

Faithnews



SPECIAL COVID OFFICE HOURS

Thursday mornings
8:30-12:30

(If it can't wait until Thursday,
call Pastor to make alternate
arrangements.)

ELDRIDGE UMC

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CONVERSATION with Pastor Courtney

Fall is almost here and that brings me great joy. I love sweater weather. I love to watch the changing of the leaves. I love the crisp, cool air. I love the opportunity for bonfires and roasting marshmallows. I look forward to hearing the sound of marching bands. But, just like spring and summer this year, fall will be a different experience.

As school begins and the return to in-person worship is in sight, we may feel as if we have made it through the wilderness. However, have we really? There are still new COVID cases every day, and we still have to take precautions to protect others. The political climate is heating up as the presidential election nears. Black Lives Matter is crying out for justice as innocent shootings continue. What is this wilderness we are in and when are we going to make it through?

In the month of September, I will be leading us **Through the Wilderness** with the Israelite people. God saves them, provides for them and guides them. God is with them through it all, yet there are moments they do not see it. We may also be struggling with finding our way through the wilderness right now. We may feel God with us, and still not know where we are going.

Let's journey **Through the Wilderness** together and see where God is leading us.

We're B-A-C-K!!!

Together again for
OUTDOOR WORSHIP

5pm Saturday evening
September 5

*Bring your own
LAWN CHAIRS,
Sunglasses, hand fans, bug
spray, water
bottle...whatever makes you
comfortable!*

*We want to be especially
careful so we can continue
to gather, so PLEASE, come
in MASKS, sit in socially
distanced FAMILY GROUPS &
-as difficult as it will be-
please no hugging...yet.*

Let's Learn Together

Pastor Courtney will be teaching a study on **Eight Life-Enriching Practices of United Methodists** beginning 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, and 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10. The study will be based on the book *Eight Life-Enriching Practices of United Methodists* by Henry H. Knight III. There is no need to purchase the book. Pastor Courtney will provide a summary and discussion questions for each session. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will begin sessions via Zoom and hope we can be together in-person before the end of the six weeks. Those unable to join via Zoom may call in. Sessions are as follows:

Session 1 (9/9 & 10): *Hunger for God & Growing in Grace*

Session 2 (9/16 & 17): *Prayer and Scripture*

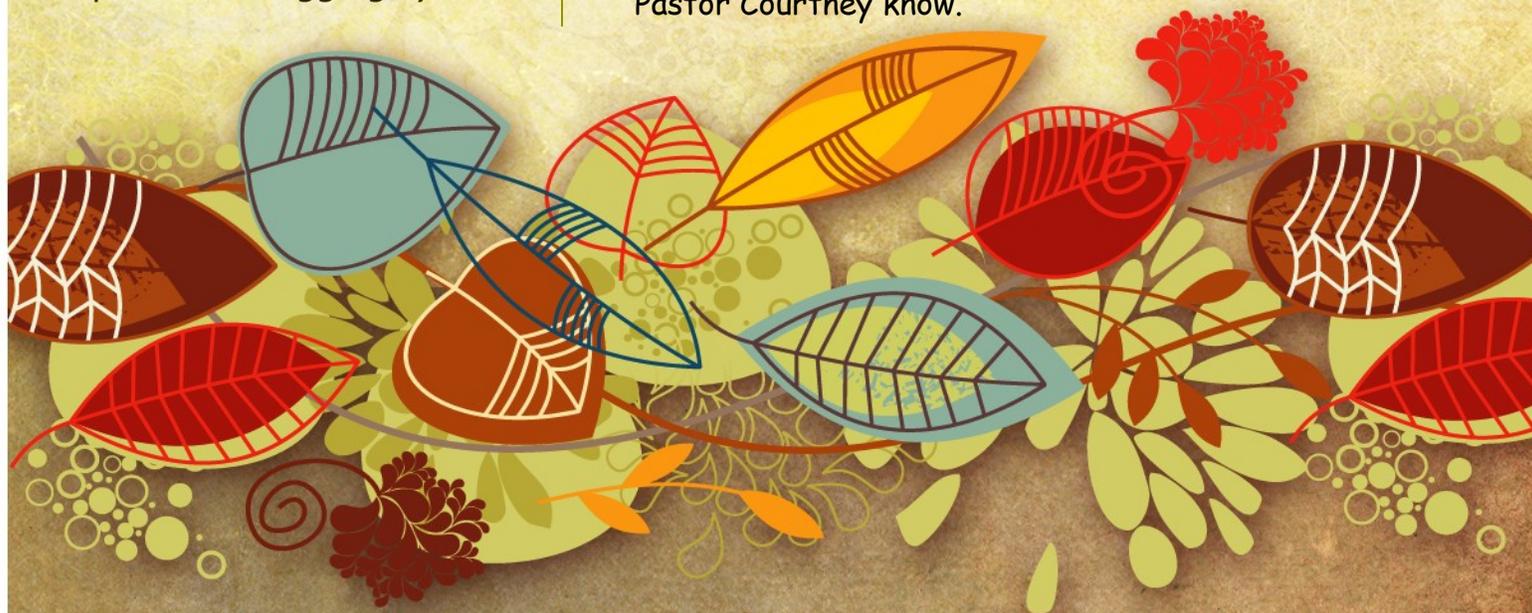
Session 3 (9/23 & 24): *Word and Table*

Session 4 (9/30 & 10/1): *Renewal and Healing*

Session 5 (10/7 & 8): *Christian Community & Christian Lifestyle*

Session 6 (10/14 & 15): *Serving Our Neighbor & Sharing Our Faith*

For more information, please contact Pastor Courtney at 641-340-1211 or cdake508@gmail.com. The Zoom information will be sent out the week before each session. If you prefer phone over email, please let Pastor Courtney know.



*For where there are two
or three gathering in my
name, there am I among
them.*

That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ.

COVID-based CANCELLATIONS

- Colorado Peach sales
- COMPASS Grief Ministry
- HiSET Tutoring
- WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

(All of these are, of course, open to change & reinstatement as health concerns lighten.)

If you happen to be staying in motels this summer and **TOILETRY ITEMS** are available, our United Methodist Women can use them in the **CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS** handed out at the Churches United meal site in December. A sample of items used in the gift bags will be displayed in the Gathering Area. For questions, call Janalee at 285-4123 or speak to any UMW member.

If you haven't already done so, catch up with **BRITTANY BUNCH** on her continuing missionary journey. Now she publishes her own newsletter and you'll be excited for her experience. Here's the direct link:

<https://mailchi.mp/94f492b6ea21/unstoppable-gospel>



Please Pray for:

DENNY DenHARTOG who will undergo his fourth high-risk back surgery on September 4th.

KEN FORDHAM & KEITH RIEWERTS who are also both suffering from serious back problems.

The family & friends of **RICKY CONNOR** (St. Ambrose choir friend of Hannah Bryant) who was killed-along with two other friends-in a tragic car accident this week.

All those who have been displaced, lost homes & are suffering the effects of **HURRICANE LAURA**

The safety of **STUDENTS, TEACHERS & STAFF** all over the country heading back to school. For **SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS** and their difficult decisions. For **PARENTS** and their fears and trepidations about the safety and future of their children.

RUTH ARP (Becky Esbaum's mom) is home but struggling with fluid build-up around her heart & lungs as she continues her recovery from a broken hip.

TICIA BALSAR (daughter of Dennis & Donna Eudaley) continues her recovery from hip surgery.

Hannah Bryant's friend and co-worker, **COLLIN**, who was ready to head off to college but is now at U of IA hospitals instead, undergoing evaluation & treatment for leukemia.

MEDICAL PERSONNEL around the country who are scared and tired and pushed to their limits as they heroically care for the many, many sick in our nation. The families of all those who are sick or have passed this week from the **COVID-19 VIRUS**.

Peace, understanding and patience throughout these trying times in our **NATION**.

41st ANNUAL MISSION INGATHERING

It is time again to collect items for the Iowa Conference Annual Mission Ingathering Kits. Following are lists for THREE kits our church would like to provide this year. With the COVID restrictions, etc. we have a few 'tweaks' to the usual procedure that should help: Info sheets on Missions table in Gathering Area but, for those of you who want to just 'stick your head in', there is a school basket in the entry way that also has sheets for you to take. Additionally, if you prefer that someone shop for you or pick up from you, contact Janalee at 285-4123. To drop off items, you may do so right inside the entryway. As has been the case in the past few months, the church is open only on Thursday mornings but if you can't make that work, call Janalee or leave a message on the office phone and we'll get back to you (on the next Thursday) to set up a better time for you. Whole kits and/or items for kits will be collected until October 11th. Remember, only items as described below can be sent:

(Items marked with an * are **ESPECIALLY NEEDED!**)

Student Kit (previously called School Kits)

Notebooks - 1 subject spiral 8"x10 ½"

*Student round blunt tip scissors, remove package (*10 needed)

Ruler 12" long with metric

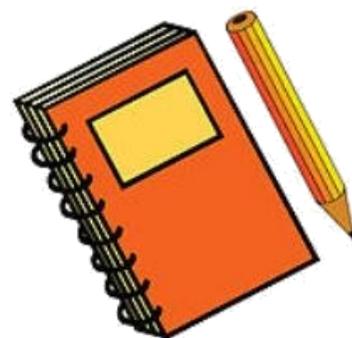
Box of 24 crayons

Pencil eraser 2" or larger, remove package

*Pencil sharpener 1", remove package (*20 needed)

*Box of 12 colored pencils (*16 boxes)

Unsharpened pencils



"PDK" - Personal Dignity Kit (previously called Hygiene Kits)

Bath Hand Towel - No kitchen towels

Bath Washcloth - No kitchen dishcloths

Comb - sturdy - no rattail or picks

Nail Clippers - no files or emery boards

Band-Aids - ¾" x 3"

Adult Toothbrush - No multipacks

Toothpaste - 2.5 oz. or larger

Bar Soap - 3-4 oz.

*Razor - with guard

*Shampoo - 15-18 oz.

*Deodorant - 2-3 oz. stick, roll on, or pump



Layette Kit

*Cloth Diapers

*Diaper Pins - must have protective plastic closures

Gowns or Sleepers

Onesies or Undershirts

Infant Washcloths - No adult washcloths

Receiving blankets -28" x 28" to 32" x 32" (no crib, fleece or thermal blankets)

Sweater, sweatshirt or jacket - must open from the front, may be hand-knitted, crocheted or sewn



SEPTEMBER

birthdays

9/3	Wayne Gay
9/5	Gabriel Skyles
9/6	Clifton Willey
9/7	Owen Popelka Grant Stilson
9/11	Lynn Reth
9/14	Larry Frazee Marcia Nestler
9/15	Ethel Reynolds
9/17	Mark Wall
9/18	Betty Frazee Ana Kinney
9/19	Patrick McLain
9/21	Marcia Rowley
9/22	Dee Childers Cory Gay Aurora Gentz
9/24	Kyle Apple
9/26	Melvin Reth
9/28	Anna Hodge Stacie Kintigh Steve Sorensen

anniversaries

9/1	Trish Reisener & Jess Medina
9/7	Dale & Shirley Carey
9/9	Dave & Carol Faeth
9/16	Aaron & LeAnn Cary
9/19	Lloyd & Janalee Keppy
9/24	Samantha & Quentin Smith
9/30	Wayne & Joyce Gay

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS



- Cereal
- Side Dishes
- Boxed Potatoes
- Cleaning Supplies

September/October issue of **THE UPPER ROOM** is available now in the vestibule.



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Stamp
Here

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Pastor Courtney Dake



ELDRIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Eldridge, IA 52748

Our Church Newsletter
September 2020