



# St. Mark's United Methodist Church

## November 2020 Newsletter



### All-Saint's Sunday – November 1, 2020

Grace and peace to each one of you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. On the first Sunday of November, many of our churches observe All-Saint's Sunday. As we honor the lives of our loved ones who have died over this past year, we also remember those around the world who have died of COVID-19, over one million, one hundred and twenty-seven thousand children, youth, women, and men. We grieve the loss of every life, each one precious in God's sight. And we remember that what affects one affects all of us.

As the seasons change, the air becomes crisp, and the leaves turn and fall to the ground, we receive with quiet joy the gift of magnificent colors. At the same time, with so many losses, when many are not even able to see their loved ones, we are reminded of the importance of letting go of what we want and thinking about what is best for all. For we are all part of one human family, intertwined with one another. Each life and death matters. The apostle Paul reminds us, "For I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord: not death or life, not angels or rulers, not present things or future things, not powers or height or depth, or any other thing that is created."

Let us pray,  
On this day of the saints of life,  
Send the dew that makes faith grow strong,  
Establish in our beings the law of eternal love.  
On this day of the saints of power,  
Quell the wrath of the squalls that break.  
Be with us in the eye of the storm,  
Your compass in our hearts.  
On this day of the saints of virtue,  
Be with us in our tasks, heavn's company sharing our work,  
Bringing us mercy and peace.  
Encourage those you call to run their race with all their heart.  
Keep us worthy of our calling,  
That we may come with your saints to glory everlasting.  
Hasten the day when we shall be one.  
As they shine, may we shine.  
As we walk in their steps, may we join them in glory everlasting. Amen.

*(singing)*

For all the Saints who from their labors rest,  
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia, Alleluia.

### Join us this Advent Season for "The Journey" by Adam Hamilton

This year our sermon series during Advent will follow Adam Hamilton's book. "The Journey Walking the Road to Bethlehem". "We will follow the footsteps of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and others, gaining insight into our own journeys with Christ."

November 29<sup>th</sup> – Luke 1:26-38

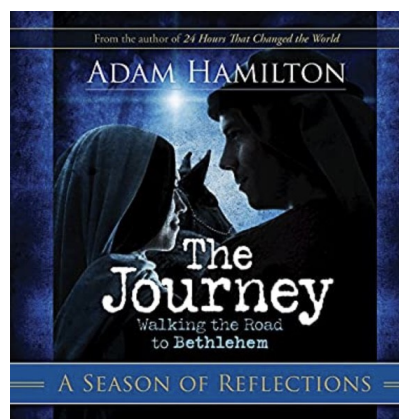
December 6<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 1:18-24

December 13<sup>th</sup> Luke 1:39-45

December 20<sup>th</sup> – Luke 2:1-7

There will be an Advent devotional available for \$10.00 on Sunday mornings if you want to pick one up to follow along during Advent or you can order on your own if you are not attending in-person worship.

The book is also available on-line for \$13.00 if you would like to order on your own and read along with Adam's travels to the Holy Land.



## Update on Larry and Jane Kies

Greetings All,

As you are probably aware, St. Mark's has been a great supporter of the United Methodist missionaries Larry and Jane Kies. Every year for many years St. Mark's has collected a special offering of \$2500 to support their work at Africa University in Zimbabwe. Larry officially retired in September of this year, and Jane continues her teaching at Africa University.

I have attached an article that Bishop Laurie Haller wrote about Larry and his continued volunteer work as well as the work Jane will be continuing.

This year from 2 different special offerings we have collected \$1250 which we have sent to Jane Kies for her missionary work in Zimbabwe. Here is a link to the article from Bishop Laurie.

<http://www.lauriehaller.org/from-everywhere-to-everywhere-2/>

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Pastor Bonnie & Vicki Eaton - Chair of Missions



### Time Change November 1st!

Daylight Savings Time ends on November 1st. Remember to turn your clock back one hour. If you don't, you'll just be early for worship.



### All Saint's Sunday

We will remember those who have died this past year on Sunday, November 1st for All Saints Sunday by lighting a candle for each and their name in the bulletin insert.



### Veterans Day November 11th

Thank you to all the Veterans for your courage, dedication, hard work, and sacrifice for your country.

Thank you to the military families for your support, resilience, and sacrifice.

We remember you and honor you.





## 2nd AWE Facebook Live Event

Shop Their Boutique on Facebook Live  
Thursday, December 10th at 7 PM.



Shop “live” with them as they model and show all of their newest boutique items! They have masks in 3 different styles, handbags, shoulder bags, travel bags, reversible aprons, and more!



All of the markets have been canceled, and their shows have been postponed because of the pandemic, but they still want to be able to bring us all of their beautiful products hand-made by local African women! Please invite your friends and join them for this fun virtual boutique shopping event!



you will be able to choose your items “live” or contact them after to purchase by cash, check, or credit card. They offer shipping (with a small added charge) or local pick up in Cedar Rapids, IA during business hours at our AWE shop within St. Mark’s UMC.

[www.facebook.com/  
AfricanWomenEmpowered](https://www.facebook.com/AfricanWomenEmpowered)

## Happy Thanksgiving from

### St. Mark’s Staff!

The church office will be closed on Wednesday 11/25, Thursday, 11/26, Thanksgiving Day as well as Friday, 11/27 to observe the holiday.



## Christmas Dinner That Wasn’t Able to Happen!!!

As we all know Covid-19 has changed everything we do for ourselves and our families. According to the guidance of our Methodist Conference we will not be able to hold the Christmas Dinner this year as in the past 32 years. We are not able to have a large group in attendance and suggested that we do not fix the meals to serve and deliver!!!!

Be assured that next year 2021 we will have a bigger and better dinner for those who come to depend on the nourishment as well as the fellowship of all those that help to donate, prepare and serve this much needed meal - OUR yearly event.

Your generosity in the past has benefited many and will continue in the future.

Thank you, Becky Figge



**In the event of severe weather, please watch KCRG, Channel 9 for notices of cancellations regarding church events. According to current church policy, if the Cedar Rapids Public Schools are cancelled, then all church activities are cancelled, and the church offices would have limited staff based on their ability to get to work.**



## November Birthdays

Ervin Root	1
Jean Brutsman	2
Alayah Johnson	3
Lauren Salee	6
Jeryl Cox	7
Kim Humbert	7
Sandy Ashley	9
Colleen Lewis	10
Stephanie Clark	11
Williamu Tumwizere	11
Kendra Hargrave	12
Darrell Bacon	13
Emeline Kamuguisha	13
Scarlett Kepler	15
Judy Korch	15
Finnegan Wiegel	17
Grayson Shepard	18
Mike Fairchild	21

Jon Smith	21
Justin Ehlert	22
Cheryl Kagoma	22
Peg Watts	22
Craig Kepler	24
Laura Clark	25
Terri Bronner	26
Paul Steinke	26
Katy Ward	28

## November Anniversaries

Aaron and Holland Warner	15
Ron and Donna Mustaine	19
John and Diana Robeson	22
Kelvin and Terri Bronner	24
Steve and Joni Ehlert	27
Tom and Mandy Sullivan	30

Please let the office know if we missed your special day, #396-6361. Thank you!

## Stewardship Report

Sep-20						
Month	General Budget			Building Expansion Fund		
	Income	Expenses	Net	Income	Loan Payments	Loan Balance
Month	\$20,370	\$26,414	(\$6,044)	\$2,678	\$3,700	\$640,385
YTD	\$231,684	\$254,984	(\$23,300)			

### Bank Account Information 9/30/2020

Current Balance: \$98,175 \* Includes \$41,300 from PPP loan

Building Fund Balance: \$19,617

Other Designated Funds: \$36,986

Available for General Budget: \$41,572 \* Includes \$41,300 from PPP loan

## Our Faithfulness in Church Attendance

Date	9:30 AM In-Person	Facebook Live Views	Website Views	Totals
10/4/20	35	116	24	175
10/11/20	37	82	16	135
10/18/20	29	88	14	131
10/25/20	41	94	13	148
Totals	142	380	67	589

### Due to COVID-19

We offer 1 service Sundays at 9:30 AM in 3 venues:

1. In-person (please call or email the week ahead & mask)
2. Facebook Live (St. Mark's UMC—Cedar Rapids)
3. Video under Messages & Music tab on website (stmarksumccr.com)

Church Activities remain online only.

Office hours: M - F 9 AM - 3 PM



# November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 Communion</b> <b>All Saints Day</b> 9:30 AM In-Person Worship Service <i>and</i> <i>Facebook Live and</i> <i>video on website</i>  6 PM—SMASH In-Person	<b>2</b> 9 AM—AWE  3PM— Boys & Girls Club	<b>3 Election Day</b> All Day—WIC 10 AM—Staff Meeting 11:30 AM - Heritage Agency on Aging Food Distribution under canopy 3PM— Boys & Girls Club  6 PM—Women's Bible Study	<b>4</b> 9 AM—AWE  3 PM— Boys & Girls Club  6:30 PM Zoom Adult Small Group	<b>5</b>  3PM— Boys & Girls Club 6:30 PM SPPRC— Parlor 7 PM—Band rehearsal	<b>6</b> 7:30 AM—Zoom Men's Bible Study  9 AM—AWE 9:30 AM—Bible Study 3 PM— Boys & Girls Club	<b>7</b>  12:00 PM—NA Meeting
<b>8</b> 9:30 AM In-Person Worship Service <i>and</i> <i>Facebook Live and</i> <i>video on website</i>  6 PM—SMASH In-Person Outside	<b>9</b> 9 AM—AWE  3 PM— Boys & Girls Club	<b>10</b> 10 AM—Staff Meeting  11:30 AM - Heritage Agency on Aging Food Distribution under canopy 3PM— Boys & Girls Club 6 PM—Women's Bible Study	<b>11 Veterans Day</b>  9 AM—AWE  3 PM— Boys & Girls Club  6:30 PM—Zoom Adult Small Group	<b>12</b> 1-3 PM—Food Pantry Distribution under canopy  3PM— Boys & Girls Club 7 PM—Band rehearsal	<b>13</b> 7:30 AM—Zoom Men's Bible Study  9 AM—AWE 9:30 AM—Bible Study 3 PM— Boys & Girls Club	<b>14</b>  12:00 PM—NA Meeting
<b>15</b> 9:30 AM In-Person Worship Service <i>and</i> <i>Facebook Live and</i> <i>video on website</i>  6 PM—SMASH In-Person Outside	<b>16</b> 9 AM—AWE  3 PM— Boys & Girls Club	<b>17</b> 10 AM—Staff Meeting  11:30 AM - Heritage Agency on Aging Food Distribution under canopy 3 PM—Boys & Girls Club 6 PM—Women's Bible Study	<b>18</b> 9 AM—AWE  3 PM—Boys & Girls Club  6:30 PM—Zoom Adult Small Group	<b>19</b> 1—3 PM Food Pantry Distribution under canopy  3 PM—Boys & Girls Club 7 PM—Leader Board Meeting	<b>20</b> 7:30 AM—Zoom Men's Bible Study  9 AM—AWE 9:30 AM—Bible Study 3 PM—Boys & Girls Club	<b>21</b>  12:00 PM—NA Meeting
<b>22</b> 9:30 AM In-Person Worship Service <i>and</i> <i>Facebook Live and</i> <i>video on website</i>  6 PM—SMASH In-Person Outside	<b>23</b> 9 AM—AWE  3 PM— Boys & Girls Club	<b>24</b> 10 AM—Staff Meeting  11:30 AM - Heritage Agency on Aging Food Distribution under canopy 3PM— Boys & Girls Club 6 PM—Women's Bible Study	<b>25 Office Closed</b> No School Day 9 AM—AWE  3PM— Boys & Girls Club  6:30 PM—Zoom Adult Small Group	<b>26 Thanksgiving Day</b> Office Closed  3PM— Boys & Girls Club 7 PM—Band rehearsal	<b>27 Office Closed</b> 7:30 AM—Zoom Men's Bible Study  9 AM—AWE 9:30 AM—Bible Study 3PM— Boys & Girls Club	<b>28</b>  12:00 PM—NA Meeting
<b>29</b> 9:30 AM In-Person Worship Service <i>and</i> <i>Facebook Live and</i> <i>video on website</i>  6 PM—SMASH In-Person Outside	<b>30</b> 9 AM—AWE  3 PM Boys & Girls Club					<b>Office Hours</b> <b>9 AM— 3 PM</b> <b>Monday-Friday</b>



St. Mark's United Methodist Church  
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**Return Service Requested**

### **St. Mark's United Methodist Church Staff**

**Pastor Bonnie Koeppen**

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**Administrative and Social Media Assistant**

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**Director of African Ministries**

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**Financial Secretary**

Chuck Weber

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**Accompanists**

Jason Behrens

Michele Gibson

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

#319-396-6361 [www.stmarksumCCR.com](http://www.stmarksumCCR.com)

Facebook: St. Mark's UMC—Cedar Rapids

Instagram: [st\\_marks\\_umc\\_cedar\\_rapids](https://www.instagram.com/st_marks_umc_cedar_rapids)

Pastor's Blog: [bonniekoeppen.squarespace.com](http://bonniekoeppen.squarespace.com)