

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

Can you believe that it is August already? Where has the summer gone? Before we know it, it will be time for kids to back to school.

I want to start out by thanking the Missions and Outreach committee and those from the Spiritual Life committee. Who took this idea that I had and ran with it. I believe that the picnic in the Parking Lot was a huge success. I had a lofty goal of having 250 people. We believe that we had about 200 guests to our Church lawn that day. So, I want to thank everyone who baked or brought in chip or watermelon. It does take a family to make everything work, and this church family came together to support this event. It was great to see so many of you there enjoying great food (cooked by Roger Bumann), great music by Emily, Shelby, and Jake. The band was from the Baptist church in Kiron at least half of them. And of course the bouncy house which was a huge success with the Kids. Sorry Cal and Kevin.

I was also pleased to see so many that stayed around for the service after words. Again, I want to thank Jake for signing during the service. It is so nice to have that kind of talent in our church. Thank you again to everyone who helped set up and the taking down. I must tell you that having Church service that night was a blessing. Sunday morning was so nice to rest and relax for me and for others.

As we talked in church, this was a seed that we spread out in our community. Jesus said that it is our responsibility to spread the seeds to whoever and wherever we can. I have heard so many accolades from people from town thanking us for doing this for the community. The word has started to spread (grow) in our community and that is all we ask for.

Let us remember that we can spread seed to everyone we meet, if we are willing too. So, go out and spread the word of Jesus around and let's see what can grow. Don't be afraid to mention our church as we spread the word around.

God Bless all of you,

Pastor Kirk

August Acolytes

August 6- Haxton Fineran & Huntur Johannsen

August 13- Jayton Bral & Journey Bral

August 20- Ryder Luth & Cale Paulsen

August 27- Jersey Bral & Jett Paulsen

August Greeters

August 6- Ed Neddermeyer

& Colin Neddermeyer

August 13- Dennis & Lorene Reimer

August 20- Julie Christie & Candice Bral

August 27- Marla Teut & Carol Krohnke



August 1 - LaWayne Gronau

1 - Shane Lacey

August 3 - Barry Nemitz

3 - Seth Neubauer

August 4 - Elliot Neubauer

4 - Royce Neubauer

4 - Ella Anders

4 - Beverly Peters

August 6 - Jessica Jurgensen

6 - Gunnar Barker

August 8 - Brenden Sieren

August 9 - Candice Bral

August 13 - Vanessa Zimmer

13 - Kim Korwes

August 14 - Mary Lu Flynn

August 16 - Lyndi Johannsen

August 18 - Reid Johannsen

August 19 - Marlene Baer

August 20 - Campbell Tressler

August 21 - Kevin Neubauer

August 22 - Vicky Brown

August 24 - Marvel Bahnsen

August 29 - Delbert Clausen

29 - David Henningsen

August 31 - Macy Waldemar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Contributions</u>
June 4	51	\$ 685.00
June 11	58	\$1185.75
June 18	46	\$2278.75
June 25 (pond)	50	\$1310.00
Total:	205	\$5459.50
Average:	51	\$1364.88

GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR **FALL 2023**

Applications are due in the
office by September 1st.



Council Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2023 at 7 pm

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Cheri Streck. Those present were Cheri, Leisha, Judy, John, Sandy by phone and Kirk. Kirk opened with a prayer.

The minutes were approved and seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of bills to be paid was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of the Financial Report was made and seconded. Motion carried.

CE Report: Talked about VBS. Last night of Bible School will have family fun night. Donation money to Children's Hospital in Omaha. Rally Day set for September 10. Tentative meeting for their next meeting will be July 30.

CSFD- Next meeting will be June 20th at 4 to discuss the amount of scholarship money to be given out.

CSFI- Discussed financials about daycare. Tabled discussion to the next meeting.

Property- Tabling the resurfacing of the parking lot.

Spiritual Life- nothing to report

Missions & Outreach- Pork producers will be grilling meat for Picnic in the Parking lot on July 8th. Have entertainment lined up.

Stewardship- nothing to report

Pastor's Report- Pastor did the following things: Preached at Reed House, met with every committee since election, Continuing to get out and meeting our older members in their homes and who are in the nursing homes.

The Spring Grants have been approved.

Garage Sale went over well- made close to \$400

Chicken Dinner will be October 15 with Staley's. Shannon will do it this year. Church service will be Saturday night October 14.

Worship at the pond-Bring a pot luck dish, chicken will be provided.

Discussed Memorial ideas but tabled until next month. Discussed cracked stain glass windows that will need to be replaced.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The meeting was ended with Pastor Kirk leading the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Strandburg



HYMNS ON THE CHIMES

August 8 - 6:15 PM in memory of Kali Renae Barker from Glenn & Renae Barker & family - "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

August 8 - 6:15 PM in memory of Kali Renae Barker from Glenn & Renae Barker & family - "Jesus Loves Me"

August 13 - 6:00 PM in memory of Norman Friedrichsen from the Friedrichsen family - "On Eagles Wings"

August 17 - 9:15 AM in memory of their parents from John & Wilma McClellan & family - "Morning Has Broken"

August 18 - 5:00 PM in memory of Rev. Alfred & Marguerite Rinne from Mary Lu Rinne Smith - "His Eye is on the Sparrow"

August 21 - 6:15 PM in honor of Don Meyer's Birthday from his Family & Friends - "On Eagles Wings"

August 22 - 7:15 PM in memory of Albert & Caroline Paulsen from Dorene Hollander - "Just As I Am"



Have you ever had someone bring you a casserole or dessert unexpectedly? Has someone paid your bill at

McDonalds or a restaurant and you don't even know who did it? How about some other act of kindness you hadn't expected? How to repay these gifts? The answer is "paying it forward".

What does that mean? You give an unexpected gift to someone else is the answer. It does not have to be a costly thing. Bake a double batch of something and share with someone. Pay for a meal for someone you don't know. Send an unexpected thank you to a person who has seasonal decorations that make you happy. Pray for someone you don't know. Those are all simple suggestions. What are your ideas?

Little acts of kindness such as these make people happy and that includes the person who gave them. It is a different slant on stewardship and sharing the gifts God gives to you. I challenge you this month to find some ways to Pay it forward!



Sunday, September 10th.

Sunday School - 9 am

Worship Service - 10am

Join us for walking tacos following the worship service.



COMMUNITY PICNIC

July 8th was a beautiful evening for a picnic! We had an amazing turnout of folks with ages ranging from babies to great grandparents, with lots in between. An accurate count was impossible to get but by plate count we estimated close to 200 enjoyed good food prepared by Roger Bumann of the Ida County Pork Producers and the excellent bakers of the congregation.

The bouncy house was thoroughly enjoyed by the children. The corn hole game, and the fantastic music provided by local youth - Shelby Kastner, Emily Espinosa, Jake Boelter, and Jarrett Bumann and his group, kept the "older" folks entertained.

A big thank you to everyone who pitched in and helped in anyway. I won't name names as I'm sure to miss someone - people helped wherever they were needed and it was greatly appreciated by the Committee. Putting together an event like this with the number of attendees unknown took several meetings and numerous phone calls but it all fell together and, we feel, was a great success. Thanks again everyone for your help and support!!

Julie Christie



June Financials



Income:

Weekly envelopes	\$ 5405.00
Loose Offering	\$ 190.50
Seasonal Offering	\$ 9.00
Misc. Offerings	\$ 0.00
Misc. Income	\$ 507.57
Interest Income-Gen. Fund	\$ 13.51
Investment Income	\$ 897.53
Total Income:	\$ 7023.11

Expenses:

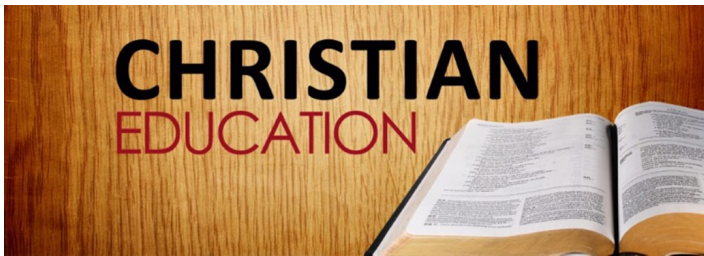
Travel and Meetings	\$ 0.00
Association Dues	\$ 0.00
Insurance & Taxes	\$ 1914.28
Janitor Supplies	\$ 9.63
Misc. Expenses	\$ 0.00
Music	\$ 160.00
Office Expense	\$ 1182.73
Pastor Expenses	\$ 5149.69
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 474.30
Supplies	\$ 70.56
Support Staff Salaries	\$ 3175.00
Utilities	\$ 632.65
Total expense:	\$ 12,768.84

Net Ordinary Income \$ (-5745.73)

Worship at the Pond

Thank you again to Judy Strandburg for hosting worship at the pond again this year. Unfortunately, it was too windy to be by the beautiful pond, but it was a gorgeous day with great company. Thank you to everyone who helped organize this event. It is always a highlight of the summer.





Vacation Bible School was a huge success this year. We set a goal to collect \$250 for the Carolyn Scott Rainbow House. With only 4 days to collect it, we needed an incentive for the children (and their families). If they reached the \$250 by the end of Family Fun Night, then Candice and Kirk would each get a pie in the face. The children and their families blew the \$250 goal out of the water. They collected \$573 for the Carolyn Scott Rainbow House.

Super job everyone!

We drew names of the kids that got to pie us; luckily they were all younger kids who were very gentle pushing the pies into our faces. Kirk and I were really grateful for that.

This was a great way to end VBS 2023



VBS Family Fun Night

Our craft for family fun night was a little challenging, but it was awesome seeing the children and their families work together on these colorful string art crosses, even if it caused a headache for the adults.

