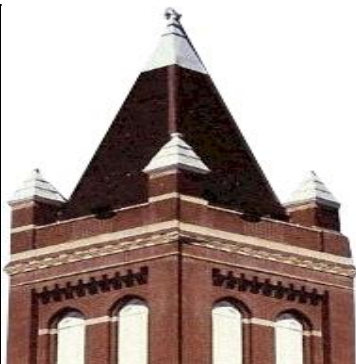


The Tower



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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

TUES-WED-THUR
9:00am—12:30 pm
1:00 pm—4:30 pm

MONDAY & FRIDAY
CLOSED

Office Church Staff

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wanderingervant@gmail.com

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www.umc-hampton.org

Like Us on Facebook:
Hampton United Methodist Church

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In just a few days we will begin the Christian recognition of the season of Lent, a time of repentance and awareness. I say awareness because this is a continual process in the life of Christians as we not only recognize who we are, but also who we belong to; who we worship; who we follow. I am eagerly awaiting the work of the Hampton United Methodist Church as they have been working diligently to produce a Lenten devotional. My hope is that we might see and share the personal devotion and personal discipleship practices that many of our members are partaking. These 40 days instill in me the reality that our relationship with God is much more than just Sunday morning worship. But a daily recognition that we are a people of faith, seeking to maintain a true relationship with God and one another.

I celebrate this devotional as a sign that the church is alive, celebrate the work of clergy and laity together, and encourage the body of Christ to maturity in faith and discipleship. One of my favorite verses from the Old Testament is one in which it is proclaimed that we should always, “Let the redeemed of the Lord say so.”

As the months are rolling by we continue to follow the Christian year from one season to another. And yet sometimes we ask ourselves what do the seasons mean to us? We are in the middle of a Bible study at Dumont titled What Happens Next, by Max Lucado. It is puzzling, and intriguing. The scriptures say, there is a blessing for those who read the book of Daniel and Revelation. And yet I try to remind our group that it is “the blessing of Christ with us” that upholds us and sustains us by faith, so that we don't have to worry what tomorrow will bring. Our focus is upon who we are today and that each word we say, each thought we think, each action we would take, brings glory and honor to our present and future king - Jesus Christ our King Eternal.

As the apostle Paul states in *Philippians 3:13b & 14* “***But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.***”

May the Lord be with you!

Amen.

Pastor Dennis Burns

**MARCH CHANGE FOR LIFE
COMPASSION FLIGHT**

If you, a family member, or a friend are interested in becoming a Hampton UMC member or wish to be baptized, please contact Pastor Dennis Burns 319-559-0913



Hampton United Methodist Church

AFTER WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP MEAL SUNDAY, MARCH 30TH
WORSHIP: 11:00 AM MEAL: 12:00 PM
SERVING HAM BALLS, CHEESY HASH BROWNS, GLAZED CARROTS AND DESSERT
PLEASE JOIN US FOR A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP AND GOOD FOOD

2025 RADIO MINISTRY DATES AVAILABLE	
Mar 16, 23, 30	Apr 6, 27
May 4, 11, 18, 25	June 1, 8, 29
July 6, 20	Aug 3, 24, 31
Sept 7, 14, 21, 28	Oct 5, 19, 26
Nov 2, 16, 23, 30	Dec 14, 21, 24, 28
<i>Radio Partial \$40; Full \$80 Dec 24 is Christmas Eve service</i>	



Please Keep in Your Prayers
Members and friends confined to their homes or care centers:
Verlene Murray — Roger Nuehring

FROM THE KITCHEN

We still need to remember our feather friends during the month of March. These two recipes are both easy to make and will do well outside, as long as the temperatures don't get too warm. Both recipes are taken from BIRDS AND BLOOMS MAGAZINE

BIRD CUPCAKES

1 cup shortening

2 cups chunky peanut butter

Melt together and add:

5 cups corn meal

Sprinkle with bird seed

Use paper or silicone cupcake forms. Take off before putting out for the birds.

Refrigerate

BIRD SEED WREATHS

3 (1/4 ounce) envelopes gelatin

6 Tablespoons cold water

Stand 1 minute. Add 1 cup boiling water and stir until dissolved. Add 6 cups birdseed. Spray a Bundt pan with non-stick spray. Pour mixture into pan. Press firmly. Place in refrigerator for several hours. Tie twine or raffia around to hang. These need to be kept in the refrigerator until ready to hang outdoors.

FROM EDUCATION

It has been brought to our attention, how can congregation members help with supporting the youth groups.

One way is to help provide a meal on Wednesday evenings. The first group eats at 5:30 pm which is 3-year-old pre-school to 8th grade. This group has 20 kids and 6 adults.

The high school group eats at 6 pm which has 12 very hungry kids and 4 adults. You can serve one group or both groups. If you would like to serve a meal, please call the church office and talk to Cindy or Barb.

Another way you can help is to donate paper plates, paper bowls, plastic forks and spoons. These can be left off in the church office or in the kitchen with a note for WWW. Please NO styrofoam.

There are two camps that are available for this summer. One is Wesley Woods camp at Lake Okoboji. There is one north of Hampton called Reborn Ranch. There is more information and camp scholarships available for these camps at the church. Please call Stacy or Barb for the information.

Some dates to put on your calendar:

Wednesday, March 5 *Soup Supper served by WWW participants at 6:00 pm; Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 pm*

Sunday, March 16 *WWW singers will sing in church at 11:00 am*

Sunday, April 13 *WWW singers will sing in church at 11:00 am*

Hampton United Methodist Church
Ash Wednesday
Soup Supper




March 5th
6:00 to 7:00 pm

*Different Kinds of Soup
 will be served by the
 Wild Wacky Wednesday
 Participants*

Service will follow at 7:00

There is a church *Lenten Daily Devotional* available for Lent this year. The book was written by church members. The booklet will be in the sanctuary by *Saturday, March 1 and Sunday, March 2*. They will also be available at the *Ash Wednesday service March 5*. If you would like a booklet and don't get to the church, please call the church office and we can mail or drop off a copy.

For Lent this year we are bringing back Prayer Partners

At the east entrance of the sanctuary there is a bunny bucket that has empty pieces of paper next to it. Put your name and address on the paper and drop it into the bucket. At the Ash Wednesday service or after, pick a name out of the jar and you will pray for that person every day during Lent. Just don't tell them who you are until Easter. And that's when you will reveal to your prayer partner who you are.

My prayer partners have sent me cards and encouraging words through the mail to let me know I was being thought of and prayed for and at Easter they revealed to me who was praying for me. It was so exciting and comforting to know I was being thought of and prayed for and I loved finding out who was praying for me during Lent! I also loved praying specifically for one of our congregation members.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Jessica Miller!

And have fun!!!

HAMPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Leadership Council Minutes - February 20, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.

Attendance: Robin McKee, Pastor Dennis Burns, Kathy Atkinson, Terry Schwebke, Pat Palmer, Lawrence Green, Berry Johnson, Mardell VanKleeck, Sonja Vosburg, Robbi Stevens, Carol Nolte and Jessica Miller. Absent: Stacy Rieken, Gladys Fanny, Mark Drier and Larry Gilchrist.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Robin. Note: Original meeting date (February 12th) canceled, due to hazardous weather conditions. Prayer concerns were shared, followed by prayer offered by Pastor Dennis. The minutes of the December 11th meeting were made available for review. **Motion** by Sonja to approve the December 11th minutes, seconded by Jessica. Motion carried.

Education: Robin read a report Stacy had provided a report via email. March 5th - Ash Wednesday Soup Supper, 6:00-7:00 p.m., with food and serving provided by HS youth families. March 10-14 spring break, so no activities that week. Kids will be singing for Palm Sunday. May 7th will be the last night for WWW, and their last Sunday for singing will be May 11th (Mother's Day). May 18th- Senior breakfast. Will be looking for volunteers, since two committee members have grads. VBS dates tentatively set for July 21st -24th. St. Paul's Lutheran will be invited to join and/or help. Summer camp information was put in the newsletter. Items needed for youth meals; plates, cups, utensils, food, assistance with servicing on Wednesday evenings; opening it up to volunteers beyond the parents of the children in the program. Sub teachers are also needed for Wednesday nights.

Endowment: Berry made reference to a report Carol had provide on the status of previously approved special projects; showing a surplus of \$3,169.02 to be transferred to the CD on file. The 2025 funds available for allocation is \$9,049.69, minus \$1,000 designated each year for college scholarships, leaving a balance of \$8,049.69. To date, no applications for special projects have been received. He noted that all applications must be approved by Endowment, Finance and Leadership Council.

Finance: Carol did a review later in the meeting.

Memorial: No report.

Men's Group: No report.

Missions: Mardell shared that February's Change for Life is designated for Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and March donations will go to Compassion Flights. So far, a little over \$1,000 has been received via the envelopes in the pews for the California wildfires relief; this will be extended awhile longer for additional contributions, before forwarding the donations to contact there.

Nominations: Pastor Dennis voiced a motion from committee to approve the addition of Lori Poulos to the Missions Committee, term expiring 2027. Motion approved.

SPRC: Lawrence reported that a staff appreciation event is scheduled for March 3rd at 5:30 p.m., where the church employees will have opportunity to offer input regarding their responsibilities with relevant committee members. The SPRC Committee will provide a meal for those in attendance.

Trustees: Terry advised that earlier this month Orkin had done an examination of the attic, steeple and space above the sanctuary, in hopes of identifying preventative measures against bird and bat access to the building. They provided an estimate for cleaning and installation of barriers and insulation at \$180,000. Due to the expense involved, no action taken to proceed at this time. There are plans for the tuckpointing company to do some window work, which was previously contracted to be done this year.

The church received an alert from City Hall that there was excess usage showing up on this month's reading; source identified as a malfunction on a water softener valve, which is now repaired. The water bill is anticipated to be much higher this month, as a result. Also, a noise was coming from the boiler room earlier this month, which was coming from a broken coupler on a small circulating pump, now replaced. **UWF:** Sonja shared that the circles have been meeting as social gatherings through the winter months, but they will resume their regular meetings in March. The executive committee met in December to determine recipients of over \$12,000 raised in 2024; list of recipients included in the February church newsletter. The executive committee is scheduled meet again in April.

Worship: Robbi noted that there is still a pending issue of licensing needed for use of videos outside of the worship services. This may be a budget item for Education to research, as use of the videos tends to be for study groups and youth programs. Another funding source may be the Robinson Fund, which requires approval by the Education Chair, Finance Chair and Pastor, according to specifications when the fund was established. Robbi reviewed the worship schedule for the Lenten season; Ash Wednesday on March 5th, 7pm service in the sanctuary, Maundy Thursday on April 17th, 5:30 pm in Christ Chapel, the Franklin County Ministerial Association has scheduled a Good Friday service at the Congregational Church on April 18th at 12 noon. There will be no Saturday worship service on Easter weekend, and the Sunday service will be at 11am.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Dennis stated he's hosting the Ministerium here on March 18th. They are working on again hosting and coordinating activities at the Franklin County Fair Chapel during the fair; sign up options will be made available for volunteers. He's been working on keeping his CEU's current and recently had his annual evaluation done by the District. Iowa Annual Conference 2025 is scheduled in Des Moines, June 13-15. Their office has sent our church a letter, inquiring if we want additional delegates for the conference; no decision has been made on that option. He shared that he'd led chapel services at the assisted living facilities with BeFrienders. He's also officiated at several funerals recently. The Ministerium plans to hold another clergy panel at Windsor Theatre on April 22nd.

Lay Leader's Report: Jessica advised she'd been collecting devotional writings for a Lenten booklet, that she'd like to begin distributing the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. She's awaiting a few more writings from people who had agreed to contribute. She's been approached about the possibility of doing Prayer Partners again this Lenten season; consensus was favorable for her to proceed with this. She shared that some additional help may be needed for the Ash Wednesday Soup Supper; contact her with how help might be provided. She's extended an invitation to New Hope Parish to join us on Ash Wednesday for the meal and service.

Financial Reports: Carol distributed folders to committee chairs for updates to their binders. She reviewed the year-end-2024 finance report, which showed a net profit of \$13,917. The January balances were as follows: General Fund Checking \$17,028.22, Designated Fund Checking \$51,727.49, General Savings \$49,366.56, and Construction Account \$767.00. She noted that year-to-date the committees have done well in percentages of funds spent. Terry inquired if insurance renewal amount had been quoted; Carol advised that's still pending.

Circuit Ministry: Lawrence advised our regional circuit group hadn't met in December or January, but they are scheduled to meet in Iowa Falls next Monday. Robbi commented that our District Superintendent now the Rev. Dr. Michel Lundula, having recently achieved his PhD. She also said one area being addressed with the circuits is providing Lay Servant and Lay Speaker training sessions. Our church may be hosting such sessions, which are scheduled for Saturday mornings. Our church is on the far east boundary of the District, and mileage can be an problem for some potential participants, with our District stretching to the west border of Iowa. Classes offered here could be made available to our District, as well as neighboring Districts.

Discussion at Large: Pat asked if there had been any change in giving since the offering plates are now being passed at the Sunday worship service. Carol suggested there had been some improvement with loose change and currency. Robin commented that it would be nice to have more people willing to assist with passing the offering plates.

Robin adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m. Next meeting will be **Wednesday, April 9th**, at 6:30 pm.

YOUR GENERAL FUND DOLLARS AT WORK!!!

02-10-25

JANUARY 2025 Report

	<u>Jan. 2025</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
<u>2025 General Fund Contributions Income</u>		
General Fund Income	15,501.36	15,501.36
Total General Fund Income		15,501.36
<u>2025 General Fund Expenses</u>		
1. Connectional Ministries (Apportionments)	(2,740.67)	(2,740.67)
2. Missions/Outreach	-	-
3. Education (Curriculum, S.S., Youth, Confirmation, VBS)	-	-
4. Worship (Licensing Fees, Piano Tuning, Worship supplies)	(111.07)	(111.07)
5. Administration (Postage, Office Supplies, copy machine, Annual Conference Delegates)	(522.47)	(522.47)
6. SPRC (Payroll, Pastoral/Pulpit Expense, Professional Accountant Fees)	(8,736.75)	(8,736.75)
7. Trustees (Building Maintenance & Upkeep, Insurances, Utilities, Parsonage mortgage/Repairs)	(4,642.59)	(4,642.59)
Total General Fund Expenses	(16,753.55)	(16,753.55)
Total Net Profit/Loss	(1,252.19)	(1,252.19)

January 31, 2025

General Fund Checking Balance	<u>\$ 17,028.22</u>	*
Designated Fund Checking Balance	<u>\$ 51,727.49</u>	
General Savings Balance	<u>\$ 49,366.56</u>	**
Construction Account Balance	<u>\$ 767.00</u>	

* Approx \$2,000.00 of surplus dollars may be available for transfer.

** \$10,000.00 was deposited into savings for December surplus and \$25.00 Boiler Replacement \$ given/pledged.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kristi Waddingham
- 3 Kreg Menning, Dick Paulsen
- 4 Virginia Meinberg, Brooke Stevens
- 8 Kim Orr
- 9 Carolyn Moore, Karen Ringleb
- 10 Andrew Thompson
- 11 Linda Buchanan
- 12 Myrna Yakel
- 13 Calvin Schoenfeld
- 14 Kathy Heilskov, Joy Lyman
- 15 Corey Dombrowski
- 16 Donna Dorsey, Dan Stewart
- 24 Roger Hansen
- 25 Paige Hansen
- 26 Ed Etnier
- 28 Blayne Woltjer
- 29 Linda Pohl
- 30 Larry Gilchrist
- 31 Sawyer DeVries, Tyler Waddingham

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Vick & Robin Woltjer (1979)
- 6 Keith & Kathy Oldenburger (2021)
- 19 Kaleb & Stephanie Kloetzer (2011)
- 22 Mike & Carol Nolte (1980)
- 24 Chris & Kelsey Ford (2007)
- 25 Al & Michele Eiklenborg (1995)
- 27 Joel & Kim Orr (1982)
- 29 Lynn & Ardis Sheeler (1969)

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Robert Alert
- 3 Terri McWilliams
- 4 Betty Etnier, Stacy Rieken
- 5 April Hemmes
- 6 Adra Johnson, Emerli Johnson, Connie Sorensen
- 7 Lillian Craighton
- 8 Beverly Jones
- 10 Cassandra Nolte Bishop
- 11 Greg Dombrowski, Barb Furman
- 12 Marilyn Hannah
- 13 Greg Counsell, Richard Sanchez
- 14 Kate Hindin, Amanda Fender
- 15 Diane Wilkinson
- 16 Ben Gilchrist, Tom O'Hare
- 17 Ryan Menning, Jessica Miller
- 18 Andrew Kramer
- 20 Allyn Hagensick, Sarah Shirk
- 21 Robin McKee, Drew Menning
- 23 Thad Boyington
- 25 Kirstyn Hanson Hake, Judy Kothenbeutel,
Jessica Quintus
- 26 Jay Waddingham
- 29 Ann Barnes

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Doug & Margaret Smith Alert (1994)
- 5 Richard & Angie Sanchez (1999)
Pat & Becky Palmer (2008)
- 7 Tom & April Kazmerzak (1990)
- 25 Kreg & Angela Menning (1992)
- 29 Tom & Rachelle Thompson (2000)
- 30 Chuck & Sue Butt (1976)

Please call the church office (641-456-4238) for any additions, corrections, or removals to the Birthday or Anniversary list



THE CLEAN UP CLOSET
Hampton United Methodist Church
100 Central Ave East, Hampton
Open First Saturday of Each Month

9:00 am—11:00 am

(residents will be able to receive products 6 times/year)

2025 Schedule: *SATURDAY, MARCH 1*

April 5 May 3 June 7 July 5 August 2

September 6 October 4 November 1 December 6

PLEASE BRING ITEMS ANY TIME TO THE CHURCH. BASKETS ARE AT THE EAST ENTRANCE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!! MONETARY GIFTS ARE ALSO WELCOME! THANK YOU!

Whether you are on a fixed income or having a hard time making ends meet, alone or with a family to support, or any age, if you need help with cleaning/personal items, maybe we can help—no questions asked. We know confidentiality is important to you—we will not give your name out. The Clean Up Closet is open to all people.

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 CENTRAL AVENUE EAST
HAMPTON, IA 50441
Address Service Requested**

March 2025

