

The Janesville Bridge



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

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November 2020 Newsletter

Janesville United Methodist Church

Dear JUMC Families from Pastor Audrey:)

The prayers of just one righteous person avails much, according to the Book of James, believed to be written by the brother of our Lord Jesus. Are you praying daily or don't you think you are righteous enough so that your prayers won't avail much of anything. You're right, we are not righteous through our own doing, however it says in Romans 5:1-2: *Since we have been made righteous through His faithfulness combined with our faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Just because our prayers are not answered the way we expect, doesn't mean they are not heard and answered in God's time and plan. By reading other Bible versions and translations of James chapter 5, verse 16, we can understand it better. Especially when we remember that prayers are not merely a list of our needs and wants, but a list of all we have that God has already provided.

The prayer of the righteous person is powerful in what it can achieve. CEB

The prayer of an innocent person is powerful, and it can help a lot. CEV

The earnest prayer of a righteous man has great power and wonderful results. TLB

If you are still thinking you don't qualify as righteous or good enough, try doing the first part of the verse to relieve yourself of guilt and shame. Make this your common practice: *Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.* Message

If one person's prayers who is prayed up and confessed up to God can be so powerful and make such great things happen, what if you and I all pray the

same prayer every day for the month of November? Wonder what God would do with that many prayers of that many persons who love God! Shall we try it to see what happens? Here's a prayer of Thanksgiving we could all be praying daily:

Dear God,

**Thank You for Your amazing power
and work in our lives.**

**Thank You for Your goodness
and for Your blessings over us.**

**Thank You that You are able to bring hope
through even the toughest of times,
strengthening us for Your purposes.**

Thank You for Your great love and care.

Thank You for Your mercy and grace.

**Thank You that You are always with us
and will never leave us.**

**Thank You for Your incredible sacrifice
so that we might have freedom and life.**

**Forgive us for when we don't thank You enough,
for who You are, for all that You do,
for all that You've given.**

**Help us to set our eyes and our hearts
on You afresh.**

**Renew our spirits, fill us with Your peace and joy.
We love You and we need You,
this day and every day.**

**We give You praise and thanks,
for You alone are worthy!**

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

May God bless us all with a happy and healthy thanksgiving season. Pastor Audrey:)

All Saints Sunday, November 1

Dear ones of the JUMC family
who have lost loved ones this past year,

You are not forgotten in your grieving and sorrow. You are prayed for and remembered. And because it is helpful to share one another's joys and sorrows, we are setting aside Sunday, November 1, 2020, as an *All Saints Day* observance. You & your family are especially invited to come join us for 10:30 am Worship. We are practicing COVID restrictions, so wear your masks, practice distancing and hand sanitizing.

All Saints Day is a sometimes-overlooked holy day in United Methodist congregations. It is not nearly as well known as the day before, All Hallows' (Saints') Eve, better known as Halloween, but is far more important in the life of the church. *All Saints Day* is an opportunity to give thanks for all those who have gone before us in the faith. From the early days of Christianity, there is a sense that the Church consists of all living believers, as well as all who have gone before us. For example, in Hebrews 12 the author encourages Christians to remember that a "great cloud of witnesses" surrounds us, encouraging us, cheering us on.

I hope you will allow us to include all those who lost their lives to COVID as well as your beloved.

If you are not able to attend in person, we will record the event and post it on our facebook page and website where you can also find our weekly worship services.

A verse that I have kept close since my own husband's sudden death 25 years ago is this, "*Mourning keeps her own calendar. She rendezvous in scents, in dreams, in certain seasons. Do not shun her; for her errand is mercy. Pause with her for tea and tears.*" And then remember "*Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.*" Psalm 30:5

In Christ's love and mercy,
Pastor Audrey H. Westendorf

NO Sunday School at this time

All Saints Day A Time for Remembering

Rev. Patricia Eastman, Virginia's sister

Cheryl Immerzeel

Fred Hallberg

Hap Spencer

John and Sandra Brucher

Tom Britt

Milt Dobbs

Alvin Schipper, Cindy Dobb's dad

Cindy, Nancy Bloker's daughter

Dennis Peters, Dave's brother

Diane Liming, Colleen's daughter in law

Craig Liming, Colleen's son

Chet Goodrich, Nikki Haan's dad

Nick Nisius

(Are there others?)

Charge Conference and COVID

Because of Covid, the way we did Charge Conf this year was totally different. It wasn't the enjoyable 20 minutes of business and then warm pie from the oven and ice cream like last year's. It was all done online through zoom. And because of the short time frame given us for preparation and wanting to avoid in-person meetings as much as possible because of Covid, we went ahead and used 2020 information, put it into 2021 almost as though the business of 2020 didn't happen, and went directly to Ad Council/Board on October 4 without committee meetings, then directly to the online zoom Charge Conference on October 11. Apportionments are less in 2021 so that reduced the Budget. And the Board tweaked the 2021 goals a bit. We apologize if anyone felt left out of the process but hope you understand the need for continued safety against the virus for all concerned."

You and the public are
Now Able to Order

Cranberry Relish

by calling Janet at
319-231-9265.



Fruit Pies by
calling Rita at
319-231-7274.

For pick- up after November 12.

(Do you have new or used flats &
rings for relish jars to donate?)

Sunday, November 1, 2020

Dedication of Mission Kits

and items for Ingathering,
Saturday, November 7, 2020

Mission kits will be taken to Ingathering
on Saturday, November 7th. If you would
like to bring them before the 1st, put them
with the others on the steps in sanctuary.

For details, go to "[http://
www.midwestmission.org/kits-projects-
patterns/midwest-mission](http://www.midwestmission.org/kits-projects-patterns/midwest-mission)." Donate there
or grateful for checks to the church with
Ingathering in memo line also.

There can be space for YOUR article HERE
next month. Email your news to
janesvilleumc@gmail.com
about what's happening at JUMC.

November UMWomen Scripture

Rejoice always, pray continually, give
thanks in all circumstances; for this is
God's will for you in Christ Jesus
1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18
No November UMW or Circle meetings.

Free Desk available

If any one is interested in a dark wood,
5 drawer desk, it's free for the asking.
Contact Cindy Mau at 319-230-5278.

Just in case you are wondering:

Black Hawk County COVID Statistics

6779 & 102 on 10/30 RED (+132) 15%
6647 & 102 on 10/29. RED (140) 13.6%
6507 & 101 on 10/28 RED (131+3 deaths).12.5%
6376 & 98 on 10/27. (74). 10.9%
6302 & 98 on 10/26. (72). 10.5%
6230 & 98 on 10/24. (97) 10.1%
6133 & 98 on 10/23 (82) 9.5%
6051 & 98 on 10/22 (47 & 2 deaths) 9.1%.
6004 & 96 on 10/21. (78). 9.1%.
5926 & 96 on 10/20. (26). 8.5%
5900 & 96 on 10/19/20 (11) 8.7%
5889 & 96 on 10/18/20. (36) 8.7%
5853 & 96 on 10/17 (111-2dy) 8.5%
5741 & 96 on 10/15. (48). 8.3%
5693 & 96 on 10/14 (38) 8%
5655 & 96 on 10/13 (14) 7.8%
5641 & 96 on 10/12. (8). 7.8%
5633 & 96 on 10/11. (114) 7.7%
5519 & 95 on 10/9. (53). 6.7%
5466 & 95 on 10/8 (40). 6.1%
5426 & 95 on 10/7. (41 & 1). 5.7%
5385 & 94 on 10/06. (17) 5.2%

**COVID offers new and easier
Christmas Giving Ideas.**

**ANGEL TREE AND
MITTEN TREE TO BE COMBINED**

Because of the unknowns around COVID, the three organizations to which we usually give actual Christmas gifts are requesting gift cards instead of actual gifts. They are...

Bremwood at LSI.

North Star Community Services

Friends of the Family



To make your shopping even easier, we suggest you donate cash or check through JUMC, in lieu of actual gifts. JUMC will purchase gift cards, divide and deliver them to the three groups. We have also been offered the opportunity to support a family or two in need.

Watch your postal mail for more details.

Friends of the Family

Our communities across Iowa are facing homelessness, domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. While we are actively providing safe shelters, confidential services, and housing assistance to those in need, we need **your** help to make our efforts go even further!

Your support is crucial to our efforts to end violence and homelessness.

Here are the ways you can donate:

Make a donation on line at www.fofia.org/make-a-donation

Call us at 319-352-1108 or e-mail erin@fofia.org

Send a check (no cash please)

Fill out a pledge card and we can send you an invoice at a later date.

NORTH STAR COMMUNITY SERVICES



Our own Colette Ruth of North Star, made this Christmas giving suggestion for 2020.

Right now we are limiting our community outings for drinks and coffee to HyVee when the weather gets bad. We were going to parks and walks before. We are still not allowing visitors. We are trying to connect with friends by snail mail.



LSI will not be accepting the traditional list of needed items requested by the Bremwood Auxiliary.

Let us pray

Lorraine Hallberg
on loss of husband Fred
Colleen Liming and family on the death of her
daughter-in-law, Diane, wife of her son John
Tom & Char Brickman
Nikki & Willy Haan family on the loss of her
dad to cancer.
Wendy Brace
Johnny & Esther Folkerds
Ruth May Hamilton
Jan Guzman
Dennis Osborn & family
Marge Grandon
Evelyn Johnson recovering
Flo Shephard
Evelyn Wubbena
Marlys Cook
De & Carol Dix
Georgia Eibey
Linda Stroud
Barb Cooper recovering
Helen Dettmer
Any others?

For persons to fill leadership positions
Lolita Huber wrote to say she'd love to have
visitors (call first for appointment) or letters at
Willow Winds, Unit 15, 121 Bremer Ave,
Denver, 50622

Wedding blessings to
Ethan and Emily Ruth Hogle

November Birthdates

Madaline Schuldt	11/4
Ava Marie Kolaas	11/5
Bill Bloker	11/6
Angela Robinson	11/6
Chelsey Wrage	11/6
Chris Charley	11/7
Roger Heiser	11/7
Rich Borglum	11/8
Charles Immerzeel	11/11
Colin Brocka	11/12
Wendy Brace	11/14
Lorraine Hallberg	11/14
Brooke Jans	11/14
Robin Sorge	11/15
Virginia Robinson	11/16
Will Baker	11/16
Tim Yochum	11/19
Morgan Marie Saunders	11/19
Craig Hansmeier	11/20
Laurie Dilley	11/21
Benjamin Timion	11/21
Willy Haan	11/22
Heath Mills	11/23
Natalie Straw	11/23
Nick Nisius	11/24
Richard DeMott	11/25
Danielle Dilley	11/25
John Folkerds	11/26
Kyle Johnson	11/26
Joan Bishop	11/29
Ryan Destival	11/29
Paula Wrage	11/30

Have You Answered the Birthday and Anniversary Challenge?

A decade ago, the idea began to give opportunity for church family members to give \$1 per year for their birthday and wedding anniversaries. The humorous part is that the ones who offered the idea are now teasing because it's getting expensive! Each year, this gift challenge has provided over \$2,000 to the church's general fund. Thank you.

(Are there November anniversaries we're missing?)

Just a little more info about one of our Christmas mission organizations

FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY

TAKE A STAND - the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence call to action meant to bring attention to the issue of domestic violence for Domestic Violence Awareness Month and through the year. By taking a stand we intend to remind the nation that there are still countless people—victims and survivors, their children and families, their friends and family, their communities—impacted by domestic violence. We, all of us, should not stop until society has zero tolerance for domestic violence and until all victims and survivors can be heard.

- * On the average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the U.S. During one year, this equates to more than 10 million women and men.
- * On a typical day, there are more than 20,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide.
- * Victims of intimate partner violence lose a total of 8 million days of paid work each year.
- * The cost of intimate partner violence exceeds \$8.3 billion per year.
- * Between 20-60% of victims of intimate partner violence lose their jobs due to reasons stemming from the abuse.
- * **What will you do to TAKE A STAND?**

TOP NEEDS at Friends of the Family:

We are currently experiencing a dramatic rise in the services that we are providing to victims of violence. We believe this is, in part, due to the prolonged isolation and stress caused by COVID. And we need help to keep up with the pace at which we are going through certain supplies at Friends' House, our emergency shelter. If you are

able to donate any of the following, please contact Monique at 319-352-1108 to arrange drop off, or items can be ordered online and sent to 3835 W 9th St, Waterloo, IA 50702. (NOT THRU JUMC)

towels, wash clothes, laundry soap, wet wipes, cleaning products, Clorox wipes, paper products, masks.

Donations are an important part of the support system we weave for those we serve. We thank you and continue to be humbled by the generosity of our supporters.

At the first of the year, we made some changes to our donation policy, due to limited staff and storage capacity. We no longer accept used clothing, shoes, household items, furniture or used toys and stuffed animals. However, we are excited to announce partnerships with Trinkets & Togs in Waverly and Stuff Etc. in Waterloo and Cedar Rapids, in where community members can donate items on our behalf. The funds collected are then used to provide vouchers to clients, allowing them to purchase needed items at these locations.

When donating you must follow the location's donations procedures and request proceeds to be directed to Friends of the Family. For questions, please contact monique@fofia.org or 319-352-1108.

Fall Fundraiser is ONLINE Friday, Nov 6 from 6-8 pm. Tickets are available for \$40 each and include access to the virtual event, online auction, and 1 in 500 chance at winning the trip to Napa. Sponsors and groups of 6+ will have a party box, including food and beverages, delivered to their specified location in the Cedar Valley and Waverly on the day of the event. Tickets. Check it out at fofia.org/news event/a-night-in or erin @fofia.org or 319-883-6623.

EMAIL FROM Iowa UMC BISHOP LAURIE

Greetings in the name of our God who is, and was, and is to come.

With November right around the corner and bringing with it some of our most sacred holy days and holidays, many of us find ourselves looking back on these last 7+ months in amazement at all that has been part of our living these days. We have been walking through a global pandemic and if that wasn't enough, we have also been navigating environmental, economic, social and national crises. The weeks behind us may have burdened us, but they have not broken us.

The weeks ahead are traditionally some of the most celebrated in our churches as we near the end of our Christian year, including All Saints Day, Christ the King, and Thanksgiving. Woven into these days of hope and gratitude are the many demands being placed on local churches to produce virtual and, in some locations, in-person worship in these challenging times.

One of the consistent statements we have heard from our laity and pastors during annual interviews and into charge conferences is that for many worship teams, the demands of virtual worship and the learning curves therein have stretched the imagination and innovation of our pastors, worship teams, music staff, and technical volunteers and they are weary. Many simply need a break as we gear up for the season ahead.

As a way of responding with both pastoral care and connectional concern, Bishop Laurie Haller, Cabinet and conference staff offer a worship service for UMc congregations in the Iowa Conference to use. Similar to our first offering this past May, this service is intended to give those who have a role in worship leadership an opportunity to take a sabbath break from the demands of these days.

You will see another email and find the resources on the Conference website by November 9.

It is our prayer and hope this second in a series of worship offerings may be a gift to you and your community as we continue to navigate these unprecedented times together and take a much needed break before we enter into the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Blessings,
Bishop Laurie Haller, the Appointive Cabinet, and Iowa Conference Staff

HELP FOR GRIEF AND THE HOLIDAYS

Thurs, Nov 5 at Tendrils Rooftop Garden, Waverly Health Center from 6:30-7:30 pm

Learn ways to navigate the holiday season, while keeping the memories of loved ones alive.

Presenter is Stacia Danielson, PMHNP-BC, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner at WHC behavioral health.

Free and open to all, but registration is requested by calling 319-483-1360.

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

Encouraging seminar

Thursday, Nov 12 - 6:30-8:30 pm

Crosspoint Church 319-483-5116

215 3rd St NW, Waverly, IA

www.crosspointwaverly.com

(Pastor Audrey's cousin, Shirley and Paul Regenold are leaders of this group.)

When you are grieving a loved one's death, the holiday season can be especially painful. Our Surviving the Holidays seminar helps participants discover:

- *How to deal with emotions.
- *What to do about traditions.
- *Helpful tips for surviving social events
- *How to find hope for the future.

Helpful Brochures also in Office Entryway

Call or text to Pastor Audrey at 641-840-0119 or email her at pastorayoung@gmail.com

OCTOBER-DECEMBER EVENT PLANS

Sunday, Nov 1, 2020: 10:30 All Saints Day and Communion. Read names of those connected to our church family since May 2019. Sue will play a chime with each name. Pastor will light a candle. Currently no Sunday School. COVID has spiked to red code. Daylight Savings time ends. Communion will be served at the end of service since it cannot be served on recording. Brief Ingathering dedication words will be offered.

Thursday, Nov 12: Cranberry Relish & pies can be ordered now through Janet & Rita, respectively, picked up after 12th. Pie making day is 9 am, Monday, Nov 9. Volunteers would be appreciated.

An Angel & Mitten Tree letter explaining Advent and Christmas Gift-Giving will be sent to all church family members, similar to No Turkey Dinner for which we received around \$2,400.

Sunday, Nov 8, 2020: 10:30 am Veterans Day observance. It's not safe for children to have Sunday School, sing or hand out gifts. Possibly a video of kids honoring veterans instead.

Sunday, Nov 15, 2020: 10:30 Worship as usual unless Janesville COVID breakout.

Thanksgiving Sunday, Nov 22, 2020: 10:30 Thanks Worship with Good Samaritan Offering for Bremer County folk.

6:30 pm Thanksgiving Service will be at JUMC inviting the Messiah Lutheran folk to attend. We will include they are invited to worship with us at 10:30 Sundays as well.

Monday, Nov 23: 9 am Prepare sanctuary for Advent and Christmas AND meet to finalize holiday plans. Gene is working on the **outdoor nativity set.**

ALL THESE ARE WITH COVID RESTRICTIONS AND HOPING FOR NO COVID BREAKOUT, WHICH WOULD CANCEL

Sunday, Nov 29: 10:30 First Sunday of Advent. Gene and Virginia will light Advent Wreath.

Sunday, Dec 6, 2020: 10:30 2nd Sunday of Advent, NO Children's program. Janet and Margaret will light Advent Wreath.

Sunday, Dec 13, 2020: 10:30 3rd Sunday of Advent. Jean will ask Confirmation kids to light wreath.

Sunday, Dec 20, 2020: 10:30 4th Sunday of Advent. Rita will ask Brad & Colette to light wreath.

Christmas Eve, Dec 24, 2020: 6 pm Service. Jean will ask Will Schuldt family to light wreath and/or be a live nativity. Joann delivered the glow sticks for everyone.

Wait on **readers for worship** until December because there are so few in worship at this point and COVID went red code this week at 15% this week.

Continue Birthday/Anniversary Challenge even when we complain the older we get the more it costs!

District Askings are not being received as a children's offering this year like last. Suggestion was to ask people to give the \$939 for Askings instead of poinsettias since we don't even know if we'll have any services because of COVID and we can't expect anyone to keep them watered.

It was agreed by consensus that the cost of Angel Tree letters and postage, three dozen ornaments and Christmas cards and postage be taken from the Z-Team's grant money.

Virginia, PEC chpn, offered the correct information for grant amounts.

Meeting adjourned.

**WATCH FOR & “REPLY ALL”
TO EMAILS FROM CHURCH,
PASTOR AND CHURCH LEADERS.**

janestvilleumc@gmail.com

pastorayoung@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 meetings.

**Check out these resources
to understand the UMChurch
including where the money goes...**

[Welcome to ResourceUMC.org!](http://ResourceUMC.org)

ResourceUMC is a new site rich with content from around The United Methodist Church – all to provide quick access to the information and inspiration local church and connectional leaders need to make effective disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

<https://www.resourceumc.org/>

[Mission Moments](#)

[Six Special Sundays and Offerings](#)

[UMC Giving videos](#)

[UMC Giving.org](#)



The United Methodist Church is called a connectional church because it shares its resources across all levels of the denomination to improve the lives of many through mission and justice work.

So our offering plate dollars fund the pastor and maintain the church, and help alleviate hunger, create jobs and contribute mightily to helping transform the world to look more like God's kingdom here on earth.

General agencies such as United Methodist Committee on Relief are often in the front lines when disaster strikes in far away places.

A growing list of resources is available via links found on the left side column of this page.