



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.

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Church email

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Pastor's Phone: 1-515-447-7953

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FORT DES MOINES

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

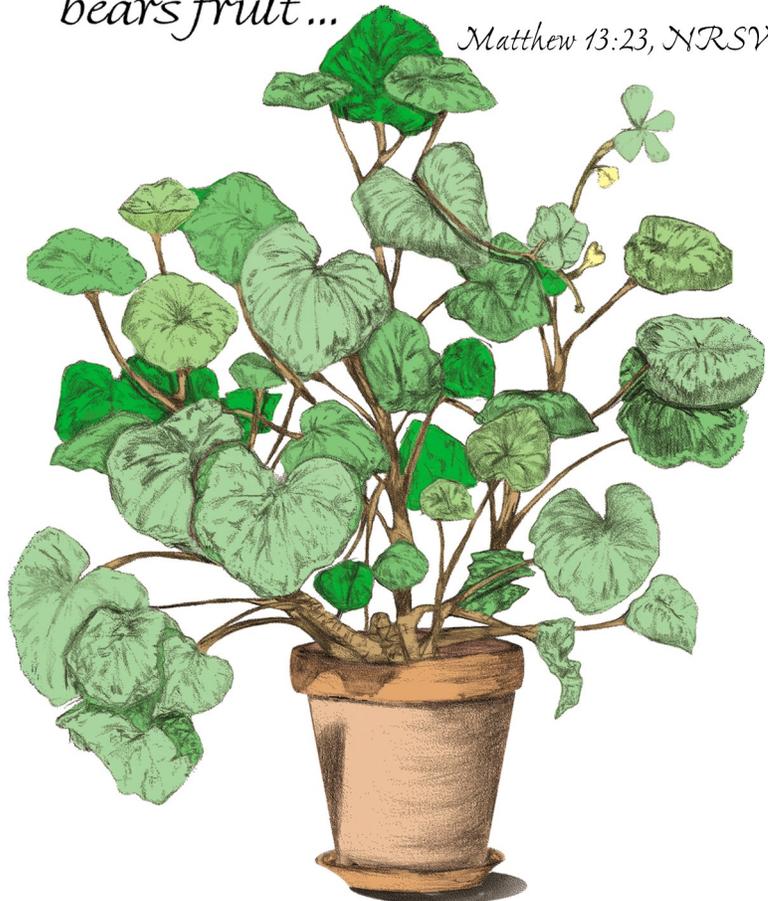
Worship 9:45 a.m.

Fellowship 11:00 a.m.

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 23, 2018

But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit ...

Matthew 13:23, NRSV



WE CELEBRATE THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome and Informal Moments: Thank you for attending worship today. Please sign the attendance registration pad found in each pew, pass it on your neighbor, and welcome one another with the hospitality of God.

** Please stand as you are able*

Gathering Music "Pass It On" by Kurt Kaiser, arr. Mark Hayes

Introit UMH #328 "Surely the Presence of the Lord"

***Call to Worship**

Leader: The Word of God awaits us here; come to worship. The Holy Spirit welcomes us; gather to pray.

People: **From the routines and struggles of our lives, we come. Amid the stresses and worries of every day, we gather.**

Leader: Come to be renewed in the Spirit of Christ; God is waiting to offer us new life of freedom.

People: **In hope, we seek God's caring presence; in faith, we dare to trust God's steadfast love.**

***Hymn UMH #577** "God of Grace and God of Glory"

Unison Prayer

Sower of good seed, by whose word we are equipped for fruitful living, we long to be good soil in which your truth can take root. May we hear your word and understand it, not just for ourselves, but for the sake of sisters and brothers who need our faithful witness. Amen.

Responsive Scripture

Psalm 119: 105-112 (NIV)

L: Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

P: **I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your righteous laws.**

L: I have suffered much; preserve my life, Lord, according to your word.

P: **Accept, Lord, the willing praise of my mouth, and teach me your laws.**

L: Though I constantly take my life in my hands, I will not forget your law.

P: **The wicked have set a snare for me, but I have not strayed from your precepts.**

L: Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.

P: **My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end.**

Time with God's Children

Songs of Praise TFWS	#2036	<i>"Give Thanks"</i>
	#2040	<i>"Awesome God"</i>
	#2152	<i>"Change My Heart, O God"</i>

Pastoral Prayer

The 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.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Epistle Lesson

Romans 8:1-11 (NIV)

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it.

***Hymn of Illumination UMH #600**

"Wonderful Words of Life"

***Gospel**

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (NIV)

The same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

“Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

Sermon

“The Seasons of the Soil ”

Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Dass

Presenting our Gifts and Tithes

“Turn! Turn! Turn! (To Everything There Is a Season) from the Book of Ecclesiastes, adaptation by Pete Seeger

***Doxology** UMH #94**Prayer of Dedication**

We present here expressions of thanksgiving, to extend your purposes in the world. May this offering scatter seeds of love in life-changing ways. May we learn from all we help, that all of us may grow toward faithful discipleship. Amen.

Hymn UMH #451*“Be Thou My Vision”***Benediction****Response** UMH #666*“Shalom to You”***Postlude**

“A Rainbow on the Cloud” by Chas. H. Gabriel

This Week's Calendar

Today, Sept. 23: 9:45 a.m. UMC Worship

11:00 a.m. Sunday School & Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m. Nominating Committee meets in the Conference Room

1:00 p.m. BNTC Worship

8:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall

Monday, Sept. 24: 9:30 a.m. English Language Learners class in the Youth Room

6:00 p.m. ELL class

Tuesday, Sept. 25: 9:30 a.m. ELL Class

11:00 a.m. Bible Study in the library

6:00 p.m. ELL Class in Youth Room

7:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, Sept. 26: 9:30 a.m. ELL

6:30 p.m. ELL Class in Youth Room

Thursday, Sept 27: 9:30 a.m. ELL

7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous in Fellowship Hall

Friday, Sept. 28: 9:30 a.m. ELL

5:00 p.m. BNTC

8:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, Sept. 29: 9:30 a.m. ELL Citizenship Class in Conference Room

3:00 p.m. BNTC

4:00 p.m. Community Meal in Fellowship Hall

7:30 p.m. NA in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Sept. 30: 9:45 a.m. UMC Worship

11:00 a.m. 5th Sunday Potluck

1:00 p.m. BNTC Worship

8:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall

Attendance last week: 37

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; Benny Hotopp, Gloria Roeder and those we especially name in our hearts.

Thanks go to Donna Freed for sharing Coffee Hour treats today.

"Parables of Jesus", the weekly Bible Study, is held on Tuesdays, at 11:00 a.m., in the church library. Everyone is welcome!

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:
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It's time to think NUTS! The pre-sale will begin with the order form found in this weekend's bulletin. The nuts will be delivered to Suzanne Wilcox's home around the first of November. Orders can be placed through the church office (515-285-6545) by calling 515-277-5217 or on Sunday mornings. An order form can also be found on our website: www.fdmumc.org Spread the word that we have nuts for sale!

A 5th Sunday Potluck will be held next week. Bring a dish to share and plan to stay for the meal and fellowship.

Empty Bowls, a fundraiser for Bidwell Riverside Center's 125th Anniversary will be held on Nov. 1. The four southside United Methodist Churches want to help them build hope and fight hunger by supporting this benefit. Each of the churches is being asked to raise \$112.50 by Oct. 14. Checks can be made out to Ft. Des Moines UMC and funds will be directed via one check from the church. Look for more information in Fellowship Hall.

The Women's Christian Fellowship ladies will be having a "Fall-o-ween" get together on Wednesday, October 10, from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. We would like to invite all of the women of the Church to come and share in fun and fellowship with us. Please let Carlin Peer know if you will be attending. Her phone number is 287-3433.

You can share your excess garden produce here! Just place your items on the table in the narthex (under the bulletin board) and anyone wanting it is free to take what they can use.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Ft. Des Moines United Methodist Church, talk to Pastor Dass.

If you or someone you know is interested in being baptized, contact Pastor Dass.

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. Dr. Emmanuel Dass - Pastor

Connie Keller - Liturgist

Laurie Jenkins - Church Musician

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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