

The Caller

First United Methodist Church

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www.comejourneywithus.com

July 2025



Potluck and Piano



On **Wednesday, July 9, at 5:00 p.m.**, we will have a potluck in Fellowship Hall followed by an evening of beautiful music in the Sanctuary. Christian Gonzales is a recent graduate of WIU with a Masters in Piano Performance. He has invited his friend Denzel Abarquez to join him to perform several piano duets. There will also be a time of hymn-singing. A love offering will be received to thank them for their gift of music. Christian has been playing for worship at the Wesley Foundation at WIU. During his time at WIU, Denzel played for Wesley UMC.

Recognition and thank you

On **July 9**, we will also recognize and thank Kaitlyn McCullough for her ministry of music with us. You are encouraged to bring a card or expression of gratitude for her time with us.



Church in the Park

This year, Church in the Park, in conjunction with the Warren County Fair, will be on **Sunday, July 13 at 6:00 p.m.** at Eldridge Park in Roseville. You are encouraged to bring a lawn chair and a bottle of water if it's hot. There is limited bleacher seating. There will be refreshments following the service. In case of inclement weather, the service will be held at Roseville United Methodist Church.

S.T.A.R.S. - Students To Arrive Ready for School



Backpacks filled with school supplies are given to area children in need. Jamieson Community Center serves as the application and distribution site. Jamieson is asking our church to collect 172 containers of Clorox wipes by **July 24**. The collection box is near the Welcome Center in the Atrium.

Birdies for Charity

In early June, I received an update from Birdies for Charity, that 18 pledges, both online and via snail mail, had been received, totaling \$3,130, which is a great start! A few other donations have come in since the beginning of June, but I do not have information about the online donations made after June 5.

So, for those of you who haven't yet made your pledge and want to help us reach over our 2024 donation of \$11,421, not counting the Bonus, please pledge and donate now. No pledge is too big or too small! If you want in on the "GUESS THE BIRDIES TO WIN A TWO-YEAR LEASE ON A 2025 LEXUS", you'll must have your donation in by Friday, June 27.

Pledges after June 27 must be received in the East Moline office, by Thursday, July 3. Keep in mind there is no mail delivery on the final due date, the 4th of July. Pledge forms are available at the Welcome Center in the Atrium, or you can copy and print one at the BFC website, <https://birdiesforcharity.com>, to fill out and mail in, if there's time. or donate online at the Birdies for Charity website.

Laurie Todd - BFC Contact Person - 309-734-6536 or 309-255-1535 for help!

From the Pastor

The MISSION of the United Methodist Church has not changed! Our MISSION is to *"Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."* Our Council of Bishops has set forward a new VISION statement. The VISION is the *"how."* We will form disciples of Jesus Christ, who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, **love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously** in our local community and across our worldwide connections.



LOVE BOLDLY—we will passionately love God, and like Jesus, embrace and include people of every age, nation, race, gender, and walk of life. The way I see it, if God created something, God must love it! Even I, mere mortal that I am, don't make things that I don't like. I've never made a lima bean, and probably never will! (Matthew 22:37-39 and John 13:34-35)

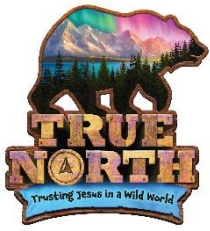
SERVE JOYFULLY—we don't serve to earn eternity. We serve because eternity is ours. God has promised it, and we are grateful! (Psalm 100:1, Nehemiah 8:10, and John 13:14-15)

LEAD COURAGEOUSLY—Jesus gave the example to resist and dismantle systems of evil, injustice, and oppression. We are to seek peace, justice, and reconciliation. (Joshua 1:9 and Ephesians 6:10)

To live into this vision, we are being called to grow and form new disciples, develop Christ-like leaders, stand in solidarity with the poor and the most vulnerable, and seek health and wholeness for all people and creation.

As your pastor, I ask for your constant prayers for the ministries of our church. And I ask that you continue to walk beside me as we work to meet and reach our neighbors in every possible way we can. There is no expiration date on our service to the Lord. And I would rather burn out than rust out!

Vacation Bible School begins Sunday, July 27!



This summer we will guide kids, 3 years old through those entering 6th grade, on an Alaskan adventure where we will point them to Jesus, a faithful friend we can always trust. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore sticky scripture, imagination station, glacier games, tundra treats, wild Bible adventures and sing and play peak.

We will begin at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall with a light meal for the family, move to the Sanctuary at 5:30 for the Opening session. Then kids will then be divided into groups to participate in the different stations. We will end the evening in the Sanctuary for the Closing session that ends at 8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome at the Opening and Closing sessions.

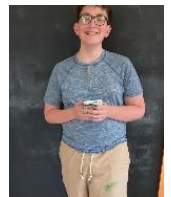
A registration form is available at the Welcome Center and may be returned to the office. You may also register online through our website, go directly to the online registration at vbspro.events/p/fumcvbs2025 or scan this QR code to take you to the online registration.



Grace Place, our youth Sunday School

Landon Andrews won the big candy bar this month. Congratulations to Landon!

We are continuing our study on the life of Moses which continues to show us the power of God and the importance of following His guidance. We are learning that Moses was a prophet, a teacher, a leader, and a lawgiver. We've been practicing a song about the 10 plagues that God brought upon Pharaoh and his people. Through this song we are realizing how stubborn and prideful Pharaoh was!! We do not want to be like him!!



We took a little break from Moses to make our dads and those special men in our lives Father's Day cards. Making the cards was fun, messy but fun! Our next challenge will be the Ten Commandments.



Blessings-Miss Chris and the Grace Place Gang

Senior News

Weekly prayer time is held in the chapel at 9:30 on Wednesday mornings. It is followed by Bible Study from 10:00 - 11:00. Currently we are studying the book of Acts, but we will soon be starting Romans. Bring your Bible and join us. All ages are welcome to come for either one, or both.

In the Atrium you can find prayer shawls displayed. You are invited to select one that you can give to someone for whom it might bring comfort.

Weekly sermons are delivered to over 30 people and communion is available upon request. If you would like to assist in this ministry, please let me know. Dream Team will soon have some events planned. Be sure to check the Welcome Center and the weekly bulletin.

Joyce Clark - 309-299-5682

Healing Touch – is non-invasive and effective.

Are you experiencing pain, anxiety, stress or chemotherapy? If so, you might want to consider scheduling a healing touch session

Healing touch is a complementary, integrative energy therapy that is used in conjunction with traditional treatments. Nearly everyone who has it finds it leaves them with a deep sense of calm and relaxation.

If you would like to schedule an appointment, call Chris Moore (309-337-4162) or Joyce Clark (309-299-5682). There is no charge for a session.

We also have information available that you will find helpful if you are preparing for surgery.

Summer Special Music for Worship

During the summer months, the Sanctuary Choir and Bell Choir will not be practicing or taking part in worship. If you would like to provide special music for worship this summer, please contact Kaitlyn McCullough at 309-620-2307.

Job Opening

We are looking to hire a new Sanctuary Choir and Bell Choir director. If you know someone with music and directing skills and a heart for the Lord, please have them contact Pastor Shelly.



It's a Bridal Shower

You are invited to a bridal shower for Clara Ritchie on Saturday, July 19 at 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall at the church. RSVP by July 11 to 309-678-2510.

Sam Wolf and Clara Ritchie are getting married on August 30 in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Community Care Days

We had a very successful Community Care Days weekend. Forty-five volunteers served our community in the following ways:

- *3 ramps were built
- *Numerous windows were washed
- *Several painting projects were accomplished
- *Porch steps repaired/replaced on 2 porches
- *8 yards were trimmed up and cleaned of weeds and brush
- *A damaged swimming pool and trampoline were removed from a backyard
- *Countless smiles and connections made. God's love was shared!

The greatest story was one of the women who received a new ramp said that this was the first time she had been able to leave her house in two years!

July Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Aiyana Sanders | 15 Jared Halcomb |
| 2 Sarah Moore | 16 Alexis Clark |
| 3 Alex Burgland | 18 Bev Crede |
| 4 Carson Clayton | 19 Mary Redding |
| Curt Scott | Debby Fuess |
| 5 Craig Anderson | 22 Heaven Edwards |
| 6 Nancy Clayton | Chris Moore |
| 6 Kendall Murk | Adam DeCrane |
| 7 Jo McVey | 23 Gina Raymond |
| 7 Cathy Sheagren | Casey Rexroat |
| 8 Jill Sollenberger | 24 Anders Bergren |
| Susie Clark | Jan Helms |
| Debra Young | Carter Carlson |
| 9 Lois Cook | 25 Ashlee Salyers |
| Cohen Anderson | 26 Brooke Anderson |
| 10 Candy Duncan | Carolyn Ross |
| 12 Jan Uddin | 29 Madelyn Edwards |
| 13 John Stinemates | Kathleen Elliott |
| Reese Anderson | Bryan Murray |
| 14 Emmi Frieden | |
| Lori Oetting | |



Ministry Teams

Directing Pastor - Rev. Shelly Forrest

Secretary/Financial Secretary - LeAnn Murk

Treasurer - Melinda Todd

Senior Ministries Coordinator - Joyce Clark

Education Director - Chris Moore

Youth Coordinators - Adam & Michelle Carlson

Nursery Attendant - Julianne Drum

Certified Lay Speaker - Anita Anderson

Sanctuary and Bell Choir Director –
Kaitlyn McCullough

Organist - Elizabeth Walker

Keyboard - Joy Boostrom

Praise Team Director – Sue Ray

Custodians - Doug Ray and Mitch Ray

First United Methodists Church of Monmouth JULY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 6:00 pm Trustees meeting in lounge 7:00 pm Worship meeting in lounge	2 <u>EVERY WEDNESDAY</u> Prayer Group 9:30 AM Bible Study 10:00 AM	3	4 Independence Day Church Office Closed	5
6	7	8	9 9:30 am Deborah Circle in the Lounge 5:00 pm Potluck in fellowship hall followed by music in the Sanctuary	10	11	12
13 6:00 pm Worship in the park in Roseville	14 No Finance or Ad Council meeting	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 August Caller info due	22	23	24 Last day to donate Clorox wipes to Jameison Center Stars Program	25	26
27 5-8:00 pm VBS starts	28 VBS	29 VBS	30 VBS	31 VBS		