



Fort Des Moines United Methodist Church is committed to the Great Commission given by Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20: **“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”**

Fort Des Moines is a caring community of people who will care for you regardless of who you are. If you are looking for a place where Christ’s love is evident and God’s grace is offered to all, then I hope you will join us for worship and fellowship.

If you are visiting today, we hope that you feel welcome. The worship service is our gift to you. Following this service you are invited to join us for coffee, fellowship and Sunday School.

We welcome children in our worship. However, if necessary, we do have a nursery and cry room on the second floor. The cry room is located on the left at the top of the stairs and the nursery is located to the right at the top of the stairs.

Church Phone: 515.285.6545

Church email

ftdsmumc@qwestoffice.net

Pastor’s Phone: 1-515-447-7953

Pastor’s email

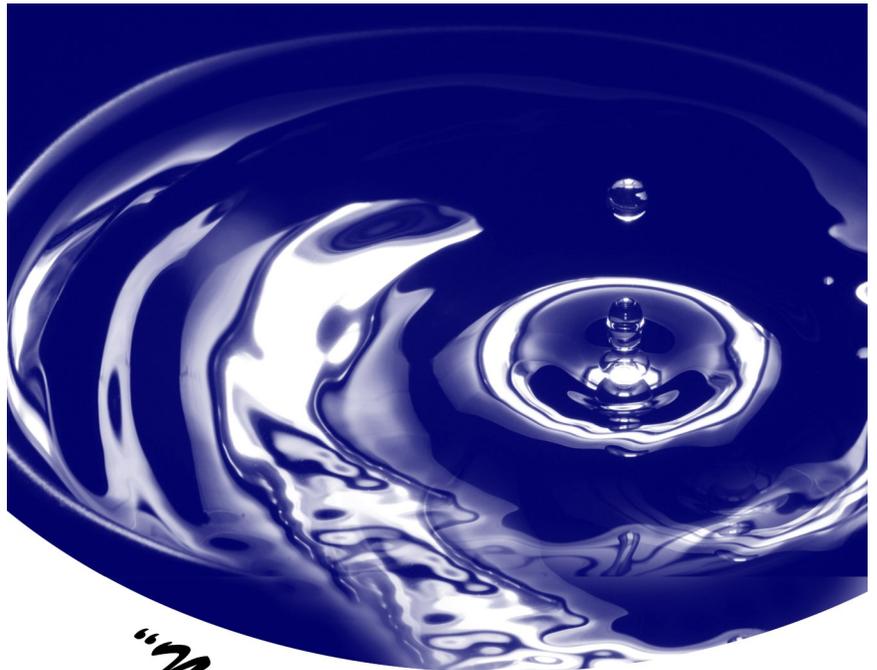
emmanueldass@hotmail.com

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FORT DES MOINES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship 11:00 a.m.

Second Sunday in Lent March 12, 2017



“No one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.”

John 3:5, NRSV

** Please stand as you are able*

Gathering Music

Welcome, Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Volunteer of the Month (March)

Carlin Peer

***Introit TFWS #2152** *“Change my Heart, O Lord”*

Call to Worship

Leader: People of faith, listen for the wind; children of God, dare to encounter the Spirit.

People: Who will tell us what God wants us to do? How will we know that what we hear is of God?

Leader: Our ancestors in the faith dared to trust God; they left all to follow the call and a promise.

People: Where is it that God wants to lead us? How can we be born anew, born of the Spirit.

Leader: We have received the promise of steadfast love; God has blessed us, and our hearts are glad.

People: Will God listen to our doubts as well as our thanks? Does God have rebirth in mind for us?

***Hymn UMH #77** *“How Great Thou Art”*

Unison Prayer

God of love, who sent Jesus among us for our salvation, grant rebirth to your people gathered here. Bestow on us a full measure of your Spirit that we may dare to act according to our faith. Lead us where you would have us go, to serve in ways that you intend. Amen.

Responsive Scripture

Psalm 121

L: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence does my help come?

P: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

L: The Lord will not let your foot be moved, the Lord who keeps you will not slumber.

P: Behold, the One who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

L: The Lord is your keeper;

P: the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

L: The sun shall not smite you by day,

P: nor the moon by night.

L: The Lord will keep you from all evil, and will keep your life.

P: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore.

Time with Children of God

Choir Anthem

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Epistle Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 (NIV)

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

***Hymn of Illumination** UMH #474 *“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”*

Gospel Lesson

John 3:1-17 (NIV)

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

Jesus replied, Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!” *(continued)*

Jesus Answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to Spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Sermon

“Changed Lives”

Rev. Emmanuel Dass

Presenting our Gifts and Tithes

***Doxology** UMH #94

Prayer of Dedication

Thank you, God, for providing so bountifully for our needs and for equipping us to minister in your name. Above all, we are filled with gratitude that you sent Jesus to minister among us, accepting us where we are and leading us on grace-filled paths toward the way of righteousness you intend. We offer with our treasure our renewed obedience to your purposes. Amen.

Hymn UMH #467

“Trust and Obey”

Benediction

Benediction Response UMH #666

“Shalom to You”

Postlude

Calendar For The Week

Sunday, Mar. 12: 9:45 a.m. UMC Worship
11:00 a.m. Sunday School & Coffee Hour
11:00 a.m. Baked Potato Bar & Dessert luncheon (Free-will Offering)
1:00 p.m. BNTC Service
1:30 p.m. 4-H in Fellowship Hall
8:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall

Monday, Mar. 13: 9:30 a.m. English Language Learners Class in the Youth Room
6:00 p.m. ELL in the Youth Room

Tuesday, Mar. 14: 9:30 a.m. ELL Class in the Youth Room
6:00 p.m. ELL in the Youth Room
7:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, Mar. 15: 9:30 a.m. ELL in the Youth Room
11:00 a.m. Bible Study in the Library
7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the Sanctuary

Thursday, Mar. 16: 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous in Fellowship Hall

Friday, Mar. 17: 5:00 p.m. BNTC in the Youth Room
8:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, Mar. 18: 9:30 a.m. ELL in Children's Classroom
11:00 a.m. BNTC in Youth Room
12:00 p.m. NA in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Mar. 19: 9:45 a.m. UMC Worship
11:00 a.m. Sunday School & Coffee Hour
11:00 a.m. Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee in Pastor's office.
1:00 p.m. BNTC in Fellowship Hall (Farewell for Pastor Josh White and Ordination of Pastor Dhan Gurung)
8:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall

Attendance last week: 38

Prayer Concerns: Ft. Des Moines UMC, it's programs and leaders; the Bhutanese Nepali Truth Church, it's programs and leaders; those home bound and their care-givers; and those we especially name: Leland Kenney, Twilla Dillard, Frances Ramsey, Dean Garland, Sharon Burton, Donna Ness, Louise Harbert, Sonny Gale, Jerry & Brenda Swigert, and Jean Volz.

Our Christian condolences to Frances Ramsey and family. Frances' sister, Carol, died on March 6, in Jesup, IA. *Note: Frances is now at home. She thanks everyone for the cards, prayers and well-wishes she has received.*

Twilla Dillard's temporary address is The Good Samaritan Society Room 413, 708 S Jefferson Way, Indianola IA 50125. The phone number is 961-2596.

Opportunities to Serve

There are always many opportunities to serve at Fort Des Moines. There are a few possibilities listed below, but you are not limited to these. If you have a passion for a certain kind of service or feel God might be calling you to some specific area, please let us know. If you have a particular date that you know would work well for you to be involved in some of these, let us know that as well. Circle the ones that interest you. Thank you.

- Read Scripture
- Acolyte (light the candles)
- Deliver Communion (to shut-ins)
- Sing in the choir
- Help with the Sunday School Program
- Work with altar flowers
- Other ideas:

The Women's Christian Fellowship is hosting a Mission Dinner TODAY, following the worship service. This will be a Baked Potato Bar with dessert. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to assist the General Fund with special projects. Ladies, thank you for all you do for the church!

2017 Address/Phone Directories are available for pick-up today. Please take your copy with you when you leave today (one per household, please).

Upper Room Devotionals for March & April are available for pick-up today. You can find them on the devotional rack in the Narthex.

“Walking with God,” a seven-session study based on a thorough study of all the occurrences of the Hebrew and Greek words in the Old and New Testaments which are translated into English as “walk” will begin on Wednesday. The study will focus on those passages in which the word is used to refer to general behavior or lifestyle, rather than just a form of locomotion. Join us!

Food Pantry Sunday will be the focus next weekend. Peanut butter is the food of the month but all shelf-stable food items, personal hygiene items, diapers (all sizes through adult), formula, brown paper grocery bags and cash will be received. During the months of March and April, all cash donations will be matched 50-cents-on-the-dollar, up to \$20,000.00. This is a good time to stretch our dollars so they help those in need.

Recently we realized that we didn't know who to contact in case of emergency for many of our members. This information will not be published anywhere but maintained in the office. If you would like Pastor and/or Jane to have a person to contact for information about you should you become hospitalized or ill at church, contact the office (ftdsmumc@qwestoffice.net or 515-285-6545) with a name, relationship, and phone number. Thank you, in advance.

Everyone is invited to attend the English Language Learners 3rd Anniversary party which will be held here tomorrow, in Fellowship Hall, at 6:00 p.m. There will be food, fun, and music!

Your Prayer



Concerns

“In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let our requests be made known to God” - Philippians 4:6

Let your prayer requests be made known to God through our prayer groups and pastor who will pray for you or ones listed below. Your prayer concerns can be for a church member, a family member, a friend, or yourself. Please fill out below and place it in the offering plate.

Prayer for

Name:

Concern/s:

Welcome!

**We are a community of faith in worship and action,
open to all in the spirit and love of God.**

Please sign the friendship pad in the pew. Everyone is welcome to stay for refreshments and a time of visiting with your church family following the service.

We welcome children in our worship service. However, if necessary, we do have a nursery and cry room on the second floor. It is unattended so you will need to remain with your child. The cry room is located to the left at the top of the stairs and a nursery is located to the right (4th door on your right) at the top of the stairs.

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Emmanuel Dass - Pastor
Roger McCloney - Liturgist
Laurie Jenkins - Church Musician
Pamela Schisel - Choir Director
Jim Keller - Ushers
Rod Kent - Sound

Staff

Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Dass - Pastor
Jane White - Administrative Assistant
Laurie Jenkins - Church Musician
Chris Wulf - Custodian

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