

The Gospel

BEARING FRUIT AND GROWING

The Messenger First United Methodist Church Carroll, Ia

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Carroll, IA 51401
Phone: (712) 792-1122

Office Hours: 7:30 – Noon, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.,
Monday – Friday
Website: carrollunitedmethodist.org

Look for us on Facebook
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FUMC STAFF ---

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Volume 7, Issue 5
March 2, 2016

Next Messenger:
March 14th

Times of worship ---

Saturday Worship 6:00 pm
Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Thoughts from Pastor Dennis Bailey ---

**"Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say rejoice."
(Philippians 4:4)**

In the book of Proverbs we hear the saying, "A joyful heart is good medicine." Yet often as Christians we seem to live lives that are devoid of joy. It seems that often the people of the world have found ways to laugh and to enjoy life even more than many Christians. Why is that?

Well there are probably many reasons but one of them might be that we have forgotten that Jesus really does want us to enjoy our lives. It is not a calling to bitterness, or drudgery, or morbid servant hood, but it is a calling to love, laugh, and be filled with joy. That is the calling of Jesus and he lived it out in his life. He was a man of joy and modeled it for the disciples. He believed in all circumstances the Father was in control and that enjoying life was the desire of our heavenly Father.

How are you doing at enjoying life? Do you know that we can "choose" this attitude and this direction for our life? Let's make that choice together.

I like what Dwight Mood, the great evangelist, said about joy: "Happiness is caused by things that "happen" around me, and circumstances will mar it; but joy flows right on through trouble; joy flows on through the dark; joy flows in the night as well as in the day;The Lord gives his people perpetual joy when they walk in obedience to him."

May God be with you, Pastor Dennis Bailey

Coming Worship Services ---

Mar. 6 Psalm 32:3-7//Luke 15:1-7 "Reaching the Lost"
Jesus spent time with known sinners and those who were not of the best of behavior. Why? Because Jesus came for the broken, the lost, and those who needed God. He came for those who were sick in spirit. He is still looking for the lost sheep.....like us.

Mar. 13 Isaiah 43:16-21//John 12:1-8 "Love's Extravagance"
In our love for God we are to show it in our extravagance. It will be something that will show in our actions, in our words, in our behavior, and our attitudes. It will be abundantly overflowing from gratitude of all that God has done for us and means to us.

Mar. 20 Psalm 118:20-29///Luke 19:28-40 "The Triumphant Entry"
PALM SUNDAY
There is a sense of victory on the Sunday of Palms. We come to hear the scripture of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and to see the procession of palms. Yet we know what is to come...pain, sacrifice, torture, and a cross. Yet there is victory through this offering of Jesus. There is victory in sacrifice. There is victory in suffering. There is victory in humility.



Someone whose initials are PDB (woops, did I say Pastor Dennis Bailey) has a birthday March 15th! Wish him a happy day!

Lenten Study is still going on ---

Pastor Bailey's Lenten study is still going on Sunday afternoons from 4 to 5 in the Wilma Mohler Room. You don't have to attend all the meetings to get some good thoughts on how to bring happiness to your life. The topic is: "The Habits of Happiness" which will center on a video presentation by Rick Warren (Saddleback Church) with sharing afterwards. We will have fun, fellowship, and time of learning together.



Good Friday Day of Prayer ---

On Good Friday, March 25th, the Sanctuary will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. to welcome you to prayer and communion. Come any time and stay as long as you wish. Mark your calendar now!



Easter Flower Donations ---

Donations are now being accepted for the Easter Flowers for our altar. You may make your donation in memory of or in honor of a loved one, or maybe just because...

Flowers donations are \$10.00 this year and after Easter's Sunday service you may take home a plant for each donation made.



**Sunday Worship is shown on Mediacom Channel 6 and WIN Channel 39:
 Wednesday at 8 A.M., Thursday at 11A.M., Saturday at 5 P.M.
 Look for our sermons on our website: carrollunitedmethodist.org & on Livestream**

Calendar for March 2nd – 16th ---

WEDNESDAY Mar. 2
 1:30 p.m. UMW 2016 Pledge Service
 (see article on this page)
 Early Out NO UM Kids
 4:30 p.m. Confirmation
 5:30-8:00 p.m. Youth meetings
 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice

THURSDAY Mar. 3
 9:30 a.m. Friends Breakfast at
 The Family Table

FRIDAY Mar. 4
 2:00 p.m. World Day of Prayer
 (see article on this page)
 5:00 p.m. Wedding rehearsal

SATURDAY Mar. 5
 3:00 p.m. Wedding
 6:00 p.m. Saturday Worship

SUNDAY Mar. 6
 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Choir
 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Lenten Study

MONDAY Mar. 7
 4:00 p.m. German Club
 4:30 p.m. TOPS

TUESDAY Mar. 8
 11:00 a.m. Devotions at Hawkeye
 Care Center
 7:00 p.m. Alpha for Bible Study
 Class at Orchard View
 Community Chorus
 Practice here

WEDNESDAY Mar. 9
 3:30-5:00 p.m. UM Kids
 4:30-5:30 p.m. Confirmation
 5:30-8:00 p.m. Youth meetings
 6:30 p.m. Bell choir rehearsal

THURSDAY Mar. 10
 7:00 p.m. Compassionate Friends

FRIDAY Mar. 11

SATURDAY Mar. 12
 9:30 a.m. Carroll Area Historical Society
 6:00 p.m. Saturday Worship

SUNDAY Mar. 13
Daylight Savings Time Begins
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship –Bells
 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Lenten Study

MONDAY Mar. 14
Newsletter Articles Due
 4:30 p.m. TOPS

TUESDAY Mar. 15
 11:00 a.m. Heavenly Bound Book
 Club at Queen Beans
 11:00 a.m. Devotions at Hawkeye
 Health Center
 7:00 p.m. Community Chorus

WEDNESDAY Mar. 16
 10:30 a.m. Devotions at Swan Place
 3:30-5:00 UM Kids go to the Animal
 Rescue – Pick up at church
 4:30 p.m. Confirmation
 5:30-8:00 p.m. Youth meetings
 7:00 p.m. Trustees

THURSDAY Mar. 17
 Noon Heavenly Bound Book
 Club at Queen Beans
 3:00 p.m. Cookies for Shut-ins & others

Cookies to Shut-ins & Others ---

Thursday, March 17th – Donations of cookies or candies are welcome. Cookies of all types are welcome. WEteam will be putting together the plates at 3:00 and deliver after that. You can bring cookies or help deliver... You will be bringing lots of smiles!



To Our Church Family ---

Thank you for all your cards, phone calls, prayers & comforting words of sympathy. All were deeply appreciated.
 Norm & Sue England

THANK YOU to all for the prayers. I am so blessed to be back in Carroll and now feeling so well. Marie Hackett

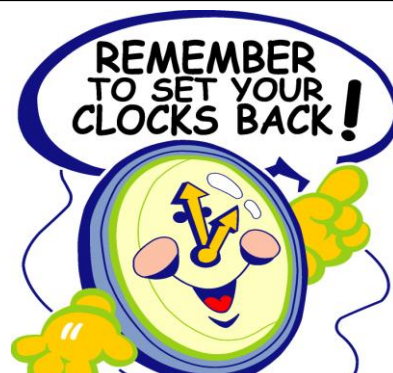


Could you help? ---

FUNERAL WORKERS NEEDED --- If you have not been called in the last six months and would like to help serve Funeral Dinners, please call Sara at 830-2492.

Attendance ---

Feb. 20 – 19 Feb 21 - 112
 Feb. 27 - 13 Feb 28 - 153



On March 12th when you go to bed, turn your clocks back so you won't be way early for Sunday Service on the 13th!

CONFIRMATION YOUTH GO ON RETREAT

The Confirmation Class of 7th graders will be going on a retreat the weekend of March 18-19 to Des Moines. It will be chance for them to experience working together in two mission projects: Bidwell-Riverside - an outreach to poor and needy families in the area and Hope Ministries that works with the homeless.

The youth will also have a chance to experience the Iowa UM Conference Center and see where the Bishop and the cabinet do their work. They will have a tour of the facility and get to know our United Methodist history.

Those going on the retreat are: Hannah Bush, Erin Olberding, Ty Nissen, Jack Troutman, Kenzie Honold, and Laura Sweeney.

World Day of Prayer ---

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be observed in our church on Friday, March 4th. The 2 p.m. service in the sanctuary will be followed by refreshments in Fellowship Hall. Women from five other churches will participate with those from our church in presenting the message about Cuba. Come and bring your friends—all are welcome.



Mark Your Calendars ---

>>PANCAKE BREAKFAST –April 10 8:30 to noon, here at our church. Free will donations for The Scholarship Fund.
>>Free Community Meal St. John Lutheran Church March 9th
>>Good Friday Bake Sale Mar 25 8AM -while supplies last

Books to Donate ---

Do you have **adult** books, hardcover or soft, that you would be willing to donate to the Fairview Apt. Free Little Lending Library? We even have had a request for romance novels! Thanks from WEteam...

Missions Potato Bar ---

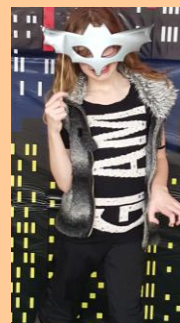
Thank you to everyone for attending and supporting our Baked Potato Bar on Sunday. Our church is so generous. Thank you for helping us feed the needy.
 The Mission Commission



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Our Superheroes ---

We can all be superheroes for God. In UM Kids we have been talking and learning about how throughout the Bible, God uses ordinary people and helps them do extraordinary things. They do this because they listen to God, continue to pray and ask for God's guidance. We can all do that too so we can all be Superheroes for God!



UM Kids Sporting their Ashes from Ash Wednesday Services



The Heavenly Bound Book Club

...is inviting you to come join the discussion and the fun we have every month.

The March dates are Tuesday the 15th, at 11:00 AM at Queen Beans OR come Thursday (the 17th) at noon at Queen Beans. The Queen Beans Coffee Bar provides a private room and great food. It is Dutch treat.

Our March book is: Not in the Heart by Chris Fabry

Truman Wiley used to report news stories from around the world, but now the most troubling headlines are his own. He's out of work, out of touch with his family, out of his home. But nothing dogs him more than his son's failing heart.

With mounting hospital bills and Truman's penchant for gambling his savings, the situation seems hopeless . . . until his estranged wife throws him a lifeline—the chance to write the story of a death row inmate, a man convicted of murder who wants to donate his heart to Truman's son.

As the execution clock ticks down, Truman uncovers disturbing evidence that points to a different killer. For his son to live, must an innocent man die? Truman's investigation draws him down a path that will change his life, his family, and the destinies of two men forever.

Books & more info are available on the counter on the front desk.