



Eagle Grove United Methodist Church

Love God, Love Others, Change the World

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

421 West Broadway Street ~ P.O. Box 101 ~ Eagle Grove, IA 50533

Church Office: (515) 448-4701

Dial-a-Devotion (515)448-3355

Changes, changes, changes. As I said a couple of Sundays ago, even though we’re getting more used to the word, we’re still struggling. It’s so hard. Distancing and masking challenge us, but are critical. What was will not be the way we can do things in the future. This Covid19 time is causing us to honestly evaluate how effective those ways were...and ADAPT!

In the church, we seem to be planning about 2 weeks at a time; that’s not even a sure thing! Our target Sunday to resume worship in the sanctuary is September 13. See the page in this newsletter detailing the changes we will be making, no exceptions. You may be asked to sit in a different spot, giving you a fresh perspective (which, honestly, can really be a good thing), as well as help us maintain 6’ distance. We care about each other, so we’ll change! We can do this. Know that if the virus case numbers shift upward, we will go back outdoors, like it or not. We also totally understand there are many of you for whom it’s just not time to be in larger groups. It’s OK, and important for you to do what you feel best.

But - I will continue to post just the sermon on Facebook, and we will continue to FB live the morning worship, even when we worship indoors. This streaming inside will take some extra work (and learning how), so bear with us. And, give feedback. If sound isn’t good, say so! We’re also mailing hard copies of the service out on Tuesdays. please call the office and leave a message to be added to that list. 515-448-4701.

Planning for fall usually includes groups and classes for our spiritual growth, and that’s in the works, but we’re holding off starting just a bit. And our plans may change; flexibility will be key. What suggestions do you have?

So **what’s NOT changing** – Eagle Grove UMC values mission and outreach. The ways we do this work may be different, but loving others is still our goal. Ingathering (drive-through style) is November 7. In September, we’ll work on Personal Dignity Kits, with a few new items added (list in this newsletter). PDK bags go everywhere – from Cedar Rapids to Ghana!

Thank you, **thank you** to all who helped cover costs for our school staff care kits. They were well-received! What fun it can be to reach out into our own community. What an exciting new way to let the everyone know what Eagle Grove UMC thinks is important – showing others we care about them. What will be our next NEW project? Ideas?

One more change – from me. I’m going to be sending a midweek update, a short email, every Tuesday or Wednesday. Since our planning is happening in week or two blocks, you need to have current info. I’m looking for a way to get this info to those of you who don’t have computers (postcards?), but please, please be sure the church has your correct email address so we can stay in contact easier? We promise not to pass it on. The updates will be too long to comfortably text – and will not be URGENT. It will be info, for example, about times to drop off rummage at the parsonage. I’d like to think email gets checked at least once a week, so that’s the time frame I’ll be writing in. They won’t go on the webpage. If you haven’t received an email from me by the time you get this, first, check your junk mail; if not there, email the church egumc@goldfieldaccess.net and we’ll figure out what’s going on! We need to stay in contact.

Driveway visits continue, with help from Blanche and Sharon. If you’d like me to stop by, give them a call, or call the church, and they’ll get you on the list! I can see about 15-20 in 2 hours, so they’re not long visits, but it’s nice to be getting familiar with Eagle Grove, and more importantly with YOU ALL!

Change. We’ve been doing it everyday of our lives, when you think about it. Yesterday is different from today, and tomorrow will be different still. God is with us, of that I’m certain. We’re determined to keep making a difference as we show our community and the world God’s love. We’re finding new ways to share the “old, old story”!

God bless you all -*Pastor Alaire*

Pastor: Alaire Willits

Office Secretary: Amy Hunt

Financial Secretary: Denise Helmick

Treasurer: Tracy Crail

Organist: Ann Shriver

Choir Director: Cheryl Ketchem

Custodian: Sara Ell

Ministers: ALL MEMBERS

September 2020:

Church Office Hours:

Tuesdays 10:00 am– 11:30 am
until further notice

Worship– September 6 at 10:00 am in the parking lot. You can sit in your car or bring a lawn chair.

September 13– 10:00 a.m. tentatively we'll resume in the sanctuary.

Dial-A-Devotion

Tuesdays

September 1– Marilyn Sill

September 8– Marilyn Sill

September 15– Joe Stein

September 22– Maggie Wright

September 29– Pat Moser

Join us to
Pause and Pray



Thursdays @ 9:30 am

September prayer focus:

3rd – Active Military

10th – Military Families

17th – Safe & Bountiful Harvest

24th – Farmers & their Families

(Take a moment now to set a reminder on your phone so you won't forget.)



ALL CHURCH **RUMMAGE SALE**

October 8, 9, & 10
at the parsonage

Start saving your things now!!!
Do not bring your things to the church!!

- Prayers for the families and friends of Arlene Croxell who passed away Friday, August 7, 2020.
- Prayers for the families and friends of Georgiana Bruhl who passed away Sunday, August 9, 2020.
- Prayers of joy for Derricklee Harms who is now cancer free!!!
- Dear friends as I continue to make progress here at home , I want to express my thanks to all who have remembered me with prayer, phone calls, cards, letters and visits the past few months. Each message is deeply appreciated. ~~~ Gwen Johnson

Eagle Grove United Methodist Church

Procedures for Church Building Use in a Coronavirus World

- Enter through the West Broadway front doors only
- Sign in at entry table upon entering the building
 - * To aid in contact tracing in the event of an illness
- Wear a face mask within the building
 - As a spiritual practice, to wear a mask is to proclaim love of your neighbor
 - Masks will be available at the entry table if needed
- Social distance 6 feet circumference around each household unit in the building
- Allow greeters and/or ushers to open doors and push elevator buttons
- Allow the ushers to direct to designated seating within the sanctuary
- Congregational singing and liturgy will be done within your heart.
- Hand sanitizing stations are available within the building
- Main level and lower level restrooms will be available for use
- The balcony and education building will not be open at this time
- Offering baskets will be available upon entering & exiting the building
- Exit the building through the east music room door following the worship service
- Fellowship time with refreshments following the service will not be held
- High-risk individuals should practice sheltering in place
 - This would include: those with underlying conditions or other vulnerabilities, those who have tested positive, and those who have been exposed to someone Covid19 positive in the last 14 days. This includes staff, volunteers, parishioners and guests.
- Worship from home will be available on:
 - Eagle Grove UMC Facebook page live on Sunday at 10:00 am
 - Our church webpage, <https://www.eaglegroveumc.org/>

Faith Formation

(often called Sunday School)

We know our faith grows better when we have others to help us of the journey. Plans are coming together for spiritual questioning, learning and growth for all ages. Most will NOT be on Sunday morning, so maybe new names! We're still in a flexible, planning stage because of the uncertainty around Covid19. Contact Pastor Alaire alairew@gmail.com 712-212-5333 or Barb Johnston for more info.

Adults.... Beginning Sept 13, you're invited to join a fantastic Bible study – **Disciple 1-Fast Track**. This study will give you a great foundational overview of the Bible. Beginning with Genesis and continuing through Revelation, we'll read approximately 80% of the Bible in this Fast Track 24 week study. No matter where you are in your faith journey, this is just awesome!

The class will meet on Zoom, Sunday evenings, from 7-8:30pm Yes, it means I'm giving up a night I generally unwind. Trust me, it'll be worth it! Leaders are Ryan Christianson (on IAUMC conference leadership team) and Kathy Martin (retired Morningside chaplain), both friends of mine and great teachers. Anyone can join; you need to register at <https://cor.org/leawood/connect/community-life...> and order the study guide. Let's visit about this.

Youth.... Confirmation is re-organizing; plans for middlers and older youth are coming to

PreK and Elementary age... New-to-us ways of learning are being planned.

Watch midweek email for details.



School kits for Ingathering have been collected in August. We have OVER 75! WooHoo! In September, we're making personal dignity (health) kits. Items needed (check size minimum, please):

- 1 hand towel - No kitchen towels
- 1 Washcloth - No kitchen towels
- 1 Comb - we have enough
- 1 Razor - with guard
- 1 Nail Clippers - No nail files or emery boards

- 1 Adult Toothbrush-wrapped. No multipacks
- 1 Toothpaste— 2.5 oz. or larger
- 1 Bar Soap— 3-4 oz.
- 1 Shampoo— 15-18 oz.
- 1 Deodorant— 2-3 oz. stick, roll on, or pump
- 10 Band-Aids—3/4" x 3"

School Staff Care Bags. Thanks for your generosity! We assembled 200 bags, for teachers, paras, lunch room staff, bus drivers, and administrators. The cost of \$1081 was all given by you, so many of you. United Methodist Women were instrumental in getting this together. What a great way to reach out into the community, to BE the church!

