



Garner United Methodist Church

885 Maben Ave., Garner, IA 50438

Rev. Kristin W. Peters; Email: pastorkristingumc@gmail.com; Office Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., M-Th

Church Office Hours: 9-2, M-Th., Phone 641-923-2191, Email: garnerumc@comm1net.net

GUMC is a community of ordinary people seeking to put into practice the extraordinary love of God.



A Message from Pastor Kristin

We are entering the season of Lent. This season we are focusing our attention on the theme of *Wilderness* created by A Sanctified Art, LLC.

“Lent begins in the wilderness. The Spirit guides Jesus into the wilderness where he comes face to face with temptation and struggle. Yet, in his forty days of fasting, resisting, and wandering, Jesus is shaped and formed for ministry. Similarly, through the wilderness of Lent, we are invited to surrender to the wild leadings of the Spirit. We rarely

enter the wilderness willingly, but hopefully through our wandering we remember who we are and whose we are. The wilderness can become sacred even if it remains dangerous. There is no wilderness space too harsh or threatening for God’s love. This Lent, we welcome you to the journey.”

Lenten Offerings:

- Ash Wednesday service on Feb. 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary with Imposition of Ashes offered at the service for all who wish to participate
- Daily devotional and pack of 48 devotional cards with a word for the day, a scripture verse, and a short prayer that can be carried with you throughout the journey available for pickup Ash Wednesday at the back of the sanctuary
- Art installation to celebrate and center our theme of *Wilderness* beginning with our first Lenten worship service on Sunday, Feb. 26, at 10:15 a.m. and changing and evolving each week as we change and evolve each week
- Lenten Bible Study, *The Difficult Words of Jesus*, by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, at 9 a.m. on Sundays from Feb. 26 – April 2 led by Pastor Kristin
- Wilderness Evening Prayer service* focused on the theme of *Wilderness* available on our Facebook page and YouTube channel each Wednesday evening of Lent at 6:30 p.m.; join us for prayer, scripture, and a song to thoughtfully center yourself alongside our faith community. ***Online only**
- Additional coloring pages and artwork created to open our hearts and minds to what the Spirit has in store for us this Lenten season available at church for Sunday service

There are many ways to participate as a community in intentional prayer and devotion as we journey nearer to the cross. Take what speaks to your heart, and share your journey with others. All are welcome at GUMC, and we can’t wait to meet you in the wilderness.

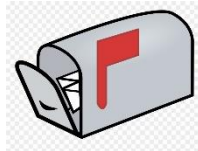
In Peace,

Rev. Kristin W. Peters

Address Reminder

If you'd like to stay in contact with Rev. Mike and Suz Shaffer, here is their new address:

Rev. Mike and Suz Shaffer
2415 River Bluff Dr. NW #109
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405



Sunday Schedule

9 a.m.	Sunday School
10:15 a.m.	Worship
11:15 a.m.	Fellowship

Worship Tech Assistants: Jill Blank, Stan Isvik, Kevin Sweers, Jody East, and/or Steve East

February Quarters: Heifer International



Thank you to all who donated items for the "Twelve Days of Christmas." We gave four gift bags and some gift cards to the residents of One Vision on Allen Street. We then dropped off remaining items at Duncan Heights to be distributed to their residents.

Quarters collected in December and January are going for heating assistance for those in need in our area. In February, quarters will go to Heifer International. Watch for further details on this Lenten project.

It's been a busy year, and we thank all of you who have shared your blessings with others.

The Missions Committee

February Fellowship Servers and Ushers

Join us for coffee and fellowship after worship service each Sunday.

These are the February **fellowship servers**:

Feb. 5: Bob and Janet Abele

Feb. 12: Souper Sundae

Feb. 19: Ryan and Ashley Ploeger

Feb. 26: Scott and Renee' Kramer

These are the February **ushers**:

Feb. 5: Russ Trulson and Pat Trulson

Feb. 12: Gary Thoms and Mark Tue

Feb. 19: Earl and Terri Beshey

Feb. 26: Jeff and Carrie Omans

Thank you for your service. If you are unable to serve, please switch with someone or call Susan Hovda at 923-2909. If you find a substitute or switch, please let Lori in the church office know as well.



UMM Meeting

The men of the church will meet on Monday, Feb. 6, at 6 p.m. with a potluck. Bring something to share as part of the meal. We will be making plans for the baked potato bar, which is scheduled for Sunday, March 5, after worship. All men are welcome!



United
Women
in Faith

Circle Meetings

Sarah Circle: No February Meeting
Feb. 12 – Souper Sundae Following Worship

Joy Circle: Thursday, Feb. 16, 9:30 a.m.
Hostess and Lesson: Val Anderson

Rebekah Circle: No February Meeting

WHO CAN WE BE TOGETHER?

This is the theme for United Women in Faith for 2023. We are a powerful force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. We are all about mission and taking care of women, children, and youth. It takes all of us to accomplish our goals and help those in need.

“AND THE PEOPLE WILL COME FROM THE EAST AND WEST, AND FROM THE NORTH AND SOUTH AND RECLINE
AT THE TABLE IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.” Luke 23:29

This is our theme scripture verse for 2023. All are invited to join our sisterhood, and we encourage all members to take an active role in UWFaith. Attend your circle meetings, take part in our unit meetings, and maybe read a book or two from our reading program. It takes all of us to be the best unit we can be.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sarah Circle will be hosting their Souper Sundae meal after worship on SUNDAY, FEB. 12.
- UWFaith Executive Board will meet on Sunday, Feb. 26, at 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If your name is listed as an executive committee member or a mission coordinator, this meeting is for you. Also, we would like the circle chairpersons to come as well. This will be a planning meeting for the upcoming year.

We look forward to a great year in United Women in Faith!
Co-Presidents,
Myra Bowman and Barb Trulson

We believe love in action can change the world.

New Session of GriefShare to Begin

The spring session of GriefShare (13 weeks) will begin Sunday, Feb. 12, and will meet here at GUMC in the Fireside Room each time (no meeting on Easter Sunday) from 2:30 – 4 p.m. GriefShare is a free, faith-based grief recovery seminar and support group open to people of any denomination. If you have questions, please contact Robin Sweers (641-860-1704) or the church office (641-923-2261). New participants can join anytime.

Grief Share is a video seminar series featuring individuals who have personally experienced the death of a loved one as well as some of the nation's foremost Christian experts speaking on grief and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective. Each seminar includes a time to allow participants to discuss the content of the DVD and to share how they are dealing with their own loss.





Souper Sundae is Back!

Bring your appetite and get in the spirit of Super Bowl Sunday on Feb. 12 while supporting mission projects. Chili, chicken noodle soup, and ice cream sundaes will be served in the Fellowship Hall right after that day's worship service. Freewill offering proceeds will go toward UWFaith mission projects.



February Birthdays

Case Ploeger	Feb. 2	Ty Glidden	Feb. 18
Ryan Sonquist	Feb. 2	Autumn Gnerer	Feb. 18
Mary Beth Cline	Feb. 4	Tristin Peterson	Feb. 18
Will Blanchard	Feb. 5	Emily Brown	Feb. 19
Mary Andrews	Feb. 6	Mary Snizek	Feb. 21
Allyson Fry	Feb. 6	Scott Seelhammer	Feb. 22
Val Anderson	Feb. 9	Jamie McGrath	Feb. 24
Caleb Prohaska	Feb. 11	Tessa Waddingham	Feb. 24
Blake Risius	Feb. 11	Renee Heitmeyer	Feb. 26
Angie Janssen	Feb. 17		

February Anniversaries

Ted and Susan Hovda	Feb. 24
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If your name, birthday, or anniversary is listed incorrectly or is missing, please call the church office so we can update our information. Thanks!

Contact Us

Church Office

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Office Closed on Fridays

Look for GUMC on Facebook by searching *Garner Iowa United Methodist Church*

YouTube Channel: Garner IA UMC-Media

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Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. -1 Corinthians 13:4-8a