



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | STORM LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | AUGUST 2023

B.L.E.S.S.



STORM LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S 9th ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY

One day only!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19 @ 8:30 am

Storm Lake United Methodist Church
211 East 3rd Street

Church Events

July 31st–August 17, 2023

Pastor Kiboko In Congo

August 7-11, 2023

ESL Camp

August 18, 2023

Blood Drive

August 19, 2023

8:30 am–B.L.E.S.S.

August 21-23, 2023

Pastor Kiboko at Class



Anyone interested in helping the Project Group to "tie knots" on quilts please contact JoAnn Olsen at 732-1285

Pastor's Pen

I am writing this page right after the RABRAI event. It was quite an extraordinary event. I hadn't seen anything like this in Iowa. It was wonderful to meet people from all 50 states. I also had the opportunity to meet people from Brazil, Australia, Spain, England, France, Germany, Portugal, Iran, and Belgium.

I spent most of the afternoon talking to people outside of our church building as they were waiting to get in for Spaghetti dinner. The food was delicious, so I was told. Talking about food, I just realized that I didn't eat anything that was served at church. I did not leave the building until 9:45 Sunday night.

The one thing I liked the most was the many conversations I had with people. The camaraderie among people was excellent. I will share some of the conversations I had with people.

A lady from Brazil asked me where I was from. "I am from the Democratic Republic of the Congo" I replied. "When did you come here and how did you get this job working under the sun?" She asked. I paused for a while before I gave an answer. Then I said the following, "Well, I heard about this event from the radio, and I decided to fly in yesterday from the Congo to come and serve Spaghetti dinner." She praised me for doing what I was doing. Everyone standing by her thanked me and they continued to praise me. I finally decided to tell them the truth. We had a good laugh.

Another story is about a college professor, Laura Hobgood. She teaches religion at Southwestern University in Texas. She brought with her seven medical doctors. They stayed here at the church. They left good tips. They are going to be a part of B.L.E.S.S ministry. Anyway, Laura wanted to know where I was from. I told her that I was from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. She turned red. I knew right there that something was not right with her. "Are you ok?" I asked. See, my skin color does not change when I am nervous. However, Caucasian people's skin color changes when they are nervous or when they are emotional. "I cannot believe you are from the Congo", she said. "My father was born in the Congo", she added. The two of us were extremely happy to find each other. It was amazing.

What else did I do? We hosted about 12 people. I spent the night at Betty's house. It was great having people both at the church and at my house. I am glad we were hospitable. Monday morning, I had to be at Alwaysis Park to pray for the bikers as they came by. It was beautiful



hearing from thousands of people thanking the people of Storm Lake for their great hospitality. I would like to thank Carl Turner for doing such a wonderful job. Our God deserves all the praise.

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Praise God the Father who is the source; Praise God the Son who is the course; Praise God the Holy Spirit who is the flow; Praise God, our portion here below!" (Thomas Ken (1674)).

I would like to close this page by inviting you to RAD the Spaghetti Dinner event. What is RAD? Thank you for asking the question. RAD stands for reflect, adjust, and do.

Let us all **reflect** on this event. Why did we do this? What was the goal? Did we reach our goal? How are we going to use the proceeds? Who was going to do what? How did we do it? Are there people we need to thank? How are we going to thank them? When are we going to thank them? Now let us try to see what we can **adjust**. What did not work? What were the challenges that we faced? How did we work together? How was the communication? Did I hurt anyone in the process? Are our hearts clear?

What would you change if we were to **do** this again? What would you keep? What would you not repeat? What did we learn through this experience?

From my heart to yours.....

Pastor Kiboko

Campbell Soup Labels

The Campbell Soup Company is no longer doing the “soup label for education” program due to declining participation.

Thank you!

Storm Lake United Methodist Church,

Thank you for all of the support, alongside the towel and scholarship!

Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated!

Cayson Binning

Exercise Wellness Group “XYZ”

What: “XYZ” (EXTRA YEARS OF ZEST) SLUMC Exercise Wellness Group.

When: Starting on Monday, August 7, 2023 (took July off)

Time: 10:00–10:45 a.m.

Where: SLUMC Family Life Center. Please use East side canopy door by FLC.

Fee: You will need some form of weights. Suggestion: Use cans of food and after class leave them in the kitchen for Monday night food distribution.

4 new exercise videos have been purchased to add “Extra Years of Zest!”

Some paperwork will be required (again) which will include Insurance and contact information. Church activities or weather could interfere with class.

Committee: Deb DeHaan (299-1565), Candy Clough (299-0021)

The Lakeside Presbyterian church is collecting cans and bottles. Proceeds will be sent to the Ukraine.

Please call for more info. @

712-732-2076

PRAYERS OF SYMPATHY

- Family & Friends of Sylvia Strand grandmother of Cody (Mylea) Strand

PRAYER FOR THE GRIEVING

Lord, you know those who are hurting right now. We know you care because you are our Heavenly Father. God, I thank you for giving us comfort when we hurt. Help us remember we are not alone as we grieve. Help us cling to You when we feel despair and we miss those we have lost. Father, show us how to take refuge in You when our hearts are shattered. We know you understand. So we lift up each person reading this right now. Comfort them. We pray this in Your Son’s precious and Holy name. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Kim Piercy | Dan Bogaard |
| Virginia Carlson | Dexter Meseck |
| John Nichols | Drew Havens |
| Connor Hansen | Sondi Raveling |
| Ellen Webb | Jesse Mayfield |
| Karen Salmen | Shirley Strait |
| Craig Boeset | Kermit Tolzin |
| Lance Bellinghausen | Jenny Allen |
| Bev Schmidt | Elaine Boyd |
| Stan & Steph Quick | Melua Bainbridge |
| Bob & Patty Fritzmeier | Carol Prichard |
| Donna Blom | Dain Netland |
| LaVonne Robb | Coleen Baughman |
| Courtney Campbell | Mike Campbell |
| Terry Davenport | Susan Thompson |
| Dyese (DK) Kilumba | |
| All who are affected by COVID 19 | |

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Father God, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that you would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of Your love! In Jesus’ name. Amen!

Church Library News

August 2023

The dog days of summer make it a great time to watch DVD's and read books inside where it is cooler! Check out our church library for both.

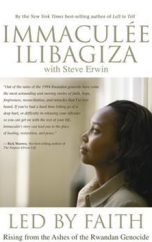
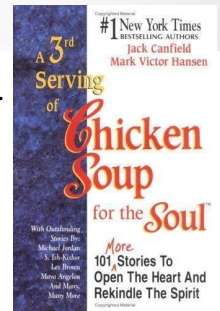
DVD



"I Can Only Imagine" Dennis Quaid and Trace Adkins star in this inspiring true story behind "Mercy Me's" beloved hit song. Running from a troubled home life and broken relationship, Bart Millard found escape in music. Hitting the road in a decrepit tour bus, Bart and his band "Mercy Me" set out on an amazing journey none of them could ever have imagined. In this uplifting, music filled movie that beautifully illustrates the power of forgiveness and God's love.

Books

"A Third Serving of Chicken Soup for the Soul" by Jack Canfield and Mark Victor Hansen. Within the pages of this book you will find shining examples of the best qualities we all share as human beings: compassion, grace, forgiveness, hope, courage, dedication, generosity, and faith. Stories may be THE most powerful teaching tool available to us, especially when the subjects being taught are compassion, necessary losses, respect and values. In this volume of "Chicken Soup for the Soul" stories, the authors share more collected wisdom on love, parenting, teaching, learning, death, attitude, and overcoming obstacles. This book will warm your heart, brighten your darkest days and put a smile on your face.



"Led by Faith" by Immaculee Ilibagiza. This book was donated by Nancy Fratzke. Roxie Brostad, your church librarian, is currently reading it and highly recommends it. In 1994 Rwandan native Ilibagiza was 24 years old and home from college to spend Easter with her devout Catholic family when the death of Rwanda's Hutu president sparked a three-month slaughter of more than one million ethnic Tutsis. She survived by hiding in a Hutu pastor's tiny bathroom with seven other starving women for 91 cramped, terrifying days. This searing firsthand account of Ilibagiza's experience cuts two ways: her description of the evil that perpetrated, including the brutal murders of her family members, is soul-numbingly devastating, yet the story of her unquenchable faith and connection to God throughout the ordeal uplifts and inspires. This book is a precious addition to the literature that tries to make sense of humankind's seemingly bottomless depravity and counterbalancing hope in an all-powerful, loving God.


NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

Last call for members to send in your photos. We will be printing soon.

If you have not done so, you can send us a photo of your family to Lynn's email address: lynnsnyder2010@gmail.com. The photo can be one of these file types: JPG, PNG, TIF, HEIC.

As soon as we have everyone's pictures added we will be printing them off and you can also access them on-line.

AUGUST 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| | 4pm Food Dist. <i>Pastor Kiboko leaves for Congo</i> | 1 9:30am Staff Meeting | 2 10am Hymn Sing @ Otsego Place | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | Kiboko Mission Trip to Congo | | | |
| 6 10am Worship w/ Joan | 7 10am Exercise Class in FLC 4pm Food Dist. | 8 9:30am Staff Meeting | 9 10am Hymn Sing @ Otsego Place | 10 1:30pm Chapel @ Otsego Place 5:30 SPRC | 11 | 12 7:30am UMM |
| | ESL Camp 9:00 am to 12:00 pm | | | | | |
| | | Kiboko Mission Trip to Congo | | | | |
| 13 10:00 Worship w/Carl | 14 10am Exercise Class in FLC 4pm Food Dist 5:30pm Finance | 15 9:30am Staff Meeting | 16 9:30 Project Group ?? 10am Hymn Sing @ Otsego Place | 17 7pm Ad Council | 18 Pastors Day Off 9am-12pm Blood Drive  | 19 8:30 am BLESS School Supply Giveaway |
| | Kiboko Mission Trip to Congo | | | | | |
| 20 NOISY OFFERING 10am Worship w/Kiboko | 21 10am Exercise Class in FLC 3pm Pastor @ Otsego Place 4pm Food Dist. 7pm Trustees | 22 9:30am Staff Meeting | 23 10am Hymn Sing @ Otsego Place | 24 1:30pm Chapel @ Otsego Place 4:30 Mission Meeting | 25 | 26 |
| | Kiboko at Class in Ohio | | | | | |
| 27 10:00 Worship w/Kiboko | 28 10am Exercise Class in FLC 4pm Food Dist | 29 9:30am Staff Meeting | 30 10am Hymn Sing @ Otsego Place | 31 | | |

English Language Camp



This year we will be expanding our English Language Camp to include students ages 5-18 who speak limited English. This is a full immersion language camp with

lots of experiential learning. Students will be studying rocks at this "Rock Your World" camp. Activities will include hands-on learning experiences at the Sanford Museum in Cherokee, a visit to the Grotto in West Bend, rock exploration at the beach, and a visit to a rock quarry. This program will be held August 7-11 each morning from 9:00am-12:00pm. Each day begins with a hot breakfast. If you are interested in helping with this program in any capacity please contact Joan.

VBC Thanks

We had a wonderful week at Vacation Bible Camp. 64 students attended our Stellar VBC as we blasted into space while learning more about Jesus and how we can shine Jesus' light. Special thanks goes to our outstanding staff and our awesome crew leaders. The following crew leaders mentored small groups of students throughout the week: Natelyn Phillips, Brianna Ledesma, Braydon Lyle, Alicia Gatzemeyer, Abbey Piercy, Ariana Chilton, Kealy Imel, Levi Lindgren, Jager Johnson, Reagan DeHaan, Boden Neuroth, Atiana Chilton, Tina Louig, Kira Vrban. We had 7 centers that the children visited each day. Special thanks to the following center leaders: Bible Adventure-Cheryl Baughman, Jean Bellinghausen; Imagination Station-Nancy Sliefert with assistant Tina Louig; Snack Center-Trish Hansen with assistants Laura Hansen, Tara Dewitt, Jeremy Hansen; Stellar Games-Elli Jensen, Carlos Lopez, Maria Saldana, Colton Lindgren; KidVid Cinema-Rachel Neuoth; Opening and Closing-Deb DeHaan.

Each day students had fun watching for God sightings, doing fun experiments, eating yummy snacks, participating in Bible stories, watching videos about students their age who were shining Jesus' light, and learning some fun new songs. Special thanks also to The Bridge, for using their bus to transport students from the Vista Estates Trailer Park. Their help was very much appreciated.

ZONE

The Afterschool Zone Program will begin September 5th & 6th. Students who have attended in the past will receive a registration form in the mail. More information will follow in the September Messenger.

Rally Sunday

On Sunday, September 10, we will "Blast Off" for a fun year of learning and fellowship as Sunday School for all ages will resume. Elementary students will continue to meet from 9:00-9:45 a.m. beginning in the music room #201. Mark your calendar and come for a stellar, out of this world experience!



Community Vacation Bible Camp

On July 10-13 our church joined with five other churches in our area to host a Vacation Bible Camp for students from The Bridge. This was a Spirit filled event with Spirit filled volunteers who were committed to helping students grow in their love and knowledge of Jesus Christ. It was a joy to see so many churches cooperating to grow God's kingdom. Special thanks to the following churches for providing leadership and/or volunteers: Storm Lake United Methodist; Storm Lake Baptist; Hope E-Free; Faith Bible; Bethel Baptist; and Summit.

Special thanks also to the following volunteers from our church: Trish and Laura Hansen; Cheryl Baughman, Elli Jensen; Joseph Dak; Nancy Jensen; Josh Carlson; Brittany Boeset; Nancy Sliefert; Bob North; Laurie Kofmehl; Bev Nelson; Lynn Snyder & Brayden Lyle.

There were 45 elementary age students who attended and 15 middle school students. Special thanks to The Bridge for providing background checks, volunteer assistants, student enrollment, and transportation to and from church.





RAGBRAI Summary



Early in May our Congregation was asked to support the Spaghetti Dinner Committee that had just been formed for RAGBRAI. July 23 looked like lights years away but when organizing a giant task there is no time to waste. We asked for food, water, meat, pies, time, talent and money, and you gave. Thank you, thank you a lot! Enough was given that this event was self-supporting, we did not have to use church funds to finance this dinner. Your generosity began our road to success.

All the donations were appreciated. The cash portion allowed the committee to purchase items in bulk and specialized items. We are especially grateful for the cash portion totaling \$3,330. Most of which has been spent or committed. Thank you very much to all who supported this event with your personal resources.

Forming a committee to handle this event followed much discussions, no doubt. Storm Lake United Methodist Church needed to be involved. A lot of us wanted to have something, just did not want to lead. Leadership surfaced, they were answering a Call. A co-chairmanship was formed. They had to be asking what am I getting into, never done this before, where do we start, lets go. Our co-chairs proceeded to plan, recruit, appoint, trusted, and proceeded with God given guidance, confidence and succeeded. Tasks were identified, subcommittees were formed, they drove hundreds of miles to pick up stuff, spent hours on the phone, and much much more. Maybe lost some sleep.

Our co-chairs are: Deb DeHaan, Cheryl and Bill Baughman, Sarah Low, and Jean Bellinghausen. Recognize them and thank them sometime when you meet.

Here is a list of tasks that had to take place to succeed: contacting City and RAGBRAI contacts, food purchases, cash donations, advertising, signage, meat preparation, spaghetti preparation, set up and decorate, runners, Venmo setup, security team, dining room hosts, dishwashers, and clean up.

(Continued on page 9)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Celebrating a birthday 80 years and above for August:

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| Phyllis Francis | 08/30 | Jewell Dierwechter | 08/13 |
| Stan Quick | 08/24 | Connie Stille | 08/17 |
| Beu Schmidt | 08/27 | Bob Meredith | 08/08 |

Celebrating anniversaries of 25 years and more for August:

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| Stan & Steph Quick | 08/11 | Brad & Darla Beukelman | 08/08 |
| Wayne & Ruth Stark | 08/18 | John & Roxie Brostad | 08/09 |
| Neal & Karen Kuehl | 08/10 | Layton & Becky Zylstra | 08/19 |
| Ron & June Bryan | 08/12 | Darwin & Jody Taylor | 08/14 |
| Lyle & Joyce Mosbach | 08/20 | Don & Mary Diehl | 08/11 |
| Terry & Margaret Stull | 08/02 | Al & Michelle Patten | 08/06 |
| Ed & Joan Rude | 08/25 | Sean & Nichol Kleespies | 08/03 |

If you are not listed on the birthdays or anniversaries list, it is because we do not have the information in our records. Please contact the office if you would like to be included.

LifeServe Blood Drive

August 18, 2023 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



Appointments are Required
/Photo I.D. Required
Schedule your appointment online at
www.lifeservebloodcenter.org or call
800.287.4903

Location: United Methodist Church Family Life
Center, 211 E. 3rd Street, Storm Lake, IA

10th Sunday after Pentecost—August 6

Romans 9:1-5/Matthew 14:13-21

11th Sunday after Pentecost—August 13

Romans 10:5-15/Matthew 14:22-23

12th Sunday after Pentecost—August 20

Romans 11:1-2, 29-32/Matthew 15:10-28

13th Sunday after Pentecost—August 27

Romans 12:1-8/Matthew 16:13-20



UMM

Our next meeting will be August 12th at 7:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center and is open to anyone who wishes to join us in Christian Fellowshipship.

Hope to see you—Dale Carver

INGATHERING

The item being collected for the month of August is wash towel/hand towel. We are still accepting 1 gallon zip log bags, bars of soap, adult toothbrushes and shampoo.

WOMEN IN MISSION

Women in Mission do not meet during August.

Thank you for giving to God!

General Ministries Fund (as of 07/23)

July YTD General Fund Revenue \$177,333

July YTD General Fund Expenses \$233,757

| Attendance | | Online |
|-------------------|----------|---------------|
| 07/02 | Sun.—134 | 215 |
| 07/09 | Sun.—92 | 198 |
| 07/16 | Sun.—118 | 218 |
| 07/23 | Sun.—102 | 225 |
| 07/30 | Sun.—130 | 200 |

(Continued from page 8)

If we missed some, please forgive, the point is, it took a small army of all star leadership and workers to make this event a success. We were blessed with hungry riders, and the word was out that the Methodist Church was the place to be. Riders were happy, pleasant, patient, grateful and very complimentary of our dinner and its presentation.

Our dinner was a success because of strong leadership, willing workers, and a trust in God. A new standard has been set.

Anytime there is a major project there always seems to be someone who knows where things are or supported to be, who is supposed to know what, and where things are, and fills in a gap whenever needed. Thank you Marjean!

Our 2023 RAGBRAI Spaghetti Dinner fed about 1,440, not bad for a group who were thinking maybe a 1,000, and will net \$21,563. Job well done!

We were watched over in many ways.

So, THANK YOU to all who prayed, thought, donated, lead, and worked, and thanks to God for blessing us this way this day.

The United Methodist Messenger
Storm Lake United Methodist Church
211 East Third Street
Storm Lake, IA 50588

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Maintenance Custodian: (opening)

Organist & Music Coordinator: Deanna Larson

Golden Tones Bell Choir Director: Linda Baier

Nursery Attendant: Kelly Henkenius

Treasurer: LBB Bookkeeping

**Financial Secretary: Donna McPherrren &
 Jean Bennett**

Librarian: Roxie Brostad

Part-Time Job Opening

The Storm Lake United Methodist Church seeks applicants for Maintenance Custodian.

This position is responsible for all cleaning, maintenance, and event set-ups in a large and busy church.

Details will follow from SPRC.