

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Fort Dodge, IA



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors.
The people of the United Methodist Church®

March 7, 2010

3rd Sunday in Lent
Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Indicates you are invited to stand if you are comfortable doing so*

WELCOME

If you are a visitor with us today, we warmly say welcome. We invite you to join us at the rear of the sanctuary after worship for fellowship and refreshment. Please take a moment and fill out the "Ritual of Friendship" pads at this time.

Please list all family members attending today, your address and phone number, and then pass the books back through the pews after everyone has signed, so you may greet and know those sitting with you.

PRELUDE

"Alas, And Did My Savior Bleed"
Robert Thygerson

The prelude is a time of centering – of transition from "getting here" to "being here". Please take the time to quiet your spirit. Be aware of being with others. Feel the spirit of God in the community.

TRINITY CHIMES

WESLEY RINGERS

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"
Arr. Peggy Bettcher

GREETING

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 63)

Leader: O God, you are my God; I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

PEOPLE: SO I HAVE LOOKED UPON YOU IN THE SANCTUARY, BEHOLDING YOUR POWER AND GLORY.

Leader: Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

PEOPLE: SO I WILL BLESS YOU AS LONG AS I LIVE; I WILL LIFT UP MY HANDS AND CALL ON YOUR NAME.

Leader: My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips;

PEOPLE: FOR YOU HAVE BEEN MY HELP, AND IN THE SHADOW OF YOUR WINGS I SING FOR JOY.

***OPENING HYMN**

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"
#121 Blue Hymnal

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A moment of silent prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

"Glory Be To the Father"
#70 UMH

KID'S MOMENT

Jennifer Peterson

The congregation sings "Where Children Belong" (p.2233) as the children come forward. Ushers collect the "Ritual Friendship Pads" at this time.

"Where Children Belong"

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng. Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song. This is where children belong.

CHANCEL CHOIR

"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"
Arr. Hornibrook

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**

"Forth in Thy Name, O Lord"
#438 Blue Hymnal

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Luke 13: 1-9

THE MESSAGE

"The Law of Gardening"
Rev. James Chesnutt

This morning we welcome the Rev. James Chesnutt to our pulpit while Rev. Bibb continues his vacation. Rev. Chesnutt has served parishes in the Iowa Conference, most recently at Epworth UMC here in Fort Dodge. He is currently in private practice as a Psychologist and therapist, while continuing to serve in various ministries.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Page 9 in the Blue Hymnal

The Giving of the Elements

Please come forward at the direction of the ushers, receive the bread and consume it, then go to the rail and take a cup, consume the juice and replace the empty cup. For our sacrament we use unfermented juice that none may be injured.

Communion Meditation

"Lenten Medley"

Offering plates are placed at the front of the center aisle for your tithes and gifts.

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"
#127 Blue Hymnal

***THE PASTORAL CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

"The Call to Commitment"
Lani Smith

Luke 13: 1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

⁶ Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" ⁸He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down." '

Your Staff:

The Congregation, The Ministers
Stephen Bibb Pastor
Becky Ostheimer, Administrative Assist.
Jennifer Peterson, Program Coordinator
Diane Logan, Organist
Mike Richardson, Choirs Director
Liz Johnson and Amy Champagne,
Children's Choirs Directors
Mary Heimbruch, Praise Band Director
Jon Schuman, Chief Financial Officer
Linda Wakeman
& Iris Jones, Nursery Assist.
Joe Egdorf, Supervisor of Bldgs & Grounds
Linda Wakeman, Assistant Custodian

First United Methodist Church

127 North 10th Street,
Fort Dodge, IA 50501

Radio Broadcast at 11:05am each Sunday -
KVFD 1400 AM
Office Hours: 8-12 and 12:30-4:30 Mon - Fri
Phone: 515-576-7586
Email Addresses:
Office: worship@fumcforddodge.org
Pastor: worship@fumcforddodge.org
Program Coordinator:
jenniferpeterson@fumcforddodge.org
Website: www.fumcforddodge.org
Truck site: www.takingittothepeople.org

Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' ⁴When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ⁵Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' ⁶He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the LORD said, 'I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

¹³ But Moses said to God, 'If I come to the Israelites and say to them, "The God of your ancestors has sent me to you", and they ask me, "What is his name?" what shall I say to them?' ¹⁴God said to Moses, 'I am who I am.' He said further, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "I AM has sent me to you." ' ¹⁵God also said to Moses, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you": This is my name for ever, and this my title for all generations.

Laity Summit

Belmond UMC Saturday, March 20, 2010

8:30-3:30

Empowering the Simple Rules

Keynote Speaker: Craig Finnestad

This Laity Summit will empower local churches and members to discover, design and implement new, revised and reinvigorated ministries to reach seekers.

One of the speakers will be Jennifer Peterson speaking about Sidewalk Sunday School.

Noon meal and workshop packets are furnished free of charge to those who RSVP by 3/31/10. Please RSVP to Alanna Warren at the North Central District Office at 515-832-2784.

The Sonshine Singers will be presenting the 2010 music ministry, "God's Wondrous Love for Us," on Friday, March 19th at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 20th at 2:00 p.m. at Decker Auditorium, Iowa Central Community College, One Triton Circle, in Fort Dodge. Please come and join us for this very spirited and heartfelt celebration as we lift up God's message of love for us, through his son, Jesus Christ!!



Discovery Gang Easter Cookie Delivery!!!

On Wednesday, March 31, we will be holding our annual Discovery Gang Easter Cookie Delivery. Once again we are asking for donations of undecorated cookies from the congregation. Our middle school youth will then decorate and deliver the cookies to local agencies and businesses on this afternoon. The locations we deliver cookies to are always happy to see our youth walk in armed with their cookies. Don't bake? We are always in need of decorating supplies or plates as well! Also, prayers for nice weather are always appreciated. Please have cookies or other supplies to the church by noon on March 31. Thank you again for helping make this annual service project possible!!



The Interfaith Forum's Lenten Services will be held again this year. A new design has been developed for this year. The Lenten Service will be held everyday during Holy Week at St. Mark's Episcopal Church at 1001 1st Avenue South at noon with a light lunch following. Please mark the week of March 29th on your calendar to attend the Lenten Services.

The flower chart for 2010 has been posted on the kiosk at the back of the sanctuary. Please take a moment and sign up for a Sunday to provide flowers or altar grains in honor of a loved one or special occasion in your life. We still have many Sundays available for you to donate flowers or grains!

May the Lord comfort the families of Margaret Messerly, Rolland Jacobs, Virginia Graybill and Duane Buchman with his peace and surround them with his love in their recent loss.

Margaret Messerly passed away on February 10th. Margaret's funeral was held January 15th at Gunderson Funeral Home in Fort Dodge.

Rolland Jacobs passed away on Wednesday, March 3. At this time his funeral has not been set.

Virginia Graybill passed away on Tuesday, March 2. Her funeral will be held at Bruce-Graham Funeral Home on Monday, March 8th at 10:20 a.m.

Duane Buchman passed away on February 11th at Villa Care Center in Fort Dodge. His funeral was held at the United Methodist Church in Sibley, Iowa.



The Iowa Central Community College Performing Arts Department will present their spring musical "**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**" on Thursday, March 4th, Friday, March 5th, and Saturday, March 6th at 7:30 p.m. in the Decker Auditorium on the Iowa Central campus. Tickets are available for purchase by contacting the Iowa Central Bookstore between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, by calling 1-800-362-2793, ext 1081, online at www.iowacentral.edu or at the door the night of the performance.

Mission Offering

Please remember that the Mission Offerings are now being collected every week so that everyone has an opportunity to contribute to these wonderful missions throughout the month. March's offering will be given to the Heifer Project. You can find a table in the back of the church to make your contribution at your convenience. Thank you to all who help with their monetary donations!

Rev. Steve will be returning from his 2 week vacation sometime today. We welcome Rev. James Chesnutt as our guest preacher for this morning. He will also preside over the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please take a moment to welcome Rev. Chesnutt to FUMC!

**Opportunities for Work, Witness and Fellowship
through First United Methodist Church**

Sun, Mar 7

Pastor Vacation

8:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
5:45 pm UMYF

Mon, Mar 8

9:00 am Pew Crew
9:30 am Communion—FH
10:00 am Communion –FH
12:00 pm Al-Anon

Tues, Mar 9

8:30 am Women’s Bible Study
9:00 am Staff Meeting
9:30 am Lord’s Cupboard
12:00 pm AA
4:00 pm Lord’s Cupboard
6:00 pm Lots of Love
6:00 pm Visitation Ministry Team
6:30 pm Disciple Study Group
7:00 pm Boy Scouts
7:00 pm Missions Committee

Wed, Mar 10

6:30 am Men’s Bible Study
10:00 am District Cluster Mtg
3:45 pm Discovery Gang
4:45 pm Joyful Noise
5:30 pm King’s Kids
5:30 pm Confirmation
6:00 pm Wesley Ringers
7:00 pm Chancel Choir

Thurs, Mar 11

9:30 am Lord’s Cupboard

Fri, Mar 12

1:30 pm Lord’s Cupboard
6:00 pm Kid’s Night Out

Jen– School for Lay Ministry

Sat, Mar 13

Sun, Mar 14

8:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
5:45 pm UMYF

Jen– School for Lay Ministry

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Greeters:
Tom & Marilyn Brainerd (East Door)
George & Dee Fawkes (West Door)
Gene & Janet Moeller (South Door)

Liturgist:
Donna Esmay



Our mission
is to provide the people of the Fort Dodge area
opportunities for spiritual growth,
real friendships, and giving of themselves.