

"We are a friendly, faithful, and loving family dedicated to sharing God with our neighbors."

*Monroe United
Methodist Church*

2018

Issue 10



OCTOBER



**From
The
Pastor's
Pen**

For those of us who are students of the four gospels, it doesn't take very long to conclude that Jesus had his share of enemies. They weren't "bad guys," such as thieves and murderers, but upstanding citizens with positions of importance. On one occasion, one of the Pharisees, an expert in the law of Moses, cautioned Jesus against critical words he was speaking against them, saying, "*Teacher, when you say these things, you insult us also.*" (Luke 11:45) Jesus promptly replies with a stinging litany of woes against them.

Jesus was fearless when it came to exposing hypocrisy by speaking the unvarnished truth. Some would say that this was his eventual earthly downfall. Speaking the truth, whatever the truth is, especially when the truth is unpopular, almost always comes at a price. There are those who will take offense and retaliate.

You and I live in a time when the truth is bantered back and forth and mingled with half-truths and out-and-out lies, often in order to further an agenda. It is more than political posturing, the stuff we hear every day in the news. It is to blatantly challenge hard evidence with falsehoods. An example of such evil is the conduct of conspiracy theorist Alex Jones, who claims that the Sandy Hook shooting that took 27 lives was fake news—that it never happened, despite witnesses, despite the funerals and grieving families.

In these days of increasing polarization, of villainizing anyone who holds a different view, of twisting the truth into a believable lie, of conspiracy theories and scapegoating, the church stands out as the keeper of truth for truth's sake, without any agenda other than to stand for what is good and pure and clean and compassionate and righteous and holy---and true.

And one of the truths that I pray you and I will take a stand for, without compromise, even in the face of opposition, is that we will live up to our vision as a friendly, faithful, and loving family dedicated to sharing God with our neighbors. Let this truth be Our truth, The truth, in all we say and do as a church. Let it be our mantra. And may the grace and truth of Jesus Christ be with each of us!

Pastor Van



A date to remember!
Saturday October 13
Come One, Come All!

UMW Fall Bazaar

All United Methodist women have been hard at work. The chicken, beef and mincemeat are finished. The pumpkin and chocolate-raspberry cake rolls and noodles are in the freezer, apple and mixed berry pies are in the works. Frozen casseroles are lasagna, chicken or beef enchiladas, and ham balls. Many of the UM members are hard at work on their favorite baked goods and exciting crafts of every kind!

You will not want to miss coffee time and lunch.

Please come and join us on Saturday October 13. Share in the talents of our church members.

Doors open at 9:00 with coffee time. Lunch is served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



M&Ms will meet at 5:00
Saturday evening, October 20
to carpool to Okoboji Grill in
Newton. Meet at the church.
Contact Melba Brummett at
(641) 891-2907 to RSVP or
with questions.

The UMW General meeting will be held Friday October 12 at 9:30. The program will be by Dawn Neff, Student/Military boxes and crafts for the bazaar will be discussed. Hostesses are Donna Worth and Volunteers.

Drop off for Bazaar crafts and baked goods will be from Friday from 11:00 to 6:00 and Saturday morning from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the kitchen door. Just Honk!



October Community Table features

Chili or Cheeseburger soup!

Plus a Jam Session!

Serving will be Wednesday October 17 from

5:00-7:00. This is a FREE
community meal and
EVERYONE is welcome!



October Worship Helpers

Greeters

October 7:

TBA

October 14 & 21:

Kurt and Becky Konek Family

October 28:

Don & Mary Vaske

Liturgist

October 7:

Dianna Nolin

October 14:

Melissa Van Der Hart

October 21:

Jeanne VanGenderen

October 28:

Greg Duinink

Communion

October 7:

Donna Stravers & Sue Gildersleeve

Iowa UMW Annual Conference
will be held Saturday October
6th at the Knoxville United

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

3 Kendra Beckjorden

Andrew Romick

4 Patty Duinink

5 Greg Gildersleeve

Dorothy Mullins

Doyle & Opal Van Der Hart

8 Lance Diekema

Paul Hjortshoj

10 Sue Antle

Bernice Butin

Jen Ver Heul

11 Ted Wing

15 Twila Vriezelaar

16 Kristina Lemke

17 Joyce Lewis

Bobbie Schrader

18 Kay Lubberden

19 Jim & Kelly Phillips

20 Jacob Phillips

21 Mason Lewis

23 Dave Schrader

25 Alek Breckenridge

Kurt Konek

28 Garrett Van Der Hart

29 Donna Worth

This year's Charge
Conference will be held on
Sunday October 7 at 2:00
at the Grinnell United
Methodist Church.

The Bazaar Committee is
selling advance tickets to
the UMW Annual Bazaar
luncheon that will be held
on Saturday, October 13th
from 11:00—1:00. The
advance tickets are \$7.00,
\$8.00 the day of the ba-
zaar. We will have tickets
to purchase before church
during coffee time from
9:00—9:30 and after
church for the next
Sundays until our Bazaar.
You can find us in
fellowship hall. If you
would like to purchase
tickets during the week
you may get them in the
church office
Monday-Thursday
8:30-12:30 or call
(641) 259-2822.
All proceeds from the
UMW Bazaar go to
supporting local and
church sponsored
missions.
Your support is greatly
appreciated!



October 2018

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|------------------------|---|-----|---|---|
| | 1 Casserole Making 8:30 a.m. AA 7:00 | 2 Bible Study 9:00 | 3 Chimes 6:30 | 4 | 5 | 6 UMW Conference Meeting—Knoxville Banner Making @ Jeanne's 9-2 |
| 7 Sunday School 8:45 Coffee Time 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 9:30 Charge Conference Grinnell UMC 2:00 | 8 Columbus Day Office Closed AA 7:00 | 9 Bible Study 9:00 | 10 Chimes 6:30 | 11 | 12 UMW 9:30 Fall Bazaar Drop-off 11-6 | 13 UMW Fall Bazaar 9-1 |
| 14 Sunday School 8:45 Coffee Time 9:00 Worship 9:30 | 15 Men's Club 6:30 AA 7:00 | 16 Bible Study 9:00 | 17 Community Table 5-7 Chimes 6:30 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 Sunday School 8:45 Coffee Time 9:00 Worship 9:30 | 22 AA 7:00 | 23 Bible Study 9:00 | 24 SPRC 6:00 Chimes 6:30 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 Sunday School 8:45 Coffee Time 9:00 Worship 9:30 | 29 AA 7:00 | 30 Bible Study 9:00 | 31 Chimes 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00 | | | |



A HUGE thank you to everyone who donated jars to the UMW for the Fall Bazaar! They have been filled with various yummys and will be ready for you to purchase at the bazaar on October 13!



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

| Category | Jan-Aug 2018 | Jan-Aug 2017 | Variance | % | Comments |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|---------|---|
| Contributions | 55,964.00 | 56,949.00 | (985.00) | -1.73% | Giving has decreased compared to 2017. Giving has continued to decrease each year. However, there has been an uptick in giving in July & August compared to earlier months in 2018. |
| Salaries | 42,886.00 | 41,926.00 | 960.00 | 2.29% | Admin assistant salary increased in 2018 along with a slight increase in the pastor's salary in July. |
| EE Benefits | 4,543.00 | 13,269.00 | (8,726.00) | -65.76% | 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 | 5,918.00 | 5,189.00 | 729.00 | 14.05% | Church property insurance higher in 2018 compared to 2017. |
| Utilities | 5,968.00 | 5,150.00 | 818.00 | 15.88% | 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 at this time. |
| Ice Cream Social | 2,674.00 | 2,638.00 | 36.00 | 1.36% | |
| Old Settlers | - | - | - | #DIV/0! | All expenses have not been paid; projected income is \$1,472 |
| Turkey Supper | - | - | - | #DIV/0! | |
| Community Table | 19.00 | 49.00 | | | This is the amount of \$ available to pay for any Community Table expenses. |
| Ending Cash Balance | 3,470.37 | 863.75 | 2,606.63 | 301.78% | |

2018 Apportionments remaining to pay:
\$20,517.00

“We are a friendly, faithful, and loving family dedicated to sharing God with our neighbors”

Monroe United Methodist Church

Sunday School 8:45-9:15

Coffee Time 9:00

Worship Service 9:30

Rev. Van Dickens

(512) 574-7706



Monroe United
Methodist Church

407 N Monroe St, PO Box 628

Monroe, IA 50170



Church Phone/Fax

(641) 259-2822

Office Hours: 8:30-12:30

Email:

monroeum@iowatelecom.net

www.monroeunitedmethodist.org