



The Poster is published monthly by Fort Des Moines United Methodist Church, 6205 SW 9th St, Des Moines IA 50315-5516.

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Information for *The Poster* should be in the church office by the 4th Tuesday of the month.

Office Hours:

8:30am-12:00pm

Monday-Friday

Sunday Worship:

9:45am

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THE POSTER

Volume 17, Issue 4

May, 2020

Scripture Reading: Romans 6:1b-11

When the world says, "Give up," Hope whispers, "Try it one more time."
—Author unknown

Niccolo Paganini was a well-known and gifted 19th -century violinist. He was also well-known as a great showman with a quick sense of humor. His most memorable concert was in Italy with a full orchestra. He was performing before a packed house and his technique was incredible, his tone was fantastic and his audience dearly loved him.

Toward the end of his concert, Paganini was astounding his audience with an unbelievable composition when suddenly one string on his violin snapped and hung limply from his instrument. Paganini frowned briefly, shook his head, and continued to play, improvising beautifully.

Then to everyone's surprise, a second string broke! And shortly thereafter, a third!

Almost like a slapstick comedy, Paganini stood there with three strings dangling from his Stradivarius! But instead of leaving the stage, Paganini stood his ground and calmly completed the difficult number on the one remaining string.

This is a wonderful story, but in actuality, Paganini occasionally broke strings during a performance on purpose so he could further display his virtuosity.

What do you think is the lesson from this story?

There's no one correct answer, but, for me, the story reinforces the importance of *perseverance* under duress. It might have been easier for Paganini to walk off the stage and demand a different violin, disrupting the concert, or perhaps cancelling it altogether. But he didn't.

It's also a lesson in *courage*. It took courage for him to persist when he could not be at his best.

It's also a lesson in *humility*. Not being able to play at his best, he had to be willing to play as well as he could with only one string.

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It is important to remember during this present crisis, that God knows how many strings we have at our disposal. God knows if we have four, three, two or only one. Perhaps we're in such a crisis that we feel as though we don't have any strings at all!

God knows and God understands. Let's just tell God that we are willing to serve God with as many "strings" as we have left, and we can also say the prayer below.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord, I am out of strings. I am out of energy. I have nothing left. But what I have, I give to you. Amen.

Prayer Corner

- For our family: Wylie Gardner and her son, Daniel; Debbie McCloney's friend who lost her husband to Covid-19; Don Dale; the men at Hope Ministries
- For those that are home-bound, their caregivers, and those we especially name in our hearts.
- For those actively serving in our military, their families, the deployed, and our veterans.
- We give thanks to Sharon Wilcox for making masks; for Jerry Swigert's recovery from his surgery, Paul Drew's progress as he recovers from a stroke, and all the caregivers in our church.

March Finance Report

Carried into 2020 (General & Designated Funds)	\$ 29,686.62
Year-to-Date	
From Savings 3/20/2020	\$ 1,000.00
Balance March 31 (General & Designated Funds)	\$ 19,523.15
Total Income	\$ 32,199.18
Total Expenses	\$ 42,043.80

Donations can be mailed to the church at **6205 SW 9th St, Des Moines IA 50315** or slipped through the **mail slot in the north door** (off Leland Ave).

Cause for Celebration!

May Birthdays

- 2 Donna Bresee
- 6 Sharon Wilcox
- 9 Ann Keller
- 10 Steven Parsley
- 13 Tristan Yang
- 15 Zachary Norris
- 17 Debbie Smith
- 17 Jack Brooks
- 18 Pat Crane
- 21 J. J. Simmons
- 22 Bette Casper
- 26 James Waters
- 29 Joan Evans

May Wedding

Anniversaries

- 15 Bruce & Lori Evans
- 16 Doug & Debbie Smith
- 21 Mel & Bonnie Pearson
- 29 Fred & Sandy Kokke

May Baptismal

Anniversaries

- 4 Anna Nelevanko
- 6 Connie Otte
- 10 Sherri Little
- 10 Ricky Ramsey
- 11 Joyann Benoit
- 12 Diane Drew
- 13 Mary Slater
- 23 Keith Garland
- 23 Debi Hamm
- 27 Austin Casper

June Birthdays

- 1 Alec Slater
- 1 Stephanie Parsley
- 9 Billie Jean Whitehead
- 9 Tammy Augustus
- 11 Mark Horak
- 14 Levi Noveras
- 16 Alex Crise
- 19 Don Dale
- 20 Scott Johnson
- 24 Tyler Kokke
- 24 Steven Norris
- 26 Lew Lewellen
- 26 Suzanne Wilcox
- 27 Brenda Swigert

June Wedding

Anniversaries

- 11 Brian & Ronda Kent
- 21 Matt & Melissa Clevenger
- 25 Steve & Kristina Norris
- 30 Dennis & Paula Garland

June Baptismal

Anniversaries

- 2 Emilee Jones
- 4 Cindy Eatwell
- 4 Sandi Eatwell
- 18 Michael Crise
- 18 Jacob Norris
- 18 Lucas Norris

Let Us Know!

- Let us know if you have recently moved, changed your mailing address, your email address, phone number or are using cell phones instead of land lines.
- Let us know if you would like to be included in the prayer chain.
- Let us know if you are hospitalized. (Privacy laws do not allow hospitals to contact clergy when a parishioner is hospitalized.)

Contact the church office at 515-285-6545 or ftdsmumc@gmail.com or Pastor Sandy at 515-290-9905.

Verse to Remember: For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. —Isaiah 55:8

BOGGLE DIRECTIONS: Write as many words as you can using the following rules. 1: The letters in the words must be connected in the grid. 2: The letters can be connected by an edge or a corner. 3: The words don't have to appear in straight lines. They can be tangled around. 4: Each letter in the word must uniquely appear in the grid. For example, if the word is ERASE, the letter E must appear twice in the grid. The word can't just loop back and reuse the same E. 5: Words must be at least three letters long. 6: Words cannot be proper nouns, such as names or places. Write your words in the space provided. Write as many words as you can and then give yourself a score. See if you can beat a score of 75!

S	M	S	E
M	U	G	M
R	E	N	A
F	U	F	L

SCORING

3 letters = 1 pt

4 letters = 1 pt

5 letters = 2 pts

6 letters = 3 pts

7 letters = 5 pts



Ft. Des Moines United Methodist Church
6205 SW 9th St
Des Moines IA 50315-5516

We give thanks for you!!!

**Ft. Des Moines United Methodist Church is a community of faith
in worship and action, open to all in the spirit and love of God.**

May/June 2020

Events:

May 17: Mission Dinner (Soup & Salad)

May 30: Community Meal @ 4pm

Special Offerings:

Food Pantry Sunday will be on May 17.

Monetary donations can be mailed to the church, or
dropped through the mail slot on the north door.

Peace with Justice Sunday will be June 7. Gifts fund
programs that advocate for peace and justice in the
United States and around the world. These programs
empower United Methodists to speak out for removing
structures and systems that harm God's children
globally.