



Garner United Methodist Church

885 Maben Ave., Garner, IA 50438

Rev. Kristin W. Peters; Email: pastorkristingumc@gmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours: Flexible; please make an appointment

Admin. Assistant's 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

What a beautiful day! It's officially May, and A LOT is happening at GUMC as we wrap up the school year and move into the full swing of spring and summer. In the life of the church, May brings about Ascension Day and the season of Pentecost. In the life of the United Methodist Church, I've also learned about Aldersgate Day, which is celebrated on the Sunday closest to May 24. This year, it will also be held on Pentecost Sunday.

Ascension Day is on Thursday, May 9, this year and will be celebrated on Sunday, May 12. This is the ending of the Eastertide season that culminates in the risen Christ ascending into heaven. The disciples will have to navigate what it means to be a disciple without the physical Jesus to follow. But, for now, the story of Jesus' ascension will be told and celebrated.



Pentecost is the annual celebration of the birth of the Church! Wear your red May 19 and be prepared for a service filled with the fruits of the Spirit. Find out how the early church came to be and its purpose today.

Aldersgate Day commemorates the day in 1739 when John Wesley attended a group meeting on Aldersgate Street in London and had an experience where he felt his "heart strangely warmed." This event was profound in his faith formation. We will enjoy hearing more about this fire of the heart on Pentecost Sunday.

In addition to these fun services, we will have the privilege of honoring our 2024 graduates in the church on May 5. What a blessing it is to walk alongside wonderful young people as they grow in their lives and faith.



And now for the silly/fun part: WALK YOUR PASTOR THIS MAY! I've been thinking about a way to get outdoors to enjoy the beautiful community of Garner, Iowa, and to grow in my relationship with you. A sign-up sheet with some dates to take me for a walk throughout the month of May is on the table in the church lobby. Sign up and meet me at the church at your chosen date/time. You pick the route and hopefully share a little bit about yourself and this place with me during our time together. I can't wait to get outside with you this month.

In Peace,
Rev. Kristin W. Peters

Worship Tech Assistants: Jill Blank, Stan Isvik, Kevin Sweers, Jody East, Steve East, Ruth Legge, Beth Myers, and John Bowman

May Quarters: Pool Passes

Bring Your Tabs: We plan to deliver aluminum can tabs to the Rochester Ronald McDonald House this fall; our quarters will support them in September. Please continue to pull your can tabs and place them in the jug in the lobby. Thanks!

Sunday Schedule (through May 19)

9 a.m. Sunday School (Youth ends May 5;
Adult meets through May 19.)
10:15 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Fellowship

Sunday Schedule (Beginning May 26)

9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Fellowship



May is here, along with some much-needed rainfall. It's really looking green out there!

The Missions Committee has given \$1,000 to the Methodist Church camps. We also gave \$1,500 to the Jubilee Water Project. Our Lenten quarters were designated for that project, and your contributions totaled \$1,366.53!

We will continue to collect for El Salitre Women's and Children's Center for the rest of April, and in May our Sunday quarters will go for pool passes for those who could benefit from some assistance.

Thank you to all who give so generously.
The Missions Committee

May Ushers and Fellowship Servers

Join us for coffee and fellowship after our worship service each Sunday in the Fellowship Hall.

These are the May **ushers**:

May 5: Jake Pringnitz and Pat Trulson
May 12: Terri Beshey and Russ Trulson
May 19: Jim Jass and Bob Abele
May 26: Rick Gilbert and Doug Jass

These are the May **fellowship servers**:

May 5: Greet the Grads Reception
May 12: Elton and Jean Sheets
May 19: Dean and Marcia Sonquist
May 26: Russ and Barb Trulson

Thank you for your service. If you are unable to serve, please switch with someone or call Susan Hovda at 641-923-2909. If you find a substitute or switch, please let Lori in the church office (641-923-2191) know as well.

May and June Worship Leaders

Below are the worship leaders for May and June. If you wish to be added to our list of liturgists, please let Debra Hill know. If you have been assigned a Sunday and have a conflict, feel free to trade with someone and then let Lori in the office know (641-923-2191). If you wake up feeling under the weather, please contact Debra Hill, who will be happy to fill in last-minute. Her email is artwoman825@gmail.com, or text her at 641-425-2511.

These are the May **worship leaders**:

May 5: Robin Sweers
May 12: Josh Omans
May 19: Deb Trulson & Jackson Trulson
May 26: Ted Hovda

These are the June **worship leaders**:

June 2: Robin Sweers
June 9: Lynn Smith
June 16: Mel Hiscocks
June 23: Kevin Sweers
June 30: Debra Hill



Join us Sunday, May 5, as we honor our 2024 high school graduates during worship and at the Greet the Grads reception following the service.

JENNA CHIZEK
JOLINE OEHMEN

KOLLIN HANSON
VALARIE WELSH



United
Women
in Faith

This Month's Bible Verse: Psalm 133:1 (NIV)

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!

Unit Meeting: Wednesday, May 1, 5:15 p.m.

Circle Meetings

Sarah Circle: Monday, May 6, 5:30 p.m.

Hostess: Janet Abele; Program: Diane Gilbert

Martha Circle: Wednesday, May 8, 1:30 p.m.

Hostess: Shirley Marchand; Program: Joan Nielsen

Joy Circle: Thursday, May 16, 9:30 a.m.

Hostess: Barb Stubbs; Program: Pearl Brown

Rebekah Circle: Monday, May 20, 7 p.m.

Hostess: Barb Trulson; Program: Mary Beth Cline

Research shows that women who spend a lot of time shopping live longer and are less likely to suffer from depression! Yay! Research also shows those same women have to deal with finding a place to store endless plastic shopping bags. Well, UWFaith has now found a solution to that problem. On Wednesday, May 1, we will be eating a light supper at 5:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and then learning how to use those bags to make Plarn Sleeping Mats. "Plarn" was a hard word for my computer to accept without changing. Grrr. It is a combination of plastic and yarn and refers to the way bags are used to create yarn to weave sleeping mats. These mats that we will soon assemble will be distributed internationally and locally to provide a barrier between the individual and the ground for disaster relief and for those experiencing homelessness. We will have another session by Alaire Willits on Thursday, May 2, at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall; she will continue the training for the loom project. All genders are invited to participate in this worthy cause from Midwest Mission.



Summer will soon be upon us, gals. Time to get out your swimsuits, bicycles, and camping and picnic gear. When looking at your calendar to plan those fun summer outings, be sure to save the date for our Spiritual Retreat. It will be held on Saturday, June 15, in the Salvason Ballroom at Waldorf University in Forest City. No need to get out your ballroom gowns for this; just wear casual clothes and bring your Bible and be prepared to dive into God's gift of the Sabbath. What a great opportunity to disconnect in order to connect with ourselves, others, God's creation, and God. I hope to see you there.

We are blessed to be a blessing,

Debra Hill

All-Church Fellowship & Fun Is Going on the Road!

With Mother's Day, graduations, and Memorial Day already marked on many calendars, an All-Church Fellowship & Fun event will not be held in May, but we are working on some summer dates. We plan to hold events at area campgrounds and are hoping to organize a trip to a baseball game as well. Availability will determine dates, so watch upcoming bulletins and newsletters to stay in the loop. We hope you'll join us!



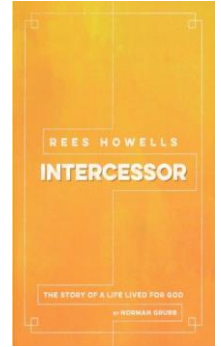
Wanted: Bags

Bring your plastic grocery bags in and place them in the tubs in the lobby. We will be off and running on our mat weaving project after our loom training on May 1 (at the UWFaith meeting) and May 2 (at 8:30 a.m. for anyone interested).

Check It Out

by Debra Hill

Rees Howells, Intercessor by Norman Grubb is a wow of a read. The back cover simply states, *How did the faith and prayers of a humble coal miner affect the course of World War II?* However, this book is so much more, so much more. Yes, there is a lot of history about events that affected Europe, Africa, and America; but the work of the Holy Spirit through Mr. Howells is so powerful. The rich history of this man's life, a man who truly died to self, can be a life-changing read. It is the biography of a man who loved God more than anything else. I am so thankful for this book, and you can find it in our lending library. It will humble you in its reading.



Time to Staff the Pantry

GUMC is helping staff God's Pantry in May. Two to three volunteers are needed each Monday morning from 9-11 a.m. and Thursday afternoon from 4-6 p.m. Thanks to those of you who have signed up already. We are still in need of volunteers for a few days/shifts. Please check out the sign-up sheets on the lobby table to see if you can help.

Have You Heard?

As a result of the generosity of those of you who donated goodies and those of you who bid on them at the Earl Beshey Dessert Auction & Bake Sale on April 14, \$11,378 was raised to help with roof replacement! That's incredible! Thanks also to those who generously give through Sunday offerings and throughout the year. You are making a difference!



May Birthdays

Hazel Wood	May 3	Myra Bowman	May 20
Bobbie Haugland	May 5	DeLyte Ebbers	May 23
Barb Young	May 8	Russ Trulson	May 24
Nicole Furst	May 9	Gail Keraus	May 25
Maurene House	May 9	Josie Omans	May 26
Renée Kramer	May 9	Todd Jass	May 27
Beverly McCormick	May 16	Billie Myers	May 29
Trevor Myers	May 19	Ruth Legge	May 31

May Anniversaries

Adam and Morgan Kramer	May 19
Darrell and Judy Schaper	May 23
Gary and Mary Thoms	May 23
Dan and Nicole Trulson	May 30

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



Easter Sunday: He Is Risen!

Contact Us

Church Office

Phone: 641-923-2191

Email: garnerumc@comm1net.net

Administrative Assistant's Office Hours: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., M-Th

Office Closed on Fridays

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

YouTube Channel: Garner IA UMC-Media

Rev. Kristin W. Peters

Email: pastorkristingumc@gmail.com

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