



The Janesville Bridge

"To be a bridge of caring relationships connecting people to God & each other."

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Pastor Audrey H. Westendorf

Cell phone for calls or text.(641) 840-0119 or email at pastorahw1@gmail.com

Also "Friend" on FaceBook at "Audrey H. Westendorf"

February 2021 Newsletter

Dear JUMC family,

The words "No school. It's a snow day," have a totally different meaning today than years ago. *The Campbell Company* and *GMA tv show* promoted "Save Snow Day."

Of course, they want us to eat more soup, but also to go out and enjoy the Snow Day by making snow-angels and sledding, as a public service to our mental and physical well-being.

Since Covid has equipped all of our educational systems to instruct online, our young people may never know the excitement and freedom that an old-fashioned *Snow Day* could bring.

So it poses a question: "Are Snow Days forever gone?" And then: "What things in our Christian living have we forever given up, over the centuries, even 2,020 years, since Christ walked this earth?"

What would the Apostles write now in their letters to the churches they directly founded in the Middle East, Europe and Africa (Books of Romans thru Jude)?

What lessons would Jesus teach (Gospels of Matthew-John)? His parables often spoke of farmers and landowners. What would He say about environmental practices?



He lived in a time of patriarchal rule and monarchies. We know He gave value to women and children that His society did not. Would He more specifically help us sort out political divisions in our democratic republic?

What would Jesus say regarding industrialization and technology; racism and ageism, marriage and gender issues?

What would He, the Son of God, say about today?

Humankind already had God the Father's answer to those questions in Exodus 20: "I am the Lord your God... You shall have no other gods before Me." The Ten Commandments were given early in human history and meant to give order to living more peaceably and cooperatively among one another.

They were further explained in Leviticus 19 which simply states the second through tenth: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 says, "Listen, Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord alone, and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your might."

Since Creation and then for thousands of years BEFORE Christ came, those two together became the Greatest Commandment. It's even been shortened to "Love God. Love others."

Pastor's article continued. . .

Adam and Eve's family grew into tribes, then nations. The head of household was the only one to decide the beliefs of all members of his family, his servants and their families. The single ruler was the only one to decide what an entire nation was to believe.

We know authoritative rule continued, as church and government leaders were one and the same. Freedom of religion was why many of our own ancestors left Europe to come to America.

God had given Adam and Eve and all humankind freewill to choose good or evil. Through the ages, individuals, families, then nations did not follow God's guidance for cooperative living. These were the teachings of the *Old Testament or Hebrew Scriptures*.

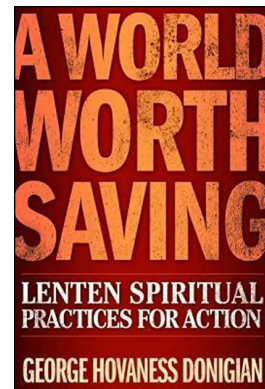
So, Jesus came as the *New Testament*. He was a fresh start for humankind to be able to choose again one-by-one to live as God's people. Individuals would influence one another in their own families and communities, until nations, and then the whole earth, would love God, one another, and all creation again.

It was a goal that God had set in the hearts of all humankind. God clearly said *how*. Jesus clearly states it when asked *what* is The Greatest Commandment.

Mark 12: 29-31: "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

And today we pray often in the Prayer the Lord gave us: *God's "will be done on earth as it is in heaven."*

When anyone questions what God is up to these days, you can be confident that God believes "*The World Is Worth Saving!*" It is the focus of my messages for Lent, which *for us* begins Sunday, February 14, based on John 3:17:



For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.

As Lent unfolds into Easter on Sunday, April 4, it is my prayer that you will hear God's hope and be assured of God's good intentions for each of us and our world.

Please tune in online to our worship times. Share the video and invite others to join us in this hope-filled season. I'm excited to begin this chapter with you in our church family's life. God bless and keep you and yours. Pastor Audrey:)

*Worship goes "LIVE!" on
JUMC Fbook page & Youtube*

JUMC has invested in the ability to offer "LIVE" broadcasting of Worship at 10:30 am Sundays to be able to worship TOGETHER in-house with on-line.



We're sorry for any inconvenience, but are doing our best to offer all viewers the ability to worship "virtually," as it is called. This will allow us to observe the *Sacrament of the Lord's Table TOGETHER*, as allowed by Iowa Conference UMC policy during COVID.

(Picture is from Valentines' Day 2020)

*Regarding Live-Streaming Worship
by Rita our Techie!*

Viewers don't need a link to view the videos. They just open *YouTube*. In the search bar at the top, type in *UMC JanesvilleIA*. They will open our channel which has all our videos, including the one that was saved from the first live stream January 31. They are given the option to subscribe to the channel, which will be added on the side bar, and they don't have to type in every time. Easy peasy!

Let Us Pray for

All affected by COVID

The family of Ruth Maye Hamilton who passed away at age 100 years.

The family of Dave Pierson
Pastor Audrey & family at loss of her brother-in-law.

Nikki & Will Haan family
Stroud and Brucher families

Beverly Boeck

Lorraine Hallberg

Dick Funk (hospitalized & home)

Melissa Eibey (surgery)

Geri Tartar (surgery)

Tom & Char Brickman

Dan & Wendy Brace

Johnny & Esther Folkerds

Jan Guzman

Velma Rice

Dennis Osborn & family

Evelyn Johnson

Flo Shephard

Marge Grandon moved to

3720 Village Pl, Apt 5018, Waterloo, IA
50702-5828

Evelyn Wubbena

Marlys Cook

De & Carol Dix

Georgia Eibey

Helen Dettmer Any others?

For persons to fill leadership positions
as Lay Leader(s)
Lay Member to Annual Conference



The prayer chain goes out to all circle members but if there is anyone else that would like to be called, please call Cindy Spencer and we'll get them on the list. This can be just temporary now while we aren't seeing each other much, due to the virus, or it can be ongoing.

UMWomen February Bible Verse

"Come off by yourselves, let's take a break and get a little rest." For there was constant coming and going, they didn't even have time to eat. Mark 6:13 The Message
Chosen by Iowa Conference UMWomen

Please Reply to Emails

from our Church & Pastor (NEW address).

janesvilleumc@gmail.com

pastorahw1@gmail.com

Church "business" is being done over email with "reply all" discussions and votes. Please participate to keep our church operating and our members safe while we are not holding in-person Worship and meetings.

Picture Directory Goal for 2021

At our Charge Conference last Fall one of the goals for 2021 was to complete and publish the Picture Directory that was begun awhile back. If you have updated picture, address, phone number or social media information, you would like included, please send to janesvilleumc@gmail.com as soon as possible. Thank you

Updated Church Directory Available

Two attachments were included in an email that was sent from the church office awhile ago with our names and mailing addresses on one and our emails and phone numbers on the other. If you need printed copy, stop by to pick up copies from the table just inside either church doors.

To that earlier Directory we offer these updates:

Pastor Audrey, new email, pastorahw1@gmail.com

Tonya Beckman, new email beckman285@live.com

Laura Pierson (Dave passedd 1/11/2021) 615 3rd St. NW, Waverly, Iowa 50677

Sherri Head, 162 Presley Circle, Waterloo, Iowa 50701-3800

Melissa Eibey, 720 ½ W. Barrick Road, Janesville, Iowa 50647

Brandi Immerzeel married to Josh Sernett
Emily (Ruth) married to Ethan

Marge Grandon moved to 3720 Village Pl, Apt 5018, Waterloo, IA 50702-5828

Playing Musical Chairs!

If you were to walk through Court, Chapel, you would notice some seatless, backless chairs. When the community center was replacing their cloth chairs with vinyl, they offered these to us for free.



With precious gifts given in memory of loved ones, the trustees and memorial committee have chosen to have them reupholstered to match the pews.

When that is completed, the chairs will be placed in the Fellowship area in the sanctuary. The silver and gray chairs provided by the United Methodist Women will be returned to Court Chapel.

Want to Receive Church E-News?

At one time, JUMC had said only one email sent per household, but that is no longer the case, particularly when it comes to videos of Worship. If there are other persons in your household or family who want to receive JUMC emails & video links, please email janesvilleumc@gmail.com or contact the office.

February Birthdays

Laney Eibey	2/1
Becca Burr	2/3
Ryan Johnson	2/4
Delaney Buchholz	2/4
Vlasis Stratiou	2/4
Wesley Renner	2/6
Chris Coffman	2/7
Kyranna Stratiou	2/8
Jason Lockett	2/9
Brenda Immerzeel	2/10
Aaron Johnson	2/10
Kendyl Destival	2/11
Eric Johnson	2/14
Mary Peters	2/15
Melvin Johnson	2/16
Grady Barr	2/18
Holly Conradi	2/19
Geri Tarter	2/20
Leah Johnson	2/22
Marvin Bliss	2/23
Sharon Barr	2/26
Parker Schuld	2/26/20
Scott Destival	2/29

February Anniversaries

Larry & Lisa Borglum	2/14/87
Gene & Virginia Robinson	2/14/70
Brad & Michelle Osborn	2/22/03

College Scholarships Available

at the Iowa United Methodist Foundation at <https://iumf.org/scholarships> by Feb 28.

2020 JUMC PEC Grants

Must be Spent by February 28

Just a reminder from the PEC Committee that persons/groups receiving PEC grant awards in 2020 have until February 28, 2021 to use those funds.

Unused funds remaining at that time will be returned to the endowment funds and may be included in funds to be awarded in 2021.

Any person/organization wanting to know how many funds they have remaining in the account from their 2020 grant awards may contact Barb Hamlyn.

We recognize that many events where grant funds would have been used did not take place in 2020. However, those funds may be used to purchase needed non-perishable supplies for the up-coming year.

The deadline for turning in applications to the PEC committee for consideration of 2021 Grants is also February 28, 2021.

Completed applications may be placed in the PEC mail slot inside the office entrance door, mailed to the church or emailed to Nancy Beenblossom at nlb217@gmail.com.

Applications will be accepted even if they are not completed on a formal application blank.

Applications must include the following information:

*Name of Person/Organization Submitting Application

*Value of Grant being requested

*Purpose of the need for the grant

*Contact information (name, phone number and/or email address) for the person who can be reached regarding the grant application

We want to encourage any person and/or organization who has a financial need that falls under the requirements of the PEC

Guidelines to complete an application and submit it for consideration.

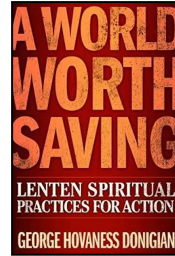
Questions or concerns regarding the PEC Committee application process may be addressed to any of these members:

Virginia Robinson, chairperson

Nancy Beenblossom, committee treasurer

Tom Charley, Shelly Osborn,

Mike Wienhold, Dick Funk, Pastor Audrey.



Lent-God Says We Are

A World Worth Saving

2/14: Fasting from Apathy-
John 3:17

What Wondrous Love Is This?

2/17: Ash Wednesday

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

2/21: Serving God by Serving Others-
Matthew 20, 27-28.

A Charge to Keep I Have.

2/28: Feeding Others & Starving Our Guilt-
Matthew 25:35

Love Divine, All Love Excelling.

3/07: Seeking Justice-Psalm 1:1
Go to Dark Gethsemane.

3/14: Healing the World-Isaiah 53:4-5
There Is a Balm in Gilead.

3/21: Refining Friendship-Matthew 5:44
Forth in Thy Name.

3/28: Palm and Passion Sunday.

4/01: April Fools' Day-Maundy Thursday

4/04: Easter-Resurrection Celebration.

4/11: Holy Humor Sunday celebrates
Jesus having the last laugh on evil!

We are a World Worth Saving. Says GOD!

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United Methodist Church**

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Pastor Audrey H. Westendorf

Sunday School - paused due to covid
Fellowship - paused due to covid.
Worship - 10:30 a.m.

In-house and In-person
Worship began again on Sunday,
January 17, 2021, as long as
COVID #s remain below 15%

Here are “addresses”
for Worship Online

janessvilleumc@gmail.com

[janessvilleunitedmethodistchurch.
weebly.com](http://janessvilleunitedmethodistchurch.weebly.com)

facebook.com/Janesville.UMC

**READ INSIDE for LIVE-
STREAMING INFORMATION**