

October 2024

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Ministers: All God's People!

Grace Mission Statement:

Everyone is invited to know and feel God's love, experience spiritual growth, encounter forgiveness, receive respect and gain hope.



"A Small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history" -Mahatma Gandhi-

We have a wonderful collision occurring in this month of October. Our Charge Conference is scheduled for Sunday, October 27th, and we will be taking part in our stewardship campaign, taking pledges for the calendar year of 2025. Now that might not sound like exciting news to many. I mean who really wants to do paperwork and talk about money. I pray you would join me in looking at these events with a different perspective. This is an opportunity to claim our mission and how we are going to make it happen.

Throughout this month I will be inviting you to join me on an adventure. We will be venturing into uncharted territory in 2025. We will be seeking partners in mission to meet some of our community's physical needs. We will build relationships with children and youth to share how Jesus has made an impact on our lives. We will be seeking to create small group opportunities to care for people's souls and learn more about the abundant life in Jesus. We will be asking questions like; what are you passionate about? What are you gifted at?

"So let's continually offer up a sacrifice of praise through him, which is the fruit from our lips that confess his name. Don't forget to do good and to share what you have because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices." -Hebrews 13:15-16

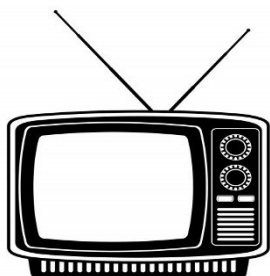
Honestly, October is going to feel like a promo for a potentially amazing experience. This isn't going to be about money, but resources will be needed. This isn't going to be about volunteering, but volunteers will be needed. This is going to be about being part of something that transforms lives and uplifts a community. You will have the opportunity to experience it firsthand or choose to watch from the sidelines. Whichever you choose, the Holy Spirit is moving, Jesus is working, God is reaching, and Grace UMC joining.

-Pastor Michael Slininger

Weighted Works With Love

Bethany Lutheran Church will host WWWL again this month in their lower level. The ladies have been busy working on increasing the inventory of lap pads, weighted blankets and shoulder wraps to accommodate orders for possible holiday gifts. If you are interested in seeing what's available please stop by on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Plan to use the north parking lot and the north door for entry. Due to security reasons the building is locked at all times. You will see a phone number (712-363-4184) to call. Someone will be right there to let you in. We look forward to your visit.

Brownie Small, WWWL Volunteer



SMU airing of previous Sunday worship:
Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM & Thursdays @ 10:00 AM

Trustees Committee

Several things have transpired at our church with regard to flood recovery within the last month. A1 Preferred have completed the restoration of the three air exchangers that were impacted by flood waters. This included cleaning, disinfecting and replacement of insulation, as well as cleaning of the air ducts under the sanctuary. Church volunteers have removed more of the remaining debris, primarily from under the sanctuary. So far those items have filled the dumpster outside twice and the weekly garbage dumpster has been filled as well. Dan Harris, our maintenance person, has removed the carpet from the ladies restroom as well as scrubbed, cleaned and sanitized all the floors on the lower level. He has also removed wallpaper and sanitized walls where necessary. The electrician is expected to begin replacement of the electrical panels early to mid October. (Keep your fingers crossed.) While it has been nice to have at least some electrical capability I think we will all have a new found respect for turning on a light switch after three months of extension cords to keep us in some state of working order. Lastly, with the loss of all of our Christmas lights for the large evergreen tree between the church and the parsonage we are looking at a way to replace those so we can decorate again this year. More information will be forthcoming as soon as we have collected all the data we need to move forward.

Gary Small, Trustees Chair



The family of Janice Leikweg would like to formally thank their Grace UMC family for their prayers in support. Though the challenge of grief remains, there is much comfort found in the love shared by so many within the church family. Thank you for your continued prayers, your constant connection, and your love poured out. You all have been a great blessing.

Missions Committee

Thank you to everyone who purchased food items and helped to pack our September JumpStart bags. The staff at HeadStart always remind us of how grateful the families are to receive them. Collecting for the month of October began on Sunday, September 22 and will continue until October 16th, the day we pack the bags for delivery.

October's menu includes the following:

- Macaroni and Cheese (furnished by UDMO)
- *Green Beans, Peas or Corn 15 oz.
- *Fruit cups *Fruit Snacks

The GUMC weavers worked their magic and entered one of their woven sleep mats for judging at the Clay County Fair. It brought home a blue ribbon! In addition they were invited to do a weaving demonstration on Sept. 10th in the 4H building. There was some real interest expressed and our weavers encouraged the audience to ask questions and to come up on stage and try out all phases of the mat making process. Congratulations GUMC weavers!

Keith Bress arranged to have church members participate in a one day Mission Trip to Sioux Falls to serve a meal at the Table. This took place on October 5. As of Sept. 22, 15 people had signed up to participate. (Picture is from 2023 Banquet)



In-Gathering is just around the corner and Missions is determined to complete filling 10 school bags with school supplies. These bags were saved from the flood, washed by Vada Calhoon and are ready for a few remaining supplies. Each bag is hanging on a bag tree in Fellowship hall and has an attached list of items still needed. If you can fill one of these bags before our packing date of October 23rd, your help would be greatly appreciated. We have also begun the work of making “Cover them with Love” quilts. Our goal is to complete at least 10 quilts. If you are interested in making a quilt, need a pattern or would like to look at the fabric available please call Brownie Small at 262-7420. This year all In-Gathering items from our congregation will be dedicated in honor of Jannis Liekweg who gave tirelessly of her time and talents to making Missions a successful endeavor. A special offering will be collected on October 27th as well and given to In-Gathering on her behalf.
Brownie Small, Missions Chair

LOL(Living Out Loud 4 Christ)
Community Outreach

**OCTOBER
13TH
5:30-8PM**

Glow in the Dark
**CAPTURE
THE FLAG**

\$5 per person

Food, Faith, Fellowship and alot of fun!

Okoboji UM Camp
21455 Seward Street
Spirit Lake, IA

RSVP with QR
Code

All Denominations 5th- 12th grade youth,
youth leaders and Parents
are invited to join us

Samaritan's Purse has an annual Operation Christmas Child project. Shurmaine McAlpine has the decorated shoe boxes we can use to pack these boxes full of "Fun, Full, and Personalized" items to be shared with children around the world.

Fun– A "WOW" effect item like a doll, stuffed animal, game, or flat soccer ball or football.

Full– Other items added to the box such as school supplies, wash cloths, a towel, or socks.

Personalized– An encouraging note and a photo for the child that lets them see who is packing their box.

These boxes will be mailed around the world. It may be the first time that the child receiving the box learns about God's Amazing Love.

Let's be missionaries from home. Please pray for these boxes as they are packed, mailed, and received during this Holiday Season.

These boxes can be delivered to First Congregational Church between November 18th and 25th.

You can pick up a shoebox and label in the church office. If you have any questions, please reach out to Shurmaine McAlpine or you can contact First Congregational Church.



Blood Drives at Grace UMC

Blood Donations are scheduled out through January 2025. We are scheduled out so that you can donate at every scheduled donation drive.

Life Serve on Thursday, October 31, 2024 (1PM-5PM)

October's blood drive will be held at ISU Extension and Outreach building

1515 West 18th Street, Spencer

American Red Cross on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 (9AM-3PM)

Charge Conference Sunday October 27th at 2pm
in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited and all are
welcome.



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Spencer Grace UMC Church



To celebrate Pastor Appreciation Month, SPRC will have a card basket available on Sundays throughout October for your cards and other thank you celebrating Pastor Michael and Rachel. God...and the Iowa Annual Conference... knew just what we needed when Pastor Michael and Rachel were sent our way. Let them know that you care.

Then Feed Just One

<https://www.thenfeedjustone.org/home.html>

An upcoming, one day Mission opportunity arranged by Keith Bress will take place on November 9th when Spirit Lake United Methodist Church hosts Then Feed Just One. In this endeavor participants are assigned a task to pack bags with dried ingredients that, when cooked, make a meal. There is a quota of bags that need to be reached on packing day. This is a great opportunity to work along side members of other congregations in fulfilling a goal that will benefit others in countries far removed from here. If you are interested in participating please let Keith know or sign up on the information easel in Fellowship Hall before November 9th.

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Worship Mtg 6:00PM	2 Coffee @Grace 9:30AM	3	4 Office Closed	5 The Banquet
6 Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM	7 Missions 5:30 PM	8 SPRC 6:30 PM	9 Men's Bible Study 1:00PM	10	11 Office Closed	12 UMM 8:00 AM -John Cotton
13 Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM	14 Trustees 6:30 PM	15	16 Coffee @Grace 9:30AM Men's Bible Study 1:00PM	17 Ruth Circle 1:30 PM	18 Office Closed	19 Dinner Church 5:30 PM
20 Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Finance 10:45 AM Adult Education 10:45 AM	21 Church Council 6:30 PM	22 WWWL 9AM-3PM (FSH) Esther Circle 5:00 PM	23 Men's Bible Study 1:00PM	24	25 Office Closed	26
27 Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Adult Education 10:45 AM Charge Conference 2:00 PM	28 UW Faith Spiritual Growth @ Ruthven UMC 9AM-2:30PM	29	30 Men's Bible Study 1:00PM	31 LifeServe Blood Drive at ISU Extension 1-5PM	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><u>Wednesday Night Schedule</u></p> <p>2-4 PM Loom Work Session</p> <p>5:30 PM Free Meal. (Open to the public)</p> <p>6:00 PM Grace Kidz (4 years to 5th grade)</p> <p>6:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice</p> <p>7:30 PM Bell Choir Practice</p> </div>	



Grace United Methodist Church
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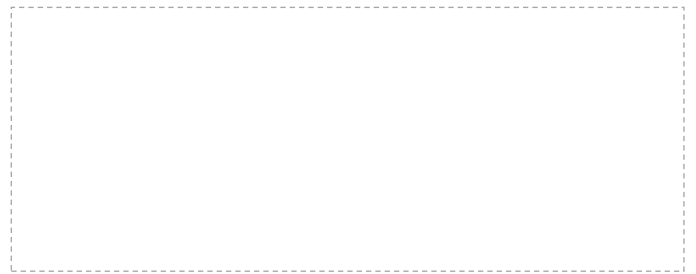
Return Service Requested

Worship:

Sunday 9:30 AM– Traditional

Pastor Michael Slininger

thepastor@spencergumc.com



Chair Person of Ministry Boards:

Church Council: Judith Olson

Co-Lay Leaders: Sandy Heerdt, Ben Pullen

Lay Member to Ann. Conference: Lenny Heerdt, Jenn Ingledue, Bri Pullen

Treasurer: Sue Burdick

SPRC: Ric Guerrero

Trustee: Gary Small

Finance: Paul Kassel

Missions: Brownie Small

Memorial: Judi Calhoon

Grace Cares: Cyndi O’Hara

Worship: Linda O’Clair

Children’s & Youth Ministry: Kristin Schwenneker

UWF: Cyndi O’Hara and Pastor Shurmaine McAlpine

UMM: Brad Johnson

Youth Rep: Riley Herman

Church Council Secretary: Joan Waller

Finance Secretary: Sandy Thomas

Director of Communications: Alison Herman

INNER LIGHT

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. – 2 CORINTHIANS 4:6 NIV