



- Worship
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- Example



Volume LXXXI

FEBRUARY 2016



# Lovilia Circuit Writer

*Our mission at the Lovilia United Methodist Church is to show the love of Jesus the Christ to our community through worship, teaching, example and tangible acts of love.*

## FROM THE PASTOR

### GREETINGS!

**FEBRUARY 2016.**

What is the calendar doing to us? There is an old saying that “Time marches on!” and we are certainly experiencing that. So, it seems that we must deal with it.

Although there is one national holiday in February – Presidents’ Day – on Monday, February 15, there are many days of significance to Christians. One such day is Valentine’s Day. In addition, communities are encouraged to observe Boy Scout Sunday in February or possibly merge Boy Scout Sunday and Girl Scout Sunday (March) into a “Scouting Ministries Sunday,” all of which may have some faith connections.

We begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday on February 10. Then, Holy Week arrives with Palm Sunday on March 20, followed by Easter on March 27. There are six Sundays in Lent (including Palm Sunday) and there are Holy (Maundy) Thursday, March 24 and Good Friday, March 25 during Holy Week. May we begin the season of Lent with a fresh awareness of what God has done – and is doing – in our lives, and a fresh appreciation for the opportunity to be a part of God’s family.

God’s blessings to all!  
Pastor Raymond Doser

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*When GOD solves our problems, we have faith in HIS abilities. When GOD doesn't solve our problems HE has faith in our abilities.*

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### *In This Issue...*

**Pastor’s Column**

**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Thoughts & Prayers**

### **FEBRUARY CALENDER**

*The Power of Prayer is  
in the One who Hears it,  
not the One who Says it.*

## **LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY**

- 7 – Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4:2; Luke 9:28-43  
10 - **ASH WEDNESDAY** - Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51; 2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10;  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21  
14 – Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13  
21 – Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17 – 4:1; Luke 13:31-35  
28 – Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

There is one “Holy Day” in February not normally observed by Protestants: “Candlemas” or “Presentation of the Lord” on Tuesday, February 2.

Suggested readings: Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 84 or 24; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

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### **WORSHIP AT NURSING HOMES**

Worship service at Monroe Care Center is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23, at 10:00 a.m. Pastor Raymond Doser would welcome anyone who wishes to help with this endeavor. Thanks to Goldie Kraber for helping. Goldie will not be available this month. . . . would anyone like to volunteer to help Pastor Ray?????

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### **AFTER SCHOOL KID’S CLUB**

Kids' Club will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 5 p.m. and continue on February 17, 24, March 2, 9, & 16. The first session will be a focus on Valentine’s Day and/or Ash Wednesday. The next two will be video nights with “Call of the Wild: A Race for Buck” being shown over two weeks. It is a story of a 9 year old girl and a wounded dog. (We have discovered that scheduling of 6 weeks after Easter has too many conflicts with Spring sports.) Snacks will be served.

We may try to schedule a town clean-up in May. What would be a good date? Supper too?

MUMMS has contacted Pastor Ray regarding helping us again with VBS this year. We have agreed to use their help and hoping for a date in June and being 3 days like last year. Pastor Ray will contact them.

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### **BIBLE STUDY**

We have scheduled a four-week Bible study using Mayberry (Andy Griffith) television programs that began January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The second session is scheduled for January 31<sup>st</sup>. The third session will be February 14<sup>th</sup> with the 4<sup>th</sup> and last session being February 21<sup>st</sup>. The week of February 7<sup>th</sup> is the Super Bowl, therefore, class will not be held that Sunday. There will be about 20 minutes of the show and about 30 to 40 minutes of discussion / Bible study following the show.

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*How wise the Lord is in all His works of creation!*

*-Each watermelon has an even number of stripes on the rind.*

*-Each orange has an even number of segments.*

*-Each ear of corn has an even number of rows.*

*-Each stalk of wheat has an even number of grains.*

*-Every bunch of bananas has on its lowest row an even number of bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an even number and the next row an odd number.*

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## FEBRUARY

- 8 Ed & Linda Weldon (A)
- 10 Gail Lundstrom
- 11 Norma Jean See  
Don Shelford
- 12 Dana Lennie
- 15 Amy Simmons
- 21 Amber Powers
- 24 Caitlin Conner
- 26 Dola Doser
- 27 Bill Conner  
Angie Kimball  
Andrew Hastings  
Gayle Hastings
- 29 Jack Hastings

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### **LOVILIA UMW by Goldie Kraber**

Our January meeting was spent planning events for the coming year and filling out our Date Books. The theme for this year is "GROWING IN BLESSEDNESS".

Our chicken noodle supper is planned for April 13<sup>th</sup>. We do not plan to have a fall soup supper this year as our attendance last year was very low. Another project is needed. Any ideas????

February's meeting will be Thursday the 4th at 1:30. There will be a \$5 Valentine gift exchange. Lesson leader & hostess will be Lola & Gayle

*Our verse for February is Jeremiah 29:13  
The Lord declares "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."*

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**REMINDER:**  
**Men's Prayer Breakfast at Bussey, February 6, at 7:00 a.m.**  
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*Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil - it has no point.*

# In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Gloria Owens, Judi Johnson, Norma Jean See, Marina Amos, Phil Lundstrom, Sheila Lundstrom, Lyle Kumer, Virginia Weldon, Merlin Newman, Gayle Hastings, Connie Barnes, Linnette Holley, (Max & Lorena Bowman's granddaughter), Angie Geno, Teresa (Conner) Williams, Nile Cook, Max Bowman, Frieda Davis, our service men and women around the world, our shut-ins, and their caregivers and our leaders. Remember to offer prayers of thanks for each blessing we receive.

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### **COLLEGE STUDENTS**

**Jenny Kimball**, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls  
**Taylor Hastings**, granddaughter of **Gayle Hastings**, Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa.

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### **KEEP THESE IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Please pray daily for Bishop Julius Trimble, our District Superintendent, Rev. Paul Smith, our Field Outreach Minister, Rev. Dr. Jaye Johnson, and your pastor.

Please pray also for our Conference Lay Leader, Margaret Borgen; our District Lay Leader, Sharon Spear, and the lay leadership and people of the church.

Please pray for the ministry of our sister congregation, Women at the Well UMC inside the walls of the Iowa Women's Correctional Institute at Mitchellville and their pastor, Lee Schott.

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***A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position. As they passed a barnyard of mules, goats and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically, "Relatives of yours?" "Yep," the wife replied, "in-laws."***

# ***FEBRUARY CALENDAR***

- 1** – Pastor’s day off. (Iowa Political Caucus Day)
- 2** – “Candlemas” otherwise known as “Presentation of the Lord”
- 4** – U.M.W. to meet at 1:30 p.m. – Valentine emphasis.
- 6** – Pastor’s day off. + Men’s Breakfast at Bussey, 7:00 a.m.

## **7 – *TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD***

Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.; Worship, 10:00 a.m. with Holy Communion.  
No Bible study -----(Super Bowl Sunday)

- 8** – Pastor’s day off.
- 10** – Kids’ Club after-school, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.  
**ASH WEDNESDAY---Worship, 6:00 p.m.**
- 13** – Pastor’s day off.

## **14 – *FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT / BOY SCOUT SUNDAY***

Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.; Worship, 10:00 a.m. Valentine’s Day.  
Third session of the video Bible studies using Mayberry TV programs as the focus for lessons. Come to enjoy and discuss, at 6:30 p.m.

## **15 – *HOLIDAY: PRESIDENTS DAY***

- 16** – Monroe County Ministerial Association meeting, Albia, 9:00 a.m.
- 17** – Kids’ Club after-school, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- 20** – Pastor’s day off.

## **21 – *SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT***

Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.; Worship, 10:00 a.m.  
Fourth and final session of the Mayberry TV program as the discussion starter for Bible study, 6:30 p.m.

- 22** – Pastor’s day off.
- 23** – Worship at Monroe Care Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 24** – Kids’ Club after-school, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- 25** – Clergy Cluster, Oskaloosa, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- 26** – Pastor Raymond Doser expects to be on vacation Friday through Sunday. In case of emergency, please call his cell phone or another area pastor of your choice.

## **28 – *THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT***

Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.; Worship, 10:00 a.m.

- Pastor Raymond Doser is to be on vacation, and Janet Maddison, Albia, is to lead worship.
- 29** – Pastor’s day off. (*Leap Year Day*)

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee and the Trustees both need to meet in coming weeks. Also, the Annual Reports are to be submitted early in the year. If you have any information for those reports, please get it to Pastor Raymond Doser as early as possible.

There is a Winter Youth Retreat at Wesley Woods on Friday, February 5 through Sunday, February 7. It begins at 5:30 on Friday and ends at noon on Sunday. Cost is \$100 each.

If there is any interest in U.M. Foundation Scholarships, they need to be submitted by March 15. Contact Pastor Raymond Doser for information.

**COMING –**

- The Chicken & Noodle Supper is scheduled for April 13.
- We may try to schedule a town clean-up with the kids in May. What would be a good date? Supper too? .
- GENERAL CONFERENCE is May 10 – 20, 2016.
- Pastor Raymond Doser is to be on vacation May 29 (Memorial Weekend) as granddaughter Taylor Doser is to graduate from Southeast Polk High School. George Mosley, Albia, is to be worship leader.
- Annual Conference is June 4-6 in Des Moines. Vickie Parker, Lovilia, is to be the worship leader on Sunday, June 5. (Clergy Session is Friday, June 3.)

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*Do you know the words of wisdom for the New Year ?*

*The most destructive habit.....Worry  
The greatest joy.....Giving  
The greatest loss.....Loss of self-respect*

*The most satisfying work.....Helping others  
The ugliest personality trait.....Selfishness  
The most endangered species.....Dedicated leaders*

*Our greatest natural resource.....Our youth  
The greatest "shot in the arm".....Encouragement  
The greatest problem to overcome.....Fear*

*The most effective sleeping pill.....Peace of mind  
The most crippling failure disease.....Excuses  
The most powerful force in life.....Love*

*The most dangerous pariah.....A gossip  
The world's most incredible computer.....The brain  
The worst thing to be without.....Hope*

*The deadliest weapon.....The tongue  
The two most power-filled words....."I Can"  
The greatest asset.....Faith*

*The most worthless emotion.....Self-pity  
The most beautiful attire.....SMILE!  
The most prized possession.....Integrity  
The most powerful channel of communication.....Prayer  
The most contagious spirit.....Enthusiasm  
Everyone needs this list to live by.....pass it along!!!!*

**REMINDER::::::::::FEBRUARY 10::::::::::Special services for Ash Wednesday will begin at 6:00 p.m.**

# LOVILIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – BUDGET FOR 2016

(approved 9/30/2015 )

## CONFERENCE APPORTIONMENTS

General Church Apportionments	\$ 970.00	
Conference Ministries	\$ 2,937.00	
Conference Mission Giving	\$ 1,034.00	
<b>TOTAL APPORTIONMENTS</b>		<b>\$ 4,941.00</b>
<b>DISTRICT ASKINGS</b>		<b>\$ 204.00</b>

## PASTORAL SUPPORT

Salary	\$17,000.00	
Health Insurance / Pension	\$ - - - - -	
Travel Reimbursement	\$ 1,500.00	
Continuing Education	\$ 500.00	
Conference Attendance	\$ 200.00	
<b>TOTAL PASTORAL SUPPORT</b>		<b>\$19,200.00</b>

## LOCAL EXPENSES

Pulpit Supply (5 Sundays)	\$ 250.00	
Water & Sewer	\$ 550.00	
Electric & Gas	\$ 1,800.00	
Office Supplies / Bulletins	\$ 250.00	
Postage	\$ 125.00	
Internet & Phone	\$ (pastor supplies own)	
Miscellaneous	\$ 50.00	
<b>TOTAL LOCAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$ 3,025.00</b>

## COMMITTEE EXPENSES

Evangelism	\$ 100.00	
Christian Education	\$ 100.00	
Annual Conference (Lay)	\$ 75.00	
<b>TOTAL COMMITTEE EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$ 275.00</b>

## INSURANCE

Property & Liability	\$ 2,500.00	
Workers Comp (Jester)	\$ 95.00	
<b>TOTAL INSURANCE</b>		<b>\$ 2,595.00</b>

**TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2016**

**\$30,240.00**

## INCOME AND EXPENSES FOR YEAR 2015

<b>Weekly Offerings</b>	<b>\$ 24,521.00</b>
<b>Donations</b>	<b>\$ 726.50</b>
<b>UMW Donations</b>	<b>\$ 1,200.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$ 26,447.50</b>

**TOTAL EXPENSES PAID OUT: \$ 26,154.17**

Annual Conference Apportionments for 2015 were \$5,484.00. We were able to pay 7 months of the apportionments with a balance of \$2,285.00 not paid. The District Asking of \$216 was paid in full.

# WHEN YOU THOUGHT I WASN'T LOOKING

**A message every adult should read, because children are watching us and doing as we do,  
not as we say.**

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator,  
and I immediately wanted to paint another one.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you feed a stray cat,  
and I learned that it was good to be kind to animals.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make my favorite cake for me  
and I learned that the little things can be the special things in life.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I heard you say a prayer, and I knew there is a God I could always talk to  
and I learned to trust in God.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make a meal and take it to a friend who was sick,  
and I learned that we all have to help take care of each other.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you give of your time and money to help people who had nothing  
and I learned that those who have something should give to those who don't.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you take care of our house and everyone in it  
and I learned we have to take care of what we are given.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw how you handled your responsibilities,  
even when you didn't feel good  
and I learned that I would have to be responsible when I grow up.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw tears come from your eyes  
and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's alright to cry.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw that you cared and I wanted to be  
everything that I could be.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I learned most of life's lessons  
that I need to know to be a good and productive person when I grow up.*

*When you thought I wasn't looking, I looked at you and wanted to say,  
Thanks for all the things I saw when  
**YOU THOUGHT I WASN'T LOOKING.***

## **LITTLE EYES SEE A LOT!**

**Each of us----parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, teacher, friend---influences the life of a child.**

**How will you touch the life of someone today?**

**Live simply, Love generously, Care deeply, Speak kindly.**

**LEAVE THE REST TO GOD**

PASTOR RAY'S PERSONAL E-MAILS: [pastor.ray1985@yahoo.com](mailto:pastor.ray1985@yahoo.com)  
[rddoser@iowatelecom.net](mailto:rddoser@iowatelecom.net)

HOME PHONE: 641-946-7320

CELL PHONE: 641-660-0295

(DOLA'S CELL PHONE: 641-660-9188)

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 255 or P.O. Box 73

HOME ADDRESS: 606 W. 19<sup>th</sup> St., LOVILIA, IA 50150

Remember that Pastor Raymond Doser remains "on call" during the listed days off. When vacation plans take him out of the area, there will be another pastor "on call."

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Book Report by Goldie Kraber: **THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS**

*by Vanessa Diffenbaugh*

This is a mesmerizing, moving & elegantly written debut novel. The story beautifully weaves past & present, creating a vivid portrait of an unforgettable woman whose gift for flowers helped her change the life of others even as she herself struggled to overcome her own troubled past.

As a childhood spent in foster care system, she was unable to get close to anyone and her only connection to the world is through flowers & their meaning.

Now eighteen and emancipated from the system, Victoria has nowhere to go & sleeps in a public park & grows her own small garden there. A local florist discovers her talent & Victoria realizes she has a gift to help others. But all is not a bed of roses.

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***WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU COME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL ==== 9:00 A.M.***

***ALL AGES ARE WELCOME. COME HELP US STUDY THE WORD OF GOD.***

***WORSHIP SERVICES FOLLOWS ==== 10:00 A.M.***

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***LOVILIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH***

***1602 SOUTH E AVENUE***

***P.O. BOX 255***

***LOVILIA, IA 50150***

***HAPPY  
VALENTINE'S DAY***

