

St. John's United Methodist Church
Monthly Newsletter

Tidings

JUNE 2023



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
June 11–15, 2023 | 5:30–7:30pm

Thoughts from the Pastor: The United Methodist logo; What does it mean?

A survey was done to ask what people thought the logo represents:

- a) is it a cross with a blanket around it?
- b) is it a cross draped with a red banner?
- c) is it a cross and flame?



A few years back a marketing agency went outside the church to survey what people saw when they looked at our Methodist logo. The number one answer was a cross with a blanket around it! Even inside the church there is not always an understanding of what our logo means or where it came from. I learned that our "cross & flame" symbol was NOT designed by John & Charles Wesley. It did not come into use until the merger of churches in 1968. On this Pentecost weekend, I share the significance of our logo and symbol in our church.



The history and significance of the Cross and Flame emblem are as rich and diverse as The United Methodist Church. The insignia's birth quickly followed the union of two denominations in 1968: The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

Following more than two dozen conceptualizations, a traditional symbol—the cross—was linked with a single flame with dual tongues of fire. The resulting insignia is rich in meaning. It relates The United Methodist church to God through Christ (cross) and the Holy Spirit (flame). The flame is a reminder of Pentecost when witnesses were unified by the power of the Holy Spirit and saw "tongues, as of fire" (Acts 2:3).

The elements of the emblem also remind us of a transforming moment in the life of Methodism's founder, John Wesley, when he sensed God's presence and felt his heart "strangely warmed." The two tongues of a single flame may also be understood to represent the union of two denominations. Let's celebrate the work of God on this PENTECOST weekend. **Wear something red when you come to worship!**

I love being one of your pastors,

Rev. Jeff Dadisman

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES RETURN THIS SUMMER: Lunch with the Pastors

If you would like to join the pastors for an informal midweek lunch this summer, please contact the office to make a reservation. The place for eating will vary from time to time, with each person responsible for the cost of their own meal. The goal is 6-8 people for conversation and connection (Time to gather: noon)

- **Thursday, June 8** — Sippis American Grill (406 W 2nd St., Davenport)
- **Wednesday, June 21** — Filling Station (305 E 35th St., Davenport)
- **Thursday, June 29** — Pizza Ranch (Duck Creek area, Bettendorf)
- (July dates will be announced later)

Report from the May 9 Congregational meeting: Summary of decision

There were 124 members present for the congregational meeting on May 9. Our District Sup't, Rev. Doug Cue and the new D.S., Rev. Brian Oliver both came. There was over an hour of people sharing personal perspectives, some questions, and overall, a good tone to the meeting.

At the end the D.S. took a simple show of hands to measure whether to use the ballot that had been prepared; the majority present indicated that they did not want to have a ballot by a show of hands. This decision concludes the conversation about disaffiliation for St. John's—our church will continue as a United Methodist Church in the Iowa Annual Conference.



Be the change and pass it on!

St. John's Christian Education and Youth Programs

June 2023



June 11-15 St. John's UMC will be hosting our
Stellar Vacation Bible School

from 5:30pm-7:30pm (Dinner Included)
Make plans to be there as we BLAST OFF
for Adventure. Register Today!



*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*

Sending our Students to Summer Camp!

We have 13 youth excited to go to summer camp in Grinnell, IA July 10-15 for Summer Games University. At this camp, our teens learn about the difference Jesus can make in their lives as well as the importance of teamwork, and they do this all through times of worship and lots of games. This is an opportunity that our students have to get away from their daily schedules and influences to experience God's love and acceptance in a new way all while having tons of fun. Please consider supporting us through prayers or through scholarship. I have told our students that money should not be the reason they say no to going. If you would like to help provide this experience, please contact Megan Keller, Director of Christian Education and Youth Programs.

For more information about the camp, visit...
<https://sgu.camp/>



Join us in celebrating the 5 pictured above. These students made their faith commitment on May 14 through the ceremony of Confirmation. This day was filled with the Holy Spirit and we are so very proud of them. Let us continue to pray for our children and youth as we strive to lead them "in the way they should go."

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 9:00am Emmaus Reunion Group (Parlor) 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship (Fellowship Hall)
4 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship	5 6:30pm Missions (Conference Room)	6	7 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study	8 12:00pm Lunch w/thePastors - Sippis 7:00pm Smyrna Youth Choir (Sanctuary)	9	10 Communion 9:00am Emmaus Reunion Group (Parlor) 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship (Fellowship Hall)
11 Communion 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship 2:00pm Cafe on Vine Meal Preparation (Kitchen - Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Vacation Bible School	12 5:30pm Vacation Bible School	13 5:30pm Vacation Bible School 6:30pm Davenport Horticulture Club (Conference Room)	14 10:00am UMW Board (Parlor) 5:30pm Vacation Bible School 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study	15 5:30pm Vacation Bible School	16 10:30am PEO Chapter Meeting (Parlor) 5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	17 9:00am Emmaus Reunion Group (Parlor) 3:30pm Krueger/Kay Wedding (Sanctuary) 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship (Fellowship Hall)
18 Food Pantry Sunday 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship	19 Juneteenth (Office Closed) 5:00pm Trustees (Wesley Room) 6:30pm Steering Committee (Conference Room) 7:30pm Church Council (Parlor)	20 5:30pm The Center Board (The Center)	21 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study	22	23 Tidings Deadline	24 9:00am Emmaus Reunion Group (Parlor) 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Jesus Country Worship (Fellowship Hall)
25 9:00am Classic Worship 11:00am Contemporary Worship	26 11:30am Ridgecrest lunch	27	28	29 8:30am Tidings Assembly	30	

Missions Update

Upcoming Mission Offerings:

June 3-4 Women at the Well Women at the Well is a United Methodist congregation which is located within the walls of the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women (ICIW) in Mitchellville, Iowa. We are a diverse community composed of women incarcerated at ICIW, men and women from around the state of Iowa who choose to worship with us, and many volunteers who regularly support our ministries and programs. We gather together to share the teachings of Jesus Christ and to experience the life-transforming Spirit of God.

June 17-18 Peace with Justice Peace with Justice Sunday is one of six Special Sunday offerings in The United Methodist Church. Our gifts support ministries in the Annual Conference and around the world. Through your offering, you are part of the restoration of God's perfect balance. Together, as followers of Christ, we are declaring God's world is very good, and we are investing in ministries that repair unjust systems.

Mission Projects:

Easter Offering: Our Easter offering of \$1,023 was gifted to the First Mesa Baptist Church in Mesa, Arizona to support Hopi Students.

Café on Vine: We prepared meals for 90 people again. We need some volunteers each month on the second Sunday (2 pm-4 pm). Please contact Jan Johnson (hawkeyejan@mchsi.com) or the church office. (Upcoming Dates: June 11, July 9, August 13, and September 10)

Friendly Thrift Center: They always are in need of bedding, especially queen- and full-sized sheets. Bath towels are also needed. They run out of household pots and pans, and silverware/flatware, too. Men's T-shirts are also needed.

Change the World Sunday: About 60 people gathered after worship on May 21 for our Change the World service projects. Thanks for your participation. I want to acknowledge Don Buser, the coordinator of Change the World Sunday. Don has been serving in this capacity for many years, and We are thankful for his leadership, passion for serving others, and love for this community. Thank you, Don!



This Old Building

St. John's building was designed in 1902/03. Since then, there have been many changes to the building. Some features have disappeared entirely, others have left interesting bits of evidence and hidden surprises.

There is a strange piece of pipe sticking out of the wall behind a coat rack in the balcony level of the Sanctuary's SW staircase. This is a remnant of gas lighting which was available in this area at one time.

The 14th Street entrance to the church was designed as a porte cochere where horse-drawn vehicles could drop off passengers to avoid getting wet in rainy weather. The NE corner of the office and bell room above it originally had an octagonal, pointed (witches' hat) roof above it.

Where the church office, conference room, and rest rooms are now located was originally the church parlor, kitchenette, and chapel. What is now the Choir Room was originally a wide, three-sided balcony. The middle of the room was open down to the chapel below it. The sides of the chapel and balcony had folding partitions to create separate classrooms for Sunday School.

A cupboard in the Sacristy hides a fireplace that was originally part of the pastor's study. The trophy cases in the cloak room were exterior windows in that same room.

Our Sanctuary has been re-designed a couple of times. The original design had some of the organ pipes exposed with the organ console in the center of the chancel area and the organist's back toward the congregation. Originally, the center aisle only went eight rows (halfway) down from the back of the room with the front pews going all the way across from north to south.

There is a dis-used classroom under the Narthex. The basement was excavated and the room was built in 1940. It was first used by the Boy Scouts and by the Young Men's Brotherhood. There are two little-known staircases from the basement to the main floor of the building. One comes out in the 14th and Brady corner lobby. The other comes out in the west end of the chapel.

The large cement block indentations high in the bell tower were originally open, with wooden louvers to allow the sound of the bell out. Tower openings were filled in to re-enforce its structure sometime between 1953 – 1962.

There have been many other changes to the main building and to the parish house over the years.



Departing staff: We appreciate the last 2 years in which **Joel Wise** served as our Worship Director for the Contemporary service. He has been a joy to work with, but his full-time work schedule has changed and he is no longer able to be with us every Sunday. His last Sunday of leading the 11:00 worship team will be June 25. Applications for this position are welcome!





✦✦✦ Calling ALL MEN! ✦✦✦

It has been a St. John's tradition (longer than I have been here!) that the men of St. John's sing on the first Sunday of July. We will be singing "America" and "America the Beautiful."

Let's take a few minutes after the 9:00 service on June 4, 11, and 25 to meet right in the sanctuary to go through the music (up around the piano). Please join us!

Chancel Choir will sing through June, however, from July 9-September 3, soloists and small groups will be given a chance to share special music. Please consider signing up for a Sunday.

June 8, a youth choir from Smyrna, GA will be here for a 7:00 concert in our sanctuary. Please come support this group of musicians as they complete their tour of the Midwest in Davenport, IA.

God bless,



Mitzi Harris



Is it Christmas in July? Is it closet clean out time?

Well, not really; but Marti Puls and I, with the support of so many others, are going to try to keep the UWF wonderful tradition of the Children's Bazaar. Mark your calendars for December 2, and remind everyone of this St. John's tradition. With all that being said we could use some help in replenishing our stash of gifts for guys and gals, teens and between. If you have things to donate they can be left in the Church office cabinet. Thank you so much for your support.

Marti Puls and Jamie Kreuger



United
Women
in Faith

The unit and circles will not be meeting during the summer but if you would like to, you may still take to the church products for DVAP and Pregnancy Resources; put them in the closet in the Parlor.

Once again thank you everyone for supporting United Women in Faith at the Spring Fling. It was great fun with lively music from Ray and Scott Wierson and all of the good food. It helps us meet all of our mission projects for the coming year.

Have a great summer!

Linda Jantz

Food Pantry items collected for May were 246 items with 194 items collected from the Drive Up/Drop Off. Thank you for all your donations. I did not receive a cash donation report for April. I will report April and May in the July Tidings.

Food Pantry Update

ST. JOHN'S FOOD PANTRY @ THE CENTER



by Sharon Imming

The Drive Up/Drop Off has stopped for the summer months. We will start up again in the fall. I would like to thank Bob Faso and his bible study group for donating their time once a month to collect donations for our Food Pantry. You all did a fantastic job of collecting food items. I would like to thank all of you who contributed food.

School will be out soon. Children need snack items, and cleaning supplies are always needed along with canned fruit, vegetables and meats.

Happy Summer, Happy Graduations and Be 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

Rev. Jeff Dadisman

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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 YouTube and our website)

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

June 8 Concert @ 7 pm -- Concert from visiting youth choir

God's Light Youth Choir is a group of 7th through 12th grade students which serves monthly in the worship services at the First United Methodist Church in Smyrna, Georgia, a suburb of Atlanta; they tour each summer to different areas of the United States to share their ministry through music and song. Their musical repertoire is a blended style consisting of traditional music, contemporary music, along with praise and worship music.

This summer they are sharing Christ's message through music and song on a 10-day tour as far west as the Black Hills of South Dakota, and their return route will take them through Davenport, IA, Chicago, IL, and Nashville, TN.

We will be hosting this group on Thursday, June 8. We hope you will plan on coming to hear this group of 31 singers. They, along with their 15 chaperones and director, plan to spend the night at the church and continue their tour the next morning.



**St. John's Foundation wish to thank the following
members for their contribution to the birthday fund:
Gary Blinkinsop, Nancy Meeker, Steve & Pat Robinson,
and Patricia O'Neill.**

Financial Update

by Karen Weimer, Treasurer

The following is a summary of the church's financial position as of April 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	388,413	402,891
Cash Disbursements	<u>243,949</u>	<u>293,894</u>
Receipts in Excess of Disbursements	<u>144,464</u>	<u>108,997</u>