



# The Voyager

The Monthly Newsletter of the Emmetsburg First United Methodist Church

September 2020

Pastor Hojin Shin

Church Office (712) 852-2154

Secretary Jackie Black

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*“There is a time for everything,  
and a season for every activity  
under the heavens.”  
-Ecclesiastics 3:1*

The seasons are changing. As Autumn approaches, take some time for a walk outside. Listen to leaves crunch under your feet, notice the change in temperature and the feel of the sweater or jacket that you wore to stave of the brisk weather. Stop and see the leaves that change colors before your eyes. Notice the harvest that is beginning to come in from the fields and the animals gathering their harvest too. The trees are ripe with their Autumn gifts of fruits and nuts. Feel the crunch of an apple plucked straight off the tree as you bite into its juicy sweetness. Watch the dancing flames of a bonfire shared with those dear to you. Listen to for laughter and joy from those grateful to spend time together. Savor the flavors of the season: pumpkin pie, apple cider, hot cocoa, smores, and soups galore.



As the summer sun wanes and the temperatures descend, we prepare to enter a new season. The season of Autumn/Fall evokes many feelings. For some the allure of pumpkin spice and apple cider is a comfort and welcome change. For others, the loss of long relaxing days filled with the promise and joy that summer embodies is a period of grief. Many see Autumn as a time for self-reflection. We enter into this 3rd season of 4, with Winter viewed as the final season. This seems to be true in life as well. Spring is new and feels youthful like a child. Summer is joyful and busy like a

young adult. Autumn reflects, transforms and matures while preparing for the next stage; similar to what we see as middle age. Winter is a time of hibernation, introspection, and hope until the rebirth of Spring. It is the last in the cycle of seasons and makes way for a new life yet to come. Winter can be compared to our elder years, where we begin to reflect on a life lived and prepare for the next journey beyond this mortal life and on to our immortal home in heaven.

As we enter Autumn this year, let us pause a moment and acknowledge the restorative transformation that can be found in Autumn.

Autumn is defined by Merriam-Webster’s dictionary as: “the season between summer and winter... -also called fall.” What happens during this time though could better help us understand Autumn in the context of our spiritual life.

In Autumn the days are getting shorter. The dark of night greets us earlier this time of year. Just as in life, time seems to go faster. We rush through each day trying to check off everything on our list. Sometimes, we can get so caught up in the actions of serving that we forget the why of serving. We can become resentful that others are not doing enough in our eyes. We become so involved in our busyness that we forget sometimes that we are all children of God. We are here to worship, give thanks, and share God’s love with everyone.



Autumn reminds us to take time to slow down and appreciate the moments as they do soon slip away. If we are mindful of the moment, we

can gain appreciation for the gifts and life that are graciously given to us by God. When we are grateful, we have a different perspective than when we are worrying. We are able to better prepare for the future. We can prepare from a place of peace rather than a place of fear.

In Philippians 4:6-7, we are told not to worry but to pray and that the peace of God will guard our hearts and minds.

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” -Philippians 4:6-7*

Jeremiah 29:11, God also reminds us that He has a plan for us. We can rest in His plans and not fear the future.

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” -Jeremiah 29:11*

Is it not amazing to know that our Father in heaven has plans to benefit us? We do not have to worry all the time. There is no need to compare ourselves to others doing more or less. We just need to answer God when he calls. Will you say, “Here I am Lord!” when he calls you?

Take time this fall to prepare. Spend time in prayer, thanksgiving, and worship. Ask the Lord to lead you in the direction he would have you go next. Then, you step into the next season in confidence, joy, and hope!

*Submitted by Jackie Black*

## Derecho Storm 2020: How You Can Help

On August 10, 2020 a Derecho Storm hit the Midwest. More than 150 communities and over 8,000 homes in Iowa were adversely affected by these devastating winds. In addition to homes and businesses, many churches and parsonages were affected.

Pastor Catie Newman, the IAUMC Disaster Response Coordinator has suggested ways that we can help most effectively.

**PRAY** - and pray some more. This storm has devastated Iowa, communities, and crops. **MANY, MANY** are impacted. **YOUR PRAYERS** are **NEEDED**. It is in prayer that we unleash God's power for one another.

**VOLUNTEER** - Help is needed in over 150 communities.

Communities looking for help have listed times and locations for volunteer check-in and contact numbers on their social media pages and city web pages. Check with the community in which you wish to volunteer for those details. The Volunteer Disaster Agencies in Iowa including the United Methodists are all working together with the local city government to meet as many needs in as many communities as possible.

**CONTACT** – If you know someone who has been impacted by the storm, contact them! Call and offer words of encouragement and listen to them. Actual voice to voice contact makes a huge difference in times of loss and disaster. Ask them what they need, **AND GET IT FOR THEM**. If someone comes to mind, there is a reason for it. Be God's hands and heart and reach out.

### DONATE - FINANCIAL

Donations can be given thru the :

### United Methodist Church Advance Special #223.

ALL donations are used for supporting and helping Iowans affected by these storms.

**DONATE PHYSICAL ITEMS** - so many have lost so much, we can help today with donations of:

- Battery operated fans
- Flashlights (and extra batteries)
- Lanterns
- Baby Diapers and Wipes (all sizes)
- Personal Hygiene items (MUST be new and in original packages) Soap, shampoo, lotion, toothbrushes, deodorant, hand towel
- Large, heavy trash bags
- Containers – Totes with lids to pack personal items in
- Sturdy packing boxes and packing tape (people need to move)
- Charcoal grills
- Solar-powered portable chargers for phones
- Tarps and tie-downs
- Gloves – heavy work gloves and rubber gloves
- Propane
- Wet wipes
- Charcoal
- Individually Wrapped Snacks
- Bottled Water

### **Desperate needs (not in stock anywhere):**

- Bar and chain oil (for chainsaws)
- Heavy extension cords (for generators)
- Batteries, specifically "D" batteries

- Gas cans
- Generators

Physical Donations can be left at:

North Liberty, First UMC  
85 North Jones Blvd  
North Liberty, IA  
Monday thru Friday 9 am – 4 pm  
Contact:

Lucy Hershberger  
319-430-9488 with drop off questions  
Or

Fort Dodge, Trinity UMC  
838 North 25th Street  
Fort Dodge, IA  
Monday thru Friday 9 am – noon

Contact:

Pastor Jena Finch-Manchester  
712-840-1834 with drop off questions

Pastor Catie Newman the IAUMC Disaster Response Coordinator can be reached at:

Disaster.response@iaumc.org  
712-899-4067 phone or text

*\*Information on how to help was an excerpt from the August 20, 2020 article "Important Disaster Ministries Update - Crews and Donations Needed" that was on the Iowa United Methodist Conference news webpage.*





Perhaps the need to quarantine for Covid-19 is a signal from our God to do an internal inventory. Perhaps he is giving us time to do some extra reading of the Scriptures and reflect on their meaning.

One of the “extra” readings I have undertaken is Rev. Charles Swindoll’s “Living Insights New Testament Commentary on the Book of John”. I would like to pass along some quotes that I found meaningful.

In commenting about Chapter 14:30-31: “Trust is the decision to accept the words of Jesus and to make them the basis of all future decisions. Confidence is the growing feeling of

peace as we apply the words of Christ and see them confirmed over and over again. Trust is a decision; confidence is a feeling”.

Commenting on 16:4; “Brace yourselves, Christians. The line between satire and spite is surprisingly thin. Humor at the expense of any particular group invites hatred, and hatred blazes a trail for persecution. If we are headed for such a time again, we should not be surprised. Jesus warned us.” (Weigh that against what is the current situation).

Also from the commentary about John 16:1-4; “When we fail to love one another, we behave like the world, which serves self at the expense of others.”

In commenting on 16:16-33: “The gifts of joy, love, and peace require faith. Failing to trust in the promise of God leads to lack of joy, failing love, and unsteady peace.”

“While the world, I just imagined does

not exist-the Lord has not promised to make us healthy and wealthy in this life-God has promised that He has overcome evil and we will receive far greater blessing than we can imagine in the life to come. When we trust that we will ultimately prevail over suffering, we persevere with joy. The difference is faith. The kind of love Jesus taught is selfless. We CANNOT OBEY HIS COMMAND TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER IF WE ARE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH OUR OWN NEEDS AND WANTS.”

Finally commenting on 17:21-23 “When all have their identity in Christ, then all share the same spiritual DNA.”

Submitted by Ted Ellis

## Do you need a car?

A generous individual has offered a car to be sold for \$1 to a family or person in need that attends First United Methodist Church in Emmetsburg. If you wish to inquire about this car, please contact the church office at 712-852-2154.

The car is a:

1999 Mercury Gran Marquis with approximately 140,000 miles on it.

We are asking that you write a short answer to the question:

**Why I need a car or would benefit from owning this car?**

*Turn your answers into the church office by September 30th,  
801 Broadway, P.O. Box 99, Emmetsburg, IA 50536*



First United Methodist Church  
**Regular Monthly Administrative Church Council Minutes**

Wednesday, June 17, 2020, at 7:30 pm

**In attendance** (11) Rosie Argabright, Jackie Black, Cal Chirstensen, Mike Embrock, Ruth Hand, Dilene Larson, Cindy Magee, Pastor Hojin Shin, Lois Stanley, Troy Strohman, Myram Tunnicliff,

**Call to order:** Troy Strohman called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

**Devotions:** Pastor Hojin Shin's devotion came from Matthew 22:34-40, The Greatest Commandment, Loving God and Loving your neighbors. We can overcome this pandemic together with love.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes from April 29, 2020, and May 27, 2020 Zoom meetings.

Motion to approve: Mike Embrock, Approved as written, by voice vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lois Stanley reported the May, 2020 Treasurer's Report, General Fund Balance: \$30,010.77, Motion to approve: Mike Embrock, Approved as presented, by voice vote.

**Committee Reports:**

**Nurturing Ministries Planning Team: Dave Ballman and Cindy Magee**

June 14 was Graduation Sunday, June 21 will be Confirmation Sunday

Sarah Strohman and Jody Ward are working on something for the kids for summer.

**Outreach Ministries Planning Team: Rosie Argabright**

Rosie reported ELF garage/bake sale will be held Friday, July 10 12:00 pm-5:00 pm, and Saturday July 11 8:00 am-12:00 pm. Items needed, call Rosie at 852-3610 if you need to make arrangements to drop items off.

**Witness Ministries Planning Team: No Report**

**Administrative Committees:**

**Chair of Trustees: Lisa Siebrecht and Ruth Hand**

Ruth reported the following: Updates to the Sanctuary sound system has been completed!

Power had to be run for the two new speakers/amplifiers to be hung, also two subwoofers were set up. Old mixer had been struck by lightning and a new one ordered and installed. Thank you for all the extra help Dan Stokes, Lisa S. and Ruth H.

Discussion was held on purchasing a new Clavinova, but it was decided to pursue purchasing a new grand piano. Dave Fog will look in to this purchase.

Repairs are needed for the exterior of the church – Dave Fog is getting bids. Also, the plexi glass covering the stained-glass windows need to be replaced.

FLC -A new 300-watt, 70-amp amplifier was installed in the sound rack, and the speakers were reset to 70 volts instead of 8 ohm, Portable amplifier was set up and can be moved easily where ever it is needed. two 65" TV's have been hung in the two classrooms, one DVD was purchased to be shared, wire shelving unit has been ordered for kitchen to store paper towel and Styrofoam cups, Doug Miller delivered two benches in memory of his parents and they are in the south entry of the FLC. They are beautiful.

A new more powerful router was purchased and installed in Jackie's office. We were having issues with upload/download speeds.

**Chair of SPRC: Danielle Ditch No Report**

**Chair of Finance: Troy Strohman (Interim Chair)**

Finance Committee meet earlier tonight: Thanks to Danielle Ditch who completed the PPP loan/grant for us.

We received \$23,900. 2020-2021 Budget was presented and discussed. Motion to approve:

Rosie Agrabright, Approved as presented, by voice vote.

**Chair of Endowment Committee: Kent Klootwyk No Report**

**Lay Leadership Vice Chair: No Report**

**Chair of History Committee: Myram Tunnicliff**

Myram read an article she had written describing the 2020 Administrative Council.

## 2020 Ad Council

Under the loving leadership of Pastor Shin  
The Ad Council tries to solve problems that make your head spin.  
Troy Strohman, our courageous leader, leads as our chair.  
And even fills in for finance and other needs, what 'ere .  
Cindy Magee, for her secretary's report, captures all our motions and discussions.  
She does such a good job that there are no repercussions.  
We wait with abated breath for Lois Stanley's treasurer's report to see if there's  
enough funds to hold down the fort.  
Through thick and thin she, with help, seems to find the money to keep the  
church afloat and all things looking sunny.  
The SPRC with Danielle Ditch at the head guides the Pastor and Staff  
like a born thorough—bred.  
Nurturing is the aegis of Dave Ballman who cares for our Youth organizations without any fuss.  
And what would we do without Dave when it comes to our Church bus?  
I used to think it was to be of the elite to be on the Board of Trustees.  
But, you' re likely to find our trustees Ruth Hand and Lisa Siebrecht hard at work down on  
their knees.  
The Endowment Committee has such a responsibility and Kent Klootwyk sees to giving out  
their funds with honest facility.  
Such fun are the Outreach projects proposed by Dilene Larsen and Rosie Argabright .  
Those who give and those who receive through them gain the feeling that the world is indeed  
full of light.  
Lay leader chair Ken Kassel is active in Worship and brings years of experience to the table.  
He makes us see, at all ages, of what in our church we are able.  
Pastor Hojin leads the Nominations Committee, an arduous job that at times must seem grim.  
And we' ll hope it's easy for the members, when asked, to say 'yes' to him.  
Mike Embrock, Tony Salas, and Cal Christensen, our members at large add so much  
In our meeting discussions and for the good of our church with their special touch .  
All of this history Rosemary Mathews and Myram Tunnickliff attempt to save for the coming  
generations.  
Hopefully it will mean a lot to those future Congregations  
And with all that the Ad Council is able to do  
Without church secretary, Jackie Black, we couldn't be sure things wouldn't go askew.  
We are blessed with good leadership and our caring God above  
And a joyful Congregation that savors sharing its love  
As our mission states, "We gather and we grow  
And into the world for Jesus we go."

Thank you Myram for documenting today's happenings for our future history!

### **Memorial Committee: No Report**

### **Other Committee/Additional New Business:**

Discussion as held on plans for seating Confirmation students and their families in the  
sanctuary with proper social distancing.

Mike Embrock will be leaving the Administrative Council as a member at large. Thank you  
for all your service and good luck on your new Principal position.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 7:30 pm** (*\*July meeting was canceled*)

**Troy Closed Meeting with a Prayer  
Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm**

**Submitted by Recording Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Magee**



*Below are the addresses of our members, who are in area nursing homes or assisted living facilities.*

*Please send a card to brighten their day. They would love to hear from you.*

**Lakeside Assisted Living**

401 N. Lawler Street,  
Emmetsburg, IA 50536  
712-852-4060

Anna Beth Magee

**Emerald Oaks Assisted Living**  
2603 17th Street,  
Emmetsburg, IA 50536  
712-852-8408

Jackie Donovan #23  
Florence Malm #22  
Louise Sackett # 16

**Emmetsburg Care Center**  
2405 21st Street,  
Emmetsburg, IA 50536  
712-852-4266

Lilian Cox  
Mae Stevens  
Ted Strohmman

**Willow Ridge**  
3203 1st Street,  
Emmetsburg, IA 50536  
712-852-5480

Jan Bare  
Pat Anderson #103  
Anne Carney #216  
Virginia Place #210

**PARC Hall**  
3201 1st Street,  
Emmetsburg, IA 50536  
712-852-5520

Joyce Muller  
Paul Kooker  
Lois Lowman  
Vi Sampson  
Pearl Whitmore  
Helen Merrill #203  
Doris Gustafson

If you are home bound, in a nursing home, or feeling alone and would like a visit; please let Pastor Hojin know or contact the church office at 852-2154 or [umcsecretary@iowatelecom.net](mailto:umcsecretary@iowatelecom.net)



*If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please call the church to inform us.*

*The hospital does not and will not call us.*



Lord, have mercy on them, strengthen them in their weakness; protect and guide us!

Ardelle Conner  
Deny Gonzales  
Howard Morey  
Robert & Michelle Kollasch  
Pat Manwarren  
Janice Kassel  
Ron Della Croce

Steve & Lynne Farnsworth  
Jane Stevens  
Devin Morey  
Irene Goff  
Carol Ensley  
Joyce Muller  
Ted Strohmman  
Vi Sampson

Deb Nissen (sister-in-law of Deb Wickman)

\*The loved ones of those who passed away including:  
Lyle Muller  
Louie Gallo

\*Those who have been hospitalized or are in long term care facilities

\*Hospital & nursing/assisted care facility staff, essential workers, & our military members.

\*All individual prayer requests will be listed for 6 weeks. At which time they will be removed from the list. If you wish for a name to remain, be removed, or to be put back on the list, please contact the church office at 712-852-2154. Thank You!

# Chapters in Our Life Together



## SEPTEMBER Birthdays

2 Justin Salas	14 Trenton Ditch	22 Chelsea Strohman
3 Halle Ditch	16 Shelby Loomis	David Kassel
6 Richard Bisenius	17 Lori Hall	23 Alice Underwood
8 Madilyn Hall	18 Peyton Fay	25 Esther Shin
9 Lori Morey	19 Diane Hoyman	26 Richard Henrich
Judy Mullen	Becky Jamison	Clifford Hinrich
Pastor Hojin Shin	20 Pat Anderson	27 Richard Hall
10 Dilene Larsen	Jeff Morey	Brenda Gonzales
11 Helen Merrill	Amy Ver Mulm	Bill Frevert
12 Clayton Freeman	21 Sonya Duhn	29 Sadi Richerson
	David Rouse	30 Douglas Miller
	Dave Weisbrod	

## SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

1 Brian & Tami Culver	7 Kort & Sheri Freeman	25 Jason & Beth Elman
4 Doug & Marje Merrill	9 Jon & Becky Jamison	
5 Todd & Brenda Bell	11 Tom & Cindy Magee	
	James & Debra Wickman	
	23 Judd & Sonya Duhn	
	Steve & Lynne Farnsworth	

*If you see that your name is not listed or there is an error, please call the church office.*

### NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**September 13**

- 8:00 AM Drive Way Service  
(til it is too cold!)
- 9:00 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Worship in the Sanctuary

**Youth Group Begins**

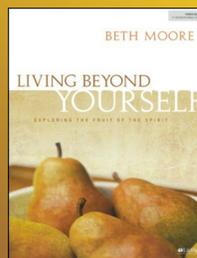
**September 16**

**More Details to come!**

### NEW BIBLE STUDY

**Living Beyond Yourself:  
Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit**

by Beth Moore



Beginning in September

Contact Cindy Magee  
or the Church office  
to sign up!



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**CANDIDATE &  
PARENT MEETING**

**September 13 11:30 AM On ZOOM!**

Zoom.us/j/7128522154 Meeting ID: 7128522154 Password: 712UMC



# FIRST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
EMMETSBURG

801 Broadway St, PO Box 99,  
Emmetsburg, IA 50536

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