

Monroe United Methodist Church



“Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.”
(I Thessalonians 5:11)

I love the way the Apostle Paul tells his Thessalonian church to encourage one another, adding “as indeed you are doing.” He wants to encourage them to encourage each other, while not implying that they are not doing so already. That’s what I want to communicate. Since arriving a month ago, I’ve been very excited to see examples of your love for God and each other, and your service within and outside the church. The Community Table is an effective way of conveying the message of God’s love to the people of Monroe with no hidden agendas, with no strings attached. It fosters fellowship and good will among our own and brings people in from outside the church. Where that goes from there, as in table talk, invitations to church happenings, is solely up to those eating. I call that low-key evangelism, informal conversations that can lead to discipleship. The MOM (Methodists on Mission) ministry is a great way of sharing our love to children locally and globally, especially to those who most need school supplies and basic clothing for the fall. I can’t wait to enjoy our pancakes at Old Settler’s Celebration and all who will help to make that a huge success. I’ve been thoroughly educated by the UMW as to how to properly can chicken and beef for the October Bazaar, proceeds going to the glory of God! These are just a few examples of amazing love right here.

I want to give a shout out to all of you who have recently shared love and kindness in a number of ways here in church, but for fear of overlooking anyone, I’ll only point out one who will remain anonymous. It is the person who promised not to tell anyone when I lifted the pressure valve off a steaming pressure cooker! You are too kind, but really, that sort of pastoral blunder deserves broadcasting! Nobody was hurt, but yours truly certainly turned a few shades of red, while learning the hard way.

Seriously, I sense a spirit of enthusiasm, cooperation, and a willingness to try new things. Keep in your prayers our Administrative Council as they meet Saturday, August 18, at 9am to do some serious vision planning, mapping the way ahead as we carry out the church mission here in Monroe. I have no doubt that it will be an exciting time of listening to the Holy Spirit and fleshing out the way ahead. Much happening, much to look forward to!

For all the ways you and I are reaching out with God’s love to make disciples, all I can say is, let’s keep it up, and press forward!

By all means, “Let us encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing!!!”

Pastor Van

It is that time of year again to be thinking about making craft items for the 2018 UMW Annual Bazaar. We appreciate and accept all lovely handmade donations. We want to give you plenty of time to work and get them ready for the bazaar. All proceeds, as in previous years, will go to help local and United Methodist sponsored missions. Thank you for sharing your talents with us! Keep on stitching and making!

Any questions please contact Jeanne VanGenderen.

Phone: 515-371-7976

Email: jeannevangenderen@gmail.com

August Community Table will be held Wednesday the 15th from 5-7. The menu features Spaghetti, salad bar, dessert and drink! This is a FREE meal and EVERYONE is welcome!



"We wish to thank all of our Church Family for your prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, food and other acts of kindness we received with the year-long bout with cancer and death of Marcy's sister Roma Mosher. It is such a comfort to know we have such wonderful church people who truly care. It was all greatly appreciated" Larry and Marcy Romick and Family

**Monroe United Methodist Church
Financial Statement Analysis
General Bank Account Expenses**

Category	Jan-Jun 2018	Jan-Jun 2017	Variance	%	Comments
Contributions	39,187.00	41,850.00	(2,663.00)	-6.36%	Giving has decreased compared to 2017. Giving has continued to decrease each year.
Salaries	31,826.00	31,238.00	588.00	1.88%	Admin assistant salary increased in 2018.
EE Benefits	4,366.00	11,052.00	(6,686.00)	-60.50%	Employee benefits (travel, health insurance, pension & professional expense). Employee benefits increased \$98/mo in 2018. January employee benefits were paid in February, these monthly expenses will be paid as I can based on the monthly cash flow. Currently owe conference \$9,710 for Feb-June unpaid health share and pension share. Will need to determine a way to pay this to conference.
Bldg Op Costs	3,917.00	3,985.00	(68.00)	-1.71%	
Utilities	4,085.00	3,513.00	572.00	16.28%	Utilities slightly higher in 2018 compared to 2017. Winter lasted longer in 2018. This is the first year for additional air-conditioner in Fellowship Hall and Narthex and would expect increase over last year.
Apportionments	-	-	-	#DIV/0!	Do not have enough cash flow to pay towards apportionments.
Ice Cream Social	2,274.00	2,474.00	(200.00)	-8.08%	All expenses have not been paid; projected income is \$2,644
Old Settlers	-	-	-	#DIV/0!	
Turkey Supper	-	-	-	#DIV/0!	
Community Table	58.00	93.00			This is the amount of \$ available to pay for any Community Table expenses.
Ending Cash Balance	1,782.14	1,704.14	78.00	4.58%	

2018 Apportionments remaining to pay:
\$20,517.00



Pancakes! The Monroe Old Settlers Pancake Breakfast will be held Saturday morning, Au-

gust 4, from 6:00 to 10:00. There will be pancakes, biscuits and gravy, little smokies, coffee, orange juice and milk. Want to volunteer? Help is always appreciated. Have fun and enjoy this Old Settler's tradition!



The PCM Food Pantry is in need of canned

soup! Any type of small cans and large cans with meat are desperately needed!



WE NEED YOUR IDEAS!!!

As I write this, the UMW are taking the canned meat (beef) out of the pressure cookers for the fall Bazaar. It's pretty interesting watching the canning process. Once the cans (glass jars) are removed from the cookers, they are exposed to the outside atmosphere and begin boiling inside. In other words, they are still cooking until finally the temperature drops down and the lids "pop," sealing and preserving the contents. They say there is no doubt their efforts will pay off in quick sales at the Bazaar, based on past experience. I'm hoping that something like this is also true for other things at Monroe UMC.

On August 18, our Administrative Council will be having a strategic planning day as we develop a vision for our church's ministry. To better prepare, we need your thoughts! We need them like we need beef and chicken for canning. We need to bring your ideas to prayerful consideration, to cook for a spell, so to speak. Hopefully, Lord willing, we will have a better idea of some things we need to do, and how to do them. The question for your thinking cap is this: **What must we be doing here as a faithful congregation to fulfill our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ?**

I never thought of canning as a metaphor for who we are as a church, but hey, I'm open to new ideas! What are yours? Simply respond by clicking monroeum@iowatelecom.net

THANKS!

Pastor Van

In preparation for the upcoming MUMC 175th anniversary celebration I will occasionally be place photos I come across in The Fellowship hall. If you know any of the people in the photo, approximate time period or what the occasion was, please write it on the attached paper. ~ Kayla

The Trustees Committee will be taking applications for anyone interested in renting the parsonage. The parsonage is a 2 story house with a basement, a 2 car garage, four bedrooms, and 1 ½ baths. Specific details about the lease will be available on the application. We expect the application document to be available at the church office by Monday, August 6. Questions can be directed to Jim Phillips, Chairman Trustees Committee, 641-777-2018.



3	Kurt and Becky Konek
4	Dave Van Veen Greg and Leslie Duinink
5	Meghan Phifer
7	Mary Sue Duinink Virginia Woody
8	Ryan and Jan Phifer
9	Art Gregerson Monte Oldham
10	Hayley Konek Don and Elaine Keuning
11	Robert Timmins
12	Jim Hewitt
13	Katie Coulter Ed Nickelson Grant Van Veen
14	Lisa Steenhoek
16	Judy Jenkins
17	Sharon Covey Dianna Nolin Francis Van Der Hart
18	Branden Phifer Don and Shirley Baker
20	Steve Van Veen
21	Patrick and Kristina Lemke
26	Miranda Holdsworth Marty and Sandy Breckenridge
27	Claude Brummett
28	Dennis and Kim Worth
29	Melba Brummett Glen Duinink
31	Liz Hormann Gwyneth Lewis

August Ushers and Greeters

August 5 & 12 *Doug and Mary Sue Duinink Family*

August 19 & 26 *Donna Van Veen and Shelia Swarts*

August Liturgist

August 5 *Patty Eilander*

August 12 *June Hjortshoj*

August 19 *Melba Brummett*

August 26 *Lori Schakel*

August Communion

August 5 *Dianna Nolin and Dawn Neff*

August Hospitality

August 26 *Liz Hormann*



PCM Schools start
Tuesday August 28.

Pray for our kids,
teachers and administrators as
they return to School.

Scripture Readings

August 5

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Psalms 5:1-12

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

August 19

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

Psalms 111

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

August 12

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

Psalms 130

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

August 26

1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11) 22-30, 41-43

Psalms 84

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

August 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 Cub Scouts Leaders 6:30 Chimes 6:30 Meat canning	2	3	4 Old Settlers Pancake Break- fast 6:00 a.m.- 10:00 a.m.
5 Sunday School 8:30 Worship 9:30 In Sanctuary	6 AA 7:00	7	8	9	10	11
12 Sunday School 8:30 Worship 9:30 In Fellowship Hall	13 AA 7:00	14	15 Community Table 5:00-7:00	16	17	18 Ad Council Planning Mtg 9-1
19 Sunday School 8:30 Worship 9:30 In Sanctuary	20 AA 7:00	21	22 SPRC Meeting 6:30	23	24	25
26 Sunday School 8:30 Worship 9:30 in Fellowship Hall	27 AA 7:00	28	29 Boy Scouts 6:30-8:30	30	31 Pastor Van will be gone on a mission trip August 26 thru September 2	



Monroe United Methodist Church

Summer Worship Hours 9:30

Coffee/Fellowship Time Prior

Rev. Van Dickens

(512) 574-7706



Monroe United Methodist Church

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Church Phone/Fax
(641) 259-2822

Office Hours 8:30-12:30
Monday—Friday

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monroeunitedmethodist.org