

JOIN US!

Sunday School:

Children meet Sept. - May:
9:30 - 10:30 am

Adults meet year-round:

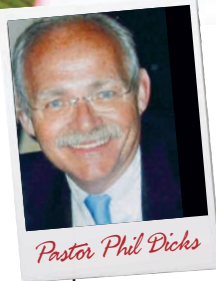
9:45 - 10:30 am

Worship:

10:45 - 11:45 am

Youth Fellowship:

2nd Saturday of every month



Pastor Phil Dicks

Due to recent
COVID-19 restrictions,
the Mingo UMC
is closed through
March 31, 2020.

CONNECT:

Pastor Dicks:

515-418-0807

Church Office:

641-363-4229
(to leave a message)

Email:

info@mingoumc.org

Web:

www.mingoumc.org

Facebook:

Mingo United Methodist Church

Address:

Mingo United Methodist Church
202 W. Main St. • PO Box 9
Mingo, IA 50168

How is the “GO BE THE CHURCH” coming?

I hope everyone is surviving and staying sane in our recent pandemic! I had initially intended to talk about Easter in this newsletter. But instead, it has been a week when our wildest dreams - right out of a pandemic movie became a reality. It has brought “changes” that we never imagined in just a few days. Change that has changed our lives, our routine, our country and our world. It really is day-to-day. Lots of the distractions are gone. Instead, it is replaced by new routines and of some boredom... “now what can I do?”

Let me offer (1) a question, (2) a “spiritual reality: “What can I do?” and (3) ultimately hope in the face of fear (part of my online sermon this Sunday).

(1) A QUESTION: Did you do or see or experience anything that was a blessing to you or someone else that would not have happened were we not practicing social distancing? Share it with me. I’m looking for good “true to life” sermon stories. *(Text or call me at 515-418-0807 or email me at phildicks@gmail.com)*

(2) SPIRITUAL REALITY: “WHAT CAN I DO?” As I shared in the sermon last Sunday, it’s the question I asked an emergency room doctor when I had Connie (my wife) in the ER. In light of everything going on, I asked, “What can I do?” His response was “Love one another!” It shocked me back into a spiritual reality when he spoke those words. In all honesty, it was the last thing I expected him to say. “You’re a Pastor. You know this.” He told me that was the greatest thing you could do – a spiritual reality turned into an action. People are going to need that in the days and weeks ahead. Now we will have to put “Love One Another” into action. Day by day, call by call, text by text, note by note... that will be what really gets us through. I needed the words he spoke which reminded me that even though we are practicing “social distancing” we still have the mission call from Jesus: “Go be the church.” Again, I’m looking for stories about what you have done or what has been done “unto you” that was all about “Love One Another.” Share them with me... Be a light in time of crisis!

(3) And Finally, HOPE IN THE FACE OF FEAR: Fear has an important role to play in our lives – it helps us avoid or prepare for danger. But fear is meant to move us to action, and beyond that, I believe, to faith. A couple of years ago I shared an “acronym” that helps us to live unafraid – the first letter is from the word “FEAR”:

- F**ace your fears with a bias of hope (we choose to believe things will get better)
- E**xamine your fears in the light of the facts (we’ll be doing that this weekend)
- A**ttack your anxieties with action (fear is meant to lead us to act)
- R**elease your cares to God

Over 100 times the Bible tells us, “Don’t be afraid.” In Psalm 27:1 David tells us why:
“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”

Again, in Psalm 56:3-4, David tells of his strategy for combatting fear:
“When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.
In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I am not afraid.”





RUSH Youth Fellowship

Our March meeting was cancelled. In place of our April meeting, we had originally planned on attending the JESUS movie at Cinemark Altoona, but it was also cancelled. We hope to plan our special Youth Sunday, so more information will be coming soon. **RUSH YF is open to all youth 7-12 grades. If you have any questions please call Dawn and Kent at 641-363-3299.**



CHANGES TO THE PENNY JAR COLLECTION:

Our penny jar collection has traditionally helped defray the shipping costs of the UMCOR health kits which have undergone major changes this year. Our youth & adult leaders volunteer their time and muscle power to assemble the kits and travel to the Ingathering collection site at a host church, where they help deliver, pack and load the trucks. The hosting church charges a \$10-per person fee to attend. For this reason, we would like our trusty penny jar to become a “dollar” donation jar as well, to help cover the cost of the attendance fee for our church volunteers.

So please bring your extra change or bills each Sunday to fill our jar.

Thank you for having such generous & giving hearts!

March 2020 –

Administrative Board Meeting Minutes

Due to recent COVID-19 restrictions, the Mingo UMC is currently closed. The situation will be reassessed after March 31, 2020.

The Administrative Board met at the church on Wed., March 11th at 6:00 pm with Janice Gregerson, Bill & Theresa Berriman, Julie Warner, Carol Kimberley, Rodney Altes, Bob Pease, Chubb Borts, Jolene Brady, and Pastor Phil. Chairman Bob Leonard was absent due to illness.

Pastor Phil opened with a prayer. Carol K. moved to accept last month’s secretarial report as printed in the church newsletter. Motion was seconded by Bob P. and passed.

Treasurer Theresa presented the financial report for approval. Deposits totaled \$x,xxx.xx. Debits totaled \$x,xxx.xx. The balance on the checkbook statement was \$x,xxx.xx as of February 28th. All accounts balanced. Motion to approve the financial report was made by Bob P. Seconded by Chubb. Approval given. Theresa added that she is still working with Bank Iowa in Colfax to tweak the account types for the church.

Jolene shared that Florence & Perezi sent a very nice thank you, photographs and copies of the receipts for the goods they purchased with our financial gifts. Jeri Ann shared the photos with the congregation this past Sunday. We will also include these in the upcoming April church newsletter.

Since the nation and several communities are experiencing a heavy flu season, and due to the sensitivity of some immune-compromised members, the Safety Potluck that was scheduled for next Sunday, Mar. 8th will be postponed and rescheduled for a future date. The March Meal and Matinee, featuring the movie “Risen,” scheduled for Thursday, Mar. 26th, has been cancelled. These notices have been sent out via email, text alerts and social media.

Discussion ensued regarding safeguards for our church family. The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) has offered guidance to faith-based organizations and churches and suggested basic guidelines for healthy practices, which include the well-known advice of covering coughs and sneezes, staying home if feeling ill and washing hands frequently. The Bishop is urging congregations to be prepared, but also to be calm. Our current Emergency Plan needs to be updated to include health guidelines. The Worship Committees at both churches will be meeting to discuss these specific changes and will prepare a set of guidelines to annex our current Emergency Plan. Bill will look into getting 3 hand sanitizer stations. It was agreed upon that hand-holding at the end of the church service and meetings will continue to be suspended for the next several weeks. Other simple changes to occur will include collection plates that will be placed at the rear of the sanctuary instead of passing between each member during the offertory; the microphone will not be passed individually during announcements; the congregation will be asked to spread out when sitting in the church pews (although family units may sit together); and closed or close quarters will be avoided for holding meetings. These practices, as well as extra cleaning and disinfectant procedures, will be in place until this season of illness subsides.

Jolene noted that the (VBS) Family Day Camp date has been confirmed and set for Sat., July 11th, from approx. 2:00 - 7:00 pm, which will include a Bible/Gospel message, music, recreation, snacks, entertainment, and an evening meal and party. Cole Reiman, entertainer and juggler, has been secured for our date. The Farrar UMW will supply snacks this year, as we rotate each year between churches. The Mingo UMW will be asked to help with serving the snacks, if available. More information about the Family Day Camp will be shared as details become fine-tuned.

Jolene reminded others the April church newsletter deadline is the 20th. She also touched base on upcoming events. The Farrar UMC fundraiser to help support the Bondurant-Farrar FFA program will be held on Mon., Mar. 23rd. Palms should be ordered in time for Palm Sunday, which is Apr. 5th. The Farrar & Mingo churches alternate locations for special services each year. Maundy Thursday (4/9) will be at Farrar and Good Friday (4/10) services will be held at Mingo. Service times will remain at 7:00 pm for those two services to coincide with sundown. The Sunday school will plan on having their traditional egg hunt at the end of Sunday school on Easter Sunday, Apr. 12. The Sunday school and youth are working on ironing out a date for the upcoming Youth Sunday, as well as a time to recognize our 2020 graduates (which this year will be Kolbe McKee).

Pastor reported that the SPRC will meet on Mar. 22nd. We have started our second program/study following the book entitled “God’s Great Love Story,” by Rachel Rotert, which is a simplified 7-week study that moves through the entire Bible. On Sun., Apr. 5th, Pastor will include a Protestant “Shabbat” focus for Palm Sunday. Pastor also noted that the United Methodist Women will be offering \$1,000 grants for Iowa UMW units. Paperwork will become available shortly and will need to be submitted in April.

Bill mentioned that he met with the Mingo City Council about removing trees along the church ditch. A variety of trees including oak, American hazelnut and cranberry bushes will be planted. Rodney added that they will also possibly use memorial/monetary gift to increase the concrete area in the parking lot, but this will not take place until the tree removal is completed.

As decided at a previous meeting, March’s Local Mission Giving for \$100.00 will go to Clearview Recovery Center in Prairie City. The April donation will go to the Vacation Bible School (Family Day Camp) program. (Hawthorn Hill has been added back to our rotation for July.)

Bill B. moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Rodney. All prayed “The Lord’s Prayer” together in closing.

Jolene Brady, Recording Secretary



Faith Power Assembly Church & MISSION HARVEST MINISTRIES SCHOOL IGANGA, UGANDA Keep our sister church & school in your daily prayers for safety & provision. *Thank you — Pastor Perezi & Florence Were*

Tues., Mar. 3, 2020 — **THANK YOU!!** Special greetings and love in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Hope this mail finds you in good health and the entire church family.

Back here we are doing well, getting along with our busy school routine. We are almost half way through our studies in the first term; the school population has now grown to 563, we are now faced with a good problem of needing even more room to accommodate the learners!! We are trusting God for with Him all things are possible.

We were able to purchase some household items, food for the school children and some rolls of wire fencing. Due to the increased numbers of the school children, some had started running through the neighborhood! So we had to buy the wire mesh to fence off behind the school. I also purchased a water pump for the school because the old one had blown off!

The rains are back once again – our prayer is they may be normal rains because today the food prices are high because much of the land produce was destroyed by excessive rains last year! Please see these photos of the food we purchased & the wire mesh rolls. We dug a trench behind the school structure too for the purpose of hindering the rain water from crossing through the school compound. We have been cementing the stones together. We are yet to raise the wire fencing. We will have generator updates soon! These blessings were made possible through all of you!

We send our sincere love and greetings to all of you and the church in Iowa. We appreciate your love and care. We are so overjoyed to have these unbelievable gifts, thanks to all of you. Praise God for sharing your love with us! Much love, dear sisters & brothers in Christ,

Florence



UPDATES on the Mission Ingathering

The Mission Ingathering Taskforce oversees the yearly Thanksgiving Ingathering for the Iowa Conference. When the taskforce met in December 2019, they voted to discontinue sending kits created by churches to UMCOR, and instead work solely with the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. Money can still be given directly to UMCOR or through the Conference office. Other UMCOR projects supported by the Ingathering include Self Help International, Heifer International, Mobility Worldwide and Church World Services.

Midwest Mission has slightly different requirements for kits than UMCOR. One example is a one-handed sewn school bag and no plastic bags in the school kits. The different kits include personal dignity kits (which our church collects items for), layette kits, school kits and feminine hygiene kits.

A little history regarding Midwest Mission in Chatham, Illinois:

Midwest Mission opened its distribution center for disaster ministry in 2000. It

provides a hands-on mission experience to those who serve there helping to distribute education, health, micro-business, and disaster relief supplies both locally and internationally.

Midwest Mission is one of ten cooperating depots in the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) supply network. Midwest Mission distributes UMCOR supplies in response to disasters within the United States.

Midwest Mission distributes its kits, resources and supplies after receiving a request. Supplies are given free of charge regardless of gender, race, or religion. They also connect with local aid organizations by providing items that are received but do not meet kit requirements.

Midwest Mission also partners with Christians in Mission, Food for the Poor, Franciscan Mission Warehouse, and US Southern Command.

If anyone is interested in volunteering to work at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center you may contact them to make reservations at (217)483-7911. They have 32 dormitory spaces available.

Marilyn Matthews,
Mingo UMC Missions



MIDWEST MISSION
DISTRIBUTION CENTER
midwestmission.org

1001 Mission Drive
Pawnee, IL 62558
217.483.7911
office@midwestmission.org

Personal Dignity Kit

Kit Contains:

- 1 Bath Hand Towel - No kitchen towels
- 1 Bath Washcloth - No kitchen towels
- 1 Comb - sturdy - No rattail or picks
- 1 Razor - with guard
- 1 Nail Clippers - No nail files or emery boards
- 10 Band - Aids—3/4" x 3"
- 1 Adult Toothbrush - No multipacks
- 1 Toothpaste - 2.5 oz. or larger
- 1 Bar Soap - 3-4 oz.
- 1 Shampoo - 15-18 oz.
- 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz. - stick, roll on, or pump

* All items must be NEW & placed in a 1-gallon resealable plastic bag *

To provide a kit without shopping or sewing,
Send a monetary donation to
MMDC - 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62558

Anniversary

CARD SHOWER

Jerry & Luanne Heffelfinger will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on April 10, 2020 with a card shower. Well wishes can be sent to them at: **10190 Hwy. F-24 W., Mingo, Iowa 50168**

Prayer Chain Ministry



Farrar & Mingo prayer requests may be initiated by contacting either our Pastor, Warren Nielsen (Farrar) or Jolene Brady (Mingo). At that point, a text and email will be sent out, and a phone call.

When a prayer request is initiated that might need a follow-up, we will ask the recipients if it might be ok for us to contact them again in a week or two for an update on their condition, or outcome of the situation, etc.

If you'd like to join this special ministry team or would like more information, please contact Warren Nielsen or Jolene Brady.

Mingo Contact:
Jolene Brady
jolene@bradyworks.com
515-508-9009

Farrar Contact:
Warren Nielsen
nielsenwl72@gmail.com
515-707-4967



FARRAR UMC NEWS: Ways to Connect —

To find out about Farrar UMC upcoming events & information, visit FarrarUMC.org or the Farrar United Methodist Church Facebook page.

PRAYER & CARE

Prayer Concerns for April

Please keep these friends in your thoughts & prayers.

• Families, friends, and communities world-wide as we face this season of widespread illness.

- The Family of Judy Rumbaugh
- Betty Atwood
- Jeff Heffelfinger
- Andy Leonard
- Roger LeBel
- Tara (*Sonny Deaton's daughter*)
- Sonny Deaton
- Melany Vry
- Harold Long
- Pastor Steve & Melissa Gross Family (*Haitian missionaries*)
- Mike & Ashley (McKee) Rude
- Chris & Jenny Heydon Family
- Cash Dickerson (*CM elementary student*)
- Peggy Vespestad
- Bill McGinnis
- Brice Udelhoven (*Mingo resident*)
- Bill & Theresa Berriman family, daughter Dawn & children
- Carol Tiffany
- Kory & Trisha Hobbs (*Mingo family*)
- Bob Moreland
- Karen Carney
- Colby Lillegard
- Juliana Roberts (*Marie Woodruff's granddaughter-in-law*)
- Randy & Holly Robertson Clapp
- John Cory (*Lori Cory's father-in-law*)
- Steve Sesker (*Peggy Vespestad's brother*)
- The people of Bolivia, Haiti, Uganda, and other persecuted Christians
- Carol Kimberley
- Eric Johnson (*friend through Janice Gregerson*)
- Emerson Karl & Family - Parents: Seth & Brittany Karl (*4-yr-old with liver cancer from Bondurant*)
- The Family of Jerry Kinney
- Judy Mau (*friend of McKee's*)
- The people of Nashville & central Tennessee after the devastating storms & deadly tornadoes
- Ralph (John) Cory (*Andy Cory's father*)
- Jean Osborn (*Betty Karn's cousin*)

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

Due to recent COVID-19 restrictions, the Mingo UMC is currently closed. The situation will be reassessed after March 31, 2020.

After the restrictions are lifted, please join us at 9:30 am on Sunday mornings for Sunday school. Sunday, April 5th is Palm Sunday and April 12th will be Easter Sunday. If able, we'll celebrate with our annual egg hunt at the end of Sunday school on the 12th. Everyone is welcome!



United Methodist Women

The Mingo UMW Satellite Circle met on Wed., March 11th at 10:00 am. Janice Gregerson opened with all saying "Our Purpose." Dues were collected, as well as the Bidwell Riverside collection. Treasurer's report was given. Cards were sent to past members. The 2020 Conference pledge was sent. A lesson on prayer was given by Chubb, and a delicious lunch was served by Donna.

Ione Cleverley, Secretary



IOWA'S LIVING ROADWAYS

To follow along with the community as it participates in the Iowa's Living Roadway Community Visioning Program, visit: www.communityvisioning.org and then click on the "Visioning Communities" drop down for the map of this year's participants. Click on **Mingo** to view our news.

OUR CALENDAR ~ APRIL 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
PLEASE NOTE: Due to recent COVID-19 restrictions, the Mingo UMC is closed to the public through March 31, 2020. This means there will be NO worship services, Sunday school or youth activities, Bible studies or in-person meetings through March 31, 2020. After this time, the situation will be reassessed.			1 <i>April Fool's Day</i>	2	3	4
5 <i>Palm Sunday</i> COMMUNION 	6 <i>Holy Week</i>	7	8 10:00 am - UMW Meeting 6:00 pm - Board Meeting	9  MAUNDY Thursday 7:00 pm - Service @ Farrar UMC	10 <i>Good Friday</i> 7:00 pm - Service @ Mingo UMC	11 24-Hr. Prayer Vigil
12 <i>Easter Sunday</i> Egg hunt at end of Sunday School - All children invited! 	13	14	15	16	17	18 
19 FOOD PANTRY	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22	23	24	25
26 	27 	28	29	30	Since information is rapidly changing each day, we encourage everyone to please stay informed through radio, television, and/or various forms of social media to stay abreast of changing situations and opportunities.	

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

Send all newsletter entries to Jolene by the 20th of the month.
Thank you! [jolene@bradyworks.com]



- April 3** — Diane Matthews Riesburg
Jaycie Webster
- April 5** — Bailey Pease
- April 6** — Melany Vry
- April 8** — Brian Rumbaugh

- April 10** — Sarah Burns
Jerry & Luanne Heffelfinger (Anniversary)
- April 12** — William Gregerson
- April 14** — Marshall Jackson

- April 18** — Craig Warner
- April 28** — Kevin Altes
- April 30** — Colton Harder





Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Due to recent COVID-19 restrictions, the Mingo UMC is closed to the public through March 31, 2020.

This means there will be NO worship services, Sunday school or youth activities, Bible studies or in-person meetings through March 31, 2020. After this time, the situation will be reassessed.

Alternative Worship Opportunities: Pastor Phil is working on the possibility of recording Sunday sermons that will be posted on our church YouTube channel. More information will be shared as soon as it becomes available.

Easter Lilies: If anyone wants to order an Easter lily, please let Theresa know at 515-249-0698 or taberriman@gmail.com. We need a count as soon as possible. The lilies will be \$10 each. Please mail your payment to: Mingo UMC, P.O. Box 9, Mingo, IA 50168. Checks can be made to Mingo UMC with the word "Lily" in the memo. Please also make a notation if you would like it to be in memory or honor of someone special. You may include the note with your check, or email: communications@mingoumc.org

Movie: The JESUS movie scheduled for Holy Week has been canceled. Refunds will be available through the movie theater.

Since information is rapidly changing each day, we encourage everyone to please stay informed through radio, television, and/or various forms of social media to stay abreast of changing situations and opportunities.

Remember to be God's love by offering prayer and caring support to our elderly, widows, young families and those who are separated from or have no families. God has said over and over, "Do not fear, for I am with you."

Mingo United Methodist Church
Pastor Phil Dicks
202 W. Main St.
PO Box 9
Mingo, IA 50168