

HERITAGE HAPPENINGS



Worship Times

Sunday-10:00 AM

Wednesday-6:30 PM

**Open Hearts,
Open Minds,
Open Doors**



Telephone numbers: 319-352-1776 -- Office
319-538-7132 -- Pastor Ron

Church e-mail address: Office@heritagewaverly.org
Pastor Ron's email address: Pastor@heritagewaverly.org
Church website: www.heritageumc.weebly.com
Facebook Page: Heritage United Methodist

Secretary's office hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-3:30 (lunch 1:00-1:30)

Please remember to use P.O. Box 234 when sending mail to the church.

From the Pastor

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

I greet you as we begin this New Year borrowing Paul's greeting from his letter to the Galatians. Paul's greeting sets the tone for what he wants to share with and instill in the followers of Jesus Christ in the church. I use his greeting in this same fashion to speak to you; members of Heritage United Methodist Church in Waverly, Iowa.

In the fourteen years that I have lived in Iowa, moving here from Chicago, of the 5 different towns in which we've lived, I can say that Waverly is the town I like best. I am not alone. Many people that I have met living here were born and raised here, still living here to the second and third generation. In a highly mobile country and world, in a state where many young people have been leaving in droves for several years, we ask, "What's the attraction?"

Perhaps it is part of what Paul wishes for the people of Galatia in his greeting- grace and peace. First there are fourteen churches listed in Waverly, for a town of about 10,000 people. That's saying something. The local newspaper still prints the police blotter for both the city and county. Last week I saw the sheriff made three traffic stops! That's saying something. Statistics show that there are good schools, good housing, and poverty is practically non-existent; no homelessness and even few requests for aid with things like rent and utilities.

As idyllic as Waverly seems to be, and we might envision that we've been called out of the "evil age" through God's blessings, we do live in an evil age and an evil world. Iowa, as a state, is a nice place to live. Some referring to it as "God's country." But, having lived and traveled extensively in Iowa, our beloved state is no different than the country or world at large. Our politics are as corrupt as they are in Washington. Even our new congressmen and women will be polluted quickly. As any farmer will tell you, you can't work in a barn all day and not come home smelling like manure and with some of it stuck to your clothes. There is racism, elitism, xenophobia, greed, and "snootism" of the haves toward the have-nots. So, as we move forward as a congregation of believers in the church of Jesus Christ, what should we be doing about all this?

Should we grab our torches and pitchforks? Should we storm dens of sin and iniquity like Carrie Nation using her ax to demolish saloons? NO! The answer is "the gospel of Jesus Christ." In Jesus parable of The Wheat and Tares (Matthew 13:24-30), Jesus makes it abundantly clear that our role as Christians IS NOT to tear out sin by the roots. First, because "we" cannot do it without hurting the innocent and second, because we ourselves are sinners, we are in no position to judge according to Jesus' teachings. When we do so, as Paul will tell his young apprentice, Timothy, of all sinners "I am the worst" (1 Timothy 1:15).

Nope, judgement of God's law and sinfulness is the exclusive purview of Christ, who was appointed by the Father as judge of us all; and he will decide when and what. "Vengeance is mine says the Lord" (Romans 12:19). We, as Jesus tells us and Paul directs us, are to live a holy life- a life of grace and of peace. Like Jesus, when he walked this earth, we are to be living examples of compassion, mercy, forgiveness, and empathy. When Jesus met the sinful Samaritan woman at Jacob's well (the one who had had 5 husbands and wasn't married to the guy she was living with) he didn't throw her down the well . . . He offered her "living water." When called to judge the woman caught in adultery, he told the crowd, "Let the one without sin cast the first stone" (compassion and mercy), then he told her to go and sin no more.

Did she? We don't know (her judgement will come at another time and not by human standards). And the man blind at birth because people said his parents were sinners- Jesus healed him and gave him his sight back.

We are to be living examples of Jesus' gospel message- that's the Good News we are to be sharing with others. Finger pointing, judgement, grudges, resentment, and anger have no place where we are going as a church. So how do we do that?

We've already begun. We are studying the gospel Matthew from the pulpit and John from the classroom. We are learning, in community, how to be a church of "grace and peace." As we move into the New Year our direction will shift from supporting mission- the extending of grace and peace through compassion, empathy, and mercy- to actually doing mission. We must learn it and we must live it. That is what Paul means when he says we've been "rescued from this evil age." We are the example, just as Christ was the example.

If Heritage is to live as a church. If Heritage is to survive as a church. We must come together as a community . . . A community grounded in our faith. Living, learning, and loving, together, as Jesus teaches us.

Happy New Year,
Pastor Ron



Social Media & Heritage UMC. Some quick statistics on how our social media efforts are playing out. Face Book is our main social media presence, but we also have our videos available on You Tube. We are averaging about 1 post on FB per day. This includes Sunday and Wednesday worship services and the Wednesday devotional: "In the Word Wednesday with Pastor Ron." The metric we are using is what FB calls "People Reached" — this number indicates how many people saw our post. Since November 1st (thru

December 21st) we are averaging 183 people reached per post. For our 2 worship services, Sunday & Wednesday, we are averaging 315 people reached each week. "In the Word Wednesday with Pastor Ron" has averaged 129 people reached each week. Our You Tube audience is growing as we have upwards of 40 views per video. These numbers mean that Heritage UMC is connecting people to Jesus Christ beyond our own church members; and that is what the Great Commission is all about.

Pastor Ron

New Bible Study to Start in January

A complete study of the Gospel of John will begin in January at the church.

Starting January 4th

Mondays 6:30 pm-7:30 pm

Starting January 5th

Tuesdays 10:00 am-11:00 am

JANUARY MEETINGS

January 5th-Trustees, 6:30 PM
January 6th-Confirmation, 3:00 PM
 UMYF, 7:00 PM
January 7th-SPRC, 5:30 PM
 Ad Council, 6:30 PM
January 9th-UMW, 9:30 AM
 Survivors of Suicide Support Group, 10 AM
January 12th-Outreach, 5:30 PM
January 13th-Confirmation, 3:00 PM
 UMYF, 7:00 PM
January 20th- Confirmation, 3:00 PM
 UMYF, 7:00 PM
January 27th- Confirmation, 3:00 PM
 UMYF, 7:00 PM
January 28th-Endowment, 6:30 PM

**TO THE ONE-ROOM SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDEES,
FRIENDS, AND MEMBERS
OF HERITAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

This heart-felt newsletter message comes from Bob Nellis, Karen Wentworth, Chelsey Cole, and Ani Wentworth. Please know how much you are missed.

*May the good Lord bless and keep you,
whether here or far away.*

*May the good Lord bless and keep you,
till we meet again!*

Without faith, no hope exists. Therefore, keep the faith because we **will** all be together again in worship, praise, song, and thanksgiving.

Shalom

Outreach Committee

Even with the enduring pandemic, Heritage has done a good job of bringing items for the Waverly and Shell Rock food banks and donating to Cedar Valley Hospice. \$65.00 was collected for Hospice. Thank-you! We will continue to collect items for the Shell Rock food bank until January 10th.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 12th, at 5:30 PM.

January Ushers

January 3rd-Karen Kuker and Bill Dravis
 January 10th-Jim & Marilyn Campbell
 January 17th-Bob Nellis and Bill Dravis
 January 24th-Mark Iserman and Bill Dravis
 January 31st-David & Karen Stumme



January Scripture Readers

January 3rd-Kelli Lenz
 January 10th-Vera Garbes
 January 17th-Chloe Trowbridge
 January 24th-Marvin Orth
 January 31st-Joanne Folkerts



Fiber Optic internet service is now up and running at Heritage UMC. We have set up a special WiFi connection for members and guests. On your wireless device (cell phone, iPad, etc.), look for "HeritageUMCGuest" in your WiFi settings. Join with the password: "HeritageGuest."

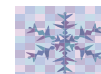
Tuesday Morning Prayer Group

Please join us at the church on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 for a time of prayer. Prayer is a very powerful tool given to us by God. Let's gather together and put the power of prayer to work!



Church Cancellation Due to the Weather

If church is cancelled due to bad weather, the announcement will be on KWWL Channel 7 (television and website). We will also put the notice on the Waverly radio KWAY (1470 AM and 99.3 FM) and our Facebook page. If school is cancelled or dismissed early on Wednesday because of bad weather, the UMYF and Confirmation Class will also be cancelled.





January Birthdays



January 1st-Jaide Bittinger
Darrel Petersen
January 2nd-Ethan Bittinger
Danielle Harken
Karen Matthias
January 5th-Jean Siefken
January 6th-McKenzie Lohmann
January 7th-Tony Ellison
January 8th-Pat Hansen
January 10th-Dale Clewell
January 12th-Michael Kent
January 14th-Shayna Brandt
January 15th-Jesteny Pascual
January 16th-Doug Snook
January 23rd-David Fox
Dan Pickett
January 25th-Lauren Fox
Keith Kramer
Tammy Rider
January 26th-Eleanor Straszheim
January 27th-Brittany West
January 28th-Michael Pigman
January 29th-Jessica Wessels
Michael Johnson
January 30th- Kayla Johnson

January Anniversaries

January 3rd-John & Eunice Mohlis
January 17th-Al & Caroline McNamar
January 24th-David & Marylou Birkholz
January 28th-Dennis & Beth Mattke



(If we have missed your birthday or anniversary please call the church
and let us know. Thank you! 352-1776)



My Heritage UMC Promises

My Prayers

I am called to pray for God's beloved



Prayer Concern(s)

Living with Cancer

Kathy Brown
Tim Jensen
Barb Ottman
Wendy Brooks
Randy & Edmond Wolf, Virgil Matthias
Staci Bruns

Contact Person(s)

Jennifer Brandt
Grant & Nancy Jensen
Becky Gors
Sherwin & Bertha Smith
Karen Matthias
Krista Mulder

Other Health Concerns

Vivian Chestnut
Dick & Babs Ormston
Denny Stafford, Bob Ebert
Ryan Nesseth, Judy Seeley
Lois Eggleston, Becky Warrington
Jim Birkholz
Kristi Hansen, Will Franken
Roger Russell
Lew Melcher
Dale Boggess
Dave Smith Baby, Larry Skiner Baby
Emily Morey, Ani Wentworth
Kim Endelman
Pat Hansen
Catherine Orth
Laura Harken
David Chestnut
Al & Caroline McNamar

Bob Nellis
Bob Nellis
Karen Matthias
Karen Matthias
Robin Vette
David & Marylou Birkholz
Kay Greeley
Kay Greeley
Jodi Melcher
Becky Gors
Bill Dravis
Denny & Karen Wentworth
Grant Jensen
Eric Hansen
Marvin Orth
Al & Caroline McNamar
Vivian Chestnut
Pastor Ron

Military Personnel & Their Families

Mitch Williams
Jon Simmonds
Michelle & DeVaughn McGee
Aaron Forry

Al & Deanna Williams
Mark & Deb Iserman
David & Karen Stumme
Karen Kuker

Other Concerns

The Family of Dan Cole
The Family of Marge Kramer

My Gifts

I am called to share my gifts.

FINANCE REPORT for week ending 12-19-2020.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2020 Budget | \$193,511.00 |
| Giving Needed to Date | \$187,146.48 |
| Actual Giving to Date | \$143,192.15 |

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 2020 Apportionments | \$27,170.00 |
| District Asking | \$ 1,179.00 |



| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Money Given Toward Apportionments Since Jan. 1, 2020 | \$2,600.00 |
| Apportionment money paid to the Conference since Jan. 1, 2020 | \$4,000.00 |

My Service

I am called to serve God by:
 attending worship services
 inviting a neighbor to church
 giving to January Missions
 giving of my time & talents

My Presence

There were no in-church services held in December.

My Witness

When we use our *prayers, presence, and gifts* in *service* of God to others, we act as *witnesses* to God's saving love through Christ and as examples of how to live a life of Christian disciples.

We pray that the future will be good, but realistically we know that there are things out there that are bad that can happen to each one of us. Our God will be there for us in both the good and the bad times. God's love does not change like the weather does. God loves us continually and will protect us from evil.

Lanny Tuttle

JANUARY WORSHIP

| <u>Day & Date</u> | <u>Message</u> | <u>Scripture—Matthew</u> |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sunday 3 rd | How Are We To Judge? | 7:1-6 |
| Wednesday 6 th | Talk to the Hand | 7:6 |
| Sunday 10 th | Finding God | 7:7-12 |
| Wednesday 13 th | The Golden Rule | 7:12 |
| Sunday 17 th | The Consequences of Unbelief | 7:13-14 |
| Wednesday 20 th | Hell— What Exactly is it? | 7:13 |
| Sunday 24 th | Do Your Actions Speak for You? | 7:21-23 |
| Wednesday 27 th | A Servants Heart | 7:22-23 |
| Sunday 31 st | When the Storm Comes | 7:24-27 |

Men's Breakfast

There will not be a Men's breakfast in January.
Be watching for details regarding the next one.

Offerings

Thank you to all those who continue to send weekly and monthly offerings to the church! It is very much appreciated!

Prayer Concerns

If you have a prayer concern for the pastor please call his cell, 319-538-7132
or the church office, 352-1776.



United Methodist Women

- We did not meet in December.
- Christmas cards were sent in December.
- We will be collecting mittens, hats, gloves & socks. There is a tote in the entryway in which you can place your items. Items may be brought until January 24th.
- Our next meeting will be Saturday, January 9th, at 9:30 AM. Everyone is asked to bring a snack to share.

January Bible Verse: *Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.
His love endures forever.
Psalm 136:1*

Thursday Morning Adult *Holy Bible* Study

Thursday morning adult *Holy Bible* study will be held at 10:00 AM, at the church, starting January 7th. This particular study will focus on Lesson 8. You will need to bring a *Holy Bible* and a pen or pencil. Thank you and “Shalom!”

Life Line Screening to be at Heritage

Life Line Screening will be at Heritage Thursday, January 28th.
Scroll down for more information!

Facebook Page


Check out our Facebook page— Heritage United Methodist.
“Like us” and visit often for important information about what’s going on at our church.

Help Needed

If you would like to usher or greet some Sunday in 2021 please call the office, 352-1776, and let Robin know. And thank-you to all of those who helped out in 2020! We really appreciate your service!

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program is open. This program is funded through the Iowa Dept. of Human Rights and has been established to help low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay a portion of their primary heating costs this winter. Please call 352-4532 for more information or see the flyer on the bulletin board in the family life center.

JANUARY 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | |  | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 9:00 am- Sunday School classes for all ages, Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am- Worship with Communion | 6:30 pm- Bible Study: John  | 9:00 am- Prayer Group 10:00 am- Bible Study: John 6:30 pm- Trustees | 3:00-4:00 pm- Confirmation 6:30 pm-Worship with Communion 7:00 pm-UMYF | 10:00 am-Bible Study at the church 5:30 pm-SPRC 6:30 pm-Ad Council | | 9:30 am-UMW 10:00 am- Survivors of Suicide Support Group |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 9:00 am- Sunday School classes for all ages, Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am- Worship | 6:30 pm- Bible Study: John | 9:00 am- Prayer Group 10:00 am- Bible Study: John 5:30 pm- Outreach | 3:00-4:00 pm- Confirmation 6:30 pm-Worship 7:00 pm-UMYF | 10:00 am-Bible Study at the church  | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 9:00 am- Sunday School classes for all ages, Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am- Worship | 6:30 pm- Bible Study: John | 9:00 am- Prayer Group 10:00 am- Bible Study: John | 3:00-4:00 pm- Confirmation 6:30 pm-Worship 7:00 pm-UMYF | 10:00 am-Bible Study at the church | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 9:00 am- Sunday School classes for all ages, Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am- Worship | 6:30 pm- Bible Study: John  | 9:00 am- Prayer Group 10:00 am- Bible Study: John (deadline for newsletter articles) | 3:00-4:00 pm- Confirmation 6:30 pm-Worship 7:00 pm-UMYF (newsletter will be sent) | 10:00 am-Bible Study at the church Life Line Screening 6:30 pm- Endowment Committee | | |
| 31 | | | | | | |
| 9:00 am- Sunday School classes for all ages, Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am- Worship | | | | | | |



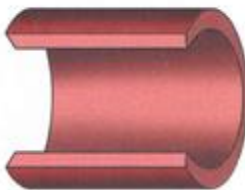
Keep doing the things you love.

Catch health problems before they go too far.

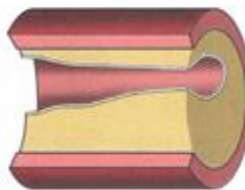
Life Line Screening, recognized with an A+ rating by the Better Business Bureau, offers a 5-test package to thoroughly check you for risk of stroke, cardiovascular disease and other chronic conditions. The combination of these tests helps detect problems—**before you have symptoms** and while you and your doctor can still take action...so you can keep doing the things you love.



Plaque buildup in the arteries can lead to heart disease, aneurysm or stroke.



A normal artery allows blood to flow through easily.



Plaque buildup in the arteries reduces your blood flow and can be dangerous if left untreated.

Register now to check the health of your arteries

5 Important Screenings for Only \$149 a Savings of \$181!

- Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque)
- Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation)
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening
- Osteoporosis Risk Assessment

Join the **8 million people** who have been screened. We are coming to your neighborhood.

**Where: Waverly -
Heritage United Methodist Church**
When: Thursday, January 28, 2021

Please call toll-free **888-814-0416** to register for your screening and to receive a \$10 discount or visit www.LifeLineScreening.com/community-partners

Screening results are provided to you in 21 days. We direct all participants with abnormal results to take the report to their physician. Carotid Artery and PAD screenings help identify the presence of Atherosclerosis, and if found, can be an early warning for higher risks of stroke and coronary artery disease. Such early warning information can help you and your doctor take important steps to reduce your risk for more serious health issues. If necessary, steps may include lifestyle and diet, medical therapies, and even more thorough follow-up testing and evaluation of your heart function. Appropriate modification of risk factors (including high blood pressure, smoking, heart disease, diabetes and poor diet) is also necessary for cardiovascular disease prevention. Our screenings cannot detect all forms of stroke risk or cardiovascular disease. All tests are for screening purposes only. You should consult with your personal physician regarding your screening results. Insurance Note: Life Line Screening does not participate in the Medicare program and the cost of our screening services is not covered or reimbursable by Medicare. Life Line Screening does not file insurance claims nor provide referrals to any physician's group or hospital. Screenings in California are provided by Life Line Mobile Screening, a physician owned practice. Screenings in Kansas are performed by Life Line Screening of America, Ltd. on behalf of Life Line Screening Physicians, P.A. Screenings in New Hampshire, New Jersey and New York are performed by Life Line Medical Screening, LLC (Dr. Andrew Manganaro, 70 Niagara Street, Buffalo NY, 14202). Life Line Screening does not engage in the practice of medicine in those states. This information is not intended to induce referrals by Life Line Screening to Life Line Medical Screening, LLC for any professional medical service. Texas residents: Physician authorization is required. A Life Line Screening affiliated physician will provide authorization for you if you qualify. Cancellation Policy: A full refund is issued if you call to cancel at least 2 days prior to your appointment. If less than 2 days' notice is given, we will issue a Gift Card for the full amount to be used by you, or anyone you choose, to purchase future screening services.

