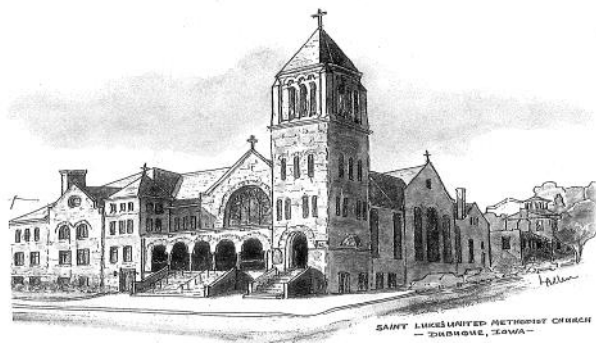


The Chimes

Newsletter

Vol. 49, Issue 20 - Published Biweekly



Rev. Chuck Layton

St. Luke's

United Methodist Church
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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 — October 4, 2017

All our thoughts and prayers go to the families of the dead and to the injured in the latest mass shooting, in Las Vegas today.

Dateline: Las Vegas, October 2nd, 2017.

50+ dead; 200+ injured. (latest report is that over 400 were sent to hospitals)

Lone gunman. Apparently fully automatic weapon.

Gunman dead.

Am I shocked? No. Not only "No" but "Absolutely not."

I'm sad. I'm weary. But not shocked. I would be shocked if Congress took this occasion to enact real-life legislation that addressed the problem of gun violence.

"Guns don't kill people." Of course not. Disgruntled people with free access to guns kill people. I suppose a person could use an assault rifle as a club and kill up to four or five people by clubbing them in the head before being overpowered by bystanders. Never heard of that happening, however.

So, here's the thing. I don't want to see a single tweet or post or interview from any person at all -- especially elected officials -- offering condolences to families and best wishes for speedy recovery to the injured, unless they include a pledge to work tirelessly to stop the slaughter. Easy condolences without action horrify me!

I call upon gun rights advocates to declare: "I'm willing to do whatever needs to be done to stop the seasonal hunting sport called mass shootings."

(And, by the way, "mass shootings" are the least of the problem! Multiple hundreds of people die each year in firearms incidents. I once attempted to do an inventory of news reports across the nation for the last several years of only those incidents where at least two people were killed by gunfire. Over about a 10-year span the numbers ran into the many hundreds. Note: that did not include any incidents where only one person was killed.)

We can have a reasoned discussion about the root causes and possible cures of such commonplace mass shootings:

Is it easy access to semi-automatic (or in this instance, apparently fully-automatic {due to the recorded sound of the shots}) weapons?

Is it a need for better mental health care?

Is it our history of glorifying violence?

Would strengthened background checks help?

(Continued on back cover, page 8)

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:

- Cheri Loveless** - chest tumor, cancer
- Linda & Dwight Vogel** - Linda stage 4 cancer
- Julie Lange** - surgery recovery (the Reids' daughter)
- Diaz family in Puerto Rico** - (Shannon Beard's friend)
- Katrina Gautsche** (Shannon Beard's niece)
- Robert Fisher** - gallbladder (Bonnie Sanders's father)
- Shirley Will** - sudden illness (Pastor Chuck'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:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> True Mills Susan Funke Johnny Bonnie Jorgensen | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ron Liskey Peggy Lemke Brett Cooper Jeanne Patterson |
|---|---|

Prayers of joy for newborn children:

- Anna Marie Brimeyer**
(Grandchild of Denny & Laurinda Brimeyer)

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.



October Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Benjamin Beau | 14 Pam Daack |
| 1 Penny Biedermann | 14 Tyler Schrupf |
| 1 Tony Blum | 15 Mallory Blum |
| 1 Sue Jones | 15 Albert Manders |
| 1 Ruth Veley | 16 Merrick Hull |
| 2 Brittany Blum | 16 Jean Murphy |
| 2 Kinzey Johnson | 17 Daniel Herr |
| 2 Jeffrey Kartman | 17 Everett Lansing |
| 3 Barbara Boettcher | 17 Elizabeth Lester |
| 5 Benjamin Jacobson | 19 Liz Lawler |
| 5 Chris Kohlmann | 19 Lorelai Madero |
| 5 Paula Pike | 20 Amber Blum |
| 6 Janet Efferding | 20 Vicki Sanderfield |
| 6 Brooklyn Goerd | 20 Linda Watters |
| 6 Annika Sunleaf | 21 Naomi Murphy |
| 7 Alexis Wand | 21 Ada Steuer |
| 8 Nadia Loeppeke | 23 Andrea Beacham |
| 9 Dwight Vogel | 23 Abigail Thorpe |
| 10 Sally Basten | 24 Anezka Lungwitz |
| 10 Amanda McTague | 24 Blake McKahin |
| 10 Andrew Theisen | 24 Bryce Streckwald |
| 11 Rose Hall | 26 Rob Kubik |
| 11 Joseph Lewis | 27 Jessica DuBord |
| 11 Breanna Nelson | 28 Addison Wright |
| 13 Nick Ashbrook | 29 Clarice Leblanc |

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, 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 8:30 a.m.*
(Communion 1st Sundays) *Sunday at 10:45 a.m.*

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

- Oct 8th** **18th Sunday after Pentecost (green)**
Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19 (UM750);
Philippians 3: 4b-14; Matthew 21: 33-46
- Oct 15th** **19th Sunday after Pentecost (green)**
Exodus 32: 1-14; Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23 (UM829);
Philippians 4: 1-9; Matthew 22: 1-14
- Oct 22nd** **20th Sunday after Pentecost (green)**
Exodus 33: 12-23; Psalm 99 (UM819);
1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10; Matthew 22: 15-22
- Oct 29th** **21st Sunday after Pentecost (green)**
Deuteronomy 34: 1-12; Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 (809)
1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8; Matthew 22: 34-46

STAFF

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

CHURCH COUNCIL

Chair Nancy Hessler

Officers:

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

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

Administrative Committee (Chairs):

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

Council on Ministries

Facilitators:
 Invitation & Welcome Lisa Viertel &
 Chris Kohlmann

Worship & Celebration Sue Hattel
 Care & Compassion Deb Albert &
 Margie Breese
 Spiritual Growth & Disc (vacant)
 Stewardship (vacant)
 Witness & Service
 Community Outreach Jennifer Crow
 Conference Global and Social Justice
 RRS & Terry Stewart
 Neighborhood Outreach John Hessler
 UMW Marcia Young
 At-Large: Matt Crow, Chris Becker, Gary
 Reid, Lesley Stephens, Steven & Kathy
 Lamb, Nancy Bradley, Vicki Tilson,
 Rhonda Kubik

Month of October 2017 Volunteers

Saturday Bread Run

10/7/17 Loveless
10/14/17 Jacobsen/Sanders
10/21/17 McGovern
10/28/17 Hull family

Saturday Food for the Soul

10/7/17 Team 6
10/14/17 Lange family
10/21/17 Team 7
10/28/17 Team 8

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

Chimer (to be updated)

10/1/17 R.R.S. Stewart
10/8/17 Heather Williams
10/15/17 R.R.S. Stewart
10/22/17 Heather Williams
10/29/17 R.R.S. Stewart

10:45 Worship Drivers

10/1/17 Chris Becker
10/8/17 Otto Krueger
10/15/17 Mike Loveless
10/22/17 Rich Young
10/29/17 Mark Tilson

8:30 Greeters/Ushers

10/1/17 Albert family
10/8/17 Children's Sabbath
10/15/17 McGovern
10/22/17 TBD
10/29/17 TBD

8:30 Offering Depositor

10/1/17 Sue Lane
10/8/17 Nancy Hessler
10/15/17 Sue Hattel
10/22/17 Susan McGovern
10/29/17 Erick Kephart

8:30 Liturgist

10/1/17 Jon Romaine
10/8/17 Confirmands
10/15/17 Nancy Hessler
10/22/17 Chad Leitch
10/29/17 Sue Lane

8:30 Projectionist

10/1/17 Denny Brimeyer
10/8/17 Chris Kohlmann
10/15/17 Denny Brimeyer
10/22/17 Chris Kohlmann
10/29/17 Denny Brimeyer

Videographer

10/1/17 John Hessler
10/8/17 Greg Albert
10/15/17 TBD
10/22/17 Bobby Martin
10/29/17 Bobby Martin

10:45 Greeters/Ushers

10/1/17 Reid/Loveless
10/8/17 Reid/Loveless
10/15/17 TBD
10/22/17 TBD
10/29/17 TBD

10:45 Offering Depositor

10/1/17 Rich Young
10/8/17 Mike Loveless
10/15/17 Mark Tilson
10/22/17 Sharon Kress
10/29/17 Mike Loveless

10:45 Liturgist

10/1/17 Chris Becker
10/8/17 Confirmands
10/15/17 Terry Stewart
10/22/17 Carol Clark
10/29/17 Keith Cook

10:45 Projectionist

10/1/17 Paul Clark
10/8/17 Matthew Hull
10/15/17 Matthew Hull
10/22/17 Paul Clark
10/29/17 Paul Clark

Slides

10/1/17 Susan McGovern
10/8/17 Chris Kohlmann
10/15/17 Matthew Hull
10/22/17 Paul Clark
10/29/17 Paul Clark

Prescott Elementary Partnership

St. Luke's has a partnership with Prescott Elementary involving many ministry groups. We can now view Prescott Elementary's regular newsletter on their website at:

<http://prescott.dbqschools.org/parents/quick-links/school-newsletter/>

More information on mentoring opportunities will be coming in the following weeks.



Upcoming Worship Dates

School Year Schedule:

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

Oct 8 Children's Sabbath

8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Services

Oct 15 8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

10:45 a.m. Word on the Third Contemporary

Oct 22 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Services

Oct 29 Reformation Sunday

8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Services

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



The Rummage Sale is Coming!

St. Luke's United Methodist Women's Fall Rummage Sale will be Friday, October 6, from 8:00-11:30 and the \$3 Bag Sale from 11:30-1:00. All of the profits go to our mission work, both in Dubuque and elsewhere.

How can YOU help? Several ways!

- Bring items for the sale. Remember one person's rummage may be another person's treasure! Items may be placed in the fellowship hall. If the door is locked, please see someone in the office for a key. Please do NOT leave rummage in the hallway and/or just inside the door. Thank you!
- We are looking for people to help. We will be sorting rummage on Thursday, October 5, beginning at 8:30. Workers are also needed the day of the sale. People are especially needed for clean-up on October 6, after 1:00. Food for the volunteers will be provided both days.
- Come to the sale and buy, buy, buy!



Mountain T.O.P. Meeting

Sunday, October 22

after 2nd service (about noon)

Fellowship Hall

We will discuss pie making and Food for the Soul dates as well as fundraisers. Please make every effort to attend.

Supplies Needed for Flood Buckets

On October 12th the high school kids are going to need your help. They are planning to assemble 54 flood buckets for people in need, and they will need supplies to go into those buckets. We appreciate your donations!



— Anezka Lungwitz



October 5 – Rummage Sorting, begins Thursday at 8:30 am.

October 6 – Fall Rummage Sale at St. Luke's from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. CLEAN UP following with workers' lunch provided. Volunteers needed at 1:30 pm.

October 19 – Kaleidoscope at 7:00 pm @ Oak Park Place, 1381 Oak Park Place. Directions: Turn onto Lucy Drive from Pennsylvania Ave., then turn left, and travel up the hill. Co-hosts: Carol Clark and Betty Phillips. Come see Betty's new residence! Guests and new members always welcome! Leader is Laurinda Brimeyer at 557-7341.

Thanksgiving Ingathering details to financially support **UMCOR Kits** is located on back table in the sanctuary: **Health Kit** (\$14), **Sewing Kit** (\$30), **School Kit** (\$12) and **Layette Kit** (\$47). St. Luke's will take the financial gifts for selected kits to the Thanksgiving Ingathering on Saturday, November 4, 2017. Kits (\$\$) will make a "difference in sustaining people's lives!" **Donations accepted on or by October 29 to the Church Office or place in the Sunday offering plate.**



Annual Offering Envelopes

Each year, for those who request it, St. Luke's orders personalized offering envelopes for the following year. Envelopes include your name, address, and a date for each Sunday in 2018 as well as special offering opportunities on the United Methodist Church calendar. To order your set, use the sign-up sheet in the South Hall, or contact the office at:

dbqstluke@gmail.com | 563-582-4543



Ringers Needed!

The JuBELLation Ringers are in immediate need of 2-4 musicians to join our ranks. We are entering our 40th year of music ministry at St. Luke's and invite you to become a part of our journey. If you can read music and are able to commit to weekly rehearsals on Wednesday evenings (6:15–7:15 p.m.) and one Sunday a month, please contact me promptly via e-mail or phone at:

dpatterson2000@mchsi.com or 563-557-7529
David Patterson, Ring Leader

Thanksgiving Ingathering

November 4, 2017

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the not-for-profit global humanitarian aid organization of the United Methodist Church. Their mission is to alleviate human suffering whether caused by war, conflict or national disaster with open minds and hearts to all people. Our workers are known all over the world for their compassion, leadership, expertise and guidance in recovery efforts.



The Iowa Ingathering helps provide the approximately \$4 million in supplies shipped from the Sager Brown Depot in Louisiana each year.

UMCOR kits help care for the most vulnerable people during times of crisis. They help sustain everyday life by providing basic necessities to people who lack access to essential supplies.

St. Luke's will be taking a financial gift to the Ingathering. Please use the forms on the back table of the sanctuary to make a donation. These slips will also be inserted into future bulletins.



Prescott Elementary & St. Luke's Blood Drive

Mon, Nov. 13 — 1:15pm to 5:45pm
Neighborhood Res. Ctr. at Prescott

To sign up, call Prescott School at 563-552-4200 or Mike Loveless at 563-584-9235. All donors must bring photo ID. Eat before donating and bring photo ID. Last date you donated elsewhere must be before Sept. 18, 2017.

Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center
www.bloodcenter.org



Donate to the Jesus Fund

The Jesus Fund is out of funds. This ministry offers vouchers for healthy groceries to those in need. Please consider a donation to the "Jesus Fund."

Positions at St. Luke's!

Fulfillment opportunities are now available at St. Luke's! If someone you know is interested in a position, please contact us.



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).

Terrific Tuesdays

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



- Oct 17 Panera Bread
- Oct 24 8:30am Breakfast at Village Inn
10:00am Sit & Knit at St. Luke's Parlor
- Oct 31 Convivium Urban Farmstead
- Nov 14 Molly's Silver Screen Canteen



Call for Recording Volunteers

St. Luke's provides DVDs for those who cannot attend worship services. Volunteers record services using a video camera and prepare DVDs for distribution. Currently we need two or more people to do this. In addition, we need two people who can come into church to put sermons on the website. If you are interested in becoming one of our videographers or helping with the web page, please contact Bobby Martin at flaggtx@juno.com. Job descriptions are available in the office.

Lectionary Bible Study

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.



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



Enough: Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity

On Sunday, October 1, 2017 we will begin a church wide study and worship emphasis called *Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity*. Over a period of 5 weeks, we will look at some of the financial challenges facing us as a nation and examine our own spending, saving, and giving habits. In addition to exploring biblical principles of financial management, we will learn ways to assess our financial situation and develop a financial plan that will allow us to experience the true joy that comes through simplicity and generosity. At the end of the emphasis, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of giving for the coming year. We will consecrate these commitments on Sunday November 5 and Sunday November 12, 2017.

Visit our website, www.stlukesumcdbq.org for more information, including details about small-group study opportunities during this time.

Items Needed for the Food Pantry

Potatoes any kind, sugar, mac & cheese, tuna, cooking oil, laundry soap, dish soap, garden produce

Items can go in the South Hall shopping cart.



Reformation Sunday Community Worship

Sunday October 29, 2017 at 4:00pm
Westminster Presbyterian Church
211 University Avenue, Dubuque



Join us for an energizing & ecumenical worship service to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation! President Louise N. Johnson (WTS), preaching. Rev. Lindsay James, presiding (Westminster). Community Choir: Pamela Crawford, directing. Open to local singers! Offerings for local ministries collected. Reception follows. For more info, contact:

Dr. Martin Lohrmann: 563-589-0305
mlohrmann@wartburgseminary.edu

Wonderful Wednesdays Schedule

5:00-5:45 pm Meal in the Fellowship Hall

Adult Music Rehearsals

5:30-6:25 pm St. Luke's Singers - Music Room
6:15-7:15 pm JuBELLation Ringers - Sanctuary
6:30-6:55 pm Wind Ensemble - Music Room
7:15-8:15 pm Chancel Choir - Music Room

Youth Activities / Rehearsals

5:15-8:30 pm Nursery available
6:00-7:00 pm Joyful Noise - Nursery & Room 102
6:15-6:30 pm Joyful Noise Singing - Room 203

5:45-6:30 pm St. Luke's Saints - Wesley Room
6:30-7:00 pm Randall Ringers - Room 203

5:30-6:00 pm Wesley Ringers - Sanctuary
6:00-7:00 pm High School Group - Room 201
6:30-7:45 pm Confirmation - Conference Room



Donate to the Jesus Fund

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

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

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;

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

Dubuque's Memory Café

October 12, 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



Friday Meal Help Needed Epworth UMC

The Epworth Friday Community meal is in need of volunteers. The number attending our meals has increased greatly over the last two years. However our volunteer staff has not been able to keep up.

Ways you can help serve:

- Prep crew on Thursdays 8 am to 12 pm
- Cooking, serving, cleanup Fridays 8 am to 1:30 pm

If you have an hour or more a month it would be greatly beneficial. **Contact: Rod Gavin at 563-451-3134 or Doug Rickels at 563-542-4744.**

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



Parking Spots Available

The church parking lot has multiple spots available for rent at \$35 per month. Rental is for weekdays 8am to 5pm. Please spread the word!

Also, weather permitting, new lines will soon be drawn on the parking lot to make spots bigger. If someone would like to rent a spot, have them note their license plate information; make, model, color of their car; and contact information. Then contact the church office at: **563-582-4543 or dbqstluke@gmail.com**

(Continued from front cover, page 1)

But, I cannot tolerate anyone expressing condolences or outrage or shock or horror who is not willing in the same breath to acknowledge that the United States' love affair with firearms is totally toxic and out of control and must be SERIOUSLY changed and controlled.

Ok, time for Gun Rights Advocates to step up with some real solutions. It is not a real solution to arm even more people. No one in that crowd on the Strip could have taken aim with a pistol at the 32nd floor across the street and hit the shooter. Even a police sniper positioned to guard the crowd would have had to take time to find the shooter, zero in, and take a shot. In that time dozens of people would already be dead. Guns are not the answer.

The authors and adopters of the Second Amendment to the Constitution envisioned reasonable, sane adults holding their muskets to hunt for food for their families and to defend against wild animals and enemies of the Republic. They certainly did not foresee an era in which a "lone wolf" could get a fully automatic high-powered assault rifle and empty large capacity clip after large capacity clip from the 32nd floor of a building a couple hundred feet or more away from a crowd of 22,000 people. I think George Washington would have said that person needed to be deprived of the "right" to that weapon.

I am not against hunting. I am not intrinsically against small-arms ownership on a small scale. But the madness has to stop. Those who get rich from selling weapons, and those who get political clout from lobbying for unrestricted access to firearms must look at their hands to see if they are bloody. Wouldn't it be refreshing if our congresspersons would look into the news camera and say, "I know it will be the vote that removes me from congress, but I am going to vote for real, substantive gun safety."

I have emailed Rod Blum, Joni Ernst and Charles Grassley imploring them to work for real-world solutions to the crisis of gun violence in this country. I invite you to do the same. You can find their contact information by Googling their names.

Shalom, Chuck

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 dbqsluke@gmail.com. If you know someone who would like to receive The Chimes, please contact the church office.