

Living in Hope Faith and Grace

"...I submitted to be more vile..." These are words from a journal entry made by John Wesley on April 2, 1739. Wesley had finally thrown caution to the wind and preached outside and away from a pulpit. Now we might scoff at this, but in 1739, Wesley was breaking the 'law,' not of God, but of man. He stepped out of his pulpit and WAY out of his comfort zone to proclaim the Good News. Better yet, he proclaimed the Good News to the poor! John Wesley didn't start out to create anything new. Instead his focus was to improve what the Anglican church was doing. Seeing those who needed the message of the Bible not only in some distant place, but also right outside their front door. Wesley taught that the mission field was right in the midst of us, and to know the Good News was to compel us to action in service to those God put in our lives. This idea of being God's instrument of love, justice and mercy did not make Wesley a hero, nor did it even go so far as to say he was accepted. In fact, Wesley was despised. Ridiculed. Cast out. Nevertheless, he continued to proclaim Good News to his neighborhood, region, and even right here in America. You see,

Wesley was vile in a true sense of the word. What might that be? He did this thing that was terribly unpleasant and thought to be of little value. He stepped out of his comfort zone and into God's will. Two hundred seventy nine years later we are still challenged to be vile so that God's will might be completed in the world. We are challenged to do things that look different than before, to do discipleship more completely, to step out our doors into our community and proclaim the Good News to those we meet & even perhaps to proclaim in a different way or context than ever before. Step out your door! Proclaim the Good News! Be vile for God!

Be blessed, be a blessing, and take someone on the journey with you! Pastor Kim

THANK YOU

to all those who have taken time to let the office know that they would like their newsletter to be sent electronically. We know change isn't easy, but this one? It gives you COLOR!!

Are you headed to the Sheldon area?
We have an abundance of shoes to go to Village Northwest to be rehabbed!
If you are headed that way, please let the Alta office know so we can make arrangements.

Our New District Superintendent

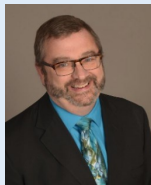
Over the summer as we went about our routine activities, the Northwest District office underwent a subtle change. Our previous District Superintendent, Tom Carver, headed for Bettendorf, Iowa and our new District Superintendent, Ron Carlson, moved into the District parsonage. I know several of you have already met the new DS, but if you have not, I encourage you to take a few moments next time you are in Storm Lake to just stop by the District Office and wish him well. Find a few comments from Ron below. His complete article can be found in the August *Letters from the Lakeshore* newsletter, found on the District webpage.

"While the personality, style and the things that are emphasized may change, the core of the message coming from the District office will remain the same. For me, being a follower of Jesus is not about following a whole lot of rules. In Matthew Jesus was asked about the most important rule for following God and he said, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself." "

"On the surface, that is really simple. In practice, we mess it up all the time. My hope for my time here in this beautiful district is to live out our mission of "Helping Each Other See Jesus and Become More Like Him," by living into Jesus' rule of love. When we get it right, it will be a cause for celebration and joy. When we get it wrong, we will reflect on why it was wrong and do everything we can to get it right in the future. With God's help through the Holy Spirit we will be a blessing to this entire district. "

I Am
Because We Are

ron.carlson@iaumc.org



Peterson, Alta and Silver Creek

If you received a NCD Survey, please complete and return to your local church on or before Sunday, August 5th! They need to be sent in to be calculated. Thanks so much for your help!

If You Could Choose a topic or a particular

scripture you want to learn more about, what would it be? Could it be a sermon? A sermon series? Write it down, email it, text it—whatever works best for you, to make sure Pastor Kim has your thoughts as we plan for the future.

Let all that you do
be done in Love

1 Corinthians 16:14

Lay Servant Training

Spencer, Grace United Methodist Church
8:00 am to 6:00 pm



Basic Lay Servant Training
Advanced Class: (storytelling)
Dancing with Words
Advanced Class: Leading in Prayer

The cost of the class will be \$20 per person lunch will be included. Registration deadline is Wednesday, September 19. Checks must be sent to the District Office prior to the class or you can pay online.

You will be responsible for ordering your books for your class. We will not have extras available. Books can be ordered through Cokesbury.com or Amazon.com or Bookstore.UpperRoom.org. You will need to have read the book prior to the training.

A Journey through Dementia/Alzheimer's

Dementia is an umbrella term as there are 99 different forms of dementia with Alzheimer's being the most common. Different forms of dementia have their own symptoms and patterns of progress. Most individuals diagnosed with dementia will have their own symptoms and patterns of progression. While different individuals will have unique experiences, understanding what to expect along the way can be helpful for both the individual and their caregivers.

A series of monthly workshops are being planned to help us find our way through the maze. The first workshop will be held **August 9, 2018, 9 to 11 a.m.** at Alta United Methodist Church.

If there is a particular issue you would like addressed, please submit that to the church office or directly to Pastor Karen Berg at karen.berg@iaumc.net or by telephone 515-570-9995.



The P.A.S.S. Parish Team is working on a couple goals:

- 1—To eliminate mailing as many newsletters as possible. This will save time as well as toner, paper, stamps and related expenses.
- 2—To accumulate as many updated emails, addresses and phone numbers as possible. If you have a cell number, especially if it is your primary contact, please share that with the office. This will make correspondence much more efficient and effective.

Thank you in advance for your help with our goals!

IMPORTANT

If you or a loved one are admitted to the hospital, transferred from one facility to another, receive emergency medical treatment or there is any other medical situation, neither your church, nor your pastor is likely to be contacted. Please contact Pastor Kim personally by call, message or email, so that appropriate arrangements for visitation can be made. Thanks for your help!



Join the journey to a deeper relationship with God through prayer! **See the calendar for your local congregations Prayer Team meeting time.**

In the interest of time and space, you may now find your local church Ad Board minutes posted in your building. If you would like a printed copy or a copy emailed to you, please contact the Alta office.

Anything that you would like to be in the coming Sunday's weekly bulletin, needs to be turned into the office no later than the Thursday before by 2pm.



Anything that needs to go in the September newsletter needs to be turned in by Tuesday, August 21st @ 2pm.

Missionary to Visit Alta UMC

The Rev. Douglas E. Williams is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, serving as pastor and Volunteer-In-Mission promoter of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Argentina, based in Buenos Aires. He was commissioned in October 2015.

The Argentine church has 100 congregations spread across the country. Doug is pastor of the Mendoza and San Juan churches, chaplain at Alberto Schweitzer School, and assists with the hosting of VIM teams, mostly from the United States. Doug, who was born in Virginia, is an elder of the Iowa Annual Conference and immediately prior to his missionary service was lead pastor of the Coralville United Methodist Church and an adjunct professor at Kirkwood Community College, Iowa City, Iowa. Earlier, he pastored churches in the Iowa and Tennessee Annual Conferences. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri, and a Master of Divinity degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Missouri, and a Doctor of Ministry degree from University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa.

"I grew up loving Jesus but not going to church much," Doug recalls, but he attended enough to be baptized at age 16 in a Baptist congregation. He experienced a call to ministry while on a mission trip to Haiti during his college years and enrolled in seminary after college graduation. He transitioned to The United Methodist Church and served as a pastor for 21 years. He says that the faith communities he has served have been concerned with innovative ministries, including a coffee house, ecumenical food pantry, and a pre-school.

**Join us to hear Rev. Williams story, Tuesday, August 28 at 2pm.
There will be a time refreshment and fellowship following the presentation.
All of P.A.S.S. Parish and their communities are welcome to attend!**

Contact Us

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Pastor Kristin's Contact Information:

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Weekday Emergency Only

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Pastor Karen's Contact Information:

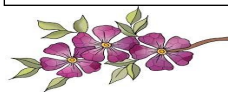
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Join us at ALL SERVICES

Sunday, August 19 for

Blessing of the Backpacks

Students (and teachers too!) of all ages are welcome to bring their backpacks to be blessed for the academic year ahead.

See you there! Blessing of the Backpacks

