



Staves Memorial United Methodist Church

2747 East Madison Avenue; Des Moines, IA 50317

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Pastor Tim Walker

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May 01, 2025

JOY

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds.... (James 1:2)
My favorite book in the New Testament by far is the Book of James because it is full of practical advice on how to live a Christian life. However, the Book of James begins with a very odd piece of advice. I'm supposed to **"consider it pure joy"** whenever I face difficult times? What in the world is he talking about? To really understand this verse, we must first distinguish between happiness and joy. Happiness is a result of our outward circumstances. For example, we get a good review at work along with a nice raise. Joy, however, is based on something that goes on inside of us.

Second, we need to understand what the author (James the brother of Jesus) meant when he talked about joy. In the original Greek, the word joy is translated from the word, "chara." In the New Testament, "chara" is used to describe a deep, abiding sense of joy and gladness that is rooted in spiritual realities rather than external circumstances. It is often associated with the presence of the Holy Spirit and the believer's relationship with God. But this word was also used for, "taking inventory." It's the image of a warehouse clerk taking an inventory of the stock. We experience joy when we look back on all the ways that God has seen us through difficult times and the unexpected blessings that God brought to us along the way. **"Consider it pure joy when you face trials of many kinds;"** because this is an opportunity to reflect on all the ways God has blessed your life and guided you through difficulty. When we look back on those blessings, we quickly realize that God has not brought us this far only to set us down now and walk away from us. This realization brings us joy as well as hope that will help us persevere through difficult times.

Here's how you can experience joy on a daily basis. Every night reflects back on the day and write down 3 or more ways you were blessed that day; or 3 things that went right for you. Then the next morning look at that list from yesterday (and the previous days) and give God thanks for those blessings. You'll be taking a daily inventory of all God's blessings in your life and that is what true joy looks like in action.

May Calendar

1st Thursday

- NO GEMS May, June and July
- Craft Group 5:00 pm

- Ladies Night Out
Gather 6:15 and Eat 6:30 pm

- China Painters 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
(Fellowship Hall and Kitchen)

- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
- Sunday School 9:00 am
- Worship Service 10:00 am
- Fellowship 11:00 am
- Bible Study 4:00 pm

- Bible Study 10:00 am
- TOPS Group 5:15 pm
- Education 5:30 pm
- Missions 6:30 pm
- CAT (following Missions Meeting) ? pm

- Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm

- Dorcas Circle 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm
- Power in Prayer 2:00 pm
- Choir 6:30 pm

- Craft Group 5:00 pm

- Sandy McNamar Food Pantry 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
- Sunday School 9:00 am
- Worship Service 10:00 am
- Fellowship 11:00 am
- Bible Study 4:00 pm

May Calendar (continued)	
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- Bible Study 10:00 am
- TOPS Group 5:15 pm
- SPRC Meeting 6:30 pm

- Dana 7:00 pm

- Esther Circle Lunch – Meet at Hilltop+ Restaurant 11:00 am
- Power in Prayer 2:00 pm
- Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm
- Ad Council 7:15 am

- Craft Group 5:00 pm

- All church breakfast 8:00 am

- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
- Sunday School 9:00 am
- Worship Service 10:00 am
- Fellowship 11:00 am
- Celebrate Gage's graduation
- Bible Study 4:00 pm

- Bible Study 10:00 am
- TOPS Club 5:15pm

Power in Prayer	2:00 pm to 3:15 pm
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- Craft Group 5:00 pm

- Eye Circle 9:30 am

May Calendar (continued)

25th Sunday

- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
- Sunday School 9:00 am
- Worship Service 10:00 am
- Fellowship 11:00 am
- Bible Study 4:00 pm

- 26th Monday**
- Bible Study 10:00 am
 - TOPS Group 5:15 pm

- Bible Study 10:00 am
- TOPS Group 5:15 pm

- Power in Prayer 2:00 pm

- 29th Thursday
- Craft Group 5:00 pm

- Craft Group 5:00 pm

- Sandy McNamar Food Pantry 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
- Community Meal 5:00 pm

- 31st Saturday**
- Sandy McNamar Food Pantry 2:00 pm
to 5:00 pm
 - Community Meal 5:00 pm

May Birthdays



Santana Mena	5/01
Jim McPherson	5/01
Daniel McDonald	5/01
Michelle Atterbury	5/05
Jan Murphy	5/06
Dan Findlay	5/06
Sharon Jefferson	5/11
Jim Dowis	5/11
Drew Strand	5/13
Olivia Reynolds	5/17
Janice White	5/19
JoAnn Pfaltzgraff	5/26
Jeff McDonald	5/26
Patricia Mena	5/31

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 5:00 p.m. If you have a craft you would 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.

Save your Eyeglasses, Hearing Aids, Pop Cans and Can Tabs

The church collects used eyeglasses and hearing aids. Even if the hearing aid does not 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.

SAVE YOUR ALUMINUM CAN TABS AND POP CANS

The church is collecting tabs off all aluminum cans for the Ronald McDonald House. Save can tabs and put them in an envelope or baggie marked "Tabs" and put in the white basket in the narthex marked "Pop Tabs."

Please save your pop cans and bring to the church. Money goes into Helping Hand Fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PILLAR OF PRAYER: If you need to request a pillar of prayer, please call either Diane at the church office Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or Marilyn Ogle all other times at 515-266-6876. Thanks!

SANDY MCNAMAR FOOD PANTRY

**2nd SATURDAY AND
LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**May Dates
May 10th
May 31st**

ALL CHURCH BREAKFAST

**Saturday, May 17th
8:00 a.m.**

**Come at 7:00 a.m.
if you would like to help.**

COMMUNITY MEAL

**Last Saturday of every month.
Next dinner will be:
May 31st
5:00 pm**



Finance/Treasurer Report
Bank Balance as of February 28, 2025
\$99,634.02

March Budget Items

<i>Budget Items</i>	\$17,884.00
<i>Mission Items</i>	\$ 1,107.10
<i>Committed Funds</i>	\$ 720.00
	\$19,711.10

March Disbursements

<i>Budget Items</i>	\$18,731.64
<i>Missions</i>	\$ 95.48
<i>Committed Funds</i>	\$ 2,711.95
	\$21,539.07

Bank balance as of March 31, 2025
\$97,806.05
Less Committed Funds as of March 31, 2025
\$95,267.85
Available funds as of March 31, 2025
\$2,538.20

This report is submitted by
Terri Pollard, Staves Finance Secretary

Christian Education

Easter Hunt went well.

Next Education meeting is May 5th at 5:30 pm.
If you are helping with Vacation Bible School,
please plan on attending. Vacation Bible School
is June 16th to 20th.

Community Meals

Come have your dinner the last Saturday of the
month at the Free Meal. We continue to reach
community and church members with food and
fellowship once a month. This is a fun group to
be around. We are now serving about 60 meals
each month through this program.

The Community Meal committee menus for
May and June are:

May

- Burgers and Chicken Patties on the grill
- Salads
- Chips
- Dessert

June

- Pulled Pork Sandwiches
- Baked Beans
- Cole Slaw
- Dessert

While the meal is free, donations are accepted.
Any funds donated go into the Community Meal
fund to help purchase the meat or other main
dish ingredients.

If you are willing to help with the meal, come on
the designated date at 4:00 p.m. to help set up
and serve. If you want to help cook, please talk
with Terri Pollard since depending on the menu
the cooking start time varies.

Trustees Update

Here are the updates on the latest Trustee Projects.

There was not a lot of damage to the Parsonage from that March wind storm. Thank goodness. There needs to be some repair to the soffit and bids are in progress for that repair.

We are in the process of placing a new video screen on the back wall of the Sanctuary. The new plug in the Sanctuary is part of this project. The new large screen will help the Pastor and other speakers when sharing the Word or other announcements.

We are also looking at repairs to the basement wall in the Parsonage. This work will be done after Pastor Tim and Nancy leave and before Pastor Paul and his family arrive. We will look to see if additional work needs completed at the Parsonage between the families.

We are aware of the flushing issue with the women's restroom in the lobby. We will be looking at the issue and determining what can be done.

Future projects include the repair or replacement of the ceiling in the Education office. We will be looking at electrical repairs in the original basement and some possible foundation work along the west wall of the kitchen. While missing shingles were replaced on the three-bay garage we know now that roof will need replaced. We also have a soffit repair on the NE side of the church to complete.

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 May are: Saturday, May 10th and Saturday, May 31st . The Food Pantry is open from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each of those days.

We had a record month in March:

- Families: 105
- People: 334
- Food In: 911 pounds
- Food Out: 1,388 pounds
- Personal In: 0
- Personal Out: 46

The Pantry could use the following items:

- Canned Soup
- Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helper
- Oatmeal
- Farina/Cream of Wheat
- Pancake Mix
- Cookies or baking mixes

Remember that the pounds of food coming in and going out does not include dairy items, meat items, eggs, or bakery items. The personal items are things like shampoo, toilet paper, tooth paste/tooth brushes, and laundry soap.

You can see the need by the numbers we are serving. Thank you for your support of this program. While we are small in size, we are making a very large impact in the lives of the people we serve.

UWFaith News (A.K.A) Petticoat Patter

I'm sitting here on Easter Monday (very early in the morning) writing this article. Easter Sunday was a wonderful celebration at Staves.

The sunrise service was small and we had a few more join us for the breakfast, but I think all who attended those two programs had a good time. Breakfast was followed by the full service with additional folks in attendance and we had communion during the service which added a little something extra to this year's celebration of our risen Savior.

Now the United Women of Faith are full steam ahead for working the Spring Sale and Luncheon (which was on Saturday, April 26th). We hope you could come and buy some plants, baked goods, and enjoy the lunch). Then the next week we have Ladies Night Out on May 2nd (Hopefully some of you made it to that event.)

The Spring sale is one of two fund raisers that we have each year. The funds from the fund raisers are used to support several local mission projects. We also support the national and state UWF organizations and fund the Recognition Pin program with these funds. We then also support Staves with some expenses since UWF uses the facilities for meetings and these events.

I've had people say the ovens don't work right. I've done some checking. These are gourmet cook stoves. They take at least 20 minutes to warm up to temperature; so please plan accordingly before putting food to bake.

In June we'll start planning the next event which is an evening of ice cream, baked goods, and hymn singing on Sunday, July 27th. Mark your calendars to attend that event.

UWFaith News (A.K.A) Petticoat Patter (continued)

Before I close this article, I want to say thanks to everyone who brought in plants, pots, or other items for the plant sale in the spring. Also, thanks to those who baked goods for sale. To those who set-up the tables and worked them during the Spring sale. Those who helped make and serve the sandwiches and salads used during the luncheon. As the saying goes it takes a village to get things done.

Finally, a huge shout-out to the men who cooked, served, and cleaned up during the Ladies Night Out. The ladies of Staves really enjoyed the night and the special attention from the men. THANKS GUYS!!!!!!

ANNOUCEMENTS

EDUCATON MEETING

**Monday, May 5th
5:30 pm**

CAT MEETING

**Monday, May 5th
6:30 pm**

MISSIONS MEETING

**Tuesday, May 6th
6:30 pm**

TRUSTEES

**Tuesday, May 6th
7:00 pm**

SPRC MEETING

**Monday, May 12th
6:30 pm**

ESTHER CIRCLE

**Esther Circle will be going out to eat
May 14th at the Hilltop Restaurant.
Meet at Hilltop at 11:00 am.
Everyone welcome. Carol Davis**

AD COUNCIL MEETING

**Wednesday May 14th
7:15 pm**

ANNOUCEMENTS

EVE CIRCLE MEETING

**Saturday May 24th
9:30am in Fellowship Hall
Devotions: Ileta Wilson
Program: "20 Questions"**

Sherry Palmer 515-991-1062

**EVE CIRCLE will be collecting health
items for infants, children and adults
for Bidwell Riverside Center.
Shampoo, soap, and toothpaste will
be accepted. A barrel will be in the
Narthex area.
Sherry Palmer, 1-515-991-1062.**

MAY MISSION



For the month of May we are asking for donations for the Door of Faith Men's Recovery Center through Hope Ministries. It is a program that helps men with addiction and various other aspects of living including finding faith, and new outlook on life. We are asking for items to be donated to take to their facility to help them men in their paths to a better life. Personal hygiene items, clothing, new packs of underwear/socks, and other items for basic needs. If you prefer, you can also donate financially in leu of items.

At the Door of Faith Life Recovery Center for men, located at 6701 SW 9th Street, they want to help men overcome whatever challenges first led them through our doors—addiction, chronic poverty, homelessness, unemployment, etc. In their life recovery program, men will find practical and compassionate help from their case managers, substance abuse counselor, mentors and volunteers as they dedicate themselves to rebuilding their lives. This free program lasts for one year and includes life skills classes, job readiness training, substance abuse counseling, recovery groups, spiritual development, educational opportunities and much more.

Thank you,

The Mission Team

Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) Task Force

At the March Staves Administrative Council meeting, the following suggestions from the CAT Task Force were approved:

- 1) Update of **EMERGENCY** contact information by all members who attend worship and meetings held in our building - watch for the request to complete your information during worship and other meetings.
- 2) Safety training regarding location and use of safety equipment, including fire extinguishers; use of stoves after power outage; use and unplug coffee pots after every use to prevent fires; and other items as determined by Administrative Council.
- 3) In response to the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) questions, the CAT Task Force and Administrative Council encourages everyone to complete the volunteer form in this edition of the Caller.

We want to understand each of our personal skills and desires to assist the Staves Administrative Council and the Staves Teams to focus our God-given gifts that contribute to God's work in the lives of Staves members and others. Help us by completing both forms and consider attending training as it becomes available. The next CAT Task Force meeting is Monday, May 2, following the Missions Committee meeting. We encourage you to join us.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
Staves Memorial United Methodist Church
April 7, 2025

CALL TO ORDER/DEVOTIONS

Chairperson, Brian McNamar began the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the March meeting were reviewed, and approved. It was noted, the mission emphases, as noted, are incorrect. The April emphasis is the Gideons. (see also, Missions section).

FINANCIAL REPORTS – Terri Pollard, Rick Atterbury

- A. Terri reported, that giving is running below projected needs, even though giving increased in March.
- B. Rick added that some scheduled expenses for March were carried over into April – also due to second quarter insurance payments. Salaries for March have been paid.

There was a period of questions, and discussion.

It was noted, we still owe the foundation approximately \$2,000 for parking lot reconstruction and resurfacing.

A motion to release committed funds from the lawnmower fund into the general fund was approved. It was noted, a new lawn mower was purchased and paid for, previously.

Foundation – no report.

Memorial Committee Treasurer – no report.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

CAT Task Force Recommendations – Rick Roghair

- A. That the CAT task force will encourage people to update their emergency contact information, with the church.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES (continued)
April 7, 2025

CAT Task Force Recommendations – Rick Roghair (continued)

- B. Safety training – to update people on how to resolve any type abnormal occurrence (power outage, fire, etc.) Terri will take the matter to the trustees. Also, recommending someone to coordinate safety training. Nominations were explored, and the pastor will follow up on this. It was suggested that maybe someone would volunteer.
- C. Solicitation of volunteers – a prototype volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated. IT was agreed that the task force would handle this, and coordinate with Diane. Also, a follow-up letter will be sent to people who return the form, detailing what the position would involve.

Pastor – Tim Walker

- A. Tim read a letter pertaining to the Hispanic congregation, stating that they would be suspending their services at this location.
- B. An update was given on Dave Beery and Judy Gustafson.
- C. Move dates were reported:

Pastor Tim's last Sunday – June 8.
Leaving June 16; unloading June 17 in Tipton.
Meet and greet, at Tipton, June 22.
First Sunday in the pulpit at Tipton, June 29.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee – no report.

Trustees – Terri Pollard, reporting.

- A. Furnaces/air conditioners have been installed and are now in operation.
- B. Parsonage – walk-through inspection with Pastor Tim, June 16. Discussed possible foundation repairs.
- C. Update on upcoming electrical projects:
 - 1. Disconnect the dishwasher.
 - 2. Run outlet for the new screen.
 - 3. Diagnostics on outlet on south side of sanctuary.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES (continued)
April 7, 2025

BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

A. **Education** –

- Easter hunt this Saturday: workers arrive 9:00; hunt begins 11:00
- Vacation Bible school, June 16 – 20: Sheridan Park will participate.
- Next meeting, April 14, 6:00 pm
- Fall fun night October 31.

B. **Worship/Music** - an update was given on the cantata, and bell choir.

C. **Scholarship** applications are available. Deadline is May 1.

D. **UWFaith:**

- Plant sale/English Tea/Bake sale, April 26: Set-up, April 25
- Ladies Night Out, May 2: menu has been decided, Kingdon Criers will present the program.

E. **Missions:** over \$600 was collected for the Iowa Veterans Home. April emphasis is the Gideons; May will be Door of Faith.

F. **Food Pantry and Community Meals** are going strong.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Sunday school materials

B. Update on incorporation renewal, with the Secretary of State's office.

NEXT MEETING

May 14

A motion to adjourn was agreed upon, and Pastor Tim provided a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Ellis, secretary

ATTENDEES: Brian McNamar, Pastor Tim Walker, Andy Gervais, Rick Atterbury, Renee Horner, Terri Pollard, Marilyn Burch, Steve Ellis Also: Marilyn Ogle, Rick Roghair, Jo Reynolds, Becky Roghair, and Carol Tanner

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES (continued)
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