



Epworth UMC “THE VOICE”



**Welcome to
 Epworth United
 Methodist Church!**

412 Euclid Ave, Des Moines 50313

Join us!

Adult Sunday School 9:15 am
 Fellowship Time 10:15 am
 Traditional Worship 10:45 am

Pastor's Corner

New Pastor!



Pastor Wendy Zadeh

Pastor Wendy Zadeh will be our new pastor, beginning July 6th. See her “bio” on the next page.

Watch this corner in August and going forward to hear from her!

INSIDE

1-2 Pastor's Corner

3-4 Missions

5 Church News

6-7 Your Page

8 Laughter Rx

9 Church Calendar

New Church Secretary!

Vicki Rich's last working day will be 7/3/25. Carmen Miller will be the new Administrative Assistant/Church Secretary. Welcome, Carmen!!



Jim Hall	07/02
Roland Kouski	07/03
Steven Moberg	07/05
Rylie Tyler	07/10
Jolene Prescott	07/25
Louise Fagen	07/25
Pat Edwards	07/30
Linda Toth	08/08



The world changes -
 circumstances change, we change -
**BUT GOD'S WORD
 NEVER CHANGES**

-Warren Wiersbe

Hello family and friends at Des Moines Epworth United Methodist Church,

I'm so glad to be here and truly grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside you.

I have been praying for you.

Here's a little background about *me*.

I grew up just outside Philadelphia in a Jewish home and community. I'm a bat mitzvah and a triplet—which made for a lively and meaningful childhood. From early on, I was drawn to both spiritual questions and the sciences, a mix that's continued throughout my life.

I went to Cornell University for college and studied pre-med. During that time, I became curious about Jesus. I wanted to understand why so many people worshiped him—and that led me to read *Mere Christianity*, by C.S. Lewis, and take a class on Reinhold Niebuhr. Through that book, the class, and through prayer and conversation, I came to faith in Christ. It wasn't an easy change, especially coming from a Jewish background, but it was heartfelt and transformative.

I attended The George Washington University for medical school, where I met my dear husband, Farhad. He's from Iran, was raised in the Muslim tradition, and was baptized into the Christian faith about 10 years ago. Today he works as a project manager at UnityPoint, and together we've built a family that blends cultures and perspectives with love and faith.

After medical school, we moved to the University of Virginia for my neurology training, and that's where our daughter Hannah was born. She's now preparing to start medical school herself this fall! Our son Cyrus is a rising junior at Ankeny High School. He enjoys the gym, video games, and is beginning to explore an interest in health care as well. Being their mom has been one of the greatest gifts of my life.

We eventually settled in Iowa because Farhad's sister was living in Ames when we were looking for a place to put down roots. I now practice general neurology at Broadlawns Medical Center, with a focus on epilepsy. I love the work and the people—it's a calling in itself. But alongside that, another call was quietly growing.

It began as early as my bat mitzvah, when I stood at the synagogue pulpit and gave a message on Moses. I didn't have the words for it then, but that moment stirred something deep in me. Years later, while continuing my medical career, I began attending seminary part-time at Kairos University (formerly Sioux Falls Seminary), with my Methodist requirements completed through Garrett-Evangelical Seminary, as I earned my MDiv. Over time, doors opened—first for preaching, then for worship leadership, pastoral care, and more. My prior appointments were as associate pastor at New Hope UMC and pastor at Des Moines Christ UMC.

Now, I'm joyfully stepping into this shared ministry with you and Des Moines Simpson UMC. I currently split my time between medicine and church life, and while that has its challenges, it's also full of meaning. It's a rhythm that allows me to offer care in different ways and to grow into this pastoral role with patience and faith.

As for interests, I play the drums (pretty well!) and dabble in electric bass—not so well, but with enthusiasm. Music and worship have always been important parts of my spiritual life. I also love writing, reading, finding quiet moments for prayer and reflection, and cheering on the Minnesota Timberwolves.

I come to this new role with a listening heart and deep respect for the work already done here with Pastor Paul and the faithful groundwork laid by the Epworth congregation. I'm particularly encouraged by your dinner ministry on Tuesdays. I'd love to get to know your stories, walk alongside you in this season, and see how God might continue to work in and through us.

Thank you for welcoming me. I'm honored to be here.

~ Pastor Wendy



Pastor Wendy Zadeh

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM COMMITTEE:

We are already planning our Fall Basement & Bake Sale! Your donations for the Basement Sale can be dropped off at the church, as long as you make arrangements when Carmen's here (Tues/Thurs/Fri 8:30am-1:30pm). You can call her or leave a message

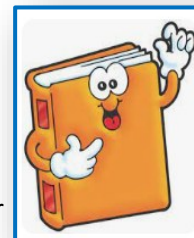
at 515-243-3817 or email her at epworth412@gmail.com to make arrangements for drop-offs. Thank you for your donations to our sale!



LITTLE LENDING LIBRARY

That colorful box by the back door has been getting a lot of traffic, as always. The neighborhood likes to read, which is good news for our future. "Readers are leaders," was the slogan for a long-gone bookstore in the Drake neighborhood. I really enjoyed that magazine and paper-back emporium, and I still miss it.

The little lending library is kind of like that, no telling what you could find there. Magazines of all sorts and classic books as well as the Bodice Ripper romance novels.



Good Samaritan Fund

Your donations, put in the Good Samaritan Box each Sunday, fund this program.

Each Fareway gift card is for \$25 and can be used for items such as food and diapers.

When you give to the Good Samaritan Fund, you share hope and the love of Christ in a tangible way!

Bob Carl



Quilters Group

July quilting dates are 7/1, 7/15, and 7/29 at 9:30am.

We bless and donate our quilts to homeless shelters, children, and others.

We'd love to have you join us! Please call me with any questions.

*Pat Edwards
515-314-2689*



Walls of Books Ankeny donated four large boxes of books to the Epworth library room! See Lori Morgan if you'd like to take a look and maybe borrow one or two. Thank you, Walls of Books!

On a mostly monthly basis, I deposit the money collected in the noisy collection to the office to be earmarked for this Mission. You faithfully send off \$30 or \$35 each month, which is really good for a cause that only gets a small write up in this space and no mention during service. In April each year, we take the funds you've donated and purchase new and used books to donate to Stuff The Bus!

Thank you everyone!

Bob Carl

FREE COMMUNITY SUPPERS

Each Tuesday evening we serve 75-100+ guests a free, freshly prepared meal in our Fellowship Hall. These weekly meals have been a mission of Epworth and Jill Coons for the past 18 years, which adds up to **over 70,000 meals!!**



We also have a table of some non-perishable items and a rack of seasonal clothing that our guests can take, if they need them.

We are so thankful to everyone who makes our Community Suppers possible! From the faithful in preparing and serving the meals, to the generous, who contribute \$ to buy the groceries to prepare them. If you feel led to donate funds, please give your check or cash to Jill Coons or mail it to Epworth UMC, 412 Euclid Ave, Des Moines IA 50313 and note that it's for Community Suppers.

ORANGE BUCKET

Your steadfast reporter, the orange bucket here, with all the news from the Lounge that I can remember and spell correctly.

Several new folks have been in regular attendance these last few weeks. It's good to meet them and to listen to the senior members of the community tell them about what happens here.

It's good to hear what the elders of this congregation have to say about the work that happens here. If I had real ears I could hear them better and I wouldn't get it all garbled up.

The pastoral change will bring in fresh ideas and a different perspective. It sounds as though you humans are going to be revitalized and that's a good thing!

With Love, Orange Bucket



EPWORTH UMC - Contact Us

Church Office Phone	(515) 243-3817
Office Hours & Donation Drop-offs	8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Email	epworth412@gmail.com
Pastor (through 6-30)	Rev. Paul (ByungHwoon) Lee
Pastor (beginning 7/6/25)	Rev. Wendy Zadeh
Pastor's email	Contact Carmen at epworth412@gmail.com
Office Manager	Carmen Miller (beg. 7/3)
Pianist	Shellie Drake

Epworth United Methodist Church
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"
IF I HAD MY WAY, I'D REMOVE
JANUARY FROM THE
CALENDAR ALTOGETHER AND
HAVE AN EXTRA JULY INSTEAD.
"

- ROALD DAHL



CHURCH NEWS

FINANCE NOTES:



We are in the midst of a Pastoral change that happens every so often in the United Methodist Church. This really doesn't have much to do with finance, although, as always, money will be involved.

In welcoming Pastor Wendy Zadeh into our church family, we will need to make sure that all of our books and bank accounts are in order. It's something that we obviously do as a normal process.

The money at Epworth has always been in short supply, but meticulously kept track of.

Thanks to all of you generous donors for your support of the church!

Bob Carl

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

Continue to pray for Linda Toth's recovery.

Joyce Borg is at The Gardens at Luther Park, 2910 E 16 St Apt 227, Des Moines IA 50316 (phone 515-262-0330)

Jim Hall is at Mill Pond, 1201 SE Mill Pond Ct, Ankeny IA 50021

Jane Magers is at The Rose, 1330 19th St #202, Des Moines IA 50314 (phone 515-280-5129)

Anna Presler, 1220 Martin Luther King Pkwy, Des Moines IA 50314 (phone 515-288-5444)

Shirley Voss is at Franklin Apartments, 21802 Encino Commons Apt 420, San Antonio TX 78259.

We lift in prayer those in hospitals, care centers, those who are home-bound, and for those who care for our brothers and sisters in Christ.



YWLDNTU?

Wow, it's been hot outside. I'm a fan of warm weather, but now and then Iowa over does it. How to be safe in the heat and show that God cares for all of the people on this blue marble.



Can this old man get some help on this subject?

- If you could either speak to me on Sunday, or get word to the office about your ideas to make this world better; low cost and easy-to-do stuff is always good.
- So, how about bringing a case of bottled water to church and put it in one of the refrigerators to be used on Tuesday nights and for the kids in the parking lot, shooting hoops?
- Then cookies and snacks are the go-along with that.
- If like me, the delivery drivers are on an almost regular schedule at your place, that bottle of water and some pre-packaged snacks would go over well.
- Do you suppose that the waifs in the neighborhood would be grateful for the same goodies as the rest of us?
- Let us not forget the wildlife around us. We have been given dominion over them, caring for the least of these, a bird bath, a feeder and a shady place to take a nap. Hey, that sounds like a great place for me to hang out at.

C'mon there are many different ways to make the world a better place for all of God's creation.

Come on....YWLDNTU?



YOUR PAGE

ACROSS

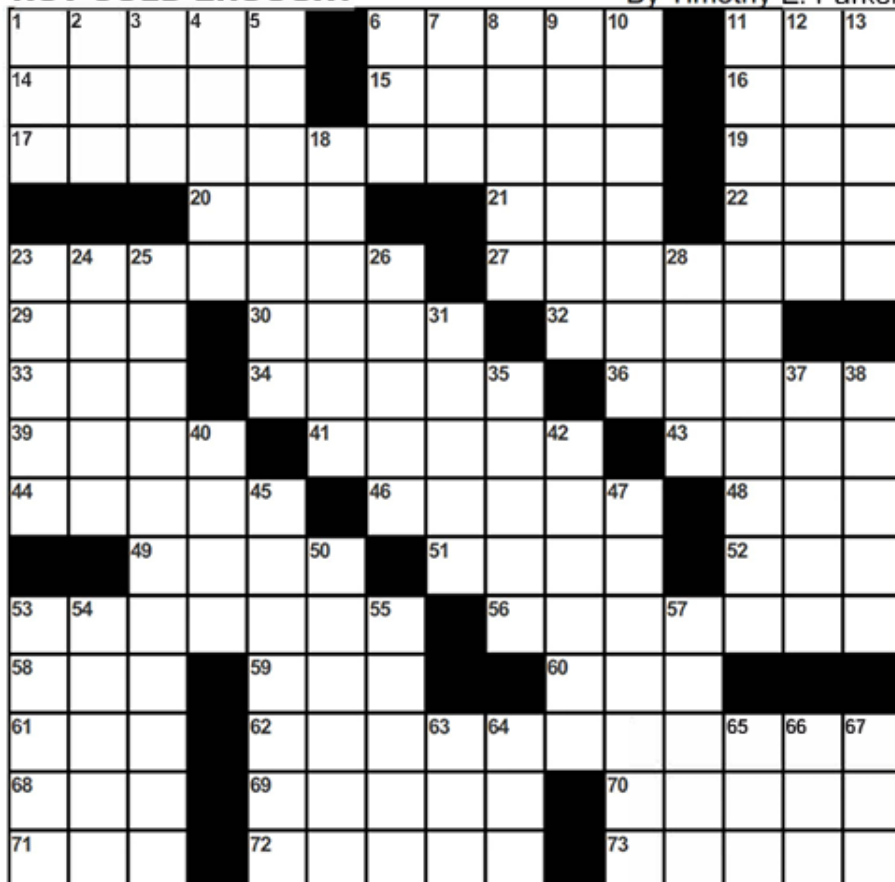
- 1) Give a lift up
- 6) Like some transit or fire
- 11) Having lived many years
- 14) Equestrian
- 15) Do a make-up job?
- 16) "Seinfeld" uncle
- 17) Broken-in slippers, a well-worn sofa, etc.
- 19) VHS successor
- 20) Pedal digit
- 21) "The Raven" writer's monogram
- 22) Gig segment
- 23) Succeed financially
- 27) Bit of slalom gear
- 29) Costa del ____
- 30) Just makes, as a living (with "out")
- 32) Son of Isaac and Rebekah
- 33) Suffered with
- 34) "Jurassic Park" mosquito preserver
- 36) Artist Max
- 39) Advil target
- 41) Participate in a debate
- 43) Europe's tallest active volcano
- 44) Some impact sounds
- 46) Little kids
- 48) Be in a bad way
- 49) Cambodian currency
- 51) Poland's Walesa
- 52) Bar rocks
- 53) North American hawk
- 56) Gets smaller, as a sweater
- 58) Mythical monster
- 59) ____-Wee Herman
- 60) Christmas holiday drink
- 61) Sine ____ non (necessary condition)
- 62) Crumbly road part?
- 68) ____ and downs
- 69) Scalawag
- 70) Dinner-table protector
- 71) Ending for many ordinal numbers
- 72) Jacket material, sometimes
- 73) Amiens is its capital

DOWN

- 1) "My man!"
- 2) Black gold
- 3) Not even
- 4) Religious divisions
- 5) Highway cruiser
- 6) Churchill's "so few," briefly
- 7) From ____ Z
- 8) Small skin openings
- 9) Amount eaten
- 10) Really dislike
- 11) Ararat or Sinai?
- 12) Carpenter's tool
- 13) Artful move
- 18) More humble
- 23) "Don't give me that!"
- 24) Invasive household insect
- 25) Twenties from the '20s?
- 26) Change, as a clock
- 28) Reduce, as expenses
- 31) Female oracle
- 35) Cooks in the microwave
- 37) Small cut
- 38) Accounts
- 40) Give off, as light
- 42) Electronic music genre
- 45) Baltimore is one
- 47) Covers or hides
- 50) Remain in hiding
- 53) Mallet-and-ball game
- 54) Blow, as a volcano
- 55) Pigeon's city perch
- 57) Block house?
- 63) Take to court
- 64) Pronominal contraction
- 65) Like a faint light
- 66) "A Nightmare on ____ Street"
- 67) Bread variety

NOT COLD ENOUGH?

By Timothy E. Parker



ANSWER KEY IS ON PG. 3

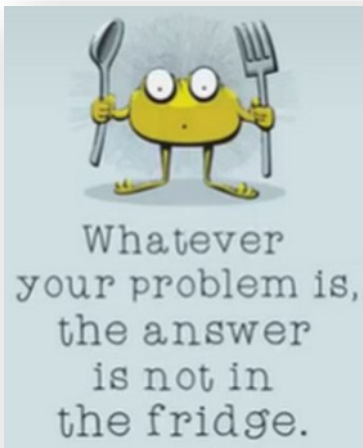


YOUR PAGE

page 2



Laughter Rx

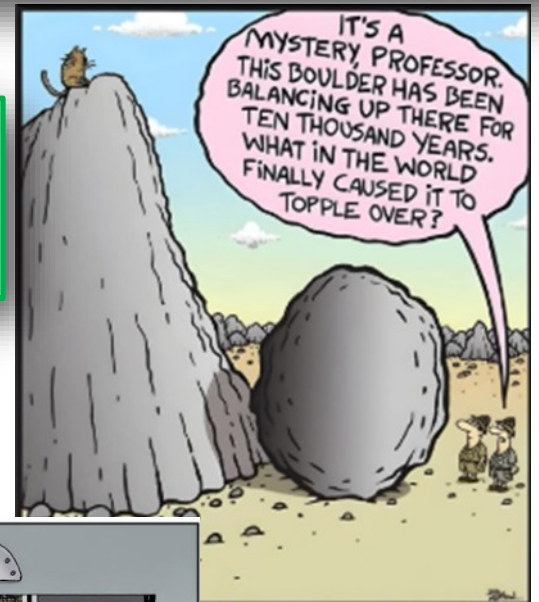


Them: Don't be coming in here with your Jesus stuff...
Me: Coming in there with my Jesus stuff.

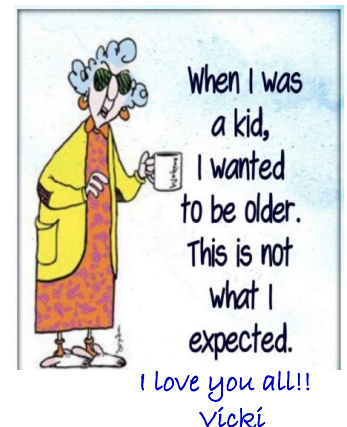
Okay, random thought.
Why does toilet paper need a commercial?
Who's not buying it?



Saying "Have a nice day" to someone sounds friendly. But saying "enjoy your next 24 hours" sounds threatening.



"Don't be alarmed, folks—he's completely harmless unless something startles him."





Epworth UMC
Des Moines IA



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 5:30-6:30 pm Free Community Supper	2	3	4 	5 11:00 am-12:30 pm SAI Free Lunch
6 <p>Communion Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Worship</p> <p>REV. WENDY'S FIRST SERMON AT EPWORTH!</p>	7 	8 5:30-6:30 pm Free Community Supper <div>9:30 am QUILTERS GROUP</div>	9 6:30 pm 	10	11	12 11:00 am-12:30 pm SAI Free Lunch
13 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Worship	14 	15 5:30-6:30 pm Free Community Supper	16	17	18 	19 11:00 am-12:30 pm SAI Free Lunch
20 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Worship	21	22 5:30-6:30 pm Free Community Supper <div>9:30 am QUILTERS GROUP</div>	23	24 	25	26 11:00 am-12:30 pm SAI Free Lunch
27 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Worship	28	29 5:30-6:30 pm Free Community Supper	30 	31	AUGUST IS.... -> 	