



OUR CHURCH

CUSTODIANS

Randy & Rene Corell
 Inside Custodians
 515-351-4145
 515-351-9311

PASTOR

Pastor Susan Rohden
 515-351-7050 (cell)
 515-968-4119 (home)
 gowrieumcpastor
 @wccta.net

CHURCH SECRETARY

Carrie Dalley
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**AND THE CROWDS ASKED HIM,
 "WHAT, THEN, SHOULD WE DO?"
 LUKE 3:10**

"WHAT, THEN,"

By Erling Shultz



ponder a moment

the question in its context:

crowds world is in turmoil;
 corruption, poverty, despair,
 an occupying oppression,
 violence for order and peace:
 crowds had to go to him;
 took the initiative to get there,
 left their urban comforts,
 to hear their lives are messed:
 crowds had no quick escape;
 sat in their vulnerability/fragility,
 reflect upon their toxic paths,
 having to face themselves.

ponder a moment

the question in its fullness:

sense of responsibility;
 indeed my/our lives are messed,
 we notice now our complicity,
 longing for something else:
 sense of possibility;
 there are other paths to take,
 chance of newness exists,
 a reversible is preferable:

sense of presence;
 liberation and love is coming,
 power and peace belong,
 the was and is and will be.

ponder a moment

the answer in its particularity:

you –
 not about guilt but transformation,
 not deconstruction but restoration,
 participate in the reformation:
 you –
 live a faith in action, do justice, love,
 kindness, walk humbly,
 be the peace so peace might be.

Ponder a moment

Lay Servant Ministries

*As your good to do,
 As your response to the nagging
 Question, 'Then what can I do?'*

Ponder a moment

Your gifts and calling

*To create a better world
 Through preaching, teaching
 And healing in your community.*

Ponder a moment the Prescience

in your space

*Of newness and possibility,
 Of living more fully the faith
 Of love and peace and grace.*

SERVE

- **Council**

February 5 At 6:30 pm

- **UWF**

February 6 @ 1:00 PM

- **“Singing the Favorites”- Choir**

Come Sing with us!

- **Love One Another.**

How are you doing this each day?

- **Practice Active Membership**

“I will faithfully participate in the ministries of Gowrie UMC through my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service and my witness.”

GATHER

- **Sundays Together**

9:00 Sunday School

3-12 years old's, come play and learn.

9:00 Adult Study

Join us as we read through and discuss Galatians. We learn together.

9:30 Coffee and Conversation

Practice sharing your story!

10:15 am Worship Service

Facebook live, later on Web-Cal channel 575

We hear the Word and grow in faith.

- **Bible Study**

Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 at

Joan Orness's home, All Welcome!

- **Facebook Devotion**

Pondering with Pastor Susan

Thursdays at 9:30 am

- **Community Gatherings**

Whenever you gather with others, you bring Jesus with you.

PRAY

Please call in or email your prayer request, changes and updates to the office.

Nursing Home or Care Facilities:

Health Concerns: All those with health concerns: Jolene Johnson, DJ (Randy & Viney Mulder's Son-in-law), Misty Lee (Carrie Johnson's Mother-in-Law). All those fighting Cancer. All those suffering from chronic pain. All those receiving therapy. All those who need God's healing.

Grief: all who lost loved ones in fires.

Congregational Prayer Focus:

Pray for all those affected by the Wild Fires in California.

Pray for Israel, the hostages, and the people of Gaza.

Pray for all those impacted by Hurricane Milton and Helene.

Pray for Gowrie UMC its ministries, its people, and its Pastor.

Pray for all who have yet to know the saving Grace of Jesus.

CELEBRATE



All February

Take opportunities this month to remember our brothers and sisters of color, learn and practice truly loving our neighbor.

February 14



Take moments this month to appreciate those closest to you. practice gratitude and actively show you care.

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Grace and Peace to you.

February 2025 is the first month Carrie and I are working on creating a mostly online newsletter for our church body. We wish to maintain a newsletter in some form. The the work of the Holy Spirit it does many things. It connects us together as a church body. It organizes us! It helps us find our center. Carrie and I use it to make sure we have covered all our bases each month. Thank you for your patience as we are sorting it all out.

At the beginning of 2025, the word stewardship has been dwelling in my spirit. I have begun a church bulletin board, which reflects some of these thoughts. Stewardship can be defined as “The careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.” God has entrusted each of us with so much. Our faith, our church, family, children, money, jobs etc. We endeavor to be a good steward in all things. Join me in pondering this thought throughout this year.

Blessings.

Pastor Susan

February 2025 Sermon Series

Come Worship with us!



February 9th 2025 Left Everything and Followed

Luke 5:1-11

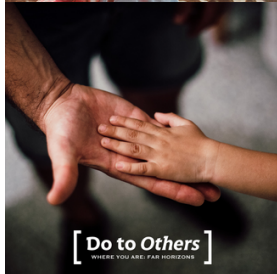
In what do we put our trust? By what scale do we measure our value? How does the Apostles Creed remind us where our allegiance lies?



February 16th 2025 Rejoice in that Day

Luke 6:17-26

We are familiar with the Beatitudes, Matthew’s version of these sayings from Jesus. We aren’t as well versed in the Sermon on the Plain, which is our text for this week.



February 23rd 2025 Do to Others

Luke 6:27-38

You might argue that listening is something we do well. We gather week by week and listen to sermons, listen to the choir sing, and listen to the leaders guide us through the liturgy. But are we really listening?

FEBRUARY SUNDAY SERVICES



9:00 am Sunday School & Adult Sunday School
 9:45 am Coffee and Conversation
 10:15 am Sunday Worship and Facebook live, later on Web-Cal Channel 575

Worrel Family February 2 & 9
 Vern Bauer & Bergan Dalley February 16 & 23



February 2

Communion: Deb Trvdik & Crystal Wilks
 Worship Leader: John Lizer
 Music: Colleen Palmer
 Tech: Bergan & Carrie Dalley
 Altar Flowers:
 Bulletins/Online: Paul & Rita Kail

February 16

Worship Leader: Bergan Dalley
 Music: Nancy Vogt & Jeff Patterson
 Tech: Owen Nuss & Glenn Rohden
 Altar Flowers:
 Bulletins/Online: Diane Adam

February 9

Worship Leader: Anna Cottington
 Music: Jeff Patterson
 Tech: Lincoln & August Akins
 Altar Flowers: Colleen Palmer
 Bulletins/Online: Sam & Deb Trvdik



February 23

Worship Leader: Mary Patterson
 Music: Tom Hlubek & Jeff Patterson
 Tech: Keith & Dena Sytsma
 Altar Flowers:
 Bulletins/Online: Jim & Jane Frahm



Lay Servant Training



Date: Saturday, February 15, 2025
Location: Sioux City, Grace UMC
Time: 9:00 am—4:00 pm, Bring your own lunch or you may leave for lunch.

Classes:

- Basic Course: Taught by Kim Dewey
- Advanced Course: United Methodist Heritage taught by Chaplain Melanie Hauser.

Please check with office to register and what materials will be needed.

SAVE THE DATE

TRAINING

Training for Local Church Boards, SPRC, and Trustee Leaders



Who: All Local Church Officers and Volunteers
When: Sunday, February 9 from 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Where: Laurens UMC, 201 W Main St, Laurens, IA 50554
Why: Grow your knowledge and serve your church with the latest guidance. Meet other laity church leaders. Be blessed to be a blessing to others in your leadership role.

Gowrie United Methodist Church

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Happy Birthday! Mary Schneider 9am Adult Sunday School 9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship	27 Pastor's Sabbath	28 Happy Birthday! Sibyl Bauer 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	29 9am Office Open	30 Happy Birthday! Paige Schneider 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion	31 Happy Birthday! Robert Jepsen Pastor's Prep Day	1 Happy Birthday! Jason Eller
2 Happy Birthday! Ella Ganeff 9am Adult Sunday School 9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship	3 Happy Birthday! Eleanor Anderson Pastor's Sabbath	4 Happy Birthday! Josh Stewart 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	5 Happy Birthday! Tom Hlubek 9am Office Open	6 Happy Birthday! Patricia Vandl Sue Dean 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion 1pm UWF Meeting	7 Pastor's Prep Day	8
9 9am Adult Sunday School 9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship/Choir	10 Pastor's Sabbath	11 Happy Birthday! Aydan Farnham 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	12 Happy Birthday! Colleen Palmer Pastor Susan Rohden 9am Office Open	13 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion	14 Happy Birthday! Brenda Brandes Pastor's Prep Day Happy Valentine's Day	15
16 9am Adult Sunday School 9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship	17 Pastor's Sabbath	18 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	19 Happy Birthday! Ruth Stubbs 9am Office Open	20 Happy Birthday! Bev Bair 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion	21 Pastor's Prep Day	22
23 Happy Birthday! Dennis McCubbin 9am Adult Sunday School 9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship	24 Happy Birthday! Ardie Shirbroun Pastor's Sabbath	25 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	26 Happy Birthday! Vern Bauer 9am Office Open	27 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion	28 Happy Birthday! Jayden Eller Pastor's Prep Day	1

Worship Live on Facebook and on later Channel 575 at 11:00 am



United Women in Faith

*2025: Carrying Our Faith Forward
February 6, 1:00 PM*

February: How has your Faith been formed in you?

“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”

1 Peter 3:15

Program:
Server: Shirley Wooters



Welcome to The Church Family!

Ellie Rene Krug was Baptized on January 5. We will continue in prayer for her and her family. Blessings.



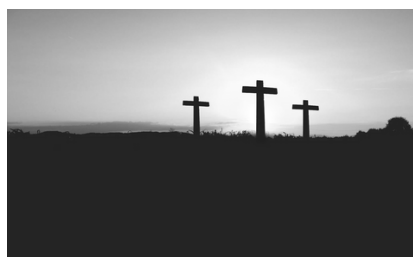
Talk To Us

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Find Us

on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/GowrieUMC/>
or Website
www.gowrieumc.com



Tuesday Bible Study

With Pastor Susan Rohden
Video inspired discussion about living out our faith.
Tuesdays @1:30 pm
Joan Orness’s House
Come Join us!



Sunday School Fundraising

We had fun during Sunday School helping to build frozen lasagna meals to sell at the Christmas Bazaar. We sold 40 meals. Yay!

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

January 8, 2025 @ 6:30-8:00 pm

Opened with devotion and prayer lead by Pastor Susan Rohden.

Introduction of guest Ron Carlson, Iowa Annual Conference Treasurer.

Minutes taken by Carrie Dalley and Pastor Susan Rohden.

Present: Carrie Dalley, Kendale Vosberg, Rita Kail, Jeremy Viles, Jill Viles, Crystal Wilks, Chelsey Worell, Anna Cottingham, Judi Tjepkes, Pastor Susan Rohden, Rev. Ron Carlson

Council discussion with Rev. Carlson about church financials.

SPRC asked questions about housing allowance. Ron referred SPRC to discuss using the parsonage sale fund for the housing allowance to our D.S., Rev. Dr. Michel Lundula. The parsonage fund can be used for capital improvements and Pastoral housing allowance.

Ron expressed that it appeared our church was living within its means and had no budget items that appeared inappropriate. Ron noted that our church has paid apportionments 100% for the last several years. Ron reflected that the stressors we are experiencing are being experienced by many congregations.

Ron encouraged our leadership and congregation to develop a clear sense of who we are and what our mission is in our community. He expressed that trouble comes when congregations are stuck in the way that things have been in years past and are not able to see, support or allow a future with new ways of approaching things for a new generation. Also it is very important to have a positive attitude and outlook.

Ron offered that he is always available to talk things through.

At the end of the meeting, Pastor shared that we need to think about what we would like to do during Lent. Zion has expressed an interest in continuing to do Soup suppers but this has begun to be challenging for us. We will continue this discussion in Feb. Pastor also shared that she and Glenn are planning a Wesley pilgrimage to London next summer and will coordinate with the committee who manages the Pastoral Travel fund.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Next meeting scheduled for February 5 at 6:30pm.

Written by Carrie Dalley and Pastor Susan



Gowrie United Methodist Church
1306 Market Street, PO Box 479
Gowrie, IA 50543

Increment Weather



If Church service is cancelled due to weather, notification will be available on Channel 5 and Channel 8.

Cancellation will also be posted on Facebook, with service, if possible.