

THE LAMP

October 2020



United Trinity Church
P.O. Box 17
1106 Jefferson Street
Hamburg, Iowa 51640
712-382-2856

First United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 225
1200 Park Street
Hamburg, Iowa 5164
712-382-1468



A Message From Pastor Luke



As these past several months have both flown by and dragged on, there has been a common refrain that I've heard from the members in our churches and the people in our communities: we miss each other. Perhaps we didn't realize how connected we were, or how intensely social we are, but one thing has become increasingly clear and that is how important it is to share our lives, our time, and our care with one another. So, in the midst of a pandemic that seems to be equal parts anxiety, frustration, and just plain unknowing, there has been a real strain put upon our spiritual, communal, and emotional well-being. However, far be from it that we would despair, give up, or walk away. And also, thanks be to God that the Spirit is still moving within the midst of all of this. Following that movement, then, we'd like to try something new (or maybe not so new).

I've mentioned from the pulpit a few Sundays now that I am continuing on with my ordination process and the last educational component I need is something called Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). As everything came grinding to a halt in March, I went through a bit of resignation that my ordination wouldn't occur (Lord willing and the Body consenting) until 2022. There were just few programs still being offered that would work in my setting or even be possible, but none that really felt right. Then, seemingly miraculously, I got an email about an online program that was being offered. As I went through the application process and the interview, I was told that this program was unlike most programs that were conducted in a hospital setting; this program would have most of the pastoral care done within the parish, or the local church. Much to my surprise, the Spirit was still moving. And so two prayers were answered within one fell swoop: that I might be able to take CPE this year and that (more importantly) we could find a way to connect with and care for our congregations in the midst of this great upheaval. So I chose to be in this community and not in some far off hospital, because I'd rather spend this time with all of you and I do truly want to get to know you all.

Yet, in many ways I believe this will be a learning experience for all of us. I grew up in a different generation than most people who are currently in the Church. I was born and raised during a time where every hour of every day was filled with something. Marching band before school and sports after; church on Sunday mornings with clubs and groups in the afternoon; homework squeezed in between chores on Saturday; holidays spent traveling and family in far away towns. To say that my generation

and the generations after us had to schedule every moment of our lives would have been an understatement. This way of life affected not only our free time but also how we spent time with friends, family, and loved ones. To this day we still schedule time with friends. There's no dropping in out of the blue, no meandering from house to house on Sunday afternoons, and sometimes even calling one another is preceded by a text first. Not only that, but growing up it was never an expectation of ours that the pastor would stop by (remember, we were hardly home ourselves!). In fact, it was oftentimes preferable for us to reach out to the clergy person and schedule a time for coffee or a moment at the church. Not only would this fit better into our schedules but then wouldn't have to clean up the house quickly and stash everything else in our bedrooms to be sorted later... Times have certainly changed from the way that I'm told they used to be!

So, what does this all have to do with connecting with and caring for one another? Over these next several months, through the end of April, I have chosen these communities to become closer to, provide pastoral care, and finish my educational requirements. I have 300 hours of clinical and educational time to complete (about 10 hours per week), and in many ways, I need your help. Because everyone's schedule is so different and I'm never quite sure who who has time or even wants a visit, I think it would be a good practice for all of us to reach out to one another. So this is my reaching out to you, to let you know that I want to spend time with you. Don't be intimidated by words like pastoral care, what I'm really asking for is a chance to have coffee with you, to talk about how life is going, to spend time in a duck blind or a combine, to share a meal, go on a walk, or whatever is most comfortable. I'll have multiple times available and will be working with the secretaries in both communities (Shenandoah and Hamburg) to make sure I can have some time with everyone; so while we'll be scheduling some or many of these times to connect I'll also have some time on Monday where people can just drop by the office.

I'm sure there's more to be said, I'm sure I've forgotten something, but before I end this article I just wanted to say thank you for all the ways you've already reached out, welcomed, and made my family and I feel at home here in SW Iowa. I hope now we can really start to settle in and get to know each other. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions. Like I mentioned earlier I'll be working with the secretaries to make sure we can get everyone scheduled and more information will be coming out next week, but I am looking forward to this and I hope that I can get a chance to sit down with each and every one of you, share a cup of coffee, and get to know one another. God bless and I hope to connect soon.

-Ps. Luke





OCTOBER 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Communion 4 Coffee Fellowship 10:00am UTC Sunday Worship 11:00am UTC	5	6	7 Giving Wednesday Biscuits & Gravy 8-10am at UMC	8	9	10
11 Coffee Fellowship 10:00am UTC Sunday Worship 11:00am UTC	12	13	14 Giving Wednesday UTC Board Meeting 6:30pm	15 Food Pantry	16	17 Biscuits & Gravy 8-10am at UMC
18 Coffee Fellowship 10:00am UTC Sunday Worship 11:00am UTC	19	20	21 Giving Wednesday	22	23	24
25 Coffee Fellowship 10:00am UTC Sunday Worship 11:00am UTC	26 ICC Meeting	27	28 Giving Wednesday	29 Food Pantry	30	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Giving Wednesday Schedule: Drop off at UTC on Sundays or at UMC on Wednesdays 8:00am-4:00pm

October 7th- chicken noodle soup, tomato soup, crackers, vegetable oil, cake mix, frosting

October 14th- bisquick, pancake mix, vegetable oil, fruit cups, eggs

October 21st- Ensure, bacon, fruit cups, margarine, microwave popcorn

October 28th- chunky soups, crackers, fruit cups, eggs

Biscuits and Gravy:

-Wednesday, Oct. 7th 8am-10am at UMC

-Saturday, Oct. 17th 8am-10am at UMC



UTC Board Meeting

Wednesday, Oct. 14th at 6:30pm



Announcements

Neighbors In Need

We have started our fundraising efforts for our Neighbors in Need project. For over 15 years, we have purchased winter coats, boots, hats and gloves for the students of Hamburg. With the help of Dr. Wells and the school secretary, we receive an anonymous list of sizes and favorite colors for those who need winter outerwear. We have a terrific team of shoppers who purchase the clothing and bag it by child. The clothing will be delivered to the families at parent-teacher conferences in late October. We would ask for your prayers for this mission, and if you are able, your donations. Please mark your check for NIN and send it to UTC or UMC, or put it in the offering on Sunday. We spent approximately \$5,500.00 last year. If you have questions, please contact one of us. Thank you!



Beth Mincer 712-350-0857
Judy Crain 712-382-0930
Joni Spiegel 660-774-3683



Sunday Service will be held at United Trinity Church during the month of October!

Prayer Requests: Anna Weber, John Ferguson, Carol Barrett, Ron Brumley, Jack Meek, Gail Woods, Donna Woods, Gene Kirk, Sally Brumley, Levi Lucas, Sherrill Lowman Bryant, baby Arthur Zahn, Reggie Koop, Dillion Light, Karen Borrego, Linda Hendrickson, Sharan Woltemath, Ivan Woltemath, Molly Spiegel and Family, Christi, Nelson & Matt Leidel, Kim Hilgenberg, Gary Hansen, Paige Barr



United Trinity Church
P.O. Box 17 1106 Jefferson St.
Hamburg, Iowa 51640
712-382-2856 utchurch@msn.com

United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 225 1200 Park St.
Hamburg, Iowa 51640
712-382-1468

Pastor Luke Fillmore
515-419-1179
luke.fillmore@isumc.net
hamburg1stumc@gmail.com