

(UPDATED 01-06-2021)



### **Our Deepest Sympathy:**

- Death of Virginia Pflanz on Jan. 2. A graveside service is being planned for Friday (Jan. 8) at 1pm at Memorial Park Cemetery.
  - Death of Jo Lear's mom, Mle Muzingo, on Dec. 27. Keep Jo, the family, and friends in your prayers.
  - Death of Jerry Hicks, who passed away on Sunday, Dec. 20. Keep his family and friends in your prayers.
  - Death of Don Kelsey, who passed away on Friday, Dec. 11. Keep his children Susan, Scott, David & Steven, the rest of his family and his friends in your prayers.
  - Death of Verval Ostapoff (age 104) on December 1. Keep her son Wally and all their family in your prayers.
  - Laura Williams eldest daughter, Susan Chandler (age 58) passed away on Friday, Nov. 27. She had continued health issues. Services were in Tennessee. Keep Susan's husband, Don, their grown children, her family and friends in your prayers.
  - Death of Cindy Becker's brother, Bob Carter (age 84), of Vandalia, Illinois. on Nov. 24.
  - Death of Audrey Bitner (age 90) on Nov. 25. Keep her daughter Carolyn, family and friends in your prayers.
  - Death of Jill Beck's brother, Merle Sterling (age 77) in Humboldt, Kansas, on Nov. 24. Keep his wife, Julie, family and friends in your prayers.
  - Death of Doris Parson's sister, Joyce, who lived in Florida and her sister-in-law who lived in Nebraska.
  - Death of KarLynn Eslick on Nov. 8. She has been battling cancer for 7 years and died on Sunday, Nov. 8. Keep her mom (Pharyce), long-time partner Steve Logan, and all others in your prayers.
  - Death of Fran Nixon on Saturday, Oct. 17. Keep husband Jim, family, and friends in your prayers. Service will be at a later date when Covid-19 has lessened.
  - Death of Sherry Padgett's mother, Delores Smith (age 94), on Thurs., Oct. 15. Services are pending in Rockwell City, IA.
  - Death of Glennis Kriglstein on Oct. 2 - Celebration of Life Service will be at a later date after pandemic - Keep husband Charley and family in your prayers. Celebration of Life Service will be at a later date after pandemic.
- † Nancy Wood (from Kenosha, Wisconsin) on Monday, Sept.28. Nancy is the sister-in-law of Don Wood

† Dean Chapman (age 96) died on Sept. 13 in North Carolina (He had moved there last year to be cared for by his daughter). His graveside service was Monday, Sept. 28.

† **Online Worship on Sundays by 9am on our website at [siouxcityfirst.com](http://siouxcityfirst.com)**

† **OR Sundays @ 10am on our Facebook Page (First United Methodist Church - Sioux City)**

† **OR Worship Anytime online on our Website ([siouxcityfirst.com](http://siouxcityfirst.com)).**

**All current and past Worship service videos and audio podcasts are available on our website at any time.**

### **First UMC Continuing the Suspension of In-person Worship through January 31, 2021**

- ONLY Online Worship Services will be held

On Monday, Jan. 4, our Church Board voted unanimously that the church will not hold in-person worship and church activities through and including January 31, 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Church Board will re-evaluate if we should stay in RED LIGHT Status or move back to YELLOW LIGHT status on Monday, January 25.

### **The Church Sanctuary Is Open, Monday-Friday, from 9am-noon to Come and Spend Time In**

You do not need to call ahead. There may be organists or pianists rehearsing.

## **"Quarter Challenge" Benefitting Warming Shelter & Soup Kitchen Began Sunday, Jan. 3rd**

Every January, we put all our loose coins (along with paper money and checks) towards the annual Quarter Challenge. This year, due to Covid-19 (and you are not to send loose coins in the mail) you can drop them off at the church office or send a check or "Bill Pay" through your bank. In addition, each year, we try and beat the previous January's total (We raised \$2,000 in 2020).



Once again this year, we are going to do an "Inter-Congregational Challenge." Everyone whose last name begins with A-L (We call this "Team Lonnie") will be against everyone whose last name begins with M-Z (whom we call "Team Neil"). (A-L won last year).

Which group will raise the most funds! More importantly, all the money raised will be split equally between two very worthwhile ministries here in Sioux City (The Soup Kitchen and The Warming Shelter).

## **"Love Your Neighbor as Yourself" - What are your actual neighbors names?**

I have asked you to find out the name of your neighbors that live around you. Have you done it? Are you praying for "God's will be done" for them or "The Lord be with you"?

## **Do No Harm! Do Good! Stay in Love with God!**

- (John Wesley's 3 simple rules in living the life of a Christian and that will change your world)

## **Thank you for your prayers and support of our ministries during this unprecedented time in our lives**

(We have had members mail in donations, use their internet banking and set us up as a "Bill Pay" option to send their donations, and even had members drop off their donations in the Mail Drop - which is located right by the Maroon Canopy Entrance in the Main parking lot). As you can see, even in the midst of a pandemic, First United Methodist Church continues to "Make a Difference" in the lives of others.

## **Online Sunday School & Digital Wednesdays for Children**

With the Covid-19 situation, and children from 6 different school districts attending here at First UMC, we are offering Online Sunday School and Digital Wednesdays. Each week the children will receive their physical materials in the mail. On Sunday mornings, families will receive a digital link to pre-recorded lessons, with Ms. Amanda, for their appropriate age group. On Wednesdays, families will receive a link with the Holy Moly video and coloring page, along with a short lesson from Ms. Amanda.

We are very grateful to be delivering Children's Christian Education directly to the homes of our FUMC families!

**If you have a prayer request or information to share, you can call the church (712-258-0119) or email us ([scfirst@msn.com](mailto:scfirst@msn.com)).**

## **New Leadership Board Being Proposed for First UMC**

Beginning in February of 2020, we have formally been looking at the possibility of making a change in the way we handle church business here at First United Methodist Church. This new way to handle church business is what we are calling the "Leadership Board" (It has also been called the "One-Board Model"). We want to spend some time in the next few weeks making sure everyone feels comfortable with what we are doing.

This is something that some of the churches in our conference and other churches throughout our denomination have moved to over the last few years. Pastor Roger has been talking about this move with our Church's Administrative Board and the other administrative committees.

Our current structure has been in place since all of you were born. It includes an Administrative Board, Finance Committee, Trustees, a Staff-Parish Relations Committee, and the Endowment Committee. Notice the common word: Committee. Each of these committees, plus our ministry committees such as Missions, Worship, Christian Education, Higher Education, all require up to 9 members each and are elected to 3-year terms.

Under the new Leadership Board model, this representative governing board would combine the administrative work of the Administrative Board, Trustees, Finance Committee, Staff-Parish Relations Committee and the Endowment Committee. The goal is to establish a more holistic,

collaborative and accountable governance model.

The Nurturing, Outreach and Worship areas of our church would be overseen by Ministry Teams such as Worship Team, Missions Team, Christian Education Team, etc.

The Leadership Board model presumes clear roles for the Leadership Board, the pastor, staff and congregation. The Leadership Board governs the church, the Lead Pastor leads the church and manages the staff, the staff manage the ministries and volunteers of the church and the members of the congregation serve in ministry according to their interests and talents and the ministry need.

The Leadership Board would be comprised of 9-12 members of the church who represent the operations, ministries and demographics of the church. Members serve 3-year terms. Board members are selected by a Nominations Committee and approved by the congregation at a Church Conference.

Leadership Board members must be spiritual leaders in the church who seek to fulfill the Great Commission and Great Commandment of God and the vision of the church and who support the church with their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

Ideally, two members of the Leadership Board serve as representatives of the Trustees (Facility and Properties) function, two of the Finance / Endowment function and two of the Staff Parish Relations function. One Board member serves as the Lay Leader. The Board can and typically does delegate day-to-day operations and certain authority for these functions to permanent and ad-hoc Ministry Teams composed of members of the congregation.

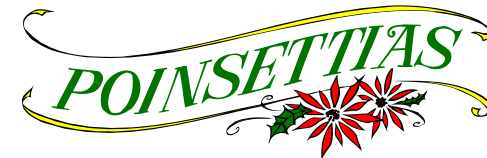
In conjunction with the Lead Pastor, the Leadership Board sets the vision and long-range strategy of the church and approves the operating budget, significant capital transactions, and pastoral staff hires. The Board also reviews the pastor's performance and supports his/her development. Finally, the Board provides any reports, recommendations or other materials for the annual Charge Conference (or Church Conference) as required by the United Methodist Book of Discipline.

The Board reports to and seeks feedback from the congregation through scheduled and ad hoc all-church meetings, the website and newscards, as well as informal conversations.

The Board will meet once a month and interested members of the congregation would be welcome to attend and participate as appropriate. Some issues may be discussed in closed session.

We will have additional information in next Wednesday's all-church email.

If you have ANY questions or comments, please contact Pastor Roger.



**Given by**

George and Virginia Taylor  
Bruce and Bev Kolbe  
Beverly Graber  
Steve and Trish Billups

Judy Wanned

Bob and Geri Morfitt  
Bob DeLoss  
Randy and Karen Roos  
Cindy Lewin  
David Blair  
Don and Cheri Wood  
Beverly Weseman

Marvin and Myrna Sorensen  
Gene and Marce Wagner  
Charlie Kriglstein

**In Memory of**

Loved ones  
Our parents  
My husband, Jack  
Billie Joe Billups;  
Frank and Mary Hochstetler; and  
Kathy Jo Hochstetler  
My parents Bill and Doris Hubbard;  
and Chuck Wanned  
Our parents  
JoAnn DeLoss  
Our parents  
Harold and Alice Lewin  
Dee Gee Blair  
Tom and Nancy Wood  
Evea Weseman; and  
Margaret Theresa Newman Murphy  
Glennis Kriglstein  
Don Dirks & Russ and Doris Wagner  
Glennis Kriglstein

Given by

Joan Peterson  
Dr. Bob and Kaye Rasmus  
Tom and Sherry Padgett  
Paul and Mary Stoneburg  
Don and Mary Kay Schenk  
Todd Hollander  
Bob and Marian Jacobson  
Doris Parsons

In Memory of

Delaine Peterson  
Our parents  
Delores Smith  
Loved ones  
Our parents  
Dr. William Hollander  
Glennis Kriglstein  
My husband, Jack and my sons, Jim and Donny

Given by

Dee Bower  
Corrine Holman  
Jerry and Vickie Lemons  
The Jasman Family  
Gene and Marce Wagner  
Dr. Bob and Kaye Rasmus  
Eric and Patty Ikenberry  
  
Bob and Marian Jacobson

In Honor of

My husband and parents  
Healthcare workers  
Our mothers  
Those serving in the military  
Janna Dirks  
Our family  
Our family, including our 6 granddaughters  
Frontline Covid-19 workers

To the Glory of God

Kokoe Aboussa  
Dave and Terri Trefl  
Dick and Judy Lilly  
David and Pam Coad  
Karla Puttman  
Jane Sibley

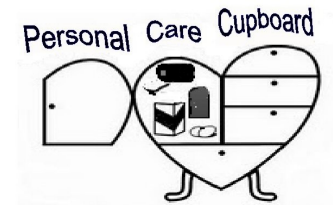
In celebration of and thanksgiving for, Love, Joy, Peace and Hope, which still exist in these difficult days.

**The Iowa Methodist Churches** are following a 3 Phase plan for Re-Entry for in-person worship:  
Phase 1 = GREEN LIGHT Status. The virus is contained we are safe.  
Phase 2 = YELLOW LIGHT Status. Cautionary return. We anticipate this will cover a number of months. This means a gradual return to gatherings and doing so in a cautionary manner.  
Phase 3 = RED LIGHT Status. Stop all non-critical gatherings.

When we do open for in-person worship in the YELLOW LIGHT Status, the following guidelines will be in place:

- Keep social distancing in the building.
- We have roped off the sanctuary so that there is a row of pews for seating, then 2 rows of pews are vacant, then an available row, then 2 rows vacant, This will allow us to seat about 120 people (about 20 people per section) in our sanctuary with this configuration .
- We are removing the pew cushions, hymnals, Bibles, and all loose items. This will allow us to use Q64 disinfectant between each service. Disinfectants only work on solid surfaces and the pew cushions would not be properly disinfected if left on.
- We will require people to come wearing a facemask or we have disposable facemasks here at the church.
- Offering plates will be located at the entrances/exits and not be passed.
- We will not have bulletins handed out.
- We will not have a nursery.
- We will ask people to give a "Greeting wave" instead of a handshake.
- No Fellowship Time following worship.
- If you sing, we will ask people to sing at a very low volume or hum.
- We will continue to offer on-line Facebook & Website worship in YELLOW LIGHT Status (and probably even after we reach GREEN LIGHT Status).
- We will celebrate Easter when it is safe for all, so we will celebrate the second Sunday we are in GREEN LIGHT Status.

**The Personal Care Cupboard continues to operate using CDC guidelines and keeping clients and volunteers separate.**



## Personal Care Cupboard

**Hours: Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m.**

**Thursdays, 2:00-3:00 p.m.**

**Personal Care Cupboard Item of the Month:** Body Wash and Body Soap



The Personal Care Cupboard (The Cupboard) is stocked with many of the items that a person or family cannot get on food stamps or WIC. This includes such items as toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, personal hygiene, laundry detergent, household cleaners and other non-food items that people need. We currently serve 20-30 families per week.

Due to high usage, the Personal Care Cupboard needs at least 3 workers for each shift. We need workers for Wednesday from 5-6 pm and on Thursdays from 2-3 pm. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board across from the Church Office.

One of the primary responsibilities of any church is to care for people. Jesus shares with the people in Matthew 25 about caring for others and ends it with, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40). We, the First United Methodist Church at 19<sup>th</sup> and Nebraska, have found a niche that is needed in Siouxland.

Many have heard of food pantries (and we support the one at Grace United Methodist Church in Morningside) but food pantries often do not have, or have a very limited supply, of the non-food items that people need. The Personal Care Cupboard (The Cupboard) is stocked with many of the items that a person or family cannot get on food stamps or WIC. This includes such items as toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, personal hygiene, laundry detergent, household cleaners and other non-food items that people need.

We have been serving in this ministry since March, 2010 and currently serve 20-40 families per week (or about 400 different families every 3 months). Families may come and use The Cupboard only once every 3 months.

Families are allowed 6 items per visit (an item may be a 4-roll package of toilet paper, 2 bars of soap, a container of laundry detergent, etc.)

We do not charge these families any money for this service. This ministry is supported totally by donations from churches and individuals. Churches currently in partnership with First United Methodist Church in this ministry include: First Covenant Church, Grace United Methodist Church, St. Michael's Catholic Church and Sunnybrook Church. The

support comes in the physical donation of items, contributing money, and/or in volunteering time to serve the families.

The Personal Care Cupboard is located on the east side of the original church building at 1915 Nebraska Street and is handicap accessible.

When is it open? It is open 2 days a week:  
Wednesdays from 5-6 pm and Thursdays from 2-3 pm.

Who can use The Cupboard? Anyone with a picture ID with an address on it, and they can make use of this service only once every 3 months.

Who will assist people as they come in? Volunteers (maybe even you!)

For more information or to set up a tour of The Cupboard, call Judy Wanned at the church at 712-258-0119, or send us an e-mail at ([scfirst@msn.com](mailto:scfirst@msn.com)).

Item of the Month - While we accept donations of any non-food items anytime, we have designated each month, an item which we regularly see being needed by families. We will collect the items each week in church and have a display so others can see our support. We encourage your church to collect the Item of the Month for The Cupboard as well.

### **January - Body Wash and Body Soap**

February - Paper Towels and Kleenex

March - Diapers, Sizes 5 and 6

April - Household Cleaners

May - Deodorants

June - Toilet Paper

July - Toothpaste

August - Razors and Shaving Cream

September - Household Cleaners

October - Toilet Paper

November - Liquid Dish Soap

December - Shampoo and Conditioner



Cash donations are always accepted to purchase needed items for the PCC.

**We are sending All-Church Announcement emails every Wednesday and Friday. If you are not receiving them, contact the church office.**

### **First UMC Financial Status Through October, 2020**

- (1) We are 83.3% of the way through our budget year.
- (2) We have received 68.7% of our budget for the year (for a total of \$273,310). The 3-year average for monies received through October equals 71.4%.
- (3) We have expended 77.6% of our \$380,131 budget for the year (for a total of \$294,941). We began 2020 with a positive balance in our account.

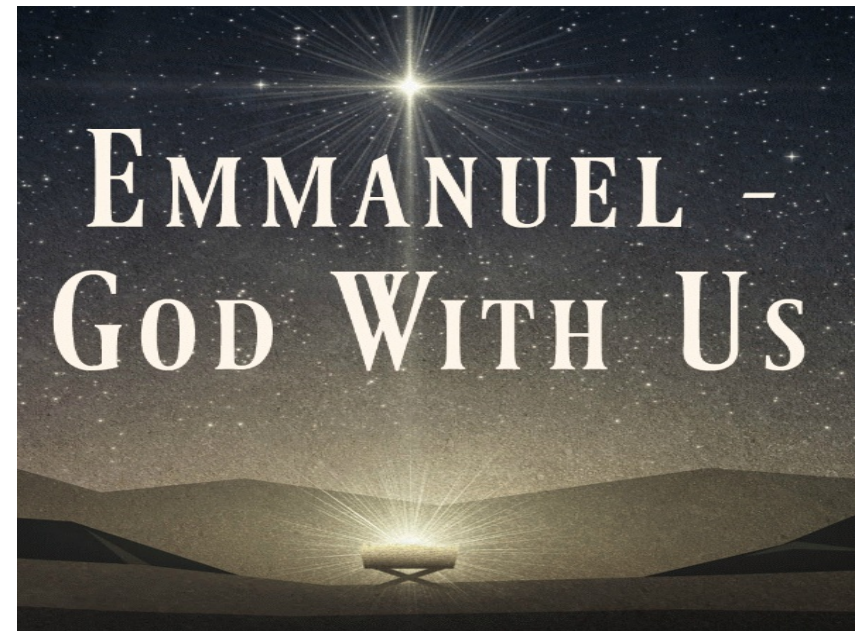
As you can see, our total income for 2020 is short of our projected receipts up to this date. This figure includes having paid 9 months out of 10 of our Conference Apportionments.

As we look at our church's financial status, we are "holding our head above water." Please realize the impact of COVID-19. We have received about \$10,000 less through October than our average. We also have expended about \$4,000 less due to COVID-19 situations. Also keep in mind that we do not receive our offerings in equal 1/12 increments. All current bills are paid as of the end of October. We appreciate your continued giving to God's work through First UMC. Thank you for your financial support of our ministries.



*Matthew 1:23 - The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).*

The year 2020 is one which most of us would just as soon forget even though we are still living in it. Yet, even in the midst of 2020, with the pandemic and everything else that has been going on, each of us needs to remember that “God is with us”. God is with you, during the struggles and the hardships, and God is with you during the joys and blessings. In the midst of 2020, God through Jesus has touched your life. God loves you. God cares for you. And even though you may sometimes wonder, you are blessed to live at this time and place in God’s world. How do you say “Thank You” to God for being with you?



# What Will I Give ... Jesus?

Our financial support campaign has begun here at First United Methodist Church. Our goal is to increase giving and pledges to the church's operating budget and ministries for 2021 so that we can make and develop disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the Siouxland area and the world.

- The question above is derived from the season we are now in ... The **Christmas** Season.

*Whose birthday are we preparing to celebrate?* As you ask yourself this question, remind yourself of all the gifts that God has given you in your daily living. And now think of the greatest gift: Jesus Christ. Yes, each of us are humbled by this and deeply grateful.

So what should my response be? My return gift should be as much as I am able to give to show my deep gratitude and my joy. My gift should be intentional and a sacrifice to honor the place God has in my life and the great sacrifice of God's beloved child for my sin. My gift can be clearly stated in the form of a pledge so that my church home can budget and manage all that they are entrusted with in a responsible manner by knowing what they can expect to receive. Next week, you will receive a mailing from the church to make your intentions known.

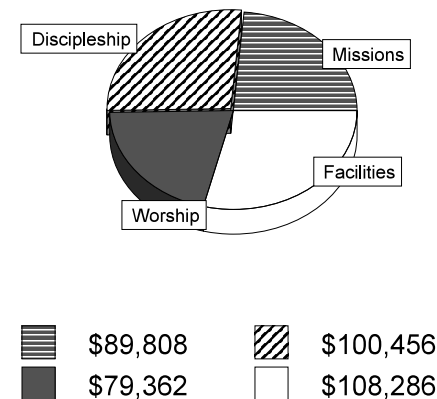
Due to Covid-19, you cannot fill out a pledge sheet at church. However, you can call the church to make your pledge or return the sheet from the mailing you will receive next week. Know that your "gift" to Jesus through First UMC makes a difference in the lives of children, youth and adults each and every day. Wonder how? Take a look at our website (You can view the weekly newsletter there) or read the weekly emails we are sending out and that is just a small part in how your gift to Jesus, through your church, makes a difference in the lives of others.

Our church budget for 2021 is \$377,912. This is a decrease of \$2,085 from the 2020 budget.

For those who would like to see a budget, here is a graph of our 2021 budget as approved at the November Charge Conference. Detailed budgets are available from the church office.

## 2021 Operating Budget

First UMC, Sioux City



Please prayerfully fill out the Commitment Sheet (found on the other side of this) and return it to the church today or when it is convenient for you. If you traditionally do not fill out a Commitment Sheet, that is okay as well.

What financial gift(s) you give to Jesus through church is a very private decision. So no matter what your decision --- whether you are able to increase your pledge because God has blessed you to do so, to maintain your present pledge amount, or whether you choose to make a pledge at all ... "Thank You" for giving this matter serious and prayerful consideration in giving Jesus your gift(s) and making a difference in the lives of others through First UMC.

# 2021 GIVING DIRECTION SHEET

To carry on God's work, to make a difference in my life and the lives of others, and to help maintain my Church's strength by keeping it financially strong, after prayerful consideration, I promise, with God's help, to give to Christ's ministry through First UMC for 2021 as follows:

I will support the ministries of First UMC regularly and estimate my gifts to average:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ weekly or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ monthly or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Yearly.

I will give a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 2020 towards Christ's ministries through First UMC.

I do not make formal pledges but I will support First UMC.

I am unable to commit to a specific amount, but I resolve to give to the Lord's work on a regular basis.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: Cell \_\_\_\_\_ // Home: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

First United Methodist Church

- 1915 Nebraska Street
- Sioux City, Iowa 51104
- Telephone: (712) 258-0119
- e-mail: scfirst@msn.com
- Website: www.siouxcityfirst.com

*This commitment to  
ministry may be  
revised or cancelled  
at any time*