



Newton First United
Methodist Church



FIRST UNITED METHODIST

COMMUNICATION PLAN

210 North 2nd Avenue East
Newton, IA 50208
641-792-4648

2024

www.newtonfirst.org

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MISSION



As United Methodists
*Our mission is to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the
transformation of the world.*

Vision

As Newton, Iowa United Methodists
*Reaching Up, Reaching In, Reaching Out,
Making connections through Jesus Christ
within our community and world.*



CORE VALUES

No matter the challenges we face, God is with us, and we continue to have opportunities to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

FOUNDATION: LIVING THE GOSPEL



The UMC is founded on a Wesleyan theology of grace, anchored in Scripture, and based in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the continuing movement of the Holy Spirit.

DISCIPLE MAKING



First and foremost, we are dedicated to the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world in the tradition of John Wesley.

We are disciple-making, faithful, deeply rooted, grounded in Scripture, Christ-centered people of God.

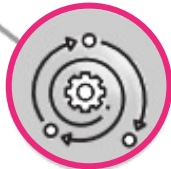
BELONGING & INCLUSION



All belong and will be loved in The UMC. All will be heard, respected and engaged. All will be free to develop their personal relationship with God and to serve fully in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

We are diverse, justice-seeking, resilient, welcoming people of God.

INFLUENCE, CONNECTION & IMPACT



With more than 12 million members across the globe, we are a powerful connection, living and sharing the grace of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. We are committed to work for global health, education, creation care, child welfare, disaster recovery and countless other efforts.

We are missional, connected, world-changing, generous people of God.

EXPERIENCE OF GOD THROUGH THE UMC



We embrace a Church where we experience our triune God in personal and community relationships, transforming our own lives, the lives around us, and the entire world.

We are committed, Jesus-seeking, Spirit-filled, grace-filled, praying people of God.



OUR ACTIONS

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can. ~ John Wesley



Extend Grace

- Welcoming and hospitable, putting others before ourselves.
- Assume goodness of intentions.
- Servant minded, practicing empathy, dignity, and compassion.
- Honoring the sacredness of forgiveness.



Missional

- Worship and faith enrichment.
- Outreach ministries; locally, denominationally, nationally, and globally.
- Discipleship.
- Giving.



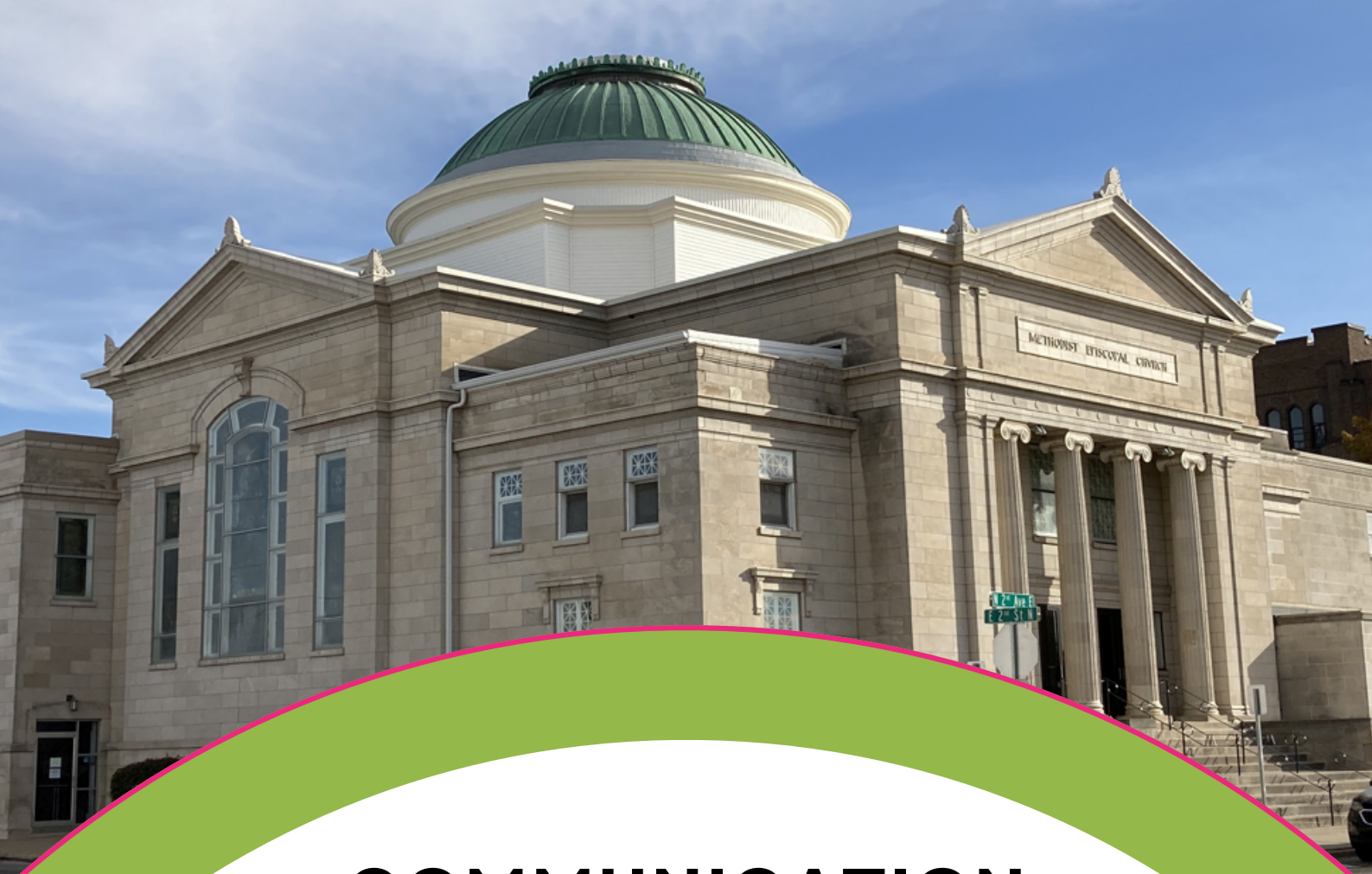
Connect

- First United Methodist Newton, Iowa.
- United Methodist Denomination
- The Newton, Iowa community.
- Vulnerable citizens.
- Partnerships with other entities.



Stewardship

- Create solutions.
- Hold myself and others accountable.
- Expect, embrace, and initiate change.
- Fiscal responsibility.
- Asset and resource management.



COMMUNICATION GOALS

First United Methodist Church in Newton, Iowa communication efforts aim to support all areas of the ministry so that staff, parish members, and the surrounding community have access to vital church information.

To encourage two-way communication between all target audiences, Newton First United Methodist Church has intentional internal and external communication processes to advance our mission, vision, values, and actions.

TARGET AUDIENCES

FUMC Staff ● FUMC Church Members ● Partners

Newton & Jasper County Residents ● Media

REACHING UP WORSHIP



Sunday Bulletin

The weekly Sunday Bulletin is the outline to our Sunday worship service and ongoing announcements. This is available in paper form each Sunday morning in the Narthex. It may also be found online.



Website

The Church Website is the hub for all the up-to-date information of all missional activities and resources. The contents and functionality of the website is reviewed periodically to ensure it is meeting the goals and needs of those who visit it.



Worship Online

Sunday morning services begin in the sanctuary at 8:45 AM and incorporates elements of traditional worship with contemporary praise songs, multimedia presentations, a little jazz piano, and children's time. Holy Communion is provided the first Sunday monthly.



Worship on the Radio

Sunday services are live-streamed and broadcast the following Sunday at 9:00 AM on radio station KCOB-FM 95.9 and KCOB-AM 1280.



REACHING IN

Internal

First United Methodist Church in Newton utilizes many tools to communicate throughout the organization.

- Welcome center in the Narthex and bulletin boards throughout the building.
- Sunday bulletin.
- Monthly newsletter.
- Email communications.
- Calendar of schedule events and meetings.
- Committee meetings.
- Administrative council meetings.
- Charge conference meetings.

Evaluation

These resources will be used to evaluate the usefulness of the communication plan and ministry work.

- Website usage.
- Feedback from laity, church staff, community, and denomination.
- Social media usage.
- Email distribution usage.
- When applicable, surveys released.
- Church demographic and business intelligence.

Every effort will be made to distribute all information transparently, clearly, appropriately, and timely. The audience, objectives, message, mode, and timing will be considered when planning communications.

General information and scheduled events that are printed in the Sunday bulletin and The Messenger will be automatically forwarded through social media channels once published. If a committee, group, or activity wishes to have additional communications and marketing, or wishes to have automatic communication timing changed, will contact the technology team either by telephone or email or by making that request during the Administrative Council meeting.



REACHING OUT SOCIAL MEDIA

Through scripture there is evidence of Jesus meeting people where they were. He spoke in stories teaching how we should live and treat others in ways that the people he interacted with could understand. First United Methodist Church uses social media platforms as a tool to send the kingdom message to the largest amount of our target audience. In good faith, these tools will be used according to the platforms' user rules and regulations. Understanding, however, this is leased technical space and not owned by First United Methodist Church. The church's communication strategy incorporating social media tools is meant to be 2-fold. Information being publicly available and to direct interested consumers of the platform to our website, join an email distribution group, and attend in-person or online worship or some other avenue of discipleship with Newton First United Methodist Church.



Facebook



YouTube



REACHING OUT THE MESSENGER

The Messenger is First United Methodist's newsletter. This is emailed to our church email distribution list each month. If you would like to add your email address to our church distribution list, please contact the church office at 641-792-4648 or use the QR code below to sign up.



Important Note:

First United Methodist Newton follows the Newton Community School District when it adjusts the school day (including cancellations) due to weather. Tune into KCOB or check Facebook during inclement weather for updates.

Newsletter

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OUR STAFF



Doug Cue

PASTOR



Joy Osborn-Daniels

ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT



Mel Wilson

COORDINATOR OF
LAY MINISTRIES



Terry Ingledue

CUSTODIAN



Rachel Faidley

DIRECTOR OF
MUSIC



Jean Ibbotson

ORGANIST



Dorothy McFarling

FINANCE
SECRETARY



Mary Ann Reisetter

WEDDING
COORDINATOR



THE CHURCH WITH THE BIG GREEN DOME

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

No matter your concerns, desires, wishes, and sorrows, First United Methodist Church in Newton, Iowa has a place for you to belong. While our church building is our ministry's hub and home, serving the community's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs also happens outside our open doors.



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