

February 2021 The Messenger

Red Oak First United Methodist Church

The mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Core Values:

1. Welcome

We are each beloved and welcomed unconditionally by God's grace.
Romans 15:7; Matthew 25: 35-36

2. Love

We value compassion and care for one another and the world around us because of God's grace. John 13:34-35; Corinthians 13:4-5

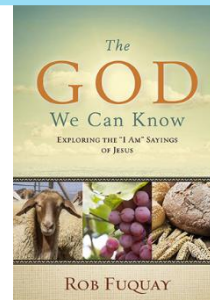
3. Praise

We celebrate God's love by opening ourselves to the Holy Spirit through praise and worship in living to glorify God. Psalms 96:1-4; Psalms 150:6



Ash Wednesday Service is
February 17th at 5:30pm
as we prepare for lent.

Lenten will be starting on
Sunday, February 21st, at 9:00am.
&
Tuesday, February 23 at 10:00am



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



600 East Hammond St. Red Oak, IA, 51566
Office Hours: 9:00-3:00 – Monday-Friday
(712) 623-2367 – office@redoakfumc.org
Pastor – (515) 421-0929 – eric.sayonkon@iaumc.net

Freda Ruleman is turning 100 on February 9, 2021!

Freda is the wife of our presiding pastor, Robert Ruleman. Robert was our pastor from 1973-1981. Please join in a card shower for this important milestone. Please send cards and personal messages to:



**Freda Ruleman: 2729 82nd Place, #407,
Urbandale, IA, 50322**

I want to thank all the congregation that sent me birthday cards and well wishes on my 94th Birthday and a thank you to the women fellowship for the Daily Guidepost Book! I am enjoying it.

Thank you,
Jeannette Gillespie

Thanks!



Thank you very much for the Christmas cards and gifts. Secondly, thank you for the cards and memorial for Kenneth. A special thank you to Pastor Eric for the wonderful service for Kenneth. It was very much appreciated.

-Nola and Glen Meyer

February Birthdays

02/02	Lena Torbett	02/03	Joan Perkins
02/03	Adrian Guerra	02/05	Mary Marshall
02/05	Jane Waltz	02/06	Stan Smith
02/07	Teresa Peterson	02/10	Jerry Stanley
02/12	Dorothy Bozwell	02/13	Raymond Olsen
02/15	Vayda Fisher	02/20	Trinity LaMar
02/23	Donna Walford	02/28	Callie Yeager



Financials with Bob Lewellen

We ended the year 2020 with negative results...income VS expenses. However, God was with us as we qualified for a PPP Loan of \$21,000 which has been totally forgiven. This along with some emergency funds allowed us to meet all our obligations. (A copy of the final P&L report is available in the church office, also the Balance sheet).

As we enter 2021, we are facing a similar situation. Our budget shows a negative number which was necessary to continue to carry on the work of the church as we have in the past. The challenge will be to increase our revenue to meet our budgeted expenses. With the help of God and our own efforts we should be able to meet our goals. We are still accepting 2021 Pledges to support God's work financially.

A copy of the budget is available from the church office. You may obtain a copy so you can see the projected income and expenses. If there are questions, after you have reviewed the budget, feel free to call me at 513-509-4753.

We will try to keep you updated as to our financial status, monthly.

May God continue to bless us as we try to do his work.

Soup Kitchen

Red Oak's local Soup Kitchen has been closed since March of 2020 yet the need for supplemental food for the community remains. There will be a meeting to discuss the kind of food assistance we might be able to provide and how we might deliver this food. The meeting will be held Thursday, February 4, at 6:30 at Heritage Lodge – 1938 G Avenue. Bring an open heart, open mind, and your ideas. Please notify the church office at 712-623-2367 if you plan to attend or sign up in the narthex. If you are not a planner but wish to help in some way, let the office know or sign up on the "Volunteer" roster, again, in the narthex.



WHO IS JESUS?

LENTEN SERMON SERIES: February 17-March 3

Lent is the period of 40 days before Easter (excluding Sundays) beginning on Ash Wednesday, and ending at sundown on Holy Saturday, the evening before Easter. The purpose of lent is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus- His life, ministry, suffering, sacrifice, death, burial and resurrection. It is a time for self-reflection through prayer and fasting. Also, it is an opportunity to serve others through the love of Christ.

Our Lenten sermon series will be based on “I Am” statements, found in the Gospel of John. Everyone is invited to read the Gospel of John during the Lenten season. In the Gospel of John, Jesus gives us the “I am” sayings, meaningful images to reveal his mission and purpose. One by one, the “I AM” statements not only grab our imagination about the identity of Jesus, but they also help us experience the power of God in our lives. Join us for this insightful Lenten study and preaching. God is good, All the time, God is good!

God bless you,
Pastor Eric

