



June 27, 2019

Greetings friends,

We've been flying pretty high around here in the office this week. Sunday was such a wonderful service in so many ways. It's brought an extra spring to our steps all week! This summer people are coming a little early for pre-service conversation (all sorts of fun, bonding experiences can happen – see picture at left) and last week many also stayed after for coffee fellowship too! Fred Larson recently donated his 7 office reception area chairs which we debuted in the narthex area to wild acclaim (There are also a couple of his chairs in the chapel.) Owen and Riker shared a little bit about their recently completed Wesley Woods camp experience before singing some delightful camp tunes for us. Jonathan had yet another imaginative children's message. This

week he made clever use of his socks which he assured the children had been washed... at least once! His "regular message" was meaningful (even without the special effects). But most of all, ninety-two of us were there to worship together! It was so nice to see so many – it's been awhile! We hope you all feel as uplifted by your experiences with our Grace Church family.

This Week at Grace Jonathan's message, "Following Jesus: The Straight Row" is inspired by Luke 9:51-62. Josiah Soderstrum will share special music with us. Cheryl Semler and Ken & Janet Schuck will serve as greeters on Sunday with Steph & Tori Fournier and Cheryl Semler acting as ushers and Beckey Witthuhn as liturgist. As always, our worship service begins at 9:15 – please join us!

Can you help? We are in need of a Education Chair, a Middle School Sunday school co-teacher, and a co-facilitator for the Adult Sunday school class this fall! Please let Jonathan know if you are interested in learning more about any of these important positions!

******NEWSLETTER CALENDAR CORRECTION******

The Finance Committee and the Church Council will meet on Monday, July 22 NOT the 29th.

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 fourth Sunday of June (June 23), and the third Sundays of July and August, the serving G.R.A.C.E. team will host Coffee Fellowship with home-baked goodies following the morning service.

The Leadership Development (Nominations) Committee will meet on Sunday, June 23rd after the worship service.

I found an invitation to our UMW Ladies for a Guest Day Brunch at First UMC on my desk this morning:

You're Invited: UMW Guest Day (a light brunch will be served)

Thursday, July 11 at 9:30-11:30 (reservations due to Jane Edwards at (515) 233-4266)

First United Methodist Church; 516 Kellogg, Ames

Program: *Justice for our Neighbors* by Alexander Cardenas, staff attorney for *Justice for our Neighbors*

The Story City American Legion is celebrating 100 years! You're invited to a Chicken & Sweet Corn Feed on Sunday, June 30 from 11:00 to 2:00. Find them in the North Park – everyone is invited and carry-outs are available. Other special things going on in conjunction with this celebration are carousel rides 2 for the price of 1 and a special concert at the band shell from 1:00-3:00. Kenny Frette and Karen White will be performing. Bring your lawn chairs or a blanket and come celebrate with the Story City American Legion!

Dates to mark on your calendars:

September 6 and 7 – All Church Camp Adventure at Little Wall Lake – reservations have been made. Bring your camper or tent and plan to join in the fun!

Sunday, October 13 – 2019 Charge Conference – time has not yet been set, but it looks like it will be just our church (not a group meeting like last year in Ames). Perhaps we can make an event (include an all-church potluck) of it...

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

Rich Peterson (Erma's brother); Karen Keech (Kent's wife); Adam Kimball (Barclay nephew); Judy Skaare (Jonathan's sister); George Sellers; Emmerson Kahl; Emily Meier; Lois Johnson; Garry Gerjets; Jackie Royer; Cooper Leeman; Taylor family

News You Can Use

Sunday, June 30

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

9:15 AM Worship – Josiah Soderstrum has special music

Thursday, July 4

OFFICE CLOSED

Sunday, July 7

8:45 AM *Java with Jesus*

9:15 AM Worship – Tori Fournier & Haley Chamberlain, special music

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**