

AUGUST 2025

THE CROWS NEST

SPRINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



INSIDE THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- Rebecca's Reflections
- Upcoming Events
- August Worship
- West Branch Food Pantry
- VBS
- In Gathering
- Conference & Circuit News
- Reflection - We are the Church together
- Ministry Reports

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Diane Heick
- 2 - Ruth Blayer
- 4 - Troy Budreau
Hunter Whitlatch
- 5 - Max Kober
- 7 - Jacob Barnhart
Lindsey Carte
Chauncy Farmer
- 9 - Stacy Jones
- 12 - Craig Nash
Curt Nash
- 13 - Lynda Ambrose
Kyle Phillips
- 14 - Julian Jacobson
- 16 - Alinda Sabourin
- 17 - Manda Frauenholz
- 19 - Ruth Farmer
Jessica Finch
Mia Mayhew
Montana Mayhew
- 20 - Tracey Hartz
- 22 - Darci Miller
- 23 - Zackary Ireby
Paxton Tisinger
- 24 - Dinah Cassabaum
- 29 - Laney Grace
- 30 - Liz Farmer
Brady Knoop
Juliana Laing

ANNIVERSARIES

- 15 - Paul & Linda Wolf (44)
- 24 - Bob & Sheryl Bergmann (56)
- 27 - Jason & Melissa Grandt (20)

REBECCA'S REFLECTIONS



August has arrived and with it cooler temperatures, finally!! After a very busy summer, August seems like a quick reprieve before all of the activities of school and fall. I hope that everyone will take a moment to rest, reflect, and re-charge before the fall begins.

I will be gone for three Sundays and am very thankful that we have so many gifted individuals in our congregation. Thanks to Steven and Manda for filling in while I am gone.

Have a wonderful August! Rebecca

Rebecca

UPCOMING EVENTS

16 - [Discerning a Call to Ministry](#)
19 - HACAP Truck @ St. Bernadette's
23 - [SE District Local Church Leadership Training](#)
25 - UMW Bingo @ Crestview
26 - Ad Board 7 p.m.

Adult Sunday School begins September 7 at 9 a.m.

Rebecca will be on vacation August 15-31. Steven will handle any on going needs during this time.

AUGUST WORSHIP

Theme for the Month: Letting Go

August 3

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, Communion

Scripture: Luke 12:13-21

Sermon: "Possessions"

August 10

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Sermon: "Leaving a Legacy"

August 17

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost; Birthday Sunday

Steven Preaching

August 24

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Amanda Preaching

August 31

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Steven Preaching

SONG OF THE MONTH



Our Methodist Table

It's been said wherever two or more United Methodists gather, someone is bringing a casserole! Food and fellowship are a recipe for building community in our churches all over the world. [Enjoy these meals at your next church supper, or at home with your family.](#)



UPCOMING

September - Baking Items

Flour

Sugar

Baking Soda

Baking Powder

WEST BRANCH FOOD PANTRY

This year, the COME committee will be collecting non-food items for the West Branch Food Pantry. Collections will continue through the entire month and you can find the collection bin in the foyer of the church. Any items collected will be distributed to the pantry after the 4th Sunday of the month.

August - Breakfast Items

Cereal and Granola Bars
Pop Tarts
Juice Boxes
Pancake Mix
Syrup

July - School Supplies Collected

Washable markers - \$4.00
24 packs of crayons - \$4.50
Glue Bottle - \$0.50
Glue sticks - \$9.87
Dry erase markers - \$9.87
1" binders - \$4.00
Pocket folders - \$4.05
Pre-sharpened pencils - \$6.00
Scissors - \$4.00
Rulers - \$1.10
Pencil Pouches - \$2.00
Wide lined spiral notebooks - \$5.25
3 Subject Notebooks - \$3.00
5 Subject Notebooks - \$7.00
College Rule Notebooks - \$7.58
Filler Paper Packs - \$12.00
Composition Notebooks - \$2.50
Colored pencils - \$2.00
Book Covers - \$2.00
Pens - \$2.58
Erasers - \$4.38
Index Cards - \$1.67
Index Dividers - \$17.67
Kleenex

*Total donated through July \$1,134.47**

**Price determined by a Google search of average costs*

THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL TRUE NORTH VBS!

What an incredible week at True North Vacation Bible School! We were blessed with 85 kids and 52 volunteers registered—each one bringing energy, joy, and faith to every corner of our church.

A huge thank you to everyone who made this week possible: our amazing volunteers, those who donated supplies or funds, and all who prayed over the kids and leaders. Your support truly made a difference!

As we look ahead, we'd love your feedback. Please check your email and take a moment to fill out our VBS evaluation—your thoughts help us grow and improve for next year! If you didn't receive an email, please let us know!

Thank you again for helping us point kids toward Jesus, our True North!



INGATHERING

November 1, 2025 Mt. Pleasant, First UMC- 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

STUDENT KIT SHOPPING LIST

- 3 Notebooks - 1 Subject spiral 8" x 10 1/2"
 - 1 Ruler - 12" long with metric
 - 6 Pencils - unsharpened
 - 1 Pencil Sharpener
 - 1 Pencil Eraser - 2" or larger
 - 1 Box of 12 Colored Pencils
 - 1 Box of 24 Crayons
 - 1 Pair of Student Scissors
 - 1 Handmade One-Handled Bag
(pattern at midwestmission.org/patterns)
-

CONFERENCE, DISTRICT AND CIRCUIT NEWS

SE District Monthly Prayer List

3 - Ottumwa, Grace Fellowship
10 - Troy UM Church - Christianburg UM Church
17- Coralville UM Church
24 - First United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation of Iowa City
31 - Iowa City, In Christ UM Church

For More News Visit:

[Iowa Conference](#)
[Southeast District](#)
[United Women in Faith](#)

Reflection: We are the Church together

United in mission, vision, and faith
By the Rev. Tiffany McDonald

We choose to be United Methodist. No matter where we live, our core beliefs about how we live out our faith unite us. Our local congregations have an impact around the world when we join with other ministries.

We lift our voices in praise and celebration when we sing, "I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together! All who follow Jesus, all around the world, yes, we're the church together." (We Are the Church, United Methodist Hymnal #558)

A new Vision

Recently, a new denominational [Vision was unveiled](#): "The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections."

I love this description of our shared ministry. Our mission statement remains, based on The Great Commission Jesus gives us in [Matthew 28:19](#), to "go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." As United Methodists, we make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our new Vision describes the disciples in our church, and how they live out their faith locally and globally. We are actively present and working in communities around the world. The United Methodist connection has about 10 million members, in more than 100 countries, on four continents: Africa, Asia, Europe and North America.

Beyond the local church

It can be easy to focus on what is happening in the church only in our own congregation. Maybe once a year, or more, we consider the [annual conference](#) or [jurisdiction](#), which link local churches geographically. The denomination-wide [General Conference](#), which is held every four years, reminds us that we are indeed a worldwide denomination.

In addition to thinking locally, it can be tempting to blend our patriotic feelings about our own country with our faith. However, that is not the nature of our faith or our denomination. The Christian faith is worldwide, and we are blessed to be in connection with so many United Methodist siblings in faith around the world. We are better together, and we are more alike than different.

Sent out in Jesus' name

One issue that has been on my heart is the war in Ukraine. In July 2025, The Rev. Dr. Fred Vanderwerf, coordinator for [In Mission Together Ukraine](#), heads to Ukraine with a team from Idaho, Florida and North Carolina. They are helping to lead a summer camp for eighty youth in Uzhhorod, Ukraine, which is on the western border.

Despite the war, The United Methodist Church in Ukraine continues its mission to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, care for their neighbor, and invest in the next generation of church leaders. The United Methodist Church owns a ministry site and shelter, Pid Zamkom (Under the Castle), where sixty to eighty people who have fled fighting in the East are able to live and be safe. The District Superintendent, Rev. Oleg Starodubets, and his wife, Rev. Yulia

Starodubets, live there and serve alongside their neighbors.

Vanderwerf's team involves congregations around the connection by joining them in shared mission in Ukraine. The 2020/2024 United Methodist Book of Discipline asserts that, "For our connectionalism to become a living practice, we need to carry the worldwide nature of The United Methodist Church deep into the life and mission of our local congregations." (§ 125)

Shared mission

Because of our partnerships, our denomination utilizes our resources to support one another. One example is The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). We are invited to join with other United Methodists to give, so that UMCOR can respond to needs and disasters across the globe. We also support our general boards and agencies, which provide resources, develop leaders and focus on certain areas of our missional work together.

Putting faces with issues helps us connect over the miles. Reading the [United Methodist News Digest](#) in my inbox helps remind me of both the good works being done in the name of Jesus Christ, and the needs across our connection and our world.

Is there a particular place or cause that tugs at your heart? Likely there is a church working in that place or for that cause, or has done something similar. We can help each other by sharing our stories, learning from one another and partnering together to serve God and all of God's people.

Join in this prayer: God, we give you thanks for our community of Christian believers, and we praise you for opportunities to join in mission and ministry with United Methodists and our partners around the world. Help us to use our hands to serve those on the margins, our hearts to show love to all people, and our words to shine your light into the darkness. Amen

MINISTRY REPORTS
