



August 25, 2017

Greetings friends,

We started Chancel and Bell choirs this last Wednesday and what a joy it was to be together again! Yes, we see one another through the summer months, but never all at once and working toward a common goal. There is something about being a part of a choir or a team that just sends one's spirit soaring. We had great attendance at both rehearsals, so I think I may not be the only one who feels this way.

Our Chancel Choir is peopled by our usual suspects (we are always hoping to entice new folks to join us, too) and while Rhonda does keep us focused on the task at hand, there is also ample opportunity to "catch up" between songs or before and after practice. It's a joyful hour of relaxed fun and fellowship to treat yourself to each week. Please think about giving choir a try this year.

Our Bell Choir has a few new faces this year. After 40 years of devotion, Priscilla Johnson and Lynn Henricks have decided to retire from the choir. A third member, Judy ver Steeg, also retired – she has been commuting from Ames each week for the last few years and decided she was ready to stop that! Each of these gals has been a delight to play with through the years and even though our new gals (Steph Fournier, Milianna Carlson and Tep Reeder) came in and are doing a very nice job, we miss our Priscilla, Lynn and Judy! This choir, too, enjoys a wonderful camaraderie and while our director, Judy Brekke, makes sure do work hard on our music, there is always time enough to visit and laugh and enjoy one another.

At Grace, choir participation is a special opportunity to connect with others and praise God in joy-filled harmony.

This week at Grace – Pastor Fred's message this week addresses his interpretation of Matthew 16:13-20. Ray Hults will be in the house and will share the song, "Heaven Came Down". Judy Brekke is our liturgist this week with LeRoy and Priscilla Johnson serving as greeters and Christine Marti, Brett, Laila and Gabrielle acting as ushers. As always, worship begins at 9:15. We invite you to join us!

What if you could help change the world? Here is a wonderful opportunity!



Meals from the Heartland is coming up again on September 30th in Story City. Sponsored by the Roland-Story Ministerial Association, this is the 3rd year for the event. This year, they hope to *Pack the Truck* with **60,000** meals and hope to raise **\$20,000** (just 20 cents per meal) to fund it. Please consider donating and/or signing up to help package meals on:

Saturday, September 30, 2017
Story City Recreation Center (812 Elm Ave.)

We'll have sign-up sheets in the narthex or you can sign up online at:

www.tinyurl.com/2017SCHungerFight

If you have an announcement, prayer request, or something else to share with the congregation via our This Week at Grace (TWAG) or Sunday bulletin, contact the church office by noon on Wednesday. We'd love to share it with others!

As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer: Julie Jacobson; Sharon Matson; Dan Webster; Denny Michel; Claudia Pauk; Marjorie Gookin; Pam Hillis; Leota Berg; Vivian Whitmore; Jeanne Hohneke; Ray Hults; George Sellers; Lois Johnson; Al Rau; Jordan Gertsen; Cooper Leeman

Cards for Julie - We have a basket set out in the narthex to receive special gifts for our friend, Julie who is battling a very pervasive cancer and could use some help. Gas cards, restaurant cards, retail cards, checks or cash, we hope you'll give generously in her time of special need.

News You Can Use

Sunday, August 27

8:15 AM Missions

9:15 AM Worship

Monday, August 28

6:30 PM Communications

6:30 PM Leadership Development

Wednesday, August 30

7:00 PM Chancel Choir

8:00 PM Bell Choir

Sunday, September 3

9:15 AM Worship - Communion

Faithfully,
Cathy

What if you found out you could change the world?

It is within your power to give hope to a family that routinely goes without food.
You can make a difference. You can impact the lives of starving people.
You can actually feed a dying child. You can literally save a life.

What if you helped?

Meals FROM THE Heartland

TO DONATE ONLINE OR FOR MORE INFORMATION
www.MealsfromtheHeartland.org

Find us on Follow us on

what if

FRIDAY GRILL OUTS
at
Tom & Stevie's Bistro
at The Households of Bethany
FRIDAY, AUGUST 25TH
11:00AM - 1:00PM

**BURGERS, BLT
SALAD & DRINK \$6**