



# DISCIPLE EXPRESS

Vol. 21, No 9 September 2013 A Newsletter to Inspire and Celebrate Oakland United Methodists

Iowa Area Resident Bishop  
Julius C. Trimble  
2301 Rittenhouse St.  
Des Moines, IA 50321-3101  
(515) 974-8902

District Superintendent  
Brian Milford  
Southwest District Office  
1201 East 7th St, Suite 300  
Atlantic, IA 50022  
Phone: (712) 243-8573  
Fax: (712) 243-8574  
Email: b.milford@iaumc.org

Field Outreach Minister:  
Melissa Drake  
Melissa.Drake@iaumc.org

Pastor, Karen Hoff  
712-482-5539 (home)  
712-482-5530 (office)  
Email:  
Karen.S.Hoff@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor/Publisher  
Sheryl Sindt  
oaklandumc@frontiernet.net

## Worship Service Time:

**10:00 Worship**  
**11:00 Koinonia**

**Sunday school**  
**Youth 9:00 a.m.**  
**Adult 11:15 a.m.**



Shoes collected for Soles 4 Souls

Pastor Karen during children's time



## ***Disciple Express***



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“Jesus traveled to Nazareth, where he had grown up. On the Sabbath day he went to the synagogue, as he always did, and stood up to read. The book of Isaiah the prophet was given to him. He opened the book and found the place where this is written: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free” (Luke 4:16-18).

The General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) is one of four international general program boards of The United Methodist Church. The General Board has headquarters on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. and at the Church Center for the United Nations in New York City.

The GBCS's primary mission is to seek the implementation of the United Methodist Social Principals and other policy statements adopted by the General Conference. The board carries this out through a program of education, witness and action.

*...The message of salvation brought by Jesus Christ binds us together as a people and sends us forth to bring healing in the midst of strife, justice in the midst of brokenness, and love in the midst of hate. As United Methodists, we are called to invite people to enter into a community of faith responsive to a vision of justice ministries that is biblically and theologically grounded, and to invite United Methodist congregations to play a prophetic role in bringing God's vision to reality. Our mission is to advocate the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the church and society.*

Through the General Board of Church and Society I was made aware of a documentary titled *Redemption of the Prosecutor*. This documentary reveals what a prosecutor learned from his experience as a teacher in a Nashville Prison. I found the documentary to be a very “eye-opening”

experience for me, as was the information I received about the criminal justice system.

I will be showing the documentary *Redemption of the Prosecutor* following our worship service on September 8. It is a short documentary, only 22 minutes. We will take some time for discussion following the documentary and end the session by noon. I invite you to join me for this time of learning more about mass incarceration and restorative justice.

You can read more about restorative justice and other social concerns of the UMC at [www.umc-gbcs.org](http://www.umc-gbcs.org)

The Spirit of the Lord is upon us, because he has anointed us to bring good news to the poor. He has sent us to proclaim release to the captive and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free.

And All God's Children Said,

“Amen.”

### Redemption of the Prosecutor

When prosecutor and devout Christian Preston Shipp begins teaching in a Nashville prison, he never thought he'd be the one who gets schooled. But the friendship he forged with one young prisoner put his faith in the justice system – and in Jesus – to the ultimate test. Preston sees a humanity he has been trained to ignore. How can he keep spending his life putting people like this behind bars when Jesus came to earth preaching solidarity with the imprisoned? In the short documentary “Redemption of the Prosecutor,” Preston's crisis of conscience culminates with a shocking discovery that leaves him feeling more conflicted than ever.

Come see this short documentary *following our 10am worship service on September 8*. We will meet in the adult lounge. We will end the session at noon



## Coming Soon -The Life Ready Woman- Video Based Bible Study

Whether you are a stay-at-home mom, an executive, a student, or a senior adult, most women need a contemporary, encouraging vision for what it means to be a godly, biblically guided female in the twenty-first century.

The Life Ready Woman helps every woman discover God's biblical roadmap for finding balance, peace, and delight in this crazy, contemporary life. Speaker, best-selling author, wife and mother Shaunti Feldhahn encourages bold steps of faith, empowering women to thrive by identifying and courageously pursuing God's unique design and mission for her. This culturally-relevant, video-guided experience will help define the difference between "doing it all" and doing what matters.

This eight week study will be held on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm beginning on September 24. Workbooks are available for \$10.00. We hope you will join us for this study! To sign up or for more info about the class, please contact Lynelle Jeppesen.

## Disciple Express BIBLE TRIVIA

### answers from August

1. Balaam
2. Saul
3. Jacob
4. Absalom
5. Moses
6. Abigail
7. Abraham
8. The Shunemite Woman
9. Zechariah
10. Matthew

*(If you have an opinion on the Bible Trivia, please let me know. I was told the original questions were too hard so I added the hints.—Sheryl)*

## BIBLE TRIVIA with hints

1. Where was Jesus when he healed the son of an official from Capernaum? John 4:46-54
2. What was the affliction of the man Jesus healed by sending him to the pool of Siloam? John 9:1-7
3. Why did the people complain when Jesus healed a woman who had been stooped for 18 years? Luke 13:11-13
4. Where was Jesus when he miraculously escaped from a crowd that was going to push him off a cliff? Luke 4:29-30
5. What was the other affliction of the deaf man Jesus healed in the Decapolis? Mark 7:31-35
6. How many loaves of bread were used to feed the five thousand? Matt 14:15-21
7. How was Joseph told about Jesus' miraculous conception? Matt 1:18-21
8. Who announced Jesus' conception to Mary? Luke 1:26-38
9. What was the affliction of the man Jesus healed after his famous Sermon on the Mount? Matt 8:1-4
10. What little girl did Jesus raise from the dead after telling people she was only asleep? Matt 9

**Care and Share House – Good News/Bad News**

Care and Share House has had a very busy summer and is now the 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest food pantry out of the seven pantries in the Council Bluffs Pantry Association. In the month of July food pantries were provided to 363 households for a total of 890 people which is a new monthly record for Care and Share House. It is unfortunate that so many people are in need of nutritional assistance in our community, but the good news is that Care and Share House is there to serve our neighbors in need with dignity and respect. Our clients express appreciation for the food constantly as they leave with their food pantries for the month.

The bad news is that Care and Share House has experienced some unexpected expenses this summer. In the middle of June our large box truck which is used to pick up 2-3 tons of food from the Food Bank of the Heartland twice a month quit running. After several weeks in repair shops for diagnosis and repair, the truck is now running again. But our costs to repair the truck have totaled over \$3,500.00. In addition the computer valued at \$500.00 at our South Main location was stolen. The computer is critical in the day to day operations of Care and Share House for the database of our clients and to track clients' use of pantries in the community on the Pantry Association website to avoid potential abuse of the once every 30 day policy.

These unexpected costs for our support equipment directly affect the funds we have available to purchase food and pay for operating costs. **If you are in a position to provide some extra monetary assistance to Care and Share House, it would be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made to Care and Share House and mailed to 1800 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Council Bluffs, IA 51501.** Thank you for your consideration and support of this UNITED Methodist local outreach ministry!

**A riddle to keep you awake...**

**80% of Primary School Children solved this riddle, but only 5% of University Graduates figured it out!**

**Can you answer all seven of the following questions with the same word?**

- 1. The word has seven letters....**
- 2. Preceded God...**
- 3. Greater than God...**
- 4. More Evil than the devil...**
- 5. All poor people have it...**
- 6. Wealthy people need it....**
- 7. If you eat it, you will die.**

**Did you figure it out?**

**Try hard before looking at the answers**

**Did you get it yet?**

**Give up?**

**Brace yourself for the answer....**

**The Answer is**

**NOTHING!**

**NOTHING has 7 letters.  
NOTHING preceded God.  
NOTHING is greater than God.  
NOTHING is more Evil than the devil.  
All poor people have NOTHING.  
Wealthy people need NOTHING.  
If you eat NOTHING, you will die.**

### Something is Missing

I sat at a corner table in the Old Market coffee shop/book store/worship center of Urban Abbey in Omaha, ready to worship. Only a year or two ago First UMC in Omaha decided to explore this “new place for new people” concept of taking the church to the people. And what better way to do that than a coffee shop/book store that also includes worship services, book studies and service projects. So “Urban Abbey” was launched as a “new church...for modern worship, a launch pad for service, and a home for conversation, with great coffee and all the books your Soul Desires” – and I was here to check it out as a “possibility” for us in Iowa.

I’d recommend Urban Abbey to any of us who happen to be visiting the Omaha area. (Urban Abbey, 1026 Jackson Street, worshipping at 5:30 on Sunday evenings.) I assume the coffee is good (I’ve never acquired the taste) and certainly the conversation was. I especially was struck with the music (an awesome pianist who carried us through the worship experience) and communion. But something else caught me, too.

As I sat at my corner table, in came a woman and her husband, and she was on the warpath. Everyone was “late”, and she had to sit in the car waiting, and because they were late they couldn’t find a prime place to sit and get their coffee; and what about next week when evidently some guest was coming with them, they’d better get here early. Her complaints didn’t go unnoticed, by any of us sitting nearby, as well as her daughter, who to the woman’s scorn refused to sit elsewhere. Then, perhaps because of it, the woman chose not to participate in any part of the worship service – not in the hymns or readings, not even in communion.

It struck me. Here was someone who was so focused on being there physically, but was not to be found spiritually. Contrast that with the little boy who when Pastor Debora held up the rounded loaf of bread of communion to break it “as the body of Christ”, this little tike cried out for all to hear, “I WANT SOME!” So did I. So did I, too.

In a recent Gallup Poll 77per cent of Americans say they believe religion is losing its influence in American life, and 75% said that “society would benefit from an increase in religion”. Strange how most of us know what we need most but are unable or unwilling to engage it, even when it is right there before us. In his August 9th BreakPoint Daily blog entitled “Supersized Weddings” Eric Metaxas quotes Chuck Colson, “Scripture tells us that God designed marriage as a physical, emotional, and spiritual union ... marked by fidelity and permanence. It’s a definition of marriage the secular word has spent the better part of forty years trying to deconstruct. ... (Yet) when secular couples plan their weddings they sense that something is missing. So they grasp at some sort of meaning—ironically, using the very symbols and rituals—the white dress, the father giving away the bride—whose meaning they have rejected.”

Michael Slaughter asks the question, “What makes life unique?” Then he proceeds to answer his own question, “The breath of God”. In all the busyness and confusion of everyday life, in its distractions and appeals to be noticed and accepted (like in today’s typical \$28,000 supersized wedding), even in the rush to “get to church on time”, we can so easily lose the one essential yet so often desired “needed thing” (think the story of Mary and Martha--Luke 10:42). Isn’t that the business we as churches and church people are called to be in – calling people back, back to God – literally to put a little breath back into their lives, to live again!

Yes, “I too want some.” “The body of Jesus, broken for you, for me, for EVERYONE.” In all our busyness and distractions and own appeals to be liked and wanted by innumerable voices around us, let us not forget whose busyness we are in – those who put the breath of God back into it.

...the Lord God ...breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.” Genesis 2:7  
Together, in Christ,  
SCOTT

## *Disciple Express*

### **Camp Hope: A Special Camp to Support!**

We are almost done with our summer camping season, and it's been a great summer. We've grown this last summer by almost 100 campers from the year before and we've had youth and children that have come that have never experienced camp before. Though our whole camp team is a bit drained after a long summer, we are grateful for the prayers and commitments that so many have given our camps through the summer months and we're also thankful for the many parents and churches who have committed to sending their young children and youth to our camps and the quality programming that's offered there. Iowa UMC camps would not happen without all of these people being there for us.

I also wanted to share a note in regards to our special 'Camp Hope' program. This last summer with some great volunteers and financial support from churches and the Iowa UMC Board of Church and Society we almost doubled our numbers at Wesley Woods for this new program. It was an amazing event with youth between the ages of 8 and 12 years of age, each with their own story. This camp is a specialized program that offers 3 days of fun and excitement and focused time for Christian Fellowship and times of sharing for youth who have or have had family members that have been incarcerated. It is amazing to see the changes in these youth as they come to have some fun and downtime with God. Though it is only our second year, it really was a success and each of our volunteers did a great job in listening, sharing and having fun with these young folks. As we look forward into the 2014 program year, we would like to ask for your help as we look to expand this new program. We've worked extensively with the Iowa Dept. of Corrections and the Iowa UMC 'Women at the Well' Mission Church in the last two years, and we feel that there is enough need to justify a second 'Camp Hope' program. So in the fall of this year we will start planning a 2nd 'Camp Hope' program that will be

At our Pictured Rocks Camp and Retreat Center. Our hope is to shoot for 25 to 30 youth from the ages of 8 to 12 years of age to attend. This program is completely free for these youth; we ask nothing of them financially, but the willingness to attend.

As I've mentioned in the past two years we've seen great growth and we feel we it's the right time to try to start another camp at another location, with that being said, we are asking that you might consider being a 'sponsor' of this 2nd camp. It costs roughly \$240-250 per youth to allow them to come. I've already visited with a few churches and have had great responses thus far. We are shooting for roughly \$6,000 to \$7,000 in total sponsorship commitments to put on the full camp for 2014 at Pictured Rocks. With just 14 churches sponsoring at \$500 a piece we can come to our full amount of sponsorship and send some very deserving children to camp. It also would be a great way for your Sunday school classes or youth groups to start a special 'fundraising' project while at the same time learning that there are many youth in their own schools and neighborhoods that are going through these tough situations. It's really a tremendous way to change young people's lives for the better and to let them know that God's love is in the midst of their lives no matter what happens.

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, or even if you're an individual, or want to just give something to help, we'd be glad to answer your questions about this new program and also to visit more about how this new program can and does change lives. Feel free to email me at [david.hobbs@iaumc.org](mailto:david.hobbs@iaumc.org) or give me a call at (515) 974-8913 if you have any questions, or would even like me to come and share with your church about this program and other camp and retreat programs too. Again, thanks for your prayers and support for our camp and retreat programs, it does mean a lot to your Iowa UMC Camp team. God bless you all.

**A list of upcoming webinars and events,  
compiled by the United Methodist News  
Service...**

**Deadline for early-bird registration for  
“JustPeace101,” Aug. 20 — Oct. 31-Nov. 2,** event  
discussing the theory, theology, principles and practices  
of conflict transformation. led by JustPeace, The United  
Methodist Church’s Center for Conflict Transformation,  
in Nashville, Tenn.

**Free webinar “Safe Sanctuaries: Children, Teachers  
and Media” Aug. 22 — 10 a.m. CT,** webinar from  
United Methodist Board of Discipleship looks at how, in  
a rapidly evolving media world, teachers and other  
adults can protect children from abuse.

**Free webinar “Generosity in Emerging Generations,”  
Aug. 22 — 6:30 p.m. CT,** examining how emerging  
generations make decisions about generosity, from the  
United Methodist Board of Discipleship.

**Free webinar “Charting a Course for Discipleship,”  
Aug. 27 — 6:30 p.m. CT,** how to develop a pathway to  
help adults deepen their Christian discipleship, from the  
United Methodist Board of Discipleship.

**Deadline to register for Welcoming Ministry 100  
online course, Aug. 28 — Sept. 4-Oct. 16,** help for  
becoming welcoming and hospitable congregations,  
sponsored by United Methodist  
Communications.\$29.99.

**Deadline to register for Web Ministry 100 online  
course, Aug. 28 — Sept. 4-Oct. 16,** help using the web  
in theologically sound ways to reach new people and  
cultivate relationships, sponsored by United Methodist  
Communications. \$49.99.

**Churchquake, Reconciling Ministries Network  
convocation, Aug. 30-Sept. 2 —** Gathering by unofficial  
United Methodist caucus that advocates for greater

## ***Disciple Express***

inclusion of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people  
in the church.

**Free webinar “Creative Thinking in Faith Formation: An  
Ancient/Future Approach,” Sept. 17 — 6:30 p.m. CT,**  
learning strategies for teaching adults using an  
exploration of Jesus' teaching methods, from the United  
Methodist Board of Discipleship.

**United Methodist Church of the Resurrection  
Leadership Institute, Sept. 25-27 —** Registration open  
now for event aimed at helping leaders renew churches.

**For information on any of the events listed please  
contact the church office.**

## **WELCOME**

**Rev. Melissa Drake**

**Southwest District**

**Field Outreach Minister**

## ***Open House***

**Date: Friday, September 6, 2013**

**Time: 2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.**

**Where: Southwest District Office**

**1201 E. 7th Street, Suite 300, Atlantic,**

**IA**

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Mary Lou Colvin
- 1 Rita Henningsen
- 3 Karen Stott
- 3 Bethany Obrecht
- 4 Katie Rollins
- 4 G. G. Harris
- 4 Jared Myers
- 5 Sandy Miller Grant
- 6 Lowell Husz
- 6 Sandy Bane
- 7 Jeremy Bartlett
- 8 Abby Henry
- 10 Jason Keiser
- 10 Derek Glen
- 11 Penny Anderson
- 13 Debbie Rollins
- 13 Karen Way
- 13 Jennifer Buckhahn
- 13 Nicolle Schnack
- 16 Janice Harris
- 16 Lyle Bentley
- 16 Jan Harris
- 19 Chuck Zuch
- 19 Katelyn Palmer
- 20 Hilda Beedle
- 21 Leigh Bell
- 23 Derek Applegate
- 23 Brock Kinnison
- 24 Holly Hinkhouse
- 24 ReAnn Hildebrand
- 26 Roger McMartin
- 26 Tina Clark
- 27 Sue Duhachek
- 27 Joni Houser
- 28 Marty Rieken
- 28 Peggy Pierson
- 28 Drew Calhoon
- 29 Fred S. Henry
- 29 Alex Henry
- 30 Devyn Moore

## REMEMBER OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN



**Kristie Copenhaver**, John & Mary Lou Copenhaver's daughter; **Jared Myers**, son of Robert Myers and Sid & Tami Skank; **Sonja Husz**; **Lucas Smith**, Addie Mae's grandson; **Brian Thornton** from Avoca; **Tyler Clark**, Marvin & Carolyn Clark's grandson; **Brad Grosvenor**, Cathey Grosvenor's son stateside, and other area service men and women. **Landen Pedersen**, son of Tab and Lorie Pederson & great-grandson of Edith Haines

If you have a loved one in the service and wish to have them listed on our prayer list, please contact the church office.

### **NURSING HOMES - Remember those in the nursing homes with cards and visits.**

**Oakland Manor:** Margaret Alff, Audrey Hartje, Dorothy Martens, Lucille Bentley, Nancy Young

**Oakland Heights:** Erma Cleaveland, Janice Harris, Pat Burgett



### **Bible Presentation Sunday & Recognition of Children's/Youth Church Workers**

Please join us for worship on September 8th. As part of our worship service, our third graders will be receiving Bibles. As a congregation, we will pledge our support to the children/youth church workers as they begin a new church school year.

### **Children's Sunday School**

Sunday school will kick off on Sunday, September 8th at 9:00 in the church basement.

We will be offering Sunday school classes for children ages 3 and up.

Hope to see you there!



***GODLY HUMOR***

Christian One Liners

Don't let your worries get the best of you;  
Remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited  
until you try to sit in their pews.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Many folks want to serve God,  
But only as advisers.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

It is easier to preach ten sermons  
Than it is to live one.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

The good Lord didn't create anything without a  
purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

When you get to your wit's end,  
You'll find God lives there.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

People are funny; they want the front of the  
bus, middle of the road, and back of the church.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Opportunity may knock once,  
But temptation bangs on the front door forever.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Quit griping about your church;  
If it was perfect, you couldn't belong.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

If a church wants a better pastor,  
It only needs to pray for the one it has.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

We're called to be witnesses, not lawyers or  
Judges.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

God Himself doesn't propose to judge a man  
until he is dead. So why should you?

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Some minds are like concrete  
Thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Peace starts with a smile.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

I don't know why some people change churches;  
What difference does it make which one you stay  
home from?

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Be ye fishers of men. You catch 'em - He'll clean  
'em.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Stop, Drop, and Roll won't work in Hell.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain  
anonymous.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Don't put a question mark where God put a  
period.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Don't wait for 6 strong men to take you to  
church.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Forbidden fruits create many jams.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the  
called.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

God grades on the cross, not the curve.

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

God loves everyone, But probably prefers 'fruits  
of the spirit' over 'religious nuts!'

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage..

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

He who angers you, controls you!

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

If God is your Co-pilot, swap seats!

\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*+\*

Prayer:

Don't give God instructions, just report for duty!

# Disciple Express

## **NURSERY**

### **VOLUNTEERS**



1st Norma Bolton  
 8th Lindsay Bentley  
 15th Carol Wilson  
 22nd Lisa Pierson

## **KOINONIA**

1st  
 8th  
 15th  
 22nd  
 29th



## **USHERS,**



## **GREETERS,**

### **CANDLELIGHTERS**

1st Gerald & Carol Wilson  
 Larry & Judie Danker

Candle lighters

Andrew Jones & Sarah Jones

8th Bud & Marsha Beedle  
 Gene & Gloria Gleaves

Candle lighters

Kyra Martens & Calvin Duhachek

15th Terry & Cyndy Haines  
 Marvin & Carolyn Clark

Candle lighters

Emma Ehmke & Kristian Martens

22nd Larry & Lucia Kinnison  
 Lyle & Peggy Bentley

Candle lighters

Grace Gleaves & Camryn Pierson

29th Craig & Lisa Hummel  
 Dave & Sheila Applegate

Candle lighters

Eric Duhachek & Anna Duhachek



## **5:00p.m. Hispanic Worship Service**

	Host	Nursery
Sep 1		Pastor Karen
8		Lisa Rollins
15		Mischa Martens
22		Lynelle Jeppesen
29		Mary Waggoner

**Youth Sunday school is in need of volunteers to teach a class or music. Please contact the church office if you are interested in helping!**

**THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS**  
**YOU'RE THE GREATEST**

## **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

If you are a parent of a youth entering 7th -12th grade, your youth is invited to participate in Confirmation Classes beginning in October. Please call the church office before September 16 if you would like your youth to attend.

**September Calendar of Events**

Sun, 1st	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Worship w/Communion Koinonia Hispanic Service
Wed, 4th	6:30—7:45 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Fri, 6th	2:00—4:00 p.m.	Open House for Melissa Drake (see elsewhere for details)
Sun, 8th	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Choir practice/Youth Sunday School Worship/3rd grade Bible presentation and Recognition Koinonia Adult Bible Study Hispanic Service
Wed 11th	6:30—7:45 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Sun, 15th	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Choir practice/Youth Sunday School Worship/3rd Sunday offering for Ingathering Koinonia Adult Bible Study Hispanic Service
Wed, 18th	6:30—7:45 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Thu, 19th	7:00 p.m.	Ad Board meeting
Sun, 22nd	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Choir practice/Youth Sunday School Worship Koinonia Adult Bible Study Hispanic Service
Tue, 24th	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Wed, 25th	6:30—7:45 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Sun, 29th	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Choir practice/Youth Sunday School Worship/Invite a Friend Sunday Koinonia Adult Bible Study Hispanic Service

**OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

200 North Main  
PO Box 606  
Oakland, IA 51560  
Phone: 712-482-5530  
Parsonage ph. 712-482-5539  
E-mail: oaklandumc@frontiernet.net  
www.oaklandiaumc.org  
Rev. Karen Hoff, Pastor  
Sheryl Sindt, Secretary

Address Service Requested

***Disciple Express***

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

OAKLAND,  
IOWA

PERMIT NO. 5

«Mailing label»

«Address1»

«Address2»

«City State» «Zip code»



*"We invite all persons to be a part of our Community of Faith by participating in worship, education, fellowship and Christian service."*

***Disciple Express***

**Eyes on Nigeria**

There was a swirl of bright, vivid colors as our Iowa team entered the UMC Hospital grounds in Bambar. Three hundred people were milling around waiting for the eye clinic to start. Being led by family members, blind persons inched their way to the porch. Some used canes to get themselves positioned for the opening devotion and prayers offered by the Sunday Solomon, Conference Medical Director.

Within a few minutes John Jako, Eye Centre Director, had lines formed for patients to be seen by the eye medical staff. Under large trees nurses with the eye charts were standing holding up the chart to be read by the patient. When the patient was unable to recognize the alphabet, a chart with symbols was used and the patient waved their hand in the direction of the symbol. If the chart could not be seen, the nurse moved toward the patient and held up fingers to be counted, if fingers couldn't be seen, then she moved her hand in a sweeping motion and if the patient could not see it, a light was beamed onto the eye. This was all noted on a paper handed to each patient. Long lines snaked around hospital grounds as each patient had to

be checked at the eye chart station to determine their eye care needs. These Nigerians stood in line patiently and quietly, in hot, humid weather for many hours.

One young man that was seen had a blue round spot in his eye. Because of this people made fun of him commenting on this unusual eye coloring. The blue spot was actually a cataract that covered his pupil so he was placed on the surgical list to have the cataract removed for cosmetic reasons. He was thrilled to be able to have normal colored eyes!

United Methodist Iowans may take pride in being part of this annual Eye Camp through donations made from churches to support the week long event. Thank you, Iowans, for bringing sight to the blind!

Beverly Nolte

