



Church Staff

Pastor - **Jay Amundson**

Administrative Ministries

Coordinator - **Mary Jo Heil**

Custodian - **Don Griffith**

Chancel Choir

Director - **Luke Johnston**

Piano/Organ - **Jo Brown,
Dee Wallace**

Little Friends Preschool

Director and Teacher - **Daisy Little**

Xn Chaos Director - **Greg Brown**

Bishop of the Iowa Annual
Conference - **Laurie Haller**

Northeast District

Superintendent - **Moody Colorado**

Ministers of Jesus Christ

in the World - **All the People of
God!**



United Methodist News

December 2021

Children's Christmas Sunday is Dec. 12

Sunday school kids will be presenting "Happy Birthday, Jesus" during worship on **December 12**.

Plan to be here to see all the hard work the kids have been doing in preparation for this wonderful service! Celebrate with us as we hear the story of our Savior's birth.

If anyone would like to play special music during the worship service please contact Gail Fleming or the church office.



Longest Night (Blue Christmas) Service

Pastor Jay will hold a Longest Night (Blue Christmas) Service on **December 21 at 6:30pm**, for those who find this jolly season not so jolly. The holidays can be especially difficult when one has suffered a loss, when painful memories are triggered by holiday traditions, or when one anticipates many uncertainties in the coming year. Marking the Longest Night is our way of acknowledging that pain and offering compassionate prayers and words of hope.

Longest Night Service

December 21st 6:30 p.m.

*A service of light
in the midst of darkness*



There will again be two services held on Christmas Eve. The first is at 5:00 pm with a more family oriented service. The second candlelight service will be at 10:00 pm.

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Between Sundays

Dear Friends,

It's finally here. No kids, not Christmas, but Advent. Advent, the season where we start by looking forward to the second coming of Christ, and then move into waiting, with anticipation, the birth of the baby Jesus.

Advent, like Lent, is a time that can be given over to preparing your heart, at this time of year for Christmas day. Preparing yourself to be ready to celebrate the birth of the baby, and preparing your heart to be ready to receive Him as your Savior.

Advent is a time of expectation and preparation. My friend Paul shares this story,

“ In July of 2011 our son and daughter-in-law got married. And, as many parents do, my wife and I began hoping for the arrival of a grandchild. However, with our daughter-in-law's health issues, that was never guaranteed. A number of years passed, and the hope for that unexpected arrival began to dim. Then, on October 31 of 2018, I received a call from our son saying that they were expecting and probably the baby would be coming in April. However, I was not to tell anyone until the appointment the following Monday. On that Monday, I got another call saying that the baby was now expected in December!! And the very next day, I got a call saying that our daughter-in-law was in labor. That evening, we welcomed our granddaughter. We had hoped for this arrival, but she came in quite an unexpected way.

The really interesting part of this story is that Paul's daughter-in-law didn't know she was pregnant until very late in her pregnancy.

Advent is about unexpected arrivals. 2,000 years ago Jesus came into the world unexpectedly as a baby to a poor couple, born in a manger. As we look toward the future we look forward to Jesus showing up unexpectedly. Are you ready?

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jay

#BeUMC!

This is an excerpt from an email from Bishop Laurie Haller. More of the email will be in the newsletters to come.

Do you want to #BeUMC? I do! Count me in! Last week, at our virtual Council of Bishops meeting, we approved a document that offers The United Methodist Church a future filled with anticipation, hope, and possibility. ***A Narrative for the Continuing United Methodist Church*** shares who we are as United Methodists and how God is leading us to be united in Christ as we witness to God's love into the farthest corners of the world.

I am excited to share with you the document, along with brief comments in each section that are bold italic. ***A Narrative for the Continuing United Methodist Church*** can be read [here](#).

“United Methodists all over the globe are liturgical, contemporary, charismatic, social activists, urban, suburban, small town, rural and much more. We are children, youth, young adults, senior adults, new Christians, and mature Christians. We are present on four continents, in more than 45 countries, and we comprise an unknown number of cultures and languages. We are a holy communion of different races, ethnicities, cultures, and perspectives united by the Holy Spirit, driven by the mission of Christ, and bearing the good news of an unmerited grace that changes lives and transforms communities.”

Missions

Holiday Sing-Along

Nothing says happy holidays more than singing carols! On **Sunday, December 5** we will gather in the sanctuary for a holiday sing-along!

There will be a sign-up sheet for those that would like to sing, play an instrument, or do both. Young members are encouraged to share their talents also! Along with the special music there will also be congregational singing.

After the music the Missions group will be serving pie and ice cream in the dining room. It's sure to be a great time of music, fellowship, and PIE!

Angel Tree

Our church often receives requests for assistance throughout the year. The Missions team is offering the opportunity to purchase gift cards to supplement the benevolence fund and assist local families needing assistance by purchasing specific gift requests.

As you make plans for Christmas, would you prayerfully consider including the Angel Tree as part of your plans as you are able.

Iowa Ingathering 2021

Here is an excerpt from an email that was received from Iowa Ingathering 2021.

This past weekend, your combined efforts garnered donations totaling \$483,778.37!

Thousands of people ... men, women and children ... in communities, near and far, will benefit from all of the work done across Iowa during last weekend's Ingathering and the time leading up to it.

We recognize and celebrate you, your churches and volunteers for the time, resources and donations received.

Your amazing work and selfless giving for the greater glory of God and his people will be gratefully felt around the corner and around the world.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus ... well done.

Here is the breakdown from the Mt. Pleasant location.

Monetary Donations: \$29,238.05

In-Kind Donations: \$66,715.80

Total: \$95,953.85



**Changing our Community
with Compassion**

**Saturday, Dec. 11
11:00-11:45 am**

We savor these moments,
when we are conscious of
love's presence, these holy
moments of gratitude. And
that is grace.

-Anne Lamott



HACAP Mobile Food Truck

In Tipton

Friday, Dec. 3

In Bennett

Tuesday, Dec. 7

In West Branch

Tuesday, Dec. 14

Questions?

Call the HACAP Food
Reservoir (319) 393-7811
or the Church office
(563) 886-2331

Income Eligibility
Guidelines Apply

www.hacap.org



For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder, and His name will be called

Wonderful
COUNSELOR
MIGHTY GOD
Everlasting
Father
Prince of Peace.

- Isaiah 9:6 -

Leadership Council Minutes

Leadership Council met November 16, 2021, at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Place. Members present were Pastor Jay Amundson, Sue Thumma, Mary Jo Heil, Gail Fleming, and Laura Hembry. Absent was Joyce Slach.

Pastor Jay opened the meeting and led us in prayer. He reported our Christmas Eve services will be at 5:00 and 10:00 pm on December 24.

Sue reported our financial status for October is the same as September, barely meeting payroll and monthly expenses. We still have unpaid apportionments and district asking of \$25,853. She will have an article in the newsletter alerting the need for payment.

Missions reported a successful soup luncheon on Nov. 14. It raised approximately \$350 for College Connections. The silent auction raised approximately \$1,550 for apportionments. The Copper Kettle offering for Church World Services/Blanket Sunday was approximately \$500. On November 21 the church will be doing its Community Work Day. Four families have signed up to have their lawn raked and/or gutters cleaned. On December 5 there will be a Sing-Along at 5:00 pm with pie and ice cream afterwards.

Trustees reported the roof is finally done on the education wing. Once the project was started it was found to have more damage than thought. Our insurance company was contacted and ended up paying for the new roof. Excess funds from this project will be brought before the congregation at a later date. Due to the holidays our next meeting will be December 14 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned with prayer.

Sue Thumma, Sec. Pro-tem



Jesus entrusts each one of us to a ministry of reconciliation – calling out evil, oppression, and racism, but also working to bring justice and hope.

October Financials

Oct. 1 Balance	\$4,432.65
Income	
Contributions	\$15,123.43
Expenses	
Salaries/Pension/Taxes	\$10,657.98
Trustees	\$2,687.00
Utilities	\$601.88
Financial Overhead	\$49.87
Supply Pastor	\$100.00
Office Supplies	\$64.18
Postage	\$174.05
Phone/Internet	\$141.38
Copier Lease	\$126.97
Maint/Repair	\$231.99
Miscellaneous	\$232.30
Oct. 31 Balance	\$4,488.48

Worship Attendance

Oct. 3 – 50	Oct. 24 – 66
Oct. 10 – 82	Oct. 31 – 39
Oct. 17 – 53	

A Note From Your Treasurer

I have been told Tipton United Methodist Church takes pride in itself for paying its apportionments every year. If you have been reading the financial information every month, you know we have only paid \$2,231 of the \$26,776 due for apportionments. We are now in December and have barely been able to meet monthly expenses and payroll. The church has been trying to keep our expenses to a minimum, but there are certain things we can not control like utilities, insurance, postage, how many times it snows. Your continued financial support is needed. Make it known Tipton United Methodist Church is putting God first.

Sue Thumma, Treasurer



The UMC is one of the
most diverse
religious bodies in the
world,
yet we are bond
together in love.

www.tiptonumc.org



The Upper Room

The Upper Room Devotionals for November/December are here. You can pick one up at the back of the church or in the breezeway.

We have extras so if you know of someone that would like to have this, please take one.

First Friday Donuts!

We are teaming up with the United Church of Christ of Tipton to meet, greet, and serve donuts and juice to the high school students on the first Friday of every month.

What about you?

Can we put you down for December 3?
8–8:30 am in
the UCC parking lot. Reach
out to the office to add your
name to the list.



- 1 – Phillip Hargrave, Kinley Williams
- 3 – Abby Cummins-VanScoy
- 5 – Mike Eisele, Teri Ford
- 6 – Morgan Lanning
- 7 – Amanda Paul
- 8 – Gordon Esbeck
- 9 – Mark Lukemyres
- 10 – Christopher McKinney, Kay Miller
- 12 – Jason & Hannah Brown, Ken & Deb McKay
- 13 – Nancy Burroughs
- 14 – Dawson Mente, Judy Ohrt, Colbie Schultz
- 15 – Adam Calonder, Bobbie Lieser
- 16 – Kingston Person
- 17 – Dustin Morden
- 18 – Jim Jorgensen, Caden Schultz, Keaton Schultz, Nate & Kim Anderson
- 19 – Lonnie Krenz
- 20 – Drew Oberfrank, Jada Schmidt, Josie Slach
- 21 – Derek Nebergall, Lea Stonebraker
- 23 – Ray & Judy Linder
- 24 – Scott Anderson
- 25 – Allan Baird, Ron Burroughs
- 26 – Greg Royer, Ryne Schroeder
- 27 – Corina Lanning, Judy Rouse
- 28 – Les Boots, Tucker Ormsby
- 29 – Marjorie Stonerook
- 30 – Jenny Boldt
- 31 – Lisa Allen, Noah Johnson, Jen Royer, Irene Wood



Hospitalized/Procedures:

Healing: Irene Wood, Gary Thumma, Gordon Esbeck, Margaret Ketelsen, Glenn Fear, Jacob Spickerman, Bob Cummins, Jo Ann Beers, Nick Brown, Denise Cartwright, Glenn Eaton, Bob Gould, Erma Lyle, Lynn McIntosh, half-brother and nephew of Deb Lowry, Randy Nau, Judy Ohrt, Rhonda Waugh, Carol Gustafson (Rhonda Waugh's mom)

Prayers for Those in Life Transitions:

Individuals & Families Experiencing Loss:

Pastor Paul Fredericksen and Jane Moen after the passing of Paul's mother.

Lisa Davies and her family after the passing of her mom Carol Clark

In Treatment: Kay Miller, Norma Snyder (Mary Vang's sister-in-law), Leroy Clark (Lisa Davies' dad), Ron Burroughs, Tom Ehresman, Paul Esbeck (Gordon & Jan's son), Ken Gould, Clara Italiano, Taylor Miller (Sherry Willey's grand-daughter), Chris Ward

Hospice/Palliative Care:

Armed Services: Nolan Orht (Judy Ohrt's grandson), Thomas Brown (Seydel's son-in-law), Kyle Marchik, Corey & Alexa Ormsby, Mike Ploeger & Daniel Larson (McKinney's nephews)



We are better together.
Each part of the body is
essential and contributes to
the whole. The table of the
Lord is open to all.

December Calendar



Dates and times are subject to change. Go to our website for current information.

Thursday, December 1

10:00 am GIG
6:30 pm SPRC
6:30 pm Xn Chaos Rehearsal

Friday, December 3

3:30 pm–4:30 pm HACAP
Mobile Food Pantry

Sunday, December 5

5:00 pm All-Church Holiday
Sing-Along

Monday, December 6

6:30 pm Missions

Wednesday, December 8

6:30 pm GIG

Thursday, December 9

10:00 am GIG
6:30 pm Xn Chaos Rehearsal

Saturday, December 11

11:00–11:45 am Shared
Blessings

Sunday, December 12

10:00 am Sunday School
Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 15

Newsletter Deadline
6:30pm LFP Board Meeting
6:30 pm GIG

Thursday, December 16

10:00 am GIG
6:30 pm Xn Chaos Rehearsal
6:30 pm Trustees

Tuesday, December 21

2:00 pm Worship at
Prairie Hills

Wednesday, December 22

8:00 am Holy Folders
6:30 pm GIG

Thursday, December 23

10:00 am GIG
6:30 pm Xn Chaos Rehearsal

Friday, December 24

5:00 pm & 10:00 pm
Christmas Eve Service

Saturday, December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Wednesday, December 29

6:30 pm GIG

Thursday, December 30

10:00 am GIG
6:30 pm Xn Chaos Rehearsal

**Can't Make Worship?
Visit the Website.**

Weekly sermons are posted at:
tiptonumc.org.

Watch the livestream
on Sunday morning.

Worship LIVE

To watch the live service, or the latest recorded service, visit the church website at tiptonumc.org and click on the [Latest Worship Video](#) link on the left side under the logo (or under the logo on your mobile phone). You can also click the WorshipLIVE icon.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
607 LYNN
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December Events

- | | |
|--|--|
| Dec. 3 — HACAP Mobile Food
Pantry | Dec. 15 — Newsletter Deadline |
| Dec. 5 — Holiday Sing-Along | Dec. 21 — Worship @ Prairie Hills |
| Dec. 11 — Shared Blessings | Dec. 22 — Holy Folders |
| Dec. 12 — Sunday School Christmas
Program | Dec. 24 — Christmas Eve Service
@ 5:00 and 10:00 pm |
| | Dec. 25 — CHRISTMAS |

*Merry
Christmas*

Mission Statement:
Tipton First United Methodist Church

“To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”