The Newsletter
The United Methodist Churches of Laurens & Varina, Iowa

For the week of October 18, 2026 **Volume 42** **Issue 6**

3rd Grade Bible Presentation

Congratulations to Reagan Hertz. Feinox Wiley, Samantha Zylstra, and Gage Gustafson.

Usher Schedule:

October 25: Frank Bringleson, Doc Van Genderen, and volunteer
November 1: Virginia & Richard Garner, and Jason Gustafson
November 8: Greg Hertz, Brad Rubel, and John Sobotka
November 15: Kelly Tate, and Hunter & Jennifer Valentine

Liturgist Schedule:

October 18 & 25: Pat Sullivan
November 1 & 8: Kelly Tate
November 15 & 22: Amy Gustafson

Acolyte Schedule:

October 25: Reagan Hertz and Jacob Sobotka
November 1: Kwynn Bailey & Feinox Wiley
November 8: Samantha Zylstra & Gage Gustafson
November 15: Reagan Hertz & Jacob Sobotka

If you are unable to work on your date, please find a replacement and let the office know at 712-841-4476.

Address

Wendy Hopkins

Accura Healthcare of Pomeroy

303 East 7th Street

Pomeroy, IA 50575

Varina Announcements . . .

October 21: Administrative Council Meeting in Varina at 7:00 PM.
All are welcome to attend.

Community Coffee Dates for the Month of October:

Wednesdays: 21 and 28
Time: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Everyone is welcome to attend.

Confirmation

November 1

Ingathering

Ingathering Donations are due at the Varina UMC by November 1.

DAMASCUS ROAD Church

Donations Due to the Varina UMC by November 29.

Needed-personal hygiene products for men and good used clothing for men

Hats, mittens, and socks

due at the church

by November 29.

November 4, NOTE DATE CHANGE!

Varina Mary Circle will meet in the home of Eldona Hornor at 1:30 pm

Hostess & Devotions: Eldona Horner

Program: Harriet Boothby

Executive Meeting: 1:30 pm

Laurens Announcements . . .

Holiday bazaar

The Laurens United Methodist Women will be holding their annual bazaar on Saturday, November 21, 2026! We are starting a little earlier this year at 9:30 a.m. We will be serving lasagna for a noon lunch starting at 11:00 a.m.
There are many ways for everyone to participate in helping to make this bazaar a success! We have sign-up sheets available in the church narthex for making Christmas cookies; baked goods for breads and cinnamon rolls, pies, muffins, sweet breads; casseroles; treat of month items; good as new items; wood signs; knitting and embroidery items; and for workers the day of the bazaar!
Proceeds from this bazaar are used to help support several local groups: Laurens Congregate Meals, Laurens Care Center, Laurens Food Pantry, Caring lunches, Shaya Bee, the Laurens minister discretionary fund, and our church budget.
Mark your calendars to join us on Saturday, November 21, 2026!

Good as New:

We will be having tables with good as new items as part of our bazaar! There is a table in the fellowship hall that you can drop things off on. We do not want any clothing. Just gently used items! Remember that all items are sold by donation only, nothing is marked. At the end of the bazaar, all items will be taken to Goodwill or Fresh Start Market in Spencer. The last day to bring items will be November 18, 2026. Thank you for your contributions!

Jumpy Monkey Coffee

We are going to be selling Jumpy Monkey Coffee at the Laurens Methodist Church Bazaar on November 21, 2026. We are taking advance orders for this coffee and there will also be some coffee packages available during the bazaar. We need your pre- order by October 25. The pre-order forms are in the church narthex. Your coffee will be available for pick up the day of the bazaar, and that is the time you will pay for the coffee. All packages are 12 ounces and will be sold at $13.00 a package.
Jumpy Monkey Coffee is packaged by individuals with disabilities supported by New Perspectives, Inc. in Sioux City, Iowa. This is a not-for-profit corporation that provides rehabilitative and vocational services for individuals.

Silent Auction

The Nativity which will be auctioned during the Holiday Bazaar is on display in Fellowhip Hall.

Treat of the Month

Back by popular demand, as part of the UMW bazaar, we are going to have a 2027 Treat of Month. Treat of the month means exactly that! It can be anything from a fancy dessert, casserole, pie, cookies! What would bring happiness to you? That is what you need to sign up and prepare for someone else! You get to pick the month you want to prepare for. There is a signup sheet in the church narthex for this. We need it completed by November 1, 2026 so the item will be ready for bid on the day of the bazaar.

Nuts for Sale

There will be an assortment of packaged nuts for sale at the UMW bazaar on November 21, 2026. Offered for sale will be packages of whole pecans, walnuts, chocolate cashews and chocolate peanuts. These make great Christmas gifts!!!

Cookies…Cookies….Cookies galore!!! All shapes, sizes, colors, and flavors of **Christmas** cookies are needed. Frosted cut-out cookies are the best sellers. We request that every member of the UMW bake three dozen cookies. Even if you are not a member of the UMW we would appreciate your help in providing cookies for the cookie walk…including you men pastry chefs! We will need them at the Methodist Church by 8:00 on November 21, 2026!!

UMW bazaar

As part of our annual bazaar, we will be selling frozen casseroles. There are 8 by 8 containers in the kitchen for you to use if you want. In the past these have been a big attraction! There is a sign-up sheet in church narthex for the casseroles to aid you in your baking. Some suggestions are as follows: lasagna, chicken dressing, enchiladas, meatloaf, tator- tot casserole, beef and noodle, pizza pasta, ham balls, pulled pork and twice baked potatoes. We will be selling them at $15.00. It is always convenient to a have a frozen casserole in your freezer when we are just too busy to cook! We need your casseroles by 8:30 a.m. on the day of the bazaar!

UMW Bazaar---Food Pantry

During the Annual Holiday Event/ UMW bazaar on Saturday, November 21, 2026; we would like to provide support for the Laurens Food Pantry. We will be accepting any food item you would like to donate or a cash contribution. A few of the items needed are cereals, pancake mix and syrup, taco shells. At the current time, this food pantry is helping a record number of families. There will be a table set up for these items.

FREE WILL Donation

Soup Supper

Gluten Free Menu Available!

Sunday, October 25 4pm-7pm

Lost Island Lutheran Church

3797 310th Street Ruthven

Directions @ LostIslandLutheranChurch.org

Serving Chicken Noodle, Chili,

Vegetable Beef (gf) & Ham & Bean (gf)

Homemade Bread and Pies (gf options)

Lost Island Lutheran Church

ELECTION DAY

SOUP AND PIE SUPPER

Bethany Lutheran Church

Tuesday November 3rd

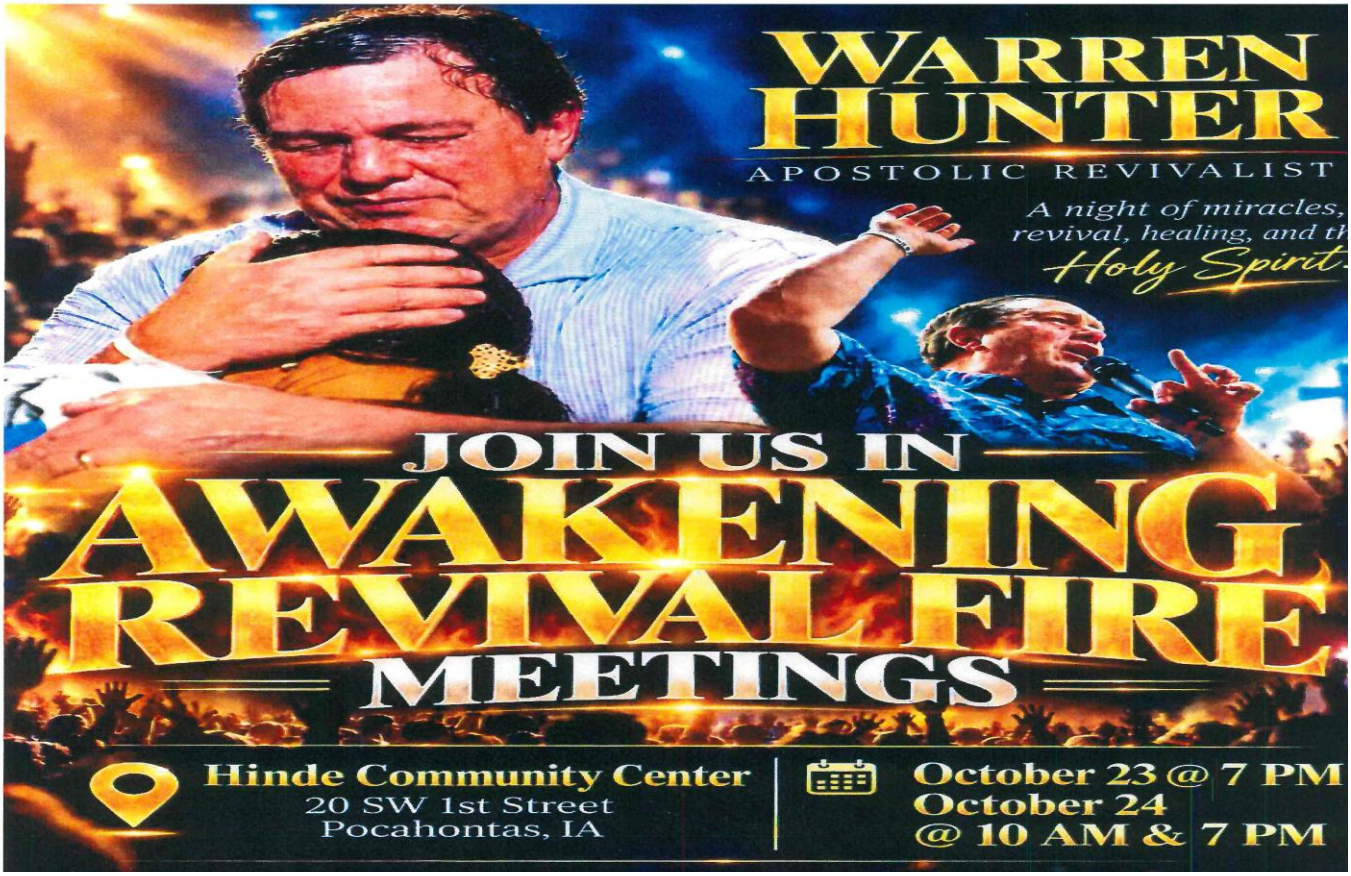
Serving from 4:30-7:00

Chili, Chicken Noodle & Broccoli Cheese

Pies, Bars, and Beverages

Call 841-2181 Delivery

Free will offering



Moonlight and MUNCHIES
OCTOBER 22ND
5:00 - 6:30 PM
Join us downtown Laurens
Dress up in your favorite costume
and come join the fun of
trick or treating
at the local businesses!

CITY OF LAURENS
Let's get
Spooky
Spooky Spooky Spooky
Everybody
TRICK OR TREAT
Knock to the left.. Knock to the right..
Ring that doorbell ya'll.
but only on
SATURBAY, OCTOBER 31ST
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Everybody
HAVE A BALL!
Treats Treats Treats

TRICK-OR-TREAT AT
LAURENS CARE CENTER
SATURDAY
OCTOBER
31
4:00-5:00 PM
BRING YOUR TRICK-
OR-TREATERS TO
LAURENS CARE CENTER
FOR A SPOOKY
GOOD TIME.
LAURENS CARE CENTER 304 E. VETERANS RD. LAURENS, IA 50554

HALLOWEEN
TRUNK OR TREAT
October 31st
5:00 - 6:30 PM
Laurens, Iowa
Fire Station
FIRE STATION
TOUCH-A-TRUCK
We'll also have
All
Welcome!
CHIPS
Hot dogs, water,
and chips served as well.

Halloween
at the
Laurens Public Library
The Magic of Michael Merrile
Fun for all ages!
7:00 pm Saturday,
October 31st

201 W. Main, Laurens, Iowa 50554

Laurens UMC
Stewardship, Prayer Requests & Worship Schedule

Stewardship for October 2026:

	Weekly	Year-to-date	Special
Total Receipts for 2026		$ 95,553.14	$ 4,294.40
Total Receipts received for October 4:	$ 3,047.00	$ 98,600.14	$ 243.19 Sept. Qtrs. Ingathering Missions
Total Receipts received for October 11:	$ 3,503.00	$ 102,103.14	$
Total Receipts received for October 18:	$ 3,167.41	$ 105,270.55	$
Total Receipts received for October 25:	$	$	$
Projected Budget Needs 2026:	$ 3,979.66	$ 210,922.00	

Attendance for October 4:	Worship Service: 63	Sunday School: 28
Attendance for October 11:	Worship Service: 32	Sunday School: 22
Attendance for October 18:	Worship Service: 56	Sunday School: 28
Attendance for October 25:	Worship Service:	Sunday School:

Tom Domek, Dave Alstott, The Farmers, Barb Davis, Amy Wilcox, Sam Paton, Deb Spanier, Deborah Wingler, Wendy & Thaine Hopkins, Robyn Cornell, Mandy Reese, April Dalby, Pat Boughey, Amy Gustafson, Karen Johnson, Terry Spanier, Edward Schmidt, Kay Schrecengost, Methodist Church, nursing home residents, our church, victims of all natural disasters, those battling illness, our men & women of the armed forces, our world, and people in Ukraine, and people of Israel.

LAURENS UMC WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 25, 2026:
Youth Sunday School 9:15-10:10 AM
Adult Sunday School 9:30-10:00 AM
Fellowship Coffee 10:00 AM
Worship @ 10:30 AM

321 Main, Varina, Iowa 50593

Varina UMC
Stewardship, Prayer Requests & Worship Schedule

Stewardship for October 2026:

	Weekly	Monthly	Special
Total Receipts for 2026:			
Total Receipts received for October 4:	$ 1,398.00	$ 1,398.00	$ 50.00
Total Receipts received for October 11:	$ 424.00	$ 1,822.00	$
Total Receipts received for October 18:	$ 1,091.00	$ 2,913.00	$ 55.00
Total Receipts received for October 25:	$	$	$

Projected Budget Needs for 2026: $ 633.15

Attendance for October 4: Worship Service: 32
Attendance for October 11: Worship Service: 19
Attendance for October 18: Worship Service: 35
Attendance for October 25: Worship Service:

Bev Morris, Little Evelyn, The Farmers, Barb Davis, Amy Wilcox, Gloria Mobley, Jo and Bruce Erie, Mandy Reese, Marie Breon, Denise Tegels, Paul Kraft, Carol Siepker, Walt Collins, Julia Collins, The United Methodist Church, our nation, victims of all natural disasters, victims of violence, our men & women of the armed forces, our world, people of Israel, and people in Ukraine.

VARINA UMC WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sunday, October 25 2026
Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.

If you are unable to join us for in-person worship, please worship with us online as our worship services are live-streamed on the Laurens United Methodist Church Facebook page @ 10:30 a.m. every Sunday. Worship services are also available on our website at www.laurensumc.org. Just click on "Sermons/Devotions."

If you or a loved one is ready to be removed from or need added to our prayer list, please call the church office @ (712) 841-4476.

Any items for our Sunday bulletin need to be submitted to the church office @ (712) 841-4476 or methodist@laurensumc.org by 9 A.M. Friday morning. Any items for our weekly church *newsletter* need to be submitted by 9 a.m. on Monday mornings. Thank you for your cooperation.

Contact information:

Rev. Jim Davis: Pastor's Cell phone: 319-321-1705

Pastor's Email: eyeowaypastor@gmail.com

Sue Jarvis, Administrative Assistant: Office (712) 841-4476

Email: methodist@laurensumc.org

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