

Grace Notes

Newsletter



GUMPRAYER: PRAYERTEAM@SPENCERGUMC.COM

JULY 2011

Church Photo Directory



Grace United Methodist 2011 Church Directory

We encourage all of our college and snow birds to schedule your photographs right away. We would like to have a complete directory of ALL of our family at Grace. We are having sign up for the directory on Sunday's June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 following worship.

Tuesday, August 2, 2:30 PM to 8:50 PM
Wednesday, August 3, 2:30 PM to 8:50 PM
Thursday, August 4, 2:30 PM to 8:50 PM
Friday, August 5, 2:30 PM to 8:50 PM
Saturday, August 6, 10:00 AM to 4:50 PM

Sign up today at www.spencergumc.com

Greetings to all in the Mighty Name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Words cannot describe how excited my family and I are to come and join you in ministry in Spencer. At the time of this writing, we are hip-deep in the process of packing and saying goodbye to those we have grown close to in Hudson and the rest of the Cedar Valley over the last several years. However, though there is a certain sadness that we have to leave where God had called us for a reason, there is tremendous joy that we are being called to a new place at a new time and to join in ministry in a new way.



We are looking forward to getting to know all of you, to rejoice with you during times of happiness, to weep with you in times of grief, and to walk with you through all of life's ups and downs. It is also exciting to think that GUMC will be the first church family that our young son, Peter will remember. There are many exciting things about Spencer that we are interested in experiencing (such as the Clay County Fair) and we know that this change will be a good one for us, and we pray it will be for you, too.

Speaking personally as a pastor, I take great joy in wrestling with the thorny issues of our faith with others. I love to see how the Gospel challenges us and our preconceived notions, that, whenever God reveals himself to us, we find that he is greater, more loving, and more significant than we ever dreamed. As we seek to understand truth in Christ, I am always amazed that God never flinches from the tough questions, is never worried, as we so often are, that some new question or some new situation or challenge will make the Gospel crumble to the ground. In spite of all the questions we raise in this skeptical age, God remains strong, God remains Lord, and our love increases.

Our God is a God who changes lives, who transforms us into the image of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Our God is the only God there is and he is the God of Spencer as well as the God of Hudson. Because we know that, before we have even met each other, we are bound to one another in Christ, we know that we are not ultimately moving to a strange place with strange people, but being reunited with long-lost brothers and sisters in Christ. It is a joy to join you in the ministry that God is already at work doing among you and to share my gifts and graces with you as you share your gifts and graces with me.

In Christ,
Pastor Travis Stevick

Casxing Crowns Concert

Thursday, August 11 | 8:00PM

(Bus departure time TBA)

We are taking a school bus down to the Iowa State Fair!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Tickets are available in the church office.

Bring money to get into the fair and for super!

THANK YOU!!!

Thank you to Paul & Lucille Hansen, Merle & Loraine Yager, Carol Hansen, and Ruby Peterson for the giving of your time to fold the Grace Notes Newsletter. Your ministry is greatly appreciated! We couldn't do it without you.
Grace Office Staff



Thank you for the outpouring of prayers for our son, Lee Muller, who is now at home in Ankeny.

Ray & Pat Muller

My Dear Church family,
I'd like to express my appreciation for the visits and prayer team visits plus the lovely bouquet of flowers to help cheer me and my room. My stay was tough this time at the hospital but, God granted me healing and prayer. Love, and support from many in our church. I'm most grateful and trust God daily for all he grants me. Our faith deepens each time we must take a time out. I'm in God's loving arms.

Love,
Dollie Cretsinger



FREE Basic Computer Class

Facilitated by Dorothy DeGroot

July 6, 13, 20

5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

All are welcome.

Contact Dorothy or the church office if interested in attending this class.

Thanks from the Arlene Hessman Family

Thank you so much to everyone for all you did during Arlene's hospital, nursing home stay and funeral service. She was admitted to the hospital on February 4 and never got back home. She was in the Spencer Hospital 47 days and at Longhouse 21 days.

What a great medical community we have in Spencer. She had such good care at both the hospital and at Longhouse. All the medical team, nurses, aids and yes, the custodians as well did so much for her.

A special thanks to the team at the Abben Cancer Center. What a great caring team they are. We lodged a lot of time there the past eight years. Arlene had 109 radiation treatments at the Abben Center. They are a very special team with a great passion for both patient and caregiver. I surely want to thank Pastor Chuck and the church visiting team for all their visits to the hospital and Longhouse.

A special thanks to the Warner Funeral Home and staff for a great job so well done. You are a great team in a trying time.

Then to the Grace Church family, a big thank you for all your help with the funeral dinner and so many kind words. The many cards, flowers, food and memorial gifts are so appreciated.

I'd like to thank Ron and Gretchen for the very well done music. As Arlene has always said "Life without music would be a mistake." She loved church music as choir director and organist for many years.

It is with great thanks to the Church Family that I leave you the following message received from Pastor Mark Holmer, a longtime Kiwanis friend from Algona.

Dave,

You have Linnea's and my deepest sympathies. Arlene was a very courageous person over the past few years who would not let her compounded physical problems restrict her year as the District's First Lady. You both model deep faith in God and marriage vow of "in sickness and in health" and dedication to service to others in Church and Community as Jesus has commanded us to do.

I find it appropriate that Arlene passed away during Holy Week when Jesus was going thru all sorts of suffering, anguish and pain. The best part is that on Easter death was conquered and we are guaranteed eternal life, to live in heaven where there is no more suffering, pain, sorrow or death. I believe that as Arlene was welcomed into the embrace of God on Wednesday, She was greeted with these words "Well done good and faithful servant, enter the place that I have prepared for you."

Dave Hessman

July Bible Readings

- Isaiah 1-3; Titus 3
- Isaiah 4,5; Psalm 115,116; Jude
- Isaiah 6,7; 2 Chronicles 26,27; Philemon
- 2 Kings 15,16; Hosea 1; Hebrews 1
- Hosea 2-5; Hebrews 2
- Hosea 6-9; Hebrews 3
- Hosea 10-12; Psalm 73; Hebrews 4
- Hosea 13,14; Psalm 100,102; Hebrews 5
- Micah 1-4; Hebrews 6
- Micah 5-7; Hebrews 7
- Isaiah 8-10; Hebrews 8
- Isaiah 11-14; Hebrews 9
- Isaiah 15-18; Hebrews 10
- Isaiah 19-21; Hebrews 11
- Isaiah 22-24; Hebrews 12
- Isaiah 25-28; Hebrews 13
- Isaiah 29-31; James 1
- Isaiah 32-35; James 2
- 2 Kings 17; 2 Chronicles 28; Psalm 46; James 3
- 2 Chronicles 29-31; James 4
- 2 Kings 18,19; 2 Chronicles 32; James 5
- Isaiah 36,37; Psalm 76; 1 Peter 1
- 2 Kings 20; Isaiah 38,39; Psalm 75; 1 Peter 2
- Isaiah 40-42; 1 Peter 3
- Isaiah 43-45; 1 Peter 4
- Isaiah 46-49; 1 Peter 5
- Isaiah 50-52; Psalm 92; 2 Peter 1
- Isaiah 53-56; 2 Peter 2
- Isaiah 57-59; Psalm 103; 2 Peter 3
- Isaiah 60-62; John 1
- Isaiah 63,64; Psalm 107; John 2



Sunday Opportunities



8:45 AM– Coffee fellowship
9:30 AM– Worship Service
10:30 AM– Coffee fellowship time

We welcome all to join us for Worship and Sunday School.

United Methodist Women



Our Mission night held June 2, was a big success. The special music and inspiring messages helped us to realize we, too. Were ever we are we can be servants serving in mission... A big thank you to our UMW.

July 7th will be our next meeting.

8:30 AM Executive meeting
9:45 AM UMW Meeting
10:30 AM Dedication of the UMCORE kits
11:00 AM Memorial Service
12:00 PM Pot Luck Dinner for guests and members.



We are please to announce that Roger Ingledue will be our new United Methodist Men's president. Our vice-president will be Chris Stickler. Our regular breakfast meetings will resume in September. We look forward to all men of Grace joining us this fall.

Grace United Methodist Church
Administrative Council
May 24, 2011 - 7:00 PM

Mission Statement:

Grace United Methodist Church is a fellowship of believers committed to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. As we are empowered by the Holy Spirit, we will witness to the Christian message of salvation and minister to the needs of Grace Church and the larger community.

Attendance: Judith Olson, Kay Darnell, Claudia Neary, Sandy Heerd, Kristin Schwenneker, Dennis DeWitt, Mavis Olson, Roger Ingledue, Pastor Chuck Kellogg, Chris Stickler.

Welcome: Judith Olson welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. **Opening Prayer:** Pastor Chuck Kellogg lifted up a church member facing surgery and asked all to remember the many lives lost, as well as the massive property destruction, in tornadoes in Oklahoma, Missouri, and other states. Pastor Kellogg then offered the opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes/Roll Call

Motion by Mavis Olson; seconded by Claudia Neary. Carried.

Business Action Items

- A. Remove current church treasurer, Larry Johnson, from bank signature cards & safety deposit box, effective 05/24/2011, due to Larry & Donna Johnson moving to West Des Moines.
Motion by Chris Stickler; seconded by Sandy Heerd. Carried.
- B. Approve new church treasurer, Claudia Neary, to the bank signature cards & safety deposit box, effective 05/24/2011.
Motion by Sandy Heerd; seconded by Mavis Olson. Carried.
- C. Church Pictorial Directory Report – Nora Biegler (Pictorial Committee Small Group) & Sandy Heerd (Evangelism Committee). Nora Biegler has met with representatives from two companies for the directory. The group working on this project recommends Lifetouch Inc. and would like the support of the Ad. Council before proceeding.
Ad. Council moves to approve Lifetouch Inc. as the photographer for the church directory.
Motion made by Kristin Schwenneker; seconded by Chris Stickler. Carried.

Other Business Items

- a. Foundation Disbursement Report (Items paid since April 2011)
2010/2011(2009 & 2010 Interest approved for disbursement in 2010 & 2011)
- **Capital Improvement Allocations**
 - Chris Stickler Construction (Parsonage Porch Work – final)..... \$3,531.29
 - R & D Industries, Inc. (Wiring – Sound System)..... \$6,913.44
- **Outreach & Emerging Ministry**
 - Worship (mini movies)..... \$118.98
 - The Table (Fareway – food)..... \$78.15
 - Seasonal Banners (Linda Bress)..... \$72.93
 - Seasonal Banners (Card Services)..... \$218.70
- **Educational Opportunities**
 - GracErsize Equipment & Training (Carla Swank)..... \$829.17

Committee/Staff Reports

Missions – Bill Elliott (submitted) – Mission committee postponed the usual May 3rd meeting and recently decided that Monday, May 23rd would work great for making calls to fill any empty spots for GUMC Meals on Wheels for the month of June. Sunday, May 22nd, GUMC volunteered for St. Luke's Roundup. The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 7th for final preparation for June 11th Flagfest GUMC food stand.

UMM – Norm Olson (submitted) – The UMM met Saturday, May 21st, for their monthly breakfast meeting. A very interesting program was presented by Frank Boever about two of his daughters joining Catholic Convents. An election of officers was held. Starting July 1st, Roger Ingledue will be the new President and Chris Stickler the new Vice President. Glen Chenhall will continue as Treasurer. The next breakfast meeting will be on Saturday, September 24th.

SPRC – Chris Stickler – SPRC's last session with the Youth will be Wednesday, May 25th. Phil Christy will lead the lesson. The West Lane parsonage should be available for Travis & Allison Stevick on June 21st.

Pastor Chuck Kellogg – The credit card limit has been increased. An order has been placed for 25 tickets for the Aug. 11th appearance of Casting Crowns at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines. Housing has been arranged if it is necessary to stay overnight. The youth groups know about the concert; details will be worked out later.

Lay Leader – Roger Ingledue -- Nothing to report.

UMW – Mavis Olson – June 2nd, 6:00 p.m. will be Guest Night. Homemade pies will be served and there will be special music. Ethan Batschelet, a junior at the University of Sioux Falls, will present a program about Honduras where he has been on several mission trips. The July 7th meeting will have a memorial service for deceased members and the dedication of Ingathering kits, with an Executive Board meeting to follow.

Lay Speaker – Dennis DeWitt – Catch the Spirit is going well. There have been reports from listeners in Estherville. On May 29th Dennis will be preaching at 9th Street Baptist Church. Gumprayer is going well.

Education – Kristin Schwenneker – There was a good turn out for the family BBQ that followed the children's presentations on Celebration Sunday, May 22nd. They started with 80 hamburgers and 80 hotdogs and ran out of hamburgers. Family Fun Sunday will be June 26th, 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The police department will close 2nd Ave. West for the use of Inflatables. Liability insurance is carried by the company that provides the inflatables. Senior recognition options are being considered. Suggestions include June 19th as a possible date, doing a picture PowerPoint, and serving cake.

Evangelism – Sandy Heerd – Forty Lenten study surveys were returned. The results show a majority of respondents read the study book 5 days for 6 weeks and found it inspirational. About 1/3 shared with others. Overall, it appears this was a worthwhile endeavor.

The Small Group Booklet update has been postponed. Additional services include blood pressure checks; possible times are one Wednesday and one Sunday per month. Future activities include acquiring a nativity scene; working on Catch the Spirit, possibly using something from Upper Room; Father's Day with handout of flashlight key rings and a book from United Methodist Men; and Prayer Encounter, possibly through Upper Room.

Finance -- Carla Swank – Printed handouts of Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual YTD and of Bank/Liability Balances as of May 24, 2011 were distributed. A full month's apportionments will be paid in May. Pastor Chuck noted that apportionments will probably go down next year. Judith Olson distributed copies of the Church Remittance Statement from Conference.

Treasurer – Claudia Neary – She encouraged everyone to keep an optimistic attitude. (We expressed appreciation for Claudia accepting the position of Grace Church Treasurer. We appreciate the work of Larry Johnson through the years at Grace Church and wish them well as they move to West Des Moines).

Other Items – On behalf of Kay Clancy, Judith Olson circulated a poster advertising a Pancake and Sausage Breakfast Benefit for The Cherish Center, Sunday, June 5th, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

A lengthy discussion was held concerning how we 'do' church. It was noted that everything (choir, Sunday School, youth groups, The Table) shuts down in the summertime. Every committee needs to address the issue of growing the church. Could we have a children's worship service during the summer? Do we need a planning committee to rethink church? Judith Olson referred to the 2011 Goals and Priority #4 – become more inclusive of our community, initial objective... to address the hopes and needs of adults in their 20's and 30's. Judith asked the question, "How do we accomplish this?" Pastor Chuck advised that we work on these issues with our Associate Pastor, Travis Stevick, when he begins July 1, 2011.

The group decided to try a new meeting time in June.

Motion to adjourn made by Mavis Olson; seconded by Sandy Heerd. Carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:48 p.m.

Next meeting – June 28, 2011 – 5:00 p.m.

Closing Prayer – Roger Ingledue

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Darnell, Secretary



We wish all of you a very happy and safe July 4th!

Please note our Grace Church office will be closed on July 4th.

Vacation Bible School

August 7 - 11

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Lesson's and Music will be taught by Faith Dewey from CEF. We are very excited to have this program and look forward to a great week of fun filled activities at Grace.

Please contact Kristin Schwenneker if you have any questions or would like help 712-363-2063 or email to kschwenneker@yahoo.com.

Ages: K-5th

Cost: \$5.00/per child/\$10.00 per family

Donations: We will be taking offering everyday to donate to CEF and canned items for the food



FREE!



Tuesdays & Thursdays

@ 7:15 PM

Narthex area

We will workout together, be supportive of each other and come closer as sisters in Christ.

All sizes welcome!

For more information please contact :

Kristin Schwenneker
or Carla Swank

Find us on Facebook.com





Join us as we
CONNECT
our families

*We need you to make
our new family album
complete!*

Let's put names with faces. We have chosen to partner with Lifetouch for professional photography that will connect our members and tell our story.

Convenient

Lifetouch will photograph at our location.

In your one-hour session you will:

- Check-in
- Be professionally photographed
- Immediately view your portraits
- Have an opportunity to purchase additional portraits

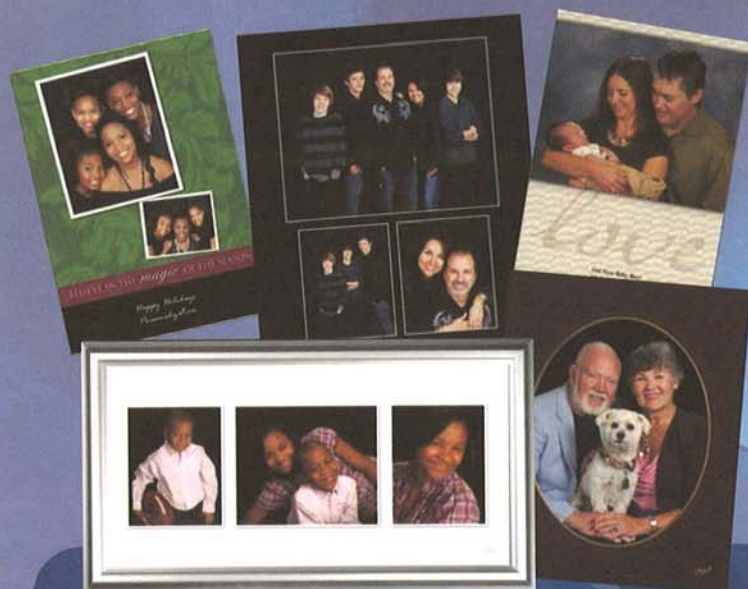
*When was the last time
you or your family had a
professional portrait taken?*

Portraits are valued family keepsakes. Watch for more information coming soon about the opportunity to schedule your portrait session.

We look forward to seeing you!



*Each family will receive a
Complimentary 8x10 Portrait
& Directory for participating*



Exciting Products
*Turn your portraits into
cherished memories*

Products may vary

Dear Friend,

It's time for a new church directory. The last directory was published in 2004 and is very out of date. The new directory will reflect the many changes that have taken place in our church family the past several years and will assist all of us in getting to know each other better. It will also help us to more quickly find contact information.

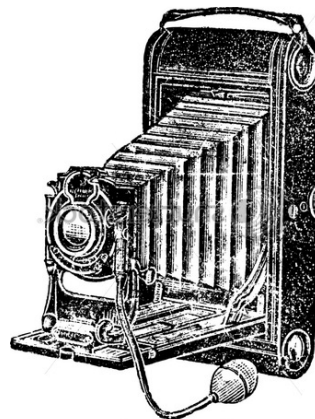
The church directory committee has worked hard to set the schedule for picture taking and is asking each of us to sign up soon. This can be done on Sunday mornings before and following worship in the narthex. It can also be done on line through our church website which is www.spencergumc.com. Look for the "2011 Directory News" once you are on line. If you have questions about signing up or need assistance please contact the church office at 262-5790.

We are looking forward to the new directory and thank you for your time and participation.

Sincerely,



Pastor Chuck



GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PHONE (712)262-5970 - FAX (712)262-0344
SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:30 AM- NURSERY AVAILABLE

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.SPENCERGUMC.COM

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
311 2nd Ave. West
Spencer, Iowa 51301


NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
SPENCER, IA. 51301
PERMIT NO. 145

Rev. Chuck Kellogg- Sr. Pastor
chuck.kellogg@spencergumc.com
Rev. Travis Stevick- Associate Pastor
tstevick@spencergumc.com

Return Service Requested

Custodian: Bob Dirks
Assistant Custodian: Mary Nepl
Administrative Secretary: Kay Clancy
Secretary: Linda Bress
Organist: Gretchen Hagedorn
Pianist: Teresa Ortman
Choir Director: Nancy Patrick
Joyful Ringers Director: Judi Calhoon
Administrative Council: Judith Olson
Treasurer: Claudia Neary



 GUMC Education & GracErsizE

Freedom isn't always free!

We thank our veterans for all they have done
for us. May the Lord Bless you always in all ways.



God Bless America!