



July 19, 2018

Greetings friends,

New beginnings can be a happy time of adjustments and new perspectives. This has been the case with Pastor Jonathan's arrival at Grace. Although he has no plans to make any big changes in this first year, there is still change. It is a simple change that comes with having a new person in the pulpit with a different style than that with which we were accustomed. Not better, not worse, just different.

It has been both interesting and fun for me to learn and make some adjustments in the office. More often than not, it is Jonathan inquiring about what we've been accustomed to doing, rather than me changing much, at this point. This will not always be the case and that is a good thing. It keeps everyone on their toes and it helps keep everything fresh.

As we move toward getting a new bookkeeper on board here in the next few weeks, I want to tell you what a stellar job Candi Holm and Becky Barclay have been doing on our behalf. Both women have given up several evenings over these months of June and July to get a handle on our books, the software program and financial practices so that they can help the new person get started off on the right foot. This is a tremendous blessing and if you see either of these gals, be sure to thank them. They deserve our heartiest gratitude. We're blessed to have Candi and Becky as a part of our church family.

Wishing you joy in any new beginnings or small changes in your own day-to-day living. I pray that you will embrace these adjustments and see them as an opportunity to learn and/or grow. It keeps life interesting and perhaps even exciting!

Have a blessed week!

This Week at Grace – Pastor Jonathan's message this week, "Won't You Be My Neighbor?: Members of the Household of God" is inspired by Ephesians 2:11-22. *Kent Meier will be visiting to share his vocal music talent and our liturgist this week is Terry Gustason. Greeters this week are Chuck & Ruby Matheason. Those serving as ushers include Tim & Kim Tryon, Doug Doolittle and Terry Gustason.* Worship begins at 9:15, with Java with Jesus beginning at 8:45 in the narthex. BYOB (breakfast beverage) and please join us!

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 before you head back to the narthex. Just a reminder that the ushers are responsible for putting attendance numbers up on the board located above the south end steps and for collecting all the attendance sheets for day and delivering them to the office. Also, remember in the summer months, ushers need to light the altar candles before the service and to extinguish them following. Thank you!

Our Charge Conference this year is set for September 30th in Ames. Committees please be advised that Finance will need your proposed budgets by the end of July. Committee Reports are due in the office by September 15 so that our packets can be assembled for the Charge Conference. Forms for these reports will be given to committee chairs as they become available.

Roland-Story School Supplies class lists are in the narthex – please pick up one or two to fill and have back at the church by next Sunday, July 29th. Thank you for helping our local kids get off to a good and happy start to their school year!

FACE TIME WITH OUR NEW PASTOR! No, we're not talking about the Facebook app. Pastor Jonathan invites folks to come meet him and have a get-to-know-you chat in his office or he is willing to go out and meet folks in their homes. Sign-up sheets with available times are located on a table in the Narthex area. If you won't be in church, but want to sign up, please contact Jonathan directly:

Email: Jonathan.cooney07@gmail.com

Phone: (816) 616-0466

Congratulations to the RS Girls Softball team on their successes at the State Tournament this week! Good luck in the finals for Class 3A tomorrow (Friday) afternoon beginning at 3:30! Go Norse!

As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer:
Karen (Mrs. Kent) Keech; Julie Jacobson; Marlene Doolittle; Denny Michel; Lois Johnson; Jean Reeder; Duane O'Tool; Jackie Royer (Sharla's friend); Norman Patti; Cooper Leeman, Taylor family

News You Can Use

Sunday, July 22

8:45 AM Java with Jesus (Bring Your Own Breakfast Beverage and join us for fellowship in the narthex)

9:15 AM Worship

10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship

Monday, July 23

5:30 PM Finance

7:00 PM Council (please note later start time this month)

Sunday, July 29

8:45 AM Java with Jesus (Bring Your Own Breakfast Beverage and join us for fellowship in the narthex)

9:15 AM Worship

10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship

**Faithfully,
Cathy**