

The
Simpson United Methodist Church
Messenger

2600 Capitol Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50317
simpsonumc-desmoines.org



September, 2014

Staff: Pastor: Rev. Brenda Goodall Editor/Secretary: Phyllis Huitt
Custodian: David Wandling

**PASTOR BRENDA'S
MESSAGE**

Sometime back I came cross the following (author unknown). I kept it, and through the years it has brought me encouragement and a sense of peace.

The only survivor of a shipwreck was washed up on a small, uninhabited island. He prayed fervently for God to rescue him. Every day he scanned the horizon for help, but no hope in sight. Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect him from the elements, and to store his few possessions. One day, after scavenging for food, he arrived home to find his little hut in flames, the smoke rolling up to the sky. The worst had happened, everything was lost. He was stunned with grief and anger. " God, how could you do this to me?" he cried.

Early the next day, however, he was awakened by the sound of a ship that was approaching the island. It had come to rescue him. "How did you know I was here?" asked the weary man of his rescuers. "We saw your smoke signal", they replied.

It is easy to get discouraged when things are going badly. But we shouldn't lose heart, because God is at work in our lives, even in the midst of pain and suffering. Remember, next time your little hut is burning to the ground; it just may be a smoke signal that summons the grace of God. For all the negative things we have to say to ourselves, God has a positive answer for it:

We say: "It's impossible."
God says: "Nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 18:27)

(Con't on page 2)

(Pastor's Message con't)

We say: "I'm too tired."

God says: "I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28)

We say: "Nobody really loves me."

God says: "I love you." ((John 3:16)

We say: "I can't go on." God says: "My grace is sufficient." (2 Cor 12:9)

We say: "I can't do it."

God says: "You can do all things." (Phil 4:13)

We say: "I can't forgive myself."

God says: "I forgive you." (1 John 1:9)

We say: "I can't manage."

God says: "I will supply all your needs." (Phil 4:19)

We say: "I'm afraid."

God says: "I have not given you a spirit of fear." (2 Tim 1:7)

We say: "I'm always worried and frustrated."

God says: "Cast all your cares on ME." (1 Pet 5:7)

We say: "I'm not smart enough."

God says: "I give you wisdom." (1 Cor 1:30)

We say: "I feel all alone."

God says: "I will never leave you or forsake you." (Heb 13:5)

I hope that you will keep ahold of this and refer to it when you need little encouragement, and that it will bring you peace as well.

Pastor Brenda



SURPRISE CARD SHOWER

You are invited and encouraged to send cards to Tom and Diana Davis in celebration of their 40th Wedding Anniversary.

Please send them by **Sept. 19th** to:
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Davis
c/o Mary Berry
4243 E. Douglas Ave.
Des Moines, Iowa 50317
(Their actual anniversary date is Sept. 28.)

WELCOME

Pastor Brenda and Carolynn have a foster child staying with them. Her name is **Mya** and she is four years old. They also have a foreign exchange student staying with them for the next ten months. Her name is **Ayishatu Adam** and she is from Ghana, Africa.

We welcome both these young ladies into our congregation and look forward to getting better acquainted.

OUR PRAYER & CARE LIST

Prayer List: In the Hospital

Iowa Methodist:

Dick Simpson – Surgical – Home

Our Church Family: **Phillip Rockwell** – recovering from a 4-wheeler accident which broke two fingers on his right hand;

WE CONTINUE IN PRAYER

Our Members In Care Facilities:

Bishop Drumm Care Center,

Alzheimer's Unit (In Johnston) – **Kay**

Jungman

Carlisle Center for Wellness & Rehab –

Nedra Patton

Heather Manor – **Pat Thornton;**

Trinity Center, Luther Park – **Pam**

Vance

Urbandale Healthcare Center – **Peggy**

Evans

Our Extended Family: **Dawn Beckman**

(Tom Davis' niece) – Cancer; **Charles**

Davis (Tom Davis' nephew) – Throat

cancer; **Elam Habumukiza**, who is in a

detention center, facing possible

deportation for a crime he did not

commit, **his family and the Burundi**

Congregation.



OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Marie Beem and Family in the death of her sister, **Linda Borne**, on August 3.

Mrs. Borne lived in Adel;

Madeline Harne and Family in the death of her husband, **James**, on August 8th.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Samantha**

Jones and Family in the birth of a son,

Owen Robert, on July 25th. The proud

grandparents are **Robyn and John**

Jones. The proud great grandparents are

Sally and Dennis Mentzer.



You are invited

To a Brunch/Baby Shower

In honor of

Owen Robert

And mommy, Samantha Jones

September 20, 2014

11:00 am

Nellie Dain Hall

Sammy is registered at Target and Walmart. She especially needs receiving blankets, baby towels, 8 oz. bottles, and, of course, diapers. Sizes 3-6 mo. and above are needed.

THANK YOU NOTES

Thanks to all for showing their support and caring for Elam through prayers, caring thoughts and money to help in the legal battle he faces. His lawyer (working pro bono) has filed an appeal so now we wait! We originally thought the appeal would stop the deportation. However, that is not necessarily true, so please keep praying for **Elam and his family**.

Dear Simpson United Methodist Church,
Thank you for sending your Youth to serve with us in Jesus' mission at Unity and in the wider Milwaukee community. We have been blessed by this partnership and opportunity for mutual transformation. We are praying for your congregation in carrying out Jesus' mission in your community.
May God bless you richly,
Lacey Seter, Pastoral Ministry Intern

Dear Friends,
Thank you for the donation of supper and sanitary supplies to Hawthorn Hill. Also, thanks for the donation of dishes, personal and cleaning items and snacks from your VBS children's Missions. It was so nice of you to think of us. We appreciate your kindness very much.
Melanie, Administrative Assistant

Dear friends,
Thank you so much for your support of Youth Emergency Services and Shelter (YESS) and its commitment to meeting

the critical needs of children and families in crisis. Your special gift of hygiene items will support the agency's 24-hour emergency shelter, crisis nursery, and counseling programs, impacting 1,000 children each year. While the need for emergency shelter and crisis care services continues to grow, YESS is confident that, with your help, we will meet the needs of our community's most valuable and vulnerable assets, our children.
Jana Daisy,
Community Activities Manager

Thanks to Denise Charter for faithfully delivering our food to the DMARC Food Pantry. She is having back trouble and unable to carry the heavy cans now. **Judy and Van Somers** have delivered it the last two times. Thanks for their help. If anyone is willing to help deliver now and then, please call the church office.

Thanks to **Fred Plum** for faithfully mowing the church lawn this summer. Also, **Van Somers** has helped with that chore. Thanks to both of you.

I'd like to thank **Jackson Davis, with the help of mom and grandpa**, for helping fold bulletins for me one day. I really appreciated his help. Also, **Tom and Diana** cleaned out the pew racks for us, and did some dusting in the sanctuary. **LaVina Conder** took a turn and doing that to. Thanks to all three.

Phyllis Huitt

United Methodist Women

Sunday, September 21, 2014

Lunch: 11:45 pm – Unit Mtg: 12:45 pm.

Theme: “ _____ ”

Presenter: Vera Baker and Mary Bone

Hostesses: Faith Circle

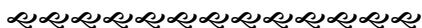


SEPTEMBER CIRCLE MEETINGS

MARY/MARTHA: Sept. 22, 9:30 am;

hostess – Beverly Simpson

FAITH: TBA. Hostess: Carla Prather



SCRIPTURE READING

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord you God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the door frames of your houses and on your gates.” --Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (NIV)

UMW DIST. ANNUAL MTG

September 13, 8:30 pm

WDM United Methodist Church

8th and Grand, WDM

It is our goal to have more women attending this meeting. If you would like to go, please contact Carla Prather.

MISSION u

The condensed version of Mission u will be held Oct. 17-19 at Iowa Valley Continuing Education Center, Marshalltown. Please consider attending this event. It is well worth the time – very informative and lots of fun.

IN-GATHERING KITS

We will be concentrating on School Kits again this month. We welcome complete or partial kits. Or you may donate \$\$\$s and we will do the shopping.

Below is a list of supplies included in the kit:

SCHOOL KITS:

- 3 Notebooks (8 ½ x 11”) spiral or bound
- 1 box 24 crayons
- 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- 1 30cm. metric ruler
- 1 hand pencil sharpener
- 1 2½” eraser
- 1 pr. blunt scissors

All items may be placed in a sturdy cloth bag that measures 14” wide by 16” long (finished size.0 (If you don’t wish to make your own, Carla Prather has been making them.) Do not put any of the items in Ziploc bags. (NOTE: THIS IS A CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEARS.) (Value: \$11 + \$2 shipping.)

(UMW news con’t on back of this pg.)

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The United Methodist Women took a meal to New Directions Shelter on **August 9th**. Thanks to Marilyn and Ralph Helm, Judy Jennings and Phyllis Huitt for preparing the meal and thanks to Judy Jennings and Sheryle Plumb for donating bars.

**RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE
October 9, 10 & 11**

It will soon be time for our Fall Rummage and Bake Sale. Judy Somers and Jeneane Tillotson have been working all summer, sorting and pricing everything. If you have rummage to donate, please bring it to the church no later than Sept. 15th. Remember, if you have items to donate they need to be clean, in good repair and, in the case of small appliances, in working order.

Lots of rummage has been donated over the summer months, so we'll need lots of help getting it all put out on Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 7 & 8.

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
Sept. 8, Noon**

Altoona UMC,
602 – 5th Ave. SW, Altoona
Program: Circle of Support



If you have not received your new pictorial directory yet, please call the

church office. We will make sure you have one.

The September/October Upper Rooms are in the Narthex. The cost is \$.60 for regular print, \$1.00 for Large Print. It is an excellent daily devotion – give it a try, if you haven't already!!

**COMMUNITY NEWS
FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORS MTG
September 9, 6:30 – 7:30 pm**

Fairground Neighbors for Community Improvement meetings are open to all who are interested in attending. Appetizers will be served and there will be door prizes (you must be present to win). Council member, Joe Gatto, will be the present to hear what you are concerned about and answer questions.

**CHICKEN/BEEF & NOODLES
DINNER**

Sept. 7, 11-1:00 pm – Chicken/Beef & Noodles Dinner at the American Legion, E. 42nd and Easton Blvd.

SCHOOL IS IN SESSION!

We will be reading to Kindergarten students again this year. The school feels reading to those students helps get them off to a good start. We will be reading every Thursday, 8:25 – 9:25 am. We still need at least one volunteer reader. If you're interested, call the church office.

PLEASE NOTE: The Incredible Pizza restaurant has closed, so NO lunch there on Sept. 21st.

Simpson Bell Choir

The Bell Choir will start rehearsals on **Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6:00 pm.** We are needing some new ringers because, unfortunately, we lost four in the spring. Why not come and join us. You don't have to know how to read music (it's color coded) although it is helpful.

“JOY” ACTIVITIES

The “JOY” Group is looking forward to spending some relaxing time at the Sherburne House in Springbrook State Park, located about 9 miles north of Guthrie Center. We'll leave Wednesday, Sept. 10th, returning Sunday, Sept. 14th.

We're also looking forward to our October activity. On **Oct. 18th** we will travel to Lake Red Rock to visit the Gladys Black Eagle refuge.

The following day, **Sunday, Oct. 19th**, 1:30 pm, we will have a guest speaker from the Soar Eagle Sanctuary visit us here at Simpson. They plan to bring an eagle, and possibly a smaller bird with them. A free will offering will be taken. All are invited to join us, both for the trip to Lake Red Rock and to hear the guest speaker.

IMPORTANT DATES

Fall is here, school has started and the calendar is busy. Our Charge Conference will be held on Oct. 27th so Committees need to be working on reports and the budget.

Sept. 16, 6:00 pm – Evangelism/ Missions (Judy Jackson, Chair., Merna Scott, Mike Whitney, Helen Sigmund, Mike Macrides, Sheyle Plumb, Bernadine Cotton, Dick Huitt.)

Sept. 17, 5:00 pm – Nominations (Pastor Brenda, Chair., David Curtis, Mikes Macrides, Bernadine Cotton, Fred Plum, Marilyn Helm, Eliz Rockwell and Tom Davis)

7:00 pm – Christian Ed.

(Phyllis Huitt, Chair., LaVina Conder, Carla Prather, Robert Rockwell, David Curtis, Marie Beem, Vera Baker, Judy Jennings and Bernadine Cotton) &

Worship (Carla Prather, Chair., Judy Somers, Terri Charter, Laurie Mentzer, Evelyn Rockwell, Judy Jennings, Dawn Sawyer, Dorrance Pencook and Austin Savage)

Sept. 23, Noon – Trustees (Fred Plum, Chair., Lennis Allen, Van Somers, Phyllis Huitt, Neal Charter, Merna Scott, David Vance, Aaron Savage and Paul Lamb)

Sept. 24, 5:00 pm – SPRC (Tom Wilson, Chair., Fred Plum, David Curtis, Ralph Helm, Dawn Sawyer, Bernadine Cotton, Denny Prather, and Angie Curtis)

7:00 pm – Admin. Council

Sept. 28, 12:30 pm – All Church Picnic

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Sept. 4 Josie Mentzer
 7 Van Somers
 9 Bryan Swain
 15 Austin Savage
 22 David Sigmund
 25 Mike Macrides
 28 Payton Curtis
 29 Ethan Etcher
- Oct. 3 Nedra Patton
 Angela Goodall
 6 Mike Whitney
 8 Sara Renaud

Do we have your birth date? Please call Phyllis (262-7518) with that information so we can include you in our list.

ALL CHURCH PICNIC

September 28, 12:30 pm

Ding Darling Shelter, Birdland

All three congregations, Epworth, Simpson and Burundi, will come together on Sept. 28 for a fun afternoon. Bring a potluck dish, your own table service and you might want to stick in a lawn chair. We'll be in the Ding Darling Shelter which is handicap accessible and air conditioned. No excuses for not coming, so come and join the fun. We'll have music and games. An afternoon of good food and good fellowship with good friends can't be beat!