



Staves Memorial United Methodist Church  
2747 East Madison Avenue; Des Moines, IA 50317  
Church: 515-266-0265  
Email: [staveschurch@msn.com](mailto:staveschurch@msn.com)  
Website: [www.staveschurch.com](http://www.staveschurch.com)

**Pastor Tim Walker**  
Parsonage: 515-262-4248  
Cell Phone: 712-450-0201  
Email: [Timwalker65@outlook.com](mailto:Timwalker65@outlook.com)



December 01, 2024

## Regret

*For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.* (2 Corinthians 5:21)

We all have regrets. It is practically impossible to live on the earth for any length of time and have no regrets. But remember, don't let regrets have you, because if you are not careful, regret can control you.

Maybe you feel your mistakes have been so big that you don't deserve God's help. **Welcome to the crowd!** None of us deserve it, but by His grace, God has made it available to us. (*Ephesians 2: 8-9*) Maybe you've done things that have left you feeling ashamed and hopeless. Past sins that make you feel unworthy or failures that make you feel inadequate can hang over your head. Whatever regrets you have, they bar the doorway of the future God has for you. Whenever you want to step out for God, regret can stand in your way, laughing at you.

If you have come to Christ for salvation, God does not hold any of your past mistakes and failures against you!. When you ask God to forgive you, He throws your sins in the sea of forgetfulness and remembers them no more. (*Micah 7:19*) But sometimes the hardest person to forgive is yourself. How do you do that? The same way we forgive others - with God's help.

It's important to learn from the past, but never let the regrets of the past keep you from living for God today. With God's help, you can rise above your mistakes. Mistakes, failures, and missteps are an unavoidable part of life. But regret doesn't have to be, you are the righteousness of God through Christ Jesus.

## December Calendar

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday -- HOLY COMMUNION**
- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
  - Sunday School 9:00 am
  - Worship Service 10:00 am
  - Fellowship 11:00 am
  - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 1:00 – 3:00:pm
  - Advent Bible Study 4:00 pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday**
- Advent Bible Study 10:00 am
  - TOPS GROUP 5:15 pm
  - CAT Meeting (adult classroom) 6:30 pm
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday**
- UWFaith 6:00 pm
  - Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**
- DORCAS Circle 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Power in Prayer Group 2:00 to 3:15 pm
  - Bells 5:30 pm
  - Choir 6:30 pm
  - Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday**
- Club Gems 11:00 am
  - Craft Group 5:00 pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> Friday**
- China Painters 9:30 am
  - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday -- Noisy Offering**
- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
  - Sunday School 9:00 am
  - Worship Service 10:00 am
  - Fellowship 11:00 am
  - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 1:00 – 3:00:pm
  - Advent Bible Study 4:00 pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> Monday**
- Advent Bible Study 10:00 am
  - Church Women United Luncheon Noon
  - TOPS Group 5:15 pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**
- Finance Meeting 6:30 pm

## December Calendar (continued)

- 11<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**
- Esther Circle 9:30 am
  - Power in Prayer Group 2:00 – 3:15 pm
  - Bells 5:30 pm
  - Choir 6:30 pm
  - Ad Council Meeting 7:15 pm
  - Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> Thursday**
- Club Gems 11:00 am
  - Craft Group 5:00 pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> Friday**
- Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> Saturday**
- Sandy McNamar Food Pantry 2:00 pm 5:00 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday -- Kids Program**
- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
  - Sunday School 9:00 am
  - Worship Service 10:00 am
  - Fellowship 11:00 am
  - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 1:00 – 3:00:pm
  - Advent Bible Study 4:00 pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> Monday**
- Advent Bible Study 10:00 am
  - Church Women United Board Meeting 11:30 am
  - TOPS GROUP 5:15 pm
  - Education Meeting 6:00 pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**
- Power in Prayer Group 2:00 -3:15 pm
  - Bells 5:30 pm
  - Choir 6:30 pm
  - Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 19<sup>th</sup> Thursday**
- NO Gems Group
  - Craft Group 5:00 pm
  - Blue Xmas (chapel) 6:00 pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> Friday**
- Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm

## December Calendar (continued)

- 21<sup>st</sup> Saturday**
- All Church Breakfast 8:00 am
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – Christmas Cantata**
- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
  - Sunday School 9:00 am
  - Worship Service 10:00 am
  - Fellowship 11:00 am
  - Advent Bible Study 4:00 pm
  - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Monday**
- Advent Bible Study 10:00 am
  - TOPS Group 5:15 pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> Tuesday–**
- Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – CHRISTMAS DAY**
- Office Closed
  - Christmas Dinner 11:30 am
  - Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> Thursday**
- NO Gems Group
  - Craft Group 5:00 pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> Friday**
- Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 28<sup>th</sup> Saturday**
- Sandy McNamar Food Pantry 2:00 pm 5:00 pm
  - Community Meal 5:00 pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday**
- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
  - Sunday School 9:00 am
  - Worship Service 10:00 am
  - Fellowship 11:00 am
  - Bible Study 4:00 pm
  - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 30<sup>th</sup> Monday**
- Adult Bible Study 10:00 am
  - TOPS Group 5:15 pm

## December Birthdays



## December

Rick Atterbury	12/2
Thomas Atterbury	12/2
Emelia Peters	12/3
Linda Gundlach	12/4
Jazlynn Shabazz	12/7
Pastor Tim Walker	12/7
Bev Dowis	12/10
Melissa Peters	12/13
Reta Robey	12/15
Jennifer McDonald	12/19
Sue Hood	12/23
Rick Roghair	12/29

## **CRAFTS, CONVERSATION & CHOW**

Come join other women for a night of Crafting, Conversation, and Chow—*Free of Charge*.

Bring a project to work on and a dish to share or simply come to connect with other women. We meet at the church every Thursday starting at 5:00 p.m. If you have a craft you'd like to learn, let us know so we can find the right person to help you learn.

If you have further questions, please contact *Jennifer McDonald* at 515-314-4761.

### **Save your Eyeglasses, Hearing Aids, Pop Cans and Can Tabs**

The church collects used eyeglasses and hearing aids. Even if the hearing aid doesn't work, they can use it for parts. Bring these items anytime during the year to the church.

You may place them in the designated basket marked "Used Eyeglasses," located by the mailboxes in the narthex.

### **SAVE YOUR ALUMINUM CAN TABS AND POP CANS**

The church is collecting tabs off of all aluminum cans for the Ronald McDonald House. Save your can tabs and put them in an envelope or baggie marked "Tabs" and put in the white basket in the narthex marked "Pop Tabs."

**Please save your pop cans and bring to the church. Money goes into Helping Hand Fund.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PILLAR OF PRAYER:** If you need to request a pillar of prayer, please call either Diane at the church office Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or Marilyn Ogle all other times at 515-266-6876. Thanks!

### **SANDY MCNAMAR FOOD PANTRY**

**2<sup>nd</sup> SATURDAY AND  
LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH  
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**December Dates  
December 14  
December 28**

### **ALL CHURCH BREAKFAST**

**Saturday, December 21st  
8:00 a.m.  
Come at 7:00 a.m. if you would like to help.**

### **COMMUNITY MEAL**

**Last Saturday of every month.  
Next dinner will be:  
December 28th  
5:00 pm  
Menu:  
Ham balls, cheesy potatoes,  
scalloped corn, dinner rolls and  
dessert**



# Church Financial Report

Bank Balance as of October 1, 2024  
\$25,580.11

October Budget Items  
Budget Items \$ 13,775.00  
Mission Items \$ 2,347.23  
Committed Funds \$ 1,657.89  
\$ 17,780.12

August Disbursements  
Budget Items \$17,703.55  
Missions \$ 1,684.98  
Committed Funds \$ 6,408.00  
\$25,796.53

Bank balance as of October 31, 2024  
\$17,563.70

Less Committed Funds as of Oct. 31, 2024  
\$13,361.48

Available funds as of October 31, 2024  
\$ 4,202.22

*This report is submitted by:  
Terri Pollard, Staves Financial Secretary*

**Education Meeting  
Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m.**

## Christian Education

We are looking at having a Children's Program for Christmas during December. Please watch the bulletin for more information on the program. We believe we are doing one on the symbols of Christmas.

We are looking for a couple of people to take over teaching the pre-school and 1st and 2nd grade group of children. If you are interested in teaching this group, please see Norma Thierman.

The Sunday Morning Study on Hymns is running and getting great reviews. It is open to anyone who wants to attend. It starts at 8:45 a.m.

The Sunday Afternoon/Monday morning study has started again. There will be an Advent Study this year on the four Sundays/Mondays in December (1st/2nd, 8th/9th, 15th/16th, and 22nd/23rd) that will review and discuss the book "The Christmas Letters" by Rev. Magrey DeVega. This book looks at the birth of Jesus based on Romans, 1 John, Philippians, and Colossians. If you are interested, please let Terri know so that if we need more books they can be ordered. Once Advent is complete, we will move back to the study on King David. If you are interested, please come on either Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. or Monday, morning at 10:00 a.m.

Remember that we have a pre-school, upper elementary and a Youth Sunday School program. These start at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning

## Community Meals

The Free Meals continues to reach community and church members with food and fellowship once a month. This meal is always the last Saturday of the month.

The December menu will be Ham Balls, cheesy potatoes, and scalloped corn. As always dessert and drinks will be provided. The meal is served to community people and church members. Please come to one and see and enjoy the fellowship between these two groups.

While the meal is free, donations are accepted. Any funds donated go into the Community Meal fund to help purchase the meat or other main dish ingredients.

If you are willing to help with the meal, come on the designated date at 4:00 p.m. to help set up and serve. If you want to help cook, please talk with Terri Pollard since depending on

## Trustees Update

Here are the updates on the latest Trustee Projects.

We will be looking at moving one of the video screens in the Sanctuary to the back wall. This will help the Pastor and other speakers when sharing the Word or other announcements.

We are also looking at the bid for new furnaces and air conditioning units for the Education wing. Those units are now 30 plus years old and at least one has stopped working completely. We will keep you informed of the progress on this project since we may move quickly to make sure we have heat for the upcoming cold season.

We'll be reviewing the repair or replacement of the ceiling in the Education office.

## Trustees Update (continued)

If you have something you think needs worked on in the church, please talk to a Trustee (see list of committee people posted in the Narthex) or send an email to the Trustees at [sumtrustees@aol.com](mailto:sumtrustees@aol.com). Thanks.

## Food Pantry

The Pantry dates for December are: Saturday, December 14th and December 28th. The Food Pantry is open from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each of those days.

Here are the numbers for October:

• Families	68
• People	204
• Pounds of Food In	1,305
• Pounds of Food Out	1,030
• Personal Items In	18
• Personal Items Out	50

With colder weather and Christmas coming, the patrons of the pantry think about warm foods like everyone else. The Pantry could use the following items:

- Canned Soup
- Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helper
- Oatmeal
- Farina/Cream of Wheat
- Pancake Mix
- Cookies or baking mixes

These items go very quickly so keeping them on-hand is a challenge for us. Thanks to each of you who purchase food each month to donate to the Food Pantry. While we buy as much as we can through the Food Bank of Iowa your donations also support the pantry and these families.

## **UW Faith News (A.K.A) Petticoat Patter**

As I sit here and write this article, the weather is much cooler and there are little white things floating in the air. Thankfully it is only flurries, but it reminds me that colder weather is on its way.

The month of December is when we celebrate Advent or the time of waiting. We are waiting for the birth of Jesus, the bridegroom and leader of our church.

In this case church is a “universal” term. It means he not only leads all churches of the Christian Religion around the world, but he also leads little old Staves Memorial on the eastside of Des Moines. And if we realize it or not, he leads each of us personally in our worship of our perfect Triune God (God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit.)

How does our Triune God lead your heart? Do you really listen for God to speak and give you a specific task or job? Do you look to Jesus for guidance and help following God’s commands? Do you ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand both God and Jesus and help you walk the path they are putting before you?

In this time of waiting, use it to your advantage, look to God for help with any situation you may be facing. Listen for His guidance, follow Jesus down the road, and continually ask the Holy Spirit for support.

Just as a reminder, the 12 Days of Christmas begin on December 25th with the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, also known as the partridge in the pear tree. The twelve days end on January 5th with those twelve drummers drumming and all the rest of those fabulous gifts! I hope that you find a new gift from God during this season.

## **UW Faith News (A.K.A) Petticoat Patter (continued)**

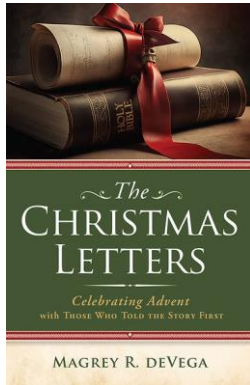
The UW in Faith members are serving lunch for the December Church Women United (CWU) meeting. Each month CWU has their program and business meeting at a different church and we are hosting in December this year. This means singing Christmas songs and celebrating a wonderful year.

At our December 9th meeting we will be organizing our calendar and setting dates for the 2025 events, getting our budget ready, and updating our membership list. Any woman in Staves is welcomed and encouraged to become a member of United Women in Faith. See any board member for information on the group. Thank you to each of the board members from 2024 for your service and thank you to those who stepped forward to help in 2025.

The Board Members for the 2025 year are:

- President: Terri Pollard
- Vice President: Sharon Ramsey
- Treasurer: Sue Hood
- Secretary: Ileta Wilson
- Education & Interpretation: Marilyn Burch
- Spiritual Growth: Sharon Ramsey
- Petticoat Patter: Terri Pollard
- Membership: Nurture & Outreach Margo Schamerhorn
- Social Action: Margo Schamerhorn
- Historian: Linda McPherson
- Standing Rules: Marilyn Burch
- Publicity: Diane Love
- Wedding Coordinators: JoAnn Riley and Linda Gundlach
- Prayer Shawl Ministry: Margo Schamerhorn
- Funerals: Joann Riley and Linda Gundlach
- Kitchen: Terri Pollard
- Nominations Chair: Sharon Ramsey
- Members at Large: Jean Miles and Jennie Gervais

## ANNOUNCEMENT



Our Advent study this year covers the books of Romans, 1 John, Philippians, and Colossians as your first Christmas letters. Consider these letters from the New Testament your first Christmas letters of the year. In them you'll find an invitation from God to deepen your understanding of the Incarnation. Join us on either Sunday afternoon (December 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd) at 4:00 p.m. or Monday morning (December 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd) at 10:00 a.m. to see the birth story from a new perspective.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Eve Circle** will meet January 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Program: Sharon Ramsey  
Devotions: Ileta Wilson  
Hostess: Sherry Palmer

**Eve Circle** gave \$52.25 from our Blessing Jar to Urban Bicycle Food Ministry and Helping Hand. Come join us.

Sherry Palmer  
1-515-991-1062

### **Christmas Dinner Christmas Day**

Gather at 11:30 a.m. to eat at Noon.

Menu: Turkey, ham, potatoes, stuffing and gravy supplied.

### **Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT) Meeting**

December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 p.m.



## December Mission

*Mission is to fill bags with food and give to local people in need.*

*From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded. And from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked. Luke 12:48*

The mission team has decided to split the December mission. 50% will go to Bidwill Riverside Food Pantry. 50% will go to Sandy McNamar Food Pantry. All donations will be blessed the Sunday before distribution.

He who gives the most of what he has, has it all (Kurt P.).

The top 10 most needed for donations.

- Peanut Butter / Canned Meats
- Canned Beans / Pasta – Pasta Sauce
- Healthy Cereal / Canned Vegetables
- After School Snacks / Baby Formula
- Baby Food / Pantry Staples
- Flour – Sugar – Salt – Pepper
- Spices – Condiments – Cooking Oils

### Fun Facts

- Bidwill Riverside has been operating for 125 years.
- Bidwill Riverside partnered with DMARC in 1976.
- Bidwill Riverside and Hawthorn Hill merged into Families Forward in 2023.
- Sandy McNamar Food Pantry was started in 2017.
- Before the McNamar Food Pantry, for 5 years Brian and Sandy would go to the Salvation Army and get tinfoil pans that would provide 10 servings of a casserole dish; then turn it back in to the Salvation Army for the needy. They did this 3 times a week. Their efforts made 6,000 meals.

Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more but those giving more.

*Mission Committee*

## ANNOUNCMENTS

### EVE CIRCLE

Will be collecting laundry detergent and dryer sheets for Des Moines Eastside Shelter for Women and Children. A tub will be in the Narthex.

*Sherry Palmer 515-991-1062*



pixta.jp - 86034871

### EVE CIRCLE

*Eve Circle does not meet  
in December.*

*Sherry Palmer  
515-991-1062*

## ANNOUNCMENTS



**Eastern Polk Quilt Guild** is selling raffle tickets for a chance to win this beautiful quilt. The quilt is done in blues, greens, and purples and measures 87x94. The drawing is on December 16. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. I know many of you are saying that you don't need a quilt, just think what a lovely Christmas gift this would make if you won! If you are interested in purchasing tickets, contact Jennifer McDonald at 515-314-4761.

## Celebrations of Christmas

Star of Wonder

The **Des Moines Concert Handbells** is an advanced handbell ensemble with ringers from around central Iowa. The group uses 5½ octaves of Schulmerich bells, 6 octaves of Malmark choir chimes, and almost 2 octaves of Schulmerich silver melody bells. Listen to music of the season on Saturday, Dec 7, 4pm, at Trinity United Presbyterian Church, in Indianola; or on Friday, Dec 13, 7pm, at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, in Urbandale; or on Saturday, Dec 14, 3pm, at Plymouth United Church of Christ, in Des Moines. The concert is free will offering.

**The Grand View Christian High School** presents its 2024 High School Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 5, at 6pm in the school auditorium at 1701 E 33rd St in Des Moines (north of the fairgrounds). Gage is a member of both the choir and the band, and invites you to attend the concert that includes Sleigh Ride, Song of Worship, Of the Father's Love Begotten, The First Noel, and several others. The concert is free.

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The **Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs** adult Sunday school class continues to meet in the adult classroom at 8:45 each Sunday morning. Our Staves barista has coffee available every Sunday. We most often concentrate on one of the hymns we sing during worship that day, and sometimes learn about a contemporary Christian worship song. We always begin by watching a video of a congregation, a soloist, or a small musical group to introduce the hymn or song of the day. We read together several scripture references. We learn details how God inspires the composer of the music and the writer of the lyrics. We break down each line of the song to explore how the text applies to each of our lives. We ask questions to increase our faith and understanding. Our goal is to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
Staves Memorial United Methodist Church  
November 6, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson, Brian McNamar began the meeting with prayer.  
The minutes of the October meeting were reviewed, and approved as presented.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**Finance Committee** – Renee Horner

The next finance meeting will be December 10. A brief update was given, on yard signs, and parking lot financing. We are still a ways away from paying off the parking lot loan, but getting closer, as pledges continue to be paid.

**Treasurer** – Rick Atterbury

The treasurer's report was reviewed. Expenses are currently running \$3000 over budgeted amounts. Available funds are down to \$4000. Also, a payment was made, on the parking lot loan.

**Foundation** – no report.

**Memorial Committee Treasurer** – Phyllis Anderson

The only change from last month was that \$30 was spent on roses for the service of remembrance. Also, it was noted that the Hurley fund has increased by \$1000, to around \$9000. This is separate from the Hurley Scholarship Fund.

**LEADERSHIP REPORTS**

**Congregational Assessment Tool** – Rick Roghair

This committee is continuing to process suggestions and comments. Their next meeting is December 2, at 6:30 pm. It was noted, that the suggestion box has been set up, and is checked regularly.

**Nominations** – Tim Walker

The nominations slate for 2025 was distributed, and discussed.

A motion to approve the slate for 2025, as corrected, was approved. The matter now goes to the charge conference.

**Pastor** – Tim Walker

- A) Charge Conference, November 10 – any church member can participate in this meeting.
- B) Thankful Sunday Potluck, November 24 – committee chairpersons will speak about what their committees do. Following the potluck, Christmas decorations will be put up, around the church.
- C) Update on pastor's illness – he may be unable to preach, this Sunday.
- D) Update on Stephen Ministry – this will cost at least three or four thousand dollars.

It was noted that the church could apply for a grant from the foundation.

A motion was made and seconded, to repurpose the \$137 campership fund for the Stephen Ministry, and prepare a formal request to the foundation for the remaining money. Also, to provide a list of persons interested in participating in this ministry. The motion was approved, by voice vote.

**Staff/Parish Relations Committee** – no report.

**Trustees** – Terri Pollard, reporting.

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES (continued)

- A) Furnaces – need to discuss at the next meeting on December 3, as one furnace serving part of the education wing is no longer working.
- B) The ice machine has been repaired – AJ Allen will be sending us a bill.
- C) Video monitor – need to research more options regarding relocating.

### MINISTRY WORK AREAS

#### **Education/Sunday School** – Norma Thierman

- A) Will discuss moving unused items out of the adult classroom.
- B) Beggars night report – Eight people helped with setup. There were 14 workers, and 50 kids, on October 31.

#### **Music/Worship** – Steve Ellis

The bell choir will play, this Sunday. Also, we are preparing for Advent and Christmas seasons.

#### **United Women in Faith** – Terri Pollard

Recognition pins will be awarded this Sunday, to Kurt Putzier, Renee Horner, and Jennifer McDonald. Also, Kalel, Gage, and Brooklyn will be recognized for their contributions to the church.

#### **Missions** – Marilyn Burch

- A) Sixteen boxes will be delivered to the Operation Christmas Child drop-off location, in a couple of weeks.
- B) This month's emphasis will be Clay County flood relief; next month will be a food drive.

#### **Food Pantry/Community Meal** – Terri Pollard

- A) The food pantry continues to serve approximately 60 families, per month.
- B) Meals have been planned, for the next two months:

November: Beef Stroganoff

December: Ham balls

Around 40 people attend community meals.

### OTHER BUSINESS

None.

### NEXT MEETING

December 11, 7:15 p.m.

Pastor Tim offered a word of prayer, to end the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Ellis, secretary

ATTENDEES: Brian McNamar, Pastor Tim Walker, Andy Gervais, Kristie Schwartz, Norma Thierman, Renee Horner, Terri Pollard, Rick Atterbury, Phyllis Anderson, Marilyn Burch, Rick Roghair, Gage W., Ileta Wilson, and Steve Ellis

## CONGREGATIONAL ASSESSMENT TOOL (CAT) TASK FORCE

The **Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) Task Force** is responding to comments, input, and requests. Below are some efforts to respond:

A suggestion on the back table in the fellowship hall – anyone is invited to provide comments or questions. It is important to include personal name and phone number with the comment or question. Brian McNamar, chair of our Administrative Council, is the only person with access to the suggestion box, and he opens the box at the monthly Administrative Council meeting for the Admin Council to determine how best to respond.

A new directory is in the works to provide names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses. We will make it available online or in print. If you do not want your information included in the directory, call Diane, Staves secretary, at 515.266.0265.

A new card group makes and sends sympathy, get well, and thinking of you cards. If you want to assist the group, contact Jennie Gervais/

We invite everyone to attend the monthly CAT Task Force meetings on the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm in the adult classroom. Keep looking for more responses as we explore how God wants Staves to function on the corner of 28<sup>th</sup> and East Madison. Keep CAT in your daily prayers.

## URBAN BICYCLE FOOD MINISTRY

Thank you for your continued support of the Urban Bicycle Food Ministry, UBFM.

A year ago, UBFM was serving 350 to 400 people each week. The last 3 months UBFM has served over 540 homeless and food insufficient each week. Two weeks ago, UBFM served a record 620.

Each week UBFM makes 800 burritos, 400 turkey and cheese, and 420 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. UBFM also hands out fruit and treats along with water. It costs UBFM \$1,600 each week to purchase food.

The weather will be turning colder soon and with the colder weather UBFM will be handing out blankets. On a typical winter Thursday night UBFM will hand out 40 to 50 blankets each Thursday night.

## **URBAN BICYCLE FOOD MINISTRY (continued)**

If you would like to donate a blanket or do a blanket drive at work it would be greatly appreciated.

We would love to have you come down on a Thursday night to see what UBFM does. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support.  
*Robby Collier, UBFM Chief Burrito Slinger*