

FEBRUARY Birthdays

Feb. 7 Tyler Brockman,
 Feb. 9 Jim Veldhuizen, Marcus Christensen-Messamer, Eloise Sloan
 Feb. 10 Janice Mayer, Elaine Eveland
 Feb. 11 Tonia Edmundson
 Feb. 13 Angie Shrader
 Feb. 17 Stan Herr
 Feb. 18 Dave Porter, Amanda Hoy
 Feb. 20 Mike Foster, Delia Lahner
 Feb. 21 Mily Michel
 Feb. 24 Gina Christensen-Messamer-Neilsen
 Feb. 25 Jason Herr
 Feb. 26 William Kminek
 Feb. 27 Joan Benscoter
 Feb. 28 Rita Hoogheem, Lucy Canfield
 Feb. 29 Lylah Hughes

Attendance Records

1/5	75
1/12	82
1/19	74
1/26	72

Financial Reports

December 2024 Income	\$34,173.55
December 2024 Expense	\$25,408.60
Difference	\$8,764.95
Total 2024 Yearly Income	\$316,202.60
Total 2024 Yearly Expense	\$210,935.64
Difference	\$105,266.96

CHIMES

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February 1, 2025



“And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. .”

1 John 4:16 NIV



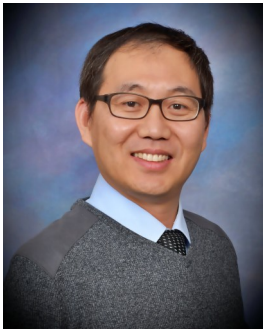
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Website: centralum.org

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jihoon Lee



A Message From Pastor Jihoon Lee

Dear Beloved in Christ,

“If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing” (1 Corinthians 13:1-3).

February is not usually a month of grand celebrations. The joy of Christmas has faded, and the excitement of the New Year has settled into routine. By now, many of us are weary of winter and longing for spring. While this year’s winter has been relatively mild, it is still winter—and somehow, the shortest month often feels the longest. Of course, sports fans have the Super Bowl to enjoy, and baseball lovers begin looking forward to spring training. But aside from that, February doesn’t have much to offer—except Valentine’s Day.

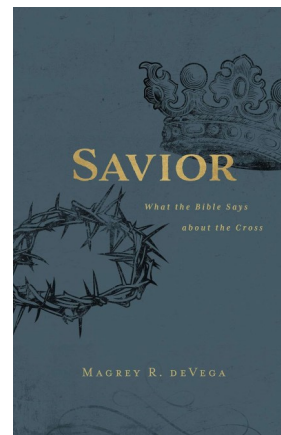
Valentine’s Day is named after a third-century saint known for his compassion and care for persecuted Christians. Over time, his legacy became linked with romance, though the connection remains something of a historical mystery. Regardless of how it happened, today, we associate Valentine’s Day with love.

Thinking about this day—and about all that has happened in the past year—brought to mind Jesus’ words when He was asked about the greatest commandment: “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.” The second is this: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”



CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN

CUMC will cover half the cost for each camper from our church. Just be sure to only pay up to half at the time of registration. If are unable to pay half of the cost, the camp does have a campership fund you can apply for to help with the cost of camp. The sooner you apply the better. There will be paper applications downstairs if you prefer to register that way. Contact the church office if you have any questions. www.iaumc.org/camps



Lenten Bible Study

Our Lenten Bible Study begins on **March 2!** If you would like to participate, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

Study Book: Savior: What the Bible Says about the Cross

When: Sundays after the worship service (Mar 2, 9, 16, April 6, 13)

We hope you'll join us for this meaningful journey through Lent!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St Paul Congregational UCC & First Christian Church (DOC) presents...

FREE LAUNDRY NIGHT

Need a Ride? Call or Text 641-638-1203

FEBRUARY 20
4-7 PM

Laundry soap provided

SUBS OF LOVE
OSKALOOSA
No Strings Attached
A partnership outreach of St. Paul Congregational UCC and First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Bring your laundry to Stop & GO Laundromat at 1308 A Ave East in Oskaloosa.

Do your laundry FOR FREE!! (no strings attached!)

End of Month Meals

FREE Community Meals!

Tues. Feb. 25 & Thurs. Feb. 27
Central United Methodist
201 N Market St

Tues. Mar. 25 & Thurs. Mar. 27
St. Paul Congregational UCC
501 High Ave E

Doors Open @ 5 - Meal @ 5:30

EOMM hosts and helpers are: Central UMC, St. Paul Congregational UCC, First Presbyterian Church, and St. Mary's Catholic Church

There is no commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:29-31)

Love. That is what we are called to.

Do you know the hymn They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love? It echoes Jesus' words in John 13:35: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." Sadly, in today's world, Christians are often known more for what we oppose than for how we love. Too often, we are perceived as fearful or divisive rather than as people of grace and compassion.

This Valentine's Day—and throughout this month—perhaps it's time to reclaim our identity as people of love. As Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 13, without love, all our words and actions amount to little more than noise. Love is what makes our faith meaningful and our lives truly reflect Christ. Of course, we cannot instantly become perfect in love as Christ is, and Jesus does not ask that of us. But we can begin with small, intentional steps. What if, in our daily interactions, we simply asked ourselves: Does this word or action reflect Christ's love to this person?

This February, may we be known not for anger or fear, but for love. And may we warm this cold season not just with romantic gestures, but by sharing the love of Christ in our families, neighborhoods, and beyond.

Blessings,

Pastor Jihoon Lee

Keep in touch

[CENTRALUM.ORG](http://centralum.org)

[OSKALOOSA CENTRAYL UMC](https://www.facebook.com/oskaloosa_centrayl_umc)

[CUMC_EPIC](https://www.instagram.com/cumc_epic)



February 2025



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Acolytes: 2/2 Jackson 2/9 Nyla 2/16 Lucy & Mason 2/23 Nyla						I
2	3	4	5 Choir 7:00	6	7	8
9	10 ED Committee -6:00p	11 SPRC—6:30p	12 Finance -6:00 Trustees 6:30 Choir—7:00	13	14 HAPPY VALENTINE'S	15
16	17 OFFICES CLOSED	18	19 AD Council—6:30 Choir—7:00	20	21	22
23	24	25 EOMM—5:30 at CUMC	26 Worship—6:00 Choir—7:00	27 EOMM—5:30 at CUMC	28	