



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 2020



Pastor's Letter



Dear Ones,

It is hard to believe we have been here six weeks. I have delighted in the opportunities to get to know you via Zoom, in one-on-one encounters, and through conversations on porches and in yards. Please know that I value each of you, and am excited for further opportunities to get to know you and your families.

This Sunday we are taking the step of meeting in-person for worship at the gazebo. The re-entry team is calling this a “soft opening”, to see how we as a congregation can come together for worship. We will evaluate following worship on Sunday, and make adjustments as needed for all who come. We will continue to offer our on-line messages and music, as well, for those who choose to stay home out of an abundance of caution or are out of town.

A question I have been pondering, and invite you to ponder as well, is: What if, in this “Covid-19 season” when we have had to pause in our regular church activities, God is inviting us to re-think our priorities, to dream new dreams, to reconsider how we do ministry together? I wonder what new things God may be calling us to do and to be? I know I have only been here six weeks. But I also believe that nothing is wasted in God’s economy, and that we have a window of opportunity that invites us to reconsider God’s call to us as the hands and feet of Christ in this time and place. I am on this journey with you. My invitation is for us to pray, to wonder, to dream God-sized dreams and to re-think what new thing God may be calling us to be as the people of the United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon.

If you are interested in dreaming and discerning together as a part of visioning for the future of our church, please talk with me. I am excited to see what God is up to in our midst!

Grace and Peace, Pastor Terra

For the sake of safety and health,
our building is currently closed.

**We are assessing the situation weekly and
hope to reopen soon.**

If you need support, someone to talk to, or other assistance, we are here for you.

Pastor Terra would love to meet with you in person, she can come to your home in a mask, she is also meeting with people in her front yard, and could even meet you for coffee out front of Fuel in Mount Vernon. Just give her a call.

Pastoral Support Contact Pastor Terra Amundson 712-304-1517

Congregational Care Contact Julie Baty 319-533-2349

Communications Contact Alison Dix 319-573-4801

Give all your
worries and
cares to God,
for He cares
about you.



1 Peter 5:7

Backpack Blessing

Sunday August 23

For Students & Teachers

**Watch for Details on where &
when this is being held.**

**We are looking forward to
praying a very BIG blessing
over our students and teachers
as they return to school.**

WORSHIP

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

This Sunday

August 2nd

@ 9:30 am

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

THIS
SUNDAY
AUGUST
2ND
@ 9:30 AM

**AT THE GAZEBO IN MOUNT
VERNON MEMORIAL PARK**

PLEASE WEAR MASKS, BRING YOUR
OWN CHAIR & SOCIAL DISTANCE
FOR SAFETY OF ALL

at the Gazebo in Memorial Park

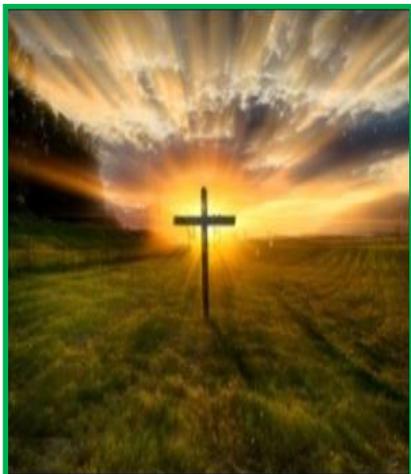
Please wear a mask, bring your own chair and social distance
for the safety of all!

We are trying it out to see how we can safely gather.

Please stay home if you are feeling ill.

(Feel free to use our parking lot to park for the service)

With Rain - we will not meet!



**Please know we want you to be
safe and if the ONLINE
Virtual Sermon & Music is best,
please do that! It will continue
on our website as well Sunday
mornings!**

Care Corner “Check-in”



Dear Church,

I am sending love and blessings to each of you as we begin the month of August and continue to wrap our hearts and brains around all that has transpired throughout the past 5 months. My question for you right now, as you read this, is “how are you”? Truly, how is your heart and soul? Take a moment to pause and breathe and reflect on how you are feeling.

Are you feeling weary? Maybe a bit of resentment regarding our current situation? Are you keeping positive? Are you wondering if you may be experiencing some depression? Maybe having good days and also some not so good days? Are you feeling overwhelmed?

What I want you to understand is that you are not alone. I believe the majority of our community has had at least one, if not several, of the above emotions and thoughts in recent weeks or months. Our reality from day to day continues to challenge both our hearts and minds, as we grasp how our lives have changed and how we need to adapt moving forward.

As Care Coordinator let me remind you that we have a Care Team here at UCMCV that is eager and willing to connect with you. If you are having a bad day, please know you can call me. I’ll be happy to talk over the phone, drop by for a porch visit or maybe bring by some fresh flowers. It is a privilege to provide any or all of these acts of care during this time. We all need reminders that we are not alone in this and that this too shall pass. During low moments, reach out to me, Pastor Terra, Alison or another member of our Care Team. Together we will make it through this.

And above all, take your burdens, stresses and prayers to the One who assures us that we are truly never alone. Let the Trinity help carry you during this time. Call out to God the Father, lean into Christ the Son, and believe that the Holy Spirit is within you always.....truly, leaving you never alone. May these scriptures bring you hope and be positive reminders in the days ahead.

John 14:16: “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper to be with you forever.”

Isaiah 41:10: “ Don’t be afraid, because I’m with you; don’t be anxious, because I am your God. I keep on strengthening you; I’m truly helping you. I’m surely upholding you with my victorious right hand.”

John 14:27: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

With love and sincerity, Julie Dowd Baty, Care Ministry Coordinator

Help UMCMV recognize Health Care Heroes

Would your family like to ring our Church Bell on a Friday evening at 7:00 pm (for 5 minutes) to recognize our Health Care Heroes? Jeff Walters & Jeff Schmatt can let you know about gently ringing the church bell and the COVID19 instructions that will need to be followed. Please sign up on [Sign Up Genius](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F44AFA72AA31-ring) at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F44AFA72AA31-ring>

In addition to the community Church bells, we would like to remind you to go out on your front porches and make some noise to recognize our local health care workers every Friday evening at 7 pm.



Staff Parish Committee looking to hire Youth Leader and Christian Education Director

Has COVID19 has brought changes to everyone's lives, and we need to continue our care for our youngest disciples. Has your career been impacted by COVID19? Have you had a calling during this time to do something to help the Church or wanting to help youth? If so please contact us. We would love to hire someone inside our UMCMV family. This time we all have to be very creative to solve problems, let's talk about how we can tailor the needs of our Church to have someone lead Christian Education and Youth Leader, we can combine these positions or break out pieces to fit your strengths and your calling. The hours could be part-time, to maybe even full-time, we would prefer to help someone already in our family with this opportunity before we begin our community search. Please contact me to discuss your interest.

Jeff Schmatt, Staff Parish Relations Chair

contact 319-895-8776 jschmatt@gmail.com

Iowa Annual Conference Report- From Truman Jordan

On July 18th the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church held a “virtual” meeting. For the Mount Vernon lay delegates (Jim Baty, Kim Ott Guardado, Truman Jordan, and Karen Stewart) and Pastor Terra that meant we all gathered in our church dining room and participated by watching via Zoom and voting via various electronic devices.

It all went surprisingly well! Here is a quote from Bishop Laurie Haller’s, recent email about the conference,

“This past Saturday we conducted a historic annual conference here in Iowa. For the first time, our legislative session met virtually because the COVID-19 Pandemic prevented our ability to meet in person. We also completed our business in one day.”

That last sentence is significant. We did, indeed, complete our business in one day! What did we do?

The first thing to note is that we approved a 2021 budget of \$9.4 million. That may seem like a lot of money, but it is 32% lower than the 2020 budget! Why the big decrease? Several factors are at work. Attendance is down at churches across the state which means giving is also down. Also, some churches are not paying all their apportionments. Some churches do not pay that part of their apportionment that goes to the global church. Some do not pay any apportionments; perhaps because they do not have the money or because they are protesting over the LGBT+ issue that is dividing our global church.

The United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon has a tradition of always paying its apportionments, but not every church in the conference has that tradition. The lower budget is an attempt by our conference leaders to craft a budget of a size that most churches should be able to meet their obligations. This will mean that our apportionments will decrease as will those of all churches. This is not necessarily a good thing, but it may give us the freedom to use our giving dollars in other creative ways. Let’s keep an open mind about this!

One of the changes that will result in a lower conference budget is that the conference will not necessarily pay its global apportionments in full. Just as our church pays a conference apportionment each year, the conference pays a global apportionment that funds the global church. In the past the conference has always paid its global apportionment in full no matter what individual churches paid. Now we will only pass on to the global church those global apportionments paid by each church in our conference.

Another change that will lower the budget significantly is the reduction of the number of districts in the state from 8 to 5. This means fewer districts, fewer district offices, and fewer district superintendents. But there will still be the same number of churches in the state so how can 5 district superintendents do the work of 8? They won’t. We have adopted a reorganization plan that involves the organization of “circuits” of churches within districts that will work collectively on some missions. The word “circuit” is used here in the sense that John Wesley used it when he helped develop the Methodist Church in America. The expectation is that the laity will be more involved in this work which will help ease the workload of the 5 district superintendents. This reorganization will be taking place over the next 12 months. Be alert for ways that you can help!

Iowa Annual Conference Report- From Truman Jordan continued

Finally, the budget has been reduced significantly by lowering our financial support of conference missions. This has been going on for several years now. Many of us are familiar with the work of Pastor Lee Schott and the Women at the Well. Our church has supported her work for several years now in addition to conference support she might get from apportionments. The same is true of the work of JFON as Kay Graber is working with that group in Cedar Rapids. We have also provided some support for the Matthew 25 Hub in Cedar Rapids that is being led by Clint Twedt-Ball. A conference mission that was highlighted at this year's Annual Conference that you might not be as familiar with is our conference's support of campus ministry.

There are 4 Methodist related colleges in Iowa (Cornell, Iowa Wesleyan, Morningside, and Simpson) and Wesley Foundations at Drake, Iowa State, U of Iowa and UNI. Our conference has been providing financial support to these ministries for as long as you have lived in Iowa, but that support is shrinking dramatically. For example, over the last two years the financial support given to the Wesley Foundations has decreased by 90%! For 2021 each Wesley Foundation will get \$15,000. That is not enough to keep the doors open. Each college will only get \$10,000 as their 90% reduction happened over a decade ago. Our church might want to be open to pleas for financial support from these and any other worthy Methodist missions.

If you get the impression from this report that we spent most of our time at the "virtual" Annual Conference focusing on financial matters, you would be correct. But it was not all about money, so we would like to close with a quote from Bishop Laurie about hope because hope was also a big part of our Annual Conference:

"Our Hope"

So where is the hope? God invites you and me at this very moment in the life of the Iowa Annual Conference to stand together and move into a future of hope.

- I see hope in how you have responded to COVID-19, in our commitment to address systemic racism, and in our conversations around human sexuality.
- I see hope in the increasing numbers of people who are live-streaming our worship services because they are yearning for meaning and spiritual connection.
- I see hope in our conference transition to circuit ministry and deepening connections among our local churches.
- I see hope in a renewed commitment to shared ministry through the apportionment system that has been a hallmark of our United Methodist connection for a very long time.
- I see hope in a commitment to reorganize our conference boards and agencies and district committees so that they can function more effectively in making disciples of Jesus Christ.
- I see hope in our insistence upon viewing each human being as a beloved child of God who has a place waiting for them at the table of the Lord.

Sunday School News:
Are you WONDERING
about Sunday School this fall?



Good! We are excited to say - we are too!

We are planning to offer a new Sunday School program this fall
that actually *Celebrates Wonder!*

“Celebrate Wonder is a Sunday school curriculum that engages children’s natural sense of curiosity to help them understand God’s love. It creates a safe environment for kids to ask big questions — helping them explore the Bible in ways that feed their imagination and encourages creativity. Through carefully-selected Bible stories, songs, videos, and hands-on activities, Celebrate Wonder gives children the tools to explore their faith while incorporating it into their daily lives.” Cokesbury Kids



**As we *Reimagine*
Sunday School and
work out the details**

necessary to adjust to the pandemic, ... there are a few things we know for sure:

Sunday School will be different and may change through the year.

Our Sunday School families can stay connected, wonder about God and grow our faith together! Whether Sunday School is able to meet at church, or chooses to virtually connect at home, we will provide opportunities, materials, and support for Sunday School children, youth, and families.

God loves us, God remembers us, and God is always with us!

Eve Estelle & Abner Allan Light were baptized July 25!



Congrats to Gretchen (Havill) & Andrew Light and family!

Pastor Terra enjoyed this as her first official service of her pastoral appointment here!



TRUSTEE'S CORNER

We the Trustee's want to **THANK** all the volunteers that have helped with the parsonage lawn and are helping with the mowing of the church property everything looks great!!

Chair Jeff Walter, Co-Chair Kevin Woods, Jody Stewart, Brock Barber, Mundo Guardado, Tim Legore and Susan Pisarik.

PORCH PORTRAITS

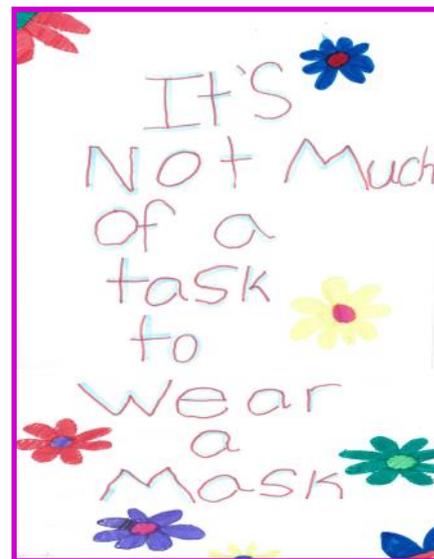
This spring Jeff Schmitt of Rubicon Photo offered free family portrait sessions during quarantine time, and he had so much fun and received such positive feedback he has decided to renew the offer to our congregation. Jeff would like to help capture more of our congregation members on their front porch, or outdoor pandemic oasis. The photos can be fun, or formal, or a combo of both. The portraits are intended for your immediate family, Jeff will be wearing a mask and take the photos from a safe distance and generally take less than a half hour to capture. the sessions are free and social media photos are free. If you wish to purchase prints or use for a Christmas card purchases can be made through Rubicon Photo and a portion of the proceeds will benefit our Mission Fund. Please reach out to Jeff at 319-895-8776 jschmitt@gmail.com to set up a portrait time. Some examples from the spring to spark your creative juices for your portraits.



WE LOVED SEEING ALL YOUR CUTE FACES !!

Calling all UMCMV artists young and those young at heart!

Looking for something for your child to do the next time they say they are bored? Have you be looking for a way to help keep our Church family connected during this unusual time? We are calling young artists, but we would love to see artwork of all ages. The idea is to create works of art that can be turned into posters we can distribute around town, bookmarks, note cards, or posted to our Social Media to inspire, and appear in our Circuit Rider and Midweek updates. Let your imagination run and come up with a positive message, make a COVID slogan, pick a favorite Bible verse that is helping you through this time. Feel free to use any media you want from crayon to photography. You will see a few images submitted by Josie Bothell "It's is not that big of task, to wear a Mask" and Joey Watson "Together or apart, let's keep Jesus in our Heart" to help prime your creative ideas. If you have any questions or when you have your submissions ready contact Jeff Schmatt at 319-895-8776 jschmatt@gmail.com.



SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS,
WE HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU!
DRIVE THROUGH TO PICK IT UP!
WE MISS YOU & HOPE YOU CAN COME BY!



Saturday August 1
9 to 11 am in the Church Parking Lot

REMINDER!!!

DRIVE THROUGH ON SATURDAY AUGUST 1
from 9 am to 11 am
in our church parking lot

To pick up inspiration and support as well as
bag of goodies to keep you growing in your
faith!

DID YOU KNOW... History of United Methodist Church of Mount Vernon

We've talked about the history of Methodism, the Circuit Riders, the various church buildings, the expansion of worship and music in the Mount Vernon United Methodist Church. But no mention has been made of an educational program for children.

That's not just an oversight. Children were considered a part of the family, sat with the family during worship, but there were no suitable places in the church building to start a children's Sunday School and certainly not a nursery. All this came to a head with planning for the church's Centennial Year.

A building the size of the stone United Methodist Church was difficult to keep in repair and required constant attention. Ice and snow had damaged the roof so badly that it had to be replaced. Then it was discovered that water had damaged the organ so badly that it had to be rebuilt in 1955. The time had come when the congregation needed to consider some major work on the entire building in preparation for the Centennial Celebration. Some thought the whole church should be levelled and a new church should be erected.

The church had always functioned on a pay-as-you-go basis so their first decision was to conduct a financial campaign to see what they could afford. Healy and Brown of Cedar Rapids was hired to study the condition of the church and present its findings to the Church Board. The Methodist Board in Des Moines sent a fiscal advisor to assist with projections. A campaign was to be conducted from October 20 to November 2 that would raise \$75,000. Heading the campaign was Carroll Stoll, Chairman of the Church Board. Bill Deskin and Floyd Hillman were in charge of organizing campaign workers and Charley Hedges was chairman of the large-gift committee. Other committee members were Arthur Blue, Edna Kegley, Doc Bigger, the Roy Nelsons, the Harry Gaardes, the Leo Gersts, the Jim Shutts, the Bill Pflasterers, and the Richard Thompsons.

The campaign began with a kick-off dinner on October 27, 1960, served by the women's organization, W.S.C.S. The dinner raised \$77,406 in one evening! However, the decision on what to do with the funds became more difficult when Leonard Keedick died and gave the church another \$90,000. Suddenly, the possibilities expanded. Four possibilities were discussed: (1) Remodel the current church; (2) Construct a new education building; (3) Remodel the current church and build a new education building; and (4) Build a new church and a new education building.

The decision was made at an "inordinately long meeting with spirited and heated debate with no consensus of opinion". Ultimately the decision was to build the education building for Sunday School classes and to remodel the current church at a later date. The new education building would be located 20 feet south of the church, would have two stories and would not be connected to the church. Heating would be by baseboard radiators (a first). It would have juvenile and adult restrooms on both floors, supply rooms and a custodian's closet (much appreciated by Marge and Paul Gaines, custodians for many years).

The new education building was completed and dedicated on Sunday, April 13, 1963, at a cost of \$142,000. The building was completely furnished with appropriately sized furniture at a cost of \$3,500. Directing the building project were Charley Hedges, Carrol Stoll, Nedra Sautter, Dot Humphreys, Chuck Cochran, E. C. Prall and Herb Hendricks. Methodist children now had a place for a Sunday School and a nursery!

There remained one complication. There was still a debt for the building of \$15,000. Burnett Ringer was concerned about it. On November 17, 1964, he voluntarily read a letter to the congregation during the church service. He had meticulously calculated that the debt could be resolved through a "Committee of 100" composed of persons each pledging \$50, \$40, \$30, \$25, \$20, \$15, \$10, \$5 or \$3 monthly that would culminate in eliminating the debt by 1965. No one thought a campaign without personal solicitation would be successful. All but \$4,000 was pledged and given through that effort.

---Kay Graber and Dick Thomas, Church Historians

Gospel lessons and questions to ponder in preparation for worship – August, 2020

August 2nd: Matthew 14:13-21 Jesus and the feeding of the 5,000 men, plus women and children.

What do you learn about the nature of God in this story?

August 9th: Matthew 14:22-33 Jesus walks on water

When have you struggled to trust Jesus through life's trials? How has Jesus revealed his presence with you in the midst of the trials?

August 16th: Matthew 15:21-28 The Canaanite woman's faith

When have you, like the Canaanite woman, felt like you had to insist that Jesus come closer? How did your faith change or grow from that experience?

August 23rd: Matthew 16:13-20 Peter's declaration about Jesus

What do you need to understand about Jesus' identity to more boldly witness to his mission?

August 30th: Matthew 16:21-28 The cross and self-denial

What does it mean to you to "take up your cross", and follow Jesus? For the world?

August Birthdays



Jason Anderson	08/03
Mary Jane Wilkey	
Candice Jeffrey	08/06
Diane Legore	
Sandra Sill	
Hannah Waters	
Aidan Nosek	08/08
Renee Nydegger	
Emily Stoner	08/09
Beth Johnson	08/11
Kailey Shannon	08/13
Marc Mohn	08/14
Jen Stanerson	
Lauren Swartzendruber	08/17
Jim Davis	08/19
Loren Hoffman	
Kyler Shannon	08/19
Kim Guardado	08/23
Jim Engelbrecht	08/24
Andrew Lafollette	08/26
Steve Miller	
Tryston Locke	08/28
Landon Johanningmeier	08/30
Keaton Kutcher	08/31



Giving Opportunities

- UMCOR COVID-19 Response Fund

<https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-2025-umcor-covid-19-response-fund.aspx>

- SE Linn Community Center

- <https://selinn.org/>

- Matthew 25 HUB

<https://hub25.org/donate25/>

Happy August Anniversaries!!

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	
Pastor Terra & Jay Amundson	08/11
Karmin McShane & Shawn Voight	
Jim & Julie Baty	08/17
Addison & Janet Ault	08/23
John & Mary Jane McWilliams	08/24
Kim & Mundo Guardado	08/25

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for Healing:

- For Judy Stine, who has recently received a cancer diagnosis
- For all who are currently infected with the COVID-19 virus
- For Doris Lockridge (Jackie Wallace's mother) who is 90 and has dementia, and has lost her stability when walking. It is difficult for Jackie and Doris to be separated at this time. Prayers for Doris' health and for comfort during this time when no visitors are allowed
- Continued prayers for Emily (Stoner) Bell, who has now returned to work, and continues to make progress in her recovery, continued prayers for a full recovery are appreciated
- For all our friends and family members who are fighting the battle against cancer

Prayers for Comfort and Strength:

- For Judy and Don Stine, as they await further news and treatment plans for Judy, Judy has recently been hospitalized with an infected gall bladder and just informed that cancer has also been found. Judy is now at home. Prayers for both Judy and Don as they prepare for this battle, that they will feel the love and peace of God surrounding them, as well as the prayers of their church family lifting them up in care and support
- For the communities of Wilton and Tipton as they mourn the death of a Wilton teen who was murdered over the weekend
- For Arden (Arlene Sand's brother) who lost his wife, Pam, to COVID. We pray for this family as they mourn the loss of Pam and also, are thankful for Arden's recovery
- For the family and friends of Jeanette Schweitzer (Sue Pisarik's mother) who passed away on June 30th, our thoughts and prayers are with Sue and Terry at this time
- For anyone who is working in the healthcare field or another "frontline" occupation during this pandemic and unprecedented time. Prayers for their safety, strength and comfort
- For anyone who is feeling lonely or isolated due to recent changes in how we live day to day. Prayers that they will reach out to others, that God will comfort them, and we will all make extra efforts to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus
- For those worrying and anxious about health issues
- For all who are struggling: emotionally and spiritually
- For individuals and families who are under financial stress
- For those suffering silently with anxiety and depression
- For this church, this building, these people, and ways to love on and stay connected with one another even if we are not in worship services together
- For all not mentioned by name who are mourning the loss of a family member or friend

Prayers for Transition:

- For school administrators, the school board members and teachers, as plans for the 2020/21 school year are being discussed and confirmed
- For our schools and families as school resumes, whatever that ends up looking like
- For Pastor Terra Amundson (and her husband, Jay) as she begins her ministry at UMCMV and Jay begins his appointment in Tipton, and as they get to know their congregations
- For the leaders of our church here at UMCMV to know how to lead us and what to do in these unusual times
- For the United Methodist Church: including the global church, the Iowa Conference and our Mount Vernon congregation

Prayers for Sustenance:

- Prayers for Maxine Havill and John Havill as they reside in a Care Facility during this time of social distancing. Their days are spent almost exclusively in their rooms. Let's try to brighten their day with some mail, here is the address: Mechanicsville Specialty Care, 104 E 4th Street, Mechanicsville, Iowa 52306
- For the children in Sibiu, Romania being served at The Super Kids Day Center and the staff who are ministering to them. Specifically, prayers for Pastor Cristi and Ligia
- UMCMV Stephen Ministers and Care Ministers
- Mission of Hope
- Women at the Well United Methodist Church

Prayers for our Nation and our World:

- For justice and peace for people of color in our country. May the Holy Spirit move throughout our churches and individuals to help us be part of the solution to the current unrest and racism. Lord hear our prayers, and guide this country and your world to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with you
- For all people and countries of this world who have been and continue to be effected physically by the COVID-19 virus
- For all people across the globe who are concerned about financial implications of pandemic, both personally and beyond
- For national and state leaders to deal with the COVID-19 virus effectively
- Pray for love among all people
- Prayers for peace for people everywhere - peace worldwide

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Joy:

- We celebrate with the Mount Vernon and Lisbon softball teams who both advanced to the State Tournament. We are especially proud of Mandy Morriscal, Lauren Schwartzendruber and Paige Roos.
- What a joy and cause for thanksgiving....Donna Walter's one year restaging results are in: NED (no evidence of disease).
- Marilyn Schnittjer celebrated her 80th birthday. Happy 80th Marilyn! We love and celebrate you!
- The floor project in fellowship hall is complete and looks amazing!!! We are so grateful for the work provided by Kraig and Jake Hunter.
- Keep connecting and reaching out to each other, we are so thankful for the relationships within this church community
- Thankfulness for the healthcare workers, groceries employees, childcare providers and all others who are on the frontlines helping our communities to function and providing care to those who need it
- Thankfulness for online methods of staying connected during this time of social distancing
- Gratefulness for the love and kindness shown to one another in times of crisis



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 Pastor Terra Amundson
 Director of Youth
 Praise Team Director– Interim– Clint Stanerson
 Christian Education Director....
 Sunday School Coordinator Brittany Booth
 Congregational Care Coordinator Julie Baty
 Office Manager/NewsletterAlison Dix
 Admin. Asst./ Membership.....
 Nursery Care. Melissa Oxley
 Director, Adult Handbell Choir . . .Kristi Keast
 Organist Karen Stoll
 Chancel Choir Director Joleen Woods
 Custodian Night Shift
 Maintenance & Repair Director . . . Trustees
 Wedding Coordinator.....Barb Shepley
 Financial Secretaries Richard Jacob,
 & Jackie Morrical
 Treasurers Mike Kragenbrink
 Alison Dix



**Please be praying for students, teachers
 families and all who work at the schools.**