



July 5, 2018

Greetings friends,

Pastor Jonathan is in the process of unpacking and settling into his new home and church office. After the uncertainty of not knowing precisely when his belongings would be delivered, he seems to appreciate having his daughter, Catherine, around to help him settle in. And to just spend some time together again.

I hope you all had a nice 4th of July day. After the theatrics of sky high temperatures and the deluge of rain in this last month, I was hoping to just have a breezy summer day to relax and enjoy. Instead we got more of the same drama, though it was nice in the period between late afternoon/evening storms! For the first time in years, Mark and I opted to skip big gatherings and were planning

to work on a few projects in the morning and then to take a leisurely, meandering drive up to Minnesota to enjoy a meal at one of our favorite restaurants before driving home. We thought it would be fun to look for several community fireworks displays lighting the sky as we traveled south. Alas, we've both been battling summer colds and opted to just stay home to try and recuperate. We caught "A Capitol 4th" on PBS and got our fireworks fix in that way. We didn't fight crowds or mosquitoes or heatstroke and the display was stellar, but *sigh*.

Our own little firecracker will be staying with us next week, so we're telling ourselves that quiet time now is a good thing. It's too bad we can't bank some of these restful hours and store energy. Life is going to be hopping (literally) all next week. Can't wait!

This Week at Grace – Pastor Jonathan's message this week, "Won't You Be My Neighbor?: Perfect in Weakness" is inspired by 2 Corinthians 12:2-10. *Judy Andrew will share her beautiful voice for special music and our liturgist this week is Beckey Witthuhn. Greeters this week are Cindy Spurlock and Shirley Frandson. Those serving as ushers include David & Mary Loupee and Jim & Shelley Hassebrock.* Worship begins at 9:15, but you're invited to bring your morning beverage of choice and join us at 8:45 for some pre-worship conversation and fellowship. Please join us!

Pastor Jonathan's contact information:

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Phone: (816) 616-0466

TO THOSE WHO SERVE AS USHERS – Pastor Jonathan would like you to carry the offering plates all the way up to the altar and to place them there. He will meet you at the altar to lead us in prayer. Thank you!

Mark your calendars for LIFELIGHT, a new evangelism and outreach festival to be *held in the South Park here in Story City on Saturday, July 14th*. There will be messages from speakers Josh Brewer and Alan Greene, as well as some local pastors. Come listen to the uplifting music of Hollyn, Bread of Stone, Rachele Hope, Bobby Bugatti, Cade Thompson and others. Take this opportunity to hear testimonies that speak to your heart, offer hope and ignite your faith. We hope you'll join us as we further the impact of the Kingdom in Story City!

July 15th – Please note the attached invitation to the Retirement Reception in honor of Bethany Life Chaplain Sandy Anenson.

Next Sunday, Team “C” will provide home-baked treats for our coffee fellowship time after the worship service. Please plan to join us!

LOOKING AHEAD – Our Charge Conference is slated for September 30th. This means the deadlines for committees to get reports in to the office will be September 16th. Copies of the forms to be filled out will be sent to committee chairs soon after the Conference makes them available.

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

Julie Jacobson; Marlene Doolittle; Denny Michel; Caleb Michel; Carolyn Bostwick; Lois Johnson; Jean Reeder; Duane O’Tool; Jackie Royer (Sharla’s friend); Norman Patti; Cooper Leeman, Taylor family

News You Can Use

Sunday, July 8

8:00 AM Trustees

8:45 AM Java with Jesus (BYOB & come for fellowship!)

9:15 AM Worship

Monday, July 9

5:30 PM SPRC

7:00 PM Worship

Sunday, July 15

9:15 AM Worship

10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship

**Faithfully,
Cathy**