

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



APRIL



DENISON UPC

205 North 24th St., Denison, IA 51442

2020

Office Hours: At Home
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712-263-4130

Goes to Pastor's Cell

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317-797-5860
pastorjennolson@gmail.com

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Session

Shar Hulstein
Kendall Von Glan
Bill Bruce
Pat Chapman
Wayne Igou
Kyle Bohnker
RoseMary Mason
Carolyn Bukacek
Clerk of Session:
Penny Kinney

Deacons

Joyce Bohnker
Marge Meyer
Corrine Mehaffey-Kinney
Jayne Lyons
Denise Philipp
Rebecca Brown
Eric Olson
Mary Ann Irwin
David Moen

Pastor's Ponderings on a New Way of Being the Church

“In life and in death, we belong to God.” Those words have been on my mind and heart lately. Ordinarily, the thought of life and death matters occur rarely. But now, they are everyday occurrences for people all over the world. At times, I find myself overwhelmed by fear and worry as to what is to come of this world, my family, my friends, my congregation. And yet, I trust in the Lord. I believe times like this can bring out the best in us. This community will find new and creative ways to live and help one another. We are certainly learning a new way of being the church in these times. Hopefully, you are finding ways to stay connected with one another. We offer weekly online worship services, Zoom church chats, weekly email news updates, our church Facebook page, and through the postal service mail. The staff, Session, Board of Deacons, and I are doing our best to rise up to the challenges of our new world. Please feel free to contact any of us if you have or know of a need. Need someone to deliver something to you? Let us know.

Who would have ever imagined that one of the best ways we could care for others would be to stay at home in our houses? At times, it all seems surreal. Especially now that we are seeing signs of new life and the onset of Spring. And yet, staying in our homes is exactly what is needed right now. We can do this together – yet apart. We are together in prayer, in spirit, and in Christ. Know that I am holding each of you in prayer. I miss seeing you, chatting with you laughing, drinking coffee, and worshipping with you. In the meantime, remember that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

With love and prayers,

Pastor Jennifer

APRIL WORSHIP

Pastor Jennifer is recording her message and posting it online.
Look for her messages on facebook. UpcDenison

If you are in need of Pastoral care please call Pastor Jennifer or the church office.
The church office number is being forwarded to Pastor's cell.

If you are in need of assistance during these unprecedented times, call upon your church.

Holy week is upon us, stay tuned for special messages from our Pastor.



Bible Verses to Investigate...

Luke 24:13-49

Matthew 21:1-11

Acts 2:14



ATTENDANCE REPORT

March 1

Worship
Communion
NO

March 8

Worship
SS

March 15

ONLINE

March 22

ONLINE

March 29

ONLINE

Stewardship & Finance

Inside this newsletter you will find information on how to donate to the church online during these trying times. Your 1st quarter statements should arrive in the mail before long.

Online giving is available on our website @
www.upcdension.com

You can also leave in our church mailbox, drop off at the Crawford County Bank drive thru, or mail.



GENERAL FUND:

BALANCED 02/29/20

General: \$37,850

Memorial: \$3,183

F&O: \$2,446

Harvesters: \$3,505

Income: \$9,499

Expenses: \$11,100

April Bible Trivia

What type of bird did God provide for Israel in the desert?

- A) Pigeons B) Hawks
C) Quails D) Chickens

**look for the answer in next month's newsletter*

March Bible Trivia Answer

Who woke up under a tree and found an angel had cooked food for him?

B) Elijah

See: 1 Kings 19:1-8

SESSION

Next Meeting: Thurs. April 23 @ 7PM



The Elders met on Saturday March 14, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Rev Jennifer Olson served as moderator. This was a Special Session Meeting for the purpose of decision-making in regards to the Covid-19 outbreak. Pastor Jennifer discussed ways to minimize risk, and discussion was held on if we should suspend or continue worship, meetings and other building uses. Based upon the demographics of our congregation, the session felt it was necessary to suspend worship services through April 5, 2020, as recommended by the Presbytery, to allow social distancing. The Session voted to suspend worship services and all other group gatherings at the church through April 5th.

The Elders met for their regular Session meeting via Zoom on Thursday March 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Rev Jenifer Olson served as moderator. A decision at this meeting was to continue with online services and no activities in the church building until the order to allow gatherings has been lifted by the Governor. The Session will readdress what is in the best interest for our church and congregation at that time The Finance Committee reported that the online giving option is ready to go. A letter will be sent to all church members regarding this new option.

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"There aren't any icons to click. It's a chalk board."



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Tue., April 14 @ 7PM

The Christian Education Committee is always looking for Individuals to help teach Sunday School, help with Wednesday night youth activities and meals; and looking for leaders for Thursday Bible Study. If you would like to help, please contact any member of the Christian Education Committee.

Plans are being made for Youth Sunday, graduation gifts for seniors, an outing for our youth this summer, and joining with the Methodist church for Bible School this summer. More information will be coming.

Penny Kinney, Sue Mohr, Gayle Chapman, Joyce Bohnker, Shar Hulstein



Blood Drive on Tuesday April 7

at United Methodist Church

Volunteers from our church are needed!

Plans continue for the Denison blood drive and volunteers are needed to escort people from donation station to canteen during two shifts:

11:30 – 2 pm – two volunteers needed

2pm – 5 pm – two volunteers needed

If you can help with a shift, please contact Nancy at the Methodist Church at 712-263-2934



k22302482 fotosearch.com

Info from the Red Cross about the need for blood donations in the critical time can be found at this site: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/causes/urgent-need-for-blood-donations-due-to-coronavirus-outbreak/ar-BB11n6XK?li=BBUPk4T>

**A duck was about to cross the road when a chicken saw the duck and said,
“Don’t do it. Don’t do it! You’ll never hear the end of it.”**

Psalm 139, Coronavirus Edition, 2020

with apologies to the psalmist

1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

2 You search out my paths from the living room to the kitchen,
my lying down and my standing blankly before the refrigerator.

3 Even before a word is typed on my iPhone or posted on Facebook,
O LORD, you know it completely.

4 You hem me in my house, you keep me six feet from my neighbors.
You remind me to wash my hands for at least 20 seconds.

5 Where can I go to flee from this virus?
Where can I flee from its presence?

6 If I drive to the grocery store, it lurks there;
If I gather with more than 10 friends, it is surely present.

7 If I take the wings of the morning and go for a walk, thou art with me –
as long as I distance myself from others.
Therefore, I stay at home, for Thou art with me.

8 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast the sum of them.
I cry to you for hope, for safety, for healing of the world.
Our prayers arise to you, O LORD, and are more than the grains of sand.

9 O LORD, that you would kill this wicked virus, and let the suffering be eased.

10 For you alone are our hope – you, and the CDC and NHS and the doctors, nurses, healthcare workers, scientists, truck drivers, grocery store workers, food bank staff and volunteers, pharmacists and pharmacy workers, the hospital workers, and lo, even the delivery drivers who bring us long-awaited online orders and pizzas.

11 We cry out to you, O LORD, for this world is afraid and lonely and suffering.
Surely, in life and in death, you are there amidst it all.
Have compassion upon us and save us.

12 For you alone are God.
To you I give thanks for a safe place to hide.

13 For food to eat, coffee to drink, for phones and the internet and even . . .
for Zoom meetings.
Yea, even for Zoom meetings.
I give thanks for comfy clothes and not having to worry about my hair and what to wear (except for my shoulders and up for those Zoom meetings).

14 I give thanks for the sunshine and for the grass as it begins to turn green.
For the hope of Spring flowers and warm air. (I am in Iowa after all).

15 For the love that is shared. For the companionship of my husband.
for the company of my little dogs who bark whenever they see a person outdoors and the cat who sleeps on my lap.

16 For Netflix and Amazon Video and Apple+, and iBooks,
O LORD, I give great thanks.
For movies and books and music. They comfort me.

17 To you, O LORD, I give thanks for it all.

18 Let everything that has breath, Praise the LORD!

by Rev. Jennifer A. Olson

BOARD OF DEACONS

Next Meeting: Tue. April 7 @ 5:30PM

The Board of Deacons met at the United Presbyterian Church on March 3, 2020 in the Fireside Room. Mary Ann Irwin, Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer. Corrine Kinney-Mehaffey gave devotions on "The Living Hope," emphasizing our relationship with Jesus, spending time in God's Word, and relying on the Lord's Faithfulness.

The minutes from the February 4th meeting were approved. Congregational Care updates were reported and discussed. Pastor Jennifer led worship and served communion, with Eric Olson, Marilyn Jepsen, Marge Meyer, and Mary Ann Irwin helping at the Reed House, and with Marilyn Jepsen and Mary Ann Irwin helping at the Denison Care Center. Statistics were reported for visits, emails, letters, cards, and rides to church.

"Visitor Mugs" continue to be available. Mugs will be given to first time visitors/prospective members. A few mugs are still available for sale to the congregation at \$5.00 each.

Ideas for projects for 2020 were presented and discussed at the Deacon meeting. It was decided to pursue the following: 1) Trial of selling cards again on Sunday mornings - cards will be set up on cart(s)/table(s) and sold for 50 cents each. 2) "Kleenex Drive" to help provide school classrooms with Kleenex boxes was successful with 52 Kleenex boxes taken to the Denison Middle School. 3) Discussion will continue in April on Care Packages/Kits - for after surgery, illness, etc. Each Deacon is asked to bring a list of items to include. 4) Deacons agree to pursue working with the Mission Committee on mission projects this year.

The meeting adjourned and was closed with the Lord's Prayer. The next Deacon meeting will be on April 7, 2020 at The Manilla Manor (dinner 5:30pm; meeting at 6pm).

Mary Ann Irwin, Moderator

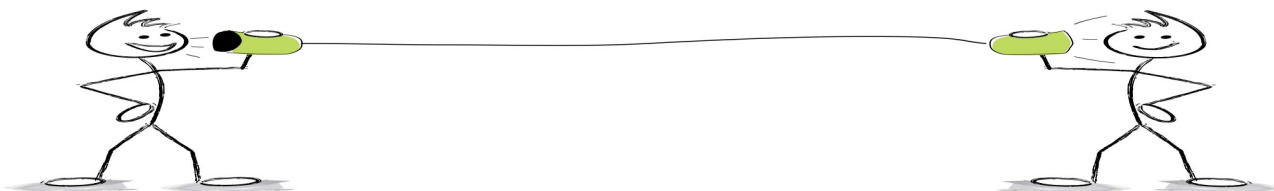


To stay in touch....

Please remember to update the church's email address to: upcdenison@gmail.com

Find us on the web at upcdenison.com

Or Look for us on Facebook: UpcDenison





GIVE+ Church

FAQs for donors

Making Donations Using GivePlus Church

Where can I download the GivePlus Church app?

GivePlus Church is available through the App Store and Google Play. Search for "GivePlus Church" to download the app, then be sure to allow access to location services if you'd like to use the app's *Find Churches Near Me* feature.

Is the GivePlus Church app free to use?

Yes! The app is free to download and you are not charged a fee to make donations using the app. Simply search for "GivePlus Church" in the App Store or Google Play to find it quickly.

How do I find my church in the app?

When you open the GivePlus Church app for the first time, you will be prompted to enter the name of the church you want to give to. You can enter as much of your church name as you know, and then select your church from the list. Or, use the *Find Churches Near Me* feature to search for churches in your area. If you cannot access this feature, go to your phone's Settings > GivePlus and allow the app to access your location.

Will I have to search for my church every time I want to donate?

No. After you select a church, it automatically becomes your "home" or "default" church. The next time you open the app, the church you last selected will already be displayed.

What payment methods can I use to donate?

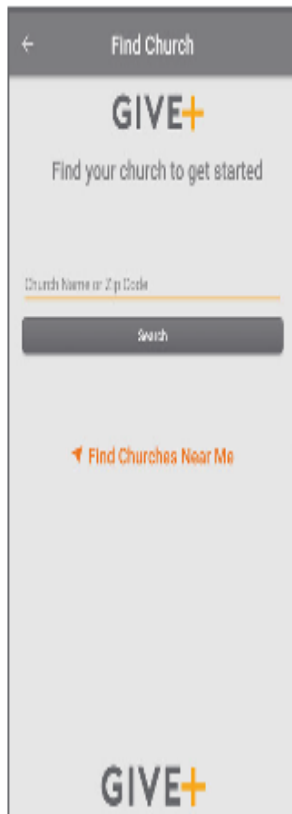
GivePlus Church donations can be made with all major debit/credit cards currently accepted by your church. Use your phone's camera to quickly scan your card information or enter it manually. You can also give or pay using your checking or savings account.

GIVE+ Church

Giving to your church is as easy as 1-2-3

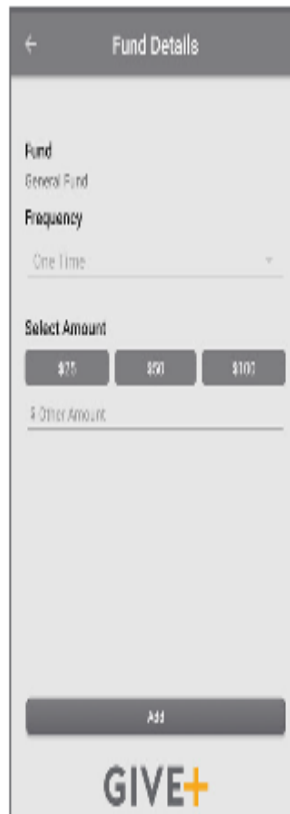
Go to the App Store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus Church" to download for FREE.

1) Search



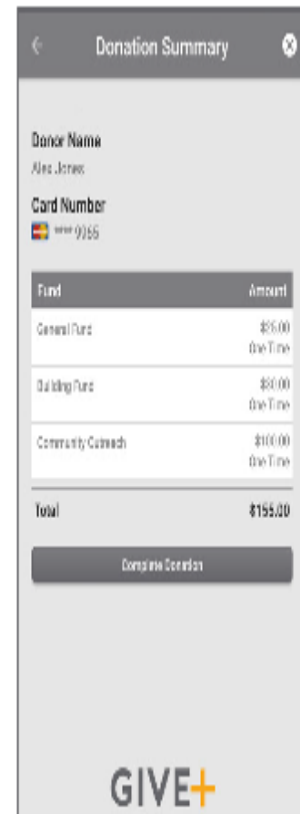
- Enter church name or tap *Find Churches Near Me* to start your search
- Select your church
- Your selected church will be displayed as your default church
- Tap *Donate Now*

2) Select



- Choose a fund and a preset amount or enter another amount
- Select *Add* to add another fund or move forward to the payment information
- Scan or enter your card or banking account information

3) Submit



- Review your donation summary then select *Complete Donation*

Access more features 



800-675-7430

vancopayments.com/giveplus-mobile



MARCH PUZZLE ANSWERS

BIBLE CROSSWORD I - SOLUTION

S	H	E	K	E	L		A	P	P	E	A	R	E	D
H		X		A		B		A		N		A		O
E	P	H	E	S	I	A	N	S		C	U	B	I	T
A		O		T		K		S		H		B		I
R	A	R	E		M	E	D	I	T	A	T	I	O	N
E		T		N		R		O		N				G
R	A	I	S	I	N	S		N	A	T	H	A	N	
S		N		N						E		S		P
	A	G	R	E	E	D		T	O	R	C	H	E	S
T					T		R		I		S		T	A
A	T	O	N	E	M	E	N	T	S		B	A	A	L
U		M		E		A		T		A		R		T
G	L	E	A	N		M	I	L	L	S	T	O	N	E
H		G		T		E		E		I		T		R
T	E	A	C	H	E	R	S		R	A	S	H	L	Y

Across: 1 Shekel, 4 Appeared, 10 Ephesians, 11 Cubit, 12 Rare, 13 Meditation, 15 Raisins, 16 Nathan, 19 Agreed, 21 Torches, 23 Atonements, 25 Baal, 27 Glean, 28 Millstone, 29 Teachers, 30 Rashly.

Down: 1 Shearers, 2 Exhorting, 3 East, 5 Passion, 6 Enchanters, 7 Rabbi, 8 Doting, 9 Bakers, 14 Nineteenth, 17 Ashtaroth, 18 Psaltery, 20 Dreamer, 21 Tittle, 22 Taught, 24 Omega, 26 Asia.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.org.uk

I was in the express lane for 10 items or less . I was quietly fuming, as the woman ahead of me had slipped into my line, pushing a cart piled high with items.

Imagine my delight when the cashier beckoned the woman to come forward . The cashier looked at the cart and asked her sweetly, "So which 10 items would you like to buy?"

Test you mind and unscramble these letters. Don't peek at the answers!

- 1) THE MORSE CODE 2) DORMITORY 3) ANIMOSITY
- 4) SNOOZE ALARMS 5) A DECIMAL POINT

Answers: 1) stod emoc ereH 2) moor ytriD 3) ytima on sI
 4) s"z erom on sala 5) ecalp ni tod a m"I

APRIL PUZZLE

Bible Word Search: Twenty Miracles of Jesus

To solve this fun and educational word search puzzle, you'll need the clues below. Read each Bible passage that tells about one of the miracles Jesus performed. Then finish each sentence. The number in () tells how many letters are in each word. Then find the words you

K	W	I	N	D	G	M	L	E	P	E	R	T	O
T	E	Y	K	A	R	N	V	W	O	D	I	W	S
R	N	S	S	E	M	B	I	B	D	R	S	U	K
O	I	A	T	U	E	O	L	K	I	I	R	O	P
S	W	A	V	G	E	E	W	P	L	A	D	R	N
H	W	F	G	R	E	A	S	D	Z	A	I	D	T
R	K	A	I	D	E	E	M	A	E	E	W	W	H
I	R	C	I	V	R	S	L	I	S	M	E	U	O
V	J	N	H	U	E	A	F	T	T	L	O	P	U
E	G	O	P	I	S	Z	I	T	V	R	E	N	S
L	E	M	H	E	E	P	S	E	W	T	A	L	A
E	I	E	V	N	A	F	H	S	E	O	R	B	N
D	D	A	U	G	H	T	E	R	B	L	I	N	D
C	W	R	D	E	Z	Y	L	A	R	A	P	D	U

1. John 2:1-11 Jesus turned (5) _____ into (4) _____.
2. John 4: 46-54 Jesus healed the royal official's (3) _____.
3. Luke 4:33-37 Jesus healed a man possessed by a (5) _____.
4. Matthew 8:14-15 Jesus healed the mother-in-law of (5) _____.

APRIL PUZZLE

5. Luke 5:3-10 He caused Peter, James and (4) _____ to catch a large number of (4) _____.
6. Matthew 8: 1-3 Jesus healed a (5) _____.
7. Matthew 8:5-13 He healed a centurion's (7) _____.
8. Matthew 9: 1-8 Jesus healed a (9) _____ man.
9. Mark 3:1-6 Jesus healed a man with a (9) _____ hand.
10. Luke 7:11-17 Jesus raised the son of a (5) _____.
11. Mark 4:35-41 Jesus made the (4) _____ and (5) _____ obey him.
12. Mark 5:1-13 Jesus healed a man with an (6) _____ (6) _____.
13. Matthew 9:20-22 Jesus healed a (5) _____ who had been (8) _____ for (6) _____ years.
14. Matthew 9:27-31 He healed two (5) _____ men.
15. Matthew 14:16-21 Jesus fed five (8) _____ men and their families with (4) _____ loaves and (3) _____ fish.
16. Matthew 14:22-33 Jesus went out to his disciples, (7) _____ on the lake.
17. Matthew 15:21-28 Jesus healed a woman's (8) _____ who was demonpossessed.
18. John 11:1-44 Jesus raised (7) _____ from the dead.
19. Mark 10:46-52 Jesus healed a blind (6) _____ named (10) _____.
20. Luke 22:45-54 Jesus restored the severed (3) _____ of the servant of the high (6) _____.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/2 Marilyn Weatherman

4/11 Tom Jones

4/12 Ed Jepsen

4/14 Jim Harms

4/22 Elaine Chapman

4/23 Mike Moran

4/23 Rev. Jennifer Olson

4/24 Carolyn Bukacek

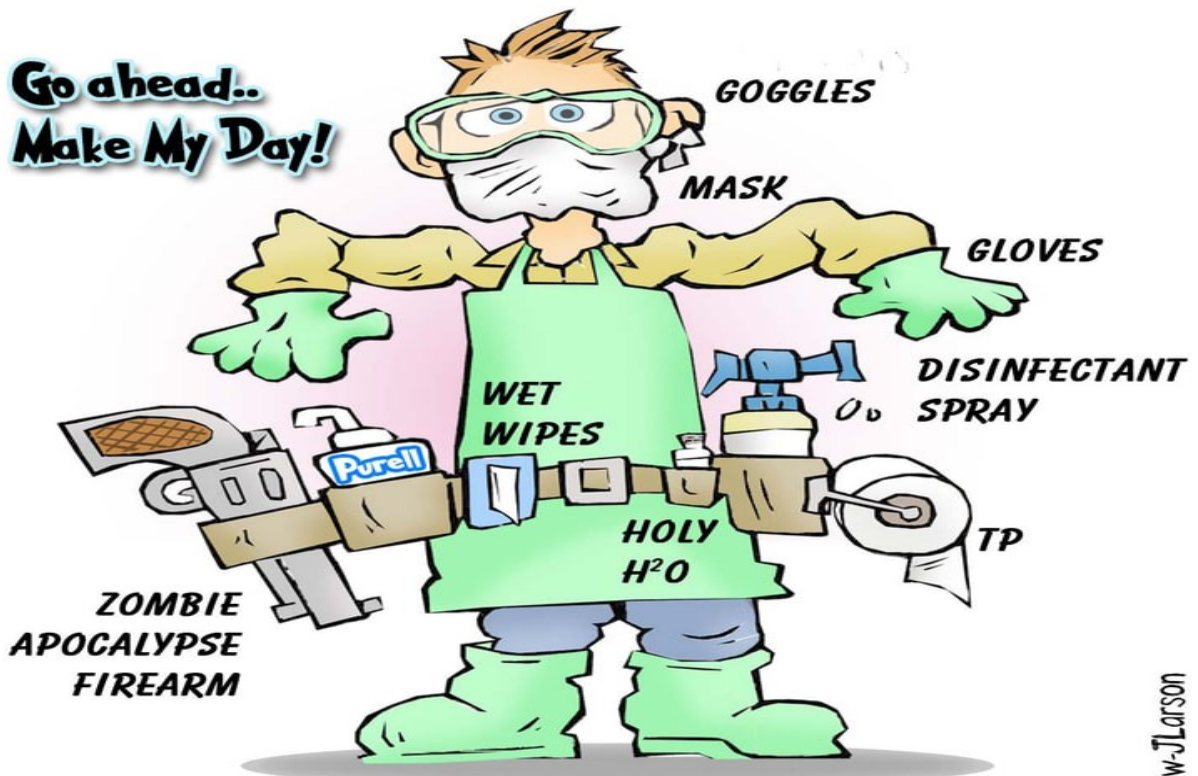
APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

4/20 Dale & Penny Kinney

4/22 Mark & Pat Bilsten

Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. **1Pe 5:7**

Go ahead..
Make My Day!



COVID-19 ready