

## UPCOMING EVENTS

<b>Wednesday, April 3:</b>	PK – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Christian Education Confirmation
<b>Wednesday, April 10:</b>	PK – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Christian Education Confirmation
<b>Sunday, April 14:</b>	<b>Camp Sunday</b>
<b>Monday, April 15:</b>	Free Meal at Wesley's Kitchen 11am-12:30pm
<b>Wednesday, April 17:</b>	PK – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Christian Education Confirmation
<b>Saturday, April 20:</b>	Afternoon of Piano by Emily Swartz Bowser
<b>Wednesday, April 24:</b>	PK – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Christian Education Confirmation
<b>Sunday, April 28:</b>	Family Fun Night
<b>Wednesday, May 1:</b>	Last Day of Wednesday Night PK – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Christian Education
<b>Sunday, May 5:</b>	<b>Confirmation Sunday</b>
<b>Sunday, May 12:</b>	<b>Senior Sunday</b>
<b>Sunday, May 19:</b>	<b>ELC Graduation Sunday</b>

### Pastor Kathy Kluis

Cell: 712-304-0636

kathykluis@hotmail.com

### Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8:00am-3:00pm

Phone: 712-362-4886

Fax: 712-362-2357

umc@mchsi.com

### Administrative Assistant:

Leah Flores

### Choir Director:

Diane Blom

### Church Treasurer:

Nancy Anderson

### Cleaning:

Tony Olson

### Finance Secretary:

Pat Watt

### Music Director:

Randy Yackle

### Media Team:

Nancy Anderson, Larinda Mueller  
Ryan Ross, Kristin Ross

**Worship Sunday mornings at 9:30am**



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**Estherville United Methodist Church**

**102 S. 8th Street**

**Estherville, IA 51334**

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# United Methodist Tidings

Newsletter of the United Methodist Church of Estherville, Iowa

April 2024

We have come to the Last Supper and Jesus is speaking to his disciples and he knows he is going to be arrested in just a few hours and he knows the next day he is going to die. The disciples don't know this yet, but Jesus knows this. And as he knows this, what he is saying to the disciples is, this is the stuff I want you to remember. "Don't forget the mission. Don't forget the vision. Don't forget what we were doing. Don't forget what I taught you. I am going to leave you. This really matters, I came for this."

Some background on foot washing. In the ancient Near East, people wore sandals, these sandals were opened toed. The sandals were not comfortable and people were walking on dirt roads most of the time. It is estimated that people walked around five miles a day. No arch supports, no socks on dusty roads; how do you think your feet would feel at the end of the day when you get home at night? Most likely they are tired and sore.

You walked into the home in the ancient Near East, and you took off your shoes and you walked in your bare feet. Now not only are they sore, what else are they? The smell, stink... dust, grime, sweat. When you entered the house you washed your feet, just like before you ate a meal you washed your hands. Somewhere when you entered the house there would be a basin, a pitcher and a towel. Typically, you washed your own feet. You came in, you smelled better, hopefully were refreshed, it was good hospitality for the host, it was good manners for the guests.

If you had servants or slaves, you could have one of them wash people's feet. The commentary by the rabbis said that if your servant or slave was Jewish, they couldn't wash the feet of people. It was too demeaning for a Jewish person to do this. It had to be a Gentile.

Now as Jesus and his disciples arrive at what was probably the Upper Room, preparations had been made by Jesus and the disciples for dinner. Part of those preparations would have been having a pitcher, a basin and towel at the door.

So, Jesus gets up, takes the basin, the pitcher and the towel and washes his disciple's feet.

In the culture Jesus lives in, one of the highest virtues was honor. If you had attained honor people respected you, they waited on you, they didn't expect you to play the role of a servant. You were an honored individual. Jesus turns this on its head.

He introduces a new virtue – humility. This changes things. In Judaism, in Christianity, in Western Civilization. People who expect to be waited on, we think well, okay. But if you see someone who is practicing servant leadership, who walks around asking how you are doing, you respect that person, you think that person has character. Over and over people stay where they are appreciated, where they feel respected, where they feel that they can make a difference. This started here when Jesus knelt down to wash the feet of his disciples.

The command, John 13:33-35, Jesus isn't talking about romantic or erotic love, he's not talking about the warm fuzzy feeling you get from doing something nice or good for another person. He is talking about the decision that you make to practice good to another person even if they don't deserve it. It is looking to see who is in need of compassion, kindness, mercy. Who is in need of a small touch, a great touch, who needs to be built up, lifted up particularly when they don't deserve it. Sacrificial love, and we will see the greatest example of that when Jesus dies on the cross the next day. A costly love that gives everything.

Jesus says you are blessed when you do it. Do you see yourself as a servant or are you waiting for someone else to serve you? What Jesus calls us to do is to change the world if we do it. To love like Jesus would. Jesus calls us to change the world by loving and blessed are you if you do it.

Pastor Kathy

**VBS Information:**

We are planning on hosting "Agent Hope: A VBS program by Hope Haven International Ministries" for our VBS program this year. Throughout the program we will be "learning about the Bible, the joy of giving, the wheelchair ministry of Hope Haven and their own relationship with Jesus". This is a five part program and we are hoping to have one day a week for five weeks to match the section. The current plan is to have a small meal and then the program/activities. We are looking for individuals who are willing to help with this program for our church.

**Camp Clear Lake District Conference**

Please mark your calendar. Our District Conference will be on Sunday, May 5, 2024, from 2:30-4:00 pm at Algona, First United Methodist Church. This year, we will celebrate what God has done in our Jerusalem (our local community) through our ministries. I do encourage you to send photos of your local mission works to the District no later than April 15, 2024. Also, bring a dozen of cookies for our fellowship.

**STEWARDSHIP**

Let's prayerfully consider your gifts to our church. Please pray we have another year of the most faithful giving congregation. I encourage you to sign up for automatic giving through your bank or credit union.

We rely on your pledges for our budget.

**REMINDER:**

Online giving is as easy as 1, 2 or 3

1. Bill pay through your financial institution
2. Easy tithe using your credit card. Sign up at: <http://www.esthervilleumc.com>
3. Automatic deduction through the church and your bank: monthly or semi-monthly. See Pat Watt- 362-4886.

**ON AIR**

**Sponsor a Radio Broadcast**

Sponsors are still needed for the 2024 radio broadcasts. Call the church office to reserve your date!

It is only \$65

**Available dates:**

- |                        |                        |                       |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| April 21 <sup>st</sup> | April 28 <sup>th</sup> | May 26 <sup>th</sup>  |
| June 9 <sup>th</sup>   | June 30 <sup>th</sup>  | July 7 <sup>th</sup>  |
| July 14 <sup>th</sup>  | July 21 <sup>st</sup>  | July 28 <sup>th</sup> |

Thank you for all the cards! It really made my birthday special!

Sally Potter

*thank you* ❤️

**Please continue to pray for:**

Lynn Anderson, John Klein,  
Barb Carlson's brother-in-law, Ron Jacobsen,  
Ed Peterson, Audra Gruhlke, Carol Williams  
and Kurt Moeding.



Pastor Kathy will be giving communion to United Methodist residents at Good Samaritan on April 4 at 2:00pm. Families are welcome to join.

**Circles are scheduled to meet as follows:**

- Martha**  
April 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am
- Ruth**  
April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm
- Susanna Wesley**  
April 15<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm  
Hostess: Mavis King
- United Women in Faith**  
April 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm

**Committee Meeting Reminders:**

- Church Council:** April 30<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm
- Education:** April 16<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm
- Finance:** April 28<sup>th</sup> 10:45 am
- Outreach:** April 9<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm
- Trustees:** April 14<sup>th</sup> 10:45 am
- Worship:** April 9<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm

**Wesley's Kitchen Free Meal**

sponsored by the Outreach Committee  
April 15<sup>th</sup> 11:00 am-12:30 pm

All are welcome to come & enjoy  
**Shaved Ham Sandwiches, Chips, Dessert & Fellowship**

If you would like to help with this event, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or call the church office.

**Dates To Remember:**

- April 14- Camp Sunday**
- May 1- Last day Christian Edu.**
- May 5- Confirmation**
- May 12- Senior Sunday**
- May 19- ELC Grad. Sunday**



## APRIL Birthdays

1	Connie Greig	16	Shirley Custer
	Jerome Millsap		Tim Burrell
3	Coral Sorensen		Kristin Ross
5	Susan Evans		Madeline Ross
	Ruth Gottsche	18	Carol Swartz
	Angie Ward		Lisa Lowe
6	Effie Nielsen		Landon Pyawasit
7	Travis Kaltved	19	Ryan Ross
	Gerry Smith		Dakota Moffitt
8	Tamara Andrews		Bryan Peterson
	Deb Lytle	20	Joyce Griffith
9	Rosemary Carr		Lurene Swalve
10	Steve Watt		Katrina Lutzow
	Travis Grange		Cael Harvey
	Preston Crees	22	Mary Larson
11	Joan Forsyth		Pat Evans
	Bruce Ring		Kathy Beernink
	Bob Edwards		Bart Ludwig
	Shelby Kaltved	25	Zach Montandon
	Katniss Watt	27	Marcine Jacobsen
13	Taylor Karels		Roger Lowe
14	Karen Petersen		Ashley Westfall
	Terry King		Paislee Cowell
	Kyle Tribby	29	John Christensen
15	Rodney Alger	30	Carol Williams

### April Cross Bearers

7	Alex Cole
14	Nick Cole
21	Marcus Finn
28	Aiden Hatland

### April Acolytes

7	Ella Soper
14	Caiden Ingvall
21	Cael Harvey
28	Ella Soper



## April Anniversaries

- 4th Mike & Deb Karels
- 6th Brian & Tara Deling
- 18th Rob & Heidi Goebel
- 21st Phyllis & Jim Currell
- 27th Don & Paula Edwards

### April Ushers

**Dean Tlam – Captain**

**Jon Bethune**

**Tom & Sue Koons**

**Judy Tlam**

**Curt Trenary**

### April Greeters

- 7 Bryan & Pam Morisch
- Roger & Sue Guge
- 14 Steve & Jo Planting
- Mike Hoffman
- 21 Brian & Velvet Ross
- Brandon & Kim Ross
- 28 Paul & Donna Fredrickson
- Dennis & Sharon Ross

**Susanna Wesley Circle is meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm- Mavis King's home.**

**New members welcome to join us!**



# HELLO April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Pastor's Sabbath 9:30am Mat Loom Makers	<b>2</b> 9:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Girl Scout Troop #544 RM#31 6:00pm Church Council Meeting	<b>3</b> 8:30am Estherville Area Ministerial Association 5:30pm PK - 5th grade Christian Education 6:45pm Confirmation	<b>4</b> 10:00am Lenten Bible Study	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>Holy Humor Sunday</b> 8:15am Chancel Choir Practice 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee & Fellowship Time 11:00am Central De Vida Worship	<b>8</b> Pastor's Sabbath 9:30am Mat Loom Makers 4:00pm H.U.G. Puppets	<b>9</b> 9:00am Staff Meeting 5:00pm Outreach Committee Meeting 6:00pm Worship Committee Meeting	<b>10</b> 5:30pm PK - 5th grade Christian Education 6:45pm Confirmation	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 1:30pm UW in Faith	<b>13</b> Shed Spring Cleaning 8:00am Hope Haven-Fellowship Hall/Wesley Rm./Lounge (8am-1pm)
<b>14</b> <b>Camp Sunday</b> 8:15am Chancel Choir Practice 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee & Fellowship Time 10:45am Trustees Committee Meeting 11:00am Central De Vida Worship	<b>15</b> Newsletter Deadline Pastor's Sabbath 9:30am Mat Loom Makers 11:00am Wesley's Kitchen 4:00pm H.U.G. Puppets 7:00pm Ruth Circle at Church 7:00pm Susanna Wesley Circle	<b>16</b> 9:00am Staff Meeting 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop #544 RM#31 7:00pm Education Committee Meeting	<b>17</b> 5:30pm PK - 5th grade Christian Education 6:45pm Confirmation	<b>18</b> 9:00am Martha Circle	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 2:30pm Afternoon of Piano by Emily Swartz Bowser
<b>21</b> <b>Noisy Offering</b> 8:15am Chancel Choir Practice 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee & Fellowship Time 11:00am Central De Vida Worship	<b>22</b> Pastor's Sabbath 9:30am Mat Loom Makers 4:00pm H.U.G. Puppets	<b>23</b> 9:00am Staff Meeting	<b>24</b> 5:30pm PK - 5th grade Christian Education 6:45pm Confirmation	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee & Fellowship Time 10:45am Finance Committee Meeting 11:00am Central De Vida Worship 4:00pm Family Fun Night	<b>29</b> Pastor's Sabbath 9:30am Mat Loom Makers 4:00pm H.U.G. Puppets	<b>30</b> 9:00am Staff Meeting 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop #544 RM#31 6:00pm Church Council Meeting				

## Family Fun Night

Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

4:00-6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

### Join Your Kids for Fun!

**Games**

**Singing**

**Storytelling**

**Crafts**

**Light Supper**

All children should be accompanied  
by parents or an adult over 18.



**If you are willing to help usher for funerals (as needed) please contact Diane Blom at 712-362-2021**

**Susanna Wesley** is selling cookbooks for \$5.00 each. You may purchase them during church office hours or check with Mavis King.

### United Women in Faith

#### April Bible Verse: John 12:26 (NIV)

“Whoever serves me must follow me;  
and where I am, my servant also will be.  
My father will honor the one who serves me.”

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United Women in Faith **April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting**  
1:30 p.m. in fellowship hall

**Program:** Living Waters by Gladys Godfrey  
**Hostesses:** Donna Brobst and Mona King

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Camp Clear Lake District  
Education and Interpretation Study  
Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at UMC Mason City

#### Feasting with Jesus: Turning it all upside down

**Registration:** 8:15-9:15 a.m. **Cost:** \$10.00

Morning Session: 9:30-12:00 (noon)

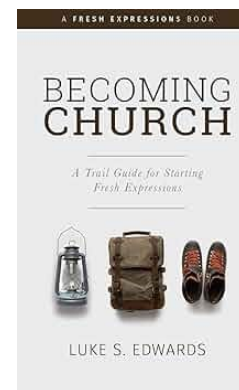
Lunch & Fellowship: 12:00 – 12:45 p.m.

Afternoon Session: 12:45-2:30 p.m.

Early Bird Book Club with Hot Breakfast 8:30-9:15 a.m.

With book **“Defiant”** by Kelley Nikondeha  
Call Jan Lange or Grace Spalding for a ride!!!

## Camp Clear Lake District Fresh Expressions Training Saturday, April 6, 9 am – 4 pm



### What:

- 1) Fresh Expressions is a flexible approach to ministry that can be creatively applied to foster ministry beyond the traditional four walls of our congregations.
- 2) This training will both lay a foundation and give practical guidance on how to start a Fresh Expressions ministry that fits your context.

### Who:

Clergy and laity are encouraged to attend. It's best if congregations send a team to this training. Think of those in your congregation who have a special heart for outreach. This event is sponsored by the Camp Clear Lake District but is certainly open to all. Our presenter, Rev. Dr. Russ Jacobsen is a working pastor presenting this as a practitioner aiming to get his own congregation on board with Fresh Expressions. This is a grassroots training given with the blessing of our Conference and District leadership.

**When:** 8:30 am – Doors open, refreshments provided. 9 am – Training begins.

**Where:** Algona UMC, 201 E Nebraska, Algona

**Why:** Many of us are looking for ways to make NEW disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. At the same time, we are wary of another one-sized fits all program. Fresh Expressions is all about contextualization, adaptation and flexibility. We will focus on a solid training foundation and practical tools for seeking the Lord for fresh expressions in our unique settings.

**Registration & Cost:** \$ 15 covers the cost of our training book and lunch.

**You must register my March 28 to guarantee receiving a book and lunch.**

\*Our training text: Becoming Church: A Trail Guide for Fresh Expressions by Luke S. Edwards, published by Fresh Expressions.

\*Lunch will be provided for free for those who pre-register.

\*Bring your own thumb drive (BYOTD?) and we will give you a copy of the day's presentation that you can adapt for your own purposes.

### Questions:

Contact Jaye Johnson, Michel Lundula, or Russ Jacobsen (507) 600-9155.