

**SCRAP FABRIC NEEDED**

The Cherokee County 4-H program is looking for scrap fabric to be used by our 4-H students for projects throughout the year. Please drop off any scrap fabric to the ISU Extension and Outreach Office at 209 Centennial Drive in Cherokee. Many thanks!

-Jen Gaydo,  
Office Assistant at ISU Extension and Outreach

**OUR SHARED MINISTRY**

**LITURGISTS FOR FEBRUARY**

February 3 Bonni Conley  
February 10 Jason Cook  
February 17 Korrie Coombs  
February 24 Amy Stief

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE FOR FEBRUARY**

February 3 Bonni Conley  
February 10 Jason and Miranda Cook  
February 17 Korrie Coombs  
February 24 Amy Stief

**GREETERS FOR FEBRUARY**

February 3 Rod and Liza Parker  
John and Kay O'Connor  
February 10 Jeff and Lisa Fiedler  
Doug and Darly Gochenour  
February 17 Jeff and Patti Blum  
Dana and Pandora Phipps  
February 24 Meribeth Adams  
Mike and Emily Pierce

**USHERS FOR FEBRUARY**

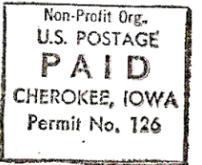
February 3 The Knobens Team  
February 10 The Knobens Team  
February 17 The Knobens Team  
February 24 The Knobens Team

**OUR STEWARDSHIP**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship Attendance</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Next Generation</u>
December 23	114	2,744.00	344.00
December 24	291	4,399.00	80.00
December 30	93	5,099.00	374.00
January 6	135	3,666.00	189.00
January 13	123	3,539.00	564.00
January 20	122	1,927.00	114.00

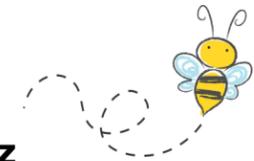
**CONTACT US**

Church Phone 712-225-3955  
The Rev. Cris Decious cris.decious@iaumc.net  
Meribeth Adams meribethadams@outlook.com



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**February 2019 UMW Buzz**



**February Unit Meeting**—Sat., February 9th, 1:00 p.m. in the Schuldt Dining Hall  
Valentine's Tea (bring guests for an afternoon of dessert, music, and love)

**Executive Board** – Monday, February 11th at 9:30 a.m. in the Schuldt Dining Hall

**February Circle Meetings**

Program - p. 62 *Women Investing in Shalom*

**Joy Circle** – Wed., February 20th - 9:30 a.m. at church (and Pledge Service)  
Hostess: Glenda Parrish Program: Jean Rowe

**Charity Circle** - Wed., February 20th - 1:30 p.m. at church (and Pledge Service)  
Hostess: Roni Timmerman Program: Ervina Scott

**No February Meeting for Grace Circle**

**NO UNIT MEETING IN MARCH—ATTEND SERMONS A LA CARTE**

## PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Larry D. Weede. Larry passed away Saturday morning, January 5th, in the Cherokee Regional Medical Center due to injuries received in a motor vehicle accident. He was 68 years of age. Funeral services were held on Sunday, January 27th in the Washington High School gymnasium, with Pastor Cris Decious officiating.

## WEEDE FAMILY SUPPORT FUND

If you are able to help, and feel inclined to do so, a Weede Family Support Fund has been set up at Cherokee State Bank to assist Larry's family with funeral expenses, medical expenses, time off of work, or other things. Anything you can do to help would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to make a donation, please write your check to St. Paul's UMC and put "Weede family" on the memo line. All donations will then be deposited into the support fund. If you would like to be in touch with Diana Weede, she will be staying at her daughter's address. Please send mail to Diana Weede, c/o Ashley Tapper, 414 S. 15th Street, Box 134, Dakota City, NE 68731.

## PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to Bruce and Leah Dagel and all of their family. Leah and Bruce's brother-in-law, James D. "Jimmy" Meendering, age 48, of Matlock, Iowa, passed away on Tuesday, January 22nd at Sanford Sheldon Medical Center in Sheldon, Iowa. Jimmy was married to Leah's sister Lora. Memorial services were held on Saturday, January 26th, at 11:00 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Sheldon.

## WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate Tim and Nicole Jones on the birth of their son. Brigham Ty Jones was born at the Cherokee Regional Medical Center on Thursday, December 20, 2018. He was welcomed home by his brothers Bryar and Bennett and his sister Myah.

## BENEFIT FOR DAN BECHTEL

Dan Bechtel was able to come home from the hospital and will continue recuperating there. Cards may be mailed to this address: 4535 P Avenue, Larrabee, IA 51029. A benefit account has been set up at Central Bank for Dan's medical expenses. If you would like to help, you may make a donation by writing your check to St. Paul's UMC and putting "Dan Bechtel benefit" on the memo line. We will then deposit all donations into the benefit account.

## THANK YOU FROM RONI TIMMERMAN

Giving is the BEST thing about Christmas! The 19 ladies who are homeless and live at Shesler Hall were so grateful when I took their school bags to them. I'd like to thank Jeanne Blackstone and Barb Kratz for sewing and donating the bags. We filled the bags with 10 items: towels, wash cloths, hand soaps, lotions, toothbrushes, floss, tablets and pens, packages of Kleenex, and large chocolate bars. I also need to thank Sharon Bennink and Dixie Carper who added their money to mine so we could purchase all the items. Thanks to Jeannette Grant for helping to assemble the bags and for putting ribbons on them. May God bless all of you!



# THE DOME

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
February 2019

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

There are some passages in the Bible that need to be read out loud. When we read them out loud, we see the words with our eyes but also hear them with our ears. One such passage is the apostle Paul's letter to the church in Corinthia. It's a passage that is commonly read at weddings, as well as funerals. We have nicknamed it the "love chapter."

Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 13: 1-8a, "If I speak in tongues of human beings and of angels but I don't have love, I'm a clanging gong or a clashing cymbal. **2** If I have the gift of prophecy and I know all the mysteries and everything else, and if I have such complete faith that I can move mountains but I don't have love, I'm nothing. **3** If I give away everything that I have and hand over my own body to feel good about what I've done but I don't have love, I receive no benefit whatsoever. **4** Love is patient, love is kind, it isn't jealous, it doesn't brag, it isn't arrogant, **5** it isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own advantage, it isn't irritable, it doesn't keep a record of complaints, **6** it isn't happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth. **7** Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things. **8** Love never fails."

Paul is bringing these words to the church in Corinthia because he has a real desire to see people using their spiritual gifts in the church. In his letter, Paul expresses there is only one way to compassionately use our gifts that God gives us to help the body of Christ. All our talents and the use of God's gifts in the church must be based on compassion and love. In other words, when you use your God-given abilities to help the body of Christ, it must be done in love. If it is not done in love, we can get off in our understandings of our gifts and callings from God.

I believe that Paul carefully explains this to us because so many times we can get off in our motives for helping others. When we move away from love, we can easily become short-tempered with people whom we have helped or are trying to help. We can quickly become proud or suddenly feel that someone is taking advantage of us. We need to use our talents for the church and simply base our motivation in loving what God has called us to do.

Paul is good about letting us know what love is. In our English language, we are somewhat limited by the word love. We use the same word "love" all the time for our fondness for food and activities, then we tell our friends we love them, and then we tell our significant others that we love them! In the Greek language of the New Testament there are several words used for different kinds of love (brotherly love, lustful love, parental love, and a love between a couple). When reading the Greek New Testament, it clearly indicates what kind of love is being addressed since there are different words.

So, Paul is letting us know about a pure love from above. This is the kind of compassionate love that will bring the church to a place where God's gifts will be able to be used perfectly. As we move into the month of February, we always celebrate Valentine's Day by examining the love in our lives. Remember this month, that love never fails! We need everyone here at St. Paul's to use their God-given abilities for the body of Christ. Paul ends with these words, "Now **faith, hope, and love** remain—these three things—**and** the greatest of these is **love**."

See you Sunday!

-Pastor Cris



On January 20th, these three ladies received special recognition pins from the UMW honoring them for their many contributions of time and talent to St. Paul's United Methodist Church. (Left to right): Nancy Sears, Peggy Rasch, and Sue Paulsen.

## THANK YOU FROM DAN BECHTEL

I would like to thank my St. Paul's family for all the prayers, cards, well wishes, and visits. With your support, I was able to get through a two and a half month hospital stay. I'm home now and look forward to seeing all of you. Since I was a little boy, I've always felt that St. Paul's is a special place. Now, more than ever, I realize it's the people who make it so!

-Dan Bechtel

## DENNIS BAHR'S SURGERY

Dennis Bahr recently had a hip replacement. He has returned to Accura HealthCare for rehabilitation. If you'd like to let Dennis know that you're thinking about him as he recovers from the surgery, please send a card to this address: 921 Riverview Drive, Cherokee, IA 51012.

## LET'S FINISH THE YEAR

We ended 2018 financially short of meeting local bills as well as our Iowa Conference Apportionments. A big plus is the fact we ended the year spending considerably less than budgeted for our local needs. The Finance Committee has determined that we should complete payment of the last local expenses and the required part of Conference Apportionments and recognize that funds will not be available for the rest of Apportionments. The amount needed to finish the year in this way is \$8,905. We are asking for your additional support toward 2018 to finish the year. If you write a check toward the 2018 deficit, please write "2018" on the memo line. Please put cash donations for 2018 in an offertory envelope and mark "2018" on the outside. Thank you so much!

## THANKS FROM THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE

St. Paul's Missions Committee would like to thank all who participated in the Alternative Gift program this past year. In a holiday season filled with joy, we were thankful for the opportunity to send some gifts throughout the world as we enjoyed the wonders of our Lord's love. In 2018, our church donated \$1,075 to the Cherokee Needy Children's Fundraiser, \$1,110 to Larry and Jane Kies (our missionaries to Zimbabwe), \$430 to Heifer International, and \$220 to Church World Service.

## CARE AND SHARE TEAM

The Care and Share Shop continues to be open each Thursday and Friday from 1-5 p.m. Any volunteers who have helped out with our shop in the past, or anyone who would like to help, is asked to come to the church from 1-5 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays to help sort. We will continue to need sorters on a regular basis. Thank you to all who help.

-Jennifer Decious

## NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES

New church directories have been completed. Please stop by the office and pick up your copy of the directory.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be open from 10:00-12:00 and 1:00-3:00 on Monday through Friday, except for holidays. If you should need to reach Pastor Cris at a time when he's not in the office, his telephone number is (515) 423-6421.

## VISITATION TEAM MEETING

The St. Paul's visitation team will be meeting on Wednesday, February 6th, at 9:30 a.m. in the church office.

## LIBRARY COMMITTEE MEETING

The St. Paul's library committee will be meeting on Thursday, February 21st at 9:30 a.m. in the church library.

## HY-VEE RECEIPTS

We've reached \$40,000 in this round of collecting Hy-Vee receipts! **FANTASTIC!** Please continue to save and turn in your receipts from the grocery store, gift store, pharmacy, and gas station. We'd like to thank Jeff Blum who continues to tabulate all of our collected receipts!

## HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START

If you have a child between the ages of 3 and 4 years old, you could qualify for a FREE center-based program through Mid-Sioux Opportunity (Head Start). For more information, contact 1-800-859-2025. You may also apply by calling (712) 225-3322. In addition, applications are being taken for Early Head Start (a FREE Resource Program serving pregnant women and children under the age of three). For more information on this supportive program, contact 1-800-859-2025.