



DISCIPLE EXPRESS

Vol. 22, No 7 July 2014 A Newsletter to Inspire and Celebrate Oakland United Methodists

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Worship Service Time:

10:00 Worship
11:00 Koinonia

Sunday school
Adult 11:15 a.m.



Many Church camps
still available.
Scholarship money
available, contact the
church office for
more information.

Ecumenical Vacation
Bible School

July 20–24th

At Oakland UMC

Sponsored by

Christian Church,
Congregational UCC,
Sharon Presbyterian &
Oakland UMC

6:00–8:00 p.m.

Sign Up
for Church
Camp



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The 2014 Annual session of the Iowa Conference formally opened on

Saturday, June 7, at 9:30am. "Imagine: A Faithful Church – A Healthy World" was the theme. I would like to share with you some of the highlights of this year's Conference.

Excerpt from Bishop Trimble's Episcopal Address – We Are Family

"Do you know why we are here," asked Bishop Julius Calvin Trimble as he began his Episcopal Address. "We are here because Jesus is Lord! This is our annual Christian Conference, our big family meeting in Iowa. We are here because we are family; and when we gather as family, God is always with us, stirring our imagination, moving our hearts and freeing our lives from the bondage of our sins and fears."

"Our strength and source of power as a church is not our budget or our stated beliefs, but in what God has done and Jesus has promised to continue to do through us. The work of the Holy Spirit is everywhere and for everyone."

Quoting the Common English Bible, vs. 26, the Bishop said: *From one person God created every human nation to live on the whole earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their lands.*

"We are one family. We are his offspring."

"We can imagine a faithful church at its best when people on the outside can't wait to come in and experience radical hospitality and meaningful, moving worship; and people on the inside can't wait to get out to share the love of Jesus in neighborhoods all over the world."

"As a bishop of the church, privileged to serve in Iowa, I am going to pray, preach and push, as hard as I can, to

Disciple Express

promote the unity of the church." When we get to heaven, there won't be a section for different religious denominations and political ideologies."

"We are family," he concluded "Let it be so."

Imagine No Malaria Excites the Conference

Iowa Field Coordinator for Imagine No Malaria, Rev. Katie Dawson, began her address of the Conference by detailing the 2010 statistics of exposure to and death from malaria. At that time one million people were dying each year.

"We decided that is unacceptable," Rev. Dawson said. "And so we decided to do something about it."

Imagine No Malaria was established in the Iowa Annual Conference in 2012 with the goal of raising \$2 million by 2015 to fight malaria deaths in Africa through communication, education, treatment and prevention. Rev. Dawson displayed a map of churches in the Iowa Annual Conference that have participated in Imagine No Malaria (the Oakland UMC was one of those churches - thank you for giving to this mission).

The tally for Imagine No Malaria Iowa as of Rev. Dawson's report was \$1,956,304. "That's 195,630 lives saved," she said.

*At 2:45 pm in the Monday afternoon session (after taking an offering at the Conference for Imagine No Malaria) Rev. Dawson announced the new total topped 2 million - \$2,009,907.

Sunday Ordering of Ministry Service

The service for the Ordering of Ministry for the 2014 Annual Conference Session celebrated the recognition, commission and ordination of 26 individuals (Congratulations to Rev. Brody Tubaugh, Pastor of Carson and Mt. Hope United Methodist Churches. Rev. Tubaugh was ordained as an elder during this special service).

Bishop Linda Lee, Bishop-in-residence at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, offered the sermon for the service . (cont'd)

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Excerpt from Bishop Linda Lee's Sermon

“We honor that day when the comforter Jesus promised and the power he told the disciples to wait for, were poured out into the world.”

“The world is in need today of undeniable verification that God is indeed in our midst and that God's power is still at work.”

“We are living at a time when a new depth of witness to the power of God's presence in the work is deeply necessary. There is hope that the church will be a place where people work together even when they disagree or have different cultural backgrounds or different theological understandings. It's important to hold on to hope for what God is doing and about to do in and through us.”

“We are called to pour out our gifts because in doing so the power of God is made known and people hear and understand in their own language. They understand what is possible for them, for their loved ones, for all people. This is what Jesus did. He poured out all he had.”

“Pour out the gifts God has given you. Don't worry about trying to do it like anybody else. Pour out your praise and your love to God, and others will be inspired to stand up and to offer their little light to the world.”

“Your are the light of the world. Pour it out! Let it shine! This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.”

Thank you to Dick Merkle, Lay Delegate to IAC, and Louise for attending IAC.

If you would like to read more about the 2014 IAC and/or read the sermons in their entirety, please go to iaumc.org.

Blessings,

Pastor Karen

July Daily Reading Guide

- 1 Matthew 18: 21-35
- 2 Luke 17: 1-10
- 3 Luke 18: 1-14
- 4 Luke 19: 1-10
- 5 John 8: 1-11
- 6 2 Corinthians 2: 5-17
- 7 Exodus 2: 11-25
- 8 Exodus 3: 1-22
- 9 Exodus 5: 22—6: 13
- 10 Numbers 20: 1-13
- 11 Numbers 21: 1-20
- 12 Psalm 32
- 13 Judges 2:1-23
- 14 Judges 3: 1-30
- 15 Deuteronomy 4: 1-14
- 16 Deuteronomy 4: 15-40
- 17 Deuteronomy 11: 1-32
- 18 Deuteronomy 15: 1-18
- 19 Deuteronomy 19: 1-13
- 20 Jeremiah 31: 1-22
- 21 Jeremiah 31: 23-40
- 22 Jeremiah 33: 1-26
- 23 Lamentations 3: 1-24
- 24 Lamentations 3: 25-57
- 25 Lamentations 5: 1-22
- 26 Isaiah 38: 1-20
- 27 Isaiah 41: 1-20
- 28 Isaiah 42: 1-17
- 29 Isaiah 43: 1-21
- 30 Isaiah 54: 1-17
- 31 Isaiah 55: 1-13

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NURSERY

VOLUNTEERS

- 6th Kristy Rieken
- 13th Lisa Pierson
- 20th Suzanne Pierce
- 27th Carol Wilson



KOINONIA

- 6th Lisa Rollins
- 13th Judie & Larry Danker
- 20th Gute Family
- 27th Veva Larson



USHERS,

GREETERS,

CANDLELIGHTERS

- 6th Doc & LaVinna Blanchard
Merle & Veva Larson
- Candle lighters
Calvin & Eric Duhachek



- 13th Mark & Lynelle Jeppesen
Gerald & Carol Wilson

- Candle lighters
Grace Gleaves & Camryn Pierson

- 20th Butch & Velda Husz
Marty & Kristy Rieken

- Candle lighters
Anna Duhachek & Emma Ehmke

- 27nd Larry & Judie Danker
Carolyn McJunkin & Barb Schorsch

- Candle lighters
Kyler Rieken & Kristian Martens



5:00 p.m. Hispanic Worship Service

Host Nursery

- 6th Veva Larson/
- 13th Leslie Cleaveland/Cathey Grosvenor
- 20th _____
- 27th _____

Mark your calendars!

July 20th thru 24th for

Vacation Bible School

UMC Giving launches new website

United Methodist News Service

United Methodist Communications has launched a redesigned website, umcsgiving.org, that helps local churches see the impact of United Methodist generosity. The new site offers a biblical perspective to help United Methodists across the globe align their giving practices with their personal faith. The site also includes a section dedicated specifically for church leaders and pastors that offers tools and downloadable resources to help inspire giving within local churches

GODLY HUMOR

A big, burly man visited the pastor's home and asked to see the minister's wife, a woman well known for her charitable impulses.

"Madam," he said in a broken voice, "I wish to draw your attention to the terrible plight of a poor family in this district. The father is dead, the mother is too ill to work, and the nine children are starving. They are about to be turned into the cold, empty streets unless someone pays their rent, which amounts to \$400."

"How terrible!" exclaimed the preacher's wife. "May I ask who you are?"

The sympathetic visitor applied his handkerchief to his eyes. "I'm the landlord," he sobbed

THE ATHEIST AND THE BELIEVER

Author Unknown - Sent to us by Ron Perry

There's a little old Christian lady living next door to an atheist. Every morning the lady comes out onto her front porch and shouts "Praise the Lord!"

The atheist yells back, "There is no God".

She does this every morning with the same result. As time goes on the lady runs into financial difficulties and has trouble buying food. She goes out onto the porch and asks God for help with groceries, then says "Praise the Lord".

The next morning she goes out onto the porch and there's the groceries she's asked for, of

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course she says "Praise the Lord".

The atheist jumps out from behind a bush and says, "Ha, I bought those groceries - there is no God".

The lady looks at him and smiles, she shouts "Praise the Lord --- not only did you provide for me Lord, you made Satan pay for the groceries!"



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June Answers

1. Who told Pilate that a worrisome dream made it clear that Pilate was to have nothing to do with Jesus? *Matthew 27:19 His wife*
2. According to one Old Testament prophet, there will come a day when young men will see visions and old men will dream dreams. Which prophet? *Joel 2:28 Joel*
3. Who repeats the words of this prophet in an early Christian sermon? *Acts 2:17 Peter, at Pentecost*
4. Joseph, Mary's husband, was warned in dreams to do four things. What? *Matthew 1:18-2:23 Marry Mary, different route to Bethlehem, flee to Egypt, return from Egypt*
5. In Nebuchadnezzar's famous tree dream, who is symbolized by the majestic tree that is cut down? *Daniel 4:5-17 Nebuchadnezzar*
6. Daniel had a dream of four beasts rising out of the sea. What did they look like? *Daniel 7 lion, bear, leopard, monster with iron teeth*
7. In Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the statue, what four metals are mentioned as composing the statue? *Daniel 2:31-35 gold, silver, brass, iron*
8. One of Gideon's soldiers dreamed of a Midianite tent being overturned by an unlikely object. What was it? *Judges 7:1 a cake of barley bread*
9. When God came to the young Solomon in a dream and asked him what he desired, what did Solomon ask for? *1 Kings 3:5-10 understanding heart and good judgement*
10. What three Egyptian officials did Joseph interpret dreams for? *Genesis 40-41 The pharaoh, his baker, his butler*

From *The Complete Book of Bible Trivia* by J. Stephen Lang
Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. Copyright 1988

Bible Trivia with hints

1. What did God change Jacob's name to? *Genesis*
2. Who was told by God to name his son Maher-shalal-hash-baz? *Isaiah*
3. Who told Joseph what Jesus' name would be? *Matthew*
4. What prophet was told by God to name his son Lo-ammî? *Hosea*
5. Who told Hagar to name her son Ishmael? *Genesis*
6. What did God change Abram's name to? *Genesis*
7. Who was told by an angel that his son was to be named John? *Luke*
8. What prophet told the priest Pashur that his new name was to be Magor-missabib? *Jeremiah*
9. What did God call his human creation? *Genesis*
10. What new name did Jesus give to Simon? *John*

Bishops seek to help church 'find way' on homosexuality

Eight United Methodist bishops from across the theological spectrum recently released a new book from the United Methodist Publishing House's Abingdon Press: "[Finding Our Way: Love and Law in The United Methodist Church.](#)"

Like the church members they lead, the bishops have differing perspectives on homosexuality and what the Bible says about it. The bishops also offer different suggestions for a way forward. Still, not one calls for a complete breakup, amicable or otherwise.

Retired Bishop Rueben P. Job and Neil M. Alexander, the president and publisher of the United Methodist Publishing House, initiated the work and served as editors of the 115-page volume of essays. Job also wrote a popular book on John Wesley's teachings — "[Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living.](#)"

"We believe it is at times like these that we need most to draw upon the rich resources of our faith and Wesleyan tradition," they told United Methodist News Service in a joint response by email.

"We plead for a quality and character of debate that is rooted in the saving grace of Jesus Christ, mindful of Wesley's three simple rules and that demonstrates that the people called Methodists choose to grapple with controversial issues in ways that edify and build up the body of Christ."

To join the Conversation

Should a church debate over same-sex marriage result in denominational divorce? Not if United Methodist bishops can help it.

Visit ministrymatters.org/findingourway to read more commentaries related to the homosexuality debate and share your thoughts on "Finding Our Way: Love and Law in The United Methodist Church."

'I wish you enough.'

A father and daughter were in their last moments together at the airport. The airline had announced I wish you enough adversity so the smallest joys in life

her departure and standing there near the security gate, they hugged and he said, "I love you and I wish you enough."

She replied, "Dad, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I love you so much...and I wish you enough, too, Dad."

They hugged and held each other tightly and then she turned and left.

The father walked over toward the window to watch his daughter's plane take off. Tears rolled down his cheeks.

Another man had been watching them. The father turned to the man and said, "Did you ever say goodbye to someone knowing that you would not see each other again in this lifetime?"

"Yes, I have," the man said.

Please forgive me for asking, but why is this a final goodbye?"

The father answered, "I am old now... not in good health and the real truth is that her next trip back will be for my funeral."

"I'm sorry," said the stranger.

"It's O.K. I have had a wonderful life and it will soon be over for me. But it's been a great ride. God has blessed me and He has always been with me...

and he will be with me in the life to come. I have no regrets. I trust God for whatever is ahead."

The other man said, "May I ask you about something? When you were saying goodbye, I heard you say, 'I wish you enough.' What does that mean?"

The father smiled and said, "That's a wish that has been handed down for many generations in my family. My parents used to say it to everyone."

When we say, "I wish you enough," we are wanting the other person to have enough good things to sustain them. The wish goes like this:

"I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright. I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more. I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive.

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I wish you enough adversity so the smallest joys in life appear much bigger.

I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting. I wish you enough loss to be grateful for all you possess. I wish; you enough hellos to get you through the final goodbyes."

The father looked at the other man and said, "I wish you enough"... and then he turned and walked away.

Because we are Christians, we can be confident because in Christ, God gives us enough... enough strength to keep us going, enough forgiveness to make us a new creation, enough courage to enable us to stand tall when times are tough, enough assurance to convince us that ultimately God wins and He wants to share his victory with us.

Rev. Paul Shultz remembered as a friend to all.

6/7/2014

Rose Blank, chair of the Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, opened the presentation of the Higher Education and Campus Ministry award by introducing Marsha Acord, Acting Director at the Wesley Foundation at the University of Iowa, along with Taylor Gould, a Communications and Social Media intern at the Wesley Foundation.

The **Francis Asbury Award** was awarded to Rev. Paul Shultz, who passed away in January 2014, for his outstanding service the last 15 years as Executive Director of the Wesley Foundation at the University of Iowa.

Rev. Shultz impacted many students' lives, Blank said. "Students valued Paul's mentoring," she said.

Shultz found creative ways of collaboration with student ministry, said Blank, recognizing

the Wesley Foundation as a faith community from which young adults would discern their future in ministry.

Blank listed the many areas in which Rev. Shultz served, and said he offered outstanding leadership above and beyond basic responsibilities.

As remarkable as his service was, Blank said she thought of Rev. Shultz as a friend above all, along with many others. "I've been incredibly blessed by my time at the Wesley Foundation," Taylor Gould said.

She attributed Rev. Shultz with being a large part of the reason she would be continuing ministry in the United Methodist Church, and then read from a sermon given by Rev. Shultz

"I grasped for anything that might be an anchor," said Gould, drawing upon a theme of his sermon and remarking on her grief at the loss of Rev. Shultz.

"We are still blessed with his legacy," she said. "He taught so many of us so much."

"In everything he did, he went above and beyond," said Gould. "We will always have his legacy to hold onto."

Rev. Shultz's son Miles Shultz accepted the award on behalf of his family.

"My father's love of the church sustained him," Shultz said.

Regarding issues facing the church today, Shultz said if his father were still alive he would be working to reconcile the world as it is with the way it ought to be.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

07/02 Kroft, Carol
 07/04 Royalty, Dawn
 07/04 Harris, Scott
 07/05 Bentley, Todd
 07/05 Bane, Dallas
 07/07 Rollins, Lisa
 07/07 McMahan, Liz
 07/08 Somers, Sydney
 07/09 Harris, Dana
 07/09 Larson, Veva
 07/09 Reed, Bo
 07/10 Bane, Kim
 07/10 Hummel, Hannah
 07/10 Gute, Harper
 07/12 Frizzell, Shirley
 07/12 Hildebrand, Danene
 07/14 Ehmke, Pam
 07/15 Feigenbutz, Dakota
 07/16 Rieken, Kasper
 07/17 Schnack, Roger
 07/17 Allensworth, Keagan
 07/19 Allensworth, Brogan
 07/20 Larimore, Merv
 07/21 Schwarte, Jared
 07/22 Galitz Jr., Ray
 07/22 Applegate, Collin
 07/22 Long, Jacen
 07/23 Keast, Walt
 07/25 Hackett, Kyle
 07/26 Pierson, Erin
 07/26 Brammer, Justus
 07/27 Pedersen, Landen
 07/29 Shiffer, Joyce
 07/29 Schwarte, Jonathon
 07/30 Miller, Jacob
 07/31 Henry, Joyce
 07/31 Henningsen, Daryl
 07/31 Haines, Sara
 07/31 Applegate, Amanda



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Our Military Family

Kristie Copenhaver, John & Mary Lou Copenhaver's daughter; **Jared Myers**, son of Robert Myers and Sid & Tami Skank; **Sonja Husz**, Niece of Butch & Velda 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.



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



In Remembrance

Our sympathies are with the family of Max Hummel who went to be with our Lord on May 31. A memorial service was held on June 9

NURSING HOMES – Remember those in the nursing homes with cards and visits.

Oakland Manor: Margaret Alff, Audrey Hartje, Dorothy Martens, Lucille Bentley, Erma Cleaveland

Oakland Heights: Janice Harris, Pat Burgett, Neuonia Timberman, Joan Turner



June 2014 School Teachers for Nigeria

June 9 was the date the Iowa team of 15 persons were to embark on the annual trip to Nigeria. But Nigeria had been in the press with stories of bombings, kidnapping of 250+ girls, burning churches and causing turmoil in villages located in northern Nigeria. Nigeria is the size of North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota and Iowa with a majority of Muslims living in the northern states which border Niger, Chad, Cameroon and Mali. It is in this area that the militant group known as Boko Haram, whose name means “Western education is a sin,” is trying to impose their Sharia law. The Boko Haram targets Christians with hundreds being killed in the last several years.

The Nigerian Government has not addressed this terrorist problem thus allowing attacks to continue in northeast Nigeria. With the recent kidnapping the school girls taking exams in Chibok, a world wide protest has occurred with the cry being “bring back our girls.” The school girls kidnapping – which the group has taken responsibility for – is just the latest attack in a brutal campaign of violence it has been waging for years against what it sees as the corrupt, Westernized and oil-obsessed government in the majority Christian south.

Nigeria officials have invited assistance from world powers as the U.S., United Kingdom, and China to help find the girls and train security and military forces.

The United Methodist Church of Nigeria is located in north central Nigeria, south of the states being affected by the Boko Haram. In Jalingo, the capital of Taraba State and headquarters of the UMCN, there is a ban on the use of motorcycles in the city. In Adamawa and Borno States cell phones and the internet had been banned.

We had recruited a group of 9 members, 5 of whom were health care professions. Grandview UMC in Dubuque had a team of 6 persons ready to cement

their partnership with Damka, a rural, remote village in the middle of nowhere. But we reconsidered our plans and in light of the violence in Nigeria and some unrest in one conference of the UMC, we have canceled our trip until later this year. Bishop Trimble and Thomas Kemper, General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries, were consulted and their advice confirmed our decision to not travel at this time. This has been a hard decision to make but is in the best interest of all of us.

Our Nigerian church friends live with insecurity and a sense of fear not knowing where, when or why an incident might take place. Let us raise our prayers to God for their safety and ability to continue the Lord’s work in their land. Pray that the kidnapped girls be found and returned to their homes. Keep the church leaders in your prayers as they seek unity among themselves.

Our Nigerian students in Iowa will be doing the following In June:

Paul Johnson, a junior at Morningside, has returned to Nigeria to visit his family

Ishaya David, a sophomore at Simpson, is a camp counselor at Wesley Woods Camp

Adams Davidson is taking 3 IT classes at Western Iowa Tech Community College

Teddy Pena, son of John and Titi Pena, has summer classes

Yahuda Zailani, a Master’s Degree student at Africa University, is doing a research project in Nigeria Uzajja Dauda is preparing to attend Africa University in August so will secure his Zimbabwe visa. Both of these students were faculty members at Banyam Theological Seminary in Bambur. They both are in need of financial assistance to cover their tuition costs and school fees. Support may be sent through your local church to the conference treasurer designated: INP, #230, Yahuda or Uzajja. Your gift counts!

July Calendar of Events

Sun, July 6
10:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion
11:00 a.m. Koinonia
5:00 p.m. Hispanic Worship
8:00 p.m. Vespers Service

Sat, July 12
7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

Sun, July 13
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Koinonia
5:00 p.m. Hispanic Worship
8:00 p.m. Vespers Service

Sun, July 20
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Koinonia
5:00 p.m. Hispanic Worship
8:00 p.m. Vespers Service

Sun—Thu
20 — 24 6:00 p.m. Vacation bible School
24th 6:30 p.m. VBS Program

Sun, July 27
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Koinonia
5:00 p.m. Hispanic Worship
8:00 p.m. Vespers Service

**Vacation Bible School will be July 20th. Thru 24th.
with the program at 6:30 p.m. Thursday the 24th.**

See the Oakland UMC web page for more information.

<http://www.oaklandiaumc.org/vacation-bible-school.html>

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Dear Friends,

I know many of you are just returning and getting back into the groove after annual conference. Summer is in full swing here at Wesley Woods. We are finishing our second full week of summer and things are going very well. We have a fantastic staff this year and I am so excited to watch them grow, teach and learn throughout the summer. There are still spots open in summer camp, so if you have kids in town or families that you think would benefit please continue to encourage them to consider joining us for a camp experience. There are some exciting new camps and many of the favorites from over the last few years with openings.

As summer has gotten in full swing we have discovered a couple of needs we didn't anticipate having. We knew coming into summer that we would need a new pool liner and so we started working on getting the replacement in as soon as we could open the pool. In preparing to do this we discovered a number of issues with the pool structure itself and over the last five weeks we have done some major repair work and had a pool company in to fix the things that are necessary before we could open the pool for summer. The pool will be open by the end of next week! We are excited to have it. All of our campers have gotten a chance to swim either in the pond here on site or at Lake Ahquabi.

Our lawnmower fleet consists of one commercial mower that is a 1993 model and a couple smaller John Deere residential units. We greatly appreciate them and use them a tremendous amount during the summer. At this point we have been done to all but the smallest residential mower for a few weeks. So if you know anyone who might be interested in donating a used mower or contributing to purchase a new commercial mower please encourage them to contact me.

We also could use a couple of golf carts donated. We have one electric golf cart that seems to have surrendered to time and maintenance.... We also have a gas powered cart that has lived a much longer life than I am sure it was ever intended to have and randomly just stops and refuses to move occasionally. Neither of these are reliable modes of transportation and in the past have been something we relied on heavily as we moved things across the ridge and went about maintaining the site and caring for campers. Since they aren't reliable the staff have started to use other vehicles like pick-up trucks and vans. These burn a lot more gas and cause more pollution. If you have someone in your congregation that might be interested in helping us with this challenge please feel free to have them contact me.

Thank you for supporting us through your gifts, time and talents. Every day I am blessed beyond what I deserve to have an opportunity to be a part of the great stories and ministry that happens here.

Deke Rider

Site Director

Wesley Woods Camp & Retreat Center

10896 Nixon St.

Indianola, IA 50125

1-866-684-7753

www.WesleyWoodsIowa.org



**Go
camping!!!!**

There are many camping opportunities available. There is also camping scholarships to help with the cost.



Iowa Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church

ADVOCACY TEAM - 2014

MENTAL HEALTH: SUICIDE PREVENTION

Establishing an Iowa Center for Suicide Prevention through the Department of Public Health and requiring school employee training in suicide prevention and trauma-informed care.

(SF 2261) Approve

THE PROBLEM: The Iowa Department of Public Health has identified the problem in this manner:

“IDPH reports that from 2002-2007, a total of 1,998 suicide attempts resulted in death and 332 of these completions were children and young adults from 10 to 24 years of age. In Iowa, suicide is the second leading cause of death for all Iowans 15-40 years of age.

Suicide affects Iowa’s families, friends, schools, businesses and communities. Although the number of Iowans impacted by suicide is difficult to calculate, conservative estimates indicate that there are at least six family members and friends intimately affected for every person who has attempted or completed suicide. This equates to about 12,000 Iowans affected by a person’s death from suicide from 2002-2007. The IDPH reports that over this same time period, 2,656 Iowa youth were hospitalized for attempted suicide, tragically impacting an estimated 15,936 family members and friends.”

This is an Iowa problem.

THE SOLUTION: Ideally, everyone who has contact with someone who is at risk of suicide is part of the solution. Family, friends, schools, coaches, churches, counselors, mental health professionals, pastors,

other faith communities all are in positions to help—with the proper information and training. The Iowa Department of Public Health has developed the Iowa Plan for Suicide Prevention: 2011 to 2014. We support their efforts in this important endeavor.

THE UNITED METHODIST PERSPECTIVE: We believe that suicide is not the way a human life should end. Often suicide is the result of untreated depression, or untreated pain and suffering. The church has an obligation to see that all persons have access to needed pastoral and medical care and therapy in those circumstances that lead to loss of self-worth and suicidal despair. . . (Our) perspective on suicide begins with the affirmation of faith that nothing, including suicide, separates us from the love of God. (Social Principles, The Nurturing Community, page 28)

A RIGHT STEP FORWARD: We believe SF2261, which provides for the establishment of the Iowa Center for Suicide Prevention through the IDPH, is a right step forward to help our communities (especially schools) identify and assist persons to find immediate help when they are suicidal. We support the two-pronged approach of Suicide Prevention and Trauma Informed Care. Together these disciplines and approaches will help Iowa more effectively identify and prevent youthful Iowans from committing suicide.

We applaud and encourage the plan to use Trauma Informed Care. The National Center for Trauma Informed Care website says: “When a human service program takes the step to become trauma-informed, every part of its organization, management, and service delivery system is assessed and potentially modified to include a basic understanding of how trauma affects the life of an individual seeking services.” The goal is to make our schools a healing place which helps, not hurts, those who have experienced traumas in their lives.

Brian Carter | (515) 979-5775 | brianacar@dwx.com

Vacation Bible School Registration Form (VBS to be held at the Oakland UMC)

July 20-24 from 6:00—8:00 p.m. Light meal served at 6:00

Name: _____

Birth Date: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact Name and _____

Phone Number: _____

Home Church: _____

Allergies or other medical concerns: _____

T-shirts will be available for \$9. If interested mark how many you want.

- | | | |
|-------|-------------|--------------|
| _____ | Extra Small | Size 2 – 4 |
| _____ | Small | Size 6 – 8 |
| _____ | Medium | Size 10 – 12 |
| _____ | Large | Size 14 -16 |
| _____ | X-Large | Size 16+ |

If in need of assistance purchasing a t-shirt please contact one of the church offices.

Method of Payment: _____ Check or _____ Cash

Payment Amount: \$ _____

Mail to the Oakland United Methodist Church:

PO Box 606, Oakland IA 51560

Disciple Express

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

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

Disciple Express

See us at:

Web page: www.oaklandiaumc.org

Facebook.com/oakiamethchurch

IT'S A GIRL

Evelyn Jude Henry

Born June 19, 2014

8 lbs 13 oz

21 inches

Daughter of Grant and Alyson Henry

(shares a birthday with cousin Any
Rollins)