

JULY TIDINGS

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"Peace United Church of Christ is a multigenerational community of faith. We welcome people of all ages, races, and life situations to join with us in service."



From the "Pen" of Pastor Paula

The Epistle lesson for June 29th highlights a theme that will be upon us as the 4th of July celebration swiftly approaches. The theme is found in Galatians 5:13-26 where the apostle, Paul, says to the Christians in Galatia: "For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another."

"Live by the Spirit--do not gratify the desires of the flesh...the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery (means lack of self-control, disobeying the commandments, excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures), idolatry, sorcery, strife, jealous, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing and things like these...those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom."

"By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self control...If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another."

How do we connect this concept of freedom and life in Christ to patriotism and love of country? In a column entitled "The good kind of patriotism" from July's THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY magazine, Peter W. Marty begins with what the church is called to be—a loving critic, not a national cheerleader.

He begins his column with "On the stucco exterior of Buchenwald concentration camp's main gatehouse, there was a wooden sign. Recht oder Unrecht mein Vaterland, meaning My country right or wrong... [this] held a warm appeal for the Nazis.....Each year as July 4th approaches....[there is a] celebratory air. The all night blitzkrieg of neighborhood fireworks...the returning smell of sunscreen, the happiness of neighbors talking to each other outside, the stoking of the cookout grill for friends, Tchaikovsky's 1812 OVERTURE, red, white and blue anything—these are all lovely elements of the Fourth of July."

"....the role of religion in the public sphere is to be a loving critic of all things [political]..The church is uniquely poised to declare that patriotism is no substitute for religion, that capitalism and militarism can never be confused with Christianity; our first loyalty is to the manger, not the throne; the church is to be a "living reminder" to the nation that remembers its past sins, as the means of building a healed and whole future."

"To think critically about our nation's history and to be excited about taking care of each other is the stuff of thoughtful citizenship."

"So, what kind of patriot should we be? William Sloane Coffin liked to say that... [the good] patriots are those who carry on a lover's quarrel with their country, a reflection of God's eternal lover's quarrel with the entire world."

As we celebrate the 4th of July, may we celebrate the freedom we have in Christ, a freedom that does not harm others, that does not abuse power, but instead promotes a freedom that acknowledges that all people are children of God regardless of their status, race, gender, age, country of origin.

Prayers and blessings!

Pastor Paula and Nova

July 2025

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1 11AM—Clergy Text Study	2	3	4 Happy Birthday Bill McHugh Gloria Robbins	5
6 9:00 AM Worship Happy Birthday Janice Possehl	7 Stephens Ministers 3PM	8 11AM—Clergy Text Study	9	10	11 Happy Birthday Ken Weber	12 Happy Birthday Lucille Eberhardt, David Derhammer, Steve Doeppke
13 9:00 AM Worship	14 5:30 PM Church Council	15 11AM—Clergy Text Study	16	17 1:30 Elkader Care Center Worship 5-6:30 Grace- Café Happy Birthday Drake Dennler	18	19
20 9:00 AM Worship Happy Birthday Gerald Reimer"	21 Happy Birthday Levi Miller	22 11AM—Clergy Text Study	23 Memoria Com- mittee Metting 9AM	24	25 Happy Birthday Haley Rentschler	26
27 9:00 AM Worship Happy Birthday Lois Storbeck Melissa Patrick	28	29 11AM—Clergy Text Study	30	31	* Coffee Fellowship after Worship Services on Sunday Mornings	Office Open Mon, Wed, & Thurs, Fri from 9 AM to noon Tues 8AM to 11AM

August Tidings Deadline

August tidings newsletter deadline will be Thursday, July 24

Council Minutes

Mike Anderson, President called the church council meeting on Monday, June 9th to order at 5:31 pm. Present besides Mike included Donna Buckman, Steve McCorkindale, Pastor Paula Anderson and Marlis Huinker. Elaine Martin and Dwight Freitag were absent. Pastor Paula provided devotions. Steve made a motion to approve May's minutes Donna seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Average income for May was reported. Expenses for May were less than the average monthly expenses. Although the year-to-date income and expenses shows a loss. Steve made a motion to approve the financial report, Donna seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: In past month Pastor Paula did practices and performances bell choir and the choir. Attended the end of season Bell Choir dinner. Attended 2 clergy text studies and Stephen's Ministers meeting. Did prep for Sunday worship services (bulletins, sermons). Lead worship service at Elkader Care Center and attended Grace Café. Had 1 funeral/graveside service. Various secretary duties were conducted.

Building and Grounds: Doorway into Herbster Hall of old staircase is being finished off with a wall. Milo Dundee is helping Gary Kuehl finish it off. Parsonage had flooding in basement. Wasn't sure if the flooding was caused by the heavy rain or backup from the sewer. There was talk about getting window well covers over the basement windows. The vent in the parsonage bathroom upstairs is not working. This will be checked into and fixed. David Dennler will be checking with the replacement of the windows in the basement of the parsonage. Also, will be trying to fix the door from the church library into the church.

Worship and Altar: Banners and paraments have been changed. The Stephen's Ministers will be taking charge of 2 services this summer. One Sunday in July and August. The performance shelter house has been reserved for church service at Founder's Park on August 31st at 10 am followed by a potluck.

Christian Ed: No report

Missions: Grace Café June 19th not sure at this time of where funds will be given.

Memorial: Memorial committee will be meeting on June 18th. They have been working on Christmas decorations for community outdoor drive through display at Elkader City Park.

Old Business: The portable mic system is in and working. Elaine has a couple mobile phone, will be seeing if they will work into the church's phone system. The window glass in the door in back education wing has been replaced. The cost of this safety glass was at a considerably less cost than replacing the whole door.

New Business: There will need to be a replacement for Dwight Freitag on the church council. His current job is more consuming and therefore cannot fulfill his position on the church board. His remaining term is 1 ½ years. The position for a secretary and bell and choir director was discussed. Millie Burns is requesting for use of the church kitchen for making a wedding cake. Steve motioned to approve Millie for the use of the church kitchen with supervision. Donna seconded. Motion carried.

Ann McCorkindale brought it to the councils' attention of a mutual fund account with T. Rowe Price. In the church's name. This account was purchased by a Peace UCC member back in 2019. At some point in time communication with T. Rowe Price stopped and with change of Peace Church Council members it got neglected. With the generation of a statement from T. Rowe Price, it was investigated. Steve made a motion to sell these stocks and have a check cut to Peace UCC and deposited to the general fund. Donna seconded. Motion carried.

Steve made a motion to adjourn, Marlis seconded. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm

Next Peace UCC church meeting set for July 7th at 5:30pm

Respectfully Submitted by
Marlis Huinker

Grace Café

Grace Café in June served 75 people hamburgers and hot dogs. With the donations given over our food costs we can give \$150 to a member of Peace fighting cancer to help with extra expenses. Thank you!

Our July Grace Café will be served by our Stephan's Ministers. They haven't shared their menu yet, so keep an eye out for our announcement at church and on Facebook. There are some mighty good cooks in this group so be assured it will be delicious. The date is Thursday, July 17th from 5-6:30pm. There is no charge for this meal, but should you decide to donate the proceeds over food costs will go towards mission work of Peace Church. Come and join us! We will also provide takeouts and will deliver within city limits. For delivery, please call Peace Church at 563-245-2126.

Prayer Requests

Attendance & Worship Offerings

Greg Anderson, Eli Belser, Betty Buchholz,
Jonah Burns and Burns family, Deb Dennler,
Karen Glesne, Linda Glesne, Penny Jacobson,
Ruth Grau, Ruth Olson, Sharon Reichert,
Father James, Dee Koehn, Wayne & Kim Frentress,
Pat M, Joyce M, Elaine Radloff, Tammy, Jane I.

June 1, 2025	42	\$3398
June 8, 2025	40	\$2591
June 15, 2025	36	\$785
June 22, 2025	43	\$1116

Care Center/Assisted Living Residents

Karen Glesne, Joyce Hoth, Ruth Grau, Ruth Olson,

New Address:

Carol Muyres
2245 US Hwy 52, Apt.108
North Rochester, MN 55501

Sign up for Weekly Volunteer

Opportunities by scanning

Bread for the Journey

Readings for 7/6/2025

2 Kings 5:1-14
Galatians 6:1-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Readings for 7/13/2025

Psalms 82
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

Readings for 7/20/2025

Genesis 18:1-10a
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10: 38-42

Readings for 7/27/2025

Genesis 18: 20-32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-19
Luke 11:1-13

Clayton County Womenade will hold a gathering in July! At the Stadium Bar and Grill in Guttenberg on **Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at 12:00 noon. All are invited!**

Clayton County Womenade has given over \$100,000 since its start in 2013 to our neighbors in need. The need is great!! Giving to Clayton County Womenade is your opportunity to give back for your blessings!! Any donation is accepted. This money goes entirely to the support of struggling families referred by agencies in Clayton County .

Donations may be made at or mailed to Peoples State Bank, 15 Goethe St., PO Box 430, Guttenberg, IA 52052

We can now also accept donations through Paypal!
(To use Paypal, sign into your Paypal account. Choose to Send Money to Friends or Family. Enter womenade@alpinecom.net as the recipient. There are no fees charged to either you or Womenade if you use monies in your paypal account, or withdrawn from your bank account.) There is a fee if you use a credit card .



Time & Talent

Opening/Closing

7/6	Bruce Landis	7/6
7/13	Carl & Laura Moser	7/13
7/20	John & Sue Gnagy	7/20
7/27	Gary Kuehl	7/27

Usher/Greeter

Deb DeShaw & Diane Finley
Kristina Bente
Kenny & Penni Leonard
Dean & Joanne Gray

Reader

7/6	Arlene Reimer	7/6
7/13	Kristina Bente	7/13
7/20	John Gnagy	7/20
7/27	Steve McCorkin-	7/27

Fellowship

Janice Possehl
Volunteer Needed
John & Sue Gnagy
Volunteer Needed

Communion Prep & Clean Up

7/6	Bruce Landis
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Food Shelf Donation Driver

Gerald & Arlene Reimer

If you can Not volunteer on the date, Please call Or email the office.

Thank you for volunteer-
ing

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – JULY 2025



*We are gearing up for our Back to School event. There are so many new families using our services that we are going to need a lot of help to make this a success. Our event is scheduled for August 6. We will be collecting donations from **July 1-August 4**. If you would rather send a monetary donation, please send them to the office at the address below.*

A list of needed school supplies is attached. Back packs (17 in or larger) are always needed, especially if they have characters on them. Thank you for supporting our youth and investing in

Clothing Center Updates:

We are in need of bedding sheets (all sizes), bath towels, pots and pans, baking dishes and children's clothing. Thank you all for your continued support and great donations!!

All donations need to be scheduled so I can staff accordingly. This allows us the ability to go through the donations faster and keep the inventory rotating.

Please remember if your donations are not in good condition to where you would not use them, please do not pass them on to us. We gladly accept "in season" items as long as they are in good working condition. Please make sure clothing is free from stains, tares, rips, broken zippers and missing buttons. Please follow us on Facebook or our website to get the latest

Shepherd Conference News:

Please help us congratulate the following pastors on the anniversary of their ordinations...

June Anniversary's: (Sorry I forgot to include these last month)

Pastor Erika Lenth, St. Paul, Monona 06/01/2013

Pastor Margaret Yackel-Juleen, One in Faith Perishes 06/14/2009

Pastor Ron Roberts, East Clermont, Clermont 06/23/1996

July Anniversaries:

Pastor Gary Hatcher, St. Paul, Garnavillo/ First, McGregor 07/24/1977

Pastor Jeremy Wolfe, St. John Luana & Farmersburg 07/28/2024

Pastor Tyler Hoey, St. Peter, Garnavillo/Peace, Clayton 07/24/2021

Pastor David Tielbar, One in Faith Parishes, 07/15/2015

The **Operating Fund** pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies, salaries and Lawn/Snow Care.

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities and our sponsored events throughout the year

Please utilize the **MEMO LINE** on your check to specify **Crisis or Operating Fund!**

Please indicate what church you are from as well to provide better bookkeeping.

IMPORTANT EVENTS/DATES:

***Dollar General Fundraiser
July 12 10am-6pm
All area Dollar Generals***

***Back to School Event
August 6th from 9am-5pm
(Referral required to participate)***

****Any event may be subject to change***

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