

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 . . . . . Laree Morrise  
Organist/Director of Music . . . . . Scott Blankenbaker  
Accompanist . . . . . Lisa Nelson  
Visuals . . . . . Jim Bissig  
Sound . . . . . Chuck Bennett  
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 11:00 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 8, 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  
"Come Ye Disconsolate"  
S. Webb  
Scott Blankenbaker

Call to worship\*

Come to hear the Word.  
**Come to do the Word.**  
Come to experience Comfort.  
**Come to experience Challenge.**  
Come to find Cost.  
**Come to find Joy.**  
Come to find Humanity.  
**Come to find Community.**  
Come to find Church.  
**Come to find God.**

- Copyright Katherine Hawker, 2002. Written for the Evangelical United Church of Christ, 1997 and posted on Walker's [Outside the Box](#) website.

Hymn\* #548 - UMH  
"In Christ There is No East or West"

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

- written by Rob, on the *Rob's Prayers* page of the [Uniting Church SA](#) website.  
<http://mrm.sa.uca.org.au/resources/prayers-and-liturgies/373-robs-prayers-.html>

Special Music  
Mya McWilliams and Kayla Halfpap  
"Calvary's Love"  
Nelson and McHugh / Inman, arr.

Wondering with Pastor Mel and Lori

Scripture Reading  
James 2:1-17  
Mark 7:24-37

One: The word of God for the people of God  
**Many: Thanks be to God**

Hymn #273 - UMH  
"Jesus's Hands Were Kind Hands"

Sermon Reverend Melanie Greengo  
"Faith in Action"

Hymn #2152 - TFWS  
"Change My Heart O God"

Invitation to the offering

Offering Prayer (in unison)

**Loving Creator, we dedicate these offerings with hearts guided by your wisdom and grace. As we gather on this September Sunday, may our gifts embody your teachings, spreading honor, kindness, and justice to all. Use these offerings to uplift those in need, fostering hope and peace in our community. May we live out your wisdom in our actions and generosity. This we pray in Christ's name. Amen.**

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

Pastoral Prayer  
Lord's Prayer

- written by Rev. Abi and posted on her [Long and Winding Road blog](#).  
<http://vicarofwadley.blogspot.ca/>

Closing Hymn\* #664 - UMH  
"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

Benediction

Postlude Scott Blankenbaker  
"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"  
arr. unknown

\* Stand in body or spirit.

## September 8<sup>th</sup> – September 14<sup>th</sup>



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

- 9 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
- 10 am Worship, Sanctuary
- 11 am Radio Broadcast, KCMR 97.9 FM
- 11 am Congregational Care, Upper Room
- 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

*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?

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 11**  
Gary and Darla Kinseth

**September 14**  
Steve and Wendi Younker

The time of the Sunday radio broadcast is now at 11 am.

Thank you everyone for buying up every radio date this year!

## 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 15<sup>th</sup>

9 am	Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
10 am	Worship, Sanctuary
11 am	Radio Broadcast, KCMR 97.9 FM
11 am	Worship, Room 25
1 pm	Spirit-Filled Trails

## Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>

9 am	Turquoise Table
12:30 pm	Card Writing, Nursery 2

## Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>

10 am	Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
6 pm	Finance Meeting, Fireside Classroom
6:30 pm	Council Meeting, Fireside Room

## Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

Supper	Volunteering at Community Kitchen
2 pm	Midweek Music Moments, Facebook
4:30 pm	Beyond Praise
5:15 pm	Chancel Choir
6 pm	Jubilee Ringers

## Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

10 am	Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
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## Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>

No Church Events

## Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>

No Church Events



**Radio Ministry Sponsors**  
11:30 a.m. Sunday – KCMR 97.9 FM

**This Sunday's radio broadcast is sponsored by Gaye Kehm.**

There are no more available dates this year.