



The Janesville Bridge

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

424 Sycamore Street, PO Box 358, Janesville, Iowa 50647

janesvilleumc@gmail.com 319-987-2596

[facebook.com/Janesville.UMC](https://www.facebook.com/Janesville.UMC)

Pastor Mike Carey

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30-12:30

Sunday Worship:

Sunday School 9:15 AM

Fellowship: 10:00 AM

Worship: 10:30 AM

Mike's Musings

page 1 of 2

2018! Wow!! 2017 didn't stick around long, did it? Did you make any New Year resolutions? Here are the top ten categories for New Year resolutions in order of popularity:

1. Spend more time with friends and family
2. Get fit
3. Lose weight
4. Quit smoking
5. Enjoy life more
6. Quit drinking
7. Get out of debt
8. Learn something new
9. Help others
10. Get organized

Most of those are pretty good, but do you notice anything missing? With the exception of #9 – helping others – there is NO direct connection to the realm of the spiritual. Spirituality can be implied with several of them. For example, anything that makes you healthier, I would say, would have a spiritual component to it; but, there is nothing there about prayer/meditation, reading Scripture, self fulfillment or inner peace. I find that odd.

Mike's Musings

page 2 of 2

My prayer for you in 2018 is that you would know the peace of Christ that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:7) will fill and guard your hearts and minds for all of 2018 and beyond.

Even though I am praying for you this way does not mean it will automatically happen. There is nothing magical about spiritual growth. You have to be intentional about it. Nor is it the result of good works, although, if you are growing spiritually, you will have good works (James 2:14-26).

If you want to know God, you must seek God's face and the God who desires to hide nothing from you will make Himself known to you. However, it will take time and effort on your part. It will be time well spent and invested but it will be up to you.

That is my prayer/wish for you for 2018.
May you know all of God's best for your life.

Pastor Mike





January 2

7:00pm Finance

January 4

1:00pm UMW

January 7

9:15am Sunday School

10:30am Worship

January 9

9:30-11:30am

Pastor Mike at District Office

7:00pm Trustees

January 13

8:00am Men's Breakfast

January 14

9:15am Sunday School

10:30am Worship

11:30am SPPRC meets after worship

January 21

9:15am Sunday School

10:30am Worship

January 25

1:00pm Z-Team

January 28

9:15am Sunday School

10:30am Worship

11:30 Ad Council meets after worship

Study & Support Group

Tuesdays at 10:00 am

January

2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Pastor Mike at Hudson

Wednesdays

January

3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Bible Study

Thursdays at 9:00 am

January

4, 11, 18, 25

(no bible study on 28)

Choir Practice

Thursdays at 4:30 pm

January

4, 11, 18, 25



page 1 of 2

It was a true joy for the UMW to end the calendar year with their annual Christmas potluck and a special program. One of our church choir members, Jane Fauser, presented a topical program about JOY. “J” stands for Jesus, “O” stands for others, and “Y” stands for yourself. She read from Colossians and Luke about the joy that is coming and the joy that is in Jesus. She gave every attendee a decorated brown paper bag filled with momentos of the joy in the Christmas season, such as: a Christmas card complete with a stamp to send to someone in need of joy, love and peace; a candy cane; a packet of hot chocolate powder; a Life Saver; a Christmas tree ornament; and we sang “Joy to the World”. She truly filled our hearts with joy and gave us a very uplifting program.

Only 26 persons attended, including some guests, but everyone left with a full “tummy”. Methodist women are well experienced with successful potlucks. Members of the Tuesday Morning Bible Study Group opened with devotions from Luke 2, read by Esther Folkerds. The devotions compared the situation of Joseph and Mary, who had no place to stay in Bethlehem, with that of people made homeless by floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and immigration. Communities need to remember those who have no place to live or are newcomers.

Lolita Huber gave the “response” moment from the December issue, which as usual, had several worthwhile articles. This issue contained information about the 2018 Reading Program and how it inspires women to grow in faith and lead in action. It also had an article about the First United Methodist Church in Mason City and their annual spring rummage sale. They made \$5,400 for UMW mission projects to help families all over the world.

Those with health concerns or in health care facilities, and our First Responders were asked to be remembered in our prayers as well as our UMW efforts in Guatemala, which provides educational opportunities for children in rural areas, and in rural Appalachia, which helps meet community needs by developing disciples through holistic ministries. (The later two from our UMW Prayer Calendar.)

Correspondence included an update from Gwen Burkes Allen on her activities in Guatemala and several “thank yous” for our recent donations...Hillcrest, Camp Courageous, and the Northeast Iowa Food Bank and “thank yous” from the families of Jeanette Vossberg and Marcella Busch.



page 2 of 2

The Janesville UMW also received a Platinum Certificate for being a 5-Star Unit by giving a Pledge to Mission, a donation to the World Thank Offering, Gifts in Memory, in Mission, and Special Mission Recognition. The UMW will work with the Trustees to find a place to display the Certificate.

The treasurer reported a checking account balance of \$5,436.72 and savings at \$2,970.03. The quilting group donated \$500 toward church apportionments and the unit also voted to give \$1,000 toward apportionments.

Routine reports were given by officers and committees. Dorothy Fisher distributed Reading Program Certificates and spoke about the 2018 Program book. She will be compiling the 2018 Yearbook for the unit. Circles can give their information to her. JoAnne Dierks reported on sending get well, sympathy, birthday, and thinking of you cards for the unit. Esther Circle will be enjoying dining at the Wild Carrot this month. Mary Deborah Circle dined out at a tea room in Aplington. Naomi Circle will have a Fellowship Dinner on December 10, following church service and the Sunday School Christmas Program. The free-will offering proceeds will be given to the church for apportionments. 2017 Mission awards will be announced at the December 10 church service.

15 small Christmas boxes and 6 large Christmas boxes were prepared and distributed for shut-ins and staff. 3 plants were given to those with dietary issues. (Sunday School teachers all requested to give their boxes to others in need.) UMW officers for 2018 were installed by the Pastor. Officers for 2017 were elected again for 2018.

The next UMW meeting will be held January 4, 2018 in Court Chapel at 1:00 pm. There will be a Prayer and Self Denial Program given by our Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Mary Burkes, and Offering taken. Cindy Spencer will give a "response" moment. The Tuesday Morning Bible Study Group will host. Our UMW meetings are open to all ladies of the church. Please join us.



News from the PEC Committee

TIME TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS

It's time to think about completing and submitting grant applications to the PEC Committee. Applications must be submitted no later than February 28, 2018 to be considered for the March 2018 grant distribution. Application forms can be picked up in the entry by Court Chapel or downloaded from the Church website.

Application requests must fall into one of the following four categories:

- Christian Education
- Community Service and Outreach
- Mission Funds
- Capital Improvement

Remembering that \$320,000 of the original Endowment investment was withdrawn and used for completion of the church's remodeling project, it is safe to believe there may not be as many grant dollars to award this year. However, the PEC Committee encourages members, committees and church groups to study their "dreams" and/or needs and complete grant applications accordingly.

While in all likelihood not all grants will be fully funded, the PEC Committee will review all applications and distribute grant funds as equitably as possible.

Completed applications may be turned in to the church office, to any PEC Committee member or placed in the PEC mail slot outside the entry to Court Chapel.

Start "dreaming" today. Complete and submit your application prior to February 28, 2018.

PEC Committee Members

Virginia Robinson
Tom Charley
Mike Wienhold
Shelly Osborn
Lolita Huber

MISSIONS



across the street & around the world

Mitten Tree

Thank you for your generous donations to the Mitten Tree. 49 stocking hats, 85 pairs of gloves, 3 pairs of mittens, 1 scarf, and 6 pairs of infant socks were donated. The total value was over \$700!! These were distributed to the Janesville School, Bremwood, and Cedar Valley Friends of the Family. Thank you especially for the much needed larger sizes for older school age children and teenagers.

2017 Missions Report

Thank you so much for all your generous donations for the special offerings and projects throughout the year. Here are the totals for the year to date:

UMCOR Sunday (One Great Hour)	\$160.00
Food Bank	\$365.00
Blanket Sunday	\$495.00
Imagine No Malaria	\$160.00
Hurricane Relief	\$440.00
Relay for Life	\$450.00
Food Bank Backpack Program	\$512.80
Good Samaritan Fund	\$251.00

Also, the value of the donations to the following projects are as follows:

Annual Conference Mission Kits	\$660.00 plus \$147.00 shipping costs
Ingathering Mission Kits	\$871.00 plus \$169.00 shipping costs
Mitten Tree	\$738.00

The Mission Committee



January 7:

Liturgist - Virginia Robinson

Greeters - Christena Charley

Ushers - Tom & Christena Charley, Brad Ruth

Communion Servers - Gene & Virginia Robinson

January 14:

Liturgist - Gary Shaulis

Greeters - Matt & Amy Shook

Ushers - Dick & Karen Funk

January 21:

Liturgist - Deb Wienhold

Greeters - Willy & Nikki Haan

Ushers - Scott & Kim Knapp

January 28:

Liturgist - Rita Ruth

Greeters - Dave & Mary Peters

Ushers - Gary Shaulis, Dave Beenblossom





Prayer Requests

Prayers for our shut-ins visited by our Shepherds:

Roberta Rockwood
Virginia Stensland
Dick Purdy
Robert & Jean Altenheim
Richard Wireman
Bob Rice
Flo Shephard
Evelyn Wubbena
Karen Webb
Marlys Cook

Please pray for:

All Nursing Home Residents
All serving in the Military
All Veterans
Fire Fighters
First Responders
Students and Teachers
Patti Baldwin
Bob Rice
Bob Hubbell
Scott Turner
Monte Nuehring

***If you have a prayer concern
or would like to be added to
the prayer list, please call the
office.***

319-987-2596

***Also - please inform the office
when it is OK to remove anyone
from the prayer list.***

Prayer Concerns

Continued prayers for Dennis Osborn and his family as he battles cancer.

Prayers for Themis Stratiou and family, as he recovers from a fall, which fractured his femur and pelvis.



Birthdate

Elizabeth Widner	1/2
Chole Kiene	1/3
Karla Whitney	1/3
Zac Wrage	1/4
Justin Shook	1/5
Esther Folkerds	1/6
Del Shepard	1/6
Cecilia Baldwin	1/8
Laurel Stratiou	1/9
Justin Lockett	1/10
Dylan Wrage	1/10
Austin Conradi	1/11
Myron Destival	1/11
Jean Eibey	1/12
Gina Destival	1/15
Marilyn Lee	1/15
Betty Jean Borgwardt	1/16
Kathy Whitney	1/16
Blake Destival	1/17
Mark Herbst	1/18
Jeremy Johnson	1/18
Brandi Immerzeel	1/19
Brad Ruth	1/19
Charlotte Brickman	1/20
Shari Kirkpatrick	1/20
Lisa Borglum	1/22
Tim Nisius	1/23
Jodi West	1/24
Janet Destival	1/25
Ethan Ver Steeg	1/25
Reid Woodyard	1/25
Jennifer Brickman	1/28
Stanley Saunders	1/28
Cynthia Spencer	1/28
Dustin Brocka	1/29
Amanda Dobbs	1/30



January Anniversaries

Dennis & Laurie Dilley	1/10/71
Bob & Janeen Hubbell	1/30/71





I want to thank Tom Brickman, Sharon Barr, Sue Stapleton, Pastor Mike, the SPPRC, and the UMW for all the kind thoughts and treats bestowed upon me over the Christmas season. Not only do I work at a job I love, but I am constantly reminded of the wonderful, giving people I work with. You are all such a blessing to me!

Many thanks to you all,
Barb

I want to thank the SPPRC for the lovely Christmas centerpiece they gave me. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

Also, I want to thank the UMW for the great assortment of Christmas goodies.

Thanks again,
Darlene Glawe

Thank you to the UMW for the poinsettia and card. We have the poinsettia on our table and are really enjoying it.

Also, a thank you to everyone for their visits, calls, cards, and help - especially the Shepherds and Pastor Mike. We are blessed to have such a caring church family.

Best wishes for a Very Happy New Year,
John & Lois Boeck



Thanks to everyone that makes and puts together the yearly Christmas goodies. They were great like always.

Thank you again,
Nick Ni\$iu\$

Merry Christmas!

THANK YOU to the Men's breakfast groups for the very generous Christmas gift. It is my great pleasure to serve your group!

THANK YOU to the UMW for the great service honor presented to me. It is very humbling and appreciated.

Thanks so much!!
Lisa



Thank You! Thank you to everyone for all the cards, gifts, thoughts, and prayers this holiday season. I truly appreciate you all. We just came through quite a year together. We have seen God do some pretty incredible things. I have been blessed to see it all and to be part of the process. However, I believe this is only the beginning. I believe God wants to do a mighty work in this church, so stick around and be ready. God is not done with us yet. He's only getting started.

Pastor Mike

January 7 is the Sunday when we will hang and dedicate the memorial plaque in the Sanctuary thanking God for the gift given to the church by the Hackett families. Plan to be with us.





Iowa United Methodist Foundation Scholarship Application Information

Scholarship Applications Open December 1, 2017!

The United Methodist Foundation is excited to announce a new easy to use online only scholarship application process for the 2018-2019 academic year. All applications and required documents are now paperless! Not only will students apply online, but all required documents such as essays, references, transcripts, and any other required documents will be gathered online as well.

Find out which scholarship may be for you by going to the Foundation website at: www.iumpf.org/scholarships To see if you meet the qualifications, select the criteria of the individual scholarship. Please note not all of the scholarships have the same criteria requirements.

If you are interested, know of someone who may be interested, or need more information, please contact the church office for details, or visit the office to read the informational flyer.