

# UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## JUNE 2023

Finally, the sun is starting to shine outside on a somewhat regular basis. I didn't know if we would ever get there or a day without wind. Summer will shortly be officially here. Then we start complaining about how hot it is. We do live in Iowa, where the weather can change at any time. Our Prayers go out to all the people who have had bad tornados and flooding. We are also happy to have our Floridians back with us and we pray for their continued good health as they recover.

I want to talk to you about James 1:19-26. Where it says, "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires." We have all gotten angry at someone at one point in our lives, where we spoke out of anger and later regretted later for what we have said. Whether it was to our spouse, children, parents, or even to God himself. Like the verse says, we need to listen first and then be slow to speak. Have we apologized to them later for what you have said.

I have a story to share with you that I found in Our Daily Bread. As a man was driving in his car, a repair truck cut in front of him and cut him off. He saw a bumper sticker on the truck that said, "how's my driving?" with a phone number. This gentleman picked up his cell phone and proceeded to call the number listed. A woman asked me why he was calling, and he vented his frustration with what had happened. She took down the number of the truck. Then she said, wearily, "You know, you can always call to report someone who's driving nicely."

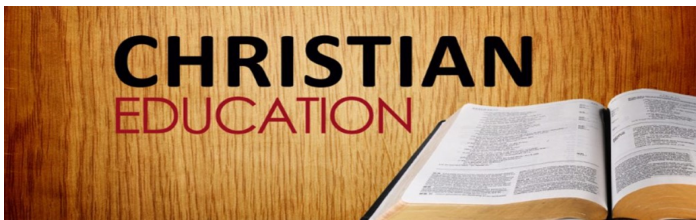
Ouch, the man thought, her tired words instantly punctured his smug self-righteousness. Embarrassment flooded over him. In his zeal for "justice", He hadn't paused to consider how his own rage-filled tone could affect this woman in her difficult job. The disconnect between his faith and his fruitfulness-in that moment-was devastating. It's kind of funny how the gap between our actions and our convictions is what the book of James focuses on. A little later in this chapter of James it says, "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves, Do what it says. "v 22". None of us are perfect. There was only one person who fit that criteria. Sometimes our "driving" in life needs help, the kind that starts with confession and ask for God's help-trusting him to keep filing off the rough edges of our Character. Why can words spoken quickly in anger be so problematic? How can we be better at living out what we truly believe? When teaching driver education, I saw this a lot, with hand gesture or them yelling at the kids when they passed us. I understand that we all have bad days. But, do we ever think what our words or actions might cause pain to the other person. God has asked us to love one another.

So, the next time you get into this type of situation, listen and think before you speak. It will lead to better conversation and you just might not say something that you may regret later. Show God how you can react in these situations and show love to your neighbor, as he showed us time and time again.

Enjoy your summer, don't forget we will be having a picnic in the park (parking lot) on July 8th from 4-7 for the whole town. We would appreciate your help with this event. This is a way we can show our love and appreciation to the city and all that live here in Schleswig and the surrounding area.

Have a Blessed Day,

Pastor Kirk



The month of May has been exciting in Sunday School. In the scripture John 10: 1-10 Jesus says we are his sheep and he is the good shepherd. In class, we discussed what a shepherd does for his sheep and what Jesus does for us. Young kids take things very literal, so sometimes they don't understand the metaphors in the Bible. But I think they get this one now. We finished that class with a game. The kids were the shepherds and had to get the balloon sheep into their pen (on the carpet) They found out that it was a little more of a challenge than they thought. Following church, the children's sermon kids came back to the Sunday School room to take a balloon sheep home.



We had prayer stations set up around the Sunday School room. There are many parts of prayer, and we walked through each step with a different activity to help them remember when they are praying. First, there was the Praise Station, this is where we wrote down words that describe God. Next, was the Thankful Station, where they wrote or drew a picture of what they are thankful for on post-its to stick on the paper on the wall. The 3rd station was the Forgiving Station. We talked about how we all sin and ask God to forgive us. We wrote the sin on our hands and then prayed to God to forgive us. We washed our hands in soapy water to wash the marker off. We found out



that even washable marker doesn't like to wash off easily. Oops. The next station was the Burden Basket. At this station, kids were instructed to think of something that they worry about or "weighs" them down. They drew a picture or wrote the words on a rock and put in the basket symbolizing, giving our worries to God, because God doesn't want us to carry all the weight on our own. Next was the Healing Station, where the children wrote names of people on Band-aids that need God's healing. The band-aids

The Sunday School kids worked really hard on painting these stepping stones for their moms for Mother's Day. These girls love to paint and did an awesome job! During our children's sermon in church, we discussed that we should tell our moms and God that we love them, but what's even better is to SHOW them that we love them.



were placed on a paper on the wall. The last station was the Listening Station. We had a blanket fort with a lantern inside, where each kid was able to sit inside for 1 minute with complete silence to pray and listen for God. The kids really enjoyed the Listening Station.



## Pilgrim Heights Summer Camp

There are 2 camps available this summer:

Session 1 is for ages 6-11 years old and is July 16<sup>th</sup>-July 20<sup>th</sup>.

Session 2 is for ages 12-18 years old and is July 23<sup>rd</sup>-July 27<sup>th</sup>.

The cost is \$450 per child. There is money available through CSFD to pay part of the cost of camp, if any kids would like to attend this summer.

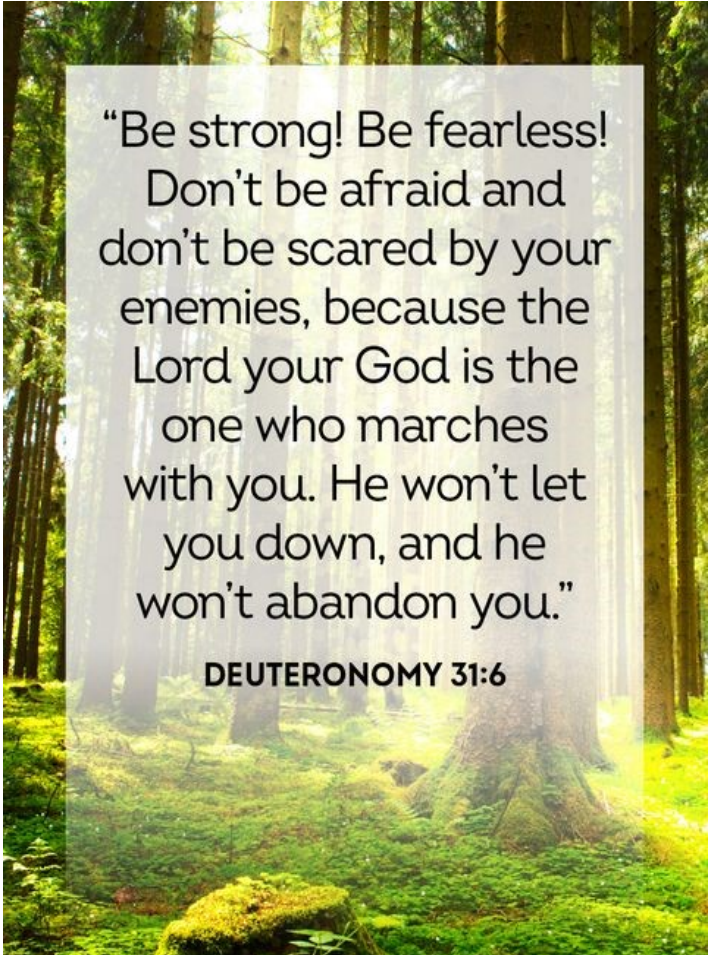
***You must contact the office by July 1st to qualify for help from CSFD.***

**Pentecost Sunday is  
May 28th, 2023  
Wear red to church**

**Worship at the Pond  
Date to be decided**

## Technology

Thank you again to all the kids that have helped with technology over the last few months. We will not be making a schedule for the summer months. If anyone would like to run the technology feel free to go to the balcony any Sunday morning. If no one is up there, we will leave the camera zoomed out during the entire service and someone will have the clicker for the PowerPoint.



“Be strong! Be fearless!  
Don't be afraid and  
don't be scared by your  
enemies, because the  
Lord your God is the  
one who marches  
with you. He won't let  
you down, and he  
won't abandon you.”

**DEUTERONOMY 31:6**



## Hymns on the Chimes

**June 7-6:00 PM “Mansion Over the Hilltop”** in memory of LeRoy Wonder from Bonnie Reynolds Wonder & Roger Wonder

**June 11- 6:00 PM “How Great Thou Art”** in honor of Al & Phyllis’ Anniversary from Phyllis Sedore & family

**June 11-6:15 PM “Rock of Ages”** in memory of Catherine Jensen from the Jensen family

**June 14-10:15 AM “You’re a Grand Old Flag”** in honor of Flag Day from the UCC

**June 18–5:00 PM “How Great Thou Art”** in memory of Bud Obrecht from family

**June 26–5:00 PM “On Eagles Wings”** in memory of LaJune Obrecht from family

**June 27-8:15 AM “In the Garden”** in memory of Robert H.W. Reimer from family

**June 27-5:30 PM “Onward Christian Soldiers”** in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Otto Evers & Mr. & Mrs. P.H. Claussen from Eddie & Leola Claussen

**June 28-5:15 PM “This is the Day the Lord Has Made”** in memory of Matt, Minnine, Margaret, & Johannes Wilken from family and friends

**June 28- 6:00 PM “Amazing Grace”** in memory of Alan H. Sedore from Phyllis Sedore & family

**June 29-5:00 PM “Just as I Am”** in memory of Edgar Krohnke from Edgar Krohnke family

**June 30–5:00 PM “Old Rugged Cross”** in memory of Bruce Christie from Julie Christie



## JUNE Birthdays

June 1	-	Jeff Boelter
June 3	-	Scott Nemitz
June 5	-	Dustin McMinemee
June 6	-	Kirk Christie
June 11	-	Hanna Outhouse
June 14	-	Carrie Landon
June 15	-	Kirk Lacey Roger Rusch
June 17	-	Leon Clausen
June 18	-	Austin Larson
June 21	-	Andrew Strandburg
June 22	-	Jade Jurgensen
June 23	-	John Cassens Jules Jurgensen
June 24	-	Roger Wonder
June 26	-	Greg Bumann Keith Larson
June 27	-	Cale Paulsen Carol Krohnke
June 28	-	Talsha Johannsen
June 29	-	Swen Berger
June 30	-	Ryder Luth

## JUNE GREETERS

JUNE 4- Jim & April Stender

JUNE 11- Jim & Jolene Whiting

JUNE 18- John & Sarah Fineran

JUNE 25- Ken & Connie Boger

## JUNE ACOLYTES

JUNE 4- Hayden Fineran & Haxton Fineran

JUNE 11- Gracie Outhouse & Sophie Luth

JUNE 18- Cale Paulsen & Jett Paulsen

JUNE 25- Brayton Johannsen

& Taryn Johannsen

## April Financials



### Income:

Weekly envelopes	\$	3418.00
Loose Offering	\$	208.65
Seasonal Offering	\$	169.00
Misc. Offerings	\$	912.00
Misc. Income	\$	480.52
Interest Income-Gen. Fund	\$	17.51
Total Income:	\$	5205.68

### Expenses:

Association Dues	\$	0.00
Insurance & Taxes	\$	352.66
Janitor Supplies	\$	29.79
Misc. Expenses	\$	50.00
Music	\$	360.00
Office Expense	\$	1370.05
Pastor Expenses	\$	4950.34
Repairs and Maintenance	\$	238.67
Supplies	\$	272.68
Support Staff Salaries	\$	3425.00
Utilities	\$	2090.82
Total expense:	\$	13140.01
Net Ordinary Income	\$	(-7,934.33)

## April Numbers for the Books

Date:	Attendance:	Contributions:
April 2	76	\$ 512.00
April 9	95	\$2229.75
April 16	44	\$1092.50
April 23	54	\$ 227.40
April 30	48	\$ 375.60
Total:	317	\$4437.25
Average:	63	\$ 887.45

**HAPPY  
FATHER'S  
Day!**

# GARAGE SALE



**June 1st-3rd**

Please bring donations to the lower east door on Tuesday (May 30) or Wednesday (May 31) from 1-4 pm or you may make arrangements with the office. You are responsible for large items that don't sell.

Thank you to Zola Friedrichsen for organizing the garage sale.

## Pillow Cleaning

Friday, June 2nd from 9 am - 2 pm at the Bank Iowa basement.

All types of bed pillows cleaned

Feather, Foam, Down, Fiber fill etc.

Starting at \$16

Sponsored by Schleswig VFW Aux



Mark your Calendar for the  
Community Picnic at our  
Church on Saturday, July 8th  
from 4-7 pm with a worship  
service following

## VBS



Ages 3- 6th grade

Register online at  
[ucc.mycokeburyvbs.com](http://ucc.mycokeburyvbs.com)

Thank you to all the volunteers! You truly are Heros!

Congratulations to our  
2023 graduates,  
Jaxon Paulsen and  
Colton Johannsen







April 20, 2023

**Call to Order:** President Sandy Lacey opened the meeting. Those in attendance were Sandy, Judy, Seth, Leisha, Pastor Kirk and John & Cheri (by phone).

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Kirk opened with a prayer.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the minutes and was seconded. Motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report:** A motion was made to approve the financial report and was seconded. Motion carried.

**Bills to be Paid:** A motion was made to pay the bills and was seconded. Motion carried.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**CE:** Had meeting this past Sunday. Talked about having Jr. Fellowship 1-2 times during May since Wednesday nights ended. 1 student is planning to go to Pilgrim Heights camp with possibly 1 or 2 more. Two graduates this year and Senior Recognition is on May 7<sup>th</sup> during church. Gift has been ordered and received. Bible school materials are here, only 2 people have signed up to help so far. Candice will get information out about needing help in all areas.

**CSFD:** Had meeting on Wednesday. Reviewed Scholarship applications. Also discussed of making a couple changes on the applications. Planning to do interviews with recipients on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

**CSFI:** Gaylen, Wendy, Leisha and Pastor Kirk met after church. Discussed the CD's coming due this year.

**Property:** Seth stated DOT has been contacted about trees to be cut in ditch by farm ground. Insurance company has also been contacted. Elevate will look at roof and Verlin's which check the air conditioners.

**Spiritual Life:** Continue to work on Picnic in the park.

**Missions & Outreach:** Had a meeting and it was decided Taylor will be main contact and Jersey – 3 year term, Julie – 1 year, Connie and Roberta - 2 years.

**Stewardship:** Sandy has article done and approved by members.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor did visitations at the care centers and delivered Easter lilies. Concerns with the Denison Pastor Association when Mike Fillmore leaves in July. Who will do communion at the care centers?

#### **Old Business:**

**Streaming and Technology:** Still having issues with equipment and not so much internet. For the past few weeks for some reason camera freezing and some start up issues. Slowly getting that figured out.

**John Wulf money:** Continued discussion on disbursement, tabled until next mtg.

**Spring Grants:** Brief discussion – tabled until next mtg.

**Easter Breakfast:** Went really well, several egg bakes (7), rolls, muffins and toast. The toast was a big hit. The donations went to the general budget.

#### **New Business:**

**Ropes back up or Challenge:** Decided not to put ropes up. Instead, will thank those who have moved forward and continue to encourage forward movement.

**Garage Sale:** Zola has stepped up to coordinate, currently has some volunteers to help her. Decided NO clothing or shoes and also any big items need to be placed by east door entrance and if not purchased will need to be picked up after noon on Saturday!

**Prayer List:** Discussed about needing to remove some from prayer list after a few weeks unless the family updates their loved ones are still needing the continued prayers.

**Chicken Dinner:** Sandy contacted Shannon and she has agreed to head up the chicken dinner this year but will be unable to next year. Updates to come.

#### **Adjourn with Prayers, Concerns, Celebrations & The Lord's Prayer**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Leisha Kragel