

St Luke UMC

501 E 19th Street N
Newton, IA 50208
641-792-5736

May 18, 2020



THE BI-WEEKLY Flame CATCH THE FIRE!

Celebrating our St Luke Graduates

This is an unusual time for our graduates.



Please feel free to show our seniors some love by giving them gift cards. If you know their addresses, you may send them directly. If you don't, please send them to the church and designate which senior they are for and we will make sure they get them.

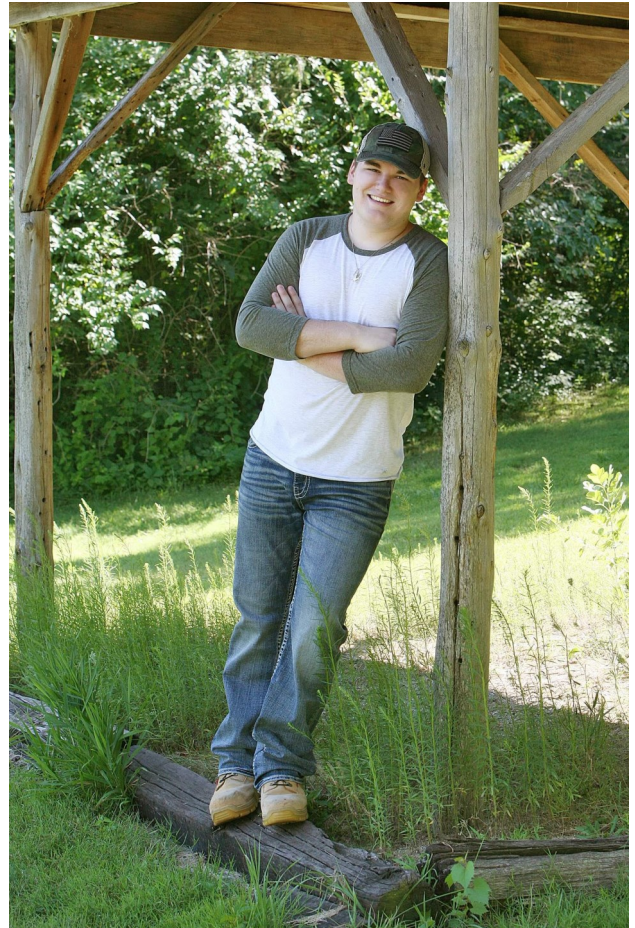
2020
Class of

CONGRATULATIONS!



Audrey Boleyn

Audrey Boleyn is the daughter of Nate and Tori Boleyn and Christine and Joel Miller, and granddaughter of Lee and Diane Boleyn, Randy and Cindy Rhoads and Larry and Linda Butterfield. She is a 2020 graduate of Newton Senior High School. During high school Audrey was involved with Cheerleading, Choir, FFA, Student Council and DECA. She was the Iowa FFA Degree Recipient as well as the FFA Chapter Secretary. She was also involved with dance for 12 years, including 7 years competitively. Audrey plans to attend Kirkwood Community College after graduation and pursue the Hospitality Management Program.



Logan Henning

Logan Henning is the son of Tori & Nate Boleyn and the late Aaron Henning, and grandson of Randy and Cindy Rhoads, Lee and Diane Boleyn and Debbie Pherigo. He is a 2020 graduate of Newton Senior High School. During high school Logan played football and baseball and also worked in customer service at Walmart. He maintained high academic honors earning a Presidential Educational Excellence Award. When he was a kid Logan always wanted to work for the FBI. After graduation Logan plans to start Army Basic Training in early July.



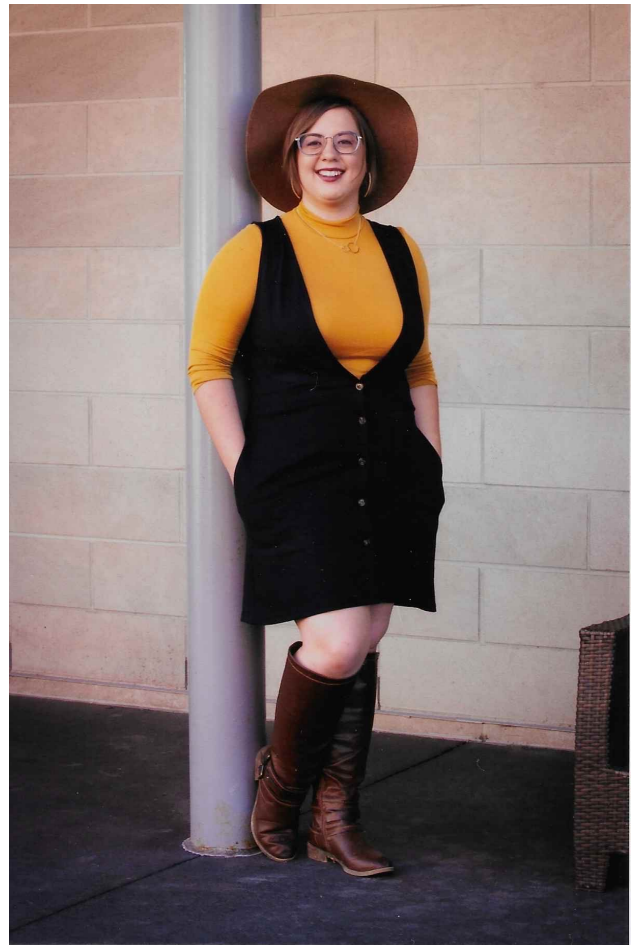
Dillon Constant

Dillon Constant is the son of Lori and Jeff Eisbrener, and grandson of Linda Powell. He is graduating with a Masters Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from University of Iowa and plans to become a City Planner.



Gatlin Scott Chambers

Gatlin Scott Chambers is the son of Brooke Chambers and Mike Wood and Scott and Monica Chambers, and grandson of Dick and the late Bette Couch and Randy and Sheryl Chambers. He is a 2020 graduate of Newton Senior High School. During school Gatlin was involved with DECA and Baseball. He was the 2019 National DECA Qualifier and also received his varsity letter in Baseball. Gatlin has enjoyed many Thanksgivings going to Central Iowa shelters to serve Thanksgiving dinner. He also enjoys spending time with his cats: Regan and Ollie. Gatlin will be attending UNI in the fall to study finance and investment.



Angelina Jennaven Gallagher

Angelina Jennaven Gallagher is the daughter of Lynzey and Jeremy Shrum and Dan Gallagher, and granddaughter of Denell and Bill Henninger and Carla and Whit Johnson. She is a 2020 graduate of Newton Senior High School. Angel was involved with Choir, Speech, GSA, Color Guard and Show Choir. She was the GSA president for 2 years, Color Guard captain, and received a Choir letter. Angel is the oldest of four siblings and likes to paint and read. Her favorite season is winter and she just got a puppy named Navy that she is training by herself. Angel plans to attend Grandview University in the fall and major in Nursing.

Zoe Marie Smith

Zoe Marie Smith is the daughter of Eric Smith and Amy and Stephen Wright, and granddaughter of Dennis and Pam Smith. She is a 2020 graduate of Ankeny Centennial High School. Zoe was involved with many activities during high school including: Concert Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Choir and Show Choir. She received the Spirit of the Jaguar Award for embodying our school creed and also participated in All State Band. She plays several different instruments as well including the clarinet, alto sax and tenor sax. Zoe will be attending Iowa State University in the fall and majoring in Music Education.





It's been 967 days since this whole thing started. Well, it feels like it, anyway. For some reason, Covid time seems different than regular time. This makes it no less



true that it has been far too long since we've been together.

As Iowa opens up, the question has been asked about whether we will open up, as well. The short answer is no. The jury is still out on whether it is safe to gather. Some of our leaders in Iowa are saying that we are ready. Others are saying that it is too soon. We haven't had the decreasing numbers of new cases that are a sign that we can open again. As I write this, our numbers are increasing rapidly.

This is painful. It is painful to see businesses close. It is painful to see people suffer. It is painful to see corporations put profits first. It is painful to see someone's life work die in a dormant economy. This whole situation is painful. And there are no easy answers.

As we wrestle with whether to start gathering again, I am informed by a document given to us by our Conference leaders. It uses a system of assessment based on a stop light. We are still in the red phase, which calls for no gatherings at the church of any kind. This is the safest course of action while the spread of the virus is unchecked.



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The next phase is marked by yellow. This phase will begin when the spread of the virus recedes. Even when this phase begins, our gatherings will be very different than what we remember. As we gather for worship during this time, we will need to wear masks, space ourselves apart, refrain from singing, and dispersing immediately after worship. Because of the distance requirement, we will likely need to limit the number of people at each service. We may have to increase the number of services to ensure that everyone can participate. It will be very different. And it will last a long time.

If you would like to read the guiding document, click this link. <https://www.iaumc.org/newsdetail/iowa-annual-conference-of-the-united-methodist-church-crisis-response-re-entry-plan-13653399>

In the near future, we may hold an outdoor service. If we do, we will still have to maintain distance from each other. We will also not be able to enter the building, so the service will be short and without socializing.

I long for the day when we can gather again. I long for the day when the people we love will be safe as we gather. That time is not yet here.

Until then, I will be continuing to record messages each week. Starting in June, I will begin a series called

You Asked For It. In that series, I will tackle your questions: fun ones, serious ones, the ones you've always wanted to ask. With this, I might ask you to be my host in a talk show style conversation. That means that you'll be able to ask the questions, from the silly to the serious, and I'll attempt to answer them.

So, submit your questions by email and indicate if you would be willing to join me for one of the sessions. This has the potential to be fun and to provide something different during this strange time.

Stay safe. Stay home as much as possible. Stay in love with God.

Pastor Chad



Bishop Calls For Renewal Leave

For the past several weeks, our clergy and laity have been working tirelessly to provide vital worship, pastoral care, and hope for our local churches in the Iowa Annual Conference. Many of our clergy, church staff, and worship teams are utterly exhausted in mind, body, and spirit.

Therefore, Bishop Laurie is requiring those teams to find some back-to-back time between now and Pentecost Sunday, May 31, to experience rest, renewal, and sabbath. That means no work during that time. To make it through the long haul, caring for your spirit is essential.

The cabinet has prepared a complete worship service so clergy, church staff, and worship leaders will have no responsibilities in that worship service, other than to be blessed.

St Luke will be taking the required time of rest during the week of May 18-25. Please note the church office will be closed during that time. Be sure and watch for the worship service the Bishop has prepared that will be sent out on Memorial Day weekend. This worship service has been planned for your inspiration and encouragement while providing a moment of rest for our local church leaders in this season of COVID-19. Stay safe!



Where to Find Us

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St. Luke News

I just wanted to say thank you to everyone who sent cards and called to check in on me during my recovery. All your thoughtfulness and concern for me was truly appreciated.

-Jan Lewis



United Methodist Women

At this time there will not be a May UMW meeting. We will update everyone if June brings any changes.

A Prayer for Memorial Day

We remember, O Lord, all those people throughout the years who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country, for liberty, for us.



Whenever we breathe the air of freedom or claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship, fill us with gratitude for those who selflessly gave the last full measure of devotion — their

very lives — for our benefit.

May these brave men and women now know the joy of eternity and your presence. And may the families of the fallen receive comfort and peace amid their grief. Help us as we minister to their needs. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Vacation Bible School

Our VBS is still scheduled for July 20-24



but we are keeping an eye on the current situation. We are keeping everyone's safety in mind as we reach a final decision on how we proceed. Keep watching for future updates as summer gets closer.

Anyone interested in helping can let Ann Leonard know by calling 641-521-2463, or by emailing annericleonard@gmail.com.

GOD HAS PERFECT TIMING
never early, never late
IT TAKES A LITTLE PATIENCE
and a whole lot of faith...
BUT IT'S WORTH THE WAIT.

2020 Summer Camp Announcement

To supporters of the Iowa United Methodist Camping Ministry:

The Iowa United Methodist Camping Ministry has adopted core values which guide our values, principles and decision making. Our first core value is to “ensure guests feel safe, secure and loved”. As a result, we are announcing that due to ongoing concerns regarding the safety and health of our campers, families and staff due to COVID-19 we will be cancelling all summer programs at Okoboji and Wesley Woods United Methodist Camps for 2020.

Though this decision comes as a great disappointment we believe that conducting large group gatherings this summer puts our children, youth and adults at unnecessary risk.

In the next few weeks a number of things will happen. If you have already registered for a camp experience this year you will be contacted by a member of our Iowa Camps team to make arrangements with payments. Each camper family will be invited to:



- Transfer deposit to a future Iowa United Methodist Camp Event
- Receive a refund (full or partial) for funds already paid towards an event
- Offer your payment to either Okoboji or Wesley Woods as a gift to sustain camping ministry in Iowa

Information about future program offerings in the coming months will be available shortly. In the meantime, please be in prayer for our campers and parents, families and churches, and those who are working diligently to defeat COVID-19.

You are in our prayers, and we ask that you keep Iowa Camps in your prayers as well.

Blessings,

Bryan Johnson

Director of Camps and Retreats

MMDC Fill the Truck 2020

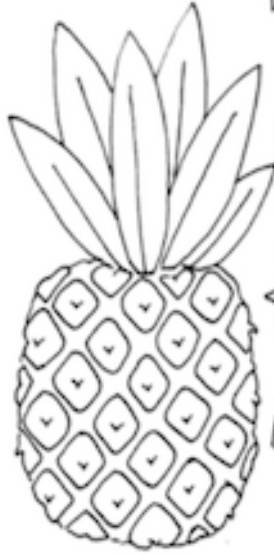
We WILL be “Filling the Truck” for [Midwest Missions](#) in June 2020. Just a little different this year. **Drop off dates and locations will be announced soon.** For information, contact Pastor Catie Newman at Disaster.response@iaumc.org or 712-899-4067 phone or text.

The ongoing mission outreach at Midwest Missions continues and is busier than ever! In addition to Hygiene Kits, Student Desks and Sewing Machines (both pedal and electric) Midwest Missions has requested:

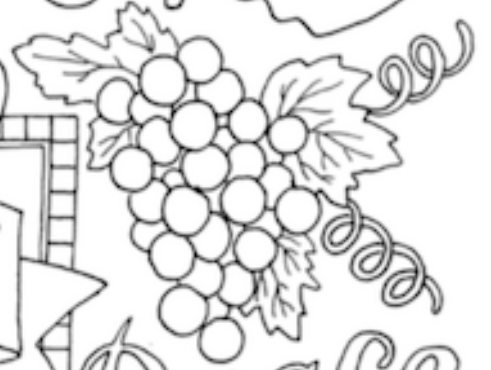


- Flannel, “PLU” (waterproof) and Cotton Fabric
- Walkers, Canes, Wheelchairs and Crutches
- Cloth Masks (any style)
- New or Used (clean) Blankets
- Plastic or Wood Small School Chairs (children’s sizes)

LOVE JOY



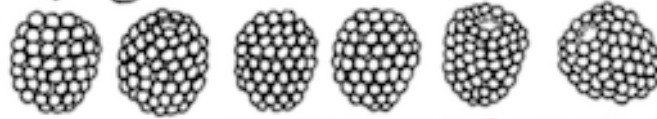
the
Fruit
of the
Spirit



Peace

PATIENCE

kindness



goodness

FAITHFULNESS

gentleness



SELF-CONTROL

