

PRELUDE.....Tom Fuchsen

WELCOME AND CENTERING MOMENT

***CALL TO WORSHIP (from Ministry Matters)**

L: We are standing on holy ground.

P: All those who have gone before us have witnessed to the love of God.

L: We are challenged to be people of loving service.

P: Lord, open our hearts and spirits to accept the call to serve you by helping others.

All: Amen

***OPENING HYMN...."I Have Decided to Follow Jesus".....TFWS #2129**

***OPENING UNISON PRAYER (from Ministry Matters)**

From all our life's pathways, you have called us to this place, O Lord. Be with us as we listen for your word and seek your ways. Guide our steps and guard our lives that we may serve you more effectively in this broken world. Amen.

YOUNG DISCIPLES TIME

SCRIPTURE READINGS....Matthew 16:21-28, pew Bible page #1496 & Romans 12:9-21, pew Bible page #1725, Liturgist, Dorothy DeGroot
Thanks be to God for the gift of Scripture.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC.....Ellie Spieker
Accompanist, Sherry Groenewold

SERMON..."A Labor of Love/To Take Up the Cross and Follow Jesus"
Pastor Shurmaine McAlpine

RESPONSE TO THE WORD



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OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY.....Doxology.....UMH #94**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING – BREAKING THE BREAD.....UMH #9

THE LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***CLOSING HYMN....."Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross".....UMH #301**

***COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

*Please stand as able

Sermon Notes: _____

Calendar of Church Events for GUMC:

Pastor Barrie and Kae will be on vacation from Aug. 28th – Sept. 8th.

Sunday, September 3, 2023

9:00 AM Worship Service

10 AM Fellowship Time

Monday, September 4, 2023

Labor Day—Church Office is closed.

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

5:30 PM Missions

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

9:30 AM Coffee @ Grace

11:00 AM Widows' Fellowship Planning Meeting

A planning meeting for organizing a new **WIDOWS' FELLOWSHIP small group** is scheduled on Wednesday, September 6th, in the Church Library, @ 11:00 AM. Come, share and feel the connection. Contacts for the organizational start-up: Lorraine Conley--262-5879, Donna Todd--580-4470, Bonnie Foust--580-6201, and Phyllis Sitter—262-7469.

Cookies, bars, and fruit are needed for the Kent Tritle Organ Recital on Wednesday, September 20th. Sign up in the Narthex or contact Jan Watson.

The Banquet in Sioux Falls, October 7th, Saturday

We will be going again to The Banquet in Sioux Falls. We will leave the church at 8:15AM and carpool there. There will be money available for gas expenses. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Contact Keith Bress @ 712-260-8240.

Wanted: Baked Goods, Hand Crafted Items, Timeless Treasures

The Missions Committee is looking for items to sell at the **Missions Market** to be held October 21, Saturday. Please get out your knitting needles, lathes, saws, paints, rolling pins, or baking tins and create one-of-a-kind products to donate. Suggestions include collectibles and art. Watch for more information from Sheryl Larson.

Looking for Sunday morning Greeters:

- Sign up in the Narthex or contact Dorothy DeGroot.

Grace United Methodist Church – Spencer, Iowa

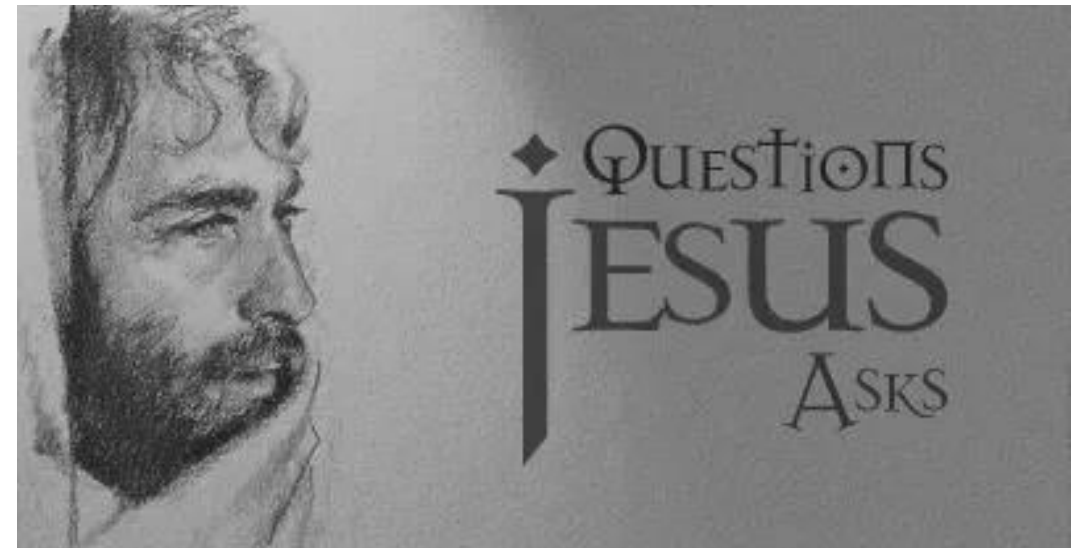
www.spencergumc.com – 712-262-5970

Rev. Dr. Barrie Tritle

Ministers: All God's People!

9:00 AM

Sunday, September 3, 2023



A Labor of Love