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8/31/2021

Pastor James Buckhahn
Ogden, Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 759
Ogden, IA 50212-0759

Dear Pastor Buck and Ogden Community United Methodist Church,

God's grace and peace to you! I shared my gratitude with Pastor Buck during his professional interview, but I would also like to directly thank your congregation for their faithfulness and generosity in your apportionment giving through this point in 2021.

Your trust in God with your finances and your faithful witness and participation in the ministries of the Iowa Annual Conference are a reason to celebrate! Because of the financial faithfulness of churches like yours we are able to

- equip our pastors as they continue to grow in leadership
- help laity live into their call and passion in their local communities
- offer resources and webinars like Jason Moore's Seminars on Worship in the Post Pandemic Church (the videos are on the conference website if you weren't able to attend!) to help us all do excellent in-person and digital ministry
- support ministries like the Mobile United Methodist Missionaries who help churches launch VBS programs across our district
- launch circuit ministry across the district so that we—as clergy and congregations—have an intentional place to learn, support, be equipped for and accountable to the ministries and mission that God has called us

We are better together, and I appreciate your commitment to our connectional ministries. I pray for your congregation, Pastor Buck and what God will do next in Ogden. I am proud to be your District Superintendent.

Blessings to you,

Rev. Melissa Drake
Aldersgate District Superintendent