

Strahan-A-Gram

Editors

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Mission Statement—"Growing Disciples for Jesus Christ"

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

March 2020

Around the Community—

"Thank you—Strahan United Methodist Church, Thank you so much for the munchies and care package. This semester has been super busy with classes and mission preparation. These munchies and care package were such an awesome surprise and will help me with my late night study sessions. I am blessed to have such a great community both at school and at home. Thanks again and hope to see you soon.

Claire Huston

Daniel (Dobesh) and I VERY much appreciate the goodies box. He was tickled to get it. Thank you to everyone who helped put these boxes together and deliver them. Daniel's in school and picking up extra hours at work to help out during the separation/divorce. The care package came at a time when he needed a little extra "sweetness". --misty (Dobesh)

Thank you to everyone for the love care package, it is very thoughtful! My roommate and I greatly appreciate it :) Thanks again!
Megan Hossle

Thank you so very much for the care package, love the goodies and I must say I'm a little sad that this is the last one I will be getting from my Strahan Church Family... I graduate in May, still seems surreal
Love you all and a God Bless
Sidney (Krajicek)

LOOKING AHEAD--

The regular **UMW meeting is scheduled for March 4 at 7:00 p.m.** Kim Huston and Dawn Hillyer will be the hostesses. Kim will have Devotions and Dawn the

Response Moment. Colleen Gipe will do our World Thank Offering program. This is one of the major offerings that our unit supports with individual donations.

---The next service project for will be playing bingo with the residents at Garden View in Shenandoah on **March 12 at 2:15 pm.** Contact someone to go with you.

March 9 is the Strahan Special Church Conference at 7:00 pm at Strahan UMC for the purpose of the full members present to vote on the proposed building addition and renovation. All may attend with voice. Any questions, contact Pastor Joni.

The CCC hostesses for March 8 are **Jamie Hossle & Jennifer Frazee.**

The Trustees have chosen **March 14 at 9:30 a.m. as the time for spring cleanup.** This is for everyone in the congregation, not just the board. Please come with rakes, shovels, paint brushes, and whatever other tools that might be applicable. If we have a strong showing of workers, we'll be done before noon.

March 18-- The Radical Hospitality Committee will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18. We have several changes in this group, so please try hard to attend as plans are made for the upcoming year. Will F, Phyllis P, Kathy G, Jennifer F, Stephanie G, Stephanie VP, Brittany B, Bianka H, and James P are on the current list.

The Memorial Committee will also meet that night at 6:00. People on it are Karen Gee, Lana White, Lynn Christensen, Jacquie Morrill, Kim Huston, Krista Frazee, and James Paul.

The Board of Trustees meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Trustees this year are Tom Pollock, Jenn Gee, Heath Sayers, Paul Morrical, Krista Frazee, Harva Paul, and Ron Gray.

Also on the 18th, the **Church Council meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m.** It includes everyone on all administrative and worship teams, all specialized areas of leadership, all officers, and anyone else who would like to attend. This is the group of people who make the administrative and financial decisions for the church.

The **special offering will be collected on March 22nd for UMCOR Sunday.** When you give you equip Christ's body to serve in His name. That's because your generous giving to UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing) is what allows UMCOR to act as the arms and legs of Christ's church, moving toward the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Convinced that all people have God-given worth and dignity—without regard to race, religion or gender—together we are assisting those impacted by crisis or chronic need.

March 29—Great musicians “The Stangl Family” for the **joint worship at Malvern UMC at 10:00 am.** There is a Lasagna Luncheon following. Pass the word. **Everyone is welcome for worship and lunch.**

Greetings from Pastor Joni!

Two special seasons start this week. As I write this, I am anticipating my first confirmation class tomorrow with ten of our youth: William, Hannah and Molly Wilson, Natalie and Mia Goodman from Strahan UMC; Davis, December and Dayann McGrew from Wesley Chapel UMC, and Zach and Jenna Thornburg from Malvern UMC. As we begin our journey of faith together for the next 12 weeks, please pray for these youth and their parents. Pray that the youth will open the doors of their hearts to Jesus if they have not already done so, that they will gain greater understanding of God's Word and His love for them, and that they will experience the power and presence of

the Holy Spirit in their lives. Please also pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct me during this very important time in the lives of these youth.

Second, Ash Wednesday is this week, February 26th. As you are usually encouraged to “give up” something for Lent, I encourage you to also “take up” something for Lent. The following was published in the *Joyful Noise* letter for March/April, 2020 p. 7.

“Rev. James A. Gillespie, a retired Presbyterian minister in Charlerio, PA, suggested a list of things to fast from and to feast on during Lent:

- \$ Fast from gossip/Feast on the Gospels
- \$ Fast from junk foods/Feast on the Bread of Life
- \$ Fast from bad news/Feast on “The Good News”
- \$ Fast from darkness/Feast on the Light
- \$ Fast from the secular/Feast on the sacred
- \$ Fast from despair/Feast on hope
- \$ Fast from revenge/Feast on forgiveness
- \$ Fast from tears of sorrow/Feast on tears of joy
- \$ Fast from getting/Feast on giving
- \$ Fast from complexities/Feast on simplicities
- \$ Fast from horror/Feast on humor
- \$ Fast from listlessness/Feast on laughter”

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust. Please join me Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m. at Strahan UMC for our Ash Wednesday worship service. As we are humbled and receive the cross of ashes, ask God what it is that He wants you to fast from, and what He wants you to feast on. Ask Him to give you guidance and direction each and every day during this season of Lent, and each day thereafter, and help you to be obedient listeners. Remember, you are His children and He loves you!

News for the **April 2020 issue of the Strahan A Gram** will be due Mar. 29 for distribution on April 1st . Please respond to Karen and Helen. Check the letter-head logo for email addresses

March 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 p.m. and by appointment.						
1 Sunday School 8:45 am Worship Service 9:45 am Communion UMYF 6:30 pm	2	3	4 Faith Finders UMW 7:00 pm	5	6	7 Each week Men’s Bible Study 6:30 am
8 Sunday School 8:45 am Worship Service 9:45 am CCC – Jamie H & Jennifer F UMYF 6:30 pm	9 Happy Anniversary Tom & Helen Pollock Strahan UMC Spec. Church Conference, Vote @ 7 pm	10 Happy Anniversary Mike & Jamie Hossle Happy Birthday Dorothy Stouder	11 Faith Finders	12 UMW Bingo @ GVCC 2:15 pm Happy Birthday Logan Paul	13 Happy Birthday Nanete Morriral	14 Spring CleanUp 9:30 Happy Birthday Jamie Hossle
15 Sunday School 8:45 am Worship Service 9:45 am UMYF 6:30 pm	16 Happy Anniversary Jeff & Melissa Pollock	17 On 18 th Memoriall Comm. At 6:00	18 Faith Finders Hospitality Team 6:00 Trustees 6:30 Church Council 7:00	19	20	21 Happy Birthday Samantha Wilson
22 Sunday School 8:45 am Worship Service 9:45 am Happy Birthday L.J. Orton UMYF 6:30 pm	23	24	25	26 Happy Birthday Lynn Christensen	27	28 Happy Birthday Aiden Grindle
29 Sunday School 8:45 am Jt. Worship Service @ Malvern 10 am UMYF 6:30 pm	30 On 29 th , The Stangl Family & Lasagna Luncheon Following @ Malvern	31 Happy Birthday John David Wade				

Strahan Workers for March 2020

	Greeters	Candles	Liturgist	Children's Time	Special Music	Tech Specialist
1	Doug & Lynn Christensen	Thoren Wade & Adalyn Goodman	James Paul	Melody Stephens	xx	Jamie Hossle
8	Tara & Natalie Goodman	Mia & Emree Goodman	Scott Hillyer	Bianka Honeyman	Tom & Helen Pollock	Dan Pollock
15	Andy & Nicole Grindle	Molly Wilson & Venna Sayers	Dan Pollock	Pastor Joni	Jill?	Jill Cuff
22	Bianka Honeyman & Phyllis Paulsen	Luci Olerich & Will Pollock	Kim Huston	Deb Olerich	Haiden Olerich	Helen Pollock
29	Joint Worship	@ Malvern	UMC	The Stangl Family Music	Lasagna Lunch	Following. Everyone Welcome

STRAHAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 % KAREN A. GEE
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FIRST CLASS