

The Voyager

The Newsletter of the Emmetsburg First United Methodist Church

Pastor Kolleen Queener
Secretary Terry Luiken
Custodian John Strohmman

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July 2023

Grace & Peace to you,

I am honored to be joining you in ministry as your next pastor! My husband, Randy Becker, and I are so looking forward to moving to Emmetsburg and getting to know each of you this summer.

Just a little about my background: I am originally from Spokane, Washington and moved to Iowa in 1988 to teach writing at Westmar College. There I met my husband, Randy, who taught art. We both worked there until it closed in 1997. We have two sons. Will and his wife, Emily, live outside Detroit. He is an engineer with Toyota, and she is in grad school at ISU. Jack is an engineer in Baltimore with Northrop Grumman. As a family we love to travel and explore.

I have worked at a wide variety of jobs, including at a fabric store, a tea house, as a church secretary and for an insurance agent. My favorite is pastor! I was first appointed in 2011, and my home church is Le Mars UMC.

Randy and I have a puppy (9 months) named Lucky—he knows the name of his toys, but is still learning not to bark at everything that moves. We love bird-watching and traveling and are

newbie kayakers and trailer campers. Randy plays guitar (all 7 of them!), and I have been learning ceramics. And we are at least a little bit Irish!

We look forward to moving into the parsonage July 7, and we hope to meet you in worship July 9. My first official day in the office is Wednesday, July 12—how wonderful to start with a Wednesday Worship! Usually I will take Mondays as my Sabbath.



My main goal this summer is that we get to know one another.

With this in mind, I will be dropping by regularly scheduled activities and meetings, as well as holding Get-to-Know-You sessions in August. I am especially interested in learning what you treasure most about being and doing church as Emmetsburg First. I hope you will share favorite memo-

ries and important values as a congregation, as well as your dreams going forward. What helps your faith grow? How do you uphold your brothers and sisters in Christ? How does this congregation connect with the community?

Please watch for more details about these listening sessions in coming weeks.

Again, we are looking forward to joining you in Emmetsburg very soon. We know that God is already at work in bringing us together for God's mission at this time and in this place.

In Christ,
Pastor Kolleen



Worship Schedule:

Sundays

Worship 10am

Summer Wednesday Worship

July 12th

5:30pm

August 9th

5:30pm - Small Group

6:30pm - Picnic Supper



Thank you to all those who helped with VBS this year. Whether you helped as crew, staff, kitchen crew, security and traffic, taking pictures, donating items, making decorations, or prayers. Thank you so much for supporting VBS this summer. It was so fun!

The next page has some pics from our week at VBS!



Camp Clear Lake District

welcomes

Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai

Meet & Greet

Friday, June 23

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Clear Lake UMC (508 2nd Ave N, Clear Lake 50428)

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Fort Dodge, First UMC (127 N 10th St. Fort Dodge, IA 50501)

Saturday, June 24

9:00 am - 10:30 am Storm Lake, First UMC (211 E 3rd St, Storm Lake)

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Spencer, Grace UMC (311 2nd Ave W, Spencer)

Sunday, June 25

9:00 am - 11:00 am Worship at SC, First UMC (1915 Nebraska St, Sioux City)

12:30 pm – 1:45 pm Sioux City, Grace UMC (1735 Morningside Ave, Sioux City)

2:00 pm - 3:30 pm Worship at The French Ministry of Sioux City (3700 Indian Hills Dr, Sioux City)

**The First United Methodist Church
Is proud to announce its**

150th Anniversary Celebration

**With a special service on
September 10, 2023, at 10:00 am
Followed by a luncheon**

**Come join us for a time of commemorating the
history of our church.**



Save The Date!

First United Methodist Church
Regular Monthly Administrative Church Council Minutes

Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 8:00 P.M.

Attendance: Sarah Frederick; Shayne Kogel; Terry Luiken; Marje Merrill; Lois Stanley; Brian Garrels; Dilene Larsen; Pastor Lana Williams; Rosemary Matthews, Jodi Ward, Rose Webb

Call to Order: at 7:58pm by Shayne Kogel

Devotions: "Reflections of Faith" Vol. IV Pastor Lana

Secretary's Report: Minutes from May 10, 2023. Typo corrected with a motion to approve by Lois Stanley and Seconded by Brian Garrels.

Treasurer's report for end of February: Balance of \$54,489.81. Of this \$27,571.93 is for budget items, \$26,917.88 is for designated items, and Trustees have \$14,832.61

Flooring is why the Trustee's account is less this month. The money for camp is out of the Endowment fund as well.

Moved to approve by Brian Garrels and Seconded Pastor Lana Williams, approved.

Committee reports:

Nurturing Ministries: Wednesday Worship met June 7th. Vacation Bible School planned for June 26 – 30, currently at 50 kids signed up. No weekly Wednesday Worship, but will meet July 12th, & August 9th. 5:30pm-7:30pm. Sunday School is on break.

Outreach Ministries: ELF Garage/Bake Sale was held on May 12-13, they made about \$1,800.

Administrative Committees:

Chair of Trustees: Dave Fog: Dan Stokes stepped down; Debbie Kassel is helping Dave temporarily. They are replacing the flooring, carpet in the bedrooms and LVP tile on the remaining floors at the parsonage. Preparing for new Pastor to move in.

Chair of SPRC: Jodi Ward/Michelle Kogel:

2% raises approved, Pastor salary remains the same.

The congregation Assessment Tool (CAT) Survey was completed.

New Pastor coming June 26 to leave a vehicle, trailer, and misc. items. Moving truck here the 28th. Pastor here July 2. (These dates have changed since this meeting)

There were 90-95 at Pastor Lana's farewell brunch. Moving trucks will be here the 20th- leaving the 21st.

Official Announcement for new Pastor will be June 18th.

Chair of Finance: Shayne Kogel:

Approved the budget with 2% salary increases. Sarah motioned to approve with a second from Lois. Kerber donation of \$20,000, with \$5,000 of it specified for Camps/Emmaus Funds. Arlene Aldrich, 3% life insurance donation just over \$2,000, will wait for Trustee's approval.

Chair of Endowment: Brian Garrels: Distributed \$4,000 in funds toward camp, an ice maker for the Family Life Center, Outreach, VBS, just to name a few. There are some funds left over for things that may come up.

Chair of Nominations: Bonnie Whitney (not present) – Pastor Lana stated they plan to start early.

Chair of Witnessing/Mission Trip: Sarah Frederick: Sign up for Siouxland Soup Kitchen, must be 16 years old and up. Collecting non-perishable items to take with and planning to go in July.

Chair of History: Rosemary Matthews – Going through 150 years' worth of history. The date is set for September 10, 2023, and will have a special Church Service, and luncheon after. The committee will be making a display of the church's history for the congregation to see, "fast fact" display possibly on TV. There's a booklet needing 30-50 years and they are working hard on getting organized.

Pastor's Report: Lana Williams: Took the Middle School Youth Group attendees, who attended at least 75% of the time, to the Lost Island Waterpark. Seven earned the trip, four were able to attend. Freezing, but fun was had by all.

Old Business: Greeters are needed for services and volunteers to help with Swallowship.

New Business: Greg Hoyman, Interim Admin Chair to replace Ted Ellis, Large donations need to be accepted by the trustees, Dave Fog would like a new Co-Chair for the Trustees to replace Dan Stokes

Next meeting: July 12, 2023

Closing: Pastor Lana closed with prayer

Meeting adjourned: 8:50 P.M.

Recording Secretary Pro tem: Terry Luiken for JC

Ministering to our seniors

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

Jackie Donovan

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

Darlene Harris

St. Luke's (Spencer)
1301 St. Luke's Dr,
Spencer, IA 50501
Marjorie(Marj) Solberg
Room D9

*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 Senior Care
301 N Lawler St
Emmetsburg, IA 50536
712-852-4060

Virginia Place

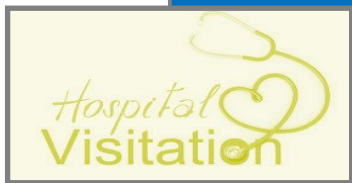
PARC Hall
3201 1st Street,
Emmetsburg, IA 50536
712-852-5520

Joyce Muller
Helen Merrill #203

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

Pat Anderson #103
Jan Bare #206
Anne Carney #216

If you are or know of someone who is home bound, in a nursing home, or feeling alone and would like a visit; please let Pastor Kolleen know, contact the church office at 852-2154 or email at kolleen.queener@iaumc.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.*

Prayer Requests:

Anne Carney
Judy Sample
Emily Neet
Josh Hobart
Samantha Graham
Missy Hall
Lincoln Coakley
-(grandson of Joann Coakley)

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

*Hospital & nursing/assisted care

facility staff, essential workers, &
our military members.

*Students of all ages and staff at
schools and colleges. Students
away at college as well as those at
home.

*Families who have lost loved ones
and are grieving.

*People in countries at war around
the world

*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!



Emmetsburg, United Methodist Church completed the Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT) at the direction of District Superintendent Michel Lundula with the intention of establishing a clearer picture of the church for a better transition. This summary seeks to share the main insights from that assessment. This assessment allows leaders to "make better decisions in less time with more confidence." It gives objective clarity about the church's current reality so everyone can take better next steps.

Congregation Assessment Tool *Survey Responses*

Your church had **56 responses** to the survey.

Representing **66%** of your average worship attendance.



Your Unique Church *Drivers of Vitality*

The CAT measures the primary areas of focus and highest areas of expectation for your congregation. When these things are happening, the church feels highly vitalized. The converse is true: when these things don't happen, the church feels dissatisfaction and low energy. Given the high level of conflict you report, together these areas represent the focus of your concern.



The whole spirit in our congregation makes people want to get as involved as possible.



Our Pastor preaches with integrity.



Our church does a good job helping each member understand that he or she is called to ministry.



The worship services at our church are exceptional in both quality and spiritual content.



In important decisions in our church, adequate opportunity for consideration of different approaches is usually provided.



Your Top Goals *Priorities*

As your church looked to the future, your top goals are:

- 1 Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our church.
- 2 Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.
- 3 Develop the spiritual generosity of the people to financially support the ministry of the church.
(much higher priority compared to other churches)
- 4 Develop ministries that work toward healing those broken by life circumstances.





A Snapshot of Your Church *Morale, Theology, Flexibility, Strengths*

Through the assessment, your church shared sentiments about the church and details about themselves. Knowing more about your current reality helps guide the best next steps. In conversation with church leaders, the following unique insights stand out.

A Church “On the Fence”

When considering questions of energy and purpose, about half of the respondents expressed some hesitation about the vitality of the church. When the church takes positive steps together, people can move from hesitation to vibrant ministry together.

Theology

Emmetsburg, UMC is theologically conservative to all other churches who have completed the CAT. Still, you have a diversity of theological and social viewpoints.

Flexibility

A strength of the church, 81% of respondents indicated that “we are willing to adapt our worship to the needs and circumstances of the people we want to reach in our local community.” Keep practicing flexibility as you navigate fruitful paths forward.

Strengths

Emmetsburg, First UMC has exceptional education ministry, equips people for ministry, and spiritual vitality. 71% of respondents believe “our church does a good job helping each member understand that he or she is called to ministry.”

Be Curious and Take Steps Together

Every CAT provides crucial feedback and clarity with the hope that the insight gained is “not good or bad, but helpful.” Each response and the cumulative guidance provides clarity for taking the most helpful next steps and for starting well with the next pastor.

Specifically, this insight will help shape the formal ministry expectations that your incoming pastor, leadership, and district superintendent will form this coming summer.

Adopt a posture of curiosity and hope—listening to God, each other, and your self.

This is an opportunity for discernment and discovery that you may grow in love, knowledge, and faith—all to the glory of God.

.....
“Let’s run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let’s throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, and fix our eyes on Jesus faith’s pioneer and perfecter.” — Hebrews 12:1-2a



Worship Service Volunteers

Acolytes: July

7/02 Steven Horsman
Hunter Strohman
7/09 Maddi & Kenna Burns
7/16 Jameson Fehr
Hank Rouse

7/23 Kysen Kogel
Calen Manz
7/30 Savannah Strohman
Axton Curry



Computer Worship Helpers July

7/02
Anderson Family
7/9
Duhn Family
7/16
Ditch Family
7/23
Kogel Family
7/30
Hudson Family

Communion Stewards

July 9
Danielle Ditch
Kari Anderson
Amy VerMulm

August 6
Jamie Christensen
Sarah Strohman
Mary Lou Morrison

Liturgists July/August

7/02
Michelle Kogel
7/09
Jodi Ward
7/16
Danielle Ditch
7/23
Sarah Strohman
7/30
Jodi Ward



Video & Livestreaming

Keaton Duhn



Sunday Offering Counters

7/2
Karen Sargent
Shayne Kogel

7/09
Troy Hall
Jodi Ward
7/16
Tony Salas
Todd Ditch

7/23
John Strohman
Dean VerMulm
7/30
Brian Garrels
Jim Hobart



Emmetsburg First UMC has created multiple ways for you to give:

- Online via vancopayments.com or emmetsburgumc.com
 - Mobile phone giving:
Vanco App
- Venmo App - @Eburg-UMC
Code 2508
- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)



Thank you for your faithful support of the church!



Chapters in Our Life Together



1 Lexi Duhn
2 Keaton Duhn
5 Marsha Paulson
Velma Johnson

7 Janna Hokinson
Jenny Hoch Herr
Jared Frederick
Brenda (Tonderum) Malm
10 Shayne Kogel
12 Brian Garrels
13 David Tonderum
17 Braxton Kinnetz
20 Danielle Ditch
Janet Nielson

21 Aidyn Fehr-Opheim
23 Reba Williams
26 Kysen Kogel
27 Dave Ballman
Kari Mammen
Randy Loomis
28 Judi Duhn
29 Chase Hoch
30 Bill Goodlaxson
31 Kelley Fog

1 Cory & Ana Shirk
7 Randy & Jill Loomis
8 Don & Dilene Larsen
10 Cary & Kari Anderson



14 Heath & Tara Hoch
15 Roger & Judy Lentz

20 Rick & Johnny Hurley
22 Jeremy & Jodi Ward
24 Tony & Bev Salas
25 Jay & Jackie Black

26 Bill & Barb Goodlaxson
30 Dave & Kelley Fog

Attendance June 5-25

Sunday 6/4/23 ~ 53
Sunday 6/11/23 ~ 116

Sunday 6/18/23~ 72
Sunday 6/25/23~

Upcoming Iowa Walks to Emmaus

Summer Walks:

Men's Walk is July 6th-9th

Women's walk is July 13th-16th

Located at Grace UMC, 311 2nd Ave W, Spencer, IA
51301

If interested please stop in at the church office
anytime!



Saturday, July 1

Private Event, All Day (FLC)

Sunday, July 2

10:00AM Worship (Sanctuary)

VBS Sunday

Monday, July 3

12:00PM Card Club (FLC-East Classrooms)

1:00PM Horizons (FLC)

Tuesday, July 4

**Church offices closed due*

to holiday

Wednesday, July 5

3:00PM Coffee Time (Narthex)

Thursday, July 6

1:00PM Horizon's (FLC)

2:45PM Emerald Oaks Monthly Service

7:30PM AA Meeting (FLC)

Saturday, July 8

Private Event, All Day (FLC)

Sunday, July 9

10:00AM Worship (Sanctuary), Meet Pastor Kolleen

Monday, July 10

12:00PM Card Club (FLC-East Classrooms)

1:00PM Horizons (FLC Hall)



Tuesday, July 11

12:00PM Card Club (FLC-East Classrooms)

1:30PM Bible Study (FLC)

Wednesday, July 12

3:00PM Coffee Time (Narthex)

5:30PM—7:30PM Worship Wednesday

7:30PM Finance Meeting Narthex)

8:00PM Admin Council (Narthex)

Thursday, July 13

1:00PM Horizon's (FLC)

7:30PM AA Meeting (FLC)

Sunday, July 16

10:00AM Worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, July 17

12:00PM Card Club (FLC-East Classrooms)

1:00PM Horizons (FLC Hall)

**Newsletter deadline*

Tuesday, July 18

12PM Card Club (FLC-East Classrooms)

1:30PM Bible Study (FLC)

Wednesday, July 19

3:00PM Coffee Time (Narthex)

Thursday, July 20

1:00PM Horizon's (FLC)



7:30PM AA Meeting (FLC)

Friday, July 21

4:00 PM Private Event (FLC)

Saturday, July 22

8:00AM Private event (FLC, all day)

Sunday, July 23

10:00AM Worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, July 24

12:00PM Card Club (FLC-East Classrooms)

1:00PM Horizons (FLC Hall)

Tuesday, July 25

12PM Card Club (FLC-East Classrooms)

1:30PM Bible Study (FLC)

Wednesday, July 26

3:00PM Coffee Time (Narthex)

Thursday, July 27

1:00PM Horizon's (FLC)

7:30PM AA Meeting (FLC)

Sunday, July 31

10:00AM Worship (Sanctuary)

*Please contact the church office to reserve space or with questions about the schedule.

712-852-2154





FIRST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
EMMETSBURG

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
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Emmetsburg, Iowa

DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY

A discipleship pathway creates space for
disciples to choose YOUR growth path.



GATHER

GROW

GO

You do not have to see the entire stairway, just take the first step!