



May 2018



Pastor's Notes

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Wow! I think spring has finally arrived! It has been a long, crazy winter here in Iowa and we are all ready to be renewed by beautiful, warm weather outside. We are beginning to experience a time of change in our world, with the change of seasons. People are going to start coming out of hibernation and be alive! They will soon be driving through Monroe on Highway 14 pulling their boats and heading for Red Rock. The sounds of lawn mowers and weed eaters will fill the air. Flowers will begin to bloom. People will be wearing shorts and t-shirts everywhere. Animals and birds will be back in strength of numbers. People are beginning to sit in the bleachers at ball fields to watch their favorite players or children hit the winning home run. Yes, it is the time we call spring.

For some time now we have been in the winter, where the weather is cold and dreary. We fret each time we watch the news because the forecast has overwhelmed us with bad news of sleet, snow, and you name it! You are afraid to go outside, for the air is so cold and our lives have just about come to a halt until the weather breaks.

But, even as there are physical seasons, we experience spiritual seasons as well. There are times when the sun shines upon us and we will feel the warmth of life and goodness and there are times when darkness and cold enter our souls, almost causing us to stop in our tracks, due to life's worries and problems. It seems like our spiritual fruit starts to fade as the plants and flowers do during the winter season. Many of us dread the winter months the most, for we know if we spiritually get into a winter, we won't be doing anything. Some folks have been in a spiritual winter a long time. But, sometimes God wants us to go through the winter in order to appreciate the spring.

We have often heard the term, spring fever. It is when the weather begins to warm up, and we begin to loosen up a little bit. And as good as that can be, there is also a force that lurks alongside with this "fever" that causes folks to drift from their relationship with God. It's like Satan is rejoicing when warm weather is upon us and we reach into our closet for the golf clubs, camping equipment, well, you know where I'm heading with this. We kind of put God on hold during the warmer months to be outside every day. In the winter, we had nothing else to do, but set inside and read the Bible or pray, or go into a warm sanctuary for church. But, now that things are changing, there is the tendency to drift from that and get caught up in other stuff. But, remember there is nothing more important than our relationship with God, and no activity, etc. should ever take precedence over that!

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Well, here is where we stand. God wants everything we have, yet we have the tendency to slack during this time of year. Almost guaranteed, in the next few months, many will say "I don't have time!" Over and over this will happen concerning the things and work of God, but that is just what Satan wants. Let's make a commitment to do more for Jesus this spring and summer than we have ever done in our lives! Let's make an effort to make God and our church a priority this summer. Let's make our attendance in church this summer the best ever! See you this summer!

God bless! Pastor Kim

***Community Table
Wednesday May 16,***



5:00—7:00!

***This is a FREE meal and
EVERYONE is invited!***

**UMW will have their
General Meeting**

Friday May 11 at 1:30.

**Donna Stravers
will present the program.**

Hostesses

Dawn Neff

Nancy Current.

**GARAGE
SALE**

**Lunch! Saturday May 5th from 11-1. Take a
sale break, have a beef burger or hotdog,
chips, drink, dessert and drink. Freewill
offering for kids camp!**

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meeting
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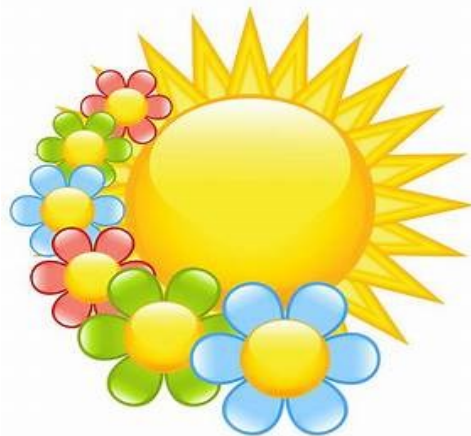
Ad Council meets Wednesday May 9 at
7:00. If you have any agenda items please
notify the office.



Blood Drive!

And Breakfast! Saturday
May 12. Blood Drive 6:30
~10:30 Breakfast 7:00~
10:00.

Free-will Donation
Accepted!



Heritage Sunday will be held
during the 10:15 service on May
20. Those celebrating 50 years
of membership this year are:

Donald Baker

Shirley Baker

Barbara Nickelson

Donald Peery

Pearl Perry

*MOMs group appreciates all your help in
collecting school supplies, the response has
been great! And nothing goes to waste, an-
ything collected beyond what is needed for
their book bags will be donated to operation
shoebox. If you would like more information
contact a MOMs member!*

We have hearing devices and
large print Bibles and hymnals
available. Contact an usher if
you are in need of one of
these.

This month MOMs is
collecting 2" pink
erasers for their book
bags.



Stewardship and Discipleship committee was very pleased by the attendance on Easter Sunday. We made a concentrated effort to make the community aware of events during Easter at our church. Special thanks to Pastor Kim and Kayla for helping coordinate these efforts. Bulletin boards, flyers, handout invitations, advertising in the paper, social media and yard signs were all part of this reaching out and extending welcome. Thank you to those of you who had signs in your yard. Some members reported seeing cars slow to read the signs. You likely saw two to three signs as you drove through town. Thank you for word-of-mouth invitations along with the invitation cards. Some direct mailings were made, too. Sixty-two attended the Sunrise Service and breakfast with eighty-two attending the regular service.

Please pray the Easter message was well received. It was hoped that the Holy Spirit would work in people's lives to develop personal relationships with the lord. Our mission is to help make disciples. We want our church to grow, be vibrant, alive and enthusiastic about God's will and purpose for our lives and the Church.



Vacation Bible school is Sun July 8-Thurs July 12.

Sign-up sheets for supplies and helpers is on the bulletin board.. We need a lot of help for this event. Please consider giving some of your time. Even if you can help only 1 night that would be great.

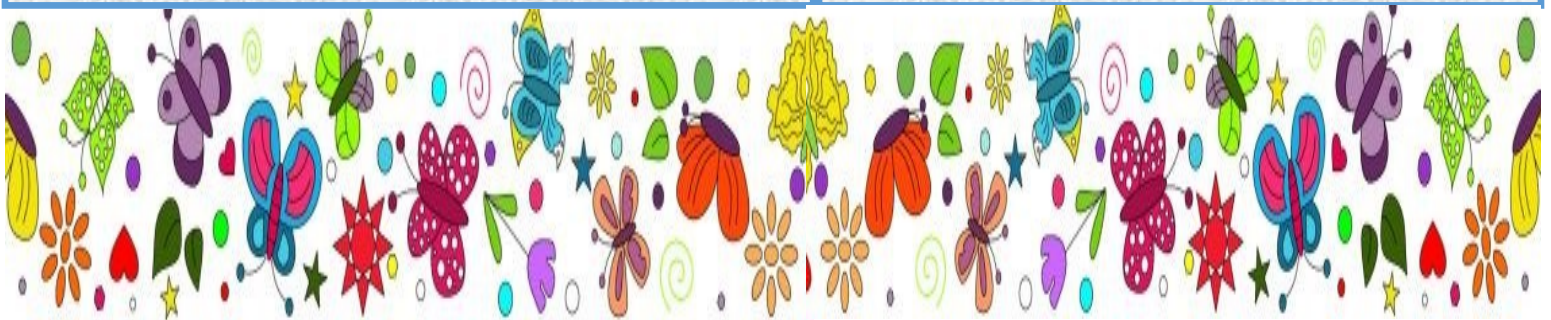
For questions contact Lisa Tucker (641) 521-1793.

- **There will be a VBS planning meeting Wed May 9th at 6:30 at Monroe Presbyterian Church.**

Starting Sunday June 3 through
Sunday September 2 there will be
ONE service at 9:30.



During the summer MUMC
will have one combined ser-
vice. These will be held at 9:30
starting June 3. The service
will alternate between the
sanctuary and fellowship hall.
There will be a fellowship time
before the service.



During the Sunday April 29 service two barstools were given as memorials. One in memory of Dale Hume, the other in memory of John Vriezelaar. These are wonderful additions to be used in the church during visitations, birthday or anniversaries. Thank you to the Hume and Vriezelaar families for these wonderful donations.



May Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Elaine Kuening
- 3 Matt Birkenholz, John McConeghey
- 4 Makenna Van Veen
- 7 Darrell Nolin
- 9 Marjorie Nolin
- 10 Kelsey Lemke
- 12 Jan Phifer, Mary Vaske, Rachel Phifer
- 13 Jacob Warrick
- 14 Jim & Holly Daughenbaugh
- 15 Hunter Van Veen
- 17 Virginia Cash, Reed Worth
- 19 Jeff & Amy Fagg, Kim & Dede Crummer
- 20 Shawn & Julie Palm
- 22 Chad & Elisha Birkenholz
- 23 Shoshanah Fagg, Phyllis Miller, Scott & Rita Van Veen
- 24 Abigail Lemke
- 26 Gene & Donna Stravers
- 27 Jim Garland
- 29 Sue Gregerson
- 30 Logan Phillips

May Scripture Readings

Week of May 6

Acts 10:44-49

Psalms 98

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

Week of May 13

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalms 1

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

Week of May 20

Acts 2:1-20

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:22-27

John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

Week of May 27

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalms 29

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

For May:

Ushers

May 6 Wayne & Donna Worth,
Alan Jennings, Deb Coulter

May 13 & 20 Judy Stock,
Linda Birkenholtz,
Jim & Sally Morris

May 27 Ryan & Jan Phifer

Communion:

Deb Coulter & Alan Jennings

Liturgist:

May 6 Early Melba Brummett
Late Jeanne Van Genderen

May 13 Early Dianna Nolin
Late June Hjortshoj

May 20 Early Greg Duinink
Late Lori Schakel

May 27 Early Patty Eilander
Late Deb Coulter

Hospitality:

May 20 (Due to Graduation)

Please notify the church office or Pastor Kim if a family member is taken to the hospital, has passed or for any other prayer concerns. Pastor Kim's email is hawkeyejoy53@yahoo.com and his cell number (call or text) is (402) 679-2655.



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1 Bible Study 9:00	2 MOMs 9:00	3 Pastor Kim Out of Office	4 Cub Scouts 5:00-7:00	5 Fundraiser Lunch 11-1
6 Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00	7 AA 7:00	8 Bible Study 9:00	9 VBS Planning 6:30 Pres. Ch. Ad Council 7:00	10	11 UMW 1:30	12 Blood Drive & Breakfast 6:30-10:30
13 Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00	14 AA 7:00	15 Bible Study 9:00	16 MOMs 9:00 Community Table 5-7	17	18 Cub Scout	19 Camp Out
20 Heritage Sunday Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00	21 Men's Club 6:30 AA 7:00	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 AA 7:00	29	30 Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00	31	Pastor Kim will be on vacation May 21-27	

Service Times

Jubilee Service 8:15

Sunday School 9:15

Worship Service 10:15

(Summer Hours Start June 6)

Monroe United Methodist Church

"Make Disciple for Christ"

Pastor Kim Crummer

Cell (402) 679-2655

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

8:30-12:30

Church Phone/Fax

(641) 259-2822



OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

Monroe United Methodist Church

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