

### UPDATE ON ERVINA SCOTT

Ervina Scott has moved from Cleghorn to Cherokee. Her new address is 208 East Bow Drive, Apt. #3, Cherokee, IA 51012. Ervina can be reached at this phone number: (712) 225-6463.

### UPDATE ON MAX WALLER

Max Waller has moved to Spencer, Iowa. His new address is Cobble Creek Assisted Living, 2116 1st Avenue East, #4, Spencer, Iowa 51301. Max can be reached at this phone number: (712) 229-9104.

### CHARITY CIRCLE NEWS

UMW'S Charity Circle met on Wednesday, September 16th, at 1:30 p.m. Following COVID-19 safety guidelines, they used one entrance, wore masks, socially distanced, brought their own drinks, and disinfected the dining hall after their meeting. Ten of the fifteen members were present, with Co-Chair Mary Jo Carnine conducting the meeting. Roni Timmerman reported on UMW's Response magazine, and Patti Blum gave a program entitled "Knitted Together for God's Good Works." The program ended with members purchasing washcloths, totaling \$32 for missions. Bakery cookies were furnished by hostess Bonita LaFave. Charity Circle's next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 21st, at 1:30 p.m. in the Schuldt Dining Hall. Ervina Scott will be the hostess, and the program will be given by Sharon Benink.

-Mary Jo Carnine

### NO ELECTION DAY LUNCHEON IN 2020

The UMW Executive Board, with input from two other committees, has made the decision to cancel the Election Day luncheon this year. Due to the increase of the coronavirus in Cherokee and the surrounding areas, we do not want to put any of our volunteers or our patrons at risk. We look forward to seeing everyone next year!

-Patti Blum

### CDs OF SUNDAY'S SERVICES

Pastor Cris is continuing to make CDs of the St. Paul's Sunday morning services available to anyone who is unable to watch the services that are livestreamed through the internet. He will be glad to drop off a CD at your home, unobtrusively, each Sunday, upon request. In addition, one copy of the DVD of the service is currently being carried to two homes. You are welcome to request this copy, and we will get you on the DVD chain of delivery. Please leave your request on the church's answering machine at (712) 225-3955.

### INGATHERING 2020

To our St. Paul's UMC family:

It is time to start thinking about Ingathering 2020. It will be held here in our church parking lot in November. We will be making some hygiene kits and also 100 school kits. We want to give special thanks to Jeanne Blackstone and Barb Kratz who made 100 school bags for us to use! **We are asking you to please give monetary donations this year.** We plan to order the supplies for the kits online at prices that cannot be found in any store. We'd appreciate it if you'd make your donations as soon as possible, so we can estimate what to buy for our kits. If you write a check, please make it out to St. Paul's UMC and write "Ingathering" on the memo line.

Thanks, so much, for your support!

-St. Paul's Missions and Ingathering Committee

### FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

St. Paul's Finance Committee met on Tuesday, September 15th, to start the 2021 budget process. The committee members made a lot of progress that evening on the budget, and they will meet again on Tuesday, October 13th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Schuldt Dining Hall to finalize next year's budget.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

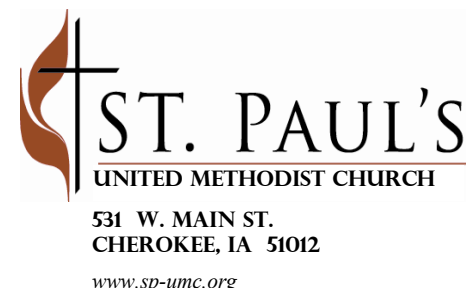
St. Paul's Staff/Parish Relations Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 6th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Feller Lounge.

The UMW Executive Board will meet on Monday, October 12th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Schuldt Dining Hall.

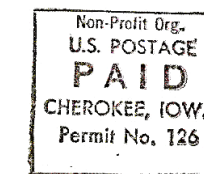
St. Paul's Administrative Board will meet on Thursday, October 15th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Schuldt Dining Hall.

### CONTACT US

Church Phone (712) 225-3955  
Pastor Cris's phone (515) 423-6421  
The Rev. Cris Decious cris.decious@iaumc.net  
Meribeth Adams meribethadams@outlook.com



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS

We extend our warmest congratulations to Mary Jo Carnine and all of her family. Mary Jo's grandson, Shane Bellefy, and his wife Kristen, welcomed twin sons Bensen Palmer and Broden Payne on Tuesday, August 25th. The boys were born at St. Luke's Hospital in Sioux City. Bensen and Broden were welcomed home by their sister, Breckynn, and their brother Blaine. Bensen and Broden's very proud grandparents are Dan and Barb Winchell of Cherokee, Larry and Lisa Bellefy of Bagley, Minnesota, and Mr. and Mrs. DiBernard of Florida. Mary Jo Carnine and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Bellefy of Bagley, Minnesota are the proud great-grandparents.

## PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of James D. Jenness. James Jenness, 75, of Marshalltown, Iowa, formerly of Quimby, Iowa, passed away on Sunday, August 30th, in the Iowa Veteran's Home at Marshalltown. A graveside memorial service for James Jenness was held on Saturday, September 12th, at the Oak Hill Cemetery in Cherokee, with Pastor Cris Decious officiating. The Boothby Funeral Home in Cherokee assisted the family with the arrangements.

## PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of DeLores A. Blades. DeLores Blades, 89, of Sioux City, Iowa, formerly of Cherokee, passed away on Sunday, September 13th, at her residence in Sioux City. DeLores was a longtime member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church during the 45 years she and her husband, Jack, lived in Cherokee. A memorial service for DeLores Blades was held on Friday, September 18th, at the Wesley United Methodist Church in Sioux City, with Pastor Kathy Martin officiating. The Boothby Funeral Home in Cherokee assisted the family with the arrangements.

## PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to Georgiana (Lee) Gary and all of her family. Lee's husband, Dr. Thomas Michael Gary, 85, passed away on Monday, September 14th, at Avera Hospice in Yankton, South Dakota, after battling brain cancer. Dr. Tom Gary practiced family medicine in Cherokee from 1965 until his retirement in 2006. Sympathy cards may be sent to Lee Gary at this address: 2109 West 11th Street, #127, Yankton, SD 57078.

## PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to Larry and Joyce Rohweder. Larry's brother, Lowell L. Steffen, 95, passed away on Tuesday, September 15th. A service for Lowell Steffen was held at Pueblo West Funeral Home in Pueblo, Colorado.



# THE DOME

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
October 2020

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Prayer. Just the word prayer makes some people uneasy. It should be one of the most natural things that we have the ability to do. Yet, it is something that many don't practice. When you don't use muscles, and stop exercising those muscles, something happens to those muscles. They become soft and hard. They become soft, saggy, and atrophy over time as we get older. Then they become hard to use over time when not used. When the pandemic was at the beginning, I was walking often at the Wellness Center here in town. Lately, I have been trying to get into walking and exercising again and it is hard! I have been out of practice too long. I have been sitting too much and too long!

What is prayer? Prayer is simply allowing yourself to talk with God and allowing your spirit to hear what God is saying to you. It is communicating with God. It is one of the things that I believe is built on the inside of us, and we know it is there. Before Helen Keller was able to communicate with the outside world, she knew that God was with her and she communicated with God. However, over time we begin to ignore our prayer time and it gets harder and harder to communicate with God. Last night, at our Wednesday Zoom Bible Study, we talked about prayer. I believe that everyone at the study as a child was taught the night time prayer, "Now I lay me down to sleep..."

There is nothing wrong with the prayer. "Now I lay me down to sleep..." prayer is a beautiful prayer that we all seemed to remember quite clearly. But, I mentioned that it is God's desire that we grow from there. A memorized prayer should be more of a springboard to launch us into more mature praying over the years. When we teach something to a child, we usually try to make it a ritual and routine in order to teach them to do it every night. It's kind of like brushing your teeth before you go to bed! Hopefully we are still teaching children this daily habit!

Jesus says to us these words about prayer in Matthew 6:5-15: **5** And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward

in full. **6** But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. **7** And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. **8** Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. **9** This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, **10** your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. **11** Give us today our daily bread. **12** And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. **13** And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." **14** For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. **15** But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Is Jesus saying we shouldn't use The Lord's Prayer to pray? No! Far be it. While he does mention **babbling unmeaningful things** that mean nothing to us, this is not one of those prayers! Jesus is asking us to open up to God in our private times away from others. God desires to communicate with us. We will both speak and hear plainly when we turn to God in privacy. Praying helps to shape our hearts and our attitudes about life and living. Prayer helps us to experience more love towards others that God has placed in our paths. Praying helps shape us. As much as we would like to think that we change God through our prayers, it is quite the opposite! As our prayers flow, so does our transformation in this world.

As we enter October, I am asking that we continue to commit to ten minutes a day in prayer as we pray for our community, our schools, our leadership, our teachers and administration, and our children. We want to continue to ask God how we can become effective in what we do as a church during this pandemic. It is my desire to see and hear the people in our community talk about our **love in action** here at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in the middle of this pandemic! God bless you all as we pray and love each other and our congregation!

-Pastor Cris

## LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT!

Please continue sending out notes to our shut-ins showing our care for them! This includes members in local nursing homes, anyone battling sickness or going through treatments, and our older congregants who need to stay home during this pandemic. Let's make an all-church effort to send cards to our beloved members who are limited in what they can do and where they can go. Thank you!

-Pastor Cris

## ADDRESSES FOR ENCOURAGING NOTES

With Pastor Cris encouraging everyone to send notes to our shut-ins, I'm including those addresses below. Under each address, you will find the names of our St. Paul's friends who reside in those facilities.

### Accura HealthCare 921 Riverview Drive Cherokee, IA 51012

-Dennis Bahr (Room 112)  
-Tom Brader (Room 110)  
-Dorothy Elliott (Room 209B)  
-Becky James (Room 302)  
-Clinton Kelly (Room 102)  
-Nancy Leonard (Room 202)  
-Betty Siegfried (Room 301)

### Careage Hills 725 North 2nd Street Cherokee, IA 51012

-Evan Knapp (Room 431)

### Cherokee Specialty Care 1011 N. Roosevelt Avenue Cherokee, IA 51012

-Elsie Lenz (Room 127)

### The Gardens Assisted Living 1610 Highway 3 Cherokee, IA 51012

-Pat Buck (Apt. 307)  
-Donna Conley (Apt. 208)  
-Jeanne Jones (Apt. 306)

## Our visitation team also sees the following people in their homes:

Viola Byerly (925 Jefferies Street, Apt. 7)  
Joann Christensen (708 Rock Island Avenue)  
Lois Eggerth (503 Ash Street)  
Marge Goodburn (308 Centennial Drive)  
Marlene Kelly (511 East Spruce Street)