

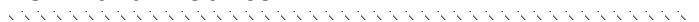
September 2022 CALENDAR

- 4 9:45am – Worship with Communion
Coffee Fellowship
- 6 10am – Park View Services
- 11 9am – Sunday School
9am – Coffee Fellowship
9:45am – Worship
- 13 10am – Black Hawk Ministerial Mtg.
7pm – Leadership Team
- 15 9am-1pm – Circuit Mtg.
- 16-17 Course of Study Classes
- 18 9am – Sunday School
9am – Coffee Fellowship
9:45am – Worship
- 20 11am – Ida County Ministerial Mtg.
- 21 7pm – UMYF Bonfire
- 25 9am – Sunday School
9am – Coffee Fellowship
9:45am – Worship with Noisy Offering
- 28 10:30am – Twilight Acres Services



SEPTEMBER

- 1 – Beth Mentzer
- 2 – Marla Nees
- 4 – Joseph Goettsch
- 4 – Randy & Deb Galvin – Anniversary
- 6 – Austin Struchen
- 7 – Tim Langner
- 11 – James Engle
- 11 – Matt & Katie Ehrp – Anniversary
- 12 – Toni McAleer
- 13 – John McCleary
- 13 – John Hendrickson
- 21 – Kaela (Franken) Wiig
- 22 – Savannah Cudaback
- 22 – Andrew Nees
- 25 – Barbara Dahm
- 26 – Steve & Barb Determan – Anniversary
- 26 – Erin & Joshua Mohr - Anniversary
- 26 – Paul Bainbridge
- 27 – Jeff Mentzer
- 28 – Lee Allen Tripp
- 28 – Randy & Kari Franken – Anniversary
- 29 – Adrian Robinson



ADOPT A FLOWER BED: Taking care of the whole Prayer Garden is a lot of work. Please consider adopting a corner or a side or whatever space you would like to care for during the summer. Many hands make light work! Please let Pastor Nancy or Cary know what space you would like to take care of.



Thank you to whoever left the 3 prayer shawls in Cary's office! Your gift of time and energy and talent will bless whoever receives one!

We have a wonderful problem – our stash of prayer shawls is really low. That means people are giving them out to those who need them! If you are able, this is a

wonderful ministry to be involved in. Contact Cary if you need yarn or have any questions. 712-291-5008 or caryb407@gmail.com.



INGATHERING

It's time to start gathering things for our Ingathering projects – Student Kits and Personal Dignity Kits.

PERSONAL DIGNITY KIT

- 1 Bath hand towel – no kitchen towels
 - 1 Bath washcloth – no dishcloths
 - 1 Adult toothbrush – no multipacks
 - 1 bar soap – 3-4 oz
 - 1 shampoo – 15-18 oz
 - 1 deodorant – 2-3 oz – stick, roll on, or pump
 - 1 1-gallon resealable plastic bag
- Place all items in the resealable plastic bag.
Add a \$2 donation for razor and toothpaste.

STUDENT KIT

- 3 notebooks – 1 subject, spiral 8" x10 ½ "
 - 1 ruler – 12" long with metric
 - 6 pencils – unsharpened
 - 1 pencil sharpener
 - 1 eraser – 2" or larger
 - 1 box 12 colored pencils
 - 1 box 24 crayons
 - 1 pair of student scissors
 - 1 One handle cloth bag
- Place all items in the cloth bag or a plastic grocery bag.

**** All kit items must be NEW.

Kits should only include kit items – NO CASH

Kits should contain ONLY the requested items.

NO handprints, footprints, paw prints or camouflage on fabrics.

Please remember our members who are in Independent Living or Care Facilities:
John & Jan Hendrickson, Nera Zimmer, Joan Haley. We keep them in our thoughts and prayers.





FOOD FOR LITTLE PANTRY

Communion Sunday is September 4. Please bring items for Our Little Pantry. It's been getting a LOT of use lately with the high prices in stores, gas, etc. Sometimes we fill the pantry 2-3 times a day! Let us feed each other as God feeds us – generously, happily, compassionately!

FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Monday 8:30-2:30
Any other time by appointment
Please call 273-5577

Please pass the word!
The Food Pantry housed at Sacred Heart
is for anyone who needs help.

Like we did during Covid, we are sending out a longer weekly bulletin with the prayers, songs, and a message to those who would like to receive one. If you are not already receiving one every week and would like one, please let Cary or Pastor Nancy know and we'll get you on the list!



PRAYER GARDEN CLEAN UP!!

As fall begins to approach, the Prayer Garden needs some attention and clean up! We will be posting weekends for people to help with cleaning up and trimming back the hydrangeas. We have an overload of hostas that need to be thinned out. Etc.

Anyone in grades 7-12 is welcome to attend UMYF. If you know of someone who is not a member of our church who you think would like to attend, please invite them!



Meetings will be held the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 7pm here at Early UMC beginning September 21 with a bonfire.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Our annual Charge Conference is on

Sunday, October 9 at 6 pm

Here at the Early United Methodist Church

It will include the members of our Circuit group: Early UMC, Lakes UMC, Silver Creek UMC, Schaller, Odebolt, Unity Church of Sac City, Nemaha, Ida Grove, First Lake City Union Church, and Rockwell City-Jolley Community Church.

**EARLY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LEADERSHIP BOARD
AUGUST 9, 2022**

Members present: John Weber, Jeannette Weber, Herb Padgett, Anita Mason, Ann Trimble-Ray, Jan Mason, Dennis Steele, Pastor Nancy Peterson, Cary Brown

Pastor Nancy began with Devotions and Prayer.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Herb reported for the Trustee issues. There was a discussion about needing to find someone to fill the Trustee position. Mid-American has flagged the ruts to be fixed. The work will be done by subcontractors. The boiler shut off is supposed to be outside of the boiler room door. Herb will contact Drees about that. The Brotherhood Insurance Company has come in \$500 cheaper than Church Mutual. They are willing to come to speak to the Board about their program if desired. Ann Trimble-Ray moved to have the representative come in October to explain their program. Jan Mason seconded it. Ayes all.

Dennis Steele report for Giving. Herb Padgett reported on the finances. There are no outstanding big bills.

Melanie Hauser spoke to the Board about setting up online giving option for members. Most people under 50 do not carry checks or much cash. She suggested the Bravo Company who charge a fee of 0.25% of the giving. It would be possible to also ad a QR code to the bulletin. Melanie offered also to talk to people about this option at the upcoming Sundaes on Sunday. She suggested we pilot the program here and then expand to the other two churches. Ann Trimble-Ray moved to begin online giving. Dennis Steels seconded and Ayes all.

Anita Mason reported for the Endowment. We have 142 members. There is \$1467 in the Memorial Fund.

Jan Mason reported for Outreach. We are gathering items for Ingathering. Material is available for making the bags. Anyone interested will be meet next Tuesday at 1 to cut out material for the bags and make it available for anyone who wants to sew them together. There are only 3 casseroles left so need to make some more. Several prayer shawls were brought in the Cudaback girls.

Jeannette Weber reported for Christian Education. So far there are only 2 kids for Sunday School so there will be no Waffle Sunday as a kickoff for Sunday school. She is working on a list of possible students. Sunday school will be before Worship at 9am beginning Sept. 11. Coffee Fellowship will be at 9am.

Ann Trimble-Ray reported that Sundaes on Sunday will include a mission project. Reports for charge conference are due next month. Ann shared her experience of a two point charge in the district as they deal with questions of disaffiliation. So much hurt and confusion. So much unknown.

Pastor Nancy has scheduled a joint meeting for the 3 churches including the Chair of the Board, SPRC chair, and Treasurer of each church. Discussion will include Christmas Services, Form I, and times of worship for Silver Creek and Lakes. We will work on Charge Conference forms next month. On August 20th the Redeemed Trio Concert will be Lakes UMC at 7pm. On August 21, worship will be at Prairie Pedlar at 10am with a pot luck following. No worship services here in Early.

Meeting ended with all praying the Lord's Prayer.

SCRIPTURE VERSES FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

- 1_ Philippians 4:8 says, "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."
- 2_ Colossians 3:15 - Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.
- 3_ 1 Corinthians 16:13 - Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.
- 4_ Hebrews 12:1-3 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.
- 5_ Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"
- 6_ Isaiah 35:3-4 - Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance with divine retribution he will come to save you."
- 7_ Isaiah 40:31 - but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.
- 8_ Isaiah 43:10 - "You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.
- 9_ James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.
- 10_ Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."
- 11_ John 14:27 - Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.
- 12_ Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."
- 13_ Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

14_ 1 Peter 5:6-7 - Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

15_ 1 Peter 5:10 - And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

16_ Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

17_ Philippians 4:12-13 - I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

18_ Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

19_ Proverbs 12:25 - Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up.

20_ Proverbs 16:3 - Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

21_ Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

22_ Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.

23_ Psalm 37:5 - Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.

24_ Psalm 55:22 - Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

25_ Psalm 94:19 - When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy.

26_ Romans 8:6 - The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.

27_ Romans 8:38-39 - For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

28_ Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

29_ Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

30_ 2 Thessalonians 3:16 - Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.



***Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings***

– [Psalm 17:8](#)

Some foods are often associated with a month or a season... cookies at Christmas, pumpkins in October, turkey at Thanksgiving, blarney stones in March, watermelon in July and my favorite, apples in September.

September pictures often have apples in them – picking ripe apples from a tree, giving an apple to the teacher, making apple crisp or apple pie, etc. While apples are available all during the year, September seems to be their month. Apples are so versatile. They are found in so many recipes! And they taste so good in so many different ways.

Even though the apple is not specifically mentioned in the Genesis stories, we often associate Eve's sin with eating an apple. That's a pretty bad rap!

God sure turns it around though when he tells us we are the apple of his eye..... So what does that mean?

Apples are loved on many levels by so many people. There is nothing like that first snap of a bite into a crisp apple. There is nothing like the smell of an apple or apples baking. There is nothing like the beautiful red of a polished apple. There are 7,500 varieties of apples in existence throughout the world—2,500 of which are grown in the United States. Apples come in so many shapes and colors and tastes and uses. Just like us!

God created each one of us – so many shapes and colors and talents and gifts. Each one of us unique and that is why God loves us. Each one of us is created in God's own image and likeness and that is why God loves us.



To be the apple of God's eye means that he sees us as we are – created by him in love. No matter what we may have done or become, that is the bottom line. Even if you feel you are at the bottom of the barrel and nothing is right about your life, God loves you. You are the apple of his eye – and NOTHING can or will change that.

God has proven that to us again and again. No matter what we have done, like the prodigal son's father, he comes running down the road to meet us. No matter what we have done, God continues to give us what we need when we need it. We don't always recognize the gift but that does not deny that God is at work in our lives and in our hearts. How can we ignore the greatest gift he has given us when he sent Jesus to us and Jesus laid down his life for each of us. What more can he do to show you that you are the apple of his eye?

If someone is the apple of your eye, a spouse, a child, a grandchild, someone special, you know you will do anything for that person. It's the same with God – there is no limit to his love for you or what he will do for you that is good for you.

When someone is the apple of your eye, you find such joy in that person – same with God! He finds such joy in us – even if we can't see it. We can trust that is much to celebrate in us because God says there is. God's eyes see so much more than our mere human eyes do. Believe what God sees! You ARE the apple of his eye!