and is hearing impaired. She has issues with moving her hands and body hence why she's cold a lot. But things like this are so impactful to her. When I gave it to her she gasped and said how beautiful it was. She treats it like a prized possession."

More on Lindsey's work can be seen on her non profit Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/friendstotheelderly>



Thank you from Lindsey and the seniors that have received your handiwork!



ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Church office hours:

9AM-2PM, M-F
(563) 624-5278

Rev. Jeff Dadisman

Senior Pastor
revjeffdadisman@stjohnsumcdav.org

Megan Keller

Director of Christian Education
megank@stjohnsumcdav.org

Jenny Eckhardt

Director of Communications
officemanager@stjohnsumcdav.org

Mitzi Harris

Organist/Chancel Bells Director
mitzijoh5674@gmail.com

Gail McRill

Accompanist, Classic Worship Service

Steven Ernst

Jesus Country Worship Leader
stjohnsmusic@hotmail.com

Zachary Johnson

Contemporary Worship Leader
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Emily McKittrick-Clingman

Office Assistant/ Student Ministry Assistant
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Melissa Carpenter

Audio Visual Tech
Mediateam@stjohnsumcdav.org

On the web: www.stjohnsumcdav.org

Facebook: facebook.com/stjohnsdavenport

Instagram: instagram.com/stjohnsumcdav

YouTube: youtube.com/StJohnsUMCDav

Worship Schedule

Saturday at 5:30pm, Sundays at 9am and 11am, Sundays at 9:00 on WOC 1420am

St. John's Financial Update

The following is a summary of the church's financial position for the year ended December 31, 2026. The year-to-date cash receipts and disbursements compared to the budget are as follows:

	Actual <u>Year-To-Date</u>	Budget <u>Year-To-Date</u>
Cash Receipts	815,698	817,517
Cash Disbursements	<u>776,630</u>	<u>821,121</u>
Receipts in Excess of (Less Than) Disbursements	<u>39,068</u>	<u>(3,604)</u>

As of January 2, 2026, we have received 121 pledge cards compared to 126 last year. The budget has not yet been approved for 2026.

Karen Weimer, Treasurer



Ash Wednesday

February 18th, 2026

1:00 PM at St. John's

6:30 PM at First Baptist Church

Review



Google



Yelp



Looking for an
easy way to help
St. John's?

We need your
reviews on
Google and Yelp.

Thank you!