



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

Moving Out of Scare City

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds.

— Philippians 4: 6-7

The sense that there is not enough drives greed, fear, and exclusionary behavior. We begin to live in "Scare City" where it seems that death, starvation, feelings of being overwhelmed and swallowed up can lurk around every corner. The Good News is that this is an illusion. A spiritual journey into the truth of abundance of all that we need offers us an alternative vision of where to live our lives. This October, as we review Garner United Methodist Church's financial health, we will be "Moving Out of Scare City" and traveling to the vast, open habitats of God's grace.



Our Finance Committee has prepared a comprehensive budget for 2025 that shares our mission story. I was once told that if I wanted to know what a church cared about, I needed to look at their budget! I am proud of the ways we have supported our love of neighbors in the world in 2024. Our financial story is one of Generosity, Mission & Service, Worship, Faith Development, and Hospitality. GUMC is only able to live into this vision with your support.

This month you will have the opportunity to pledge your financial support for GUMC in 2025. We know these pledges are only estimates of your giving. However, they help us plan and adapt our goals to our reality, all while we trust in God's accompaniment and generosity. Please fill out a pledge card and return it to the office of GUMC no later than October 27, 2024. Our people at home are receiving their pledge cards by mail; for everyone else, pledge cards will be available at in-person worship beginning Oct. 6 or in the church office all of October. A line-by-line budget is also available by request to the church office.

In 2025, GUMC wants our mission story to reflect our vision to be a community of ordinary people seeking to put into practice the extraordinary love of God. With your participation, we will move out of "Scare City" and into God's Grace.

Upcoming Scriptures

Oct. 6: Towers of Power, Genesis 11: 1-9

Oct. 13: Around Every Corner, Isaiah 41:10

Oct. 20: The Other Side of the Tracks, Acts 15 :8-9

Oct. 27: Altars Everywhere, 1 Timothy 6: 18-19

In Peace,
Pastor Kristin



OUR MINISTRY STORY - 2025

Generosity, Mission, & Service

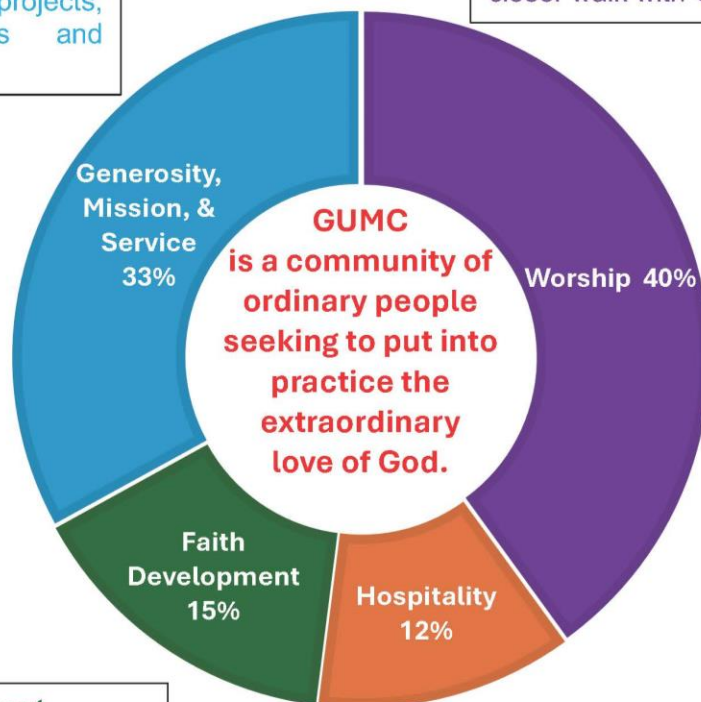
\$100,010.00

We continue to grow in generosity to make a difference in the lives of others through service projects, volunteer opportunities and mission projects.

Worship

\$121,224.00

The largest share of our budget for support of Garner UMC's mission and ministry is focused on our worship celebrations. This uplifts our congregation and can be our first encounter with new people seeking a closer walk with God.



Faith Development

\$45,459.00

An engaged process of learning and practice integrated throughout all aspects of congregational and daily life.

Hospitality

\$36,367.00

We welcome people seeking a community of faith, making them feel accepted, respected, connected, needed, and loved.



OUR MINISTRY STORY – IN ACTION

Generosity, Mission, & Service

Quarters for Various Missions (Monthly)

4 G's Cash Ministry (Once a Month)

Bishop's Ingathering (November):

- School Kits
- Health Kits

Iowa Conference Ministries and Missions:

- Apportionments

Iowa Conference Special Offerings:

- Iowa Disaster Relief
- Peace with Justice
- Native American Ministries
- UMCOR Sunday
- United Methodist Student Sunday
- Human Relations Sunday
- World Communion Sunday

UWFaith Projects:

- Food for the Soul (Casseroles)
- Souper Sundae
- Sundaes on Sunday
- Pecan Sales

UMM Dessert Auction

Comfort Quilters

Mats Matter

Prayer Shawls

Mission Committee Special Offerings:

- Jubilee Water Project
- El Salitre
- Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- Christmas Giving
- Heating Assistance

God's Pantry Support

Five Loaves, Two Fish Support

Worship

Preaching & Teaching

Celebrating the Sacraments

Worship Leadership and Support

Music Ministry

Drama & Visual Arts

Weekly Bulletins

Laity Sunday

Worship available on Facebook and You Tube

Facebook is averaging over 400 views per week in 2024, up from 280 views in 2023

Hospitality

God's Pantry

Mobile Iowa Food Pantry

LifeServe Blood Bank

Visitation & Pastoral Care

Ushers & Greeters

Five Loaves, Two Fish

GriefShare

Social Services

Monthly Newsletter

Fellowship after Church

Faith Development

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School

UWFaith Spiritual Retreat

Family, Fun and Fellowship Events

Advent & Lenten Devotionals

Vacation Bible School

Bible Studies

Labyrinth Walk

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

October Quarters: God's Pantry

Sunday Schedule

9 a.m. -- Sunday School – Adult and Youth/Children
10:15 a.m. -- Worship
11:15 a.m. – Fellowship

UW Faith Casserole Sales

Church Lobby: Sept. 29 and Oct. 6 (Sundays)
Large-Pan Chicken or Lasagna Casserole: \$25
Small-Pan Chicken or Lasagna Casserole: \$15
Pick-up Date: Saturday, Oct. 26

Bring Your Tabs: We plan to deliver aluminum can tabs to the Rochester Ronald McDonald House this month. Please continue to pull your can tabs and place them in the jug in the lobby. Thanks!



Fall is in full swing, and we are back into our busy schedules while enjoying the cooler fall weather.

Thanks to all those who purchased and donated school supplies and for the July quarter donations; the Missions Committee purchased supplies that, added to your donations, will allow us to put together 75 school kits to take to Ingathering. Sarah Circle will be assembling the kits at their meeting this month. We'll update you next month on the number of Personal Dignity (health) kits your August quarters will help provide for the Ingathering as well.

We filled two jugs with can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Ruth will be taking them to Rochester in the next few weeks. You can continue to bring in your tabs and put them in the partially filled jug. Thanks for your September quarter donations that will also support the Ronald McDonald House. During October, we will be collecting quarters for God's Pantry.



Thank you, everyone, for your contributions to these projects.
--The Missions Committee

October Ushers and Fellowship Servers

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

These are the **October ushers:**

Oct. 6: Paul Nelson and Mark Ricke
Oct. 13: Doug Jass and Jim Jass
Oct. 20: Jim Hill and Bob Abele
Oct. 27: Rob Legge and Pat Trulson

These are the **October fellowship servers:**

Oct. 6: Rick and Diane Gilbert
Oct. 13: Mark and Carrie Ricke
Oct. 20: Pat and Deb Trulson
Oct. 27: Dean and Marcia Sonquist

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.



October and November Worship Leaders

Below are the worship leaders for October and November. If you wish to be added to our list of liturgists, please let Debra Hill know. If you have a conflict, feel free to trade with someone and then let Lori in the office know (641-923-2191). Please contact Debra Hill (artwoman825@gmail.com or 641-425-2511) if you need a last-minute replacement.

These are the **October worship leaders:**

Oct. 6: Robin Sweers

Oct. 13: Lynn Smith

Oct. 20: Kevin Sweers

Oct. 27: Debra Hill

These are the **November worship leaders:**

Nov. 3: Robin Sweers

Nov. 10: Mike Brown

Nov. 17: Carrie Omans

Nov. 24: John Bowman

Let's Celebrate World Communion Sunday

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, Oct. 6

Special Offering Sunday

Bring artifacts and wear clothing that celebrates your heritage and/or places you've visited.

Tables will be set up in the Fellowship Hall for artifacts.

Please write a brief description of your artifact on a notecard to be displayed with the artifact.

(Notecards provided on tables that day if you need one.)



Walk the Labyrinth

Tuesday, Oct. 22

GUMC Fellowship Hall

Guided Walk: 3 - 3:30 p.m.

Available for Individual

Walking: 3:30 - 7 p.m.

Come plug in to some sabbath rest through this calming, meditative, prayerful practice.



I would like to thank every one of you that prayed, sent cards, and called while I was in the Mason City Hospital the first week of September. I would also like to thank Pastor Kristin for her visit and serving me communion in the hospital. All these little things help a lot when these events happen to us when we least expect them.

Janet Abele

Check It Out: *We Are Water Protectors*

by Debra Hill

As our sanctuary is gradually being turned into a river of water, I thought it only natural to write on this powerful children's book that you can find in our own church library. From author Carole Windstorm and illustrator Michaela Goade comes a beautifully written book about environmental stewardship. It is meant to both educate and inspire youth to stand up for our planet. There's even a powerful pledge at the end.

The stunning illustrations harken to the illustrator's Tlingit descent. Read it yourself or better yet, invite a young reader to join you. Engage in discussion with them about what it means to protect the water. But mostly, do it to honor Indigenous-led movements across the world.

We Are Water Protectors, check it out!





United
Women
in Faith

This Month's Bible Verse: Psalm 55:22 (NIV)

*Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you;
he will never let the righteous fall.*

Unit Meeting – Wednesday, Oct. 2, 5:15 p.m.

Circle Meetings

Sarah Circle: Monday, Oct. 7, 5:30 p.m.
Hostess: Sheri Weaver-Isvik; Program: Cheri Brown

Martha Circle: Wednesday, Oct. 9, 1:30 p.m.
Hostess: Judy Fox; Program: Mel Hiscocks

Joy Circle: Thursday, Oct. 17, 9:30 a.m.
Hostess: Ronna Myers; Program: Pearl Brown

Rebekah Circle: Monday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m.
Hostess: Mary Beth Cline; Program: Barb Trulson

...and a good time was had by all.

Our Camp Clear Lake District event was a success! From the food and fellowship to the general meeting, fair trade items, music, and memorial to name a few, the day was just a special time for UWFaith members. Our program speaker was Diana Koppen, who shared information from her book *Step Back in Time: Breaking Free of Rigid Boxes*. It was the fascinating story of her aunt, Marion Helland, a Norwegian-American woman who was drawn to the civil rights movement because of its basic drive towards justice. A Cylinder, Iowa, native and Waldorf grad, Marion spent her summers away from her Minneapolis classroom teaching in Freedom Schools in the South. I wish I could have known Marion Helland.

TOGETHER WE CAN
MAKE A DIFFERENCE



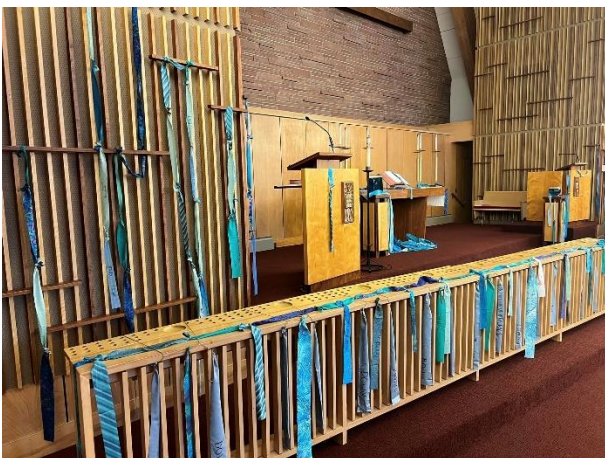
MLK said to an audience in 1957, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" This still rings true today. Well, we are going to be busy once again making casseroles to sell for missions. We will have both large-pan \$25 and small-pan \$15 chicken and lasagna casseroles for sale on two Sundays, Sept. 29 and Oct. 6, in the church lobby. Pick-up date for your frozen casserole(s)

will be Oct. 26. If you would like to help with the sales, supplies needed, and/or preparation of casseroles, watch for sign-up sheets coming soon to the church lobby table for donations and workers. We could sure use help in this endeavor to do for others with our mission offerings.



You are invited to the 2024 CCLD Spiritual Growth Event at Ruthven UMC on Monday, Oct. 28. Yay! Lorna Leavitt is in charge of the day. The reservation, which is due Oct. 21, can be found in the district newsletter or on the table in the church lobby. We hope you can make the time to attend this event.

We are blessed to be a blessing,
Debra Hill



Far Left: The Roll Down, Justice! theme comes alive visually in the Sanctuary.
Left: Pastor Kirstin dedicates the first completed mat.

5K CHALLENGE: NO RUNNING INVOLVED

Dear Church Members,

I'm writing to provide a critical update concerning our roof. We recently discovered a hole and loose membrane **on the flat roof section over the office area**. Following repairs, a thorough inspection revealed that the roof is in dire condition and at risk of severe damage, especially during strong windstorms.

To safeguard the safety and longevity of our building, we're actively exploring options to cover the shortfall and proceed with the necessary roof replacement. This may involve borrowing funds.

To date, you have raised nearly \$60,000 towards the \$84,000 cost of a **new flat roof** (the L). However, we still have a \$24,000 gap to bridge.

I want to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who has generously contributed to our fundraising efforts. Your support, both through monetary donations and active participation, has been instrumental. Without your unwavering commitment, our church would not be able to move forward. Your dedication makes me proud to be a part of this Methodist Church family.

An anonymous donor has issued a challenge: they will match up to \$5,000 in donations received between now and the end of October. This presents a unique opportunity to significantly reduce the shortfall to \$14,000.

We'll keep you updated on project developments. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support of your church.

Jeff

Trustee Chair



Pastor Kristin says, "Let's do this!"



Garner Community Blood Drive

Garner United Methodist Church
885 Maben Ave. | Garner

Tuesday, October 15

1:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Text: LIFESERVE to 999.777 | Call: 800.287.4903 | Visit: lifeserve.info/schedule



The 5 Loaves, 2 Fish collection box is in the lobby. Donations will be accepted through Oct. 29.

October Birthdays

Jim Hill	Oct. 1	Easton Chapman	Oct. 17
Isaiah Peters	Oct. 4	Travis Nelson	Oct. 18
Cohen Smuck	Oct. 4	Bruce Dykstra	Oct. 19
Joyce McClintock	Oct. 5	Adam Kramer	Oct. 23
Max Frohling	Oct. 10	Thomas Omans	Oct. 26
Beau Pringnitz	Oct. 11	Kathleen Aberg	Oct. 28
Julie Jass	Oct. 12	Lauren Legge	Oct. 28
Tarron Glidden	Oct. 14	Marcia Sonquist	Oct. 29
Ted Hovda	Oct. 15	Allen Kendall	Oct. 30
Maverick Casey	Oct. 17	Jay East	Oct. 31

October Anniversaries

Bruce and Lorene Dykstra	Oct. 20	Bob and Mary Sniezek	Oct. 27
Ken and Mary Beth Cline	Oct. 22	Ryan and Katelyn Sonquist	Oct. 27

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

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

Website: umcgarneria.org

Rev. Kristin W. Peters

Email: pastorkristingumc@gmail.com

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