

Please check with a volunteer in the sound booth if you would like a hearing device to use during our worship service. Large-print bulletins and hymnals are also available. Please visit with one of our greeters if you need assistance. We encourage those present to sign one of the attendance logs. Attendance logs are located in the narthex near the sanctuary entrance, by the elevator entrance, and in the choir room.

### TODAY'S WORSHIP STEWARDS

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Lay Reader ..... Judy Eilders  
Organist/Director of Music ..... Scott Blankenbaker  
Accompanist ..... Lisa Nelson  
Visuals ..... Gary Mott  
Sound ..... Jeff Thieman  
Greeters ..... Cindy Kalvig, Lana McElroy  
Coffee Hour ..... Mark Austin

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Pastor ..... Rev. Melanie Greengo  
pastor@masoncityfirstumc.org  
Christian Administrator ..... Lori Elbermawy  
lori@masoncityfirstumc.org  
Office Manager ..... Jade Funk  
office@masoncityfirstumc.org  
Custodian ..... Troy Gobeli  
troy@masoncityfirstumc.org  
Director of Music ..... Scott Blankenbaker  
Event Coordinator ..... Betty Chipman  
Security ..... Sue Simmons

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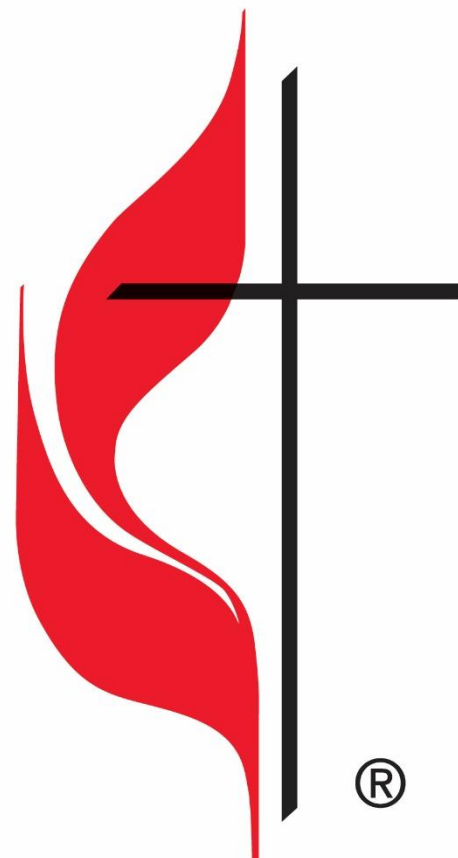
### Worship Services

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Sanctuary, Facebook, or Church Website  
Sunday 11:30 a.m. – Radio Broadcast on KCMR 97.9 FM

## Mason City First United Methodist Church

“A Christian faith community to further God’s kingdom.”

September 1, 2024



Reverend Melanie Greengo  
119 S Georgia Ave, Mason City, IA 50401  
[www.masoncityfirst.com](http://www.masoncityfirst.com)  
[www.facebook.com/firstunitedmethodistchurchmasoncityiowa](https://www.facebook.com/firstunitedmethodistchurchmasoncityiowa)

Welcome  
Announcements

Prelude Scott Blankenbaker

"I Danced in the Morning"  
Wilbur Held

Call to worship\*

The world is hard  
Our losses real  
Our grief tangible  
Our fear palpable

**Merciful God, quiet our rush to judgment.**

The world is heavy  
Our anxiety clawing  
Our confusion large  
Our responsibility tenuous

**Brooding God, slow our impulsive actions.**

The world is mystery  
Our faith rooting  
Our hope kindling  
Our love blossoming

**Loving God, may we be quick in our understanding of your call.**

- written by Katherine Hawker, on **Liturgy Outside**. <http://liturgyoutside.net>

Hymn\* #261 - UMH  
"Lord of the Dance"

Moment of Meditation  
Be still and Know God is God Psalm 46:10  
Opening Prayer

- Posted on **My Redeemer Lives** website. <http://www.myredeemerlives.com/prayers.html>

Special Music Scott Blankenbaker  
"For Everyone Born"  
Tom Trenny, arr.

Wondering with Pastor Mel

Invitation to the offering

Offering Prayer (in unison)

**Gracious God, we bring these offerings with hearts full of love and gratitude, inspired by the beauty of your creation and the love that binds us. We dedicate these gifts to further your kingdom with joy and patience. May they bring hope, peace, and transformation, reflecting your love for all. Help us to be stewards of your grace and love in the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

- <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/uncommon-wisdom/fifteenth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-b-lectionary-planning-notes/fifteenth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-b-offertory-prayer>

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading James 1:17-27  
Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God  
**All: Thanks be to God**

Hymn #2166 - TFWS  
"Christ Beside Me"

Sermon Reverend Melanie Greengo  
"Words and Deeds"

Hymn #2160 - TFWS  
"Into My Heart"

Holy Communion (Please see separate page)

Closing Hymn\* #408 - UMH  
"The Gift of Love"

Benediction

Postlude Scott Blankenbaker  
"A Dancing Spirit"  
Scott Blankenbaker

\* Rise in body or spirit.

## Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right...

...join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in  
the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of  
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you...

...proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come  
again.**

Pour out your...

...now and for ever.

**Amen.**

Receiving the Elements  
Lord's Prayer

## Holy Communion

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**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come  
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...now and for ever.

**Amen.**

Receiving the Elements  
Lord's Prayer

## September 1<sup>st</sup> – September 7<sup>th</sup> 2024



Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>

Lori on Vacation

- 9 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 am Food Bank Collection, Narthex
- 10 am Worship, Sanctuary
- 11:30 am Radio Broadcast, KCMR 97.9 FM

Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>

Church Closed

Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>

No Church Events

Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>

- 2 pm Midweek Music Moments, Facebook
- 3 – 9:30 pm Private Event, Fireside Room
- 4:30 pm Beyond Praise, Sanctuary
- 5:15 pm Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
- 6 pm Jubilee Ringers, Sanctuary

Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>

No Church Events

Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>

No Church Events

Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>

No Church Events

*Prayer Chain*

Please call the church office at 641-423-4905 to submit a request to the confidential prayer chain. Call Rev. Melanie Greengo at 641-781-0264 if there is an emergency and need for pastoral care outside of office hours.



### SING, PLAY, ENGAGE

Are you looking for a way to enrich your life and the lives of others? Are you looking for a safe, welcoming social group? We embrace a wide variety of ages, experiences, beliefs, and backgrounds. We value many different styles of music and strive to reach beyond the walls of our building. Music Director Scott is a long-time teacher and can help you feel comfortable reading the funny little dots and lines on the music pages.

First UMC has a long tradition of ministering through music and we need your help to sustain that. We invite you to join Chancel Choir, Beyond Praise, and/or Jubilee Bell Ringers. Why not give it a try? Rehearsals begin September 4.

Come and join us Monday evenings at 5:30p in October for a book study. We will be reading and discussing *The Loneliness Epidemic* by Susan Mettes.

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary to get a book ordered for you. The cost is \$14.12. If that is a financial hardship, just let the office know and we will make sure you still get a book.

Guided by current research from Barna Group, Mettes illustrates the profound physical, emotional, and social toll of loneliness in the United States. Surprisingly, her research shows that it is not the oldest Americans but the youngest adults who are loneliest and that social media can actually play a positive role in alleviating loneliness. Mettes highlights the role that belonging, friendship, closeness, and expectations play in preventing it. She also offers meaningful ways the church can minister to lonely people, going far beyond simplistic solutions--like helping them meet new people--to addressing their inner lives and the God who understands them.

# Best Wishes

Happy Birthday to all who are celebrating their special day! Congratulations to the following couples celebrating an anniversary this week:

**September 2**  
Tom Mulholland and Tonya Gray

**September 3**  
Rob and Penni Parker

**September 4**  
Frank and Jean Inghram

**September 6**  
Dean and Marlys Pruisman

**September 7**  
Brittlyn and Joseph Starr

## Missions

### \$\$\$ Requested ONLY

Due to the higher cost of supplies needed for the UMCOR Dignity Kit and school bag kits, the Missions Committee has decided to request \$\$\$ donations ONLY this year. Midwest Missions through UMCOR has the ability to purchase bulk supply items needed much cheaper and, therefore, our money donation will be able to help more people in need. A check for the total donated amount will be sent for the Mission Ingathering on Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Fort Dodge Trinity UMC.

Please give your cash donations to the church office. Please make your checks payable to FUMC – Memo – UMCOR Kits. Donation deadline Sunday Oct 19.

Thank you for your continued generosity in helping us be the hands and feet of Christ in our world.

Do you have something for us to put in the next bulletin or newsletter? Write it up and send it to the church office at [office@masoncityfirstumc.org](mailto:office@masoncityfirstumc.org).

Pastor Mel's office hours will be temporarily changing. She will not be in the office until 10:30am on Monday and Wednesday. Thursday will remain the same. This change will be in effect until Dec 12th.



## Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>

9 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall  
9:30 am Food Bank Collection, Narthex  
10 am Worship, Sanctuary  
11:30 am Radio Broadcast, KCMR 97.9 FM  
1 pm Spirit-Filled Trails

## Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

9 am Turquoise Table

## Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>

5:30 pm Trustees Meeting, Room 25  
6:30 pm Joint SPRC Finance Meeting, Fireside Room

## Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

2 pm Midweek Music Moments, Facebook  
5:15 pm Chancel Choir, Sanctuary  
6 pm Jubilee Ringers, Sanctuary  
7 pm Private Event, Fireside Room

## Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>

9:30 pm United Women in Faith, Room 25  
4 pm Missions, Upper Room

## Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>

No Church Events

## Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>

No Church Events



### Radio Ministry Sponsors

11:30 a.m. Sunday – KCMR 97.9 FM

This Sunday's radio broadcast is sponsored by Sandi Roggeman, in loving memory of Jordan.

December 8 is our only available date to sponsor for the rest of the year.