

THE HERALD
April 2014
The First United Methodist Church
Fairfield, Iowa

Knowing Christ, Sharing His Love, and Helping Others to Know Him

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Monday Noon service at 1st Lutheran
Tuesday Noon service at 1st Presbyterian
Wednesday Noon service at Fairfield Friends
Thursday
Noon service at St. Mary Catholic
6:30pm-Maundy Thursday Worship, 1st United Methodist Church
Friday Noon service at Word of Life Lutheran
6:30pm-Good Friday Worship, 1st UMC
Sunday
6:30am-Sunrise Service
7:00am-Easter Breakfast
8:00 & 10:35am-Worship

KIDS CLUB

As we enter our last months of Kids Club before summer break, I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who has helped: all the kids who were so fun and ready to learn more about God, the parents who brought the kids and provided snacks, Kathy Horn and Martha Flinspach for filling in as breakfast helpers, Judy Holman for helping with breakfast every morning, Elly Stremsterfer (as well as Sydney and Jackson) for being present with the kids, Robin Wendland for providing crafts that went with the lesson, and Pastor Todd for organizing our game time. Your help and support for this ministry has been greatly appreciated. Thank you.

- Pastor Jess

SUMMER CAMP

Don't forget to sign up for summer camp! There is a variety of camping adventures to look forward to this summer. Check out the camp information located on the tables outside the sanctuary. There are camperships available to help your child/youth attend church camp.

REMEMBER the tenderloin dinner, 5-6:30 P.M. on April 11.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Wilderness Escape:
Where God Guides and Provides
July 13-17**

This summer we will be journeying with Moses and the Israelites through the wilderness! We'll learn what it means to trust in God throughout our journey.

Look for more information to register, volunteer, and donate coming soon. If you would like to participate or help in any way please contact Pastor Jess

YOUTH NEWS

The church has for a number of years supported Iowa Homeless Youth Centers by giving towards Reggie's Sleepout. The youth have raised funds and awareness for this ministry by sleeping outside in October/November at Drake Stadium, with last year being a very wet and chilly night. In order to engage more fully in this ministry we will be spending two days in Des Moines this June at two of the Iowa Homeless Youth Centers facilities. The cost for this trip will be minimal and we appreciate any support you are willing to give.

Don't hesitate to ask participants of Reggie's Sleepout about their past experience with this ministry and the history behind Reggie's Sleepout.

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL



Thank you for helping increase our Heifer fund to \$6402.82. We are hoping to reach our goal of two arks this year. Only \$3597.18 to go!

In March the children's moments concentrated on llamas. If you want to know more about llamas, check out this website:
meetmeatthecorner.org/episode/a-kids-introductiontollamas



"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with in me."

Psalm 51:10

It's springtime, a time for cleaning (which we have already done in the kitchen) and renewal (which has been an ongoing process this year).

Remodeling is done and decorating is almost finished so it will be time to move on to other projects. Our United Methodist Women Special Emphasis Topics continuing through 2016 are the following: Human Trafficking, Climate Change (Environment), Domestic Violence and Immigration. Education and information may be found on the website: umwomen.org:88.

Upcoming Events:

- April 2nd Wednesday-UMW Board Meeting, 1:30 P.M.
- April 4th Friday-Hospital Auxiliary Tea, 1:30 P.M.
- April 5th Saturday-Open house at Kathy Horn's residence 1:00-4:00 P.M. for "Simply Said" party. (See article in newsletter)
- April 30th Wednesday-UMW Board Meeting, 1:30 P.M.
Ronda Logli
UMW President

ATTENTION:

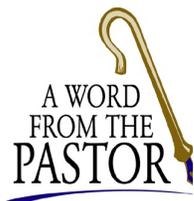
UNITED METHODIST MEN

Methodist Men meet the first Saturday of the month, except January and February. Breakfast is served at 7 a.m., followed by a short business meeting, a devotion time and a program when possible. All men of the church are members of United Methodist Men.

There are no dues and you don't have to ride a goat. Due to deaths and age of our members, the numbers attending our meetings has really dwindled.

Do we want an organized United Methodist Men group in our church? The future of the Methodist Men group in our church will depend on the interest and involvement of the men in the church.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, April 5th. Hope to see you there.
Byron Kimble, President UMM



A NOTE FROM PASTOR JESS

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that yo are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

- John 13:34-35

(The following is based upon the Lenten Study book *Thank God It's Thursday: Encountering Jesus at the Lord's Table as if for the Last Time* by Will Willimon, John 14, and the conversations we have had on Thursday evenings.)

On the night when Jesus was betrayed he was having supper with his disciples when to their amazement he took off his outer garment, grabbed a towel, and washed their feet. One by one Jesus washed and dried the feet of the people who would abandon him, Peter who would deny him and Judas who would actively betray him. Then he tells us to do likewise and of all things he commands his disciples to love one another.

Jesus sets pretty high standards for us sinners...to be a servant to others as Jesus was a servant, to love as Jesus loved us. Love sounds easy as long as we don't have to define it. So long as love is just kind and patient, not rude or boastful we can live with that. If love is just feelings of affection toward the people who sit in the same pew with us but yet we really don't know that isn't so bad. If love means we only have to wash the feet of the people we are fond of but not people who have hurt us then it isn't so challenging. But I'm pretty sure that wasn't what Jesus meant. He didn't say to have vague feelings for one another, he said love each other as I have loved you. That is a lot of love. This kind of love is shown in service and forgiveness, in speaking hard truths and making a great sacrifice. This kind of love is difficult and this in the love that we are commanded to live out. This love is not an option or suggestion or just highly recommended. If we want to be knows as disciples of Jesus, if we really believe the tings that Jesus said, we must love one another. Will Willimon puts it this way, "If we can't somehow find a way to love Jesus' friends, we'll never figure out how to love Jesus." Love is a central part of our faith, love lived out in community that flows from Christ's love for us and our love for Christ. So, how do you live out this love?

Peace and blessings
Pastor Jess



If you wish to provide a lily for Easter Sunday, please call the church office and we will order one for you. The cost this year will be \$14.45.

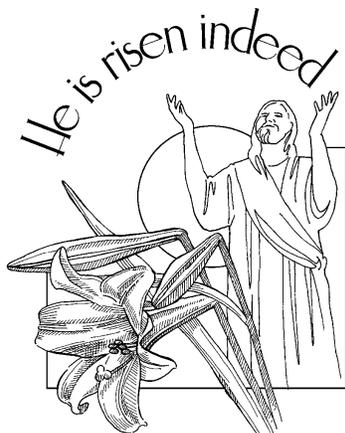


Thank you so much to my church family members who came out to Sunnybrook to my birthday party or, if you couldn't be there, to those who remembered me by sending a card. I miss all of you and enjoyed seeing so many friendly faces.

Your friend,
Ila Guisinger

"SIMPLY SAID"

Saturday, April 5, 2014, 1:00-4:00 PM, Kathy Horn is hosting a "Simply Said" party at her house and you are all invited! Simply Said designs are vinyl stencils that can be applied to your walls, mailboxes, cards, tiles, etc. The possibilities are endless. 10% to 20% of sales can be used towards products (stencils) that will be used for some of the walls in the dining room. We are wanting to stencil a few Bible verses on the dining room walls, so the more that is purchased the cheaper our cost will be for product. Please come and join us for an afternoon of fun and get some creative ideas for decorating your house or gifts for family and friends. See you there!



- Donald Steele 4/1
- Nathan Whitney 4/1
- Mindy Hoskins 4/2
- Debbie Billingsley 4/2
- Phil Huff 4/2
- Sue Hucke 4/2
- Coren Hucke 4/2
- Pete Wickliff 4/3
- LaVerne Sedore 4/4
- Kim Funkhouser 4/4
- Irene Crow 4/5
- Dumo Dube 4/7
- Bonnie Banse 4/7
- Olivia Wallerich 4/8
- Bob Leazer 4/9
- Mary Klein 4/9
- Wade Stremsterfer 4/10
- Sheila Clements 4/11
- Marj Marine 4/12
- Alex Gookin 4/12
- Michael Gookin 4/12
- Pat Funkhouser 4/13
- Charlie White 4/13
- Joe Daugherty 4/14
- Jack Litton 4/15
- Greg Dorrell 4/16
- Ryan McLarney 4/21
- Marge Heckenberg 4/21
- Pat Centner 4/21
- Joyce Stanley 4/22
- Becky Porter 4/22
- Ronda Logli 4/22
- Deana Schlicher 4/22
- Kyle Gilpin 4/23
- Mark Mayer 4/23
- Colleen Kimble 4/24
- Janet Nash 4/26
- Hunter Hoskins 4/26
- John Dahl 4/27
- Kris Davis 4/28
- Gwen Marcellus 4/28
- Carol Parkin 4/28
- Scott Reneker 4/30
- Shirley Ridgeway 4/30
- Matthew Burnstedt 4/30

- Pete & Kathy Tollenaere 4/1
- Chris & Joni Maning 4/9
- Scott & Carol Eland 4/9
- Charlie & Judy White 4/10
- Myron & Sue Wormley 4/12
- Chuck & Jan Espy 4/17
- Denny & Linda Oakes 4/19
- John & Ruth Koontz 4/20
- Chuck & Sharyn Workman 4/22
- Joe & Barb McLarney 4/29
- Joe & Stacey Daugherty 4/29