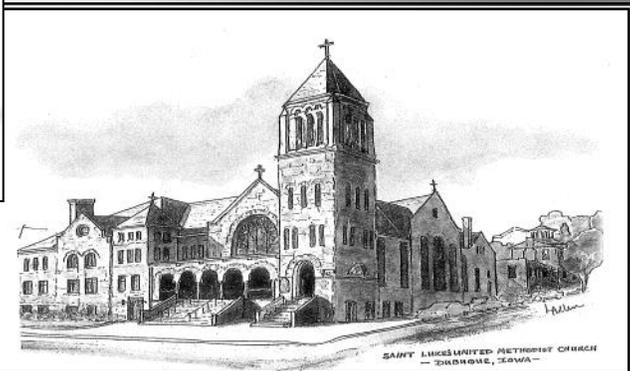


The Chimes

Newsletter

Vol. 49, Issue 16 - Published Biweekly



Rev. Chuck Layton

St. Luke's

United Methodist Church
1199 Main Street
Dubuque, IA 52001-4778

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stlukesumcdbq.com
dbqstluke@gmail.com

Office Hours

Monday — Friday
8:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.
12:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

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Chuck's Chat — August 9, 2017

There is a Bible verse that I find to be very powerful and encouraging: Ephesians 3:20-21, which says: "Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." (NRSV)

I find myself returning to this promise as I pray for our church. St. Luke's is such a fine congregation, and we have all the wisdom, skills, talents and gifts we need to do any thing that God would ask of us. Today we are facing some staffing needs that I'm pretty sure you're aware of: the Staff-Parish Committee is interviewing various folks for choir director, organist, accompanist, and Youth Director. These are all crucial to the life and ministry of our church.

We have a rich musical life here, with two fine choirs, youth and adult bell choirs, many soloists and instrumental small groups, an inspiring praise band, carillonneurs, and, not least of all, a singing congregation! We praise God with music every Sunday and at many other times during the year. One huge reason for this is our musical leaders: Keith Rippe, Dr. Chuck Barland, David Patterson, and Dr. Jeremy Mims. We have been working for at least a year without a pianist to accompany the choirs, and of course, we are now saying farewell to Jeremy as he takes his new position at Winthrop University.

And, as the surveys recently completed have made clear, the congregation feels a great need to have a full-time youth director. This person will not only work directly with the children and youth of the church and community, but will also work with those adults who can serve as volunteers in all sorts of ways with the youth program.

All this brings me back to the scripture. Here is what I CAN imagine and ask of God, and I invite you to pray with me: "Mighty One, please bring to us exactly the right people to serve in our Youth and Music programs. Give us the people who can help us praise you, and invite and nurture people in their faith in Jesus. As we study and pray together this Fall, seeking to be maturing disciples in our giving and stewardship, reveal your power and love by giving us the resources we need: Money, People, Vision." Amen.

And I have another exciting opportunity for you to help make this prayer a reality! A couple of months ago, God prompted me to speak with some of our families, to create a fund for the Youth Director, so that we would have ready cash when we went to hire someone. I set a goal of \$50,000. As I write this, we have gifts or pledges totaling \$47,429.60. I asked the donors to consider a gift over and above their planned giving to the church, rather than redirecting money they had already earmarked for their offerings.

(Continued at the bottom of page 4)

Our Caring Community

Lord, as we continue life's journey, we pray for all who are challenged by health concerns and ongoing illness.

We know that the awesome God we worship hears the prayers of our lips as well as the prayers of our hearts. We pray for the people who are currently dealing with a recent illness, surgery, injury, or medical concern:

- True Mills** - teen with cancer (Sue Hattel requested)
- Lisa Viertel** - knee replacement surgery, recovery
- Anna** - our piano tuner Brian Marceau's daughter
- Robert Fisher** - gallbladder (Bonnie Sanders's father)
- Paul Wasylyszyn** - heart (Lori Boughton's friend)

Prayers for people in Care Centers:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Betty Farcas Sally Wiegand Barb Boettcher Romayne Schmitt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edie Bruehahn Mary Dempsey Margerie Kreassig |
|--|---|

Prayers for people with ongoing health issues:

- Peggy Lemke**
- Johnny**
- Brett Cooper**
- Bonnie Jorgensen**
- Jeanne Patterson**
- Susan Funke** — in rehab center in Ankeny



Prayers of consolation for recently lost loved ones to the families of:

- Marian Thomas** - Laurinda Brimeyer's mother
- Anne Jones** - Ruth Jones's daughter-in-law
- Fannie Byrd** - Kathy Lomax's mother

Prayers of joy for those celebrating special milestones:

- Marlin & Bonnie Jorgensen** - 60th Anniversary
- Gary & Kathy Reid** - 50th Anniversary

Our prayers also turn to prayers for Peace and Justice around the world. We especially remember all those who currently serve in the armed forces of our country. Lord, we ask your special touch of compassion for all the victims of civil discord and war, the families of soldiers, and the families of police officers. It is in the name of your Son and our Savior that we offer our prayers. Amen.

Please check the prayer request lists if there are any outdated prayer requests. Send updates or prayer requests to:

563-582-4543 | dbqstluke@gmail.com

Happy Birthday to our church family and friends with birthdays this month! May the celebration of life on your birthday be filled with many blessings from our Lord.



August Birthdays

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Rhonda Kubik 1 Lisa Viertel 2 Gavin Gross 2 Maura Lawler 2 Cheri Vahl 4 Landon Schmitt 5 Mike Basten 5 Marissa Ede 5 Eva Schneider 6 Kenaniah Stechman 6 Vicki Tilson 8 Ashlyn Gross 8 Eleanor Jach 9 James Gabel 10 Becky Doty 11 Larry Loeppke 13 Emilie Flanigan 13 Amy Schmitt 15 Jodi Johnson 16 Margaret Johnson 17 Heather Demaio 17 Robert Glab 18 Heather Williams 20 Cole Beecher 20 Christian Borgwardt 20 Madeline Roling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 Jackson Glaser 21 Jeanne Updegraff 22 Debi Hull 22 Joshua Manders 22 Charlene Metsker 22 Odin Stechman 22 Sheena Streckwald 22 Vinny Williams 24 Greg Foley 24 Matilda Gacioch 24 Evalee Klein 24 Collin Lawler 25 Ashley Duschen 27 Jaydn Basten 27 Walker Gross 27 Aubrey Kehoe 27 Kinnick Kehoe 28 Lisa Rusch 28 Lisa York 29 Franklin Miller Jr 29 Olivia Schmitt 29 Kelley Schruppf 30 Adam McWethy 31 Bubs Atchison 31 Steven Moody |
|--|--|

Emergency Medical Information Cards



In the event of a personal emergency taking place at church, we recommend you have information at St. Luke's that is readily available for EMTs when they are called. You can fill out a 5x7 card stored in the church office and copies can be given to EMTs if the occasion arises. Stop by the church office to fill one out.

Margie Breese Member, Care and Compassion



We request that **if you become hospitalized, please let the church office know.** Also, please designate St. Luke's as your church when filling out hospital admittance information. If you would like a prayer request, please let us know.

VISION & MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The MISSION of St. Luke's United Methodist Church is to feed souls, grow faith in God and make a difference in the lives of our congregation, our neighbors and our world.

The VISION of St. Luke's United Methodist Church is: Welcoming ALL... Caring... Serving... Growing



St. Luke's UMC Contacts

Rev. Chuck Layton
 cvlayton2@gmail.com
 Cell: 712-420-5963

Office: 563-582-4543 Ext 102

Anezka Lungwitz (interim)
 Children's/Youth Ministry Coordinator
 dbqstlukeskids@gmail.com
 Phone: 563-582-4543 Ext. 103

Ora Uzel
 Administrative Assistant
 dbqstluke@gmail.com
 Phone: 563-582-4543 Ext. 101

Weekend Worship

Food for the Soul *Saturday at 5:30 p.m.*
Saturday Night Praise *Saturday at 6:00 p.m.*
Sunday Worship Services *Sunday at 9:30 a.m.*
 (Communion 1st Sundays) (through Labor Day)

Parking: Street metered parking (Mon.-Fri.)
 Free lot parking/street metered parking (Sat.)
 Free Handicap & street parking (Sun.)



Do you have a name change or a new address, phone number, or email address? If so, please remember to inform the St. Luke's office at dbqstluke@gmail.com or by calling 563-582-4543. **Thank You!**

Reoccurring Meetings	Meeting Name and Time
1st Tuesday	5:30 p.m. Invitation & Welcome
2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m. Worship & Celebration
3rd Tuesday	6:30 p.m. Finance
3rd Tuesday	4:15 p.m. Care & Compassion
1st Wednesday	6:30 p.m. Trustees
2nd Thursday	6:30 p.m. SPPRC
3rd Thursday	7:00 p.m. Kaleidoscope
4th Thursday	6:30 p.m. Church Council OR Council on Ministries

Official UMC Lectionary Texts

- Aug 10th Sunday after Pentecost (green)**
 13th Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b
 Romans 10: 5-15; Matthew 14: 22-33
- Aug 20th 11th Sunday after Pentecost (green)**
 Genesis 45: 1-15; Psalm 133 (UM 850)
 Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28
- Aug 27th 12th Sunday after Pentecost (green)**
 Exodus 1:8—2:10; Psalm 124 (UM846);
 Romans 12: 1-8; Matthew 16: 13-20
- Sep 3rd 13th Sunday after Pentecost (green)**
 Exodus 3: 1-15; Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45c UM828;
 Romans 12: 9-21; Matthew 16: 21-28

STAFF

Pastor Rev. Charles (Chuck) Layton
 Children / Youth: Anezka Lungwitz (int.)
 Administrative Assistant Ora Uzel
 Custodian. Caprice Jones

Treasurer Amy Schadle
 Historian Betty Phillips
 Financial Secretary Carol Clark
 Membership Secretary (vacant)

Worship & Celebration Sue Hattel
 Care & Compassion (vacant)
 Spiritual Growth & Disc: Ty Muller
 Stewardship (vacant)
 Witness & Service
 Community Outreach . . . Jennifer Crow
 Conference & Global and
 Social Justice . . . RRS & Terry Stewart
 Neighborhood Outreach . . John Hessler
 UMW Marcia Young

CHURCH COUNCIL

Chair Nancy Hessler

Administrative Committee (Chairs):

Lay Leadership/Nominations Pastor
 Finance Rich Young
 Board of Trustees Mike Loveless
 SPPRC. Dave Kubik

Officers:

Recording Secretary. Kristen Smith
 Lay Leader Mark Tilson
 Lay Members of the Annual Conference:
 Sue Hattel, Nancy Bradley

Council on Ministries

Facilitators:
 Invitation & Welcome . . . Lisa Viertel &
 Chris Kohlmann

At-Large: Matt Crow, Chris Becker, Gary Reid, Lesley Stephens, Steven & Kathy Lamb, Nancy Bradley, Vicki Tilson, Rhonda Kubik

Month of August 2017 Volunteers

Saturday Bread Run

8/5/17 Breese/Young
 8/12/17 Hull family
 8/19/17 Loveless
 8/26/17 Rusch/Young
 9/2/17 Jacobsen/Sanders

Greeters/Ushers

8/6/17 Dueland/Breese/Hattel
 8/13/17 Deb & Sara Albert
 8/20/17 TBD
 8/27/17 McGovern
 9/3/17 Les & Sue Bettcher

Projectionist

8/6/17 Chris Kohlmann
 8/13/17 Matthew Hull
 8/20/17 Arboretum
 8/27/17 Paul Clark
 9/3/17 Chris Kohlmann

Saturday Food for the Soul

8/5/17 Team 8
 8/12/17 Team 9
 8/19/17 Boy Scout Troop 94
 8/26/17 Team 11
 9/2/17 Team 1

Offering Depositor

8/6/17 Sue Hattel
 8/13/17 Mike Loveless
 8/20/17 Scott Zartman
 8/27/17 Sharon Kress
 9/3/17 TBD

Videographer

8/6/17 John Hessler
 8/13/17 Greg Albert
 8/20/17 John Hessler
 8/27/17 Bobby Martin
 9/3/17 John Hessler

(For changes in the Food for the Soul schedule, contact Marcia 588-4877 and notify the office.)

Liturgist

8/6/17 Sue Lane
 8/13/17 Dan Jacobsen
 8/20/17 Mary Armstrong
 8/27/17 Otto Krueger
 9/3/17 Terry Stewart

Slides

8/6/17 Susan McGovern
 8/13/17 Matthew Hull
 8/20/17 Arboretum
 8/27/17 Paul Clark
 9/3/17 Chris Kohlmann

Chimer

8/6/17 R.R.S. Stewart
 8/13/17 Heather Williams
 8/20/17 Arboretum
 8/27/17 Larry Loeppeke
 9/3/17 R.R.S. Stewart

Coffee & Conversation Hosts

8/6/17 Worship & Celebration
 8/13/17 Com Outrch, Conf & Glbl, Green Team
 8/20/17 Invitation & Welcome
 8/27/17 UMW
 9/3/17 Youth

Worship Driver

8/6/17 Mark Tilson
 8/13/17 Dan Jacobsen
 8/20/17 Mike Loveless
 8/27/17 Rich Young
 9/3/17 Dan Jacobsen

Hymn Sing

8/6/17 Pastor Chuck Layton
 8/13/17 Pastor Chuck Layton
 8/20/17 Pastor Chuck Layton
 8/27/17 Pastor Chuck Layton
 9/3/17 Pastor Chuck Layton

Organist/Pianist

8/6/17 Dr. Jeremy Mims
 8/13/17 Dr. Chuck Barland
 8/20/17 TBD
 8/27/17 Dr. Chuck Barland
 9/3/17 Dr. Chuck Barland

(Chuck's Chat — Continued from page 1)

As you can see, many of our members felt that this is a worthy goal, to stabilize our ability to hire *the right* person at a reasonable full-time salary. Now, I'm offering this same opportunity to each of us. Will you help us go decisively over the goal? If we were to have not \$50,000 but \$60,000, it would enable our Staff-Parish and Finance committees to enter the Fall with such encouragement and joy, knowing that the congregation is firmly behind our staffing needs.

Again, let me stress that I want us to give out of our surplus, not by re-assigning those tithes or offerings that we are already planning to make to the church. I would much rather receive \$40 from someone who is committed to their weekly offering, than \$400 from someone who gives with one hand and takes away with the other. If you do wish to make a donation, you can simply make the check out to St. Luke's UMC and put "Youth Director" on the memo line. I would be happy to come visit you if you have questions or would like to discuss this further with me.

Shalom, Chuck



Upcoming Worship Dates

- Aug 13** 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
Aug 20 9:30 a.m. **Arboretum Service** (see below)
Aug 27 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
Sep 3 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship **with Communion**

School Year Schedule (Sep 10 - May 20):

- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour & Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

Every Saturday: 6:00pm Saturday Night Praise
with Communion 1st Sundays

St. Luke's Worship and Potluck Picnic

Sunday, August 20th 9:30 a.m.

9:15 a.m. Gathering Music - Americana Ensemble
Dubuque Arboretum - Packard Pavilion
3800 Arboretum Drive — Rain or Shine



St. Luke's will gather for worship and a picnic potluck (following worship), "rain or shine," at the Packard Pavilion at the Dubuque Arboretum (3800 Arboretum Dr). Pastor Chuck Layton will lead worship and offer a "Back to School Blessing." Special music by the Americana Ensemble. Bring a lawn chair, a dish to share and your tableware. Beverages provided. Guests are invited! Worship together in God's creation!

Mentor a Child at Prescott Elementary!

The school season is almost here, and our community partnership with Prescott Elementary School continues to take many forms. We have provided warm winter outerwear, hygiene products, alarm clocks, financial support for arts programs, and mentors, among other things. St.



Luke's UMW provides supports to educational staff in the form of "thinking of you" gifts during long days of parent/student conferences.

As the school year approaches, we are looking for those to step forward who would be willing to mentor a child at Prescott Elementary. If you would like to be involved in our outreach to support students and staff at Prescott School, **please contact Jennifer Crow or Mary Purdy.**

2017 St. Luke's Giving to CWS

Conference and Global report
from Social Justice Co-Chairs
R.R.S. & Terry Stewart:



\$701 were raised for Church World Service
Blankets & Hygiene Kits
\$490 were raised for Church World Service Tools

Thank you to all who donated!

Terrific Tuesdays

(9:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted)



- Aug 15** Big Apple Bagels
Aug 22 8:30am Breakfast at Village Inn
10:00am Sit & Knit at St. Luke's Parlor
Aug 29 Charlotte's Coffee House
Sep 5 One Mean Bean

SENIORS
Out 'n About

Gone Fishin'
August 18, 2017

We'll travel to the Bluff Lake Catfish Farm near Maquoketa, IA. Everyone is invited to join us. We don't discriminate based on age.

Bluff Lake Catfish Farm specializes in All-You-Can-Eat meals that will keep you coming back for more. They take pride in their food and strive for the best customer satisfaction possible.



Their menu covers all tastes and preferences and is competitively priced for all budgets. The rural location is in the beautiful Iowa River Valley between two lakes, a 50 foot waterfall, and the Maquoketa River.

Registration Deadline: **Friday August 11th**
Cost: **\$5 per person** (transit), **order off menu**
We leave **Woodlands** at **2:50pm**
RSVP to: **Shirley Herzog** at **937-409-5336**



Drivers Needed!

In case you haven't heard, we no longer have a church van to use **for our Seniors Out and About (SOA) trips**. We are now looking for drivers to use their vehicles as shuttles. Perks include getting reimbursed for your gas.

Our next trip is August 18 to Bluff Lake near Maquoketa. That's always a popular one. Future treks include to Bellevue, Chestnut Mountain, and Cuba City. If you are interested in being part of this fun outreach ministry, please contact/see **Laurinda Brimeyer** at: **563-543-5341**. We could REALLY use the help! Thank you!



St. Luke's Trip to Adventureland

September 9, 2017 — All ages

Register this Sunday! August 13th!

We will be going to Adventureland September 9th, and all ages are welcome! If children are under the age of 6th grade, they must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Price will be \$25 per person over the age 4. 3 and under are free. Please sign up in the South Hallway or with Anezka today so we can figure out transportation.

Donate to the Jesus Fund

Due to overwhelming demand, our "Jesus Fund" is regularly out of funds. This ministry helps people in need get healthy groceries by providing them vouchers to Eagle's grocery, especially when government food benefits don't stretch to the end of the month.



Donations can be given in envelopes put into the offering plate labeled "Jesus Fund." Your help keeps the Jesus Fund ministry functioning to add that extra little bit of food security people need.

Positions at St. Luke's!



Fulfillment opportunities are now available at St. Luke's! Are you looking to enrich your life or the lives of others, while making some money too? Due to career advancements, we currently have some openings we're trying to fill. If you, or someone you know, is interested in any of the positions below, just get in contact with us. It might be just what you need to fill that spare time!

First Service Organist

8:30 service during the school year, 9:30 service during summer. If you are a good pianist, our Head Organist (Dr. Charles Barland) can help you learn to play our beautiful pipe organ.

Food For the Soul Host

This opportunity will allow you to help the neediest in our community. FFTS hosts provide management and supervision for this free Saturday evening meal. This position also provides support to the individual teams that provide the free meal. (Typically this takes about 3 hours, and you would be needed every 3rd Saturday).

Chancel Choir Director

This choir typically performs at the 10:45 service. Practice is usually on Wednesday evenings.



August 15 — UMW will provide **desserts** for the Prescott Teachers' Back to School Luncheon. 60 staff members will be greeted with "**POCKETS FULL OF WISHES**" – *Welcome Back Gifts* as they begin the 2017-2018 school year! Pocket holders are filled with 6" rulers, new pencils, snacks, stickers and thoughtful poems.

September 7 — **St. Luke's Sanctuary at 7:00 pm** — **Update on Area Human Trafficking. Speaker:** Sister Patricia Conlan RSM, D. Min. (Sister of Mercy of the Americas) Sister Pat has ministered with trafficking victims since 2003. A member of Set Free Dubuque since 2013 and the Tri-State Coalition Against Human Trafficking (Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin) since 2014. Sister collaborates with the schools and health care givers as well as Law Enforcement and Friends of Cedar Valley to end Human Trafficking through education and advocacy. Event hosted by St. Luke's UMW. **All are invited!**

September 8 — **Church Women United Human Rights Celebration. All are welcome!** Arboretum Porch at the Visitors Center (3800 Arboretum Drive, accessible). 9:30 a.m. Gather; 10:00 a.m. Worship & Program. **Program: "Kindling New Fires of HOPE." Speaker:** Dr. Farris Muhammad, Director, Multicultural Family Center.

St. Luke's Feeds Habitat Volunteers



On Saturday August 5th, Habitat volunteers enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by Mary Purdy and desserts by Kathy Michel. Meal was served by Kathy, Sue Hattel and Elaine Mitchell (meal coordinator).

Recent rains have set back completion of the home at 2975 Lennox until the end of September for the family with four children. To volunteer for Saturday work, contact Elaine at 563-588-1691. Cash donations are always welcome for this and future builds.



Thank you! — Sue Hattel, Local Habitat Liaison



Happy Anniversary!

Happy **50th Anniversary** on August 19th to **Gary & Kathy Reid** from *Julie & family and Jess & family*

Appreciation From Betty Phillips

Many thanks to all who visited me when I was at Luther Manor. I appreciate all the visits and the “treats” you brought to me. Until you’ve been there do you fully appreciate having company come. Thanks again to all of you — it meant a great deal to me. (Please call if you have questions.) — *Betty J Phillips*

Thank You!



Thank you to the anonymous person who donated \$20 to replace gluten free bread that went missing in July.

— *Communion Stewards*



Dare2Share Live!
Saturday, September 23rd, 2017
11:00 a.m. — 6:30 p.m.
Doors open at 10:00 a.m.
St. Luke’s UMC — Sanctuary
Tickets: \$20 each

One day of concerted outreach to our community. Driven from one live event in Denver, Colorado and broadcast out to 50+ locations nationwide, thousands of teenagers and adult leaders will be inspired and equipped to share the good news of the Gospel... and then, at the EXACT same time... released into their communities to share the message and serve with love. Join us!

More information at www.dare2sharelive.org or contact our local coordinator **Mark Beard**.



All Gender Restrooms

The single occupancy restrooms on the main level are now designated all gender restrooms to optimize utilization. Both restrooms have changing tables for babies.

Dubuque’s Memory Café
August 11, 2017 - 10am to Noon
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1755 Delhi Street, Dubuque



Discover a safe, supportive, and engaging environment designed specifically for individuals with memory loss from Alzheimer’s or other forms of dementia and their caregivers. Join us in a friendly place where people can interact, enjoy social time, find support, share and celebrate without feeling misunderstood. A Place for Friendship: Dubuque’s Memory Café is that place.

There is no fee to attend and pre-registration is not required. For more information or with questions about the program contact Rev. Dr. Jade Angelica at jadeangelica@gmail.com or 563-582-4724



Lectionary Bible Study

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.
St. Luke’s UMC - Parlor

Meet with Pastor Chuck Thursdays at 10am in the Parlor to discuss scriptures for the upcoming Sunday.

Items Needed for the Food Pantry

Crackers, hamburger helper, canned meat, peanut butter, deodorant, facial tissues, bar soap, garden produce



Items can go in the South Hall shopping cart.

Food pantry donations help stock the shelves each month at the Dubuque Food Pantry. It is through people like you that the Food Pantry is able to respond to emergency needs in our community. Each month the food pantry serves between 275-350 households. Thank you for making it possible for us to continue this ministry!

Dubuque Senior Center

Open Monday through Friday

10:30 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.

St. Matthews Church, 1780 White St.

Enter through the alley behind St. Matthews

The Dubuque Senior Center serves a hot lunch every day. To reserve a meal please call by noon the previous day. Patrons over 60 may leave a donation; while those under 60 are required to pay \$8.28. For more information call:

Colleen at 563-543-7065

Red Basket Project



Support the Red Basket Project with donations labeled “Red Basket” or donate any of the following in the red basket in the South Hallway:

Tampons: Junior, Regular, or Super;

Pantiliners: Always Thin Pantliners, any brand medium or heavy absorbency pantiliner, or any brand heavy absorbency pantliners.

Voice Recital - Cameron Scholtes

Sunday September 10, 2017 — 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2155 University

Cameron Scholtes, a featured vocalist at St. Luke’s 2009 Fabulous Friday series, will be performing at Westminster featuring composers Giuliani, Sondheim, Floyd, Poulenc, and Beach. Joining her will be pianist Sharon Jensen and guitarist Marcus DeJesus. A reception will follow the performance. Goodwill donations accepted.



Putting Our Lives On the Line



My commitment to social justice is based in the Wesley tradition, instilled in me at an early age by my Methodist preacher father and English teacher mother, and exemplified by my wife and daughter. But recently as I was reading the April issue of the Laurel, my national fraternity's magazine, I came across a story that reinforced my awareness of and commitment to social justice.

I read about Robert Meeks, who was born in a log cabin in Missouri in 1890, went to college in Ohio at age 16, and joined Phi Kappa Tau fraternity, the organization which much later became home to my three older brothers and I, at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln. Meeks became a lifelong educator with a deep commitment to peace and social justice rooted in his Christian faith. He joined the NAACP in Cleveland to support racial equality. During World War II he protested the mass internment of Japanese Americans, which brought derision to him and threats to his wife and kids.

At age 73 he traveled with a group of Methodist clergy and laymen to help integrate Methodist churches in Jackson, Mississippi. In November 1963 he and a young Detroit minister attempted to attend a church service at the all-white St. Luke's Methodist Church in Jackson with an African-American minister, Woodie White, who would later become the United Methodist Bishop of Indiana. The story of their arrest and jailing was front page news across America, and Detroit Methodist churches raised \$1000 to pay their fine and gain their release from jail.

In January 1964 Meeks was helping a young Arab man apply for citizenship, and when the African-American immigration officer asked him if he'd ever been arrested, he shared his story from Mississippi, and the immigration officer soon thereafter joined him in church. Meeks shared the story of his activism and witness in a letter to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

It is heart-warming and reinforcing to read of Methodists, and in this case a fellow fraternity brother, who put their lives on the line to right society's wrongs. To paraphrase John Wesley, may it ever be so.

Terry Stewart, St Luke UMC Social Justice Co-chair

For the article by Phi Kappa Tau, go to: <https://www.phikappatau.org/news/alumni/2016/03/Robert-L-Meeks/>

Return
Service
Requested

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
1199 Main Street
Dubuque, IA 52001



If you wish NOT to receive the Chimes, please contact the church office at 563-582-4543 to discontinue.
To receive your Chimes via email, send a message to dbqstluke@gmail.com. If you know someone who would like to receive The Chimes, please contact the church office.