



**More Than Just Sunday
September 2024**

A Monthly Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Mason City, IA

Pastor's Message



I have found it hard to resist the beautiful weather lately and have started walking the trails out at Lime Creek Nature Center after work. Whether I am in the prairie grasses or under the trees, the peace found out there can't be denied. I am reminded of John 14:27 in which Jesus addresses his disciples and says,

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

Each and everyone of us need that feeling of peace. Whether life is smooth sailing right now or you are in the midst of some really difficult stuff, the peace that Jesus offers us is a soul deep peace that abides with us through every moment of every day. I hope that you find time in your day to connect with God, to feel that sense of peace that comes with knowing God loves us and never leaves us and sink into that comfort.

With love and blessing

Pastor Mel



Coffee Hour

9:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Worship Service

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary or Facebook

Radio Broadcast

11:30 a.m., KCMR 97.9 FM

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

First United Methodist Church

119 S Georgia Ave

Mason City, IA 50401

<https://masoncityfirst.com/>

641-423-4905

Rev. Melanie Greengo

Senior Pastor



Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 1 John Boland, MacKenzie Clark, Aaron Garden, Margi Harty, Lynn Henaman, Kimber Hoffman, Shannon Lee
- 2 Tim & Tonya Gray Mulholland, Ryder Leibrand, Eric Lofing, Brayden Petzoldt
- 3 Rob & Penni Parker, Jane Anthony
- 4 Frank & Jean Inghram, Jeff Krueger, Jacinda Servantez
- 5 Adan Gutierrez, Tristan Kinseth, Todd Kirkpatrick, Evelyn Wiley
- 6 Dean & Marlys Pruisman, Abra Alitz, Tristan Bernhard,
- 7 Brittlyn & Joseph Starr, Doug Halfpap, Phil Johnson, Jay Shriver
- 8 Walt Wendland
- 9 Kaylene Koerber
- 10 Amber Anderson, Jerry Bernhard, Donna Braughton, Julia Duvall
- 11 Gary & Darla Kinseth, Bob Dahlquist, Dick Leet, Noli True-Frank
- 12 Carly Gobeli, Tyler Newell, Mark Vollmers
- 13 Abigail Eden, Leah Nelson, Janis Platts, Doris Tiezsen
- 14 Steve & Wendi Younker, Shawn Lee, Pat Repp, Piper Svedja
- 15 Gordon Kamrad, Nora Kennis, Marsha Kibsgaard
- 16 Sue Currie, Caleb Gobeli
- 17 Griffin Lunning
- 18 Aaron & Brooke Halfpap, David & Kimberly Jimenez, Vern & Sue Pedelty, Joyce Vorce
- 19 Vickie Caldwell, Leslie Tarr
- 20 Dale Busick, Jim DeLung, Lyla Hammand
- 21
- 22 Mike & Deb Calkins, Hadassah Avila, Allie Johnson, Lennon Jewel True-Frank
- 23 Kristen Anderson, Jean Anderson, Tony Calaway
- 24 Kaylene & Jay Koerber, Jim Hrubetz, Marcy Tempus
- 25 Carrie Allen, Blayne Brunsvold, Jaxen Kehm, Parkar Moorman
- 26
- 27 Linda McCollum
- 28 Katie Anderson, Lori Elbermawy, Nellie Kehm
- 29 Curt Trebil



Marmot Fun Facts: The Mountain's Whistling Residents

I just returned from vacation in Medicine Bow National Forest in Wyoming. While I was there, I had the pleasure of interacting with and photographing a Yellow-Bellied Marmot. So, I decided today's fun facts will be about them!

1. **The Whistlers of the Wild:** Marmots are often called "whistle pigs" due to their distinctive high-pitched alarm calls. When they sense danger, they emit a loud, sharp whistle to alert their colony members. This sound can be heard echoing across the mountains, warning others of potential predators.
2. **Hibernation Experts:** Marmots are true hibernators. They spend up to eight months of the year in a deep sleep, conserving energy during the long winter months. Before hibernation, they enter a state of hyperphagia, where they eat voraciously to build up fat reserves that will sustain them while they rest.
3. **Family-Oriented Animals:** Marmots live in social groups called colonies, typically consisting of an alpha pair and their offspring. These colonies often communicate and interact, showcasing their social nature. Family bonds are strong, and members often groom each other and huddle together for warmth.
4. **Digging Masters:** Marmots are skilled diggers, creating elaborate burrow systems that serve as their homes. These burrows can be extensive, with multiple entrances and tunnels. The burrows provide shelter from predators, harsh weather, and a place to raise their young.
5. **Dietary Habits:** Marmots are herbivores, primarily feeding on grasses, flowers, leaves, and other vegetation. They have a particular fondness for plants rich in nutrients, which help them accumulate fat reserves for hibernation.
6. **Impressive Size:** Marmots are among the largest members of the squirrel family. They can weigh anywhere from 4 to 11 pounds and measure about 20 to 28 inches in length, including their bushy tails.

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 2nd 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 19th.

A big thank you to everyone who has helped to completely fill up our radio broadcast sponsor sheet!

The only available date this year is December 8.

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.



Quarter Tube

The Quarter Tube designation through October is for the Red Bird Mission. This mission aims to improve the lives of people in the rural mountains of Southeastern Kentucky through programs such as food assistance and spiritual education.

Note:

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.

MORE MUSIC

With school starting back up, so is our music! Starting September 4, Chancel Choir and Jubilee Ringers are coming back. The Wednesday music schedule will be as follows:

4:30 pm Beyond Praise (2nd and 4th Wednesdays)

5:15 pm Chancel Choir

6:15 pm Jubilee Ringers

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.

More new changes are on the website! Now you can watch videos of previous services, watch the current service live, or listen to the previous service as a podcast on the go! Visit us to see all the exciting new changes. <https://masoncityfirst.com/>



Supper Club

The Supper Club will be meeting at Surf Galley on Thursday, September 26. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary by Sunday, September 22 so we have a head count. 916 Buddy Holly Place, Clear Lake

MORE

Than Just Sunday

<https://www.gardenia.net/guide/september-birth-flower-what-is-my-birth-flower>



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Rev. Melanie Greengo _____ Senior Pastor
Lori Elbermaw _____ Christian Administrator
Office Managerr _____ Jade Funk
Troy Gobeli _____ Custodian
Scott Blankenbaker _____ Director of Music
Lisa Nelson _____ Accompanist
Betty Chipman _____ Event Coordinator
Sue Simmons _____ Security

**Email: office@masoncityfristumc.org
Website: www.masoncityfirst.com**

United Women in Faith

Camp Clear Lake District
Annual Meeting
Saturday, September 21, 2024

Garner United Methodist Church
885 Maben Avenue, Garner, Iowa
8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m. Registration and Coffee
9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. Meeting

"Step Back in Time: Breaking Free of Rigid Boxes"

Our guest speaker is Diana Koppen, author from Spencer, Iowa. Diana and her sister wrote and published their Aunt Marion Helland's memoir. Marion was raised in Cylinder, Iowa, and moved to the south to work as a Freedom School Teacher. Here she began her lifelong commitment to social justice, documenting her life's work in 50 boxes of journals, photographs, and memorabilia.

A true sign you have made a difference is when your resume continues to grow after you are gone.

Also speaking, will be Deb Streff about her Fair Trade products for sale.

Bring a CARLOAD of women and enjoy your day with us.

Please return this portion with your meal registration. Reservation DEADLINE is September 13.

Make checks payable to Garner UWFaith.

Name _____ Name of Unit _____
Email _____ Phone Number _____
Number of Regular Meals: _____ x \$10.00. = Total _____
Number of Gluten Free Meals: _____ x \$10.00 = Total _____
Check/s and registration/s Enclosed \$ _____

Mail Check and Registrations to: Carrie Omans 641-512-1516

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