

This Week

Sun.,	Oct. 4	Adult Discussion Group	9:30 AM
		Worship Service, Communion, Children's Church	10:45 AM
		Children's Christmas Program Practice	5:00-6:00 PM
		Youth Group	6:30-7:30 PM
Mon.,	Oct. 5	Exercise Your Faith	1:30 PM
Tues.,	Oct. 6	Trustees Mtg.	6:30 PM
Wed.,	Oct. 7	JAM	6:15-7:45 PM
		Chancel Choir	7:00 PM
		Cantata Rehearsal	8:00 PM

Upcoming

Sun.,	Oct. 11	Adult Discussion Group	9:30 AM
		Worship Service, Children's Church	10:45 AM
		Children's Christmas Program Practice	5:00-6:00 PM
		Youth Group	6:30-7:30 PM
Mon.,	Oct. 12	Exercise Your Faith	1:30 PM
		City Council	6:30 PM
Tues.,	Oct. 13	Admin Council Mtg.	6:30 PM
Wed.,	Oct. 14	JAM	6:15-7:45 PM
		Chancel Choir	7:00 PM
		Cantata Rehearsal	8:00 PM

Ways to Give to Your Church



Your gifts help to nurture children, support families, create community, and share our faith. All your gifts are greatly appreciated. You can now give through:

- * our Van Meter UMC Venmo account (use QR code at right)
- * the Bill Pay function offered by your bank or credit union
- * in person
- * mailing a check to: Van Meter UMC / P.O. Box 149 / Van Meter, IA 50261



SUNDAY, Oct. 4, 2026



The Grapevine is a weekly publication designed to enhance our church communications. The deadline to submit material is Wednesday at 8:00 AM. Call the office at 515.996.2572 or email your information to office@vmumc.com.

**Good Samaritan Food Pantry
BackPack Program**

Oct. 4–9, our church, along with Van Meter Schools, is collecting **non-perishable food items** to support the Good Samaritan Food Pantry's **BackPack Program**.

Ways You Can Help

- **Donate Food** - Bring non-perishable items to the school office, the church collection bin inside the main doors, or to the home football game on Friday.
- **Give Financial Support** - You can donate through the church offering or Venmo. If using Venmo include **“GSFP”** in the description.
- **Volunteer at the Game** - Help collect food and pass the bucket during the home football game on Friday. **Contact Suzy Lowman at 515-577-2632** for details.

About the Backpack Program

Some children rely on school meals during the week. When school is closed for weekends or holiday breaks, the **BackPack Program** helps fill that gap.

The **Food Bank of Iowa, ADM**, and the **Van Meter School**, partner to provide **free, kid-friendly, easy-to-prepare foods** for Pre-K through high school students. These items are sent home so children have something nutritious to eat over the weekend or holidays.

More than 130 children benefit from this program every week!

**Children's Christmas Program
Practice begins Oct. 4th**



All Saints Sunday

Join us **November 1st** for All Saints Sunday. This is a special time of remembrance to honor those who came before us. If you would like to **honor your loved one who passed in the last 12 months**, please email the church with the following information: A name, a picture, a set of dates, and whom they are related to.



Christmas Cantata

“Were You there On That Christmas Night”

Rehearsals for this year’s Christmas Cantata will begin on Wednesday, **October 7th**, @ 8:00 pm in the choir room.

Anyone who loves to sing is welcome to join. This year’s Christmas Cantata will be Dec. 13th during worship & is titled:



Please Pray For ...

those under medical care

Abbie(Courtney’s friend), Annette(Kim’s friend), Tom H. & family(son of Sherry H.), Kim(Marva’s friend), Todd B., Jeremiah and Jackson(Cody J’s nephews), Geri R., baby Lydia(Pastor Cathy’s granddaughter) and her parents Emily and Stephen, Roger C., Clark and Mary M.(Holly G’s parents), Bailey B., Betty J., Kathleen G., Melvis J., Gene D., Nyla P., Keith G., Ila T.

those recovering (from illness, abuse, natural disasters, loss)

those living with challenges (immigrants, caregivers, refugees, disabled)

those in harm’s way (in war zones, first responders, medical professionals, people defending civil liberties)

communities with immigrant populations

those who grieve



STUDENT KITS

We are continuing to collect student kits through **Sunday, Oct. 25th**.

Bags available in the entryway. Grab yours today, fill and return!



STUDENT KIT

- ☒ **3 notebooks - 1 subject spiral, 8” x10½”**
- ☒ **1 ruler - 12” long with metric**
- ☒ **6 unsharpened pencils (please, no advertising)**
- ☒ **1 pencil sharpener**
- ☒ **1 eraser - 2” or larger**
- ☒ **1 box 12 colored pencils**
- ☒ **1 box 24 crayons**
- ☒ **1 pair student scissors (round tip)**

Place all items in the cloth bag.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 25th

Van Meter United Methodist Church

We're looking for volunteers to help make our Trunk or Treat event a fun and memorable night for our community!

Whether you can help with setup, activities, handing out candy, or other event needs, **we'd love to have you join us!**

Silver Cord Hours Available!

Students can receive silver cord hours for their volunteer time.

Interested in volunteering?
Please email Courtney at childrensministries@vmumc.com

Come serve, have fun, and help make Trunk or Treat a success!

LAITY BOOK STUDY

FIVE MARKS OF A METHODIST

Join Rev. Melissa Drake, Director of Leadership Development and Spiritual Formation & author Steve Harper

Oct. 12 - Nov. 16 Monday evenings, 6:30-8:00 via ZOOM.

For more information & how to register go to:
<https://www.iaumc.org/newsdetail/upcoming-laity-book-study-19976997>

Adel Good Samaritan Food Pantry Donations

Feminine Hygiene is the personal item of the month. Place your donations in the tub marked in the entryway. Thanks for the donations! All donations are greatly appreciated.

