

GRACE UNITED METHODIST
112 North Walnut Street
P.O. Box 450
Glenwood, Iowa 51534-0450



Messages of

Grace

Sunday School 9:00 A.M.

Sunday Worship 8:45 and 10:30 A.M.

Church Phone: 527-4607 Cell: 310-5147

Office Hours: 9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Email: glenwoodiagraceumc@juno.com

NEWSLETTER

**February – March
2010**

Web: www.glenwood-umc.org

Rev. Dean McPherson, Pastor

Lynn Mueller, Secretary

Patti Cahanding, C & Y Ministries

Chuck Coffey, Custodian



Valentine's Day

On February 14, many Christians celebrate Valentine's Day. Valentine, a Roman priest, was made a martyr in 270 A.D. because of his love of Christ and his persistence in the Christian way of life.

He often ended his kind and helpful letters to others with the words "Your Valentine." Later, as Christians remembered and honored this saint, they signed their letters of affection with the same words.

St. Valentine is considered by some Christians to be the patron saint of lovers and the helper of those who are unhappily in love. Some Christians call St. Valentine's Day a feast day. It seems fitting for all Christians to make it a "love feast" day. Make it a day when we joyfully share our love and appreciation for our dear friends, family members and all those who are part of the family of God.

*We invite you to show your appreciation to our
Sunday School Staff at the Teacher Appreciation
Brunch during Fellowship Time Sunday,
February 14.*

Message from Pastor Dean

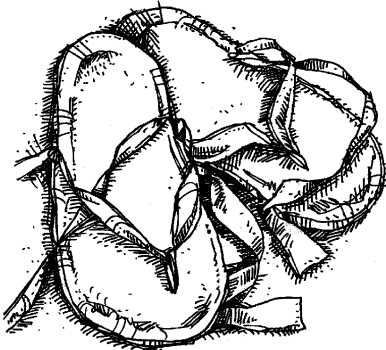
In the Dust of the Rabbi

Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." Matthew 8:19-20 NIV

In his teaching video, "Faith Bible Lessons: In the Dust of the Rabbi", Ray VanderLaan discusses the meaning of discipleship. How the synagogue system worked in Jesus' day, was that all the children were allowed to go to Torah school, but that continuing on beyond a certain point depended upon aptitude. If you had the ability, you could go to the next level, and the next, until one came to the level, if you showed enough promise, you could pick out a rabbi to study under. Paul had studied under the well-known rabbi Gamaliel. Once you had spent several years learning everything the rabbi had to teach, then you could go somewhere and be a rabbi, with students of your own. This may have been what the teacher in Matthew 8 had in mind. It would be much like a student athlete today going on a college visit to try on the team of his choice.

Instead, Jesus finds Simon Peter and Andrew, and says, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19 NIV Fishermen were not, normally, offered this opportunity. Usually, they had dropped out of school long ago to follow their father's trade. So, they jumped at the chance, and spent the next three years "in the dust of the rabbi". In other words, they followed Jesus so closely that as they walked upon the dusty road behind their master, the dust of the rabbi fell upon them.

As Lent begins shortly, my prayer is that each of us will choose to follow Jesus so closely that we begin to take on his nature, even down to the dust on his shoes.



Order Your Easter Lilies Now

We are doing something different with our Easter Lilies this year. The Worship Committee intends to purchase a high quality artificial Easter lily instead of live plants.



In addition to being able to keep these plants from year to year, this change allows us to provide a new ministry to the members of our community. There are a number of folk who are allergic to the live plants, and this allows them to be able to worship freely, without added health concerns during the Easter season. We also thought that once the artificial plants are paid for, the money donated beyond that point could be used for missions, in the name of those you choose to honor.

To help pay for a lily or make a donation to the building fund in honor or memory of a loved one or friend, please fill out the form below and place it, accompanied with your check or cash, in the offering plate or mail it to Grace United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 450, Glenwood, IA 51534. Your order or monetary gift must be received by **March 28**.

Easter Lilies and Recognition

Please use my gift to purchase _____ lily (s) at \$15.00 each.

Please use my gift of \$_____ towards the Building Fund.

My gift is...

In memory of _____

In memory of _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

In honor of _____

In honor of _____

Given by _____

Apportionment Fund



Grace United Methodist Church has created an Apportionment Fund to track donations that are specifically directed to pay apportionments. If you are interested

in giving to this fund, please write “apportionments” in the memo section of your check. A running tally of the status of this fund will be noted in the weekly bulletin.

Offering Envelops for 2010

Weekly offering envelopes are available in the church office. You are welcome to stop by the church Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or on Sunday morning to pick up a box.

2010 Grace UMC Budget

Stewardship Statistics

General Budget Receipts

December 6	\$ 4,222.92
December 13	\$ 2,850.25
December 20	\$ 3,719.12
December 27	\$ 2,737.75
December 31	\$ 4,823.32
January 3	\$ 3,324.46
January 10	\$ 3,158.68
January 17	\$ 2,326.37
January 24	\$ 2,357.87
January 31	

Building Fund Receipts

Dec. 6 - Jan. 24	\$ 3,378.14
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Apportionment Fund Receipts \$ 150.00

Mission Giving (Dec. 6-Jan. 24)

Mission Fund	\$ 44.00
U.M. Student Day Offering	\$ 15.00
Nothing But Nets	\$ 345.00
UMCOR-Haiti	\$ 1,015.00

United Methodist Women's News

February Meetings

February 4 – The U.M.W. unit meeting is at 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Donna Bishop will provide the worship center and devotion. The program will be presented by Sunny Seitz. Hostesses are Sunny Seitz and Nancy Downing.

February 8 – Faith Circle will meet in the Church Lounge at 7:30 p.m. Sunny Seitz will provide the program and devotion. Wilma Kelly is the hostess.

February 18 – Hope Circle will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Church Lounge. Karen Jones will

present the program and Kathy Bird will provide the devotion. Hostess is Susan Rouse.

February 18 – The United Methodist Women will host a birthday party at Glen Haven for the residents celebrating their birthday in February.

March Meetings

March 4 – The U.M.W. unit meeting is at 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Nancy Downing will provide the worship center, program and devotion. Hostesses are needed.

March 8 – Faith Circle will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Church Lounge. Susan Church will provide the devotion and program. Marilyn Gaskill is the hostess.

March 19 – Hope Circle will meet at Michelle Woodrum’s house at 7:30 p.m. for Movie Night. Everyone should bring a snack & beverage to share.

2010 U.M.W. Officers

Pastor McPherson will install the following people as officers for 2010 on Thursday, February 4.

President	Barbara Tucker
Vice President	Margaret McKee
Secretary	Donna Bishop
Treasurer	Lynn Mueller
Spiritual Growth	Irene Rowe
Education & Interpret.	Phyllis Schwaninger
Social Action	June McMahill
Reading Program	Pat Conrad
Membership	Ruth Robertson
Nomination Com.	Pat Conrad
Pledge Chairperson	Virginia Vohs
Historian	Vera Tackett
Sunshine	Betty Lou Palmer
Activity Coordinators:	Betty Lou Palmer Virginia Vohs Betty Boles
Meals-on-Wheels	Virginia Vohs

Who are United Methodist Women?

United Methodist Women (UMW) is a nearly one million member-strong organization of women who seek to know God and to make life better for women, children, youth and marginalized neighbors in the ever-expanding global village of today’s world.

Any woman may become a member who chooses to belong, is committed to the PURPOSE and is willing to be involved in global mission through UMW. Women of the United Methodist Church are not automatically members of UMW. All women are encouraged to join and are welcome to attend the Unit meetings and Circles.

PURPOSE – The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to

develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

UMW served Memorial Luncheon

The memorial service for Clarold Rogers was December 18, 2009 at Grace UMC. Following the service the United Methodist Women served a luncheon in Fellowship Hall.

Wilma Kelly, Peggy Warren, Margaret McKee, Virginia Vohs and Phyllis Schwaninger helped UMW President Barbara Tucker serve the event. Food was donated by Judy Lehman, Cheryl Bichel, Peggy Warren, Sherry Johnson, and Mary Ann Gregory.

The Rogers family greatly appreciated the luncheon and the service of the volunteers. The reception committee also wants to express their thanks for the donations and volunteers.

In Christian Gratitude,
Barbara Tucker & Betty Lou Palmer

Funeral Luncheon Served

Funeral services for Art Pedersen were held at Grace UMC on January 6, 2010. A luncheon was served in Fellowship Hall after the services.

Food for the luncheon was donated by Betty Boles, Wilma Kelly, and Barbara Tucker. The luncheon servers were Cyndy Sell, Margaret McKee, Wilma Kelly and Barbara Tucker.

Thank you for your work and service. The Pedersen family was very appreciative.

In Christian Service,
Betty Lou Palmer & Barbara Tucker

Reception Served for Dennis Family

A reception was served in Fellowship Hall on January 9, 2010 to family and friends of Darlene Dennis following her funeral service at Peterson Mortuary.

Donna Bishop, Betty Boles, Wilma Kelly and Barbara Tucker all furnished cakes. Servers at the reception were Jean Strom, Pat Conrad, Margaret McKee and Barbara Tucker.

The reception was greatly appreciated by Darlene’s family and friends. Thank you for your donations and service.

Barbara Tucker & Betty Lou Palmer

Prayer Concerns

The following people have been on our prayer list recently:

Verla Hofmockel
Janette Peverill
Hunter Wilson
Meisje Boverhuis
Marian Rouse
Jean Kemp
Lisa Thompson
Kathy Ryan
Dickie Hastie
Helen Lundvall
John Giesting
Nona Houdesheldt
Max Hammer
June McMahill
Donna Skerritt
Dottie Oles

Those in Military Service (including):

Greg Gilder
Ronny Boverhuis
Kent Herrman
Brandon Morris
Steven Hale
Melissa Hale

The People & Relief Workers in Haiti



Jackie Holmes
Merrill Tronson
Patrick Umberger
Diana Crouch
Steve Campbell
The Liedel Family
Don Blezek
Sheila Fink
Mel Belt
Norma Williams
Richard Dix
Ron Lee, Sr.
Beth Joyce
Mae Schmidt

Ryan White
Andrew Dunn
Rachael Ryks
Kris German
Bryce Merrifield

Cards of Thanks



For Helping with Soup & Song

We would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's Soup & Song a big success. We appreciated those who donated food from our church; those who attended; and our chancel and bell choirs for their awesome music. Congratulations to the Mills County Ministerial Association for organizing this event to provide utility assistance to Mills County residents in need throughout the year. The total was just over \$4,200. YEA!! THANK YOU!!!!

Carol Rogers & Cyndy Sell, reps for our church

Thank You for Blessings

We want to thank everyone for their prayers and visits and food that was prepared and brought to us over the past few weeks. It's very humbling to accept help sometimes. There were days that a simple phone call or seeing Mike come home with a wonderful meal was the highlight of my day. Thanks for everything. We feel truly blessed.

Beth Joyce & Family

Thank You for Fundraiser Success

I would like to thank everyone who helped make the second annual chicken noodle dinner fundraiser a success. Whether you donated something for the meal, helped make noodles, helped work the fundraiser, or came and enjoyed the meal – you are all appreciated! From the TV drawing and the dinner, we had a profit of \$1,116.92 which will be used to reduce our debt! THANK YOU!

Carol Rogers

With Christian Sympathy

We offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayers of comfort to...

... The family and friends of Arthur J. "Art" Pedersen. Art passed away January 1, 2010. Funeral services were held January 6, 2010 at Grace United Methodist Church with Rev. McPherson officiating.

... The family and friends of Darlene Loreta (Fisher) Dennis. Darlene passed away January 5, 2010. Funeral services were held January 9, 2010 at Peterson Mortuary with Rev. McPherson officiating.

...Lynnette Dunn and family. Lynnette's father passed away. His funeral services were January 11, 2010.

**Love God. Love Others
Serve the Kingdom.**

Fifth Sunday "Family Worship"

We are trying something new to encourage families to worship together. During 2010 in the months that have 5 Sundays (only 4 times per year) we will have ONE worship service at 10:00 a.m. There will also be no Sunday School on those days. This is to encourage everyone to worship God together as one church, one church family, one-hour. Please mark these dates on your calendar now: January 31, May 30, August 29, and October 31 are all "Family Worship" Sundays.



Join Us for Supper & Worship During Lent

We hope you will join us each Wednesday during Lent for...

Supper at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Worship at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

A freewill offering for missions is received at the suppers. We thank the following groups for volunteering to serve a supper:

Feb. 17 Missions Com. – Vegetable Soup, etc.

Feb. 24 Bells of Grace – Menu unknown

Mar. 3 Volunteers Needed!!

Mar. 10 Volunteers Needed!!

Mar. 17 S.S. Teachers & Ed Com. – Potato Bar

Mar. 24 MOPS – Menu unknown

Confirmation Sunday



Bailey Starner, and Madi Woodrum.

Nine students who have been attending Confirmation class for two years will be confirmed into the membership of Grace UMC on Palm Sunday, March 28. The students are: Dillon Belt, Brandon Bichel, Daniel Dalmas, Hailey Murphy, Shelby Oliphant, Sami Saal, Brad Shearer,

Photographer Here – Make Up Day for Church Directory

If you were not able to come for your Lifetouch photo appointment or didn't get one made because that week didn't work for you – You're in luck! – The photographers will be here again **Saturday, February 6** from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You can make an appointment by calling Corrienne Gray 527-0717 or online. To schedule online there is a link to Lifetouch on the Grace UMC website www.glenwood-umc.org. On the home page of the website at the top of the page click on Links, then when the Links page comes up, click on Lifetouch Appointment Scheduler.



Prayer & Praise Sisters

You are invited to join the Prayer & Praise Sisters for prayer, praise, and sharing in fellowship each Wednesday morning at 8:15 in Fellowship Hall. For more information about the group contact Pat Conrad at 527-9032.

On Wednesday, February 3 the group will meet at the church at 8:15 a.m. and carpool to Cracker Barrel in Council Bluffs for breakfast and celebrate Pat Conrad's birthday.

MOPS News

Come to these upcoming MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) activities:

... Wednesday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m. in Grace UMC

Fellowship Hall. Bring feminine products for Storehouse donation.

... Wednesday, March 10 at Library Annex at 6:30 p.m. Moppetts care will be at Grace UMC.

Donation theme for the Storehouse is the Medicine Cabinet.

... Wednesday, March 24 MOPS will serve the Lenten Supper at 5:30 p.m.

For more information about MOPS check out their website www.freewebs.com/mopsofgrace or contact Amber Dyer 527-2719 or Monica Mayberry 527-3351.



Missions News



Donations for Haiti Relief

Haiti Assessment Began

UMCOR executives crossed the border from Dominican Republic into Haiti last week to begin an official assessment of damages in Port-au-Prince, including unreached and underserved communities in outlying areas.

UMCOR is working with the Methodist Church in Haiti to provide immediate relief and conduct ongoing relief and recovery operations that include food distribution, access to clean drinking water, medical assistance, and the rebuilding of homes and schools.

“We lost quite a few churches and schools ...,” said Rev. Gesner Paul, president of the Methodist Church of Haiti.

The Methodist Church also is continuing its search for missing church members who still may be trapped under the rubble. The quake killed as many as 200,000 people and left some 1.5 million homeless, according to news reports.

Help UMCOR reach those most vulnerable with your gifts to Grace UMC and put “**Haiti**” on the memo line.

Health Kits are Needed

Due to the earthquakes in Haiti the UMCOR depots are very low in health kits. Three cargo crates of health kits have been sent to Haiti. More will be sent and more are needed to replenish the warehouse shelves so they are ready when other disasters occur.

Volunteers from Iowa are going to the UMCOR depot in Louisiana this month and they have offered to deliver health kits from Iowa. Items in a health kit (need to be new):

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1 hand towel | 1 wash cloth |
| 1 toothbrush in package | 1 bar soap |
| 1 large comb | 6 band aids |
| 1 nail clipper | |

There is a collection box for health kit items inside the north door of the church.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Necessities of life include food, shelter and clothing. However, many people around the world lack these basic necessities. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering, received on March 14, makes those necessities a reality by sharing the goodness of life with those who hurt.

When a catastrophe occurs, your offerings to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to reach out and ease the pain and suffering by providing humanitarian aid of food, shelter, health and peace.

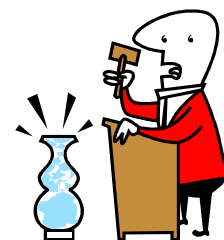
By giving to One Great Hour of Sharing, you enable UMCOR to keep the promise that 100 percent of designated gifts go to the specific causes. Unlike other mission programs, UMCOR receives no World Service or other apportionment money. This is why your faithful support of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering is crucial.

God calls us to be the hands, heart and hope of the church for people who are suffering. Through the One Great Hour of Sharing, we enable the church to answer that call. A special offering envelope will be in the bulletin on Sunday, March 14 or you may send your check to the church and designate OGHS on the memo line. Please give generously. Be There. Be Hope.

Please Mark Your Calendars!!

Lunch & Auction for Mission Fund Sunday, April 25

After the 10:30 worship service



Remember, it is prayer and our talent offered to God that can enable each of us to fulfill the role God desires for us.



Join Us Every Sunday in Sunday School Classes for 2 yr. Olds - Adult



"Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord."

2nd Peter 3:18

Love God. Love Others. Serve the Kingdom.

Souper Bowl of Caring

The Souper Bowl of Caring is the nation's largest youth-led hunger campaign and we will be participating on February 7th. You can help by bringing canned goods or a cash donation to worship with you on February 7. All donations will be given to the Mills County Storehouse. Our goal this year is \$450 in food and donations. Let's help our community! Look for the Soup Pots to drop off your donation!



Fifth Sunday "Family Worship"

During 2010 in the months that have 5 Sundays (only 4 times per year) we will have ONE worship service at 10:00 a.m. There will not be Sunday School on those days. The Nurture & Education Committee encourages all our teachers and families to come to worship. Please mark these dates on your calendar now: January 31, May 30, August 29, and October 31 are all "Family Worship" Sundays.

Scholarships are Available

The Iowa United Methodist Foundation awarded over \$150,000 in scholarships to members of the United Methodist Church for the 2009-2010 school year. On the bulletin board near the church office there is a listing of the scholarships available for the 2010-2011 academic year. The student must complete one set of application documentation for each scholarship for which they apply. This is available on the Foundation website: www.iumpf.org. Applications and all supporting documents must be postmarked by March 15, 2010.

Teacher Appreciation Brunch

Please join the Nurture and Education Committee during Fellowship Time on February 14 to honor our Sunday School teachers.



They are invaluable to our youth and the growth of our church and we want to show them our gratitude.

Dare 2 Share

Our MYF will be attending Dare 2 Share in Lincoln, NE February 26th and 27th. Dare 2 Share is a youth rally that gives our youth the opportunity to meet fellow Christian teenagers, enjoy inspiring music, and listen to powerful speakers. To learn more about Dare 2 Share ministries, log on to www.dare2share.org. If you would like to support our mission, checks can be made out to Grace UMC and put Dare to Share on the memo line. The youth are planning to have a spaghetti dinner fundraiser. Date will be announced soon!

Notes of Thanks...

Thank you to Stan Jenik for training our Jr. Ushers and Acolytes on January 3rd. Nine youth participated and we look forward to having them help during our Fifth Sunday Family Worship Services.

July in January was held on January 17th. We served about 100 people as we enjoyed the music of the youth Bell Choir and Joy Choir. The donations we received are greatly appreciated and were put in the Sunday School Fund. Thank you for supporting our youth.