



Staves Memorial United Methodist Church

2747 East Madison Avenue; Des Moines, IA 50317

Church: 515-266-0265

Email: staveschurch@msn.com

Website: www.staveschurch.com

Pastor Tim Walker

Parsonage: 515-262-4248

Cell Phone: 712-450-0201

Email: Timwalker65@outlook.com



January 1, 2023

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jerimiah 29: 11)

Dear Friends,

The New Year has arrived and it is a time when people begin to make New Year’s Resolutions. People resolve to eat healthier, lose weight, exercise more, spend less, and save more money. I have never heard of anyone keeping even one of their New Year’s Resolutions. Why is that? It’s because people are trying to decide their own futures instead of allowing God to make those decisions. Anytime we try to do God’s job, we will always fail.

This was the situation that the Prophet Jerimiah faced when he ministered to the Hebrew people during the Babylonian exile. The Hebrew nation had turned their back on God and were doing things their own sinful way. As a result, God allowed the Babylonians to over-power the nation of Israel and carry the people into exile. After a short time in exile the Hebrews had convinced themselves that God had forgiven them **but** they were going to continue in exile for another 70 years. If you back up to Jerimiah 29: 4-10 you will see that God is telling the people (through Jerimiah) that they will not be returning anytime soon. So, God is telling the people to get married, have children, build houses, plant gardens, and start businesses. In other words settle in because you’re going to be here for a while.

Every January, I see Jerimiah 29:11 quoted on face book and other places; as a way to encourage people who are hoping for a change in their circumstances. Many people will take it out of context and think that this is a sign (from God) that the New Year will finally be the year where everything will go their way. That could be true. But if it turns out not to be true (which is often the case) don’t be discouraged. Because God might be asking you to trust Him and settle into your circumstances because there are things, He wants you to learn. If this is the case for you then please remember God’s promise; He plans to give you, “hope and a future.” Even in your present circumstances.

January Birthdays



January

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Bob Moore | 1/04 |
| Karon King Velau | 1/04 |
| Joe Jefferson | 1/06 |
| Michelle Shabazz | 1/11 |
| Dalton McDonald | 1/12 |
| David Beery | 1/14 |
| Phyllis Anderson | 1/18 |
| Ileta Wilson | 1/23 |
| Mitch Davisson | 1/24 |
| Joyce Doggett | 1/28 |
| Colan Arnold | 1/28 |
| Camille Gervais | 1/29 |
| Evelyn Moran | 1/31 |
| Linda Wendt | 1/31 |

January Calendar

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 1 st | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Communion • Sunday School 9:00 a.m. • Worship Service 10:00 a.m. • Fellowship Time 11:00 a.m. • Hispanic Worship 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. |
| 2 nd | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO Bible Study • TOPS Group 5:15 p.m. |
| 3 rd | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship/Music Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m. |
| 4 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorcas Circle 10:00 a.m. • Confirmation Class 4:15 p.m. • Bell Choir Practice 5:30 p.m. • Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. • Hispanic Bible Study 7:00 p.m. |
| 5 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft Group 5:00 p.m. |
| 6 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China Painters 9:30 a.m. • Hispanic Worship Service (chapel) 7:00 p.m. |
| 8 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday School 9:00 a.m. • Worship 10:00 a.m. • Fellowship Time 11:00 a.m. • Hispanic Worship Service (chapel) 1:00 p.m. |
| 9 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Study 10:00 a.m. • Annual Assembly Church Women United Noon • TOPS Group 5:15 p.m. • Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m. |
| 10 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Covenant Group • Finance Meeting 6:30 p.m. |

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| 11 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esther Circle 9:30 a.m. • Confirmation Class 4:15 p.m. • Bell Choir Practice 5:30 p.m. • Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. • Ad Council Meeting 7:15 p.m. • Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 p.m. |
| 12 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft Group 5:00 p.m. |
| 13 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hispanic Worship (chapel) 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. |
| 14 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandy McNamar Food Pantry |
| 15 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday School 9:00 a.m. • Worship Service 10:00 a.m. • Fellowship Time 11:00 a.m. • Hispanic Worship 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. |
| 16 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Study 10:00 a.m. • TOPS Group 5:15 p.m. • Education 6:00 p.m. |
| 18 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation Class 4:15 p.m. • Bell Choir Practice 5:30 p.m. • Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. • Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 p.m. |
| 19 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft Group 5:00 p.m. |
| 20 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hispanic Worship 7:00 p.m. |
| 22 nd | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday School 9:00 a.m. • Worship Service 10:00 a.m. • Fellowship Time 11:00 a.m. • Hispanic Worship 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. |
| 23 rd | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Study 10:00 a.m. • TOPS Group 5:15 p.m. |
| 24 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO Covenant Group |
| 25 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation Class 4:15 p.m. • Bell Choir Practice 5:30 p.m. • Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. • Hispanic Bible Study 7:00 p.m. |
| 26 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft Group 5:00 p.m. |
| 27 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hispanic Worship 7:00 p.m. |
| 28 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eve Circle 9:30 a.m. • Sandy McNamar Food Pantry 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. • Community Mean 5:00 p.m. |
| 29 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday School 9:00 a.m. • Worship 10:00 a.m. • Fellowship Time 11:00 a.m. • Hispanic Worship Service (chapel) 1:00 p.m. |
| 30 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Study 10:00 a.m. • TOPS Group 5:15 p.m. |

Crafts, Conversation & Chow

Come join other women for a night of Crafting, Conversation, and Chow—*Free of Charge*.

Bring a project to work on and a dish to share, or simply come to connect with other women. We meet at the church every Thursday starting at 5 p.m. If you have a craft you'd like to learn, let us know so we can find the right person to help you learn.

If you have further questions, please contact *Jennifer McDonald* at 515-314-4761,

For the Lions Club, Save your Eyeglasses, Hearing Aids, Postage Sta.m.ps and Can Tabs

SAVE YOUR USED EYEGLASSES AND HEARING AIDS

The Lion's Club collects used eyeglasses and hearing aids. Even if the hearing aid doesn't work, they can use it for parts. Bring these items anytime during the year to the church.

You may place them in the designated basket marked "Used Eyeglasses," located by the mailboxes in the narthex.

POSTAL HISTORY FOUNDATION

The Postal History Foundation is an educational program where a group of volunteers collect sta.m.ps for teachers and students nationwide.

Please continue to place any stamps you may have in the basket by the mailboxes in the narthex.

SAVE YOUR ALUMINUM CAN TABS:

The Lion's Club is collecting tabs off of all aluminum cans for the Ronald McDonald House. Save your can tabs and put them in an envelope or baggie marked "Tabs" and put in the same white basket in the narthex marked "Postage Stamps."



BIBLE STUDY

**Monday Mornings
Fellowship Hall
10:00 a.m.**
*For information contact
Norma Thierman
515-283-0090*

Eve Circle will meet Saturday, January 28th at 9:30 a.m. Planning for 2023. Bring a friend.

Sherry Palmer 515-991-1062

No Covenant Group January 10th or January 24th.

MISSION FOCUS FOR JANUARY

Thanksgiving was wonderful; Christmas will be too. At least for some. Did you know we gave nine Thanksgiving meals away? With all the trimmings...including pie. And we took about \$500 worth of toys to Bidwell-Riverside Center for their toy pantry. Plus, you have been generous all year.

But hunger does not go away. And people are cold because it is food or heat or gas to go to work or just too many bills. And food drops down to the bottom of the list in a hurry.

FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, we are going to work on filling the Sandy McNamar Food Pantry. Food or money will do. Noisy offering will be in place for the Sundays of January. Please help in any way you can. Cereal, oatmeal, pasta, boxed meals, soups, oil and shortening. If you aren't sure, ask Margo what she needs.

*Proverbs 25:21 says
If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat;
if he is thirsty, give him water to drink.*

*Isaiah 58:7 proclaims
Is it not to share your food with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—
when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to
turn away from your own flesh and blood?*

Blessings for the new year. May it be one full of promises kept and joys multiplied.

The Mission Committee

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Committee will meet again this month to welcome new and returning members and begin looking at activities and dates for them in 2023.

Remember that we have an elementary Sunday School program that starts at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CONTINUED

morning. We have a Junior High Sunday School. We also have a Confirmation Class that meets on Wednesday afternoons. If you have a candidate for Confirmation, please see Pastor Tim.

Bible study programs are running strong on Sunday morning (9:00 a.m.) or Monday morning (10:00 a.m.). Please plan to join one of these groups to learn more and develop fellowship with the other members of the groups.

Finance/Treasurer Report

As of November 30, 2022

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Bank Balance as of October 31, 2022 | \$ 34,555.71 |
| Plus Voided Check #15635 | \$ 2,326.25 |
| Plus Receipts through November 30, 2022 | \$ 18,473.90 |
| Less Disbursements through November 30, 2022 | \$ 25,363.87 |
| Bank balance as of November 30, 2022 | \$ 29,991.99 |
| Committed Funds as of November 30, 2022 | \$ 13,057.34 |
| Available funds as of November 30, 2022 | \$ 16,934.65 |

*This report is submitted by:
David E. "Dave" Beery,
Current Staves Financial Secretary*

COMMUNITY MEALS

UW Faith News (aka) Petticoat Patter Continued

The Free Meals continues to reach community and church members with food and fellowship once a month.

The Committee will start planning the 2023 meals soon. This is a free will offering meal. Any funds donated go into the Community Meal fund to help purchase the meat or other main dish ingredients. If you are will too willing to help with the meal, come on the designated date at 4:00 p.m. to help set up and serve.

Most people say I want to lose weight, start an exercise program, read more or improve myself in some manner. I want to issue each of you a challenge. Make a pledge to get involved in some activity at Staves in the next year. Do just one thing you haven't done before; there are lots of opportunities, such as help with an activity for the Education Committee, come serve one week at the Food Pantry, or at the monthly community meal. I'm sure there are more ways to get involved. Watch the bulletin or Caller as there will be more opportunities to join in activities to be God's hands and feet in the world.

UW Faith News (aka) Petticoat Patter

UW Faith News (aka) Petticoat Patter UW Faith (FKA UMW) Bible Verse: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

All circles are now meeting on a regular basis, please see the bulletin or the calendar here in the caller for dates and times of the Dorcas, Esther and Eve Circle meetings. Please plan to attend any or all of these circles for a short program or Bible study, fun, talk, and treats.

It is now January, 2023 and each of us has a chance to make changes in our lives. While we can make changes at any time we wish, it seems like as the new year begins, we all make pledges or resolutions to do things.



"If you're ever headed the wrong way in life, remember the road to Heaven allows U-turns."

Here is this month's recipe: Ranch Baked Chicken. We normally made this dish on Sunday. There is just something about the dish not sure it is baked chicken or baked peaches.

Dip a cut up fryer (or 4 to 5 breasts) in ½ cup milk. Then roll the pieces in a mixture of 1 cup flour, 3 tsp salt, ¼ tsp pepper, 1 tsp paprika, and ¼ tsp poultry seasoning. Melt ½ c shortening in a 13x9 ovenproof pan. Add the chicken skin side down. Bake uncovered

UW Faith News (aka) Petticoat Patter Continued

at 425 degrees until tender or about 40 to 50 minutes, baste the chicken occasionally. Once chicken is done move to one end of the pan. Arrange drained peach halves on the chicken. Open and put a can of oven-ready biscuits in the other end of the pan. Bake 15 minutes or until the biscuits are done. Remove all the ingredients from the pan and use the drippings for gravy if you want.

TRUSTEES UPDATE

Here are the updates on the latest Trustee Projects:

I know the projects that just won't go away --
UPDATES.....

There are two remaining steps to this project. We must install stainless steel on the wall beside and behind the stoves (City Code for cleanliness) and then the fire suppression system will be hooked to the hoods. We hope these things can be completed soon.

The mural in the Nursery bathroom is complete and work on floor cleaning started in late December.

If you have something you think needs worked on in the church, please talk to a Trustee (see list of committee people posted in the Narthex) or send an email to the Trustees at sumtrustees@aol.com.

Thanks.

FOOD PANTRY

The Pantry dates for January are: Saturday, January, 14th and January 28th. The Food Pantry is open from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each of those days.

We finally have numbers for November. The numbers for December are not available since the last day of operation is after the writing of this article). Here are the updated numbers:

FOOD PANTRY CONTINUED

•November

- o 28 Families
- o 107 People
- o 452 pounds of food received
- o 585 pounds of food provided
- o No personal items received
- o 12 personal items provided

Thank you to those who participated in the "Reverse Adent Program." While most of these are optional items the shoppers at the Food Pantry really enjoy being able to obtain these items.



Nativity Experience Marvel at His Birth

Thank you to everyone who attended or participated in our first annual Nativity Experience on December 3. The Nativity Experience included a variety of nativities in all shapes and sizes. Twenty individuals and families, some who are not members of Staves Church, provided 150 nativities, plus nativity tree decorations. Many took the time to enter the sanctuary to view the nativity on the altar and to view the banners as they walked out. We estimate 350 people attended during the day – several showed the postcard invitation given to them, and commented they will return next year and will provide at least one nativity to display. Six musicians took turns providing live music during the entire four hours, including keyboard, mandolin, fiddle, and flute. A total of 15 people, some who are not Staves Church members, served as hosts and greeters. Sixteen people provided three or more hours of work - some more than twelve hours - including Friday set-up and Saturday tear-down. Not all are members of Staves Church. The living nativity included 9 people of various ages, including one very special baby! Mark your calendar for our second annual Nativity Experience on Dec 2, 2023.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
Staves Memorial United Methodist Church
December 14, 2022

CALL TO ORDER/DEVOTIONS

Chairperson, Brian McNamar began the meeting by leading attendees in the Lord's Prayer.

The minutes of the October and November meetings were reviewed, and given approval.

FINANCIAL REPORTS (Terri Pollard)

An update was given, on the response from the annual pledge drive. The amount pledged so far is approximately \$145,000, which covers 62% of the year 2023 budget proposal.

Year-end financial statements will be mailed in January.

The October and November treasurer's reports were reviewed, and discussed.

REQUESTS FOR FUNDS

None.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

Pastor – Tim Walker

- A) An update was given, on the confirmation class – the confirmands are getting more involved.
- B) Discussion of what drives new members: prayer, and inviting people – praying for opportunities to invite others, and for opportunities to minister beyond the walls of the church.
- C) Need new ceiling fan/light in the parsonage living room.
- D) Requesting installation of a combination lock on the pastor's door -- this was agreed upon.
- E) Communion – will celebrate on December 25, and also January 1, 2023.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee – Tim Walker, reporting.

- A) Two persons joining the committee in 2023.
- B) Concerns need to first be taken up with the pastor, directly.
- C) Looking for a volunteer to coordinate the pillar of prayer.

Trustees – no report.

BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Education/Outreach – Norma Thierman

- A) Happy Birthday Jesus! - pencils to be handed out, December 25.
- B) Ordering more Staves cups, to be presented to first-time guests.
- C) Committee includes all Sunday school teachers will next meet in January.

Worship/Music – Steve Ellis

- A) Blue Christmas service – scheduled for December 15.
- B) Committee will meet Tuesday, January 3, at 7:00 p.m.

UWFaith – Terri Pollard

- A) General meeting/installation of officers was held last November.
- B) Next general meeting is scheduled for February – Kay Oliver to speak.

Missions – Marilyn Burch

- A) Took over \$500 in toys to Bidwell Riverside Center.
- B) Mission for January 2023 is the Sandy McNamar Food Pantry.
- C) Starting the process to organize a trip to the Midwest Missions operation in October 2023.

Food Pantry – Margo Schamerhorn

A) Chair lift repaired. Stairwell lights need to be left on at all times, to prevent future electrical breakdowns to the chair lift.

B. Pantry continues to need donations.

NEXT MEETING

January 11, 2023

Pastor Tim led attendees in prayer, to end the meeting.

Respectively submitted,

Steve Ellis
Secretary

ATTENDEES

Brian McNamar, Pastor Tim Walker, Terri Pollard, Michelle Atterbury, Andy Gervais, Margo Schamerhorn, Jim McPherson, Linda McPherson, JoAnn Riley, Marilyn Burch, Norma Thierman and Steve Ellis.