



March 21, 2019

Greetings friends,

The robins are back! The robins are back! I've also been keeping my eye on the diminishing snow piles and a mysterious plant bravely coming up in front of my house. I'm so excited to see the former disappear and the latter reveal its beauty in coming days! Spring is officially here and warmer days are just ahead!

Last year I felt like we didn't get much of a spring. Remember? We had miserably cold temperatures and snow falling well into April and then, suddenly, hot, hot days arriving in mid to later May. It felt like we skipped right over the milder, beautiful spring season. This year I'm hoping for lots of beautiful, sunshine-filled days and temperatures in the 60-70° Fahrenheit range for several pleasant weeks!

I was sad to see our Story City swinging bridge was clobbered with the recent river ice and flooding debacle. I'm hoping that icon of our community can be repaired and made good as new immediately. I know there are many (like Mark and me) who have very special memories associated with that bridge. It would be both logistically and emotionally difficult to go through this year without it!

This Week at Grace is the third Sunday in Lent. Pastor is using Luke 13:1-9 as inspiration for his message "Walking with Jesus: But I'm OK, Right?" Jarod Hart will provide special music for us this week and our greeter is Judy Miller. Carroll & Judy Brekke and Gene & Erma Schaeffer will usher and *Gloria Sampson will serve as our liturgist this week.* Worship begins at 9:15 with Coffee Fellowship following at 10:15. Sunday school classes meet at 10:30. Please join us!

A Touch of Grace Bells Handbell Concert

with
The Brethren

Free Will Offering

Palm Sunday
April 14, 2019
2:00 pm

Grace United Methodist
Church | 624 Elm Ave
Story City, IA

1st concert in
20 years!

Tell your friends and bring them to this special concert coming up in just a few weeks!

We'll be welcoming a new member and a returning member at worship on Sunday. If you're interested in becoming a member of the Grace Church family, please let Pastor Jonathan know!

Former Grace UMC pastor, Duane O'Tool (Marlene Doolittle's dad) is turning 90 on March 28th. You're invited to participate in a card shower for him to help celebrate this wonderful milestone!

Duane O'Tool
506 Fourth Avenue
Coon Rapids, IA 50058

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

Jean Hassebrock; Raelyn Miller; Owen Sampson; Marjorie Dale; Helen Caruth; Barbara Wheeler; Emmerson Kahl; Emily Meier; Orville Carlson; Kermit Miskell; Lois Johnson; George Sellers; Garry Gerjets; Pat Skowronski; Jackie Royer; Cooper Leeman; Taylor family

News You Can Use

Sunday, March 24

9:15 AM Worship
10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship
10:30 AM Sunday school
2:00 PM Bell choir practice

Monday, March 25

5:30 PM Finance
6:30 PM Council

Wednesday, March 27

7:00 PM Choir
8:00 PM Bells

Thursday, March 28

10:30 AM Memorial Committee

Sunday, March 31

9:15 AM Worship – children's bells
10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship
10:30 AM Sunday school
2:00 PM Bell choir practice

Please "like" our Facebook page, [@storycitygrace](#) and receive regular updates on "what's happening" at Grace Church! Our website, www.grace-umc.com is full of information and pictures about the life and activities of our Grace Church family. Please check it out!

Faithfully,
Cathy