

March 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

MONDAY MANNA

MONDAY MANNA, FUMC's Monthly meal to those in need, has launched! Monday, March 1st an enthusiastic team of volunteers gathered to assemble food for delivery and curbside pickup. MONDAY MANNA continues to ask for your support through donations, volunteerism, and prayer. We also ask that you help us to get the word out to those that would benefit from a hot meal. We know that there are families, individuals and elderly that need this outreach service. Please talk it up and share that meals can be reserved for pick up or delivery by calling the church office at 712-623-2367 or simply drive up to the curb on 6th Street The first Monday of the month between 5:30-6:30 for carry out.

A sincere word of thanks goes out to all that donated and volunteered to make our first Monday a success.

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





Toy Drive!



The First United Methodist Church is looking to re-vamp its nursery with some new or gently used toys! We will be accepting toy donations and drop-offs from March 1st through March 28th. If you would like to contribute a money donation rather than a toy donation, that will also be greatly appreciated. The toys we acquire, and our current toys will be rotated off and on to keep the kids interested. Thank you to everyone in advance!

March Birthdays

3/01 - Patrick Wolfe

3/05 - Mark Gregg

3/07 - Donald Torbett

3/09 - Fred Trumble

3/22 - Marlys Fisher

3/23 - Kathy Harris

3/31 - Carlos Guerra IV

3/04 - Michael Fisher

3/06 - Ryan Adams

3/09 - Grant Vrba

3/12 - Donna Mae Walker

3/22 - Katie Walker

3/30 - Steven Smith



Stewardship and Financial Highlights

I want to thank each of you for your prayer and financial giving to the ministry of the first United Methodist Church. Giving generously to God's work in the midst of the pandemic is part of our worship. Each week God is at work through our worship celebration on Sunday.

Please continue to pray and support the work of the church through your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Below is brief update on our financial giving from our Treasurer. We are all in this together. God bless you. Pastor Eric

In our effort to keep you informed of our financial status we are summarizing the first seven Sundays of the year. Through Sunday, February 14 our general contributions were \$20,521. This is an average of \$2,931 per week, or annualized, \$152,412. While this seems like a substantial amount of money, it still leaves us short of meeting our budget goals and our operational expenses. God has graced us with a \$25,000 memorial contribution by the Ora Franks estate. This will be a big help, but still leaves us short of meeting the overall budgeted revenue of \$204, 119. Please feel free to stop by the office and secure a copy of the budget and the latest financials. If you have questions call me, Bob Lewellen, at 513-509-4753.

God is always doing a new thing. Creating a new day, calling us to new life, showing us a new path. Even as we journey toward the cross with Jesus, God calls us to reach forward into the journey that lies ahead. When Jesus died on the cross, he expressed his love for the world. When Jesus was on the cross, the joy kept him going because of his amazing love. Jesus came to tell us we are precious in the sight of God. Darkness and sin have been defeated.

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8).

As we reflect on our relationship with Christ and his amazing love on the cross for us, let us give thanks for the hope we have through the power of Christ’s resurrection. Let us recommit to share the love of Christ and follow him faithfully as our Lord and Savior. The message of the cross is that God love is available to each of us. Thanks be to God!

God loves you so do I.

God bless you,

Pastor Eric Sayonkon

