



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

Happy New Year! My family and I hope you all had meaningful holidays this season. We are so grateful and excited to be in ministry with you all in 2025! Garner United Methodist Church continues to be a bright spot in my life, and I hope it is a bright spot in yours as well. Church is a place of caring and nurturing our faith, learning about God, talking about God, and most importantly building community to experience God together. I am proud to be your pastor and excited for the church we are and the church we are growing into.

The Administrative Council of GUMC worked with me to name our top priorities as a congregation for the upcoming year. It is my hope that in sharing these goals, we may work together to reach them! If you are wondering how you can integrate more deeply into the life of this church, please come and talk with me. There are so many opportunities to share your faith and to be strengthened by the witness of those among us.

Ministry Action Plan for 2025:

1. Grow in intergenerational connection: We seek to streamline education, theology, and opportunities for engagement across generations of our congregants so their faith formation may be aligned throughout their lifetime and offer points of connection.
2. Develop and maintain existing small groups and ministries: We have many thriving meaningful ways to build relationships and impact at GUMC within our church and into the world through our faith. We want these ministries to continue to be vital and healthy.
3. Support the work of the Congregational Care Team: We focus on visitation of our at-home members, sick, and we provide support for our littles as they grow in the church from baptism throughout their lives. We also support integrating new members into the congregation through new membership classes and mentorship. The congregation's care extends beyond Sunday morning and seeks to be present in important milestones and events in one's life.

Be a part of the mission at GUMC by deepening your faith-walk through participation beyond worship on Sunday morning. It is important for Christians to be active participants in our faith through connection with our neighbors within and beyond our sanctuary walls. This year I hope everyone in our church grows in their knowledge of scripture, its application in our lives, and our connection with God through acts of service. I will be praying for our ministry in this new year and ask that you, too, pray for us and our collaboration in Christ's name.

In Peace,
Pastor Kristin



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

January Quarters: Heating Assistance

January Ushers and Fellowship Servers

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

These are the **January ushers:**

Jan. 5: Gary and Mary Thoms

Jan. 12: Ken Smith and Russ Trulson

Jan. 19: Kris and Joan Hanson

Jan. 26: Doug Jass and Jim Jass

These are the **January fellowship servers:**

Jan. 5: Wayne and Judy Fox and Randy and Mel Hiscocks

Jan. 12: Rick and Diane Gilbert

Jan. 19: Paul and Nancy Nelson

Jan. 26: Josh and Aimeé Omans

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.

January and February Worship Leaders

Below are the worship leaders for January and February. 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 **January worship leaders:**

Jan. 5: Deb Hill

Jan. 12: Beth Myers

Jan. 19: Deb Trulson and Jackson Trulson

Jan. 26: Barb Trulson

These are the **February worship leaders:**

Feb. 2: Robin Sweers

Feb. 9: Ted Hovda

Feb. 16: Lorene Dykstra

Feb. 23: Kevin Sweers



United
Women
in Faith

Circle Meetings

Sarah, Martha, and Rebekah Circles:

No Meeting in January

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

Hostess and Program: Kay Mestad

January Birthdays

Debra Hill	Jan. 7	Mark Ricke	Jan. 22
Willow Holtan	Jan. 13	Shelly Bauer	Jan. 26
Angie Pringnitz	Jan. 17	Ryan Frohling	Jan. 26
Everly Nelson	Jan. 20	Judy Schaper	Jan. 31
Travis Glidden	Jan. 21		

January Anniversaries

Lynn Smith and Kathy Aberg	Jan. 11	Elton and Jean Sheets	Jan. 18
Jerry and Ronna Myers	Jan. 14	Bob and Janet Abele	Jan. 25
Rick and Diane Gilbert	Jan. 17		

**Garner United Methodist Church
2025 Church Officers**

Administrative Council: Top decision-making committee of the church, responsible for coordinating overall ministry, including identity and vision

Chairperson	Ted Hovda	2023-2025
Recording Secretary	Deb Trulson	2024
Lay Leader	Barb Trulson	2025-2027
Lay Member/Annual Conf.	John Bowman	2025-2027
Alt. Lay Member/Ann. Conf.	Jill Blank	2024-2026
Treasurer	Jim Hill	2025-2027
Finance	John Bowman	2025
Trustees	Jeff Omans	2023-2025
SPRC	Jody Seelhammer	2023-2025
Education	Beth Myers	2025-2027
Co-Chair Missions/Outreach	Ruth Legge	2023-2025
Co-Chair Missions/Outreach	Deb Trulson	2024-2026
Congregational Care Team	Jan Sweers	2023-2025
Hospitality	Susan Hovda	2024-2026
UWFaith	Barb T./Myra B.	2025
UMM	John Bowman	2025
Pastor	Rev. Kristin W. Peters	

Finance: Oversee financial aspects (budget, giving records, expenses, financial secretary, treasurer)

John Bowman (Chairperson)	2024-2026	Ted Hovda	Ad Council Chair
Kevin Sweers	2023-2025	Jim Hill	Treasurer
Morgan Smuck	2023-2025	John Bowman	Lay Member to Annual Conf.
Bruce Dykstra	2025-2027	Barb Trulson	Lay Leader/SPRC Rep
Jeff Omans	Trustees Rep.	Pastor Kristin	
Lori Griesert	Financial Sec.		
Sheri Weaver-Isvik	Stewardship		

Board of Trustees: Oversee upkeep and improvement of assets, including building, contents, land, farm, responsible for legal issues

Jeff Omans (Chairperson)	2023-2025	Steve Wood	2023-2025
Paul Nelson	2023-2025	Barb Trulson	2024-2026
Jake Pringnitz	2025-2027	Derek Smuck	2025-2027
Chase Schilling	2025-2027		

SPRC: Advise/support pastor and help healthy relationships with parish, oversee staff hiring and evaluation, communicate with D.S. in pastoral appointment

Jody Seelhammer (Chair)	2023-2025	Gary Thoms	2025-2027
Mike Brown	2023-2025	Barb Trulson	2025-2027
Lorene Dykstra	2024-2026	Julie Jass	2025-2027

Worship

Robin Sweers (Chair)	Myra Bowman
Deb Hill	Jill Blank
Mel Hiscocks	Pastor Kristin
Admin. Assistant Lori	

Mission and Outreach: *Coordinate the ministries of the church that reach out to the community and welcome new people into the congregation*

Ruth Legge (Co-Chair)	2023-2025	Tally Albertson	2023-2025
Deb Trulson (Co-Chair)	2024-2026	Val Anderson	2023-2025
Sheri Weaver-Isvik	2024-2026	Carrie Omans	2025-2027
Robin Sweers	2025-2027		

Nominations Committee: *Evaluate needs for and recruit leadership, present slate of nominations to Church Conference*

Pastor Kristin Peters (Chairperson)			
Todd Jass	2023-2025	Mark Ricke	2024-2026
Allyson Fry	2025-2027	Steve East	2025-2027

Education: *Oversee Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, etc.*

Beth Myers (Chairperson)	2025-2027	Jan Sweers	2023-2025
John Bowman	2023-2025	Allyson Fry	2024-2026
Jean Sheets	2024-2026	Karen Springer	2025-2027

Congregational Care Team

Jan Sweers, (Chairperson)	2023-2025	Susan Hovda	2023-2025
Barb Trulson	2023-2025	Janet Abele	2023-2025
Diane Gilbert	2023-2025	Jill Blank	2025-2027
Deb Trulson	2023-2025		

Memorial: *Keep track of all memorials given to the church and the dedication of the memorials*

Ronna Myers	2025	Jody East	2025-2027
Diane Gilbert	2025-2027	Todd Jass	2025-2027
Renée Kramer	2025-2027		

Farm Committee: *Responsible for overseeing farm property and rent, reports to Trustees*

Rich Welsh (Chairperson)	2024-2026	Jim Hill	2024-2026
Jeff Omans	2024-2026		

Hospitality Committee: *Responsible for overseeing the hospitality throughout the church*

Susan Hovda (Chairperson)	2024-2026	Cheri Brown	2023-2025
Maurene House	2025-2027	Nancy Nelson	2025-2027

United Women in Faith

UWFaith Executive Committee and Coordinators

Co-Presidents	Barb Trulson & Myra Bowman		
Vice President	Carrie Omans	Membership/Nurture/Outreach	Julie Jass
Secretary	Susan Hovda	Program Resource	Cheryl Tietjens
Treasurer	Mary Thoms	Communications	Deb Hill
Assoc. Treasurer	Deb Trulson	UWF Responsibility	Ruth Legge
Social Action	Cheri Brown	Nominations	Carrie Omans
Spiritual Growth	Sheri Weaver-Isvik	Education/Interpretation	Robin Sweers

Worship Ministries

Choir Director	Myra Bowman		
Organist	Myra Bowman		
Choir Pianist	Myra Bowman		
Communion Stewards	Mary Thoms (February – April)		
	Marilynn Jass (May – July)		
	Barb Trulson (August – October)		
	Ronna Myers (November – January)		
A/V Techs	Jill Blank	Jody East	Kevin Sweers
	Beth Myers	Stan Isvik	Steve East
	Ruth Legge	John Bowman	Willow Holtan
Offering Counters	Steve East	Don Stubbs	Morgan Smuck
	Jody Seelhammer	Terri Beshey	Scott Seelhammer
	Barb Trulson	Julie Jass	Deb Trulson
	Joan Hanson	Todd Jass	

Other Ministries and Coordinators

Historian	Val Anderson
Auditors	Bruce and Lorene Dykstra
Kitchen	Mary Beth Cline

Work Group Chairpersons

Group 1	Russ and Barb Trulson	Tally Albertson
	Gary and Mary Thoms	
Group 2	Rob and Ruth Legge	Kay Mestad
	Stan and Sheri Isvik	
Group 3	Rick and Diane Gilbert	Ted and Susan Hovda
	Mike and Cheri Brown	

Staff

Pastor	Rev. Kristin W. Peters	
Director of Multi-generational Programming	Position to be filled	
Administrative Assistant	Lori Griesert	
Custodians	Dianne McCabe	Brionna Hill

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: <https://umcgarneria.org/>

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