

PanoramaExpress

July 28, 2022

Des Moines United Methodist Church
22225 9th Avenue South
Des Moines, Washington
desmoinesumc.org



This Sunday July 31st

Scripture: Luke 12:13-21

Sermon: When Life Ebbs Away

Something to think about:: *What is demanding or taking your life today?*

PanoramaExpress UPDATE

For the remainder of the summer, the Panorama Express will run bi-weekly. Weekly publication will resume in September.

Please remember, if you would like to submit information to appear in the **Pano Express** it needs to arrive in the church office on the Monday prior to publication. For the remainder of the summer publications those dates are:

August 8

August 22

Thereafter it will be each Monday.

Current Emails for the staff:

Pastor Jeff: pastor@desmoinesumc.org

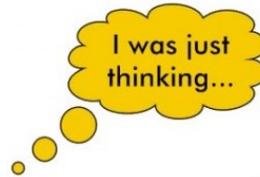
Office: office@desmoinesumc.org

Karen: av@desmoinesumc.org

Updated Office Hours:

Tuesday— Thursday 9 am to 3 pm

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...Since the end of April, we have been surrounded by boxes and general clutter. Steve and I have moved a couple of times before (*me more than him*), so as we prepared to make our move from Bonney Lake to Des Moines, we knew we had to get a head start. So, once we knew we were moving, we began the packing process. Boxes began to be packed and stored and after a few weeks, really began to clutter up the house. As we arrived here at the end of June the towers of boxes returned all over the house as we began to put things away and figure out where things should go.

This has been a longer unpacking process for some reason. But in the last few days we have begun to open the last of those boxes upstairs (*the basement still needs to be tackled once the carpet is laid*) and were able to get rid of the ones we had opened which were taking up a lot of space. I had a realization as I was surveying a room: something was different besides the fact that we were in a new house. It took me a little bit to figure it out but finally it came to me. There were hardly any boxes. There weren't things piled up somewhere waiting to be packed or loaded. Items were finally being put away.

I had become so used to cardboard boxes stacked on top of each other and maneuvering around them and the other things that had to be packed or put away, it actually seemed strange not to have them around. I had become so used to the chaos and clutter that I had almost forgotten what a home looks like without it. Chaos and clutter had become a new normal.

Many times in our lives we have to accept what physicians, psychologists, and sociologists call the "new normal." A change in our physical and mental or emotional state that won't return to what it once was. As a society, we are still grappling with this reality as a new normal emerges from the pandemic. Things may look more normal, but they are different.

Today the church also has some positive aspects that have emerged in a new normal. Through online ministries, we have been able to increase our reach in ways never thought possible before the pandemic.

(Continued on page 2)

BE THE CHURCH
Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Forgive often. Reject racism.
Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources.
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.

I Was Just Thinking (continued)

In a time of transition like this we all are getting used to each other. I am figuring out and getting to know the people of this wonderful church community and you are trying to get to know me. It may seem awkward at times for all of us as we are used to something different. It may seem chaotic as I come to understand the rhythms and cycles of the church here. It may seem cluttered while this church gets used to my style. But as we continue to journey together, those boxes will get all unpacked, and things will end up where they belong. Eventually, we will have settled into what is the new normal and we may not even realize it. We will just assume it has always been that way.

God has a way of not only creating chaos and clutter in our lives but also helping us sort through it so we can make sense of where God is leading us. As we journey through this transition together, we can all help each other unpack those boxes and work towards our ultimate goal of reaching out and growing together as followers of Jesus Christ.

Looking forward to unpacking with you! Peace and Prayers

Pastor Jeff

From the Staff Parish Relations Committee:



SPRC has been searching for a part-time office manager. Like many employers, finding someone is hard right now. As we continue to seek to fill this position we are asking for volunteers to be in the office. It would be very helpful to have someone answering

the phones, folding bulletins on Thursdays, and assisting in preparing the Pano Express for mailing and distribution to Wesley. The times need are typically Monday—Thursday, from 9 am—noon, although they can be flexible. This volunteer position is available now. THANK YOU

Please let Eric Chrismer know if you can help.

Contacting Pastor Jeff

In the Office:
Monday—Thursday
9 am—3 pm

Parsonage Phone:
(206)651-7481
pastor@desmoinesumc.org

Days off: Friday/Saturday



WATER LAND FESTIVAL PARADE

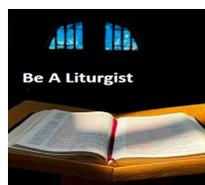
Des Moines UMC was well represented in the Water Land Festival Parade on Saturday, July 23. It was a beautiful day for a parade. Thanks the Ministry Co-operative for their planning and to all those who helped in the preparations and who walked (or rode) in the parade. We were able to distribute 400 information cards about the church along with bracelets which read: "Peace Be With You" and sharing that God's love includes everyone!



Join us next Sunday, August 7th for

Fellowship Time

In the Olympic Room
Immediately following the worship
service.



Would you like to serve as a liturgist on a rotating basis for our Sunday morning worship service?

Pastor Jeff would like to involve more of our laity in the worship service. If you are interested in serving, please contact Pastor Jeff at: pastor@desmoinesumc.org or talk to him after the service.