



# November 2023 Newsletter “Circuit Rider” for



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MOUNT VERNON

304 1st Street SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314

*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

Telephone: 319.895.6286

[www.umcmv.com](http://www.umcmv.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UMCMV>

## Pondering on the Paha: RETREAT

## Pastor's Letter



In Matthew 14, we can read the story of the feeding of the 5,000. It's a story you might have heard many times. What's interesting to me is that after Jesus fed everyone, and there was leftover food, he dismissed the crowds and went away to a quiet place. His ministry was growing! His popularity is on the rise! What does he do? He walks away from the crowds.

In ministry, I've found it easy to retreat when things are hard. It is more challenging when things are going well. These four months with you have been such a delight. There are holy moments, like a few weeks ago, when I asked how God is calling you. Your responses, from serving the church, to connecting better to your family, to being more intentional about your faith, were amazing! Thank you for saying “yes” to God's call! It's been so very good to be working together with you. I'm having such fun, that I almost didn't take my annual fall planning retreat.

I'm so glad I did! I went down to East Bay Camp, a UM Camp on Bloomington Lake in Illinois. The drive itself was educational as I discovered more of Iowa like Cedar Valley, Durant, Davenport (by accident), and Buffalo. I stopped through Wildcat Den State Park on the way down and back – what an incredible park just an hour from us! Wow! While at the camp I hiked, wrote, read, prayed, took pictures, and planned out the preaching schedule for 2024. I was able to do important work with God around trust, gratitude, and forgiveness.

It's good to get away. It's good to come back. Thanks to everyone who helped cover the needs of the church. It makes stepping away easier when you know there are folks in place to keep things moving!

~Pastor Vicki

**November 2023**



For all who worship with us... we are so blessed to have  
you with us on Sunday mornings

**In person at 8:30 am or 11 am**

**Online at 8:30 am**

**[www.umcmv.com/online-worship](http://www.umcmv.com/online-worship)**

## **Message Series for NOVEMBER**

### **Sunday Messages:**

**Nov 5: All Saints, Lord's Portion Auction, Communion**  
**Message: "Intentional Remembrance"**

Scriptures: Psalm 130, 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

Worship Question: How will I make space for grieving with hope?

**11/12 Message: Making a Difference: Personal and Social Holiness**

Scriptures: Matthew 23:23-28, Isaiah 58:1-12

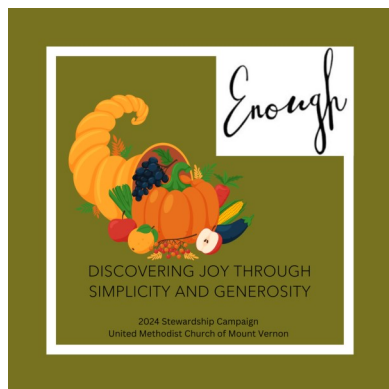
Worship Question: What is God asking of me?

**11/19 Alison Dix preaching**

**11/26 Jim Baty Preaching**

**Coming this Advent: Unrelenting Grace: A United Methodist Way of Life**

Plan to join us this Advent as we explore the United Methodist understanding of grace in light of traditional Advent stories. We will have some books available in the church office for \$7 or the Narthex if you want to read along during this series.



**Check out Kim Guardado sharing about why she gives to Mount Vernon UMC in this video—  
<https://youtu.be/ffYwR6ZFrbY>**

**Keep those pledge cards coming in, and if you need one to submit, just let Alison @ the church office know and she will get you one!**

## Remembering OUR MISSION

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

### Our missional priorities (goals) for 2023:

1. Increased Discipleship
2. Strengthen relationship with Cornell
3. Community Outreach
4. Vibrant Circuit Ministry
5. Small Group Ministry



### How to reach Pastor Vicki:

For emergencies, call her cell at 712-563-6094 and leave a message. Otherwise, leave a message at the church at 319-895-6286 or email [vicki.fisher@iaumc.net](mailto:vicki.fisher@iaumc.net). She will be taking Thursdays as her Sabbath, except in dire emergencies.

Did you miss worship? Check out our online worship at <https://tinyurl.com/weloveUMCMV>



Our Nursery is in its NEW Location!  
It's now located in the first Classroom  
on the left in the Main Floor Ed Wing  
— look for the signs!



### A Church Conference Celebration:

A brief, but significant vote was taken at Church Conference to affirm Jim Baty as a candidate for ministry in the United Methodist Church. Jim has expressed a desire to become an Ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church. Please encourage and pray for Jim as his journey unfolds!

# October Longing



In October, the building of the wall on our southern border resumed. "In 2021, U.S. citizens were 86.3 percent of convicted fentanyl drug traffickers—ten times greater than convictions of illegal immigrants for the same offense." (The Cato Institute)

We have labor shortages. We have an aging population. We have Emma Lazarus' words, but no longer have a Mother of Exiles.

In October, Hamas attacked Israel and Israel retaliated. The poor and those trapped by Partition, suffered and are suffering the most.

In America, we confuse the Nation of Israel with Israel of the Bible, and confuse Revelation with Gospel. We confuse Palestinians with Hamas and Islam. We seem to like our confusion and the stories it creates, as if that somehow makes God's side clear in this ongoing heartache.

"Love your enemies." (Matthew 5:43-44) Was Jesus serious?

In October, a man went into a bowling alley in Maine and killed indiscriminately.

Are we getting so used to this violence that we are no longer shocked?

The number one cause of death of children in America is gun violence.

Will there ever be a time in America when too many people have died because of easy access to guns? Will there ever be a time when reasonable people can agree on reasonable gun control?

The answer is blowing in the wind.

In October, the war in Ukraine passed 600 days. I cannot imagine. I grieve.

In October, our government avoided a shut down by a matter of hours. When our government leaders call for folks to meet in the middle, then take ten steps backwards, what do you do? Who is watching out for vulnerable families? Who is working for justice, mercy, and humility?

"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? But to do justice, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God." (Micah 6:8)

Longing...

for justice, for mercy, for humility.

Pacing myself...

because too much bad news leaves us numb and overwhelmed.

Praying...

Sometimes with sighs instead of words.

Working...

To do what God has called me to do.

Releasing...

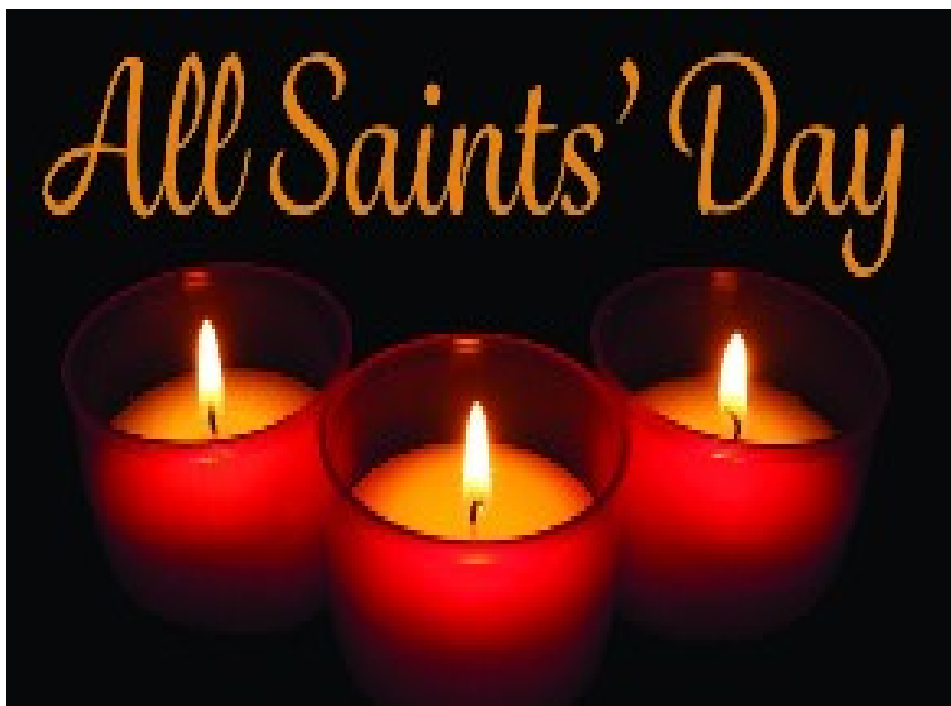
God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things that I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Amen

Keep praying, friends.

~ Pastor Vicki



**Sunday November 5th, we will observe All Saints' Sunday. It is a high and holy day when we remember with thanksgiving all the saints who have walked in our midst but in the past year have been called to walk along side Jesus.**



**Those of our church family who have passed away this past year are: Gayle Wallace, Mike Ryan, Don Stine, William Bowers, Rev. Dick Thomas, Maria Eva Alfuro de Guardado (Mundo's mother) and Addison Ault.**

Please join us for worship on November 5 as we take time to grieve with hope those who have gone before us. Part of our celebration will include the processing of a memorial bell banner. We will also have lighting of candles during worship.

#### MEMORIAL GIFTS

There are two ways to memorialize a friend or loved one with a gift to the church: Gifts to a Memorial Fund are typically given in memory of a loved one, and can be designated for a specific purpose, or added to the general Memorial fund for use in the future.

Gifts to the Endowment Fund can be given as a memorial or a general gift. Funds are added to the church's endowment investments. Income from the interest on the endowment fund is used to support non-budgeted special projects within the church. The principal is never spent and is left to accrue income to support the church in perpetuity.

The Memorial committee appreciates all the gifts received this year and will uphold our mission to be good stewards of these gifts in funding projects for the church. Also, 4, \$500 scholarships were awarded through the Jullian Johnston fund. Any questions or ideas for projects can be directed to Barb Shepley at 895-6566.

Our **ANNUAL LORD'S PORTION AUCTION** is this Sunday — Sunday November 5.

A list will be published in the Mid-week update or in the bulletin on Sunday.

So many great items for bidding:  
Pies, Digital art print by Jean Lehman of our stained glass windows, mug racks made by Adam Krapfl and Cashew Candy Corn by the Morricals all pictured here!



Thanks to all who have donated, we have an awesome list of over



60 items!



**Bell Ringers Recruitment!**

Have you wanted to ring bells? Or rang at your last church home and miss it?

Well we have a deal for you!

Our large bell choir is gathering for rehearsals in November and December.

We'd love to have you join us!

Contact Kristi Keast or the church office. Thank you!



## TRUSTEES CORNER

Fall is in the air. The Boiler has been turned on and air conditioners off so if you should open any windows, please close them when you leave the Sanctuary or any other room also just a reminder to turn off lights. We would also like to ask that if you (members, committee chairs, organization chairs, etc) when setting up or having a meeting, class, practice, etc. please have it put on the church calendar. This will help us to know when to lock up the church, we do sometimes go thru the church and lock up early if nothing is on the calendar. If you are having a meeting you may want to check to see if anyone in your group has a key. One other item Kevin Woods and Susan Pisarik are acting as Co-Chairs for the next couple of months. Thanks for your help and support. If you have any questions or see anything that needs attention, please let us know.

Trustees committee—Kevin Woods, Susan Pisarik, Kristi Keast, Warren Havill, Mary Jane McWilliams and Mundo Guardado.

How to contact United Methodist Church of Mount  
Vernon

Office Phone # (319) 895-6286

Email: [alisondix@umcmv.com](mailto:alisondix@umcmv.com)

Website: [www.umcmv.com](http://www.umcmv.com)

[ONLINE GIVING LINK \(or QR code\)](#)

<https://bit.ly/UMCMVonlinegiving>







# Education Corner



## Sunday School

Our unit 2 Faith Word is Faith, which is to believe in God's presence and to hope. Our unit Bible Verse is Genesis 21:1: "The Lord carried out just what He had promised".

We have been reading about Abraham and

Sarah, how the Lord had promised them kids even though they were old, which made Sarah laugh. As we've learned, nothing is impossible with God! We will be closing out October learning about the birth of Isaac then November starts with the birth of Jacob and Esau. In our next unit we will learn about what a blessing is.

Starting in November, we will be practicing for the pageant, so save the date and make sure your kids make it to Sunday School to get their practice in! The pageant will be on Sunday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Parents - if you haven't already, please let us know if your kids will be participating so we can make the proper arrangements and planning. Thank you!

### Unit 2: Faith

10/29 - Isaac Is Born *Genesis 21:1-7*

11/5 - Jacob and Esau *Genesis 25:19-28*

### Unit 3: Blessing

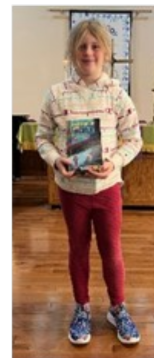
11/12 - The Birthright *Genesis 25:29-34*

11/19 - The Blessing *Genesis 27:1-45*

11/26 - Jacob's Ladder *Genesis 28:10-22*

12/3 - A Peaceable Kingdom *Isaiah 11:6-9*

The middle school Sunday School class has been learning similar things but will be diving into a pretzel project led by their teacher, Karen Stewart, who will be teaching them as well as the younger classes the symbolism behind pretzels. They get to eat pretzels, too, of course!



# Rooted Youth Group

October has flown by, and it's no wonder with all the fun things our youth have been up to! We started the month off with a movie night, watching Tomorrowland. Then, despite the storm and pouring rain, we were able to complete our hikes as well as toast smores and play *Telestrations*! After that, Mundo Guardado met with the youth and shared what it was like growing up in El Salvador. Ask him about his brother in the mango grove! We ended October with a game night. A very LOUD game night. I don't think they had fun at all...

We will kick November off at AirFX! We learned from last year and booked our visit before the snow starts

## YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

November

11/1 - AirFX

11/8 - Yoga

11/15 - Field Day

11/22 - **THANKSGIVING BREAK - NO MEETING**

Please contact Veronica or Pastor Vicki to volunteer at 319-895-6286. Regular youth leaders and helpers are always welcome. Thank you!

Also, did you know we are on social media? You can follow our pages at <https://www.facebook.com/UMCMVRooted/> for Facebook and <https://www.instagram.com/rootedumcmv/> for Instagram! These pages will include updates and pictures.







## Mission Committee Report for the November Circuit Rider

Our committee was invited to visit the SE Linn Community Center and hear how our donations and bulk food contributions have impacted the community. We are truly making a HUGE difference in what the food pantry can provide to the community. Through your generous donations, we delivered about \$3000 worth of bulk food, ordered by Gary's Foods, in October. The needs continue to be great, so thanks to all who continue to contribute to his quarterly giving.

At our yearly planning meeting, we identified a goal of reaching out beyond our local area with our giving. With this goal in mind, our committee invited Renee Dietrich of St. Joseph's Family in Haiti to attend our October meeting and explain their programs, their needs, and ways we could support this international ministry. Renee is Gary Dietrich's daughter (Gary's Foods), so the chance for a local connection led us to this inquiry. This program is truly inspiring, especially in this time of gang violence and severe poverty in the country of Haiti. Stay tuned for opportunities to support this ministry.

We will again be offering opportunities to support local brothers and sisters in need this holiday season. In November, we will collect donations in the narthex for Holiday Hams for SE Linn. Look for the pink piggy bank!

In December we will present our annual Tag Tree with tags for community members in need. The tree will be in the entry area with tags and gift suggestions to be returned in early December.

You are such a generous congregation. What a joy to be in mission with you all. We invite any who are interested to attend our next meeting on Tues. Nov. 21 at 7:00 PM in the Common Ground.

Sincerely,

Your Mission Committee --- Vern and Arlene Sand, Jen Hoffman, Renee Nydegger, Mary Jane McWilliams, Alison Dix, Barb Shepley, Karen Stewart

# United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon Calendar NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 6:00pm Praise Team practice, Sanctuary 6:30pm MS & HS Youth Group, - Offsite - Air FX 7:30pm Choir Re-	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 8:00pm AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall 8:00pm Al-Anon, Common Ground Meeting Room
<b>5</b> All Saints Sunday 8:30am Praise Worship, Sanctuary 9:45am Sunday School Classes 11:00am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary <b>12:00pm Lord's Portion Auction, Fellowship Hall</b> 3:30pm Women's Ministry gathering, Common Ground Meeting Room	<b>6</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts Meeting, Fellowship hall	<b>7</b> 9:30am Women's Bible Study, Balcony Classroom 1:00pm Staff Meeting, Common Ground Meeting Room 6:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 40, Fellowship Hall 6:30pm Evening book club, Common Ground Meeting Room	<b>8</b> 2:00pm Grief Gathering, Common Ground Meeting Room 6:00pm Praise Team practice, Sanctuary 6:30pm Grief Gathering, Balcony Classroom 6:30pm MS & HS Youth Group, Fellowship Hall 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	<b>9</b> 6:00pm PEO Meeting, Common Ground Meeting Room	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 8:00pm AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall 8:00pm Al-Anon, Common Ground Meeting Room
<b>12</b> 8:30am Praise Worship, Sanctuary 9:45am Confirmation - Mentor meetings, Fellowship Hall 9:45am Sunday School Classes 11:00am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary 3:30pm Women's Ministry gathering, Common Ground Meeting Room 6:30pm Confirmation Class, Fellowship Hall	<b>13</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts Meeting, Fellowship hall	<b>14</b> 9:30am Women's Bible Study, Balcony Classroom 1:00pm Staff Meeting, Common Ground Meeting Room 6:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 40, Fellowship Hall	<b>15</b> 6:00pm Praise Team practice, Sanctuary 6:30pm MS & HS Youth Group, Fellowship Hall 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	<b>16</b> 7:00pm Council Meeting, Common Ground meeting room	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 8:00pm AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall 8:00pm Al-Anon, Common Ground Meeting Room
<b>19</b> 8:30am Praise Worship, Sanctuary 9:45am Sunday School Classes 11:00am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary 3:30pm Women's Ministry gathering, Common Ground Meeting Room	<b>20</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts Meeting, Fellowship hall 7:00pm Trustees Meeting, Common Ground Meeting Room	<b>21</b> 9:30am Women's Bible Study, Balcony Classroom 1:00pm Staff Meeting, Common Ground Meeting Room 6:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 40, Fellowship Hall 7:00pm Missions meeting, Common Ground Meeting room	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Thanksgiving Holiday - offices closed	<b>24</b> Thanksgiving Holiday - offices closed	<b>25</b> 8:00pm AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall 8:00pm Al-Anon, Common Ground Meeting Room
<b>26</b> UMCOR United Methodist Student Day 8:30am Praise Worship, Sanctuary 9:45am Sunday School Classes 11:00am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary 3:30pm Women's Ministry gathering, Common Ground Meeting Room	<b>27</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts Meeting, Fellowship hall	<b>28</b> 9:30am Women's Bible Study, Balcony Classroom 1:00pm Staff Meeting, Common Ground Meeting Room 6:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 40, Fellowship Hall 7:00pm Finance Committee Meeting, Common Ground Meeting Room	<b>29</b> 6:00pm Praise Team practice, Sanctuary 6:30pm MS & HS Youth Group, Fellowship Hall 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	<b>30</b> Magical Night - Soup supper & Cookie Walk in Fellowship Hall 4:30pm Holiday Cookie Walk by SE Linn Bakers, Fellowship Hall	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 8:00pm AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall 8:00pm Al-Anon, Common Ground Meeting Room

## Lift Up these Prayer Requests throughout the week...

### Prayers for Healing:

- For Harold (friend of Susan and Terry Pisarik) who has a recent cancer diagnosis
- For Mary Jane McWilliams as she recovers from surgery
- For Evelyn King (mother of Linda Staker) and her family, that they make the best decision together
- Continued prayers for Barb Neal (mother of Abby Bock) as she continues her battle against cancer. Also, prayers for Barb's family during this difficult time
- For our friends and family members who are fighting the battle against cancer or other health issues

### Prayers for Comfort and Strength:

- The immigration processing times are slower than ever, continued prayers for Mundo (and Kim) for progress and positive outcomes
- For those concerned with health issues
- For all who are struggling: emotionally, physically or spiritually
- For those suffering silently with anxiety and depression
- For all who are grieving
- Prayers for Transition:
  - For all college students as they maneuver college life and learn to live a life of balance
  - For our teachers, administrators, and students for a positive and smooth first semester of school
  - For the leaders of UMCMV as they continue to work on behalf of our church
  - For the United Methodist Church, the Iowa Conference and our Mount Vernon congregation

### Prayers for our Nation and our World:

- For the people of Israel and Palestine; Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers
- For families and communities devastated by natural disasters
- For people caught in the tragedies of war in Ukraine and Russia; Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers
- Prayers for peace for all humanity

### Prayers of Thanksgiving and Joy:

- Thankfulness for beautiful Fall weather
- With joy we recognized the dedication of the new Memorial patio and the reconsecration of the renovated Education Wing on Sunday, October 15th
- With thankful hearts we praise God for the blessings in our lives

3rd Graders loved receiving their bibles and have completed their month long intro class to the bible!

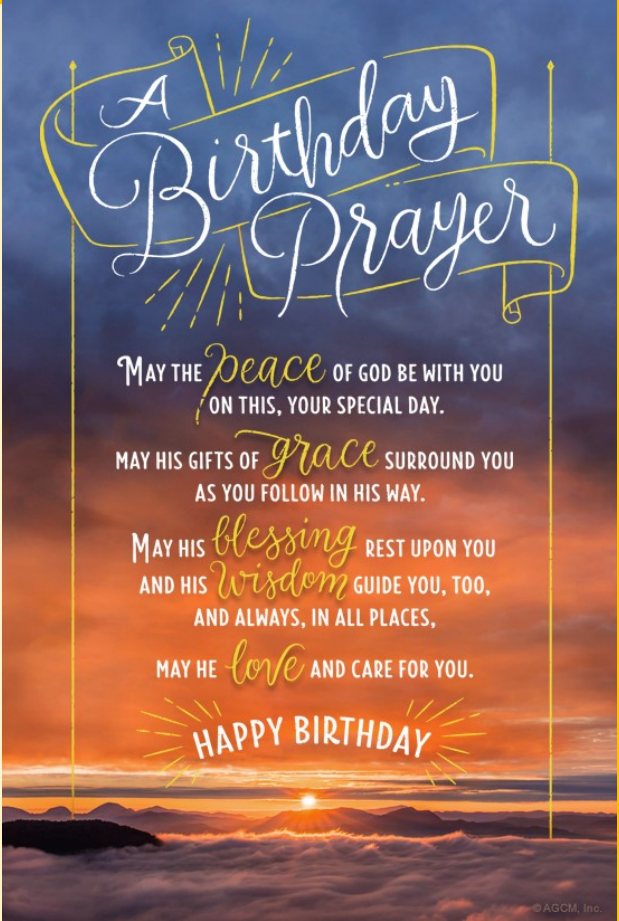


**ABOVE:** Helena Barnes also received a bible! (4th grader)

Susan Glenn	11/01
Stephanie Frantz	11/02
Angie Watson	11/02
Jason Booth	11/03
Karen Stewart	11/05
Madeline Morrical	11/08
Heather Sage	11/09
Ron Coe	11/10
Guy Booth	11/11
Benjamin Pospisil	11/11
Crystal Shannon	11/12
Keanan Shannon	11/12
Eloise Reinken	11/13
Rik Smith	11/14
Carol Wozniak-Rebhuhn	11/14
Trenton Baty	11/15
Blake Booth	11/15
Cohen Kamaus	11/15
Truman Jordan	11/18
Bonnie Keith	11/18
Emma Hoffman	11/19

**NOVEMBER**  
**Birthdays**  
**Happy**  
**Happy**  
**Birthday!**

Gretchen Light	11/20
Babs Moore	11/20
Brittany Booth	11/25
Allison Ott	11/25
John Zehms	11/25
Jason Rushford	11/27
Anna Nydegger	11/28
Kaiden Shannon	11/29
Caleb Dausener	11/30





## IT'S EASY TO GIVE SECURITIES TO THE CHURCH!

As we all think about our year-end gifts to the church, consider donating securities from your investment portfolio. The church can accept any negotiable securities: stocks, bonds, mutual funds. A gift of securities benefits the donor two ways: you receive the usual charitable tax deduction, and you avoid capital gains tax on the sale proceeds. This strategy is particularly useful if you have owned the assets for a long time and have a large unrealized gain.

To get this favorable tax treatment, it is important that the securities are given to the church before they are sold. The Iowa United Methodist Foundation (which manages part of our church endowment) will sell the securities at no cost to either the donor or the church, and write a check to UMCMV. Proceeds can be directed to whichever church fund you specify.

If you wish to learn more about donating securities, call the church office; they will connect you with the Foundation and provide the necessary documents.

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If you are considering a yearend donation to the church, consider making a qualified charitable donation (QCD) from your individual retirement account (IRA). Here's how:

If you are 70½ or older, you can donate funds from your IRA to any qualifying charity (including UMCMV), and the donated amount is not taxable to you, as IRA distributions usually are. This is true whether or not you itemize deductions on your tax return. If you are 73 or older at the end of 2023, you **MUST** take a distribution from your IRA before yearend. You can donate all or a portion of this required minimum distribution (RMD) to charity, and avoid paying tax on the donated amount. Please note that, in order to avoid income tax, the donation must be made **DIRECTLY** from the custodian of your IRA to the church. That makes it a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) under IRS rules, and the distributed amount is not taxable to the IRA owner.

Every financial firm that offers IRAs has a process for doing this. Contact the custodian of your IRA for instructions on their procedure. Also, contact the church office, so they will know what to do with the check when it arrives.

This tax-saving strategy is only available to owners of IRAs that were funded with pre-tax dollars, not to owners of Roth IRAs, whose qualifying distributions are not taxable.

Women's Bible Study Tuesdays 9:30 to 11 am

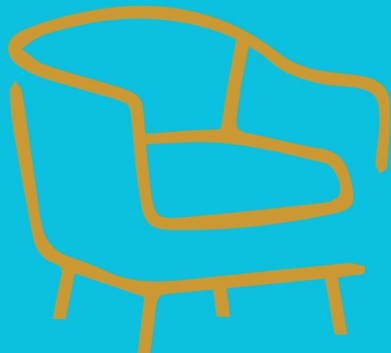
"The Amazing Collection" study — Join us in the balcony classroom — All are welcome

People can call or text any questions to leader, Cathy Stoner, 319-551-6666



# WISDOM

Wednesday



**"THEREFORE ENCOURAGE  
ONE ANOTHER AND BUILD  
ONE ANOTHER UP, JUST AS  
YOU ARE DOING"**

**-- 1 THESSALONIANS 5:11**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OF MOUNT VERNON**

Everyone is welcome  
304 1st St. SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314

**Wednesday November 8**

**2 PM & 6:30 PM**

**Discussion Topic: Grief**

Dear Ones,

Our first Wisdom Wednesday was well received. We started the discussion about grief; what it is and how to survive it. Participants were introduced to grief expert, David Kessler, via his video entitled "What No One Tells You About Grief Healing". His wise and compassionate words were meaningful to all attendees.

On November 8th, I will host our next Wisdom Wednesday. We will continue gaining knowledge about grief, this time focusing up- on the Holidays and how to get through November and December, when much of society is celebrating and that seems impossible due to our grief.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to inquire. All are welcome to join in this time of learning and mutual support. We will again learn from a grief expert, via a video and then have the opportunity to join in conversation together. In November our video speaker will be Alan Wolfelt.

With love and care, Julie Baty Congregational Care Coordinator



**We, as the United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon, are here to say we are making spaces safe and affirming for all people to be themselves and that we are specifically in support of the LGBTQ+ community members. We affirm that those in the LGBTQ+ community are persons of sacred worth, full and whole members of the human family, and are beloved by God.**

## Mount Vernon Community Preschool Update: NOVEMBER 2023

October was filled with pumpkins, leaves and all things related to fall. Preschool children enjoyed painting, baking pumpkin bars, a field trip to Kroul Farms, a walk to the Cole Library, and trick or treating to local businesses.

We continue to be thankful for our wonderful children and families. We are grateful for the church staff and members for all their support. And we are blessed every day to get to work in such an amazing community!

Thank you for your continued prayers.

Preschool Contact Information: [mvcommunitypreschool@gmail.com](mailto:mvcommunitypreschool@gmail.com), 563-321-0752



## A Note of Thanks:

To Brittany Booth for more behind-the-scenes cleaning and organizing in our Education Wing!  
To Terry Pisarik and Kevin Woods for your work at the parsonage and the church.  
To our Tech Team and all you do to make worship run smoothly!  
To our Praise Team, Choir, Musicians, and Bell Choir for sharing the gift of music!  
To our Sunday School and Youth leaders and volunteers.  
To Babs and Diane for covering the office during staff vacations.  
To Kim G. for filling in to preach!  
To Denise Havill, working behind the scenes.

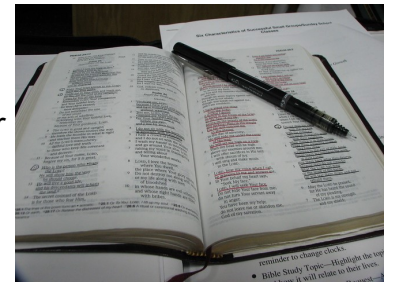


## Resources for growing your faith:

**YouVersion Bible app:** This app can read the Bible to you and provides several versions of the Bible for your devotional reading. You can adjust settings so it reminds you to spend time in the Scriptures.

**Lectio 365:** This offers short devotionals twice a day that can either be read to you or that you can read.

**Bibleproject.com** This website offers a mess of videos that provide historical and cultural context as they overview different books of the Bible.



## Reaching Cornell College Students and Young Adults

Do you have a heart for strengthening our connection to Cornell College, or for reaching out to young adults in general? We are in the early stages of forming a team to begin intentionally connecting! Give Pastor Vicki a call, email or text if you want to be a part of the planning or the actual events!

## *Welcome Deb Forbes, Choir Accompanist*

We are glad to welcome Deb Forbes as our new choir accompanist. We've been blessed with Deb's presence, and her musical gifts. We are glad she is stepping in to share musical blessings on a more regular basis! Thank you, Deb!

Thanks, Denae! A few weeks ago, Denae McGrath let us know that she needed to step down from some of her obligations to attend to personal matters. Yes, she will still be around the church some, which we are glad for! Denae has been a blessing to our choir and Praise Team, and also as a sub. Please share your gratitude and encouragement in the this time of transition!





United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon  
304 First Street SW  
Mount Vernon, IA 52314  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## ***United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon Staff***

Senior Pastor . . . . .	Pastor Vicki Fisher
Praise Team Director—....	Clint Stanerson
Christian Education Director	
& Director of Youth Ministries...	Veronica Fisher
Congregational Care Coordinator	Julie Baty
Office Manager/Newsletter . . . . .	Alison Dix
Nursery Care. . . . .	Melissa Oxley
Director, Adult Handbell Choir . . .	Kristi Keast
Organist	Karen Stoll
Chancel Choir Director	Kit Currie
Choir Accompanist	Denae McGrath
Custodian . . . . .	Night Shift
Maintenance & Repair Director . . . . .	Trustees
Wedding Coordinator.....	Barb Shepley
Financial Secretaries . . . . .	Richard Jacob,
	Tim Legore & Jackie Morrical
Treasurers . . . . .	Mike Kragenbrink
	Alison Dix



**Pies, and chocolates and**

**Cheesecake—OH MY!**

**Join us for the**

**LORD'S PORTION AUCTION**

**Sunday November 5**

**Noon in Fellowship Hall**

Lunch will be served & then LIVE Auction  
begins! SO FUN!