The Circuit Rider

United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon

304 1st Street SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

www.umcmv.com email: umcmv@mchsi.com

July 2017

Pastor's Letter

What a delight to worship and serve with you at the United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon. The first official day of summer was this week, along with the longest day of the year. I love these days where the sunlight shines from early in the morning to late into the evening hours. It's a great reminder that Jesus Christ is the light of the world!

I hope you are reading through the gospel of John with us, as we move from week to week throughout the gospel. The theme that we are focusing on is, "so that you may believe". We are discovering how many came to believe, and the things that held others back. I wonder how you've experienced your belief in Christ, and how it has and continues to transform your life. I hope you will continue to join us, as we continue to see what God is up to!

July is a hopping and exciting month here at the United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon. I hope you will participate in the community fun! Heritage Days are just around the corner. We will have a food booth outside of the church on July 8th. If you are wanting to help, we are still taking volunteers.

Vacation Bible School is coming this month as well! I hope you are excited! Kickoff is Sunday, July 16th with the closing program on Thursday, July 20th. I can't wait!

The Epic of Eden Bible Study is going strong, Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30pm. Feel free to jump in and join us for some good conversation, and study in the Large Balcony Classroom.

Youth Group continues with events planned throughout the summer months. I hope your youth are able to join in for some of the fun.

Mission of Hope Lunch is taking place on July 26th. Do you love to serve? Here is a great opportunity!

Looking ahead, I'm headed to Franklin, TN for the New Room Conference in September, and invite you to join me. Keep reading the Circuit Rider for more information!

I invite and encourage you to continue to dive deeper and deeper into your life of prayer and Bible Study, as you grow in relationship with Jesus Christ. Not sure where to begin? Check out the Gospel of John. As we grow in relationship with one another, we will make continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. It'll just seep out of us, we won't be able to keep the love of Christ in! Keep on keeping on.

I'm grateful for you!

Blessings and Prayers, Pastor Joy Mitchell

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 am Praise Worship

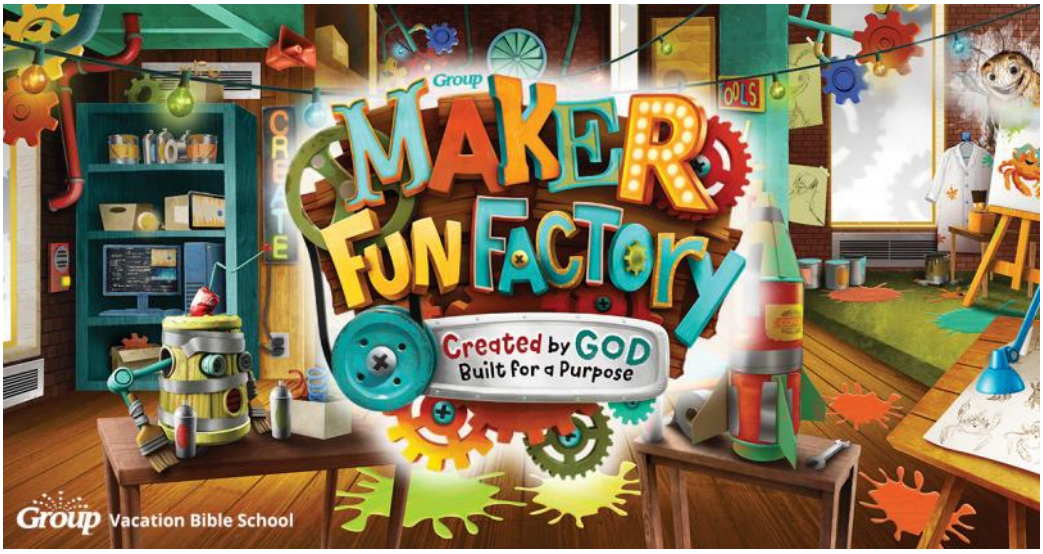
9:30 am Fellowship Time
Common Ground

10:15 am Traditional Worship

Special Offerings this Month:

July 9th - Mission of Hope Luncheon Special Offering - This will be used to help purchase food that is served to the those in attendance of the meals we serve at Mission of Hope in Cedar Rapids. Our next lunch is July 26.

July 23rd- Blanket Ministry Special Offering- we need to restock and would love your support to replenish the funds to use in this ministry.



Vacation Bible School

Maker Fun Factory

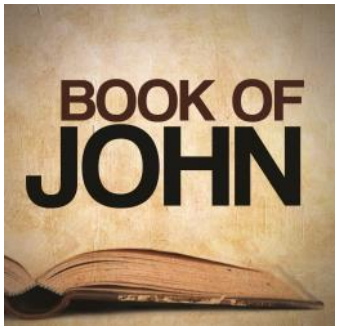
"Created by God, Built for a Purpose"

Sunday, July 16th - Thursday, July 20
6:00 PM - 8:35 PM

Online registration and volunteer sign-up go to: https://www.vbspro.events/p/mtvernonlisbonvbs

Keep up to date by joining our Facebook group @ https://www.facebook.com/groups/MVLVBS

SIGN UP TODAY ONLINE OR STOP BY CHURCH OFFICE TO SIGN UP!



Our Summer Sermon Series Continues

So That You May Believe

We continue our journey through the gospel of John, hearing about the Messiah, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and how his story impacts your life and mine. Hope you'll join us!

Have you noticed…

the beautiful (and large!) cross with the Methodist 'flame' hanging on the wall above the stairs by the elevator? If not, you need to go take a look. It was created by Dennis Murphy, a long-time member of our church. Dennis can often be found in and around our church taking care of repair projects he himself has noticed. In his leisure time, he often creates lovely crosses out of re-purposed materials. This new cross was created of materials from old houses plus a huge piece of tree bark he noticed in a ditch this spring! An amazing talent! Thank you, Dennis!!

Scrip Update

Thanks to all those who have participated in the Scrip Program! So far in 2017 we have raised over $1,176 for the general operating expenses of the church! Please put your order form/check in the collection plate or drop them off in the church office.

Mission of Hope Service Opportunity on July 26th

On Wednesday, July 26th we will be cooking and serving lunch at the Mission of Hope. This presents a great opportunity to serve our extended community in Cedar Rapids! There is also need for volunteers to work in the Food Pantry, the Clothing Closet, and to tie blankets with those who come to the Mission. It's a fun experience meeting new people and connecting with others from our church in a meaningful way. Families are encouraged to participate; this is a great way to introduce kids of all ages to meaningful service. Please sign up via the Sunday morning bulletin insert or by calling the Church Office at 319-895-6286.

Congrats to Pastor Joy Mitchell
Pictures from her Ordination at Iowa Annual Conference

Bishop Laurie Haller delivers message at Ordination worship.

Below: Pastor Joy Mitchell and Weston Mitchell on stage for the official blessing.

11, June 2017

The Altar set at Annual Conference was a beautiful centerpiece for the entire conference.

Pastor Joy had her feet washed by Bishop Laurie Haller as part of the Bishop's message of letting other minister to you too! Below: Pastor Joy thanks all who gathered to help support her on this special day!

NEW ROOM CONFERENCE

Are you ready to see a great awakening in the church? Would you like to be a part of a movement that is seeking this? Come and join Pastor Joy as she travels to Franklin, TN for the New Room Conference. "New Room Conference is our effort in gathering pastors and leaders under one roof to convene conversations, curate content, call to prayer, and inspire a new generation of men and women who long to be a part of a great awakening." For more information: http://newroom.co/conference/.

Conference Dates? September 20-22nd , 2017

Expenses? $150/person plus hotel, meals, and travel. Joy will organize a carpool for any additional folks wanting to travel with she and Weston.

Deadline: Contact Pastor Joy by Thursday, July 20th to register.

Prayer & Share

9:30 am Wednesdays starting June 7th

There will be no formal Women's Bible study this summer, but starting the first Wednesday of June at 9:30, we will have a prayer and share time. We will meet in the Danforth Room, just off the elevator on the 5th floor. All are invited to this time of prayer and reflection. This time of prayer will allow us to pray for our church, our world and share other prayer concerns. A short prayer guide and some devotions will be provided to assist you in this time of centering. God Bless!

Heritage Days Volunteer & Food Donation Sign up

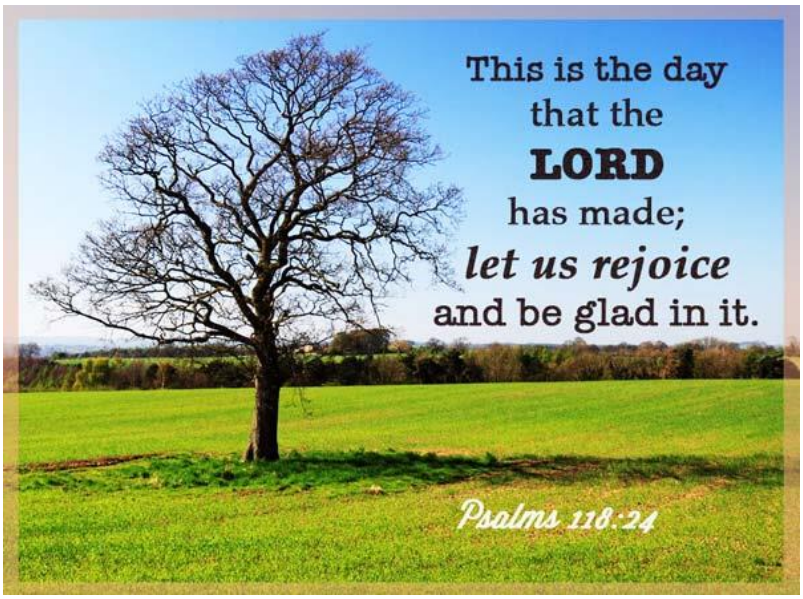
You help is still needed!!
Please check out the online sign up!

http://bit.ly/2017heritagedays

Check out our website--
www.umcmv.com

We now have Sermons online…
www.umcmv.com/video-library-of-services/

Keep up to Date!
Check out our online calendar!
Here is the LINK!
Thanks!



Circuit Rider Deadline for August will be July 26, 2017. Please let the church office know of what information you would like included in the Circuit Rider and feel free to email us at **adix@mediacombb.net** - Thanks!

We have hearing assistance receivers available starting this Sunday! Check in with the Sound Booth to pick one up!

Julian Johnston Scholarship

Four members of the Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church who are entering their junior or senior years of college have been awarded Julian Johnston Scholarships of $500 each for the 2017-18 academic year.

Trevor Baty, son of Jim and Julie Baty, will be entering his junior year at Bradley University. He is majoring in Theatre at Bradley where he is president of the theatre fraternity and plans on a career as a professional actor in TV or film.

Sydney Pratt, daughter of Tena and Richard Pratt, will be a junior at Cornell College this fall. Her interest is in music education and she plans to become a middle or high school general music teacher. Following teaching for several years she wants to pursue music therapy and work with people with disabilities and mental problems.

Keanon Shannon, son of Doug and Chrystal Shannon, is entering his senior year at Iowa State University majoring in Animal Ecology. After graduation he plans to work for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Everett Thompson, the son of Brian and Jo Nowak-Thompson, will be a junior this fall at Knox College working on a major in History and a minor in Chemistry. His career plans are field work in archeology finding and analyzing artifacts.

The scholarship was established by Julian E. Johnston, a well-known Mount Vernon businessman. Mr. Johnston was very appreciative of the financial support he received as a Cornell College student during the 1930's from the local Methodist Church and set up this scholarship to help others.
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Cot Graber, Chair, Julian E. Johnston Scholarship Fund
United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon, 319-535-1085, cotgraber@mchsi.com

UMW

Just a quick reminder!

We are half way through 2017. So far, we have received $300 income from donations. Our pledge that we send on to the District Treasurer is $1500 for the year. If you haven't yet made a donation for this year, now would be a good time. Make your check out to Mount Vernon UMW, and either leave it in the UMW box in the church office or send directly to our treasurer, Linda Peters, 380 12th Ave. SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314. Thanks for your help!

Happy Sixth Anniversary Scrip!

What Is Scrip?

Scrip is a term that means "substitute money". When you purchase scrip, you're purchasing negotiable gift certificates and prepaid cards that are used just like cash. You can use scrip to purchase everyday expenses like food, clothing, and other essentials, and with every purchase, you earn revenue for our organization.

How scrip generates revenue for you

The Great Lakes Scrip Center acts on behalf of churches, schools and other non-profit organizations to purchase large amounts of scrip from grocery stores, department stores, and other retailers. Because the scrip is purchased with cash up front, the participating retailers offer a substantial discount. Our church buys the scrip from Great Lakes Scrip Center at a discount (and also from local participating businesses), and re-sells the certificates to families like yours for full face value. The discount - from two to fifteen percent or more – is our organization's revenue.

Scrip is "shopping cart fundraising"

Scrip is a popular fundraiser because families don't have to sell anything. Organization members produce revenue by making regular household purchases they *would make anyway*. Groceries, clothing, toys, gifts, even gasoline can be purchased with scrip.

Find Out More

The order form to the right is a sample of retailers that participate in the Scrip program. There is a complete list of all retailers (over 500) in the church office. Please feel free to write in other participating retailers not on the form. Return completed orders to the envelope, church office, or drop them in the collection plate. Checks should be made out to UMC of MV-Scrip. Orders will be placed on the 1st and 15th of each month. Gift Cards should be received in the church office 5-7 days from the order date. Those who order will be notified when the Gift Cards are received.

Informational Meeting?

If you are interested in attending an informational meeting regarding the scrip program, please let me know a day/time that works for you! Just give me a call or send an email!

Jackie Morrical, Scrip Coordinator
895-6135
morrical@mchsi.com

Thanks for your order!

Leave your order/check in the collection plate or the church office. Checks can be made out to UMC MV Scrip.

Name			
Check #		Order Date	

Product	QTY	Total
Ace Hardware $25		$
Amazon.com $25/$100		$
Applebee's $25		$
Arby's $10		$
Barnes & Noble $10/$25/$100		$
Bath & Body Works $10/$25		$
Blooming Acres $10/$25/$50/$100		$
BP Gas Stations $50/$250		$
Buffalo Wild Wings $10/$25		$
Casey's General Store $10/$25/$50		$
Dairy Queen $5		$
Dick's Sporting Goods $25/$100		$
Gary's $25/$50/$100/$200		$
Gwen's $25/$50/$100		$
Home Depot $25		$
iTunes $15/$25		$
Kmart $25		$
Kohl's $25/$100		$
Lands' End $25		$
Menards $25/$100		$
Old Navy $25		$
Panera Bread $10/$25		$
Papa Murphy's $10		$
Pizza Hut $10		$
Rubicon Photo $50		$
Staples $25		$
Starbuck's $10/$25		$
Subway $10/$50		$
Target GiftCard $10/$25/$100		$
Walmart/Sam's Club $25/$100/$250		$
		$
		$
Orders due the 1st and 15th of each month.		

Mission Moment

"For the Transformation of the World"

By now, you probably know the mission statement of the United Methodist Church. Maybe you even know it by heart! *The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.* This is a bold and powerful mission statement! Do we truly believe that disciples of Jesus Christ can transform the world? How can we, the members of the United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon, fully live into our mission statement?

In 2015 the Outreach Pillar outlined a 4-year mission cycle strategy for our church, starting with Servant Sunday in 2015. The goal was to serve our local community Year 1, to take a national mission trip Year 2 (we went to Project Crossroads in Virginia), again serving our community Year 3 with another Servant Sunday, and Year 4 is projected to be an international mission trip. Many of us have been praying for 4 years for an international opportunity for our church that would help us realize our mission statement.

An apparent answer to prayer came out of the blue in the form of an email to Pastor Joy from her mentor in Colorado, Randy Jessen. He wondered if our church might be looking for an international partnership opportunity! Randy is the founder of Global Hope, who runs several orphanages in Romania. Through his work there he became aware of Light From Light UMC, a new UMC church plant in Sibiu, Romania. Light From Light operates a Roma day school; they are looking for partnership congregations to help support this school. The children who attend are Roma (Gypsy) children who come from extremely difficult situations.

On August 4th Pastor Joy and Weston Mitchell and myself will depart for Romania on an 11-day information-gathering trip. We will be researching the partnership opportunities that Global Hope and Light From Light might present for our church. We ask for your prayers for discernment, safe travel, and the building of relationships in Romania. We would love to hear your questions and comments prior to our departure; feel free to contact any of us about your hopes and dreams for this potential partnership.

If you would like to learn more about Light From Light, you will find them on Facebook. https://www.facebook.com/lightfromlightumc/

If you would like to know more about Global Hope, you can read more here: https://globalhope.org/

If you would like to know more about the United Methodist Church in Romania, check out this link: http://www.umc-europe.org/artikel_3232.php

Nancy Reasland, Missions Chair

The following family and friends are in need of prayer:

Prayers for Healing:

- Sandy Sill (that her hearing in left ear returns completely)
- Jo Harman (recovering from retina surgery)
- Paula Downey
- John Lord (bicycle accident)
- Amy Guardado (recovering from surgery)
- baby Hofmeister (due in October, recent testing revealed spina bifida)
- Maxine Havill
- John Havill
- Larry (preparing for surgery on July 6th)
- Melissa
- Marsha Light
- Megan Klaus
- Jeff Butterbaugh

Prayers for Loss:

- The John Zehm Family (John's father)

Prayers for Comfort and Strength:

- Mary Walters (in hospice care) and the Jeff Walters family
- Darin and Hanna Hofmeister Family
- John Hayes
- Valarie Smith-Curcio
- Brooklyn and the Wattleworth/Myers/Whitley family

Prayers for Safety and God's Guidance:

- Sydney Pratt as she interns in Quito, Ecuador this summer
- Dustin Clapp (incarceration)

Prayers for Transition:

- Aaron and Liz Reasland and boys

Prayers for Sustenance:

- UMCMV Stephen Ministers and care receivers
- UMCMV pastors, staff, lay leader, and committee members
- UMCMV Life Group ministry
- Mission of Hope in Cedar Rapids, volunteers and attendees
- Women at the Well United Methodist Church, Pastor Lee Schott, and the women of Iowa Correctional Institute for Women

Prayers for our World:

- The United Methodist Church
- Unity among all humanity
- A prayer for all refugees that our church and other churches, communities and countries around the world will give them support and a voice to ensure they are safe, cared for and given a permanent home

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Joy:

- Dodie Rilett is celebrating her 90th birthday!!!
- For the pleasant summer weather we have been enjoying
- Pastor Joy was ordained as an elder in the United Methodist Church on Sunday, June 11th.

Happy July Birthdays!

Dodie Rilett	07/01
Jacob Stewart	
Jim Wallace	07/02
Addison Ault	07/03
Graham Bradbury	
Nicole Claussen	
Sabrina Jones	
Matt Stewart	
Jody Stewart	07/05
Richard Jacob	07/06
Matt Traynor	
Andrea Hallier	07/08
Cathy Stoner	07/09
Amy Anderson	07/12
Joe Stewart	07/13
Chad Conrad	07/14
Henry Steine	
Marilyn Schnittjer	07/15
Danielle Smith	
Mackenzie Voigt	07/16
Lohgan Anderson	07/19
Cot Graber	
LaVonne Meyer	07/21
Randy Cooper	07/22
Luke Rushford	
Seth Rushford	
Marj Whitley	
Joyce Zenor	
Kay Graber	07/23
Preston Johnson	07/24
Jay Currie	07/29
Jeff Walters	07/31

July 2017 Anniversaries

Love is patient, love is kind, it isn't jealous, it doesn't brag, it isn't arrogant, it isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own advantage, it isn't irritable, it doesn't keep a record of complaints, it isn't happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth. Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13:4-13

Melissa & Kerry Kahl	07/01
Jason & Brittany Booth	07/02
Alison Dix & Mel Steen	
Mackenzie & Ben Kraus	
Bob & Ben Meeker	07/11
Tim & Diane Legore	07/14
Tyler & Taya Roos	
Dan & Cathy Stoner	
Abe Tubbs Claussen	07/20
Brian & Teresa Bothell	07/24
Scott & Jessica Johanningmeier	07/26
Marty St. Clair & Cindy Strong	07/26
Kyle & Jena Jaspers	07/28

HELP WANTED!

As I have written before, it takes an entire congregation to provide meaningful worship services and activities in our church. Marc Mohn has been one of those key people who has scheduled and even recruited worship assistants (ushers) for the 8:30 Praise Service. He has had to step down from that position due to time restraints and, Marc, THANK YOU for your great and willing service!

However, now we need to find another volunteer to fill Marc's shoes. There already is a large list of members who are willing to help as worship assistants for this service. So, while we always need to recruit a few new helpers, this position is primarily to be sure there are folks in place each week. A schedule is made out 4 times a year, each for a 3 month period and the office emails a reminder to all assistants a week before they are to serve. So this is just a matter of being there to see that they know what to do and when each week. This position also has an assistant, Steph Frantz, so it does not require that one has to ALWAYS be at this service every week.

If this might be a place you can serve your church, please give Babs Moore a call, 895-8512, or if you'd like to discuss the position further, call Marc and we're sure he would willingly tell you all about it, 319-350-3017.

When each of us joined the church, we agreed to support the church with our time, our gifts, and our service. This is one way you could be a vital part of the service to our church. Please prayerfully consider it and call Babs.

Babs Moore, Chair of Worship Committee 895-8512

JULY 2017 Worship Assistants

July 2nd at 8:30am (Praise Service)		July 2nd at 10:15am (Traditional Service)	
Parking Lot Door Greeters:	Brian Bothell	**Parking Lot Door Greeters:**	Al Shepley
West Door Greeters:	Nancy Reasland	**West Door Greeters:**	Barb Shepley
Worship Assistants:	Darrell & Donna Jordan	**Worship Assistants:**	Morrical Family
Coffee Host:	Ann Booth	**Lector:**	Babs Moore
Communion Assistants	Maura Arnold & Sherryl Osborn	**Communion Assistants**	Maura Arnold & Sherryl Os-
Nursery:	Emily Davis	**Nursery:**	Brittany Booth
Slide Presenter:	Diane Legore	**Slide Presenter:**	Dick Jacobs
July 9th at 8:30am (Praise Service)		**July 9th at 10:15am (Traditional Service)**	
Parking Lot Door Greeters:	Todd Norton	**Parking Lot Door Greeters:**	John McWilliams
West Door Greeters:	Jennifer Back	**West Door Greeters:**	Mike Kragenbrink
Worship Assistants:	Stephanie Hotz Family	**Worship Assistants:**	Cooper Family & Steve Miller
		Lector:	Karen Stewart
Nursery:	Marissa Cranston	**Nursery:**	Brittany Booth
		Coffee Host:	Vernon & Arlene Sand
Slide Presenter:	Diane Legore	**Slide Presenter:**	Jackie Wallace
July 16th at 8:30am (Praise Service)		**July 16th at 10:15am (Traditional Service)**	
Parking Lot Door Greeters:	Amy Jackson	**Parking Lot Door Greeters:**	Jan White
West Door Greeters:	Ron Jackson	**West Door Greeters:**	Bonnie Keith
Worship Assistants:	Ron & Stephanie Frantz	**Worship Assistants:**	Nydegger Family
		Lector:	Mike Gradwell
Nursery:	Marissa Cranston	**Nursery:**	Brittany Booth
		Slide Presenter:	Jackie Morrical
Slide Presenter:	Bonnie Moore	**Coffee Host:**	Sherryl Osborn
July 23rd at 8:30am (Praise Service)		**July 23rd at 10:15am (Traditional Service)**	
Parking Lot Door Greeters:	Matt Stewart	**Parking Lot Door Greeters:**	Mike Stewart
West Door Greeters:	Shellie & Lance Kamaus	**West Door Greeters:**	Roger & Dixie Raiber
Worship Assistants:	Eric & LeAnn Briesemeister Family	**Worship Assistants:**	Terry & Sue Pisarik and Mike
		Lector:	Judy Stine
Nursery:	Kim Schwiebert	**Nursery:**	Cindy Strong
		Slide Presenter:	Trude Elliott
Slide Presenter:	Diane Legore	**Coffee Host:**	Mike & Karen Stewart
July 30th at 8:30am (Praise Service)		**July 30th at 10:15am (Traditional Service)**	
Parking Lot Door Greeters:	Mary Anne Brindley	**Parking Lot Door Greeters:**	Cot Graber
West Door Greeters:	Angie Watson	**West Door Greeters:**	Kay Graber
Worship Assistants:	Amy & Gabi Guardado Family	**Worship Assistants:**	Hunter Family
		Lector:	Karen Stewart
Nursery:	Emily Davis	**Nursery:**	Brittany Booth
		Slide Presenter:	Cot Graber
Slide Presenter:	Diane Legore	**Coffee Host:**	Marty St. Clair & Cindy Strong

United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon
304 First Street SW
Mount Vernon, IA 52314
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon Staff

Senior Pastor . . . . . Joy Mitchell
Associate Pastor/Christian
Education Director……... . Mark Johnson
Sunday School Coordinator
Congregational Care Coordinator Julie Baty
Office Manager/Newsletter . . . . . .Alison Dix
Admin. Asst./ Membership…… Jo Harman
Nursery Care. . . . . Melissa Oxley
Praise Team Director /Metholarks
Choir Director. . . ……..Ben Klaus
Director, Adult Handbell Choir . ..Kristi Keast
Organist/Pianist…… …Karen Stoll
Chancel Choir Director Joleen Woods
Custodian . . . . . Rosa Moss
Maintenance & Repair Director . . . Trustees
Wedding Coordinator……..Barb Shepley
Financial Secretaries . . . . . Richard Jacob,
& Jackie Morrical
Treasurers . . . . . .Mike Kragenbrink/ Alison Dix

Heritage Days Food Booth

Saturday July 8th
11 am to 3 pm
Out Front of our Church

Stop by for lunch - great food, drinks and desserts!