

Southeast District

Monday Musings

January 7, 2019



f-covers.com

Lilian Gallo Seagren ~ District Superintendent

Sherry Swanson ~ District Administrative Assistant

OFFICE HOURS ~ Monday – Thursday 8am-4:30pm, Friday 8-Noon

Phone ~ 563-293-1361

Homepage ~ <https://southeast.iaumc.org/>

Conference Vision ~ God's hope for the world made real through faithful leaders, fruitful communities, and fire-filled people.

Conference Mission ~ Inspire, equip, and connect communities of faith to cultivate world-changing disciples of Jesus Christ.



At the end of the old year, much attention and celebration were given to the wildness of creating and re-creating activities in the birth of God's Beloved Child and to the wildness of our expressions on what it means to have God come and live with us. God's love, our love for Jesus and for others are imagined so beautifully, differently, and wildly by individuals, families, cultures, regions, and churches. As I travel from one state to another, listen to one church's story to another, visit families and homes, I have been blessed to experience in full view various forms of expressions and celebrations.

The arrival of a new year not only means packing away all our treasured decorations, but placing new altar cloths, getting back to our routines of life and getting a year older. A New Year offers us the journey into the other side of love and being loved. This side of love is the possibility of being created and re-created by God's Spirit. Two Biblical narratives come to our Worship Spaces: the journey of the wisemen (Matthew 2) and the preaching and baptism at the Jordan River (Luke 3).

I can't help but imagine 2019 will be a different year and not like any other years. I have accepted the invitation of today's Upper Room Disciplines

devotion to spend the week and beyond to “expecting, contemplating, and befriending the wildness of creation and the new creation into which we have been and will be baptized. (p.21)” With the General Conference next month, one can only imagine what God’s Spirit is about to do. Anxiety, fear, and anger may be our companions between now and then. Faith in God’s creating and re-creating Spirit has a way of taking over our beings and communities. So, I pray without ceasing for Jesus to keep our hearts faithful. While God’s Spirit is nothing like the human spirit, God is a faithful partner.

In God’s name ~

Lilian



➔ **Charge Conference**~ Even though Charge Conferences are done, I am still in need of paperwork from the following churches. Please get this in to me as soon as possible so I can close this up. Thank you.

Burlington,Asbury-West Burlington~Resolutions, Crawfordsville~Leadership Worksheet, Danville~Resolutions, Donnellson~Leadership Worksheet, Embury~Leadership Worksheet, Douds-Lebonon-Selma ~ Resolutions, Kingston~Resolutions, Mount Pleasant, First~Leadership Worksheet, Muscatine, High Prairie~Minutes & Leadership Worksheet, Muscatine, Musserville~Leadership Worksheet & Resolutions, Muscatine, San Pablo~Leadership Worksheet, Muscatine, Wesley~Leadership Worksheet, Trenton~Leadership Worksheet. If you have any questions please contact Sherry Swanson.

➔ **Our District Operational/SLI Team** ~ will be giving birth to a Child Team in two or three locations around the District. Tentative locations will be: Muscatine, Crawfordsville, and Mount Pleasant. The purpose of the team is fourfold: (1) to increase the capacity of spiritual leaders in the region; (2) to learn how to address adaptive challenges; (3) to increase the number of healthy congregations and fruitful leaders; (4) to replicate the loving, learning, and leading culture and processes and align with our Wildly Important Goal. We are inviting clergy and laity who are interested in being part of the Team. Please complete the Form – Personal Vitality – that is located on our District Page under the Forms tab **and send it to Rev. Dr. Lilian Gallo Seagren no later than January 15, 2019.**

➡ **Statistical Reporting** ~ Statistical reporting is due on **Feb. 14, 2019 this year and not the end of February**. Mark your calendars as this date is very important. Letters have been sent to all Pastors, Treasurers, Finance Chairpersons and Church Secretaries. If you did not receive this letter you can go to the web page of: <https://www.iaumc.org/2018stats>

➡ **Fund Balance Report** ~ This report is on the District Homepage under forms. This form is to be filled out and turned into the District Office by **March 1st!** This form is by the GCFA and is a very important document for the Church file as during an audit this is the form they will need. You can send a copy to the District Office and keep the original with Church. If you have any questions please contact Sherry Swanson.

➡ **Praying Our Way Forward** ~ Praying Our Way Forward is a movement in response to the Council of Bishops initiative. We are called to a posture of prayer, praying for God's leadership to guide us effectively in fulfilling the mission of the church. We invite you- clergy and laity, conferences and congregations – across the denomination to pray for God's guidance. For more information please go to this link. <https://www.iaumc.org/prayingourwayforward>

➡ **Ingathering Hunger Grants** ~ Each district in the Iowa Conference has been given \$2000 to be used in that district for grants to various hunger projects. Then only stipulations are that the money is used in the district and that the money is used only for hunger causes. **Last year we had \$6250 to distribute and this year that has been dropped to \$2000.** That means that projects will receive less money than last year and not all applications will be funded. New projects that have not received funding in the past few years will receive priority. That doesn't necessarily mean that previously funded projects will not be funded this year but will be put at the end of the list and will not receive as much as in the past. The Ingathering did not receive as much undesignated money this year as last and that is why there is not as much to distribute. Please fill out the application that is on the District Homepage under Thanksgiving Ingathering and then Hunger Grant Application and return it to Judy Brotherton, Southeast District Ingathering representative. Her address is 2512 Mulberry Ave., Muscatine, IA 52761 or you can email it to judyb@machlink.com. Be sure to include contact information for the person filling it out so she can get back to you if there is a question. The deadline for these applications is **FEBRUARY 15**. Applications received after that date cannot be considered. Getting the application in before that date is much appreciated. New projects not connected with a United Methodist Church will need to fill out a W-9 form if the organization has not received Hunger Grants in the past; contact her for this form.

If you have any questions about the Hunger Grants, please contact her at her email address (above) or call her at 563-264-5372.

➔ **Disaster Response Information~** If Disaster happens... Contact Your District Disaster Response Coordinator or the District Office.

District Disaster Response Coordinators (DDRC) ~Southeast – Don and Mary Timmermann – mtimmermannclm@aol.com , 563-381-4848



+ **Budget Information Meeting~** The Budget Team sent out an email that outlined their recommendations for the budget last Friday, November 30. They have set aside times for feedback and listening sessions. There are three dates and locations and they are as follows:

January 13, 2019 ~ North Liberty UMC from 2:45pm-4:15pm
-Lilian is encouraging Southeast District pastors and laity to attend this session instead of driving to the other locations.

January 20, 2019 ~ Carroll, First UMC from 2:00pm-3:30pm

January 26, 2019 ~ Ames, First UMC from 10:30am-12:00 noon

If you have any questions or concerns or would like to communicate with the budget team you can contact them at this temporary email address, budget@iaumc.org

+ **January 23, 11am-2:00pm~** Clergy only prayer and discussion at the District Office with Lilian. Please RSVP to the District Office by January 14 so that we may look for a different location in a timely manner if there is more than 25 of you.

+ **January 27, 2:30pm ~** Nominations Committee Meeting at the District Office.

+ **February 5, 2019~** Clergy Day Apart is currently being planned by the Parish and Leadership Development Team. More details to come. If there is a need for a snow day it will be February 7, 2019.

+ Youth 2019 ~ YOUTH 2019 IS FOR ALL UNITED METHODIST YOUTH, GRADES 6-12, AND THEIR LEADERS. Join thousands for 4 days of discipleship, worship, Bible study, service opportunities, and life-changing fun! Expect inspiration, support, and challenges to grow authentically as a world-changing disciple of Jesus Christ. The YOUTH Event is the National Gathering for United Methodist Youth, it will be in 2019 and traces its' roots all the way back to the first YOUTH event of 1988. YOUTH 2019 will provide youth and their leaders with chances to connect with each other, denominational leaders, and connectional agencies to help them discover the wide variety of ministries of the United Methodist Church. Click on this link for more information and registration. <http://youth2019.com/>

January

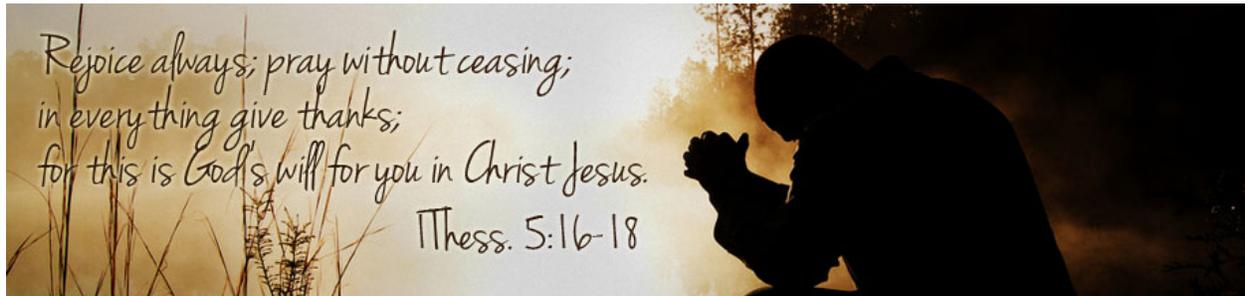


5-Vincent Garza	19- Dorothy Henson
7- Margaret Klink & Terra Amundson	23- Thomas Berryman
11- Kristina Roth	24- Kiboko Kiboko
15- Steve Braudt & Lilian Gallo-Seagren	28- David Wittmann
16- Heather Dorr	31- Bruce Smith



10- Charles & Margaret Klink

12- Ron & Beth Carlson



- Please pray for Steve Lamb as he lost his wife, Kathleen Lamb. Please pray for this family and give them comfort through Christ.
- Prayers for the family of the fallen firefighter from Clinton who will be laid to rest today. May his family find comfort in that he passed saving lives. Also pray for the firefighter who is in critical but stable condition from the same fire.
- Prayers for the government workers who are struggling while the government is on shutdown. May God give them what they need to survive and take care of their families.
- Prayers for the family of Pastor Kathleen Moore for the death of her Step-Father.
- Prayers to the families of Pastor Jason Collier and his sister Christina Collier as they come to terms with the death of their sister.
- Prayer for Melisa Bracht-Wagner as she continues to fight the cancer that is in her body. May God give her strength and the love needed to

fight this disease. Also pray for her family as they watch her go through this. May God give you strength and comfort.

- Prayers for Pastor David Mixon as he recovers from hip surgery.
- Prayers for the husband of Pastor Dawn Butler as he is dealing with health issues.
- Prayers for Pastor Gerry Kahler as he is dealing with some health issues.
- Prayers for Christine, the daughter of Mary Timmermann who continues to battle cancer.
- Prayers for Elizabeth Colorado, wife of Pastor Moddy Colorado, as she continues her fight with cancer. She continues to do well with treatments.
- Continued prayers for the guidance of our General Conference as they make the upcoming decisions that will be difficult.
- Continued prayers for our military who are active, reserves, and veterans. May they find peace and understanding with their daily struggles and try to understand.
- Continued prayers for our police, firefighters and first responders who answer the call without hesitation for the safety of their communities.
- As always, prayers to the ones who may not ask for prayers but need them. May they feel the love of God wrap around them during their time of need.