

THE PARISH EPISTLE

Pioneer United Methodist Church
pioneerumc@premieronline.net
1030 18th Avenue
www.rvpumc.com
Rock Valley, IA 51247

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Welcome to the new year of 2012! We usher in the change of years with the greeting, "Happy New Year!" We do want people to be happy and not just on January 1st. So - "Happy New Year!"

But I also want to wish you a Blessed New Year, a Meaningful New Year and a Fruitful New Year! 2012 will have its difficulties - every year does. But you will also have abundant blessings because God loves you and provides for you. Remember that and honor the Lord.

I also wish you a Meaningful New Year as you sense the value of life and discover new meaning and purpose for your being present in this world. Open your heart to God and you will discover what the Lord has in store for you in the coming 12 months.

And I wish for you a Fruitful New Year. Recognizing your blessings and knowing your purpose in life will lead to fruitful living as you produce the good works God calls you to do and extend the love of God that you have known to others.

I extend these greetings to you as individuals and as Pioneer United Methodist Church. The coming months will bring changes for us all as we begin a new Pastor sharing partnership with Seeds of Faith UMC. There will be some changes for both congregations such as changing service times. But we can have a Blessed, Meaningful and Fruitful New Year together as we remember the "Reason For The Season" we have just celebrated and enter into this new partnership trusting that it is God's intention for us.

Grace and Peace – Pastor Monthei

A Reminder of the Alignment of Pioneer and Seeds of Faith, Lester

The trial alignment as a Charge between Pioneer and Seeds of Faith, Lester will be from January 1 to June 30, 2012. Since Rev. Monthei will be retiring as of June 30, both churches will be up for new appointments and this is an ideal time to try an alignment on a trial basis.

It will mean some "give and take" on the part of both congregations. The main difference most people will experience will be a change in worship times. Seeds of Faith will move ahead 15 minutes to 9:15 AM and Pioneer will shift worship to 10:45 AM with Sunday School at 9:30AM (adults) and 9:45AM (youth). This small change will allow the pastor about a half hour to get from one church to the other.



JANUARY 1, 2012



APPORTIONMENT UPDATE
THE 2011 APPORTIONMENTS ARE
PAID IN FULL.

BENEVOLENCE UPDATE
We will again be A Rainbow Covenant
and Third Mile Giving Church.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

**BLOOD PRESSURE
SCREENING**
Third Sunday of every
month.



- 2) Sue West
- 8) Mike Robertson
- 15) Dwayne Bauder
Ron Chenault
- 16) Steve Anderson
Les Spies
Con Van Zee
- 17) Mark Bauman
Ruth Jager
- 20) Roger Negaard
- 21) Ron Henderson
- 22) Kyle Shuey
- 23) McKenzie Eichmann
Linda Keizer
- 25) Vickie Van Beek
Megan Vande Vegte
- 26) Jerry Burgers
- 27) Sara Shuey
Dorothy Smith
- 28) Barb Pember
- 29) Ira Henderson
- 30) Zachary Van Beek

UMY



\$306 was raised from UMY Christmas Cookie sales and was donated to the PUMC benevolence fund to go toward the solar ovens for Haiti project. Thank you to all who helped (making / eating) with the treats.

Sub sandwich sales run January 8 - 22.,
Sub sandwich making will be on
Wednesday, February 1.

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 2) Carl & Charlene Jackson
- 15) Bill & Frances Hamann
- 28) Art & Billie Gerritson

**YES, THE YOUTH STILL COLLECT
CARTRIDGES!**

Your used cartridges provide funds for our youth. Please place them in the box on the table in the narthex.

U M W / CIRCLES

The UMW January meeting will be a work day in the kitchen on Thursday, January 5, 9:00 a.m. until finished. Mavis Campbell will provide devotions and refreshments. Please volunteer if you can, as many hands make light work.

RADA cutlery products are available as an ongoing UMW fundraiser. These are made in Iowa, are excellent quality and very reasonably priced. These make excellent gifts. Contact Dorothy Smith at 476-2241 or 712-395-1059 to purchase yours.

Ruby / Friendship Circle will meet Thursday, January 19 at Lorraine Roorda's. Response Report - Wes Van Berkum; Program - Bettie Spies.

Hope Circle will meet on Thursday, January 19, at 7:30 p.m. at Jean Wynia's. Response Report - Jean Wynia; Program - Mavis Campbell.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Thursdays at 7:00 a.m



ATTENTION CHOIR MEMBERS

NO Choir rehearsals during the month of January

We haven't had much snow yet – but it will come! And volunteers will be needed.

Thanks in advance!



THANK YOU TO -

- **Pastor Monthei** for his solos.
- **Adult Choir** for their anthems and caroling.
- **Bell Choir** for all of their performances.
- **UMY** for so many things –
 - Worship services.

- Willingness to participate whenever and for whatever you are asked to do.
- Your fundraisers – it's a joy to be able to participate in them.
- Caroling with the Adult Choir.
- **Lawn mowers and snow removers** for keeping our lawn looking so nice.
- **Leadership Development Committee** for their efforts to fill the offices vacated at the end of the year.
- **Board of Trustees** for doing such a good job maintaining our property.
- **Church Council** for overseeing the church.
- **ALL OFFICERS** for fulfilling their responsibilities.
- **ALL** who have attended church.
- **EVERYONE** who has contributed to the benefit of the church in any way.
- **ANYONE** who may have accidentally been overlooked and belong on this list.

WE ARE THE CHURCH – EACH AND EVERYONE OF US – AND YOU ARE THANKED FOR YOUR PART IN ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR.



WORSHIP STEWARDS

ACOLYTES

- Jan. 1 Blake & McKenzie Eichmann
- 8 Sara Maassen
- 15 Cody Bauman
- 22 Jerod Hansen
- 29 Hunter Berkenpas
- Feb. 5 Cole Porter

GREETERS *Indicates head greeter

- Jan. 1 W *Lorraine Roorda, Beth Doran
E Teri & Brooke Richter
- 8 W Pam & Bruce Wright
E Ben & Michelle Mathison
- 15 W Harry & Darlene Westra
E Maxine & Jerod Hansen
- 22 W Art & Billie Gerritson
E Dean & Michelle Eichmann
- 29 W Hale & Barb Pember
E Barb Anderson, Hermina Hamann
- Feb. 5 W *Lorraine Roorda, Loren Van Dyk
E Wes Van Berkum, Jean Wynia

USHERS *Indicates head usher

- January *Randy & Shirlee Porter
John & Pat Bauman
- February *Mike & Liane Maassen
Dave & Maureen Hansen

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

- Jan. 1 Hansens
- 8 Cleveringas
- 15 Berkenpases
- 22 Porters
- 29 Baumans

COMMUNION STEWARDS

- January Hermina Hamann & Billie Gerritson
- February Beulah Witte & Sylvia Mathison

Pioneer United Methodist Church
 1030 18th Avenue
 Rock Valley, IA 51247

