



# The church Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | STORM LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | JANUARY 2024



Wild Game and Turkey Noodle Soup  
Pot-Luck Dinner  
January 28th from 11am-1pm in FLC

All proceeds go for our  
Community Youth activities

If you don't have some wild game in your freezer... You may choose to bring your own "Ethnic" dish to share and there will be a vegetarian soup option also. Drinks, cookies, bars and table service will be provided.

Then there will be a silent....PIE AUCTION featuring some of the very best homemade pies from some of the best Methodist pie makers in this

part of the country.

This outstanding meal is paid for with your  
free-will donation.

## Church Events

January 3, 2024

Zone and Youth Activities resume after  
Holiday break.

January 13, 2024

7:30am—UMM Breakfast Meeting

January 19, 2024

8:00am—Blood Drive

January 28, 2024

11am-1pm Wild Game Dinner

QR Codes to  
download APP to  
new Church  
Directory



iOS Mobile App QR Code



Android Mobile App QR Code

# Pastor's Pen



Happy New Year to each one of you!

May we all remember as we go through this New Year that God is with us, and He will continue to be with us through the valleys and through top mountain experiences of our lives. We Are Not Alone. Betty and I lost our nephew who died at the age of 37. He was like our own son. We can still hear God and feel his presence through this painful experience. Once again, we are not alone.

I would like to borrow Henry Nouwen's thoughts. He says, "God came to us because he wanted to journey with us on this road, to listen to our story, and to help us realize that we are not walking in circles but moving toward the house of peace and joy." This is the great mystery of Christmas that continues to give us comfort and consolation: we are not alone on our journey. The God of love who gave us life sent his only Son to be always with us and in all places, so that we never have to feel lost in our struggles but always can trust that he walks with us. We will go through difficult times this year, but God is with us because the Son who was born is "Emmanuel."

The challenge is to let God be who He is and who He would like to be. A part of us clings to our aloneness and does not allow God to touch us where we are most in pain. Often, we hide from him precisely those places in ourselves where

we feel guilty, ashamed, confused, and lost. Thus, we do not give him a chance to be with us when we feel most alone.

Christmas is the renewed invitation not to be afraid and to let him—whose love is greater than our own hearts and minds can comprehend—be our companion. Christmas is not a one-day deal. It is rather a season. We are still celebrating Christmas.

Your pastor also gives you a promise to walk with you. I will be praying for your whole family throughout 2024. I hold each one of you in my heart. I care about you. May we continue to know Jesus Christ and to make him known. May we be known as the people who love one another. Connect with each other. Pray for one another. Care for your community. Share the Good News with everyone.

From my heart ♥ to yours.....

Pastor Kiboko



Mark your calendars for October 1st. The Watoto Choir will be performing here at Storm Lake United Methodist Church



Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Storm-Lake-United-Methodist-Church/139840712765618>

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

**Celebrating a birthday 80 years and above for January:**

Carol Prichard	01/07
Jack Graen	01/28
Shirley Engebetson	01/11
Coleen Baughman	01/17
Neal Kuehl	01/04

**Celebrating anniversaries of 25 years and more for January:**

Bruce & Pam Milbrandt 01/15

*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.*

## VOLUNTEERS Needed

**Greeters/Ushers for Sundays:** Greet people as they come in and help with passing the offering plate.

### WEATHER RELATED CLOSINGS



It is that time of year again. The CHURCH and OFFICE follow the schedule of the Storm Lake Public School System

during the week and will close when schools are not in session due to the weather. This means when there are weather related school closings, early dismissals or late starts, the office will be closed accordingly. Listen to KAYL 101.7 for information.

In the event that it is necessary to cancel a Worship Service or event due to inclement weather, notice will be given on *local radio stations* and *our church website*, as well as our *Facebook page*.

## PRAYERS OF SYMPATHY

- Stephanie Quick, family & friends upon the death of her husband Stan Quick.

### 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
Jesse Mayfield	Karen Salmen
Cass (Meyer) Loesche	Lance Bellinghausen
Kermit Tolzin	Marlen Gasner
Jenny Allen	David Walker
Beu Schmidt	Reid Sears
Steph Quick	Melva Bainbridge
Sherise Ellis	Carol Prichard
Donna Blom	Tyler Crandal
Coleen Baughman	Barb Seiler
Terry Davenport	Susan Thompson
Wally Johnson	Rachel Neuroth
Margaret Weber	Deb Richardson
Rob North	Harold North
Wayne Stark	Kathy Wadsley
Kirk Collins	
All who are affected by COVID 19	

### PRAYER FOR THE SICK

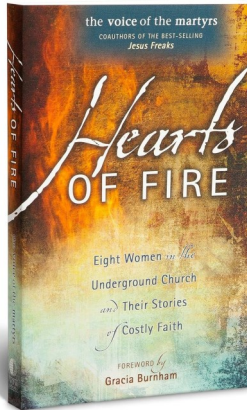
*Father God, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that you would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of Your love! In Jesus' name. Amen!*

# Church Library News

## January 2024

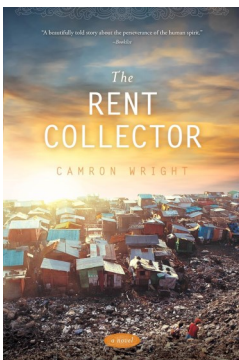
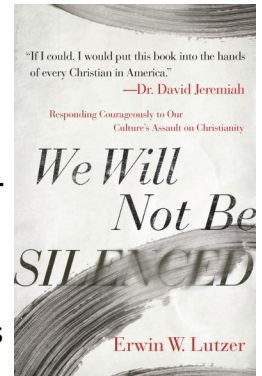
As we begin 2024, check out all the new books & DVD's added to our library this past year. There are many for children and adults. Many of the new books are on the shelves directly North of the desk labeled "New Book" and others on the table. Also, nonfiction books are located on the west wall of the library and the east wall contains adult fiction books.

### New Books:



“Hearts of Fire” by The Voice of the Martyrs. This book brings you the 8 true stories of today’s courageous Christian women, heroines of the faith who are representatives of countless women facing similar situations around the world. These role models of faith & passion will inspire you to pursue Christ with heart aflame. Women have always been significant in the cause of Christ. “Hearts of Fire” thrillingly describes the work of eight women who mission continues to be telling the world that He is risen, and with that resurrection comes love, grace, and forgiveness. **DON’T MISS IT!**

“We Will Not Be Silenced” by Erwin Luther. This book prepares you to live out your convictions against a growing tide of hostility. Gain a better understanding of nonbelievers’ legitimate hurts and concerns regarding issues like racism, sexism, and poverty and identify theft toxic responses secular culture disguised as solutions. In the process, you’ll see how you can show compassion and gentleness to those outside of the faith without affirming their beliefs. This book will ready you to move beyond fear and boldly accept the challenge of representing Christ to a watching worlds that needs HIM NOW MORE THAN EVER BEFORE!



“The Rent Collector” by Camron Wright. Survival for Ki Lim and Sang Lu is a daily battle at Meanchey, the largest municipal waste dump in all of Cambodia. They make their living scavenging recyclables from the trash. Life would be hard enough without the worry of their chronically ill child, Nisay, and the added expense of medicines that are not working. Just when things seem worst, Sang Lu learns a secret about the ill-tempered woman they call the “the rent collector” who comes each month demanding money—a secret that dates back to the Khmer Rouge and sets in motion a tide that will change the life of everyone it sweeps past. “The Rent Collector” powerfully illustrates how literacy can change lives and how anyone can rise from the ashes in the most unlikely of places. This book is a multiple award winner and the author of international bestseller.

## BASKETBALL HOOP

The Youth of our Church meet regularly and are always looking for activities to enhance their fellowship. The Family Life Center includes ample space for indoor activities including basketball hoops. But in the summer time there was really no place or equipment to take those activities outdoors. The youth groups have held fund raisers over the past few years and requested that some or all of that money go towards the purchase and installation of a basketball hoop outdoors. The request was made to the Trustees and finally a new basketball hoop was installed on the west end of our south parking lot. The project was funded in part by the money raised by the youth groups with a major contribution by Clyde and Marsha Krause. MidAmerican Energy donated equipment and manpower to assist with the construction of the foundation for the basketball standard and Smith Concrete provided the concrete for setting the anchor bolts and finishing off the base of the equipment. Finally, the Church Trustees erected the equipment in late November. A big Thank You to all who participated in this project. The equipment is available for Church members and others who are inclined to boost their basketball skills.



## VIEW OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!

FREE App for iPhone, iPad & Android



Our church directory is a great resource tool that allows you to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church Directory*  and download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.





## Youth Group Skiing & Tubing

On Sunday, January 21, our junior and senior high youth will be going to Seven Oaks in Boone, Iowa to ski or tube. We will leave the church at 1:30 p.m. and plan to be at the recreation area from 4:00-7:00 p.m. The cost for students is \$29 for the lift ticket and \$24 for the rental of skis, boots, and poles or board and boots. We will return to the church at 9:30 p.m. Students will also need money for a meal which can be purchased at the lodge.



Christmas Vacation—Zone or Youth Group programs will resume on Wednesday, January 3.

# January 2024

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<p><b>Women in Mission</b></p> <p><b>Youth Activities</b></p> <p><b>Committee Meetings</b></p> <p><b>UMM</b></p>	<p><b>1</b></p>  <p><b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9:30am Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>10am Hymn Sing @ Otsego Place</p> <p>3:30-ZONE</p> <p>5:00-Bells</p> <p>6:00-JH Youth</p> <p>6:00 -Bible Study</p> <p>7:00-YG Meal</p> <p>7:30-HS Youth</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Pastors Day Off</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>
<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>8:30 Confirmation Class</b></p> <p><b>9 AM SS &amp; Bible Stdy</b></p> <p><b>10am Worship w/ Communion</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>10am Exercise Class in FLC</p> <p>4pm Food Dist.</p> <p><b>5:30pm Finance</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>9:30am Staff Meeting</p> <p>3:30-ZONE</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>9:30pm Project Group</b></p> <p>10am Hymn Sing @ Otsego Place</p> <p>3:30-ZONE</p> <p>5:00-Bells</p> <p>6:00-JH Youth</p> <p>6:00 -Bible Study</p> <p>7:00-YG Meal</p> <p>7:30-HS Youth</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>1:30pm Chapel @ Otsego Place</p> <p><b>5:30 SPRC</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Pastors Day Off</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>7:30am UMM</b></p>
<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>9 AM SS &amp; Bible Study</b></p> <p><b>10am Worship w/ Bell Choir</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>10am Exercise Class in FLC</p> <p>4pm Food Dist</p> <p><b>7pm Trustees</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9:30am Staff Meeting</p> <p>3:30-ZONE</p> <p><b>5pm Memorial</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>10am Hymn Sing @ Otsego Place</p> <p>3:30-ZONE</p> <p>5:00-Bells</p> <p>6:00-JH Youth</p> <p>6:00- Bible Study</p> <p>7:00-YG Meal</p> <p>7:30-HS Youth</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>1:30pm Chapel @ Otsego Place</p> <p><b>7pm Ad Council</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Pastors Day Off</p> <p>9am-12pm Blood Drive</p>  <p>Cub Scout Lock-In</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>8:30 Confirmation Class</b></p> <p><b>9am SS &amp; Bible Study</b></p> <p><b>10am Worship &amp; NOW Singers</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>10am Exercise Class in FLC</p> <p>3pm Pastor @ Otsego Place</p> <p>4pm Food Dist.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9:30am Staff Meeting</p> <p>3:30-ZONE</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>10am Hymn Sing @ Otsego Place</p> <p>3:30-ZONE</p> <p>5:00-Bells</p> <p>6:00-JH Youth</p> <p>6:00-Bible Study</p> <p>7:00-JHYG Meal</p> <p>7:30-HS Youth @ FCA</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>4:30pm Missions</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>
<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>8:30 Confirmation Class</b></p> <p><b>9am SS &amp; Bible Study</b></p> <p><b>10am Worship</b></p> <p><b>11am Wild Game Dinner</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9:30am Staff Meeting</p> <p>3:30-ZONE</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>10am Hymn Sing @ Otsego Place</p> <p>3:30-ZONE</p> <p>5:00-Bells</p> <p>6:00-JH Youth</p> <p>6:00- Bible Study</p> <p>7:00-YG Meal</p> <p>7:30-HS Youth</p>			

# LifeServe Blood Drive

**Jan. 19, 2023 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**



Appointments are Required  
/Photo I.D. Required  
Schedule your appointment online at  
[www.lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org) or call  
800.287.4903

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

## ***Thank you for giving to God!***

<b>Attendance</b>		<b>Online</b>
12/03	Sun.-140	227
12/10	Sun.-218	189
12/17	Sun.-184	208
12/24	10am-75	166
12/24	3,587pm- 320	192
12/31	Sun.- 99	156

## **WOMEN IN MISSION**

The Ingathering was very well supported by our congregation. We donated to Midwest Missions and transported to the new warehouse in Jefferson, Ia.

135 Personal Dignity Kits  
3 Love Quilts  
16 School Bags

Thank you for your generosity!!

Mission Committee

Mittens, hats, and scarves for children and adults are needed for Upper Des Moines and at area Preschools. Our trees are located by the church office and/or grouping of 3 trees in our entryway of the sanctuary. Thank you for supporting this mission project!

Many thanks to those who helped prepare our church for worship during this Christmas Season.  
~Pam Milbrandt

### **Baptism of the Lord—January 7**

Acts 19:1-7/Mark 1:4-11

### **2nd Sunday after Epiphany—Jan. 14**

1 Corinthians 6:12-20/John 1:43-51

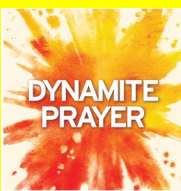
### **3rd Sunday after Epiphany—Jan. 21**

1 Corinthians 7:29-31/Mark 1:14-20

### **24th Sunday after Epiphany—Jan. 28**

1 Corinthians 8:1-13/Mark 1:21-28





**DYNAMITE PRAYER**

A Bible study, with Pastor Kiboko, on the Dynamite Prayer is being offered on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.



Our church is now set up for ON-LINE GIVING! If you would like to donate to our church, you may do it by going to Venmo and search for @StormLake-UMC!

## **Office Hours**

Monday - 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Tuesday - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Wed. - 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Thursday - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday - 9:00 am-1:00 pm

## **UMM**

Our next meeting will be January 13 at 7:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center and is open to anyone who wishes to join us in Christian Fellowship.

Hope to see you—Dale Carver

# 2023 was another busy year!!

Look at all the great activities that the church was part of this year and many more that aren't pictured here.



Last Supper Drama



Youth Group Spring Brunch



Vacation Bible Camp



BRIDGE Community VBS



RAGBRAI Dinner



ESL



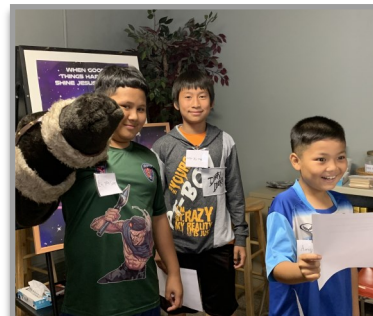
Donation to table & chairs



Project Group—Quilts for Ingathering



ZONE



ESL



Youth Group at Drop Zone



Youth Group Fun



Halloween Party



Spaghetti ready for RAGBRAI Dinner





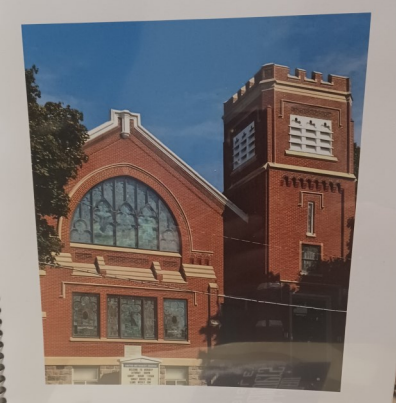
Youth Group trip to Adventureland



Donation of table & chairs



Superbowl Fun in the office.



New Picture Directory



Youth Group Car Wash



Delivering Birthday Cake Kits



HS Youth Group Fun!



Youth Group Made Cookies to enjoy before Xmas Program



Youth Group Spring Breakfast



Wrapping Xmas Presents a hand each!



Last Supper Drama



BLESS



BRIDGE Community VBS

**The United Methodist Messenger**  
**Storm Lake United Methodist Church**  
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Golden Tones Bell Choir Director: **Linda Baier**

Nursery Attendant: **Kelly Henkenius**

Treasurer: **LBB Bookkeeping**

Financial Secretary: **Nancy Johnson**

Librarian: **Roxie Brostad**

**MAY GOD**  
**BLESS YOU**  
*and*  
**SEND YOU**  
*a happy*  
**NEW YEAR**