
The Joyful Noise

ROCK RAPIDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
302 SOUTH CARROLL STREET ~ ROCK RAPIDS, IOWA 51246

PASTOR KATHY SIDES
kathysides@hotmail.com

H: 712-472-2770
C: 515-201-3634

Administrative Assistant, Amber Kooiker
rockrapidsumc@premieronline.net

712-472-2324

www.rockrapidsumc.org

Volume 40, Issue 9

September 2017



I'm a life-long Methodist. Starting in 1968, with the joining of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Churches, I learned to call myself a United Methodist. When I was little I never gave much thought to being a Methodist, it was just something we were. In fact, my mom tells a story of a conversation my brothers, Mike and Bobby, (who are four and two years older than me) had when they were about five and three. Mike came home from school and said to Bobby, "I found out today that I can't marry Mary." (Mary was a cute little red-head that all the little boys had crushes on.) When Bobby asked why, Mike informed him; "Because she's a Democrat and we're Republicans." To which Bobby objected, "NO Mike, we's not *Publicans*, we's *Mefodists!*"

We Burns kids knew we were "Mefodists" before we could even pronounce it. As I learned more about who Methodists were and what they believed in and stood for, my perspective on being one changed. As an adult I'm not a Methodist because I've always been one. I'm a United Methodist because I choose to be one. And I'm proud to be one. Maybe next month I'll talk a little bit more about what I like about our denomination, and why I wouldn't want to be anything else. But for now I want to share a lighter look at us Methodists.

I saw this posted on Facebook, and got a kick out of it. It is attributed to Garrison Keillor, but when I did an internet search on it, one person had written that it may have started with Garrison Keillor and been added to by another person or persons. At any rate, it is a humorous look at Methodists, with a lot of truth mixed in with the humor. So here is Garrison Keillor (maybe) on Methodists:

We make fun of Methodists for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for [macaroni and cheese](#). But nobody sings like them. If you were to ask an audience in New York City, a relatively Methodistless place, to sing along on the chorus of "Michael Row the Boat Ashore," they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Methodists, they'll smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! And down the road!

Many Methodists are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony. It's a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage. It's natural for Methodists to sing in harmony. We're too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment.

By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other. I do believe this: People, these Methodists, who love to sing in four-part harmony, are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you're dying, they'll comfort you. If you're lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you're hungry, they'll give you tuna salad!

1. Methodists believe [in prayer](#), but would practically die if asked to pray out loud.
2. Methodists like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas.
3. Methodists believe their pastors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify them that they are there.
4. Methodists usually follow the official liturgy and will feel it is their way of suffering for their sins.
5. Methodists believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate.
6. Methodists feel that applauding for their children's choirs would make the kids too proud and conceited.
7. Methodists think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while passing the peace.
8. Methodists drink coffee as if it were the Third Sacrament.
9. Methodists feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall.
10. Methodists are willing to pay up to one dollar for a meal at church.
11. Methodists still serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color of the season and think that peas in a tuna noodle casserole adds too much color.
12. Methodists believe that it is OK to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously.

And finally, you know you're a Methodist when:

- It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.
- You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can!
- Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee.
- When you watch a "Star Wars" movie and they say, "May the Force be with you", and you respond, "and also with you".
- And lastly, it takes ten minutes to say "good-bye".

As I said, it's a humorous, but *mostly* truthful look at us Methodists. We're good people. I'm proud to be one, and I'm proud to pastor a congregation of them.

Pastor Kathy

PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED

If you have recently moved, changed your mailing address, your **email address**, phone number, **or are only using cell phones**, please contact the church office with the current information. **Thank you!**



If you would like to be included in the **PHONE Prayer Chain** that goes out as needed through our VoiceWave system and/or the **Weekly Prayer Partner EMAIL** which includes scripture readings, prayer requests, birthdays, and weekly reminders, please email or call the church; especially if you have not received these lately. If you have email, but do not receive information from the church this way, please give your email address to the office. We may not have it, and it's important that we do going forward so you can stay

updated. Thank you.

HOSPITALIZED

Please contact the church office or Pastor Kathy if you know a member has been admitted to the hospital. With the new privacy laws being strictly enforced there are many times we are unaware of hospitalizations. We would rather get ten calls than none at all. Thank you. **Prayer concerns** can be called into the office (472-2324) or emailed to the office at rockrapidsumc@premieronlinenet or Pastor Kathy at kathysides@hotmail.com and they will be sent out.

Prayers~

- ✚ Pastor Kathy (recovering from surgery)
- ✚ Barb Fegan- recovering from cancer surgery
- ✚ The passing of Carl Dieters
- ✚ Betty Vinson
- ✚ Family of Rosie Kahl (passed away 8/26/17)
- ✚ Texas residents suffering from Hurricane and flooding



Praise God~

- ☺ The birth of Jason and Kayla Engleman's new baby girl- Quinnlie
- ☺ The celebration of marriage of Nathan and Jessica Herman
- ☺ George & Margaret Shurr celebrating 52 years of marriage



02~ Fred & Shirley Roach
03~ Randy Slade
04~ Chloe McClure
04~ Michele Baade
03~ Rylan Maxwell
06~ Lainn & Rhonda Menning
07~ Barb Fegan
07~ Mimi Drenth
09~ Mikayla Miller
10~ Sue Vinson

11~ ElDon Maxwell
12~ Phil & Carole Priest
14~ Jack & Holly Spitler
15~ Anders Baade
17~ Carrie Wall
18~ Jerry Stratton
20~ Susan Hasche
20~ Stacey McIntire
22~ Doug Baade
22~ Hannah Sieperda

22~ Jaylynn Stubbe
26~ Josh Rockhill
26~ Mae Smid
27~ Mary Fields
27~ Nick Van Berkum
27~ Jim Waagmeester
27~ Kate Spindler
28~ Ron Rice
28~ Diane Sieperda
28~ ElDon & Mary Maxwell
29~ Marlys Henry
29~ Mary Peterson

*We apologize for any omissions or incorrect information. Please contact the office with the correct/missing information. Thank you!

Reminders and Announcements



Community Bingo will be held the 1st Friday of each month at 2 p.m. at the Rock Rapids Health Centre. All are welcome.

Colleen Wall has gone into a Memory Care Unit in Waterloo. She is at Lakeview Lodge, 312 Southbrooke Drive, Waterloo, Iowa 507012. Lakeview Lodge is a part of a larger facility called Friendship Village. There is a website for further information on Friendship Village. (www.FriendshipVillageIowa.com)



Sunday School kick off will be **September 10th at 10:30 a.m.** Please have your child fill out the registration form and bring it with them on the first day of Sunday School. You can access the registration form at <http://rockrapidsumc.org/children-ministries/>
A copy was also emailed.



After worship, everyone is invited to join the classes in the fellowship hall for cinnamon rolls and singing Sunday School songs before the children and youth are dismissed to their classes.

**4th Sunday/Sunday, September 24th
Sunday School Offering & Food Collected for the
Central Lyon Backpack Food Program**



The offering collected from the Sunday School classes on each 4th Sunday of the month (Sept.-May) will be donated to the **Central Lyon Backpack Food Program**. Students can also donate food items for the program. The school supplied a list of needed items, and that info is printed below. There is a backpack as you enter the Sunday School hallway. Any food items that the Sunday School students bring for donation can be placed in that backpack (4th Sunday or any time).

Donations from non-Sunday School students are welcome too ☺. We will have a collection in the fellowship hall.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support of this program that makes a difference to kids right here at home.

Here are a few items that are used frequently with the backpack program.

Individual servings of:

peanut butter
Ramen noodles
any type of Chef Boyardee
Easy Macs
100% juice boxes
fruit snacks
Rice Krispies
granola bars
oatmeal
Nutri Grain bars

Also used are a few items that are kept frozen or refrigerated until bags are packed.

Those items would be:

Uncrustables
any flavor muffins
mini muffins
string cheese
beef sticks
Gogurts



Third Ave Youth and Third Ave Squared will both kickoff on Wednesday, September 13th!

✠Our Annual evening UMW meeting will be Thursday, September 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. I would like to extend an invitation to ALL of the women of our church to come and enjoy an evening with our new Shepherdess, Sue Ritts, President of the NW District UMW, from Washta, IA. Sue has much to share as she has been active in the Washta UMW for over 40 years. She has been a lay servant for 27 years and graduated from the school for Lay Ministry in 2010. Sue has also served on Ad Council, is a past choir director, Sunday School teacher, president, treasurer and nominations for her local UMW, led Bible studies and served in various areas of the NW District Executive Council. In addition to her busy life, she and her husband have raised 3 children and enjoy 9 grandchildren.

Come and listen to what Sue has to share with us while enjoying food and fellowship with your UMW friends. Hope to see ALL of you on the 7th!

*Reminder~ Hannah Circle is in charge of lunch and Ms Fits are in charge of the program.

Thank you!

UMW President, Vicki Slack



If you are on Facebook, make sure you “like” the Rock Rapids Methodist Church page.



Please be sure to check out our website at www.rockrapidsumc.org
You can find our monthly calendar with events and church activities under the news/events tab.