



# THE BELL

A Monthly Newsletter  
15<sup>th</sup> Avenue Christian Church



## *A Message from Pastor Mike-*

The year is progressing very quickly! Where have all of the months gone? We are about to celebrate another major holiday, and it strikes me how similar the 4th of July holiday is to some of the others we have already observed. For one thing, we usually gather with family and friends as part of our festivities. Another common holiday theme is that we seem to weave our gatherings around certain types of food. Turkey and ham may have their place. Pumpkin pie, BBQ, grilled meats, potato salad, apple pie, and all the rest. If we did one of those “matching” exercises, I’ll bet we could all score pretty well with pairing certain foods to certain holidays! As we celebrate Independence Day, we can take comfort in knowing that some of our family traditions go back for generations. As individuals and families take time to be thankful, they honor God and they remember and celebrate the lives of those who have gone before. Our July 4th celebrations remind us of the blessings that we have inherited. We are more likely to appreciate and carry on our heritage of freedom if we are diligent in remembering those priceless gifts we have received, as well as the sacrifices which have made them possible.

In the coming weeks and months, we will continue our focus on the gospel of Luke, all the way up until the end of this 3rd year in the lectionary cycle. Luke’s gospel is famous for its many scenes featuring meals, family gatherings, and celebrations. Jesus often used the occasion of gathering for meals to do his work of teaching the people. There were Sabbath dinners, simple meals with the apostles, the feeding of the five thousand, and several other examples which are similar to the holiday meals that we share in the 21st century. By one count, there are at least ten meal scenes described by Luke. Scenes of celebration and joy can be found throughout the chapters of this gospel. From the angel’s announcement to Mary, to the shepherd’s rejoicing at Jesus’ birth, to the redemptive stories that Jesus told... what we see is joy, joy, joy! We see gratitude, remembrance, and joy! That is the context in which we gather around the table each week and celebrate Communion. Marking the holidays that come along each year is a great way for us to hold onto the blessings and heritage that we share. As we celebrate the 4th of July, may we be mindful of the good life we have been given. May we remember to be thankful for those who made it possible for us to live in freedom, practice our faith, and worship God. I hope your summer is filled with good things... food, family, freedom and faith. May God bless you and keep you as we continue to be the church together.

*“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” - 1 Corinthians 10:31 -*

## Music Notes

Summer vacation time is here! I'm hoping to take a few days in July to visit my ancestral homeland in east Tennessee, where the Rev. Samuel Doak founded Washington College Academy in Limestone and Tusculum University in Greeneville. I've never been to that part of the country before, but I hear it is beautiful.

Our special music for this month includes Miriam Anderson on July 6, Susan Runyon on July 13, and Lillian Dawn on July 20. If there is someone you'd like to hear on July 27, please let me know!

Sheila Doak, Music Director



## July Birthdays

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

## July Anniversary

- 10 Jesse & Melba Andereck



## 4th of July Funnies

**What is red, white, blue and green?** A seasick Uncle Sam.

**What does the Statue of Liberty say when visitors leave?**  
Stay in torch!

**How come there aren't any knock-knock jokes about America?** Because freedom rings.

**What is George Washington's favorite football team?** The New England Patriots.



## June Attendance

June 1	32
June 8	28
June 15	30
June 22	35
June 29	33

## PROFIT & LOSS REPORT YTD

Total Income	\$8742.00
Total Expenses	\$9579.21
Net Income	(\$837.21)

## ~ Board News ~

On Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, the Board approved and recommended the election of Lisa Hatlett as a trustee, to complete the 2025 term that was vacated upon the loss of Dave Popp. On Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Congregation approved this nomination.

We are still looking for at least 2 members for the Nominating Committee. Per the church Bylaws we need an elder and then 1 more member. **If you feel this is something you could help with, please let Lisa Hatlett know by July 20<sup>th</sup>.** ([lhattert@mchsi.com](mailto:lhattert@mchsi.com) or (309) 737 - 2338.) Thank you.

*Cabinet Meeting - Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> after the worship service.*



## BRUNCH-OUT!!

After church on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 15 of us met at RiverFront Grille in Rock Island. It was wonderful food and fellowship. Following our church service on Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, for our next Brunch-Out, we will meet at 11:00am at Welcome Inn Restaurant located at 118 10<sup>th</sup> Ave West, Milan, IL. This is located across the street from the Milan Hy-Vee. Everyone is welcome, plan to join us for a nice meal out, plus a chance to visit with other church members and get better acquainted.

Sally Bartosh

### Elders Prayer Update Bell Edition

*"Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am*

*an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should."* - Ephesians 6:19-20 -

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

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

Kenny Hitchcock has passed away. Please keep Karen and family in your prayers.

Mike Besette's tumors have now been reduced enough to allow an upcoming surgery. Please continue to pray  
(Sabrinna, Zac, Nathaniel & family)

Please pray for those in harm's way in the wildfire areas of New Mexico and other states. (Lynne & Steve)

Kathee - recovering from minor injuries received in a serious auto accident (Helen)

A cousin has been diagnosed with cancer (Jeanie)      Lili (9 yrs old) leukemia (family)

Christine, cancer diagnosis (friend of Kathy Weston)      Alice (family)

Please continue to keep the Butcher, Bloomer, Weston, Popp, and Tooley families in your prayers. (15th Avenue Church family)

Beverly Ducey is in hospice care at Park Vista. (Jim & Diane)

Prayers for Nancy Peck, recovering from bypass surgery. (Deb Peck)

Continued prayers for Pam Scott, recovering from valve replacement surgery. (Deb Peck)

Judy Turner has lymphoma. Treatments start 4/24 (Craig & family)      Tyler (Jeanne K.)

Continued prayers for Diane Block (family)      Bill (Judie and Bill)

Joetta E. tumors (in-operable) Family

Prayers for Johnny, Julianna, and Hector (Jeanie)      Pam DeSmet (family)

Bill being treated for cancer (Candy)      Don Young (Sherry & family)      Barb (Nancy)

Melanie (Diane Block)      Mike F. stage 4 colon cancer (family)

Jackie Adams (Dolores and Dick Frybarger)      Matt (Karen Hitchcock)

Gibson (friend of Kathy Weston)      Roland, Cancer (friend of Kathy Weston)      Patty R. (Rick & family)

Emma (Jeanie) / Hunter (family)      Mona Mlekush (family & Alice)      Julie (cancer)

Brenda O. (family)      Carla / Rosalie / Molly/ Mary/ Nickie (family)      Nancy G., cancer (family)

Pat, cancer (family)      Dawn F. (family)      Cara (friend of Diane B.)

Jessica Borland (Swanson's)      Vickie (Jesse & Melba)      Melba Andereck (Jesse & family)

Kent Christensen (Kathy & 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 2025

15<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Christian  
Church

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

**Serving Elders**

6 Annie Bloomer  
13 Kathy Weston  
20 Judie Holmer  
27 Lisa Hatlett

**Visiting Elders**

Kathy Weston & Annie Bloomer

**Serving Deacons**

**HD** Marcia Swanson, Sally Bartosh, Jackie Flemming and Ron Standley

**Preparing Deacon**

Melisa Popp

**Flowers**

**Sign up today!!**

**Fellowship Time**

**Sign up today!!**