

CUMC'S COMMUNI-CARING

Keep It Simple

A Message from Pastor Doug

Samantha, my daughter, gave me a book for Christmas: Put Your Life On a Diet; Lessons Learned from Living in 140 Square Feet. No, my sister, Dee, didn't write the book, but it is written by someone like her who lives in a tiny house. It tells of the journey of life simplification of Gregory Johnson who lives right here in Iowa City. I'm loving the book after only a chapter! New Year's resolutions are already forming in the back of my mind.

I think it's a God coincidence that a month ago I decided to simplify my Christmas shopping for other leaders at church to purchase several copies of a book along the same theme. The book, Simple Church, is about the process of simplifying the work of the church around its mission statement (*Making Disciples to Transform the World*). I thought it appropriate as together we consider our Vision Statement and how we will live that out.

As I have prayed about where God is leading our church, a recurring theme comes to mind. When I ask how we will live out our mission of *Making Disciples to Transform the World*, I am drawn back to verses like Jesus' summary of the Old Testament law and prophets to love God and love

neighbor as self (Matt 22:36-40). This seems to echo a similar statement in Micah 6:8 which states God's simple requirements of us – do justice, love mercy, and walk with God.

I can't wait to see how our church wraps its arms around God's vision for His church. Pray with me for the Vision Team that will weave together the results from our discernment to this point. My deep sense is that this will be a year of simplification as we discover how to see God's ministry flourish even without our building for a few months during construction. How we will love God, remain connected one to another, and serve neighbor in all that we do.

In January we'll bring the question close to home as we look at clearing the relational clutter in our home lives. So many of us live in a desperate state of frenzied activity lacking in reflective commitment. It's not just house wives or house husbands who find themselves desperate to find a better way to do home. From house rules, to home chores, to keeping the home fires burning, we'll explore some of God's simple designs for families of every shape and size.

Grace and Peace,
Doug



"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."
Matthew 22:36-40

He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.
Micah 6:8

January Sermon Series



Leading Life Changing Small Groups Leader Training in January

It is our desire that each and every person in the church be connected to a smaller group of people in the church. This is best accomplished by joining a small group that meets every week or every other week.

In January we will be training small group leaders in order to facilitate the new small groups starting in February. If you feel you are being called to **co-lead** a small group, please contact Pastor Jenny in order to sign up for the training. Three training times are offered: Wednesdays at 6:30 am and 5:45 pm and Sundays at 11:00 am.

- Pastor Jenny

Prayer Services

January 30 at 7:00 pm.
(last Saturday of each month)



Worship Team

We hope everybody experienced a measure of joyful worship at CUMC during the Advent/Christmas season! The Worship Team is very grateful for all who served in various leadership and support roles that enabled dances, dramas, sermons, music, communion, audio visuals, greeting, ushering, decorating, advertising and welcoming to take place.

We are especially grateful for Pastor Doug and Pastor Jenny for providing spiritual guidance and vision throughout the season. We look forward to worshipping with you and your friends in 2010!

Craig Just



**January
Sermon Series**

January 3 - Desperate Households: Going Home

By Another Way. If you are desperate to get away from the confines of the house, maybe it's time to consider how God might be calling you to orient your home life by another way.

Matthew 2:1-12

January 10 - Desperate Households: Parenting.

We need a license to drive and certification to teach school, but where does the training come from to raise children? Raising children "in the way of God" requires a whole people of faith to provide points of light on their way.

Luke 3:21-22 Eph 6:1-4

January 17 - Desperate Households: The Power of the Party.

When all of your energy is spent providing the basic necessities, home life can become a joyless chore. Together we'll examine healthy dating and marriage and partying to keep the home fires burning. John 2:1-11

January 24 - Desperate Households: D-Day.

D-day doesn't just mean divorce, it also means disillusionment. No matter where you are, in whatever stage of marriage or preparation for marriage, there is always a day of disillusionment somewhere in every relationship.

Matthew 19:3-10

January 31 - Desperate Households: House

Church. Is your home safe? Could our homes be like sanctuaries where family friends and even strangers will encounter honest, authentic, unconditional love? 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

The pastors and staff extend a big THANK YOU to the CUMC congregation who were very generous with Christmas gifts. It is a great privilege to serve a congregation that cares so well for their staff!

*Pastor Doug, Pastor Jenny,
and the CUMC Staff*



**We have had a good
Christmas season!**

The *Celebration Choir* still has their Christmas music in their folders and will be singing at Melrose Meadows (January 6th) and at Riverside United Methodist Church (tentatively January 10th). It has been fun to share with all of you the work we have accomplished.

The *Children's Choir* went caroling, along with others from the church, on December 21st and had a great time!

The *Bell Choir* presented their music in worship on December 20th and will start rehearsing again on the 13th of January.

We are hoping for a winter when we can get together each week in spite of the weather. Thanks for all your support of our ministry! We hope your new year will be an exceptional one and filled with many opportunities to fulfill your hopes and dreams.

Larry Tener, 648-4777

Martin Luther King Memorial Service

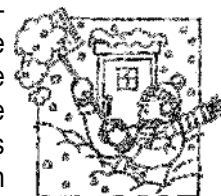
Sunday, January 17, 7:00 pm

St. Thomas More Catholic Church
3000 12th Avenue, Coralville

Speaker: Vershawn Ashanti Young
Assoc. Professor of African American
Language, Literature & Performance Studies

CUMC Snow Policy

If the Iowa City Community Schools cancel school, then all church activities are cancelled, and the Church Office will be closed. If school is delayed only, the Church Office will be open. If school is not in session, you may call the church office or watch KWWL for notifications. Please also use your best judgment





Following Jesus and Transforming Hearts

“He put a **NEW!** song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.” –Psalm 40:3

Happy **NEW!** Year!! The **NEW!** year is a great time to start something **NEW!** Every group that meets at CUMC has room for **NEW!** people to become a part of the group. We are even training **NEW!** leaders in January in order to provide more small group options for folks. Let me know how I can help connect you to an existing or **NEW!** small group. -Pastor Jenny

Adult Ministry Opportunities: NEWCOMERS ALWAYS WELCOME!!

| Days | Group | Times | Topic | Leader/ Location |
|--|---|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Sunday | Adult Sunday School | 9:40-10:40 am | Study of the Apostle Paul | Jim Williams/ Fellowship Hall at Church |
| Sunday | Faith Walkers | 9:45-10:40 am | DVD Study called “LIVING THE QUESTIONS” NEW! | Steve Lorge/ Choir Room at Church (Lower Level) |
| Sunday | Small Group Leader Training | 11 am –12 pm | Equipping leaders to lead/ co-lead small groups NEW! | Joan Mills and Pastor Jenny/ Fellowship Hall at Church |
| 2 nd and 4 th Tuesdays of the month | Journey Group | 7-8 pm | BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND By Joyce Meyers | Home of Janet Specht 2240 Plaen View, Iowa City |
| 3 rd Tuesday January 19 | United Methodist Women | 7-8:30 pm | Marilyn Osborne will present the program. | Myrleen Divelbiss, Lynn Calvert/ Fellowship Hall at Church |
| Wednesday | Men’s Morning Group | 6:30-7:30 am Breakfast served | Small Group Leader Training | Steve Lorge/ Fellowship Hall at Church |
| Wednesday | Small Group Leader Training | 6:30-7:30 am Breakfast served | Equipping leaders to lead/ co-lead small groups NEW! | Joan Mills and Pastor Jenny/ Fellowship Hall at Church |
| Wednesday | Small Group Leader Training | 5:45-6:45 pm | Equipping leaders to lead/ co-lead small groups NEW! <i>Childcare provided</i> | Joan Mills and Pastor Jenny/ Fellowship Hall at Church |
| Thursday | Women’s Bible Study | 10-11 am | Max Lucado’s Bible Study, The New Testament | Deb Hadenfeldt / Fellowship Hall at Church |
| 2 nd and 4 th Thursdays of the month | Finding Blessings Through Grief Support Group | 5:30-6:30 pm | Grief Support Group for those who have experienced loss | Pastor Jenny / Gail Davison / Senior Pastor’s office at the church |
| Thursdays | Coffee Shop Book Study Group | 7:45-9 pm | Reading “THE RED TENT” By Anita Diamant NEW! | Sally Strah/ Terrapin Coffee, Coralville |
| 2 nd Saturday of month January 9 | United Methodist Men | 7-8 am Breakfast served | Janet Specht will be sharing about her recent trip and the "The Wonders of Iceland." | John Evans/ Fellowship Hall at Church |
| 4 th Saturday of month, January 23 | Fun and Fellowship Group | 4:30-6:30 pm | Play games, share snacks, have fun! All ages are invited to attend!! | Chris & Jennifer Smith’s / 867 Tipperary Rd., Iowa City |

Coffee Shop Book Study Group Resumes January 7 with The Red Tent at Terrapin Coffee

Join the group at 7:45 pm on Thursdays beginning Jan. 7 at Terrapin Coffee (intersection of Oakdale Blvd. and 12th Avenue in Coralville).



The Red Tent is a beautifully written fiction novel about Dinah, the daughter of the Biblical Patriarch Jacob. There is only a brief mention of Dinah in the Bible, a traumatic story of rape and vengeance but Anita Diamant has taken this and filled in the gaps. She has carefully woven silk into the rough wool that is the biblical story and created a rich luxurious tapestry of the life of the women. The Red Tent is the place that Jacob's women retreat to once a month at the time of the dark moon. There, in the protective confines of the red tent, sitting on straw, the women share their secrets, their stories, their joy and pain, and take respite from the hardships of their everyday life.

The book may be purchased for \$12 to \$20 at stores or online for less as a used book. Contact Pastor Jenny with questions or email at pastorjenny@godscumc.org.

Faith Walkers Group Begins "Living the Questions" DVD Study

Join the Faith Walkers Group at 9:45 am on Sundays at the church in the choir room (downstairs behind the nursery). All are welcome. Each week's DVD presentation and conversation stand alone. Contact Steve Lorge with questions. *LtQ* is an open-minded alternative to studies that attempt to give participants all the answers and instead, strives to create an environment where participants can interact with one another in exploring what's next for Christianity.



While *LtQ* does not provide pat answers to pressing questions about God and faith, it does more than just ask questions. In conversation with a wide variety of biblical scholars, theologians and other scholars in the field of religion, *LtQ* offers participants a broader context in which to formulate their own answers. It is a gift to all Christians desiring to explore progressive Christian faith and practice.

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men meet at 7:00 am in Fellowship Hall on the **2nd Saturday of each month**. Come warm your body, heart and soul with the United Methodist Men on January 9. Our speaker will be Janet Specht who will share about her recent trip and "The Wonders of Iceland." We will have a great breakfast with a large serving of fellowship. Mark your calendar!

John Evans & Scott Jarmon

January 10 Sunday School Classes Resume!



United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on Tuesday, January 19, at 7:00 pm, in Fellowship Hall. Marilyn Osborne will present the program.

All women are welcome.

Myrt Divelbiss

Women's Retreat March 5-6

Date: Friday, March 5, 4:00 pm to Saturday, March 6, 4:00pm

Join us for Rest, Renewal, and Rejuvenation at Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center in Hiawatha, IA.

All women are invited to this retreat. It is our desire to gather as women of faith for a time of worship, sharing, relaxation, and learning. Our speaker, Jo Hoover, will share ways to seek and find Sabbath Rest in our busy schedules. Meals, programming, and lodging are all provided. Brochures are available at the Welcome Center in Fellowship Hall.

Cost of the retreat is \$70 thanks to support of the United Methodist Women.

Registration deadline is February 11. Contact Pastor Jenny at the church (351-2446) if you have any questions.



In the Life of the Church

Death: November 23; Selena Grace Abrams, infant daughter of Thad & Alicia Abrams.

Baptism: December 13; Maxwell Reis Genkinger, son of Stephen & Lori; brother of Elli and Emma

Remember these families in your prayers.

Finance Update

In December the Administrative Council approved a 2010 Budget of \$334,629. Copies of the budget are available in the church office.



If you have not returned your signed Commitment to Giving card for 2010, you can mail it to the church office or put in the offering plate on Sunday morning.

CUMC offers automatic, electronic giving for those who are looking to simplify their giving. We can set up automated Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) transactions for weekly, monthly, or even quarterly gifts to the Church. Once set up, electronic giving can be stopped any time you find it necessary. For more information, stop by or call the church office.

Fellowship Journey Group

The next fellowship gathering at the Smith house is Saturday, January 23. We'll have soup and appetizers, so feel free to bring something to share if you'd like. For more information, contact Chris or Jennifer at jenniferrsmith@gmail.com or 358-7462. We hope you had a great holiday season and we're looking forward to seeing everyone again!

Jen and Chris Smith

**Ministry Teams' Commissioning & Retreat:
Sunday, January 24. Mark your calendar!**

Volunteer to Help with Flood Recovery

The Flood Recovery Office of the United Methodist Church and Block by Block has empowered over 8,500 volunteers to gut and rebuild neighborhoods.

**Will you consider volunteering to rebuild homes?
Can you come for a day, weekend, or week?**

For more information, check out their website at www.fumcmarion.org/Flood/Index.html or call 319-377-5344.

The work is far from done!

CUMC in Mission!

Free Lunch



CUMC will serve Free Lunch on Tuesday, January 5, at the Wesley Center in Iowa City. Donations of salads, desserts, and other side dishes are greatly appreciated! Please have items to the church by 9:00 am on Tuesday. If you can join us for food preparation (beginning at 10am) and/or serving (from 12-1pm), that would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Jama Lidral at jlidral@yahoo.com or 354-6446 for more information.

Outreach in December

Many members of CUMC have been involved in Outreach in the month of December!

In December we had a successful Soup Supper which raised over \$1000 for Mission projects. Over half the active congregation provided food and/or service for this annual fundraiser. Thanks to all for the terrific participation. We also used this as an opportunity to reach neighbors and families by giving free tickets to those who otherwise may not have been able to attend. Thank you to Sally Briggs, our great cook, and Bryan Clark for coordinating volunteers.



We provided 13 Christmas Families in need from our community with gifts and food. Again, the congregational response was wonderful as we are a Christ-filled church! Thanks to Nancy Weathers for her leadership and to the United Methodist Women & our youth for wrapping the gifts.



We reached out in December to assist the Homeless Overflow Shelter. Thanks to the folks who volunteered for this and to Penny Rembolt who coordinates this effort. Our church will help again in February. This is a great opportunity to reach out to those in need and learn about the problems of homelessness first hand.

Thank You!



Coralville United Methodist Youth

A Few Words from Bryan:

December was a month of celebration, as it should be. The Luminary Supper was a great success and I want to give a huge thank you to Sally Briggs for working so hard to make sure that everything was in order and for giving the youth a chance to participate in such meaningful ways. Our youth Christmas party was also a big hit and we had the chance to celebrate in the basement of the Parsonage, blessing the space and exchanging gifts.

As we put this year behind us, we move into a new phase of growth with our church and our youth. Please take a minute to read about the changes that we are implementing in the near future.

In January, we are beginning a schedule of alternating weeks for the Sr. High and Jr. High students. This is to further the process of separating these groups so that we can minister to them in more age appropriate ways and build stronger bonds among the youth as they journey through discipleship. The Jr. High will meet the first and third Sundays, and the Sr. High will meet on the second and fourth Sundays. So, on **January 3, the Jr. High will meet** from 4:00 - 5:30pm and on **January 10 the Sr. High will meet** from 4:00 - 5:30pm. The groups will continue to alternate from there. In the case of a month with 5 weeks, we will have a meal and fellowship together on the fifth Sunday. You can find a calendar of these dates, as well as other important information, on the youth communication board in Fellowship Hall.

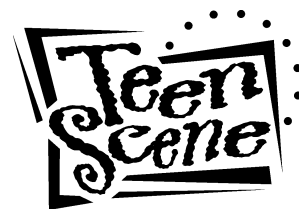
Also in January, the youth will be taking orders for Super Bowl sub sandwiches. Please place your orders early so we can make preparations to assemble and then provide the subs on Sunday morning, February 7.

Sunday School classes are going well and are lots of fun. The Sr. High are looking forward to returning to the meeting space in the Parsonage basement (not that they don't like Doug's office, but it can get cramped in there). I want to take this opportunity to thank Zach & Megan (and Joshua) Wood for all their efforts in nurturing the Jr. High Sunday School class these last few years. They have been a great asset to our ministry and have had a lasting impact on our youth. Megan finished her PhD and will soon be taking a job elsewhere, so they will be leaving the fold this semester. They have been great friends and great teachers and will be missed. If you see them around the church, give them a hug, thank them, and wish them well.

- Bryan Clark

What's coming up:

- Jan 3 - No Sunday School
- Jan 3 and 17 - Jr. High youth fellowship from 4 - 5:30
- Jan 10 and 24 - Sr. High youth fellowship from 4 - 5:30
- Jan 31 - All youth meal and fellowship from 4 - 5:30
- Feb 7 - Super Bowl Subs



- Sr. High Sunday School is currently meeting in Pastor Doug's office and is journeying through "Radical Jesus" that will continue through mid-February.
- Jr. High Sunday School meets in the fellowship hall and continues to journey through the Live BIG series.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or need for information, please feel free to contact one of the leadership team. You can contact Bryan Clark at bclark@godscumc.org, call the church office, or snag one of us around the church and we will be glad to schedule a time to meet with you.

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|--|-----------|--|
| 3 8:30 am Worship 9:40 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Worship 4:00 pm Youth Group - Jr. High | 4 6:30 pm Spiritual Formation Trustee's meeting | 5 11:00 am Serve free lunch at Wesley Center 12:00 pm Sr. Dining 7:00 pm Praise Band | 6 6:30 am Men's Breakfast/ Small Group Leader Training 5:45 pm Small Group Leader Training 7:00 pm Choir practice | 7 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Area Leaders' meeting Children's Choir Adult Book Study at Terrapin Coffee 7:45 pm | 8 | 9 7:00 am United Methodist Men |
| 10 8:30 am Worship 9:40 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Worship Small Group Leader Training 4:00 pm Youth Group - Sr. High | 11 6:30 pm Children's Ministry Finance Committee meeting 7:00 pm Building Committee | 12 12:00 pm Sr. Dining 7:00 pm Journey Group at Janet's house Praise Band 7:00 pm SPRC | 13 6:30 am Men's Breakfast/ Small Group Leader Training 5:45 pm Small Group Leader Training 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Choir practice | 14 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Children's Choir practice Grief Support Group 7:45 pm Adult Book Study at Terrapin Coffee | 15 | 16 10:00 am Women's Retreat Planning meeting at Sally's house |
| 17 8:30 am Worship 9:40 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Worship Small Group Leader Training 4:00 pm Youth Group - Jr. High | 18 4:00 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Follow-Up Committee 7:00 pm Member Care | 19 12:00 pm Sr. Dining 7:00 pm Praise Band United Methodist Women | 20 6:30 am Men's Breakfast/ Small Group Leader Training 5:45 pm Small Group Leader Training 6:15 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Choir practice | 21 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Children's Choir practice 7:45 pm Adult Book Study at Terrapin Coffee | 22 | 23 9:00 am Dulac (Adult) Mission Trip Work Day 4:30 pm Fellowship Group at the home of Chris & Jennifer Smith |
| 24 8:30 am Worship 9:40 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11:00 am Worship Small Group Leader Training 12:00 pm Ministry Team Retreat 4:00 pm Youth Group - Sr. High | 25 6:30 pm Worship Team | 26 12:00 pm Sr. Dining 7:00 pm Praise Band | 27 6:30 am Men's Breakfast/ Small Group Leader Training 5:45 pm Small Group Leader Training 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Choir practice | 28 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 11:00 am Volunteers fold newsletter 5:30 pm Children's Choir Grief Support Group 7:45 pm Adult Book Study at Terrapin Coffee | 29 | 30 7:00 pm Prayer Service |
| 31 8:30 am Worship | | | | | | |

Coralville United Methodist Church

806 13th Avenue
Coralville, IA 52241

Please call or write to let us know your change of address!

Return Service Requested



Church Office Hours
Monday–Friday:
9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Coralville United
Methodist Church

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

8:30 am, 9:45 am & 11:00 am

Sunday School Hour

9:40 am

Douglas E. Williams
Lead Pastor

Jenny Seylar
Associate Pastor of Discipleship

319-351-2446
office@godscumc.org
www.godscumc.org



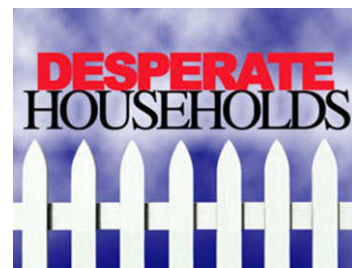
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2010
Newsletter

January Sermon Series: Desperate Households

It's not just house wives or house husbands who find themselves desperate to find a better way to do home. From house rules, to home chores, to keeping the home fires burning, we'll explore some of God's design for families of every shape and size. Join us on Sunday mornings! (See page 2 for more details.)



January 3 - Desperate Households: Going Home By Another Way

January 10 - Desperate Households: Parenting

January 17 - Desperate Households: The Power of the Party

January 24 - Desperate Households: D-Day

January 31 - Desperate Households: House Church

For Announcements
Or Prayer Needs

Please contact the church office with any information for the bulletin, to be communicated to the Pastors, or for the prayer chains.

Our Vision
*Becoming a Biblically
functioning community of
Open Heart, Open Minds and
Open Doors.*