



The Voyager

April 2020

The Monthly Newsletter of the Emmetsburg First United Methodist Church

Pastor Hojin Shin

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FROM BISHOP LAURIE AND THE APPOINTIVE CABINET

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ.

We write to you to encourage and support you in this time marked by coronavirus warnings, quarantines, social distancing and even the cancelation of March Madness! Our world has undergone major changes in the last few days and weeks. Our governor has declared a state of emergency and prohibited all social gatherings of greater than 10 people including spiritual and religious gatherings and events. The implications of this order are tremendous and far-reaching.

Bishop Laurie Haller and her cabinet are taking actions that will help our churches continue to do what they do best: love God and love our neighbors as ourselves. We are gathering and producing resources that will be made available to communities of faith to help in this transition from face to face gatherings to remote and home-based gatherings. We will be consulting experts in the worship arts, streaming, electronic meetings and social media.

Many people are asking, "What

can we do? How can we help?"

The following list is by no means comprehensive or original. It is a start and hopefully, it will stir your imagination and help you to find ways to support your community of faith in this extremely scary time.

Take care of yourself. Practice good hygiene, wash your hands often, cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze and get plenty of rest.

Practice "social distancing." As you are able, stay home unless it is truly necessary to leave, if your employer allows you to do so. It appears this may become more feasible for the time being with the governor's state of emergency declaration.

Do not hoard resources. The news is filled with stories of empty shelves where paper products, cleaning supplies and food staples should be. Continue to check in with your local food pantries and with your neighbors and follow John's teaching in Luke 3:11 "Whoever has two shirts must share with the one who has none, and whoever has food must do the same."

Reach out to people who are alone, including your single friends. Nursing homes, hospitals

and care facilities are not allowing visitors to protect our most vulnerable. Make a phone call, write a note or send a gift. The reminder that someone cares will help shorten a long day.

Reach out in support and care to your family, friends and neighbors who are experiencing new financial insecurity and worry due to layoffs and workplace shutdowns. Make a phone call, write a note, send a gift. We are in this together.

Many communities are helping to feed children who would normally receive meals at school. There are many feeding programs already in place across the state, if you are not aware of any in your local community, contact your church office and ask how and who you can help.

Participate in the alternative forms of worship that are being made available to you. These opportunities allow us to remain in community with each other.

Support your church financially. If you do not have some sort of electronic giving in place, send your church a check. A large percentage of our local church budgets are received during weekly services. With these services canceled, many of

our communities of faith can find themselves in dire straits. Our local churches still have financial obligations that need to be met. If you can make a special gift in excess of your normal pledge, bless you.

Pray. Pray for the obvious: cures, good health and recovery of all. Pray for those whose lives are being changed for the worse, pray for those who are experiencing mental fatigue. Pray for your church community and all who minister and are ministered by the church.

Pray more. Pray for your church staff, your leadership and laity, and your pastor(s). Your pastor and leadership team are working in uncharted territory. Trying to discover new ways of doing ministry and providing resources means your pastors are working four or five times as hard as they reach out, resource and connect your church and your community in new ways. They are planning for things that may never happen, they are planning for things they hope will never happen. Your clergy and lay leadership are two of the most important resources we have and

without them, we would be totally lost.

We are praying for all of you and your communities. If we can be of any help, please let us know. We look at this as an opportunity to be better at what we are called to do. May God bless us, guide us and lead us where we need to be.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Originally published on 3/18/2020. Reprinted with permission from the office of Bishop Laurie Haller & the Appointive Council



ELECTRONIC GIVING

How can you make giving to your church more convenient especially during times of distress, such as we are going through now with the coronavirus? The same way you handle your other monthly payments--through automated withdrawals.

Our church provides the Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) system so our members can choose to have their contributions automatically withdrawn from their personal checking or savings account on a monthly basis.

Why would you want to give to the church electronically?

CONVENIENCE! In fact, the convenience factor is the primary reason cited by individuals who

have elected to pay recurring bills of any kind electronically. Convenience is especially important during times when you cannot attend worship, such as during this period of quarantine. Electronic giving also helps the church predict its income so that the mission and ministry of the church can be planned adequately.

It is one more means of providing you with an opportunity to be Christian stewards and to be generous givers to the First United Methodist Church. As one church member stated, "Thanks to the EFT program, I am able to consistently support the mission and ministry of our church."

The EFT process is remarkably simple for you to initiate.

There are 2 ways available first is:

- 1) stop in at the church office
- 2) complete an enrollment form
- 3) attach a voided check
- 4) submit it to the church office.

The second way is to go to our website and click on the link. It will walk you through the steps to set it up without ever leaving your home!

EFT is considered to be safer than writing a check, as there are strict regulations covering it. The contribution to the church will be included with the monthly itemized list of automatic withdrawals from your bank account. In addition, the church will send you a year-end giving statement. Of course these contributions are tax deductible. You can change accounts, amounts, banks, etc. at any time by simply notifying the church office.

Won't you consider this method of donating to our church? Our response to God through Jesus Christ should be the same—a spiritual discipline of joyful, generous giving—regardless of method used.



Below are the addresses of our members, who are in area nursing homes or assisted living facilities.

Please send a card to brighten their day.

They would love to hear from you.

Lakeside Assisted Living

401 N. Lawler Street,
Emmetsburg, IA 50536
712-852-4060

Anna Beth Magee

Willow Ridge
3203 1st Street,
Emmetsburg, IA 50536
712-852-5480

Jan Bare
Pat Anderson #103
Anne Carney #216
Virginia Place #210

PARC Hall
3201 1st Street,
Emmetsburg, IA 50536
712-852-5520

Joyce Muller
Paul Kooker
Lois Lowman
Vi Sampson
Pearl Whitmore
Helen Merrill #203
Doris Gustafson

Emerald Oaks Assisted Living
2603 17th Street,
Emmetsburg, IA 50536
712-852-8408

Jackie Donovan #23
Rosabelle Johnson #1
Florence Malm #22
Louise Sackett # 16

Emmetsburg Care Center
2405 21st Street,
Emmetsburg, IA 50536
712-852-4266

Lilian Cox
Mae Stevens
Ted Strohmman

If you are home bound, in a nursing home, or feeling alone and would like a visit; please let Pastor Hojin know or contact the church office at 852-2154 or umcsecretary@iowatelecom.net



Hospital Visitation

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please call the church to inform us.

The hospital does not and will not call us.

THANKS for your PRAYERS
Lord, have mercy on them, strengthen them in their weakness; protect and guide us!

Beng Gallo
Louise Sackett
Janice Kassel
Mary King
Betty Hiatt
Dean Newlon
Noah Kollasch (Nancy Hunsaker's great-grandson)
Bill DePue

Elyssa Flannigan
Brandi Fehr
Steve & Lynne Farnsworth
Sharon Hobart
Jane Stevens
Devin Morey
Abby Burns
Deb Weir
Irene Goff
Florence Malm
Richard Henrichs
Lincoln Coakley (grandson of Joann Coakley)
Will Farlow
Carol Ensley
Joyce Muller

Scott Sanne (Grandson of Pearl Whitmore)
Philip Christenson (brother of Marge Solberg)
Kort Freeman
Lois Lowman
Ted Strohmman
Vi Sampson
Marjorie Solberg
Deb Nissen (sister-in-law of Deb Wickman)

*The families of those who have passed away this past year including: Mardell Truog, Rick Jones, Darol Underwood, Wayne Truog, Keith Bare

First United Methodist Church
Regular Monthly Administrative Church Council Minutes
Wednesday March 11, 2020, at 7:30 pm

In attendance: (11) Rosie Argabright, Dave Ballman, Jackie Black, Kent Klootwyk, Cindy Magee, Pastor Hojin Shin, Lisa Siebrecht, Lois Stanley, Jim Stvens, Troy Strohman, Myram Tunncliff

Call to order: Troy Strohman called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from January 8, 2020, Motion to approve: Rosie Argabright , Approved as written, by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Lois Stanley reported the February, 2020 Treasurer's Report, General Fund Balance: \$6,656.67, Motion to approve: Myram, Approved as presented, by voice vote.

Committee Reports:

Nurturing Ministries Planning Team: Dave Ballman and Cindy Magee

Potato Bar on Saturday at FLC before parade.

Outreach Ministries Planning Team: Rosie Argabright

Rosie reported Easter Egg Tree will be the next project. Personal hygiene products which will be donated to Upper Des Moines, CASA, Cherish House .

Witness Ministries Planning Team: No Report

Administrative Committees:

Chair of Trustees: Lisa Siebrecht and Ruth Hand

Lisa reported the following: New speakers will be installed on March 21 in the sanctuary, also we will add to the FLC sound system.

Chair of SPRC: Danielle Ditch No Report

Chair of Finance: Brian Garrels

Finance Committee meet tonight, FLC Floor scrubber is here, Additional payment of \$12,000 will be made on the FLC.

Chair of Endowment Committee: Kent Klootwyk

Distributions have been made – All requests were able to be funded.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Cornerstone Church – Utica, NY | \$ 400.00 |
| VBS | \$ 750.00 |
| Monthly Movie Ministry | \$ 750.00 |
| Ingathering Supplies | \$ 800.00 |
| Camp Fund/Scholarships | \$4,000.00 |
| Feed Our Kids-Emmetsburg | \$ 600.00 |
| Financial Peace University | \$ 750.00 |
| Emmaus | \$ 350.00 |
| Family Life Center Stainless Table | \$ 685.28 |
| Family Life Center Dishwasher | |
| Heater Booster | \$1,716.90 |
| Memoiral/Donation to Beng Gallo | \$ 650.00 |
| | \$11,452.18 |

Lay Leadership Vice Chair: No Report

Chair of History Committee: Myram Tunncliff

Myram read an article titled, "Men Who Signed Methodist Church's First Articles of Incorporation"

Memorial Committee: No Report

Other Committee/Additional New Business:

Pastor Hojin – Discussion was held regarding our preparation for the cononavirus. Live stream church service, some are not able to get the live stream, options were discussed. Decision to follow the Iowa Public Department of Health recommendations was made. Error on side of caution, keep all healthy!

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 7:30 pm

Troy Closed Meeting with a Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm Submitted by Recording Secretary: _____

Cindy Magee

MEN WHO SIGNED METHODIST CHURCH'S FIRST ARTICLES
OF INCORPORATION

The men who signed the First Articles of Incorporation of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Emmetsburg, who were they?

James Scott was the father of James and Jake Scott—also the great, great grandfather of Phil ^{John} Kerber. He was a lumberman in Wisconsin before coming to Iowa to engage in farming. For many years he taught the Bible Class in Sunday School.

John J. Robins was a real estate agent and served as County Superintendent of Schools for several years.

C.E. Ketchum was Emmetsburg's first clothing merchant and his good wife was the pioneer milliner.

W.H. Shea, who cleaned out the first sheep shed for Protestants to worship in, was a Methodist through and through, coming from the southern part of the state. He, too, was a real estate agent, coming to Emmetsburg in 1869, and opening his first office in the milk house on the Coonan farm in Old Town.

D.B. Tooley was a farmer who homesteaded in Vernon Township.

Theodore Commins served the community as Justice of the Peace and did many other odd jobs that are necessary for the development of a new community.

E.S. Ormsby and his brother, A.L. Ormsby were pioneer lawyers and bankers. They were especially interested in the American Investment Company, an organization of which E.S. was President and A.L. served as Vice President and General Manager. E.S. Ormsby was later Cashier of the First National Bank for many years.

R.L. Day was a doctor who had homesteaded in West Bend Township before coming to the Old Town.

It's interesting to note that the pastor at this time, Rev. Breton W. Webster and his lovely wife had had to live in the home of the Ormsbys for the first six months of their itinerancy. He was spoken of as a venerable man who was accustomed to frontier life and well fitted for the leadership of the little group to which he had been assigned. When we consider that when the Protestants first worshipped together in 1871, Emmetsburg was then a town of about 50 inhabitants, located on the bank of the Des Moines River southwest of what we know as Riverdale Farm. That town that was there is fondly called Old Town. And we need to remember those original members and all the generations of workers in God's House that have brought us to where we are. We are grateful!

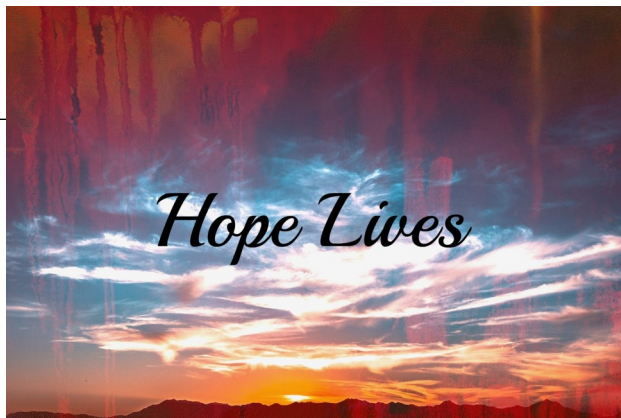
Reflections about Coronavirus(COVID-19)

We are all asking or thinking "What is the coronavirus and why now?" Everything was going so well, people were busy with their families and enjoying their lives. Winter was about over and you were all looking forward to the coming of Spring. Easter was just around the corner.

Then "This Happened!"

The unknown coronavirus appeared in our country and world. What a change we are now experiencing. Who before had ever heard of "Social Distancing"?

I'm wondering, Why? So many hardships for people, so many unknowns to cope with, uncertainty, illness, and others.



We are all so fearful for ourselves and others. It has become a world wide dilemma.

This I do know!

Everyday we are given a gift of that day. What we do with it, is up to us. I believe God is with us every second, minute, hour of that day. We can pray for others, lend a helping hand to someone who needs it, make a phone call of encouragement, write a note or letter to show you care; and send messages of love to your family.

God tells us many times in the Bible that "He will never leave us or forsake us". In Psalm 107.6 we are told that, "The people cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them from their distress". Psalm 121:5 tells us that "The Lord watches over you."

God is with us through our trials and He is with us now. Reach out to Him in prayer. The Bible tells us to "Ask and it will be given"

Easter is coming, we know that His son died for our sins, so all could have eternal life. Let us prepare our hearts, asking for forgiveness of our sins, so that we can be prepared to receive that wonderful gift that our gracious God gives to all who believe in Him.

Irene Goff

Due to the COVID-19 crisis

No In-Person Services until further notice

Two ways to Livestream the Worship Service:

www.facebook.com/EmmetsburgFUMC/

www.zoom/j/7128522154

Chapters in Our Life Together



- 3 Greg Hoyman
Eric Hill
Rosemary Matthews
- 4 Beth Elman
- 6 Cheryl Henrich

- 7 Nathan Adams
- 9 Marje Merrill
- 10 Kort Freeman
Allison Freeman
James Hobart, Jr.
- 11 Sarah Strohman
- 12 Caleb Truog
- 13 Janes Stevens
- 14 Don Larsen
Isaac Embrock
- 17 Kaye Curran
- 19 Myram Tunnicliff
Amelia Eleman

- 20 Brian Culver
Deb Opheim
- 21 Darlene Moser
- 22 Cal Christensen
Kyle Kassel
- 24 Judy Lentz
- 26 Rosie Argabright
Morgan Jamison
- 28 Ruth Hand
- 29 YoungKwang Lee(Gloria)
Monica Tonderum
- 30 Dennis Schneider



23 Brian & Cheryl Garrels



Congratulations to Kyle & Brenda Malm on the baptism of their daughter Emma Jayne Malm on February 23, 2020. Witnesses for Emma's baptism were Justin Malm & Jill Malm.

*If you see that your name is not listed or the listing is error,
please call the church office
at 712-852-2154
or email at
umcsecretary@iowatelecom.net
so we can update our files.*



FIRST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
EMMETSBURG

801 Broadway St, PO Box 99,
Emmetsburg, IA 50536

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit No. 153
Emmetsburg, Iowa



Church Members
Rainbow Windows
for the kids

**Good Friday
Service**

Live Streamed at 7PM

Call to Prayer!

Every day
at noon

**STOP
to
PRAY.**

**Easter Sunday
Service**

Live Streamed
at 10AM