



2019

October



From the Pastor's Pen

I just read last October's Newsletter article that I penned as a way to get my mind focused on this month's newsletter. In it, I wrote of the times we were in, with a lot of misinformation, half-truths, and falsehoods being commonplace in our society. Indeed, our world is still as divided in opinions regarding the truth as it was this time last year. That much hasn't changed dramatically.

What gives me great consolation is the truth that comes from the church, that despite the "us versus them" mentality prevalent in our world, we the church offer a truth that transcends that which can divide. Ours is a gospel of love for all. It is no longer a matter of whose side you're on, but rather working together for and with all God's people to spread the love of Christ. This year, despite all that can easily pull us apart, we have chosen to come together and do some good for the Lord through a year-long plan of community outreach. We have also been asking ourselves, "How can we be a more inviting congregation and fulfill our vision of 'sharing God with our neighbors'?"

This month alone, we will host our annual (and tremendously exciting) UMW Bazaar, reach out with love and support to the Ronald McDonald House in Des Moines, carry over seven hundred pair of socks to Hope Ministry for the Homeless, feed a fellowship hall full of hungry folks, hold United Methodist Men, UMW, and United Methodist Youth meetings, conduct Tuesday Bible studies, host Charge Conference for all the area churches, and consider ways we may further the vision of our church with the usage of our church space at our called Church Council meeting Wednesday, October 9, at 7pm. And if that's not enough on our plate, there's always Sunday School and worship (and choir practice, and coffee time, etc.). Indeed, October is a busy time at Monroe UMC.

As busy as we are, I pray we will constantly look for new ways we may offer the world the one gift that makes the church unique: the good news of salvation through Christ our Lord. I pray that your heart is right with mine, and that we may make this our common ground. I pray that God will use us in unexpected ways.

May the Lord grant us grace in what we do as we go forward in His name together as one people. Blessings!

Pastor Van



Called Church Council meeting October 9, 7:00 pm

This month we will hold a special called church council meeting to further discuss and determine the possibility of widening the entrance area leading into our sanctuary and fellowship hall. We will study the purpose of the project and a detailed plan, cost estimate and feasibility, and how this will impact other physical areas of the church. No other business will be entertained. While decisions will be made by church council members, all church members are invited to come and offer feedback.

Thank you to everyone for your kind words, thoughts and prayers during this difficult time of total knee replacement and recovery. The surgery on September 4 at Pella Regional went well. While still at the hospital, blood clots were found in the lungs. It was likely, the hospital stay might be extended to September 12. Fortunately, a new drug is being used that allowed being dismissed on Kathy's birthday, September 9. We appreciated Pastor Van being at the hospital to pray with us before surgery, and during the stay. Thanks for your messages, cards, emails, thoughts and prayers that have really touched us. At the follow up on September 20, the doctor was pleased with Kathy's progress. Meanwhile Kathy tries to manage her pain with pain meds, and serious icing. For rehab, therapists have been coming to our home, but Kathy will soon be going to Iowa Ortho to aid recovery.

Thanks, again! Kathy and Marvin Steenhoek

United Methodist Church Women's Fall Bazaar

407 N. Monroe St. - Monroe, IA

Saturday, October 12th from 9:00 am – 1:30 pm.

Canned beef & chicken, homemade noodles, homemade frozen casseroles, pies, mincemeat, and cake rolls will be available along with crafts, nuts & cutlery.

All proceeds go to missions.

Bob Dunaway will be our special speaker Sunday, October 20.

**He will be speaking on the spiritual message of our
Stained Glass Windows.**

Youth Group back in action!

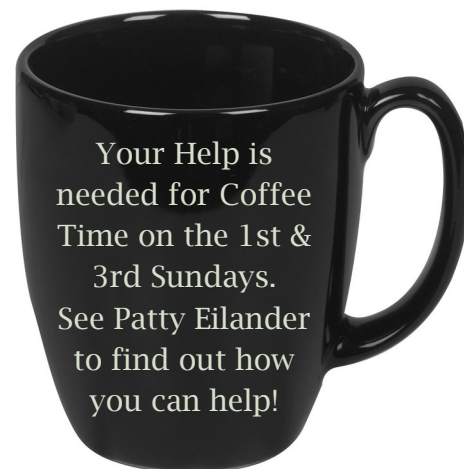


Soup's On!

**October Community Table will have
ham & bean and cheeseburger soup!**

**Community Table will be held
Wednesday, October 16 from
5:00 – 7:00.**

**This is a free community meal and
EVERYONE is welcome!**





October 1-27 we will collect items for the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

What do they need?

“Our Houses are built on the simple idea that nothing else should matter when a family is focused on the health of their child – not where they can afford to stay, where they will get their next meal or where they will lay their head at night to rest. We believe that when a child is hospitalized the love and support of family is as powerful as the strongest medicine prescribed.”

www.rmhc.org

Gift Cards for Casey's, Kum & Go, QuickTrip, Hy-Vee, Target, or any spas or salons or Movie Theaters....

Kitchen Items: plastic silverware, paper plates, all size sip-lock bags, 8 & 13 gallon trash bags, Gladware containers, to-go coffee cups with lids, coated paper bowls and plates, crock pot liners....

Edibles and Drinkables: Coffee K Cups, fruits & veggies (bananas, apples, oranges, carrots, celery), Jell-o cups, yogurt, lunch meat, sliced cheese, Coffeemate creamer. And individually wrapped items such as string cheese, Go-Gurt, easy mac, single serve cereal, dried fruits, juice boxes, single serve cookies, crackers, chips, Hot Pockets, granola bars, fruit/apple sauce, breakfast bars, fruit snacks.

Personal Care Items such as Shave Cream, deodorant, razors, shampoo and conditioner, body wash, tooth paste, feminine hygiene...

Baby lotion/cream, baby shampoo, baby wipes

Misc. items: chap stick, earbuds, android or iPhone charger cords, postage stamps, white card stock, playing cards

Cleaning Items:

High Efficiency laundry liquid or pods, bleach, paper towels, Cascade dishwasher detergent, Simple Green cleaner, pledge dusting spray, Dawn blue dish soap...

3	Kendra Beckjordan
4	Patty Duinink
5	Greg Gildersleeve Dorothy Mullins Doyle & Opal Van Der Hart
8	Lance Diekema Paul Hjortshoj
10	Sue Antle Bernice Butin Jennifer Ver Heul
11	Ted Wing
15	Kristina Lemke Twila Vriezelaar
17	Joyce Lewis Bobbi Schrader
18	Kay Lubberden
19	Jim & Kelly Phillips
20	Jacob Phillips
21	Mason Lewis
22	Roger Nolin
23	Dave Schrader
25	Alek Breckenridge Kurt Konek
28	Garrett Van Der Hart
29	Donna Worth

October 6th

Usher/Greeters: Kurt & Becky Konek Family

Liturgist: Kelly Phillips

Communion: Jan Phifer & Mary Vaske

October 13

Usher/Greeters: Kurt & Becky Konek Family

Liturgist: Lori Schakel

October 20

Usher/Greeters: Kurt & Becky Konek Family

Liturgist: Dianna Nolin

October 27

Usher/Greeter: Don & Mary Vaske, Charlie & Dawn Hoeksema

Liturgist: Melissa Van Der Hart

Hospitality: Marcia McConeghey

Monroe United Methodist Church
presents
UMW Fall Bazaar



Saturday, Oct. 12
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Coffee Time 9 a.m.
Lunch 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.



		1 Noodle Setup 8:00 Bible Study 9:00 Noodle Prep 11:30, Noodle Making 2:00	2 Youth Group 6:30 Chimes 6:30	3	4	5
6 Sunday School 8:45 Coffee Time 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 9:30	7 AA 7:00	8 Bible Study 9:00	9 Men's Breakfast 7:00 MOMs 9:00 Chimes Practice 6:30 Church Council 7:00	10	11 UMW General Meeting 9:30 Bazaar Dropoff 11:00—6:00	12 UMW Annual Fall Bazaar 9:00—1:30 
13 Sunday School 8:45 Coffee Time 9:00 Worship 9:30 Worship Committee 10:30 Cub Scouts 5:30	14 AA 7:00	15 Bible Study 9:00	16 Community Table 5:00—7:00 Chimes Practice 6:30 Youth Group 6:30	17	18	19
20 Sunday School 8:45 Coffee Time 9:00 Worship 9:30 Cub Scouts 5:30	21 AA 7:00	22 Bible Study 9:00	23 MOMs 9:00 Chimes Practice 6:30	24	25	26
27 Sunday School 8:45 Coffee Time 9:00 Worship 9:30 Cub Scouts 5:30	28 AA 7:00	29 Bible Study 9:00 Charge Conference 6:00	30 Chimes Practice 6:30	31		

Monroe United Methodist Church

Rev. Van Dickens, Pastor

(641) 259-2822

Sunday School 8:45

Coffee Time 9:00

Sunday School 9:30



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



Monroe United Methodist Church

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Church Phone/Fax

(641) 259-280

Office Hours Monday—Thursday

8:30-12:30

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