

Eldora United Methodist Church
1415 12th Street
Eldora, Iowa 50627

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The EUMC service on Heart of Iowa
Communications Cooperative
Community Channel 1:
Thursday – 7:00 pm, Friday – 11:00 am
Saturday – 11:00 am



Our sympathy to the family of:

♥Avis Clark

February 18, 1918—July 3, 2011

Fall Message Series:

BE-Coming Un-BE-lievable People!
God wants you to BE all you can be!
God BE-lieves in you and will help you!
A look at The BE-Attitudes
that Jesus gave us to BE strong,
committed, healthy,
God-filled joyful people!

The EUMC cookbooks are being printed now. Please see the article elsewhere in this newsletter and be sure to come to our cookbook chocolate party!



Kits have been coming in fast for the ingathering, and we want to thank all those who have brought them and those who are working on them. We pray that they will be a blessing to many of God's needy children.

Our emphasis for September will be Sewing, Tailoring, and Knitting kits. While you are shopping for your winter projects, why don't you pick up some extra supplies for these kits? School kits or any others are still welcome. Some very generous person made several cloth bags for school kits and we still have six of them left empty, so we need more school kits to fill them. Maybe you still have some unfinished ones at home, or you can pick some school kit baggies at the table.

October will be catch-up month for you to finish up all kits and bring them so we can take them to Webster City on Nov. 1st.
Thank You!



September/October 2011

A Newsletter of the
Eldora United Methodist Church
"A Striving, Thriving Church for Christ"

1415 12th Street, Eldora, IA 50627

Pastor Vicki Lindley Reece

Church Office: 641-939-2057

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LIGHT FOR YOUR PATH

Pastor Vicki Lindley Reece

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted: (Ecc 3:1-2)

Fall is always exciting and challenging. I love fall. The beauty of changing leaves, bright yellows, mellow oranges, deep reds. Leaves falling and dancing down the streets. Shiny baskets of apples. Fields of amber corn and soybeans being combined. Farmers and truckers hard at work. Families keeping them well fed and supported. Children gathering supplies, dreading or delighting to begin school. Teachers and staff making plans and putting in long full days. Parents, many working, trying to get it all work together! Did I forget football? Oh, I won't even go there! Fall season is a special time.

Seasons reflect our lives. Fall is a season of anticipation and transition. So much going on personally, locally, and nationally! We are all feeling it, aren't we? So, how do we as Christians face the seasons of our lives? We choose to face them with faith, with hope, with love, asking God to give us His Spirit to empower us. To trust God with the timing of the seasons of our lives.

That sounds good on paper. You would expect that from your new pastor. But I don't say it tritely. I mean it, and am committed to helping us to live it out so that we are ready for whatever season of life we are in. **We are entering a season to strengthen our faith. To go deeper. To love God and others in greater ways. But it takes a decision on your part.**

BE-coming Un-BE-lievable People! Is the theme this fall. It's a look at **The BE-Attitudes** Jesus taught. This message series will focus on what God wants for you, and how God helps shape you for your best life. It will include: Visual Bible video, special guests, power points! Kids and Youth will find it helpful because I'll be using a lot of sports images...and yes, there will be children's messages. PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS this is a good time to get your kids in church!

I already like Eldora, and look forward to being your pastor. My mission statement is: **"A Passion for Jesus, Compassion for People."** We are going to join our strengths together. I was raised in a large traditional UM Church; I've been a pastor for 27 years and have enjoyed both traditional and praise and worship. For eight years we were part of UM churches that only had praise & worship. What a blessing to have the richness of both at Eldora!

The emphasis of both our services here will be about the God's Love through Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. I am unapologetically orthodox and Wesleyan. Both will be warm and welcoming with good music, prayer, and biblical messages...I promise you that it will always be down-to-earth and speak to the needs of everyday lives.
(continued on next page)

During this season I am committed to listening, learning, and loving. I find it best to pray through things, listening to you and to God. A simple prayer for all situations is:

Lord Jesus,

Son of God

Fill me with Your Love.

Practice praying this whenever you start to worry, complain, fear, gossip, etc. etc. You can use this little prayer for others. You can ask for all qualities, not just love. Hope, Joy, Peace, Patience, Goodness, Strength, Healing, Faith, Self-control, Humility, Mercy, Wisdom, Discernment, Gentleness.

I pray God's blessing for you,
Pastor Vicki

+++++



Confirmation Class begins this Fall.

Worship is a part of the

program. You may choose either service. PV (Pastor Vicki) will be asking for your participation. Each message has a handout to be turned in at the end of the service. We will also be doing service projects. One is Sunday, November 20th, Sending Thanksgiving to Africa in Iowa Falls this year.

Sunday, September 11, Rally Sunday

9:30 a.m. south lawn

"Up, Up & Away...."

Jesus Saves Our Day"

UMW Rummage Sale October 6, 7, 8

Charge Conference: Monday,

November 14th

Goal: All forms completed by

November 2nd

September 11, is the Sunday School kick-off. Please join us on the South lawn (Fellowship Hall if rain). The Rally Day celebration will begin at 9:30 a.m. Registration, games, stories and music will be a few of the activities, with the balloon lift off (not hot air) at 10:10am.



This fall we will be studying the Beatitudes. Classes will begin in the classrooms on September 18. We will be using fun, hands on material for disciples of all ages.

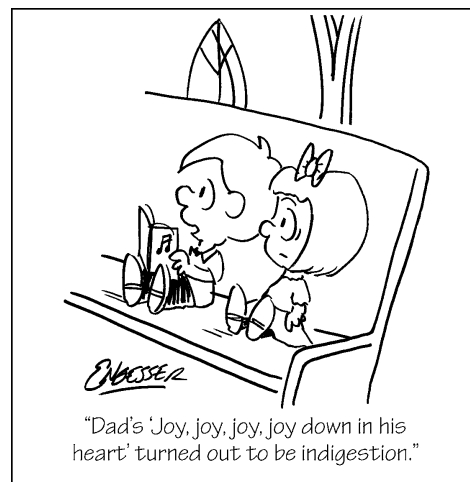
As always, there are many Thank You's to be said. A full fledge cleaning of the Sunday School classrooms has chairs and tables shining, as well as, cupboards organized and clean. Thanks to Arlys and the Nurture team. Also thanks to Leona Vigars, Betty Key, Jacci Wilson, and Evelyn Hahn for all the work scrubbing chairs, and tables. The floors look great, thanks to the Trustees for having those cleaned and waxed.

The campers who attended church camps will be reporting soon. Rumor has it they LOVED it!!

I hope your summer was great

Blessings to you and looking forward to seeing you at Sunday School.

Linda, CED



"Dad's 'Joy, joy, joy, joy down in his heart' turned out to be indigestion."

Several have asked about the points that we mentioned in our message on July 10th about supporting our newly appointed pastor, Vicki.

- Allow her to dream her own dreams. Support the vision that God has given her.
- Allow Vicki to be herself. Allow her to lead in ways that will keep all of us focused on Christ.
- Commit to stand with her through hard times. Think of our relationship as a covenant between Vicki and her congregation.
- Allow Vicki to lead. Our challenge is to give her our allegiance and to follow her as she follows Christ.
- Support Vicki even when she can't publicly explain why certain decisions or actions have been made.
- Release Vicki from being your best buddy. Allow her to love you and love her back--but remember that she has a congregation to shepherd.
- Let Wendel be himself. Love him and allow him to find his own place in our congregation.
- Look for opportunities to encourage and affirm Vicki. Especially be guided in this with prayer.
- Stay focused on the big picture. Ask yourself if the issue you feel is important will matter next week, next year or better yet, will it matter in eternity. The bigger picture is to love one another. So work and stick together.
- Allow your prayer to be that EUMC will move forward in a strong way as we love one another and we support and pray for one another and for Vicki as she starts her leadership in our church.

Jim and Gretchen

It is an exciting time! There will be a Chocolate Party at the Methodist Church in Eldora on Sunday, October 30 between the worship services. Chocolate samples and other tasty tidbits will be available for tasting at that time. Recipes donated by the congregation for the food samples are all in the new cookbook called "Pleasures from the Good Earth" that is being premiered at the same time by the Missions Committee. Proceeds from the cookbooks will go for International projects, Midwest USA projects, and Hardin County, Iowa projects. Your money will definitely be used for excellent worth while projects around the world. Come join us and see our new cookbook that is compiled for good down home cooking that is simple, easy to fix, and do not require going to metropolitan areas to find the ingredients. Iowa is the heartland for raising excellent quality meat and fresh produce. The chefs and chefettes in Hardin County, Iowa are hard to beat for excellent quality Midwest home cooking. Some recipes in "Pleasures from the Good Earth" have received awards from entries in the Better Homes and Garden Contests. This is a fantastic cookbook and one that everyone will be talking about. This is a limited edition and there are 600 recipes for the cost of only \$15.00.



Parsonage debt=\$42,500 and the heating system=\$25,100 after nice gifts in August to each of these funds. Please consider a pledge if you haven't already done so to either or both of these opportunities. Thanks so much for your generosity in His Name. Jim



Mike Boatman is an inspiration to our high school youth group. As the youth pastor/ director at EUMC, he plans youth events, leads weekday worship, and takes the youth on mission trips or Christian camps every summer. Mike is married (8 years) to Rachel...and certainly we can see he married up. They have 3 children, Mikayla is 6, Eli is 5, and Jada is 4. Parenthood alone could keep him busy, but he is also a youth services worker at the State Training School and is continuing his education full time. We are thankful for Mike's enthusiastic personality as he guides our youth in their spiritual journey. Our high school kids are in his hands and that is a big responsibility. Please take time to thank Mike for his faithfulness. THANK YOU, Michael!



Linda Pierson and her husband Tom retired from farming in West Liberty where they raised their two daughters Jen and Sarah. They have been blessed with three granddaughters Emma, 4, Mae, 3, and Rena, 2 months. They have returned to Eldora to enjoy Tom's family farm where Linda spends her free time pulling weeds, mowing and "messaging" with their very old horse she can no longer ride. When asked what may surprise us to know Linda says she is a 4-H judge and especially enjoys the bucket calf project. When asked her favorite part about Christian Ed? "Sorry adults, it is the children. I sometimes work at school, too. It is so neat to be recognized as the lady from church. They are at such an eager age to learn. Just knowing we have a good staff is rewarding in itself. Do you remember any of your Sunday school teachers? I do, see the impact that makes on a young disciples' life as they travel on their Christian journey? The Eldora United Methodist Church is the beginning of that Journey!" When asked what is a personal goal you have for Christian Ed? "Firstly, it would be to increase attendance numbers, I'm so pleased with all the work that has been done and will plan on doing more to "spruce" up the Classroom area. I'd like to see some training for the teachers. I'm certain it would help with class preparation and just the interaction with the other teachers would be beneficial. . It's hard to accomplish that on Sunday Mornings." Thanks for the support you've given our Christian Education program!

Bridges to Hope Grief Support Group—Fall 2011—Eldora

Creps-Abels Funeral Home of Eldora is pleased to announce the formation of a 12-week Grief Support Group program. "Bridges to Hope" will meet on Sundays, 2:30—4:00 p.m. beginning September 11, 2011. The group will meet in the Chapel at the Eldora United Methodist Church. Anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one to death is welcome to attend, however it is suggested that you be at least three months past the date of death to receive optimum benefit from the program.

Participants will be using *Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart* and *The Understanding Your Grief Journal*, both by Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D. Group members will have the option of buying or borrowing their books. **Pre-registration for the group is required. To register or for more information, contact Robyn Plocher at 319.830.4333 or 641.858.2181.**

What others are saying about Bridges to Hope:

"I strongly recommend (this group) to anyone going through the grief process. They need to know they are not alone and there really are 'stepping stones' to cross as you move forward in life."—Bridges to Hope Group Participant

"I learned I am not alone and that all grief journeys are unique. I learned it is okay to cry—tears of joy and tears of love..." --Bridges to Hope Group Participant

GREETERS SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Contemporary **10:00 a.m. Traditional**
Sept. 4 Jason & Brenda Halsey, both services

8:30 a.m. Contemporary **10:45 a.m. Traditional**
Sept. 11 Gretchen Brown Leona Vigars
Sept. 18 Tony & Sharon Hand, both services
Sept. 25 Kathy Kinder Karen Reece

Oct. 2 Tom & Linda Pierson, both services
Oct. 9 Vic & Herbie Reist, both services
Oct. 16 Ed & Marlys Bernard, both services
Oct. 23 Mary Juergens Charlie & Roberta Creps
Oct. 30 Dennis & Bobbi Meints, both services

Greeters should stand at the top of the stairs at the east entrance. That way you can greet those coming in the east doors or from the Fireside room.

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, please find a sub or switch with someone else on the list. Please do not call the church office if you are unable to greet. Thank you for your service!

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Thanks to each of you who agreed to serve as a Nursery volunteer.

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship	Sunday School
Sept 4 Arlys Stevens, Cassidy Sellers	
Sept 11 Linda Haywood Becky Moore	Mary Prosser
Sept 18 Anita LaVelle Karen Reece	Betty Key
Sept 25 Jamie Rotgers Sandy Reisinger	Herbie Reist
Oct. 2 Carole Damon Marsha Pettigrew	Janele Fish
Oct. 9 Rita Thompson Kelli Rogers	Victoria Edgerton
Oct. 16 Evelyn Hahn Cassidy Sellers	Shirley Greimann
Oct. 23 Lisa Sunkle Becky Moore	Tonya Kosanke
Oct. 30 Scott & Carol Humphrey	Susan Sellers

September 11—Christian Education Sunday

Keeping in Touch With Your Experience
Iowa Conference of The United Methodist Church
To promote Iowa Religious Media Service, Iowa Camping Program and Christian Educators' scholarship. Invest in the future.

October 2—World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 9 for EUMC

A Church wide Special Sunday of
The United Methodist Church

"They had first given themselves unreservedly to God and to us. The other giving simply flowed out of the purposes of God working in their lives." - 2 Corinthians 8:5b, The Message
Your generous gifts on World Communion Sunday support:

- World Communion Scholarships, administered by the General Board of Global Ministries (with at least one-half of the annual amount for ministries beyond the United States); and
- Ethnic Scholarship and Ethnic In-Service Training programs related to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.



Prayer of Safety for our Farmers, Truckers, Elevator Staff, Workers and their families:

Heavenly Father, we lift up to you our farmers, truckers, workers, and those working in the elevators and other places before you and ask for your protection. We softly speak the name of Jesus over them, body, mind and spirit. May your Spirit go before them, their families, and keep them safe during this harvest. Protect our crops and animals from any death, disease or destruction. Thank you for all those who work the fields and produce the crops and animals which feed our nation. Bless them Lord, fill them with your peace during this busy, demanding time.



Nursery provided during both services

Sunday, September 4

Communion—Food Pantry

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday, September 11

“Becoming Un-Believable People of God” – Matthew 5:1 - God Wants You to Be Blessed!

Christian Education Sunday Offering

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship—Landrey DeAnn

Harris baptism

Blood Pressure Checks by Parish Nurses

9:30 a.m. Sunday School registration

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

Rally Sunday— “Up, Up and Away, Jesus Saves Our Day”

10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

2:30-4:00 p.m. Bridges to Hope, Grief Support Group meets in Wesley Room

Sunday, September 18

“Blessed are Poor In Spirit” – Matthew 5:3

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship

9:30 a.m. Fellowship Coffee recognizing

Mike Boatman and Linda Pierson

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

2:30-4:00 p.m. Bridges to Hope, Grief Support Group meets in Wesley Room

Sunday, September 25

“Blessed are those who Mourn” – Matthew 5:4

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

2:30-4:00 p.m. Bridges to Hope, Grief Support Group meets in Wesley Room

September Birthdays

Sept. 1	Meagan Visser
Sept. 2	Robin LaVelle
Sept. 2	Ethan Wise
Sept. 5	Cindy Wright
Sept. 5	Melissa Sisson
Sept. 6	Darlene McCrea
Sept. 6	Adam Clemons
Sept. 8	Bobbi Meints
Sept. 8	Jill Grego
Sept. 10	Hattie Walther
Sept. 11	Morgan Ridout
Sept. 12	Richard Soesbe
Sept. 13	Mark Hobson
Sept. 13	Tony Goodknight
Sept. 13	Calvin McDonald
Sept. 14	Carole Damon
Sept. 14	Justin Kinder
Sept. 17	Marcia Daggs
Sept. 17	Winnifred Crosley
Sept. 17	Matthew Gore
Sept. 18	Allan Edgerton
Sept. 19	Roger Mark
Sept. 19	Myron Kosanke
Sept. 19	Corliss Smith
Sept. 19	Kortney Crosser
Sept. 21	Norene Johnson
Sept. 21	Rachel Inks
Sept. 21	Zaikiah Soesbe
Sept. 22	Ike Rooks
Sept. 22	Daniel Vinton
Sept. 22	Don Schable
Sept. 23	Cash Guiles
Sept. 24	Tyler Minter
Sept. 24	Matthew Allbee
Sept. 24	Brandon Lafrenz
Sept. 25	Hannah Reifschneider
Sept. 25	Avery Lafrenz
Sept. 26	Patricia Magnuson
Sept. 26	Shelby Luman
Sept. 27	Donna Reed
Sept. 28	Joyce Cook
Sept. 29	Larry Cranston
Sept. 29	Sean Doak
Sept. 30	Michael May, Sr.

October Birthdays

Oct. 1	Leona Vigars
Oct. 2	Marilyn Spangler
Oct. 3	Bev Kruse
Oct. 4	Ellen Swartz
Oct. 5	Betty Collins
Oct. 5	Janice Piper
Oct. 6	Phillip Prosser
Oct. 6	Christina Kane
Oct. 10	Ken Damon
Oct. 10	Brittany Warren
Oct. 11	Sharon Steelman
Oct. 11	Ivan Miller
Oct. 11	Bruce Haskin
Oct. 12	Jean Gehrke
Oct. 12	Brenda Halsey
Oct. 13	Arleene Fagg
Oct. 13	Jessica Kies
Oct. 13	Caleb Humphrey
Oct. 14	Ann Raisch
Oct. 15	Marcia Brownlee
Oct. 15	Karen Reece
Oct. 15	Melissa Kelley
Oct. 15	Tisha May
Oct. 18	Florence Jones
Oct. 18	Harlan Peters
Oct. 21	Charlotte Mark
Oct. 21	Carl Stevens
Oct. 21	Autumn Sunkle
Oct. 22	Amy Lafrenz
Oct. 24	Dean Davison
Oct. 24	Lois Putnam
Oct. 24	Barbara Ketels
Oct. 24	Robert Cook
Oct. 24	Dannielle Spangler
Oct. 25	Jean Goodknight
Oct. 26	Renee Minter
Oct. 26	Craig Edgerton
Oct. 26	T.J. Warren
Oct. 27	Barbara Neymeyer
Oct. 31	Susan Engelking

NEEDED by September 25th: pictures of something you have trained for: sports, band, dance etc. There will be a special kids power point on October 9th.



Nursery provided during both services

Sunday, October 2

Food Pantry

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

2:30-4:00 p.m. Bridges to Hope, Grief Support Group meets in Wesley Room

Sunday, October 9

“Meek” – Matthew 5:5

Communion—World Communion Sunday Offering

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship

Blood Pressure Checks by Parish Nurses

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

2:30-4:00 p.m. Bridges to Hope, Grief Support Group meets in Wesley Room

Sunday, October 16

“Hunger & Thirst” – Matthew 5:6

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

2:30-4:00 p.m. Bridges to Hope, Grief Support Group meets in Wesley Room

Sunday, October 23

“Merciful” – Matthew 5:7

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

2:30-4:00 p.m. Bridges to Hope, Grief Support Group meets in Wesley Room

Sunday, October 30

“Pure In Heart” – Matthew 5:8

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

2:30-4:00 p.m. Bridges to Hope, Grief Support Group