

Strahan-A-Gram

Editors

Text—Karen Gee, kagee@netins.net

Calendar—Helen Pollock, helen.pollock.138@gmail.com

Mission Statement—“Growing Disciples for Jesus Christ”

Strahan United Methodist Church, 64632 360th St., (rural) Hastings, IA 51540

February 2020

Around the Community— Krista Frazee and Ben Huntsman have announced their plans to be married on February 29th! Congratulations to both and Best Wishes for a wonderful future!

Gladys Davis has a new address. It is.... 1000 Airport Rd., Apartment 102, Godfrey, IL 62035. This move took place in late 2019. We hope she is well.

LOOKING AHEAD—

UMW will meet on **Wednesday, February 5, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.** **Nancy McGrew and Paula Singleton** will be hostesses. **Nancy** will have Devotions, **Stephanie** will do Response Moment, and **Paula** has the program “Purchasing with a Purpose.” On Thursday the 6th, we will go to Glen Haven at 1:30 to do valentines with the residents. Meet at the church at 1:00 to ride together.

Thank you to each of the UMW members that contributed food items for January for the Circles4Support meal. On a cold night the chili and fixings were so warming. Thank you for supporting our community needs.

Lynn is the only one signed up for CCC for February 9th. Is anyone willing to help her host a Popcorn Sunday? Also, please sign up on the list on the bulletin board for the rest of the year. Lots of blanks need names!

The Special Offering for February will be collected on the 9th. It is for Disabilities

Awareness Sunday. 100% of the funds are used in Iowa to provide grants to local churches to assist in removing barriers to accessibility. (Since we hope to apply for one of those grants in the future, it might be a good time to be generous.)

Since it is the Sunday closest to Valentine’s Day, **February 9 is when we will pack our annual care packages for college students in our community.** We only have 4 students, so bring smaller quantities of goodies and/or bigger boxes! This will be done immediately following our worship service. We do need the boxes as well.

Pastor Joni is planning to start a Confirmation Class at the end of February for students in Junior High or older. There will be 12 weeks of classes with Confirmation Sunday planned for May 31st. An information and planning meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. at the Malvern United Methodist Church for parents and potential confirmands to determine a time slot that will be most convenient for all and to answer questions. Letters were mailed out in January.

Hopefully, the youth will take this opportunity to learn more about God and the Wesleyan tradition so that they can make informed decisions concerning their faith journey. It is easy in our culture to dismiss God because of the wealth of our nation, peer pressure and anti-Christian beliefs that surround us. My prayer is that each youth will allow themselves this time to investigate, learn about, and as a result, know God.

Please contact Pastor Joni if you are interested but unable to attend the meeting on February 9th.

Greetings from Pastor Joni!

As most of you know, I recently returned from my trip to the Holy Land. It was an awesome trip! This was a journey to our spiritual homeland, and my prayer is that all of us will benefit from my once-in-a-lifetime experience and that as a result, all of us will be blessed!

My devotion this morning was Matthew 5:1-12, The Beatitudes. As I read this scripture passage, I could visualize the crowds surrounding Jesus on the Mount of Beatitudes. I was there! Also, from the Sea of Galilee, I could see the mount plainly nearby Capernaum, the town where Jesus lived and taught during his ministry. How exciting for the Bible to come alive like a movie in my mind!

In the Beatitudes, Jesus sets standards for all Christians. We often wish one another many blessings, and that can have many meanings, but what exactly is Jesus saying here? "Blessed" means more than happy, because happiness is an emotion often dependent on outward circumstances. "Blessed" in the Beatitudes refers to the ultimate well-being and distinctive spiritual joy of those who share in the salvation of the Kingdom of God. (NIV Study Bible Footnotes). It is an ongoing and everlasting joy, even in difficult circumstances.

Nothing takes the place of actually being there, but as I share about my trip in the months to come, I hope that the spiritual joy of my soul will overflow onto you and that you will be truly blessed!

News for the **March 2020 issue of the Strahan A Gram** will be due on **Feb. 24** for distribution on Feb 28th. . Please respond to Karen.. Check the letter-head logo for email addresses. Helen will be gone.



February 2020

Strahan United Methodist Church

“Growing Disciples for Jesus Christ!”



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pastor Joni's office hours are Wednesday 1-5 pm and by appointment.						
	Ground Hog Day Lunch Sunday Feb. 2nd 11:00 - 1:00 By the UMYF					1
	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sunday School 8:45 am Worship Service 9:45 am Communion	<u>Happy Birthday</u> Claire Huston	<u>Happy Birthday</u> Paula Singleton	UMW 7:00 pm <u>Happy Anniversary</u> Paul & Nanete Morrill			<u>Happy Birthday</u> Harva Paul
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Pack Boxes Sunday School 8:45 am Worship Service 9:45 am CCC - Popcorn Sundays Special Offering UMYF 6:30 pm	<u>Happy Birthday</u> Bob Singleton On the 9 th : <u>Happy Birthday</u> JT Pollock	<u>Happy Birthday</u> Nicole Grindle & Carter Christensen	Faith Finders <u>Happy Birthday</u> Ron Gray	On the 14 th <u>Happy Birthday</u> Damian Haas	<u>Happy Anniversary</u> Gary & Peg Smiley 	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Sunday School 8:45 am Worship Service 9:45 am UMYF 6:30 pm <u>Happy Birthday</u> Molly Wilson and Charlotte Wilson		<u>Happy Birthday</u> Dwayne Paulsen and Helen Pollock	Faith Finders	<u>Happy Birthday</u> Rachel Grindle	<u>Happy Birthday</u> Melody Stephens and Deb Olerich	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Sunday School 8:45 am Worship Service 9:45 am UMYF 6:30 pm <u>Happy Birthday</u> Mia Goodman	ON THE 23 RD <u>Happy Anniversary</u> Doug & Lynn Christensen	<u>Happy Anniversary</u> Gator & Melody Stephens		<u>Happy Birthday</u> Gary Smiley & Travis Smiley		<i>Wedding of Krista & Ben</i>

Strahan Workers for February 2020

	Greeters	Candles	Liturgist	Children's Time	Special Music	Tech Specialist
2	Paul & Nanete M.	Sophie & Ava Morrival	Jill Cuff	Harva Paul	Candi Morrival	Gator Stephens
9	Steve & Kathy Grindle	John David & Jayce Wade	Paula Singleton	Krista Frazee	xx	Dan Pollock
16	Kim Huston & Jacquie Morrival	Ella Spurgiss & Haiden Olerich	Paul Morrival	Brittany Baumfalk	Jill?	Jill Cuff
23	Heath & Jami Sayers	William & Hannah Wilson	Nicole Grindle	Pastor Joni	Scott Hillyer	Paul Morrival

STRAHAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 % KAREN A. GEE
 65703 390TH ST.
 IMOGENE, IA 51645-4014

FIRST CLASS