



THE BELL

A Monthly Newsletter
15th Avenue Christian Church



A Message from Pastor Mike-

During the Sundays of June, we worked our way through some of the key texts found within the New Testament book known as Second Corinthians. We'll begin a new sermon series drawn from the letter to the Ephesians in the middle of July. We'll complete our 4-week study from that tenth book of the New Testament in the middle of August. There are some wonderful truths contained within Ephesians. We won't have time to explore everything found there, but our themes will include the fact that Christ dwells within our hearts, and that we have been given newness of life. We'll see Paul's description of how the saints of the church, in all times and places, are equipped by the Holy Spirit for service. We will take a look at the way we are being strengthened in our inner being for the work that we are given to accomplish.

Paul vividly described these changes in the hearts and lives of believers, assuring us that the core foundation and structures have already been built. He wrote about the nature of God's blessings declaring: *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."* - Ephesians 2:8 - We will see some general guidelines for living with gratitude for the blessings and for the gift of grace that we have received from God.

We will also look into Paul's reasons for emphasizing the importance of unity among followers of Christ. His words are memorable when it comes to the unity of believers. One body, one Spirit, one faith, one baptism, one hope, one call to be followers of the one Lord. As we think about the long history of the church, that kind of true unity has obviously been very difficult to reach and to sustain. While the church's track record hasn't always been good, we can find encouraging words in the chapters of Ephesians. For example, it is both helpful and hopeful to read about being clothed in newness of life. It gives us hope as we realize that the church has endured all through the ages. The church isn't perfect, but it has continued to be the hands and feet of Christ, carrying on the mission that Jesus came to earth to accomplish. We are witnesses to the goodness of God! It will be good to gather each week for prayer and worship. It will be good to continue our study of the New Testament as we gather over the remaining weeks of summer. I'm looking forward to learning more about the blessings and challenges of the early church and how those lessons apply for all of us today. Hope you can join us for this new series!

"Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." - Ephesians 3:20-21 -

Music Notes

Music Camp lives on at Grace Church! We had 17 children participate in a revival of That's So Daniel! (Last performed in 2011 at 15th Avenue). Campers and volunteers had a great experience and were very grateful to 15th Avenue for passing this new experience, and new tradition, on to them!

Our Special Music guests for July include (hopefully) Steve Swanson and Aaron Fleming on a patriotic duet for July 7, Bailey Connors (a new young choir director at Pleasant Valley High School) singing on July 14, Claire Reger on July 21, and a triumphant return from cancer surgery by Susan Runyon on July 28! I'm looking forward to hearing them all and I know you will, too!

Sheila Doak,
Music Director



July Birthdays

- 5 Erykay Haygood
- 15 Mark Carlson
- 22 Dave Popp
- 26 Tim Flemming
- 29 Marcia Swanson

July Anniversaries

- 10 Jesse & Melba Andereck
- 30 Karen & Kenny Hitchcock



Rummage Sale

Our Annual Rummage Sale will be September 20th and 21st. The elevator entry will be open September 10th. If you have any questions please contact Marcia Swanson 309-755-6889.



June Attendance

June 2	42
June 9	36
June 16	40
June 23	32
June 30	

PROFIT & LOSS REPORT YTD

Total Income	\$6306.00
Total Expenses	\$7645.36
Net Income	(\$1339.36)

Summer is Here! That means it's time for Thanksgiving in July!!!

The year is moving by quickly and July starts next week. Where does the time go? Once again, we will be using July to focus on Food Pantry and the need in our community.

The need for food support in our community is strong. It's something most of us don't think about, unless it affects us personally. For several years, the school I teach at has participated in the backpack program, where students are given a bag of food to take home on Friday to provide food for breakfast, lunch, and dinner for the weekend. This year, my school started a food pantry for our families - any of our families from the school or community can stop in and select from a wide variety of items to help supplement what they have at home. We provide fresh produce and were able to buy a refrigerator so that we can provide items that need refrigerated. It was a slow start, but by the end of the school year we had several families that stopped in weekly for help.

I don't have my usual list of stats from YouthHope, where our Food Pantry donations go, but I looked at the YouthHope website and found a startling statistic: **1 in 5 households do not know where or when the next meal will come from.** Let that sink in, **1 in 5.**

What can we do to help? Each month we collect monetary donations for the YouthHope Food Pantry. In July, we will collect donations for our annual Thanksgiving in July program. For years, our church has supported the food pantry sponsored by Christian Friendliness. This pantry is housed in the YouthHope building in Moline, and services the surrounding area. The YouthHope Food Pantry is available for anyone in need Mondays and Fridays, 9 AM - 12 PM.

I know money is tighter than last year, and I know the cost of everything keeps going up. Any donation helps. Thanksgiving in July is an opportunity for us to share our abundance with others. Can you help? Any time during the month of July you can place a monetary donation in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office. Please make sure to mark that it is for either Food Pantry or Thanksgiving in July. Let's set a goal of \$300 and see if we can reach it!

Thank you, in advance for your generosity,
Lisa Hatlett
Outreach Chair



4th of July Funnies

What did one flag say to the other? Nothing, it just waved!

Where is the capital in Washington, D.C.? At the beginning.

Why does the Statue of Liberty stand in the New York harbor? She can't sit.

Did you hear about the angry firework?
He was so mad, he exploded!



BRUNCH-OUT!!

The next Brunch-Out will be Sunday, July 14th at China Inn Buffet 3614 Avenue of the Cities, Mo-line at 11:30am. We hope you all will join us!!

Sally Bartosh



Board Meeting ~ July 21st

The Church Board will meet on July 21st in the Fellowship Hall, after church. This meeting is in place of the meeting that was scheduled for June.

Temporary Office Hours for July 8th—12th

The office will be open 9:30am to 1:00 pm Monday thru Friday. Feel free to call Pastor Mike 309-791-1786 or Dave Popp 309-781-1012 if you need anything.

Nominating Committee

As stated in our Bylaws: "Each year the Chairperson will select a new committee of at least 4 Participating Members. The committee will include at least one elder and one deacon and may include one or more Participating Members who are not currently serving on the Board." (You are a Participating Member when you have joined the church, attend worship regularly, and financially support the church's ministries.)

It is time that I start looking for our new Nominating Committee. At the September Board meeting, the Board will confirm the committee.

Some of you might ask, what does the Nominating Committee do? The Nominating Committee is responsible for selecting nominees for the officers and Board members (the Executive committee, elders and deacons) for the 2025 year. The committee members meet to discuss potential nominees and to review duties for each position. (This information is available to you.) Recommendations can come from the congregation.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, *please* let me know as soon as possible. And, if you are willing to serve in any capacity, we are also open to new nominations.

Thank you,
Lisa Hatlett
Board Chair

Elders Prayer Update Bell Edition

“Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that
God’s Spirit dwells in your midst? “ 1 Corinthians 3:16

Please keep these family, friends and neighbors in your daily thoughts and prayers.

Send a card, a call on the phone or a visit. Let them know they are not forgotten.

Jesus Gutierrez Martinez died 6/22 in California

This is Josie Martinez's father, Melisa Popp's grandfather, Keon's grandfather,
and Robert Popp, Zac, Nathaniel, Sabrinna Popp and Erykah.

Susan Runyon (friend of Bartosh)	Marilyn Mix (family)	Edward Gridley (Jacob)
Annie Bloomer (Bob & family)	Gibson – kidney failure, 20yrs old. (friend of Weston's)	
Roy Morley in rehab in Silvis. (Jan, Tim and Julie)	Kenny and my mother Faye (Karen Hitchcock)	
Bob Bloomer (Annie & family)	Ken Enstrom	Henry Diedrich /Silver Cross #255 (family)
Patty R. (Rick & family)	Marcella Dickerson (Judie’s Cousin)	
Theresa / Blake (Jeanie) / Emma (Jeanie) / Hunter (family)		
Chad Secor (Dave & Helen's nephew)	Roland, Cancer (friend of Weston's)	
Mona Mlekush (family & Alice)	Carla / Rosalie / Molly/ Mary/ Nickie (family)	
Nancy G, cancer (family)	Pat, cancer (family)	
Kaylee Walker (Karen & family)	Kim Poleing (Karen)	
Melba Andereck (Jesse & family)		
Juliana & Hector (Jeanie)	Chaplaincy at John Deere (Jeanie Kirgan)	
Jerry Roelens (Barb Hanson & family)		
Gavin ,Mike Rushing, Connie (Karen & family)	Kathy Overholzer (Dave & Helen's niece)	
Julie (cancer)	Brenda O. (family)	
Dawn F. (family)	Cara (friend of Diane B.)	
Jessica Borland (Swanson's)		
Vickie (Jesse & Melba)		
Beverly Ducey (Jim & family)		
Kent Christensen (Kathy, Don and family)		



July

FREEDOM

Day 1 – Isaiah 61:1
Day 2 – Isaiah 42:6-7
Day 3 – Colossians 1:13-14
Day 4 – John 8:32-36
Day 5 – Romans 8:1-4
Day 6 – Revelation 1:4-6
Day 7 – Romans 6:1-7
Day 8 – Ephesians 2:1-5
Day 9 – Hebrews 2:14-15
Day 10 – Romans 5:12-17
Day 11 – Romans 7:21-25
Day 12 – Romans 6:11-14
Day 13 – Romans 6:22-23
Day 14 – 2 Peter 1:2-4
Day 15 – Galatians 5:1
Day 16 – 1 Peter 2:13-17
Day 17 – 2 Corinthians 3:17-18
Day 18 – Romans 6:16-19
Day 19 – Romans 8:19-25


Day 20 – Galatians 3:21-22
Day 21 – 1 Corinthians 9:19-23
Day 22 – Galatians 5:13-15
Day 23 – 1 Corinthians 10:13
Day 24 – Psalm 119:44-46
Day 25 – Galatians 3:23-29
Day 26 – Galatians 4:4-6
Day 27 – Ephesians 1:6-8
Day 28 – 1 Timothy 2:5-7
Day 29 – Psalm 68:5-6
Day 30 – John 3:16-17
Day 31 – Psalm 116:15-17





July 2024

15th Avenue Christian

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Office Closed 	5 Office Closed	6
7 9:30am Worship	8	9	10	11 10AM Bible Study	12	13
	TEMPORARY OFFICE HOURS 9:30am to 1:00pm					
14 8:30am Elder Mtg 9:30am Worship Food Pantry	15	16	17	18 10AM Bible Study	19	20
21 9:30am Worship	22	23	24	25 10AM Bible Study	26	27
28 9:30am Worship	29	30	31			

Serving Elders	
7	Annie Bloomer
14	Kathy Weston
21	Judie Holmer
28	Lisa Hatlett
Visiting Elders	
Kathy Weston & Annie Bloomer	

Serving Deacons	
HD	Lynne Sheese, Sally Bar-
	tosh, Steve Sheese and Ron
	Standley
Preparing Deacon	
Lynne and Steve Sheese	

Fellowship Time	
Sign up today!!	

Flowers	
7	Dave Glanz
14	Mable Carlson
	Kathy Weston
21	Marty Larson
28	Karen and Kenny Hitchcock