



Strength for the Day

Editor Ellen

Genesis 9:9-16 says that after the Great Flood, God promised Noah He'd never again destroy the earth with a flood. This covenant is between God and every living creature, for all eternity.

God then placed a rainbow in the sky as a visible reminder of His promise saying, "When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh." (NRSV)

Although rain's been pretty scarce in central Iowa this year, other areas have gotten way too much. Life's like that sometimes; when it rains it pours. That old saying comes in handy when life overwhelms us with "rain" such as job loss, serious illness, loss of a loved one, relocating, insufficient funds, broken promises, etc. Try viewing such events as dark, stormy clouds.

If Job had done that, he would've had a pretty impressive storm rumbling through his life, eh? The Bible tells us Job stays strong in his faith though. Perhaps he kept his eyes on the sky, trusting that his beautiful rainbow would eventually appear.

I'm thinking Job looked at the rainbow as a reminder that God's in-change and always (ALWAYS) has something overwhelmingly beautiful in His Plan for our future.

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Genesis 9:11

Where Do You See God?

Editor Ellen

The Bible describes God as omnipresent. In other words, He's everywhere, 24/7. That's rather humbling, considering most of us get rattled if we need to be two places at once. Of course, God doesn't have a physical body to tote around, so He can just be present, kind of like the air we breathe.

Being invisible does present some challenges though. Specifically, we must attend to our surroundings simply to detect God's presence. As this world gets louder and busier, it gets increasingly difficult to sort through what should get our attention. Then you have to discern what God would have you see in what caught your eye.

Some suggestions to get you started are shown on page 4.

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Contacts & Times

When an article says to contact someone for more information, see *Contact Info* on the last page. Also, times listed in *The Vine* are p.m., unless noted otherwise.

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Rally Day 2017

This year's Rally Day Event will be bigger than ever. You're invited to bring the entire family, plus some friends and neighbors, to enjoy free food, face painting, bounce houses, lawn games, and more. Rumor has it you'll even have a chance to dunk Pastor Jamie and Pastor Jeff.

You'll also have opportunities to learn more about our *Take the Flag* sermon series, sign-up for a small group, talk with Stacie DeHaan about Change a Child's Story, and order your very own Waukee UMC shirt.

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, Sept. 10, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Detailed information is also available on our church Facebook page. Remember to "like" this event while you're on Facebook.



Join a
Small
Group

If you're looking for deeper relationships with God and others in our church, join a small group. A variety of groups are available to help you get connected. If you have an idea for your own small group, contact Deanne, to get it started.

Please sign-up for the small group(s) of your choice in the Fellowship Hall.

First Thursday Women's Study Group: Meets at 7:00 on the First Thursday of the month. This year the study is *Twelve More Women of the Bible*. This group will start on Sept. 14 (due to a schedule conflict) in the Fellowship Hall. Women of all ages welcome.

Short-term Disciple Study of the New Testament: Meets at 6:30 on Sunday nights at the Caudle home for 60-90 minutes. We'll start Sept. 10 and meet for eight weeks. This study includes some daily reading. Are you ready to dig a little deeper?

Take the Flag Sermon Series Small Groups: Multiple opportunities are available, all starting the week of Sept. 10. Check the sign-ups for a group to join.

Rally Round the Flag This Fall

Pastor Rob Fuquay's *The God We Can Know* was well-received by our church family during Lent in 2014. His newest sermon series, and our fall kick-off study, is *Take the Flag*. Pastor Fuquay's lives in Indianapolis, Indiana, so naturally he has a strong interest in racing.

The spiritual life is often compared to a race. Fuquay sees parallels between the flags used in racing and the signals God sends us in our fast-paced lives. In this Bible-based, 7-week church-wide series, Fuquay uses flags from auto racing as a way to discuss different aspects of our life of faith.

Our *Take the Flag* sermon series begins Sept. 10, in conjunction with Rally Sunday. Be sure to get a copy of the book in our Fellowship Hall soon.

TAKE THE FLAG

New Celebration Times

Starting Sunday, Sept. 10

8:30 Traditional Celebration
9:30 Fellowship
10:00 Contemporary Celebration
10:00 Sunday School for all ages



September WUMC Events

3 (Su)	Communion
5 (Tu)	Celebrations, 6:30
7 (Th)	▶ UMW Salad Supper, 6:00
10 (Su)	▶ Rally Day
11 (Su)	Prayer Shawl, 6:30
14 (Th)	Finance, 7:00 ▶ Women's Study Group, 7:00
17 (Su)	▶ FPU, 6:00
18 (M)	▶ Trinity Meal Trustees, 6:30 Mission Quilters, 6:30
19 (Tu)	SPRT, 6:30
21 (Th)	▶ Lunch Bunch, 11:30 Ad Board, 7:00
24 (Su)	FPU, 6:00
25 (M)	Prayer Shawl, 6:30

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God's wrath against sin (prior to the Great Flood) is often depicted by storm clouds. But then His Grace came down here in the form of a baby named Jesus. Jesus' 33+ years of life included many dark clouds. (His Crucifixion probably resembled the eye of a hurricane.) But His Resurrection – oh His Resurrection – that's the rainbow. Our rainbow.

What stark contrast. The dark clouds of judgment vs. the brilliant colors of forgiveness, mercy, and love. How's that for an image?



Ever seen a child's face light up at the sight of a rainbow?

Hopefully this reminder of its significance will prompt your

face to be filled with wonder, joy, and gratitude the next time you see one, too.

Our Loving Church Family...

We thank our Church Family for their prayers, cards, food, and other gestures of kindness shown us during Chucks illness and death.

We were comforted and strengthened by your support as we were dealing with his illness and loss.

A special thanks to all who helped ready the church for his services, and provided and served the luncheon.

God Bless
Trudy and Family



Burning Bush Fire Starters

Need to start a fire this fall? You can buy some WUMC Burning Bush Fire Starters at the usher stand. Each tube costs \$8.

Handmade, wooden coasters are also available for \$3 apiece, or \$10 for four.

UMW News

Our new year will begin Thursday, Sept. 7 with our annual salad supper. All women who attend WUMC are invited to participate. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00. Please bring a salad to share; your table service will be provided.

Gretchen Seiler will provide our program, discussing her work with JOPPA (Acts 9:36) and the Crestwood Church, which assists the homeless. Come enjoy some good food and fellowship, and to be inspired.



JOPPA

Lunch Bunch

Our August Third Thursday Lunch Bunch gathering was another record-breaker with a whopping 29 people. That number will be hard to top, but Ann's confident we'll do it.



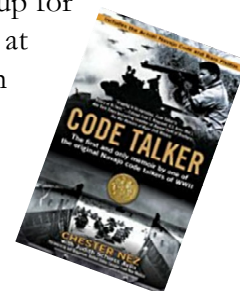
The next Lunch Bunch will be Sept. 21 at 11:30 a.m. in a party room at the Waukee Pizza Ranch. You're invited, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend our first Lunch Bunch this fall.

Book Talk

The book selected for our fall Book Talk is *Code Talker: The First and Only Memoir By One of the Original Navajo Talkers of WWII* by Chester Nez.

The Associated Press reviewer wrote, "You don't need to be a fan of World War II literature to appreciate this memoir...a fascinating mélange of combat in the Pacific theater, the history of the Navajo people and the development of a uniquely American code."

This is sure to be another interesting book, so please read it and join the group for another interesting discussion at 7:00 p.m., Monday, Nov. 21, in Ann and Greg Ruble's home.





Sizzlin' September Days

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 ~ Kaitlyn Menz | 17 ~ Cyler Kaufman |
| 2 ~ Jim & Pam Rumelhart | 17 ~ Kim Magee |
| 5 ~ Shirley Halverson | 17 ~ Ethan Olson |
| 6 ~ Jamie Cutler | 18 ~ Jason Stevens |
| 6 ~ Kim Hartley | 19 ~ Jordan Graham |
| 6 ~ Bailey Johansen | 19 ~ Kay Jacobsen |
| 6 ~ Ailey McNatt | 20 ~ Tim & Donna Schillinger |
| 6 ~ Ellison McNatt | 20 ~ Shari Butler |
| 6 ~ Brynn Senne | 20 ~ Dan Felt |
| 7 ~ Kathy Kunath | 21 ~ Jason & Sara Stevens |
| 7 ~ Marisa Van Heuveln | 21 ~ Barb Rhinehart |
| 8 ~ Sue Ellen Kennedy | 22 ~ Amanda Gutshall |
| 10 ~ Claudia Kerndt | 22 ~ Jim Rumelhart |
| 11 ~ Clinton & Janice Hanks | 23 ~ Deanne Caudle |
| 11 ~ Kevin & Mindi Slaybaugh | 23 ~ Joe Swaim |
| 11 ~ Lynn Erickson | 23 ~ Adam Vaught |
| 12 ~ Craig & Amy Showalter | 24 ~ Chris & Steph Wanned |
| 12 ~ Grace Bailey | 25 ~ Noah Baumeister |
| 13 ~ Morgan Delaney | 25 ~ Lauren Magee |
| 13 ~ Karen Stevens | 26 ~ Abigail Felt |
| 12 ~ Angela Tyrrell | 26 ~ Angie Mason |
| 12 ~ Larry Ver Schuer | 27 ~ Camden Kaufman |
| 14 ~ Darwin Beichley | 27 ~ Debra Straw |
| 14 ~ Staci Bott | 28 ~ Mitch Boothroyd |
| 14 ~ Jacob Lee | 28 ~ Tim & Marcia Tope |
| 14 ~ Jason Lee | 29 ~ Lucas Sparks |
| 15 ~ Peggy Gaulter | 30 ~ Mike & Natalie Blackford |
| 15 ~ Mary Messinger | 30 ~ Brad & Julie Kaufman |
| 16 ~ Jace Showalter | 30 ~ Katelyn Felt |
| 17 ~ Payton Dykstra | |

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Signs of autumn: Notice a tree with leaves changing color. Prayerfully ask God what He intends for us to learn from their beauty and adaptability. How did He incorporate those attributes into humans, His most favored creation?

Unruly child: If a youngster wigs-out in the grocery store, prayerfully ask God to turn-down his/her volume. **No wait...** Ask God to help you consider what might be going on in the child's life. Is it time for a meal? How is the adult with them responding? You may even feel moved to ask if there's something you can do to help, if appropriate.

Paying bills: Most likely, you have access to food, safe water, clothing, transportation, healthcare, education, and some entertainment. Remind yourself that many of those expenses aren't even an option for millions of God's Children. Prayerfully ask God how He could use you to improve their lives.

Sunrise/sunset: When a sunrise or sunset captures your attention, thank God for that day and for the peace, hope, and joy He provides.

Special needs person: Notice someone who interacts with the world differently than you. Perhaps they rely on a wheelchair, service dog, or medical attendant. Ask God why He had their path intersect with yours. These encounters remind me to thank Him for the blessings in my life.

Falling asleep: Thank God for the opportunities you had to represent Him to others through your thoughts, words, and deeds that day. Did you make Him visible to those around you? Is someone being drawn closer to His Saving Grace because of you? Ask God to help Jesus shine through you even better tomorrow.

Mom SQUAD *Mini Retreat*

Saturday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m.

Moms were never meant to be Lone Rangers, doing life alone. Instead, we need a community of other moms who understand super feats like leaping over piles of laundry, tackling all-night science projects, and living to tell pre-teen slumber party stories. We're developing a mom squad of faith, friendship, and fun.

This event will help give moms the support, encouragement, and friendship they need. Whether you're a new or experienced mom, please RSVP for this event at the Connection Counter. If you know someone who's "momming it alone" be sure to invite **4** her, too.

Where do YOU see God in
Creation?

Gain Financial Peace in Nine Weeks

You can learn the skills so many in our church family are talking about when Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University* (FPU) returns to WUMC this fall.

Date: Sundays, Sept. 17 – Nov. 5

Time: 6 – 7:30 p.m.

If you've ever worried about money or argued about it with a loved one, please attend these classes for the tools, resources, and information you need to have...well... financial peace.

Not to worry. Facilitators Lauren and Gordon Kratz won't be digging into your personal information or reviewing your bank statements. Instead, they'll teach you to make positive – and lasting – financial changes to improve your life.



The cost for the 9-week financial makeover is \$45, which includes all materials. This discounted price is available thanks to the generosity of a past WUMC participant who wants to help you achieve financial peace.

Lauren and Gordon will even provide really tasty snacks the first evening. Mark that session (Sept. 17) on your calendar and attend at no charge. That should help you realize the benefits of registering for the entire fun-filled, 9-week class.

FPU is appropriate for everyone from recent college graduates to retired people. Couples and singles are welcome to join. Classes include videos starring Dave Ramsey, discussion questions, and a little homework.

If you've already completed FPU, you're more-than-welcome to return for a refresher, at no additional cost. Be sure to encourage friends and family to attend, too.

To register, call 515-987-4531 or visit

<https://fpu.com/1047002>.

Smart Money Smart Kids

If you're raising a child(ren), you need to know about Dave Ramsey and Rachel Cruze's *Smart Money Smart Kids* class.

In this class, Dave and his daughter teach parents how to raise money-smart kids in a debt-filled world. WUMC will offer this class if ten or more families express an interest in participating. Contact LuCinda to learn more.



S.S. Teachers Needed

Everything's ready for our 2017/18 Sunday School year to begin on Sept. 10, except for one additional teaching team for our 2nd and 3rd grade class. Are you ready to answer the call?

Two teacher teams are assigned to each class, so no teacher will be committed to teaching every Sunday. For more information or to serve, please contact LuCinda.

Trinity Supper Club

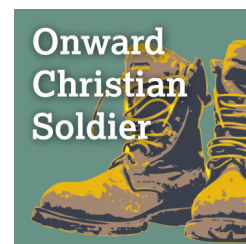
We'll be serving the Supper Club at Trinity UMC again on Monday, Sept. 18. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to share God's Love with others. Contact Lauren for more information.

There's No Place Like Home

West Point is far, far away, so Cadet Calvin Pieper appreciates all correspondence he receives. However, he'd probably really enjoy hearing from someone other than Mom or Dad.

Calvin may not have time to reply, but if you'd like to support him on his 47-month journey through West Point, here's his address. (Calvin instructed me to address his mail exactly as shown below.)

Cadet Calvin D. Pieper
PO Box 3682
West Point NY 10997-3682



Thanksgiving Ingathering

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) supplies kits help care for the most vulnerable people during times of crisis.

These kits provide vital support for UMCOR's work. You can help sustain these folks by donating supplies or money. Stop-by the C.C. for more information.



Stay Connected



Info about WUMC events is available here:

- **Facebook** – be sure to “like” Waukee United Methodist Church while you’re on Facebook.
- **Weekly church bulletin**
- **The Vine**
- **Waukee Wire** – to subscribe send an email to info@waukeechurch.org
- **Twitter** - search for @waukeechurch
- **WUMC website** - www.waukeechurch.org

Contact Info



Church office: 987-4531

Rev. Jamie Cutler: jamie@waukeechurch.org, ext. 202

Pastor Jeff Rodman: jeff@waukeechurch.org, 515-707-7339

Office Admin: jodi@waukeechurch.org, ext. 201

Deanne Caudle: deanne@waukeechurch.org, ext. 203

LuCinda Beltman: lucinda@waukeechurch.org, ext. 204 or 987-7710

Ann Ruble: ann@therubleproject.com, 987-1439

Cyndi Craigmile: mcraigmile@aol.com, 987-1973

Pat Gutshall: 515-223-1133, pat.gutshall@mac.com

Lauren Kratz: lauren.kratz@wellsfargo.com

Jennifer Senne: jennifersenne@gmail.com

Prayer Request: pray@waukeechurch.org

Lauren Kratz: lauren.kratz@wellsfargo.com

SignUpGenius: www.signupgenius.com

WACS: info@WaukeeChristianServices.org

WACS Director (Melissa Stimple): 987-5523

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Waukee United Methodist Church

650 Ashworth Dr., Box 26

Waukee, IA 50263

