



United Methodist News

We are pleased to announce that [Pastor Vicki Fisher will be coming to SLUMC July 1st.](#)

A big welcome to Pastor Vicki and her family! Please see the note below from Vicki.

Meet the Fisher Family:

Pastor Vicki:

- She is celebrating 20 years of being a UMC Pastor this summer!
- Her hometown is Columbus, Nebraska
- Vicki started out teaching science at Forest Ridge in Estherville
- Vicki loves the outdoors and can often be found hiking in the woods, sitting by the lake, kayaking, and canoeing
- She has been married to Mark Fisher for 23 years. Their first date was at Remington's!
- She is currently serving at Manning-Manilla in the Southwest District

Mark has a Masters of School Mathematics degree from ISU. He is currently teaching at Glidden-Ralston. Mark has written and directed school plays. He has also coached speech, volleyball and track over the years.

Hannah is a freshman at the University of Nebraska-Omaha and is studying music education.

John is a high school freshman who is active in band, choir, speech, drama, musical, track, and Quiz Bowl. John also loves math and science.

If you're curious what I'm up to, I'm "Vicki Bruhn Fisher" on Facebook.

SLUMC Leadership Team Update

Staff Parish Relations Committee has approved the hiring of **Amy Bergman** for the part time role of *Children's Ministry Coordinator*. Amy is an active volunteer in our congregation. She also works with her husband, Derek, to manage the Lake Okoboji United Methodist Camp. This is a position Tammy and Duane had spoke about previously, to help make our youth program awesome! It is even more important now to get Tammy some assistance in these months without a Senior Pastor. Amy will be assisting with Sunday School planning, Bible School, Wonderful Wednesdays, Christmas programs, etc. Amy is planning on approximately 15 hours a week. We are all excited she is bringing her talents to our UMC staff!

Bill Neiderheiser has turned in his resignation as part time custodian. His last day will be Friday February 15th. Bill has graciously volunteered to continue to open up the church on Sunday mornings and make coffee. Thank you Bill for years on the church staff!

Larry Jerge has agreed to work as a volunteer custodian while Staff Parish looks into finding a permanent replacement. Thank you Larry for your service!

Ryan Christensen met with our Hospitality Team last Sunday between services. Things seem to be going well with the group as they continue to make our church more welcoming. **Amy Maris** has agreed to lead the group. If you would like to get involved on the Hospitality Team and have not.....please contact Amy Maris or the church office and they will get you in touch with her.

We will continue with more updates and happenings in our church next week.

Thank you all for your support.

Jayson, John, Tammy, Leah

Christian Discipleship and Education

Children's Christmas Program DVDs

We have DVDs available of the 2018 Children's Christmas Program. We have enough for families of the kids that were in the program. If there is more interest in copies of the program we will have more made.

Spirit Lake UMC Christmas 2018 Wood Block Nativity Sets

We have a few Nativity sets left from Christmas. We are asking for a \$5 donation if you are interested in purchasing a set.

Please contact Amy Bergman if you would like a DVD or a Nativity set.

Amy Bergman

Children's Ministries Coordinator

amy@spiritlakeumc.org

712-336-3115 (Ext. 5)

Graduating High School Seniors:

Our Memorial Committee offers scholarships to students entering their first two years of college.

Scholarship applications for the 2019-2020 school year are due in the church office by **April 1, 2019**.

If you need another copy of the scholarship application sent to you, or if you have any questions, please contact Tammy.

Hope Haven Worship Retreat – March 16 – 9am-1pm

Our Hope Haven friends will be having a Worship retreat here at the church on **Saturday, March 16**.

They have asked for participation from members of our congregation. There will be a sign up sheet located on our Connections Table if you are interested in participating. This activity meets the criteria for our HCI mission prescription and we encourage members of both worship services to participate in this outreach event. If you have additional questions, please contact Tammy.

Tammy Branum

Director of Discipleship & Christian Education
Spirit Lake United Methodist Church

712-336-3115 (Ext. 2)

tammy@spritlakeumc.org

Help Send Our Youth to Camp!

Derek Bergman from the Lake Okoboji United Methodist Camp was planning to share a message about camp at both services Sunday February 24th. Unfortunately, we had to cancel church due to weather.

Last year, we as a church made the decision to pay for each of our kids here at SLUMC to go to camp. We more than double the number of kids we sent to Lake Okoboji United Methodist Camp. We would like to increase that number again this year.

We will pay 100% of the basic cost (camp upgrades are not included in this basic cost) for each of our kids that are active in one of our youth programs (Sunday school, Kids Club, Confirmation, Youth Group) to attend one session of camp at Lake Okoboji United Methodist Camp.

If you are able to afford part of the cost of camp, please donate that amount to our camp fund.

We ask everyone to prayerfully consider donating to our camp fund to help provide our kids with this awesome opportunity. Adopt-a-Day donations for March will drop to \$50 a day and all proceeds will go to our camp fund.

Thank you all for your extravagant generosity!

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MISSIONS

The Missions Committee met on Monday, February 18. Ryan Christenson and Tammy Branum were present to try and help clarify the “missions” part of our HCI prescriptions. The purposes of the teams we put together for these intergenerational activities are: 1) to go out in the community to love and serve and 2) build relationships between members of our two distinct worship services. As a church we do much of this naturally in the many ways we currently serve as led by our Missions Committee. The goal with this prescription is to have a season where we are being more intentional and maybe trying some new things. Many ideas were discussed. Two events that you will soon see more information about are the Hope Haven Worship Retreat on March 16 led by Tammy Branum and the Cares Carnival on April 27 to be led by Amy Bergman. We are starting this off.

We welcome ideas for such events from other members of the congregation, keeping the goals of serving and building relationships in mind. The idea is to not necessarily have the mission committee do the work, but rather to have more people become involved. If you need further direction, you can contact Tammy or Leah for guidance on how to lead your own event.

DUANISMS

I have been collecting precious memories from everyone about Pastor Duane. Things he said that we will never forget. Some of his quotes will inspire you, some will make you think deeply and others will just make you smile. The man definitely had a way of putting his thoughts into words. Here is a list I have put together - Jayson Wollmuth

Relentless positivity

And all God's people said.....(Amen)

The alternative to noisy children in worship is not quiet children in worship; it is no children in worship.

Practice Radical Hospitality

If someone says to you, "I just tell it like it is.....run, the other direction!"

Raise your hand if you like being told what to do

Raise your hand if you like strangers telling you how poorly you are living your life

The mark of a good leader is when their work continues after they are gone

You know, the pastor doesn't have to be the one saying the prayer at every meeting

We can't be too welcoming.

When we are acting out of fear, almost everything we do is not admirable.

We can't love without risk.

When you begin to give, you begin to receive.

We want to be judged by our intentions but yet we tend to judge others by their actions

What can separate you from the Love of God? NOTHING! What can separate you from the Love of God? NOTHING!"

I retain the right to make mistakes

.....but I may be wrong

I know you keep telling me you are open to change, but I don't believe you

There should be no truth without Grace

Be a difference maker

When I die, I want people to remember me as being generous

If fundamentalist churches truly believe that the bible is literally true in all aspects, they would have congregations of one handed and one eyed parishioners. ref. Mathew 18: 7-9

Let love be the motivation for everything you do.

For peace - Give peace to someone else.

Christianity is one generation away from disappearing.

We usually have time for things that aren't the best choices.

I would rather help someone who didn't need it then refuse to help someone who did

I reserve the right to change my mind

Never underestimate the power of people to do nothing

Everyone says they want change, until you change something they like.

If we are not going to do more as a church then we did last year, why would we expect people to give more?

Importance of being intentionally welcoming; embrace the importance of hospitality

Your best experience with God is in the future

I don't take myself seriously, you can ask my wife

Giving is not secret (that you give); it is private (what you give)

There is no such thing as boneless chicken wings, there are chicken wings and everything else is just a chicken nugget.

Don't kid yourself.

Hamburgers were never meant to be eaten with ketchup

How come Iowa has a Weed Commissioner but not a Weather Commissioner

Doesn't everyone wear wool socks?

In my opinion, when it comes to music, it doesn't get any better than The Avett Brothers

Don't walk on ice with your hands in your pockets

Placement over power (pickle ball and golf)

Whenever you hit a bad shot in pickle ball, tell the other person "good shot" (then no one thinks you hit a bad shot.)

Hook 'em

If you are going to buy one of the shirts with the Methodist logo on it do not wear it somewhere and be grouchy