



May 30, 2019

Greetings friends,

The kids singing *Arky, Arky* for Mother's Day this year certainly were right on the money in terms of life in the Midwest this spring. Uff-da! My normally burbling little waterfall in the backyard is cascading and the robins, that have often used it as a birdbath in years past, seem to be keeping their distance this year. It would likely be very hard to keep their footing even with their little talons. Fortunately for them, there are abundant puddles nearby that are far less hazardous and they seem happy to use them.

My other little creatures of the yard, the squirrels, don't seem to be adversely affected by the deluge at all. As in seasons past, I've watched many a rousing game of tag being played as a group (*scurry* – a new term, for me at least) of 2 to 4 squirrels race from tree to tree and and up and down in a mad frolic. I have yet to see even one slip or slide on the wet grass or saturated tree bark. I love to listen to their chatter as they chase one another about.

If the wildlife can adjust and find joy in the rain and the never ending wet, I imagine I can too. But it won't be bathing in puddles or romping in the yard with friends. I'm sorry, but I must draw the line somewhere.

This Week at Grace We will celebrate Communion this week at Grace. Jonathan's message, "Harvest Joy", is inspired by Psalm 126. Our greeters are Shelley and Luccas Hart. Ushers are Kevin and Candi Holm, Gini Michel. Dave Doolittle will serve as liturgist and Jarod Hart will provide special music. *Java with Jesus* begins this Sunday at 8:45 – bring your morning beverage of choice and meet in the narthex to visit with friends before the service. Worship begins at 9:15. Please join us!

Beginning this Sunday, June 2nd, you're invited to come to church a bit early on summer Sunday mornings for 'Java with Jesus' and your Grace Church family. Beginning at 8:45 each Sunday, plan to bring a thermal cup of your preferred morning beverage and meet in the narthex for a little fellowship before the service begins. On the third Sundays of June, July and August, the serving G.R.A.C.E. team will host Coffee Fellowship with home-baked goodies following the morning service. Please keep these plans in mind and join us!

On Wednesday, June 5th you're invited to come lend a hand with *potato cake baking* for our June 7th bake sale. Meet at the church at 9:00 a.m. for a productive, fun morning with some of the women of Grace! BYORP (Bring Your Own Rolling Pin)

Scandi Days Pie Social, Pork Sandwich line, and Bake Sale are coming right up! Clear your calendar and plan to help and/or dine with us on **Friday, June 7 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** The pricing list for the bake sale was in the May *Visitor* and will appear again in the June *Visitor*. Look for it in our Sunday bulletins on May 26 and June 2 as well!

Our June 9th worship service will be the *Ecumenical Community Worship* service in the park beginning at 10 a.m. A reminder that any offering received at that service will not come to Grace Church, so please keep that in mind as you plan your weekly giving.

Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation.- Each year we look to honor outstanding community members through the Iowan of the Day program. These Iowans should be people who have volunteered in their community to better the lives of those around them. If you know someone who would be worthy of being honored as an Iowan of the Day at the 2019 Iowa State Fair please fill out the attached nomination form and send in examples of how these Iowans are so great! You can see examples of past nominations and attachments on our website at <http://www.blueribbonfoundation.org/iotd>. Brochures are on the north table in the narthex hallway.

Pastor Don Preston will be retiring this June and I was given information that he served at your church during his ministry. We would like to extend an invitation to his retirement party on June 30th at the Manly Bethel UMC after our 10:30 am worship and wondering if you would put out that anyone that remembers him to send cards to our church (address below) .

OnaLee VanHeiden
Bethel/Trinity United Methodist Church
503 E. South Street P.O. Box Q
Manly, IA. 50456
641-454-2427

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Affordables is asking **YOU** to volunteer at our store, which supports the residents of Bethany Life in Story City. **Can you volunteer 3 or 4 hours a month** and pledge to volunteer for a minimum of six months? We are **ALL** busy, but if you could commit to working 3 or 4 hours per month at Affordables, you would make a world of difference. You can chat with customers, help with displays, assemble merchandise, sort and price merchandise or run the cash register. We will do **EVERYTHING** we can to **ACCOMMODATE** your schedule.

We are personally asking **YOU**. Won't you **HELP US?**

Call the store and talk to Denice about volunteering this week - **515-733-5304**.

HELP US support the elderly in Story County. We can't do it without **YOU!**

As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer:
Sara Dappen; Adam Kimball (Barclay nephew); Suzy Hess; Judy Skaare (Jonathan's sister); George Sellers; Rich Peterson (Erma's brother); Pat Skowronski; Raelyn Miller; Emmerson Kahl; Emily Meier; Lois Johnson; Garry Gerjets; Jackie Royer; Cooper Leeman; Taylor family

News You Can Use

Sunday, June 2

8:45 AM *Java with Jesus* – BYOB fellowship in narthex

9:15 AM Worship – Communion, Jarod Hart has special music

Monday, June 3

5:30 PM Communications

Wednesday, June 5

9:00 AM Potato Cake Baking Day!

Annual Conference runs from June 7-11.

Friday, June 7

7:00 AM church open to receive bake sale goodies

11:00 - 2:00 PM Social, Sandwich Line, Bake Sale!

Sunday, June 9

10:00 Worship at the Band Shell in North Park

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**