



# Eagle Grove United Methodist Church

Love God, Love Others, Change the World

“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World”

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421 West Broadway Street ~ P.O. Box 101 ~ Eagle Grove, IA 50533  
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Changes – of course! Some of you groan at that; others take a deep breath and go forward. Our times have changed. The methods and means may change. The work of being the church continues.

Masking rules are changing, as Iowa moves into a “green” status. We’re not quite there yet; technically we’re a blinking yellow! Use good judgement. Get vaccinated as you can. Put your mask on as needed. Still keep good distance. Be kind and nice to others as they traverse the moving, changing landscape of covid. It’s not gone. We may have more changes – together we’ll navigate this time day by day.

EGUMC has changed. We’ve added Facebook Live and Sermon by Phone as ways to worship and hear the message. We’ve moved to a part-time office schedule and really trimmed expenses across the board. One thing is certain – what was was. The way we live has changed, and will continue to change.

One of the most difficult, and most important tasks is to evaluate the “how’s” and the “what’s” of ministry. It’s like cleaning a closet. Keep or not? Put it off to the side, let it go, or repurpose? Too worn, or a precious treasure? The past is comfortable, but that shirt from 10 years ago just doesn’t fit!

The Good News – God is faithful, always and ever. God loves me even in my sloppy, old, stained sweatpants! But...and it’s an important but...we’ve got a story to tell, a message about love and joy to share. I can do that in my grungy sweats, but renewed and refreshed, I carry myself a little taller, and smile a little more. My spirit is lifted, and that’s contagious. Energized as the early followers were at Pentecost, amazing things can happen!

Times have changed. Methods and means may need to change. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result. (source uncertain, but has been proved in each of our lives, I’m certain!) Life doesn’t move back into the past, but forward, into the unknown. Our purpose is still the same – *to make disciples for the transformation of the world*.

Change is inevitable...growth is optional (John Maxwell). Growth comes as we get to know ourselves, which is not always easy to do. It necessitates asking tough questions. But this is a challenge God gives us, and thankfully, goes with us as we go into the world. It’s a different world; it’s changed. Where do we go from here? --Pastor Alaire

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**We welcomed 6 new members on May 9th when the youth listed below were confirmed:**

- Braeden Pamperin** son of Amanda Poncin & Jake Pamperin
- Brooklyn Osborn** daughter of Jeff & Stacy Osborn
- Darci Anderson** daughter of Mike & Angie Anderson
- Myah Edwards** daughter of Blake & Brittany Sadler and Ryan Edwards
- Jersey Willwerth** daughter of Jestin Willwerth & Jodi Reed
- Tarissa Middleton** daughter of Roderick & Sonya Middleton



Pastor: Alaire Willits

Office Secretary: Amy Hunt

Financial Secretary: Denise Helmick

Treasurer: Tracy Crail

Organist: Ann Shriver

Choir Director: Cheryl Ketchem

Custodian: Amy Hunt

Ministers: ALL MEMBERS

For over 40 years, Iowa United Methodists have actively participated in Ingathering, bringing kits and financial gifts that *“show the love of Christ to the world’s people by ministering to their needs”*. What began literally as bringing wagon loads of corn and beans to Westmar College to raise money for mission has grown to a 5-site, across the state, single-day collection for mission.

Through the years, many changes have been made to this celebration of mission that happens the first Saturday in November. There were crafts and quilt auctions and speakers. Now we load semis and trailers with boxes of layettes, health and school kits.

A significant change happened 3 years ago, when the steering committee connected with Midwest Mission Distribution Center, an UMCOR depot located in Springfield IL. As a member of that conference planning group, I can tell you they are just amazing folk to partner with. Their philosophy is “get it in, get it out”, and last year they sent, globally, over \$10.8 million worth of items. That was 3.5 times more that they sent in 2019, and covid cut their volunteers by 70%. The Holy Spirit must have been at work.

Now, joyfully, I am going to volunteer with a crew from Asbury UMC in Webster City. We’ll be leaving after worship May 23, and returning the end of the week. To say I’m excited is an understatement! Some of you have given bikes, walkers, and Bibles – and our United Women of Faith are sending a \$1000 gift for MMDC with me!

I’ll be ....well... doing whatever needs done. It may be making one-handle bags, sanding old bleachers they’re turning into desks, assembling any of the kits they send – who knows! I’m planning to take lots of pictures, and we’ll set a time this summer when I can share with you all about my experience. I’m bringing lots of fabric back with me for school bags, so I think there’s going to be a cutting and sewing day coming up as well!

In the meantime, our mission team has committed again to creating kits for Ingathering, and the 2021 list for the school and personal dignity kits is on the back page . Yes, there are changes. One of the great things MMDC does each December is talk with missionaries around the world and ask what things are most needed – and what’s NOT. That’s good change, I think. Full fliers are on the table in the foyer; yes, the lists are very specific, but for a good reason.

The best thing about many of the kit items – YOU can purchase a few small, inexpensive things – tooth-brushes, hand towels and washcloths, unsharpened pencils – and they EACH have a impact. You don’t even need to put together a whole kit (I think that’s going to be a project the youth are going to do this fall for us!)

Am I excited? Can you tell!?!

While I’m gone, I have emergency coverage lined up. You can leave a message on the church phone and I will check my phone at lunch and supper. Amy, Pat or Melody will know how to get in touch with me. On May 30, I’ve invited Pastor Todd from the UCC congregation to preach, and so invited them all to worship with us in our sanctuary at our usual 10am, and Anita Idio will be the musician.

Our times have changed. The methods and means may change. The work of being in mission continues. Pick up an Ingathering flier in the foyer. Check out [www.midwestmission.org](http://www.midwestmission.org) or like the Midwest Mission page on Facebook. We can make a difference. I think we can make a big difference! ---Pastor Alaire



## Dial-a-Devotion

### Tuesdays

June 1—Marilyn Sill

June 8—Joe Stein

June 15—Paul Wilde

June 22—Maggie Wright

June 29—Bev Wilde

The weekly Sunday sermon is now available by phone— just call

515-212-2802. The newest one will be up by about 7am on Sundays (before actual worship!), and remain all week. The phone number for access will always be the same.

Call 1-515-212-2802  
to hear our latest sermon



—**May 23-29** -Pastor Alaire at Midwest Mission. The office will not be open while she is gone. If you need anything please get a hold of Amy, Melody, or Pat for assistance.

—**May 26th** --UWF cleaning day at 9:30 a.m.

—**May 30**--worship with UCC in our sanctuary, Pastor Todd Edeker preaching, Anita Idio musician

—**June 3**-UWF meeting at 9:30 a.m.

—**June 4-6**-Iowa Annual Conference, virtual only

—**June 10**-EGAMA meets here @ 10:00 a.m. –Fireside Room

-Congregational Care meets in Fellowship Hall @ 11:00 a.m.

—**June 19**-Service for Ruth Hanson @ Foust Funeral Home

Pastor Alaire,

Remembering back to December 15th, the weather was bitterly cold, but you were right there with us to say our final “goodbyes” and we are so deeply grateful.

Dick was always proud of his church and the members.

Thank you!!

The Family of Dick Umstead

**Ingathering Kits. EGUMC has focused on the Personal Dignity and Student kits. Remember you can bring multiples of one item. You don't need to make a full kit.**

All kit items must be NEW.

Kits should only include kit items no cash.

Kits should contain ONLY the requested items.

No handprints, footprints, paw prints or camouflage on fabrics.

**PERSONAL DIGNITY KIT (\$13 VALUE)**

- 1 Bath Hand Towel - No kitchen towels
- 1 Bath Washcloth - No dishcloths
- 1 Adult Toothbrush, in pkg – No multipacks
- 1 Bar Soap - 3-4 oz (wrapped)
- 1 Shampoo - 15-18 oz
- 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz - stick, roll on, or pump
- 1 1-gal Resealable Plastic Bag

Place all items in the resealable plastic bag. Add a \$2 Donation for razor and toothpaste.

**STUDENT KIT (\$16 VALUE)**

- 3 Notebooks - 1 subject spiral 8"x 10 ½"
- 1 Ruler - 12" long with metric
- 6 Pencils – **unsharpened**
- 1 Pencil Sharpener - 1" or larger
- 1 Eraser - 2" or larger
- 1 Box 12 Colored Pencils
- 1 Box 24 Crayons
- 1 Pair of Student Scissors – no sharp point
- 1 One Handle Cloth Bag\*

Place all items in the 1-handle cloth bag or a plastic grocery bag

—Graduation is a milestone we like to celebrate. If you have spring graduates from high school, college or trade school, in your family-grandchildren, in-laws— send graduates' names.....etc.. we'll be sending cards.

—As we return to in-house worship, ushers and greeters are needed. The worship team decided to start a brand new list, so if you can help please let the office know. Thank you!

—Prayers for friends and families of Arlene Lunde, Bruce Askelsen, Rich Wilson, and Ruth Hanson.

—Also, please keep in your prayers Amy's husband Andy who works for Union Pacific and had two train derailments that he is working on cleaning up. One was in Albert Lea, MN and one was in Sibley, IA he went from one to the other. All happening in less than 24 hours. Pray for him and all the crews there for a safe and quick clean up.