

GOTHENBURG FIRST UNITED  
 METHODIST  
 1401 LAKE AVENUE  
 GOTHENBURG, NE 69138  
 REV. GRACE GICHURU

October 2020– Volume 31– Issue 10

## FAMILY MATTERS IS BACK!!!

This fun evening is for ALL! Thirty hungry and fun loving people attended on September 23rd, and pizza was served by Jodi Hinds and Sharon Sukraw. All church adults and youth are welcomed to attend for food and fellowship. Pastor Grace would like to begin and adult Bible Study after the meal on these evenings while the youth are busy with their devotions.



Pictured are:  
 (top left) Jenna Anderson,  
 (top right) Bodey Tederman,  
 and  
 (bottom center) Kathryn Bartruff.

**TRAIN UP** a CHILD  
 in **THE WAY** he SHOULD GO;  
 even when HE IS OLD  
 he **WILL NOT DEPART** from it.  
PROVERBS 22:6

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Christmas already?! Shoebox gifts will be collected from November 16-23. For the past six years we have served as a drop off center and taken a trailer with gifts to Kearney. This year we will collect gifts from our church as we did previously and deliver our gifts to a near by drop-off center. These shoe box gifts are an opportunity to introduce Jesus to children and youth worldwide. Boxes will be available for you in October. You can also choose to fill a box online at any time. The Samaritan's Purse website gives information on tracking and online shoebox gifts.

Thank You,



## MUCH THANKS

We at Dudley Elementary cannot thank you enough for all the school supply donations. It is a blessing to have supplies to give students when their needs arise throughout the school year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, and does not go unnoticed by any of the administration, teachers, or staff. Thank you again for all your thoughtfulness.

## THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for the Gratitude Journal and scholarship! I have grown up in this church and have so many memories at Youth Group, Vacation Bible School, and Mission Trips. Thank you to the congregation for volunteering to teach the younger generations! Thanks for everything!

~Madeline Jorgenson

## COLLEGE ADDRESSES

If you have or are a college student, either at home, online, or on campus, please send your addresses to us so we can keep in touch with our students!! We would also love it if you would share your email addresses with us as well. You can submit them to the office at:

secretary@gothenburgumc.org  
or stevens.lynnette@gmail.com



## THANKS A BUNCH!

Thanks to each and all for your donations to our school supply drive!! Because of your generosity we were able to give supplies to help students who may have needed some help filling their supply list:

- |                                       |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>25 notebook</b>                    | <b>6 pencil boxes</b>               |
| <b>25 folders</b>                     | <b>5 packages of highlighters</b>   |
| <b>30 glue sticks</b>                 | <b>5 backpacks</b>                  |
| <b>30 boxes of crayons</b>            | <b>4 packages of erasers</b>        |
| <b>12 packages of markers</b>         | <b>3 rulers</b>                     |
| <b>7 scissors</b>                     | <b>2 bottles hand sanitizer</b>     |
| <b>11 packages of colored pencils</b> | <b>12 bottles of glue</b>           |
| <b>6 boxes of Kleenex</b>             | <b>1 package dry erase marker</b>   |
|                                       | <b>1 container sanitizing wipes</b> |

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1– Eldon Haynes                                   | 24– Tyler Stienike                      |
| 4– June Sabin, Tom Shea                           | 25– Susan Kirkpatrick                   |
| 7– Greenlee Jeffries                              | 26– Randy Burge, Chaseton Blauvelt      |
| 10– Jami Brundage, Mike Ackerman, Carolyn Simmons | 27– Allen Fickenscher, Angela Easterday |
| 11– Mike McVay                                    | 29– Marilyn Erlandson                   |
| 14– Amy Harrison                                  | 30– Brian Weiss                         |
| 15– Maddy Anderson                                |   |
| 16– Dennis VanOverbeke, Matt Ostergard            |   |
| 21– Cedric Bryant                                 |   |
| 22– Lynn Vass, Tim Fecht                          |   |
| 23– Barbra Franzen                                |   |





# *From the Pastor's Desk*

## **2020 Charge Conference**

The Charge Conference this year will be conducted different than previous years.

The Bishop and the Cabinet have authorized a modified process for conducting a charge conference during the pandemic. At a designated Church Council/Leadership Team meeting, the Council will act as an Executive Agent of the Church Conference to confirm forms and will be the voting body on items that need a vote.

The District Superintendent is authorizing this process under the provisions provided in the United Methodist Book of Discipline in ¶244.1. The DS will serve more as a reviewer than a presider in this plan.

We will have further conversations about this process in our common table meeting.

The downside of this way of conducting our church conferences simply does not allow for district fellowship. To meet this need, a webinar is provided on October 18th at 3pm that will focus on the Wesleyan ministry emphasis, Seek Justice. Led by Rev. Dr. Kalaba Chali. Everyone is encouraged to attend this webinar as it will be the basis for our 2021 vision and goals as a congregation.

## **Just for laughs “GOD TELLS ME”**

Churchman Bill Keane, creator of the popular “Family Circus” comic strip, tells of a time when he was penciling-in one of his cartoons and his son Jeffy asked, “Daddy, how do you know what to draw?” Keane answered, “God tells me.” Then Jeffy innocently responded, “Then why do you keep erasing parts of it?”

Blessings ya’ll.  
Pastor Grace.



**Senior Life Solutions** is an intensive outpatient counseling program for adults 65 and older. Services offered include: group therapy, individual therapy, family therapy, mental health evaluation, medication education community resources, and after-care planning. The program is designed to help individuals experiencing any of the following: Physical limitations requiring emotional support, feeling isolated, recent experience of a traumatic event, loss of spouse or close family, loss of interest in previously enjoyed activities, changes in appetite, difficulty sleeping, feeling loss of independence, loss of energy, caretakers who need emotional support.

Emotional support from the comfort of your home using telephone or computer is available for those who do not want to get out. Anyone can make a referral to senior Life Solutions. To make a referral, or for more information, call (308) 537-1030. All services are confidential.

## The Beat

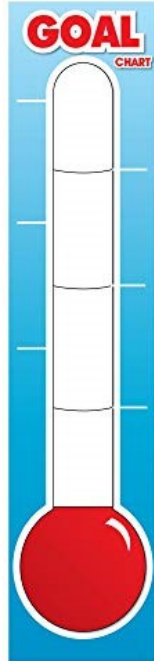
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### FUNDS FOR A FURNACE

Fundraising is still ongoing to help cover the cost of a new compressor and other repairs for the unit that supplies our fellowship hall with climate control. Our goal is to raise \$9,999 which will cover the cost of the new compressor and then give us some “left over” to save for a new unit...because that is coming!! These units are old and in need of attention, so if you want to donate to the cause, please mark “furnace” on the memo line of your preferred donation method and help us raise the temperature on the thermometer and track the progress in the Narthex!! If you have any questions about this please contact any member of the Trustees.



### SENIOR LUNCH BUNCH RETIREMENT GROUP

Lunch Bunch will be gathering at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, October 7th in the Fellowship Hall. Dennis and Carol will be serving root beer and strawberry ice cream floats. All seniors and retirees are invited to this event. We will have a time of trivia, fellowship, and hopefully make plans to continue with future events. If you feel comfortable coming please do and feel free to wear a mask. We will have social distancing in place. Hopefully we will see several of you soon. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Carol VanO at 537-2173.



### FACTS AND FIGURES

General Giving Thru Sept 21 Actual: \$117,898 Budgeted: \$148,210  
Percent of Budgeted: 79.5%  
Paid Apportionments Thru Sept 21 Actual: \$6,413 Budgeted: \$13,949  
Percent of Budgeted: 46%



**Average Attendance for Sept: 45**

#### NEW ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH

Effective immediately! Monday through Friday during office hours, entry to the church may be gained through the west wooden door. This door will be locked again when the office is closed. The daycare will be responsible for locking their entrances AND the north glass doors at 6:00 pm when they close. Meetings that occur after 6:00 pm will have a designated person with a key that will be responsible for locking after the meeting.

#### CELEBRATE RECOVERY

CR is now meeting each Thursday evening at 7:00 pm. They have also added a Zoom option if you don't feel comfortable or can't attend in person. If you need more information or have questions please contact Kevin or Jodi Hinds. Also, if you are willing and interested in providing snacks (pre-packaged) please let us know!!