

# MAY 2025

## 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

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### Birthdays of the Month

Amanda Prescott	05/03
Julie Bell	05/07
Maria Moberg	05/16
Angie Alexander	05/21
Richard Bolden Jr	05/21
Savanna Spray	05/22

### Pastor's Corner

*Dear Beloved Church Family,*

As I prepare to begin a new chapter in ministry on July 1, my heart is full of gratitude for each one of you. I write this letter with deep appreciation for the love, support, and partnership you have extended to me during my time serving as your pastor.



Pastor Paul



Coming to this congregation as a Korean pastor—bringing with me a different culture, language, and set of life experiences—I was met not with hesitation, but with warmth, openness, and grace. From the beginning, you welcomed me into your hearts and into your community. You did not see difference as a barrier, but as an opportunity to grow together in Christ's love. For that, I am deeply thankful.

Throughout our time together, I have witnessed a powerful example of what it means to be the Church—not just on Sunday mornings, but every day of the week. Though small in number, you have been mighty in spirit and generous in action. Through the Community Free Supper every Tuesday, you have provided food, fellowship, and dignity to neighbors in need. Through the spring and fall Basement Sales, you not only raised funds to support our ministry, but you also offered hospitality and care to everyone who walked through our doors.

These are not just activities—they are acts of service rooted in the love of Christ. You have lived the Gospel in tangible, faithful ways, and I have been honored to witness and walk alongside you in this work.

As I move on to serve another congregation, please know that I carry your kindness, your strength, and your faith with me. I am a better pastor, and a better person, because of the time I have spent with you.

May God continue to bless this church with unity, compassion, and vision for the future. Thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve among you.

*With love and gratitude,  
 Byunghwoon Lee (Pastor "Paul")*



## MISSIONS & EVANGELISM COMMITTEE:

*Our annual Spring Basement & Bake Sale was a wonderful success, thanks to everyone who generously donated good and clothing, along with yummy homemade baked goods! Thank you, also, to those to folded, sorted hung and helped "sell" all of the donated clothing! We SO APPRECIATE YOU ALL!*

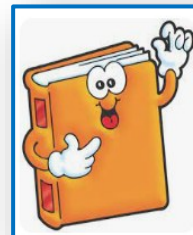
*The Basement Sale brought in \$2,497 for the church and the Bake Sale earned \$787 for the Quilters Group! Many will be blessed with home-made quilts because of your generosity!*

*Most of all, the Basement Sale helped to clothe many of our Community and Neighborhood friends and add to their home goods!*

*Sincerely, Linda Toth*

## LITTLE LENDING LIBRARY

The book box is looking a bit empty and I haven't gotten around to refilling it. This is actually a good thing, because it means that our neighbors are utilizing the box to make their lives better and more entertaining.



Have you looked in and seen a book that you want to borrow? Go ahead and do so, it makes the whole business work.

*Bob Carl*

## Quilters Group

*April quilting dates are 5/13 and 5/27 at 9:30am.*

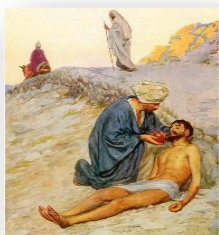
*We bless and donate our quilts to homeless shelters, children, and others.*

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



*Pat Edwards 515-314-2689*

## Good Samaritan Funds



*The Ad Council voted to move the now-dissolved KidzHaven funds to our Good Samaritan Fund. What a blessing!*

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

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



Did you see the box of books next to the oak table when you came in? These are the books that will be given to Stuff the Bus. Your donations are being used to provide these books that will be given to kids in Des Moines to improve their lives and futures. I want to thank you for all of the donations to this worthy ministry.

*Bob Carl*

## FREE COMMUNITY SUPPERS

Each Tuesday evening we serve 70-100+ guests a free, freshly prepared meal in our Fellowship Hall. These weekly meals have been a mission of Epworth 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 clothing 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 ones 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.

*Blessings! Jill Coons*



## ORANGE BUCKET

Yeow, that was a busy weekend on the 12th. The basement sale and SAI meal. It meant there were a lot of people in Epworth. It was exciting.

So much going on and such great smells to savor.

Don't you wish more weekends were like that? Yes, it's an awful lot of work for a lot of good people, but the fellowship and sense of community is wonderful.

You are invited to join in, ask Jill or Susan. Maybe ask someone that you know that already volunteers, they'll get you involved. And please stop by and say hi to and tell me all the latest good news from Epworth.

*With Love,  
Orange Bucket*



# HAPPY

# Mother's Day!





# CHURCH NEWS

## FINANCE NOTES:



When considering how many of us attend service on Sunday, it seems miraculous that we stay open.

Small congregations like ours often fail to keep up the maintenance and the ongoing bills. The pressure of low income will divide the people and lead to congregational splits. But you, instead, get busy and make it work, in harmony.

Thank you for your generosity.

*Bob Carl*

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

Lenore Freeman passed away at the age of 100. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Linda Toth is still in the hospital, but is recovering. Please continue to pray.

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**

## YWLDNTU?

Wow, spring has sprung and the pollen counts are soaring, as many of you can testify. As God renews the trees and flowers, we can find things to do that will renew us.



- The Go-getters class is open to new members and meets on Sundays at 9:15am
- The worship committee would appreciate your input into Sunday service. Help choose music and help get the sanctuary ready.
- You can organize a prayer group to pray the news and bring about the transformation of the neighborhood.
- There are usually maintenance items around the church to be done, contact Gary or Ron to see the list. You can share your knowledge or learn a new skill or method to use in your life.
- And of course there's a big favorite, making treats for fellowship time. Cooking as you pray for the world would be beneficial to all.
- I would guess that you probably have some ideas of your own to do this spiritual and physical transformation.

**So c'mon YWLDNTU?**



# YOUR PAGE

## \*SPRING\* WORD SEARCH

A	U	H	B	B	N	D	Q	H	R	P	M	O	T	U	F	X	U	P	R
S	W	O	K	U	E	U	R	J	K	O	S	L	M	Q	D	P	K	B	T
L	K	M	G	Y	N	N	M	N	C	M	T	I	M	S	Y	C	S	H	Q
V	W	K	W	N	U	N	W	X	I	P	G	Z	D	R	G	D	P	X	K
G	J	A	G	I	B	J	Y	O	H	L	P	M	O	O	L	B	I	A	O
O	A	F	M	B	Q	S	J	H	C	M	N	D	V	R	V	K	L	D	V
S	D	R	N	L	P	E	E	D	G	H	G	W	H	K	J	U	U	Y	Z
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S	C	Z	G	S	N	S	G	W	D	T	V	N	B	E	B	R	Y	O	H
C	E	D	Y	P	V	M	L	R	G	S	Z	T	S	F	S	E	Y	V	S
F	T	B	L	O	S	S	O	M	E	Q	O	Z	H	V	R	W	E	E	O
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P	L	L	C	R	S	P	Z	O	I	G	R	A	S	S	S	B	S	H	S
S	V	Y	J	A	M	J	D	F	L	W	C	P	O	C	L	E	R	U	L

BLOOM  
APRIL  
TULIPS  
BUNNY

BUTTERFLY  
CHIRP  
DAFFODIL  
FLOWERS

GREEN  
GROW  
SEEDS  
RAIN

SUNSHINE  
BLOSSOM  
CHICK  
GRASS

SHOWERS  
EGGS  
GARDEN  
CATERPILLAR







# Laughter Rx



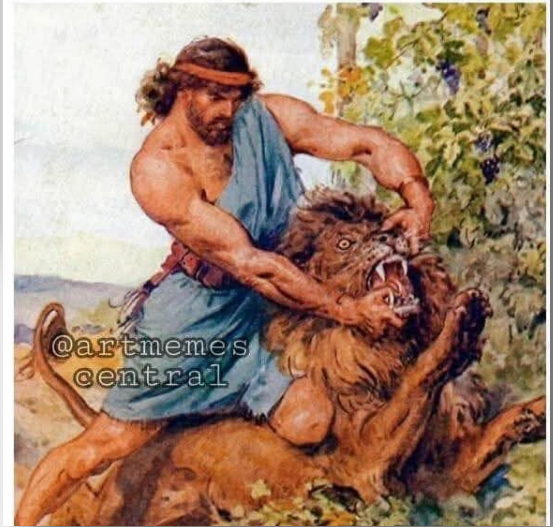
My life coach just told me I didn't make the team.

Think of a number between 0 and 20. Add 32 to it. Multiply by 2. Subtract 1. Now close your eyes. Its dark Isn't it



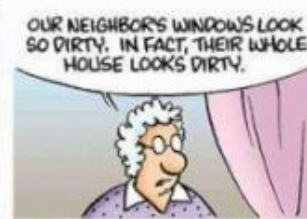
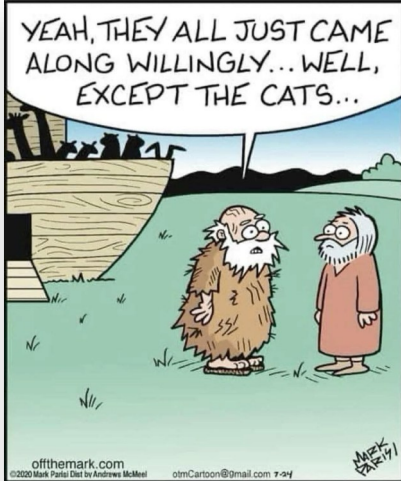
People in the Bible struggled with the same challenges we face today.

Here we see Samson trying to give his cat a pill...



WE KEEP A POTATO MASHER IN A DRAWER BECAUSE SOMETIMES IT'S FUN TO NOT BE ABLE TO OPEN THAT DRAWER.

Waiter: How do you like your steak, sir?  
Sir: Like winning an argument with my wife.  
Waiter: Rare it is







Epworth UMC  
Des Moines IA

# MAY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>Stuff the Bus drive ends on Sunday, May 11th. Bring in your new or gently used kids' books to add to our book boxes under the Bulletin Board in the lobby!</b></p>				<p>1</p> <p>NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER </p> <p> May Day</p>	2	<p>3</p> <p>11:00 am-12:30 pm SAI Free Lunch</p> <p><b>Riverview District Conference</b> <b>St. John's UMC</b> <b>4700 SW 14th St</b> <b>10am – 12pm</b></p>
<p>4</p> <p> <b>Communion Sunday</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Worship</p>	<p>5</p> <p> <b>CINCO DE MAYO</b></p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:30-6:30 pm Free Community Supper</p>	7	8	9	<p>10</p> <p>11:00 am-12:30 pm SAI Free Lunch</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Worship</p> <p></p>	12	<p>13</p> <p>5:30-6:30 pm Free Community Supper</p> <p><b>Nat'l Apple Pie Day</b></p> <p></p>	14	15	16	<p>17</p> <p>11:00 am-12:30 pm SAI Free Lunch</p> <p></p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Worship</p> <p> <b>Heritage Sunday</b></p>	19	<p>20</p> <p>5:30-6:30 pm Free Community Supper</p>	21	22	23	<p>24</p> <p>11:00 am-12:30 pm SAI Free Lunch</p> <p> <b>HAPPY ALDERSGATE DAY</b> <b>I LOVE MY CHURCH</b></p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Worship</p>	<p>26</p> <p> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> • IN MEMORY OF OUR HEROES •</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30-6:30 pm Free Community Supper</p>	28	<p>29</p> <p> <b>Ascension of the Lord</b></p>	30	<p>31</p> <p>11:00 am-12:30 pm SAI Free Lunch</p>