



The Janesville Bridge

“To be a bridge of caring relationships connecting people to God and each other.”

424 Sycamore Street PO Box 358 Janesville, Iowa 50647

janesvilleumc@gmail.com

319-987-2596

janesvilleunitedmethodistchurch.weebly.com

facebook.com/Janesville.UMC

Pastor Audrey H. Westendorf

Cell phone for calls or text.(641) 840-0119

Also “Friend” on FaceBook at “Audrey H. Westendorf” or email at pastorayoung@gmail.com

July 2020 Newsletter

Janesville United Methodist Church

Dear JUMC and HUMC Families,

Leaders of both JUMC and HUMC have weighed in whether to offer in person and in house worship services. The answer is, “Not yet.” The risk is still too great. We will visit the question again mid-June. See other articles in this newsletter.



Pastor Audrey

You are continually in my thoughts and prayers as we wait through this pandemic together yet apart.

Sue, Rita and I are doing our best to prepare worship services for online that are helpful in raising your spirits in the living hope of our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ. We hope you are finding JOY in the mourning and morning.

Sue and I are still sewing masks if you or someone you know is in need, just let me know.

I am now “attending” six hours per week for five weeks of classes in the online Fresh Expressions Academy along with hours-long meetings online with Iowa United Methodist Bishop, cabinet and clergy. I’ve always been one to want to learn something new everyday, so I’m certainly getting my fill of good, new stuff, regulations, policies, and most of all, opinions. There is no perfect answer for every church. Truth is, we have to do what is best for ourselves at Hudson and Janesville UMC. “Not yet.”

In the meantime, I’ve come across a helpful Prayer for Everyday Worship, thanks to Rev Nadia Bolz-Weber, St Thomas Episcopal Church, St Petersburg, Florida. Let us pray:

DEAR LORD, I do not know when we can gather together again in worship. So, for now I just ask that:

When I sing along in my kitchen to each song on Christian radio or my own play list, that it be counted as PRAISE.

And that when I read the news and my heart tightens in my chest, may it be counted as a KYRIE.

And that when my eyes brighten in a smile behind my mask as I thank the person at the post office, may it be counted as PASSING THE PEACE.

And that when I water my plants and wash my dishes and take a shower may it be counted as REMEMBERING MY BAPTISM.

And that when the tears come and my shoulders shake and my breathing falters, may it be counted as PRAYER.

And that when I stumble upon a Worship video (tv channel) & hear the grace and love of You, may it be counted as hearing a HOMILY (MESSAGE.)

And that as I sit at that table in my home, and eat one more homemade meal, slowly, joyfully, with nothing else demanding my time or attention, may it be counted as COMMUNION. Amen.

Remember God’s promise from Jeremiah 29:11:

“I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans for your welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

God bless you, Pastor Audrey:)



Sunday School Is Out for Summer

Just like the public schools, our Sunday School classes are out for the summer.

Also like the public schools, we hope that parents and grandparents will continue the Christian Education of the kiddos.

Whether VBS will be held is unlikely.



2020 Graduates List Updated

JUMC grads include Lexie West & Marlee Boyle. College degrees include, Dr Emily Ruth, Crystal Spencer, Jacque Batz.

They continue to be in our thoughts & prayers.



General Conference set for May, was postponed to 2021.

Iowa Annual Conference in June will be held on-line sometime this year.

Clergy Session of the Iowa Annual Conference will be held on-zoom, instead of in-person, as scheduled for June 5, 2020.

Personal Invitations Are Important

Forming relationships with neighbors, family, and friends is still the number one way to bring folks to Christ by inviting them to worship with you.

In such time as we are able to return to worship in the church building in June or July or August one of the "Resilient Church" ideas was that families like yours could invite folk to your homes to watch the on-line videos of worship with you, if you feel safe doing so.

Bring flowers for our Cross

when we eventually are allowed to meet and celebrate the **RESURRECTION** of our LORD in June or July or Aug



Z-Team Still Planning for a Sowing Sunday in June or July

It's every JUMC family's opportunity to receive \$20 which in turn is spent to "sow seeds" for a project that will return funds to the church's general fund.

The Sunday is to include a "Sowing" Worship time at 10:30 followed by a light lunch, served by the Z-Team and there was something about "dirt cups" for dessert?

There will be presentations with ideas for your "Sowing" project as well as opportunity to order gifts made from ceramic tile by the Z-Team for their own 'Sowing Project.' You can have your name on a Christmas ornament or pot holder trivet.

Now's the time to think of ideas for what you might want on your gift tiles, like this one:



JUMC & Iowa UMConference begin On-Line Giving Opportunity

A link has been created on the Iowa UMConference website. Our church name is included in a drop-down list. The donor can leave a comment for specific instructions to the church.

Total gifts will be direct deposited to church's bank account twice-a-month.

Below are some answers to questions we have received regarding the local church online giving option:

1. Will it cost the church anything for this service? The Conference is prepared to allow churches to use the online giving for three months without any fees being deducted from the local church gift total. The Treasurer's Office/Administrative Services will pick up those costs. After June 30, the fees are .30 per transaction plus approximately 2.9% which is the amount charged to the Conference for the service.

3. How will the church know when a gift is made? The system, will automatically send an email to the church each time a gift is receive. The donor may use an online comment section to designate their gift. Any comments made will be included in the email.

4. How will potential donors see where to give? The online form is pictured to the right here.

8. Is this a secure site to donate through? The Iowa Conference page is handled through Braintree (a Pay Pal company) which is a secure encrypted site. At no time does any credit card information stay within the Iowa Conference system. The banking information that our church would submit to our office would be entered into the bank ACH portal and then securely stored.

For **FREE** Online Giving to JUMC
Go to <https://iaumc-reg.brtaapp.com/giving>
to fill in this form

Local Church Giving

Please enter your giving information and select your church from the drop-down list. If your church does not appear in this list please have your Pastor contact our office at 515-974-8919 to be included.

*First Name

*Last Name

*Address 1

*City

*State

*Zip

*Email

*Please select your church from this list

Hudson UMC (550914)

Janesville UMC (574340)

Gift Amount

\$

Designation to a particular program of the church (general fund, apportionments, Special Offerings)

I am not a robot BOX (to prevent automated systems from accessing this page a Captcha box is included. Simply click on the box and follow the on-screen instructions.)

Process My Gift You will receive a confirmation email.

You will then be presented with a screen where you will enter your credit/debit card information for the actual payment. Please enter this information within one hour of entering your gift. Your church will be notified for each donation received.





**American Cancer Society
Bremer County Relay for Life
is being held online this year.**



MAY 31: JUMC Sunday of Hope for Cancer:

You can donate or join this Rally at https://secure.acsevents.org/site/STR?pg=entry&fr_id=96118.

JUNE 1ST - JUNE 5TH-Follow on Facebook for Relay Week! Waverly, IA. SARAH FOSTER sarah.foster@cancer.org 800-227-2345.



**“Filling the Truck” for Midwest Missions
in June 2020.**

Drop off dates and locations TBA.

The ongoing mission outreach at Midwest Missions continues and is busier than ever!

In addition to Hygiene Kits, Student Desks and Sewing Machines (both pedal and electric), Midwest Missions has requested:

- Flannel, “PLU” (waterproof) & Cotton Fabric Walkers, Canes, Wheelchairs and Crutches
- Cloth Masks (any style)
- New or Used (clean) Blankets
- Plastic or Wood Small School Chairs (children’s sizes)

Thank you in advance!

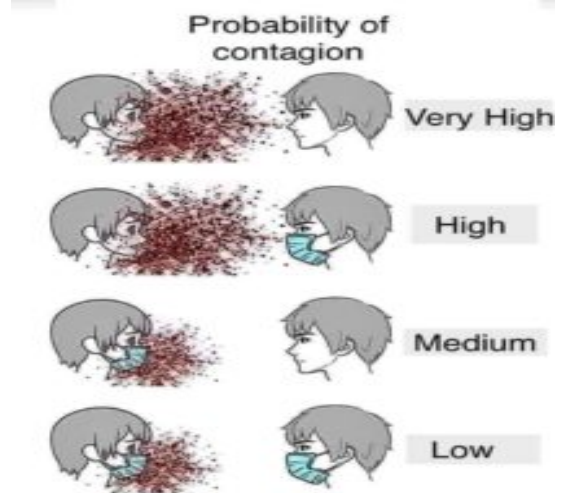
Pastor Catie Newman,
IA Conf Disaster Response Chpn

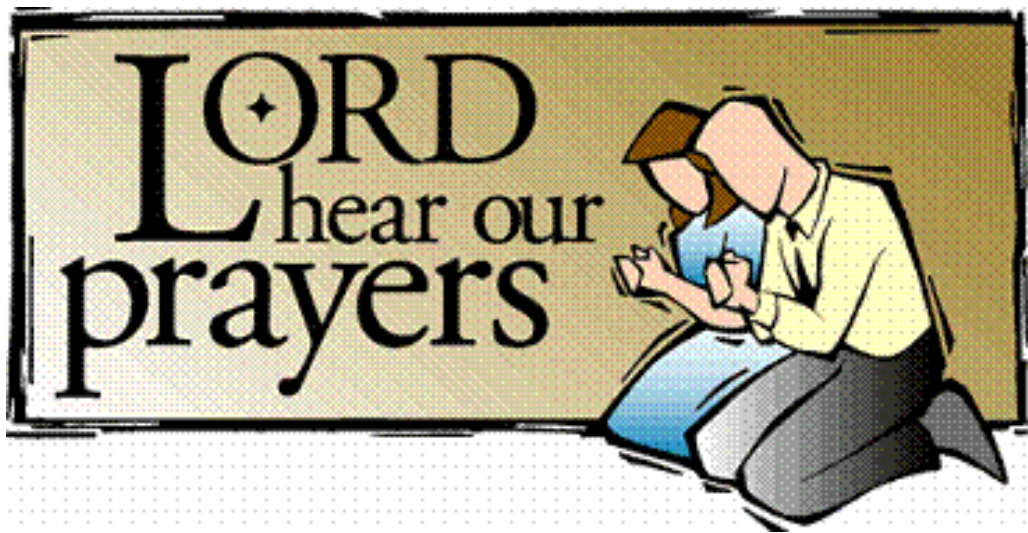


A New Ministry at JUMC

In theory, all masks may prevent some sprays of virus-laden fluids from entering your nose and mouth (inward protection). They are also a reminder not to touch your face. And, if you’re sick, they may help keep some aerosols inside (outward protection), to protect people around you (CDC).

Face masks are still available. If you or someone you know is still in need of a mask(s), contact Sue Stapleton or Pastor Audrey.





Please keep in your prayers with health concerns:

- Tom & Char Brickman
- Wendy Brace
- Chelsey Brace
- Johnny & Esther Folkerds
- Ben Huber
- Karen Borglum
- Lolita Huber
- Marilyn Lee



Please pray for:

- All Nursing Home Residents
- All Veterans & Military & their loved ones
- Fire & Rescue
- First Responders
- Medical Staff-NURSES
- Those working essential jobs
- Students and Educators
- Our Pastor
- Our District Supt., Bishop, Cabinet
- The United Methodist Church
- Patti Baldwin
- Scott Turner
- Dennis Osborn & family
- Marge Grandon

Prayers for our homebound church family, who are visited

by our Shepherds:

- Flo Shephard
- Evelyn Wubbena
- Marlys Cook
- De & Carol Dix
- Georgia Eibey
- Linda Stroud



Happy Birthday

July Babies!



July Birthdays

Brad Conradi	7/1
Jan Guzman	7/1
Derek Johnson	7/1
Jim Whitney	7/6
Don Dorman	7/6
Pastor Audrey	7/7
Karen Borglum	7/13
Scott Immerzeel	7/15
Kim Knapp	7/17
Rachel Moses	7/17
Larry Stapleton	7/18
Sue Kromminga	7/18
Jenna Lafrentz	7/18
Larry Borglum	7/20
Linda Stroud	7/20
Isabel Grace Foelske	7/21
Camden Dierks	7/22
Sharon Shaulis	7/22
Amelia Baldwin	7/23
Carol Jennings	7/26
Robin Johnson	7/26
Callahan Levi	7/26
Nicole Destival	7/27
Colette Ruth	7/27
Callie Osborn	7/28
Emily Elizabeth Herbst	7/28
Betsy Knapp	7/28
Eli Barnes	7/28
Klaire Osborn	7/29
Emily Stensland	7/30
Annabella Hansen	7/31



July Anniversaries

Daniel & Kim VerSteege	7/6
Dave & Nancy Beenblossom	7/14
Dan & Wendy Brace	7/16
Paul & Betty Jean Borgwardt	7/17
Mark & Shelley Herbst	7/18
Geary & Jean Eibey	7/19
Laurel & Vlasis Stratiou	7/26
Jim & Barb Hamlyn	7/30



SAVE FOR AUGUST NEWSLETTER

UMW News

In early May Pastor Audrey notified us of a grant for community projects that was available through the Conference UMW. She suggested we try to get a grant for the free lunch program at the community center. One of the requirements for the application was a "date of approval" from our unit. Since we were not able to have a meeting, a telephone vote of the Executive Board members.

We are pleased to announce that we received a check for \$1,000. That's enough to fund at least 5 weeks of meals! We will be preparing a report for the grant committee which we will share with our members as well.

For those of you that are unaware of this program, it was started in December of 2019 by the manager of the community center, Dan Phillips. It started as a free lunch to anyone in the community twice a month. This spring the free lunches were increased to once a week with the school age children and many additional adults at home due to the virus issues. Dan does the cooking and distributes the meals through takeout or delivery with community volunteers. 300 meals are currently distributed each week.

Cindy Spencer, UMW President

May 04, 2020

Iowa Conference United Methodist Women has awarded ***Be Bold*** grants to several local units to be used for

community projects that will enhance the Purpose of UMW.

The grants were made possible by a planned gift to Iowa Conference UMW from the late Barbara Csomay of Kanawha. She was a retired music teacher and marching band instructor, and a member of Kanawha United Methodist Church.

The grants were to be awarded later in 2020, but are being awarded on a shortened timetable to help meet the needs of communities affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Additional grants may be awarded for calendar year 2020; the deadline for applications to be received is May 15.

Recipients include:

- Sioux Rapids First UMW, \$1,000 to provide assistance to the Sioux Rapids Food Pantry.
- West Union UMW, \$1,000 to provide assistance to the Open Hands Food Ministry of the North Fayette Valley Ministers Association.
- Center Chapel UMW, \$1,000 to provide assistance to the Helping Hand food pantry in Indianola.
- Archer UMW, \$1,000 to provide assistance to the Sheldon Summer Lunch Program.

In addition, ***Be Bold*** grants have been awarded to women in ministry to participate in an educational event or class. Recipients include:

- Rev. Joni Hickey of Thurman, \$350 for tuition assistance to St. Paul's School of Theology in Leawood, Kan.
- Rev. Joan Thomas of Greene,