



April 19, 2018

Greetings friends,

We are so pleased to celebrate Confirmation Day with four bright young people this Sunday. Our four young men have completed all of the study and requirements to put them into this position of confirming Christ as their personal Lord and Savior and claiming membership in our church. We are looking forward to hearing what they have to say as they lead us in our worship service this Sunday. Congratulations to Chase, Connor, Tanner and Mychal!

This Week at Grace – It's Confirmation Sunday and Grace Church is ready to celebrate 4 very good young men. The boys will help lead the service with Chase Blagg delivering the morning message, *Taking Up Our Cross* as inspired by Matthew 16:21-25 The Chancel Choir and Children's Choir will join voices to sing *This Little Light of Mine*. Greeters this week are Kevin and Linda Larson. Those serving as ushers include Kurt Carlson, Craig Jensen, Mike and Patsy Jensen. Tanner Blue, Mychal Spencer and Connor Blue will share liturgist responsibilities. Worship begins at 9:15 with a reception in honor of the Confirmands following immediately following the service. Sunday schools classes meet at 10:30. Please join us!

Claudia Pauk and Cathy Hermanson are looking for special music for our Sunday worship services this summer. Catch one of them at church or contact the church office if you would be willing to share your musical gifts or know of someone who would like share to their talent.

Music Sunday is set, as is our custom, for the first Sunday in May (the 6th). This is the Sunday when each of our choirs (Chancel. Touch of Grace Bells, Children's Bells, Children's Choir) share a couple anthems from their 2017-18 repertoire. Favorite hymn numbers are called out by the congregation at designated times during the service and a wonderful worship experience is enjoyed by all!

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend worship on May 20th. A Farewell Reception honoring Pastor Fred is planned following the service. Pastor Fred will be with us through the month of June.

Loaves and Fishes/Story City Market Matching Program

Loaves and Fishes and Story City Market have begun a matching program. When a case of advertised Best Choice brand product is purchased for Loaves and Fishes, Story City Market will match this donation with another case. Sales must be completed through store management. All case donations will be delivered to the pantry. With questions call Judy Miller at 515.520.1593 or Sue Bohner at 515.290.5905

Does anyone know what happened to the red electric pencil sharpener that has been stored in the choir room? It is missing and is needed.

Reminder: the offering envelopes in the pews are to be used by those choosing to give monetary gifts to the church privately on Sunday mornings. There is an expense associated with these special envelopes, so we'd prefer to have them used as intended. If children would like to draw and take their creations home with them, please consider using the provided clipboards with colors and a pencil available in the narthex every Sunday morning. Thank you for your consideration of our efforts to be wise stewards of our church resources.

The people of the North Central District churches will be gathering together on Sunday, May 6, at Webster City Asbury UMC for our District Conference and our Pre-Annual Conference session. At that time, we will also give thanks for the ministries of Harlan and Deb Gillespie and bless them on their way.

AGENDA:

1:15-2:00 – Light lunch served

2:00 – Dist Conference begins by recognizing the Gillespie's service

3:15-4:30 Pre-Annual Conf session.

You are invited as individuals or as churches to write Harlan and Deb a note to let them know how their time with us has impacted you. You may send your card/letter to the district office or there will be a basket available at the May 6 event.

As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer:

Dorothy Appelgate; Duane O'Tool; Denny Michel; Caleb Michel; Jackie Royer (Sharla's friend); George Mackey; Tim (Becky Barclay's brother); Julie Jacobson; Sara Dappen; Norman Patti; Pam Hillis; Lois Johnson; Cooper Leeman, Taylors in Africa

News You Can Use

Sunday, April 22 – Confirmation Sunday

9:15 AM Worship – choir, children's choir, Communion

10:15 AM Reception

10:30 AM Sunday school

Monday, April 23

5:30 PM Finance

6:30 PM Council

Wednesday, April 25

7:00 PM Choir

8:00 PM Bells

Sunday, April 29

9:15 AM Worship

10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship

10:30 AM Sunday school

**Faithfully,
Cathy**