



# ***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.*

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August 2018



## **Pastor's Letter**

Dear Church,

After the hustle and bustle of summer, August has arrived. Sports and school activities will soon begin again, including camps, try-outs, and training. Before you know it, the students will be back in school working on that new sleep schedule, and wrestling with homework, rehearsals, and practices. The fun and adventure, and yet crazy hustle and bustle of summer will fade into the background, and the schedules and routines of the school year, find their way back into your lives again.

Just like the changing of seasons, God is constantly leading and guiding us. I've been reading through the Old Testament, and I've made it as far as Jeremiah this summer. A theme I keep finding in the Old Testament is God's constant pursuit of his people. Over and over and over again the scripture says that God's love is never ending, and that his mercy endures forever. It is an amazing promise, and one that we need to cling to with all of our heart and all of our soul. As I've made it through Isaiah and deep into Jeremiah, I keep reading God say things like, "why don't they just come and ask for help?" The people are turning away from God, they are turning their backs on God, and finding themselves in situations where they need the Lord's help. But, they don't ask.

I wonder if you are one of those people who hates to ask for help. As a young student, I hated to ask for help. I hated to admit that I didn't know or understand something, because it felt as though that meant I was stupid. But, that's not the case at all. Not knowing something, simply means that your knowledge is in a different area, and the only way to come to learn that thing is to ask. It can be a constant struggle for some to ask for help, and yet, we must do it.

We need God's help to carry us from death to life, to take away our sin and our shame, to forgive us for the sins that we've committed, and to lead us into the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. We need God's help to walk obediently with the Spirit, to live for God, and to keep our priorities fixed upon Jesus.

As you go back to school, or back to your regularly scheduled routine of the school year, I invite you to continue to join us in the journey. Remember, if you don't know something, please ask. If you are wanting to know more about this journey of faith, or more about what God says about this or that, please ask. We want to walk with you on that journey. Our mission statement is to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World. Our desire is to walk with you in this endeavor.

Also – please be praying for God to lead and guide you to that friend that you may want to invite to church on the second Sunday of September. What a great opportunity to share the love you have for Jesus with those around you.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Joy Mitchell

## **Summer Worship Services**

**9:30 am Sunday**

(August 5, 12, 19, 26 & Sept 2nd )

### **Summer Celebration Service**

**French Toast Breakfast  
following in Fellowship  
Hall**

**5:30 pm Wednesdays  
Communion Worship  
Service (under 30  
minutes)**

**Starting September 9th**

**Fall worship**

**Schedule:**

**8:30 am praise Worship**

**9:45 am Sunday School  
Hour**

**11 am Traditional  
Worship**



**EXCITING  
NEWS...**

**Starting September 9th**

**We return to our school year  
schedule with services at  
8:30 am Praise Worship  
and 11am Traditional  
Worship**

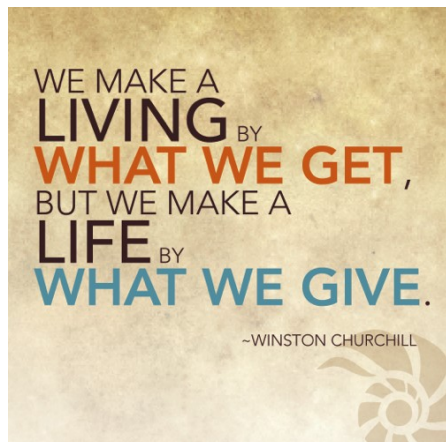
# Fall Faith & Fun



SUNDAY, August 26

Come for the worship, stay for the fun!  
Get signed up for Sunday School!

**THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO DONATED FOOD, FUNDS and VOLUNTEERED for our HERITAGE DAYS FOOD BOOTH!**



## Special Giving in JULY

Support for children being supported through Super Kids Day Academy in Sibiu, Romania

Peace with Justice UMCOR special offering

## **Opportunities for OUTREACH**

### **In Our Community:**

Thanks to everyone who has donated to Marsha's One Mission Fund. It has been such a success and continue to collect if you haven't had a chance to donate!

Also added a "Marsha, Marsha, Marsha" custom design for shirt and mug purchase. Please check it out at

<https://onemission.fund/support/marsha-light/?shopfor=142145>

### **In Our State:**

JFON Special Offering will be taken on Sunday August 26, and we are serving a meal (via UMW article on page 8) for the upcoming JFON clinic.

### **In Our World:**

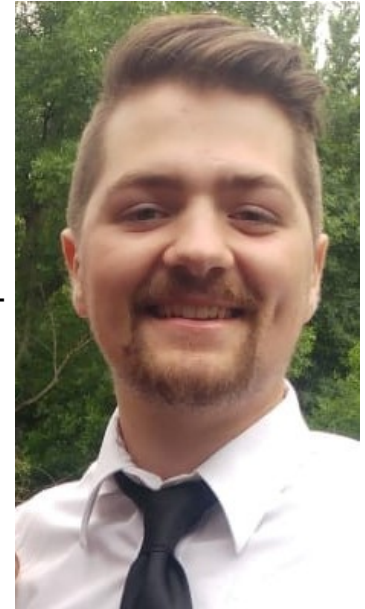
We have sent our first monetary support to the Super Kids Day Academy in Sibiu, Romania, and we hope to do this on a monthly basis. If you would like to give to this fund, please designate your support "ROMANIA KIDS" - we are partnering with the Super Kids Day Academy in their efforts to support orphaned and poor children in their community.



## New Director of Youth and Worship Hired

We are excited to announce we have hired a new Full-Time Employee for the Director of Youth and Worship position. His name is Dillon Fawcett and he will start on August 1, 2018.

Here is his introduction in his own words: Hi Everybody, my name is Dillon Fawcett, I am a soon to be graduate from the University of Dubuque (after I finish some online classes), with a double major in Communications and Christian Studies. I just got married to my beautiful wife Emily Marie this past June! We love to play board games, cook together, and spend time with our two cats Marsh and Leo. Over the past four years, I have had my fair share of church leadership opportunities, including various mission trips out of state and out of the country, director of a youth ministry for two years, and a worship leader on my campus worship team. Through these experiences, I have found great passion for helping, serving, and showing people the unrelenting love of Christ and I am very excited to see what God has planned for all of us at UMCMV! - Dillon



I  
to

## Birthdays In AUGUST

Jason Anderson	08/03		
Mary Jane Wilkey			
Candice Jeffrey	08/06		
Diane Legore		Lauren Swartzendruber	08/17
Sandra Sill		Noah Lineburg	08/18
Hannah Waters		Jim Davis	08/19
Todd Lineburg	08/08	Loren Hoffman	
Aidan Nosek		Kyler Shannon	
Renee Nydegger		Kim Ott	08/23
Emily Stoner	08/09	Jim Engelbrecht	08/24
Beth Johnson	08/11	Andrew P. Knapp	08/25
Kailey Shannon	08/13	Andrew Lafollette	08/26
Marc Mohn	08/14	Steve Miller	
Jen Stanerson		Tryston Locke	08/28
William Deskin	08/16		08/29
Lynda Hakken		Allison Johnston	
		Landon Johanningmeier	08/30
		Bob Smith	
		Darrell Jordan	08/31
		Keaton Kutcher	

## ANNIVERSARIES IN AUGUST



Randy & Jo Harman	08/01
Ed & Stephanie Timm	08/02
Todd & Lisa White	08/03
Lance & Shellie Kamaus	08/04
Steve & Ruth Miller	08/06
Jamie & Rik Smith	
Jim & Jackie Wallace	
Joleen & Michael Woods	
Judy & Don Stine	08/09
Cot & Kay Graber	08/10
Allison & Matt Traynor	
Karmin Mcshane & Shawn Voight	08/11
Kris & Emily Perreault	08/12
Gordon & Bev Behrens	08/16
Jim & Julie Baty	08/17
Addison & Janet Ault	08/23
John & Mary McWilliams	08/24



# August Update on the Way Forward

Dear Friends,

As United Methodists, we are in a time of challenge regarding our understanding of human sexuality, and how we interpret the Holy Scriptures, and love our neighbors as ourselves. We all agree upon and believe, as the UMC's Book of Discipline states that "all people are of sacred worth." We welcome all into our lives, worship, and participation in the local church. In addition to this, we as a church disagree with one another over the following statement from the BoD which states that "The practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Therefore, self-avowed practicing homosexuals are not to be certified as candidates, ordained as ministers, or appointed to serve in The United Methodist Church." Some agree with these statements and others do not.

The Commission on a Way Forward (COWF) was set up to discuss and create possible pathways for the United Methodist Church to find our next steps, in order to break free of the disagreements and fighting around LGBTQ conversations. These conversations at their root are really deeper theological concerns. All three pathways that the Commission On a Way Forward have come up with will be brought before the Special General Conference in February of 2019. The COWF has written a report of their work including the three plans that they have laid out in detail for vote by the general conference in February. This is available for any and all to view, simply click [Here](#). Other organizations and individuals are also submitting petitions. I've seen a few. Some that add to the COWF's work, and some that are all together separate plans.

Please join United Methodists all over the world as we commit to pray at 2:23-2:26 every day. This stands for the dates of the special general conference, where the first step towards our Way Forward will take place. In all of the plans I've read, implementation of these plans will happen anywhere from 2020-2022. So, we will walk one step at a time, thoughtfully and prayerfully.

Please put Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. We will provide a Q&A time during breakfast following our Summer Celebration Worship Service. Come prayerfully with your thoughts and concerns, and we will do our best to answer the questions that come our way. There are a group of us also working through the book a Firm Foundation. This is a great resource to keep the conversation moving, and to keep us on a theological perspective. More opportunities to engage this study will be available this Fall. Stay tuned! There are many other studies as well, regarding this conversation. If you find one or read one that you want to go through with others, please just let me know.

Peace be with you, Pastor Joy Mitchell

**We continue with  
Wednesday Com-  
munion Worship  
@ 5:30 pm**

**We are excited to  
have  
@ Communion  
Worship  
on Wednesdays  
personal  
testimonies from:  
August 8th  
Julie Baty**

Circuit Rider  
Deadline for



September Circuit Rid-  
er will be August 28,  
2018—please email any  
information you want  
included to:

[alisondix@umcmv.com](mailto:alisondix@umcmv.com)

Thanks!



**on  
the Way Forward**

**Sunday August 19  
Fellowship Hall**

Pastor Joy Mitchell will lead a Question  
and Answer session during breakfast  
following service on Sunday August 19.

**Starting @ 10:45 am**

Thanks to all those who have participated in  
the Scrip Program! So far in 2018 we have  
raised over \$956 for the general operating  
expenses of the church! Orders are due the  
1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please put your  
order form/check in the collection plate or  
drop them off in the church office.



Faith, Love and Hope in Action!

We have a couple of events coming up in Aug. that you are invited to participate with us. The first event will be **TUES. AUG. 21**. We will be serving a *meal for the JFON clinic* in Cedar Rapids. This is a great opportunity to get a chance to see how this clinic serves our “neighbors”. The meal is for the clients and volunteer workers. We would like a couple of people to help serve or we could use a veggie tray, cut up fruit, or bars. Please contact Barb Shepley if you can join us for a couple of hours(4:30-6:30pm)on the 21<sup>st</sup> or if you’d like to offer food. Call 895-6566 or email [brshepley@q.com](mailto:brshepley@q.com) to make arrangements.

**GOD’S MARKET, SUN. AUG. 26.** We will offer baked goods and garden produce for sale following church that morning. If you have an abundance of garden goodies at that time (tomatoes, zucchini, etc) please feel free to bring them to our market. We would also welcome baked goods, or homemade jams, jellies, etc. The proceeds from this market will go toward our pledge to mission for programs sponsored by UMW to support women and children locally and around the world. Watch the midweek update for further details.

Blessings, Barb Shepley

### Just a quick reminder !

We are half way through 2018. So far, we have received \$155 income from donations. Our pledge that we send on to the District Treasurer is \$1200 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 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314. Thanks for your help!



# August 2018- United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> 9:30 AM One Sunday Worship-Summer Time 10:30 AM French Toast Breakfast, Fellowship Hall	<b>30</b> 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting, Fellowship Hall	<b>31</b> 7:00 PM Discipleship Pathway team, Chapel Room	<b>1</b> 12:00 PM Everett Kubik Visitation & Funeral, Sanctuary & Narthex 4:00 PM Sorting School Supplies @ SE Linn Community Center, Lisbon, Iowa 5:30 PM Wednesday night Communion Worship 6:45 PM Praise Team Practice - Sanctuary	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 11:00 AM Bridal Shower - Fellowship Hall 8:00 PM AA Meeting Fellowship Hall
<b>5</b> 9:30 AM One Sunday Worship-Summer Time 10:30 AM French Toast Breakfast, Fellowship Hall	<b>6</b> 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting, Fellowship Hall	<b>7</b> 7:00 AM Council Breakfast, Skillet Cafe 2:00 PM UMW Reading Group 6:00 PM Care Ministry - Stephen Ministry, Common Ground Meeting Room	<b>8</b> 5:30 PM Wednesday night Communion Worship 6:45 PM Praise Team Practice - Sanctuary	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 4:00 PM Rehearsal Dinner, Fellowship Hall 5:00 PM Fraser / Capesius Wedding Rehearsal / Meal in Fellowship Hall	<b>11</b> Laurel Fraser & Kenny Capesius Wedding 5 pm wedding service 8:00 PM AA Meeting Fellowship Hall
<b>12</b> 9:30 AM One Sunday Worship-Summer Time 10:30 AM French Toast Breakfast, Fellowship Hall	<b>13</b> 6:30 PM Evening Book Club, Common Ground Meeting Room 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting, Fellowship Hall	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 5:30 PM Wednesday night Communion Worship 6:45 PM Praise Team Practice - Sanctuary	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 2:00 PM Bridal Shower - Fellowship Hall 8:00 PM AA Meeting Fellowship Hall
<b>19</b> 9:30 AM One Sunday Worship-Summer Time 10:30 AM French Toast Breakfast, Fellowship Hall 10:45 AM A Way Forward Question & Answer with Pastor Joy Mitchell, Fellowship Hall	<b>20</b> 6:30 PM Church Committee Night - Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting, Fellowship Hall	<b>21</b> 2:00 PM Volunteer Open House for CDG - Fellowship Hall 5:30 to 8 event 4:30 PM UMW Volunteering @ JFON- Serving meal from 4:30 to 6:30 pm 8:00 PM Nominations Meeting, Chapel Room	<b>22</b> 5:30 PM Wednesday night Communion Worship 6:45 PM Praise Team Practice - Sanctuary	<b>23</b> Tentative- Meet the Community night for Cornell Freshmen	<b>24</b> 9:00 AM Preschool Parents Meeting - Fellowship Hall	<b>25</b> 📍 2:00 PM Ott/ Guadardo Wedding & Reception - Sanctuary & FSH 8:00 PM AA Meeting Fellowship Hall
<b>26</b> 9:30 AM One Sunday Worship-Summer Time 10:30 AM Fall Faith & Fun Sunday, Fellowship Hall - Including French Toast Breakfast 10:30 AM UMW God's Market, Main Floor Hallway	<b>27</b> 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting, Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Prayer Shawl Balcony Classroom	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 5:30 PM Wednesday night Communion Worship 6:45 PM Praise Team Practice - Sanctuary	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 5:30 PM Rehearsal run through, Fellowship Hall 8:00 PM AA Meeting Fellowship Hall

## **Prayer List — The following family and friends are in need of PRAYERS:**

### **Prayers for Healing:**

- Nyla McCall (receiving radiation treatments this week at Mayo)
- Denise Havill-and support for her family during her upcoming surgery and breast cancer treatments
- Marsha Light
- Beth Johnson
- Kaeli Knapp (in UIHC hospital, prayers for continued weight gain and growth; for Nicole & Andy for patience & strength)
- Megan Klaus
- Amanda Meeker
- Tiffany Snodgress

### **Prayers for Grief:**

- The family of Everett Kubik

### **Prayers for Comfort and Strength:**

- Prayers for successful surgery & complete healing for Jo Harman as she has eye surgery on August 15th
- Prayers for peace and comfort for Patty Sorgenfrey's brother, Don Tumey, receiving Hospice Care in Bettendorf, Iowa
- For the family and friends of Everett Kubik, as they mourn his death
- For the family and friends of Mary Boudreau, who passed away on July 10th
- For the family and friends of Mike Duroe
- For family and friends dealing with mental illness
- For persons trying to manage depression
- For people who are dealing with self doubt and worry
- For all who are mourning the loss of a family member or friend

### **Prayers for Safety and God's Guidance:**

- For children and their families during summer break. Prayers for safety during travels and other summer activities.
- For smooth process as Mundo continues to take steps in his asylum status and prayers for those assisting him.

### **Prayers for Transition:**

- For Hannah Moss while she awaits her assignment as a Naval Corpsman and for continued progress with health issues.
- For those in the midst of changing seasons of life.

### **Prayers for Sustenance:**

- For the children in Sibiu, Romania being served at The Super Kids Day Center and the staff who are ministering to them
- Agape Ministry in Cedar Rapids (leader Abraham Boniface)
- UMCMV pastors, staff, lay leader, and committee members
- UMCMV Life Group ministry
- UMCMV Stephen Ministers and Care Ministers
- Mission of Hope in Cedar Rapids, volunteers and attendees
- Women at the Well United Methodist Church, Pastor Lee Schott, and the women

### **Prayers for our World:**

- For Mollie Tibbetts (who has been missing since 7/18) and her family. Prayers for her safe return. Prayers for other missing teens and their safe return to their homes.
- For the children who have been taken from their mothers at the border
- For peace and serenity among all human kind
- Strength and love for those who are hurting
- The United Methodist Church

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Joy:**

- Cot and Kay Graber celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary this month. Congratulations to this wonderful couple.
- Clive and Mavis Cook (Sandy Sill's parents) are celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary on July 31st
- Beau Bruner Stamp was born on June 15th. Congratulations to parents, Shea and Emily Stamp, big brother Breck, and great grandparents, Mike and Shirley Ryan.
- For freedom and our country
- For summertime and all the fun and seasonal activities that come with it.
- Sunday morning French toast breakfasts and fellowship.

# August 2018 Worship Assistants

## August 5th at 9:30am (One Worship Summer Celebration Service)

<b>Parking Lot Door Greeters:</b>	Sandy & Terry Sills
<b>West Door Greeters:</b>	Babs Moore
<b>Ushers:</b>	Darrell & Donna Jordan and Kevin Woods
<b>Coffee Host:</b>	N/A
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Lauren Swartzendruber & Anna Hoffman
<b>Nursery:</b>	Brittany Booth/Melissa Oxley
<b>Lector:</b>	Karen Stewart
<b>Slide Presenter:</b>	Jackie Morrical
<b>Story Time &amp; Song Leader:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Sound Tech</b>	John Gee

## August 12th at 9:30am (One Worship Summer Celebration Service)

<b>Parking Lot Door Greeters:</b>	Mike Ryan
<b>West Door Greeters:</b>	Shirley Ryan
<b>Worship Assistants:</b>	Kerry & Melissa Kahl Family
<b>Coffee Host:</b>	N/A
<b>Nursery:</b>	Brittany Booth/Melissa Oxley
<b>Lector:</b>	Cot Graber
<b>Slide Presenter:</b>	Alison Dix
<b>Story Time &amp; Song Leader:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Sound Tech</b>	Preston Johnson

## August 19th at 9:30am (One Worship Summer Celebration Service)

<b>Parking Lot Door Greeters:</b>	Al Shepley
<b>West Door Greeters:</b>	Barb Shepley
<b>Worship Assistants:</b>	Guardado-Wenz Family
<b>Coffee Host</b>	N/A
<b>Nursery:</b>	Brittany Booth/Melissa Oxley
<b>Lector:</b>	Janet Ault
<b>Slide Presenter:</b>	Diane Legore
<b>Story Time &amp; Song Leader:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Sound Tech</b>	Preston Johnson

## August 26th at 9:30am (One Worship Summer Celebration Service)

<b>Parking Lot Door Greeters:</b>	John McWilliams
<b>West Door Greeters:</b>	Mike Kragenbrink
<b>Worship Assistants:</b>	Loren & Jen Hoffman Family
<b>Coffee Host</b>	N/A
<b>Nursery:</b>	Marissa Cranston
<b>Lector:</b>	Ruth Miller
<b>Slide Presenter:</b>	Jackie Wallace
<b>Story Time &amp; Song Leader:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Sound Tech</b>	Peyton Schwiebert



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
Director of Youth and Worship... .	Dillon Fawcett
Sunday School Coordinator	Brittany Booth
Congregational Care Coordinator	Julie Baty
Office Manager/Newsletter . . . . .	Alison Dix
Admin. Asst./ Membership.....	Jo Harman
Nursery Care. . . . .	Melissa Oxley
Praise Team Director	
Director, Adult Handbell Choir . .	Kristi Keast
Organist	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



Sunday  
August 26  
After the  
9:30 am  
Worship in  
Fellowship

Hall — Fun, games, French Toast  
Breakfast, Sign up for Sunday  
school, crafts, time for fellowship!