

The Link: Connected in Christ

July 2023



Our Mission:
“Bring People
to Christ”

Church Service Times

**Saturday Chapel
Worship 5:00 PM,
in-person worship**

**Sunday Sanctuary
Worship 9:30 AM,
in-person worship.**

**Sunday Children’s
Church 10 AM**

**Live Worship
Streamed Online
Sunday 9:30 AM
Facebook, YouTube
and KNIA**

**Radio Worship
Worship with us via
the radio at 1320 AM,
95.3 FM or 94.3 FM at
9:30 AM. on Sundays.**



Strength for the Day “Let Freedom Ring!” July 2023

Happy Fourth of July! This is the month when we Americans celebrate our freedom, with everything from backyard barbecues to parades to concerts to dazzling displays of fireworks . We may even remember to thank God for our political and economic freedom, even the freedom of speech!

I was cleaning out some old files recently and came across a piece of paper that reminded me of another freedom for which we should pause to thank God. The spiritual freedom that Jesus won for us on the cross. The piece of paper that reminded me of this freedom was a prayer that a troubled teenager, who had been a prostitute and a drug addict, prayed during a United Methodist Church service while she was receiving help at Dubuque’s Hillcrest Family Services’ Residential Treatment Unit when I served as it’s chaplain. She gave this prayer as a member of the Hillcrest Ambassadors, a group of Hillcrest adolescent, court ordered residents who travelled to United Methodist Churches and led Sunday morning worship, sharing their testimonies about God’s healing love at work in their lives. Hillcrest is a United Methodist supported agency. What follows is her prayer:

“Most gracious God, you are the Great Liberator. You come to us in our self-made prisons. The ones that keep us from loving you, our family and friends, strangers, and even ourselves, as you created us to do. And we confess that our prisons and the chains that hold us are not made of concrete and steel --- no, they are made of much stronger stuff. They are made out of fear and jealousy, anger and doubt, selfishness, temptation, and desire. These are the things that keep us chained down in life ---- these are the things that prevent us from freely tasting the sweetness of your love for us.

And that is why we give you thanks this morning, and every day God, because you know our condition --- our temptations and weaknesses, our sinfulness --- our brokenness. You know all about our unworthiness and yet you couldn't love us any less or any more than you already do! You love us God, and there is absolutely nothing we can do to change that fantastic, wonderful fact! All we can do is choose to accept or reject your Love. A love that comes again and again to us ---- to help us, to heal us, to forgive us, to make us feel better --- about things, and about ourselves. Lord, help us all here this morning to be open and receptive to your love as we are made more aware of you working in our lives for good, through your Holy Spirit and through the lives of other people who have been called by you, and have responded to your voice.

Bless us all in the task of discipleship Lord, that we would all live our lives on earth as eternal life is lived in heaven. In Jesus name we pray, Amen."

Friends, in Jesus' name ----- let freedom ring!

Peace,
Pastor Jamie



BLESSING BOX NEEDS



Blessing Box supplies are running very low. If you would like to donate to this mission, recommended items for July are: bottled water, canned or pouched meats, canned fruits, peanut butter, spaghetti-O's, sunscreen, and summer shoes. Donations can be left in the collection containers inside the front, east, or chapel doors or brought to the church office anytime the church is open. Monetary donations are also accepted. Thank you and God Bless.

2023 NATIONALS PANCAKES

The Nationals pancake breakfast with the Methodist Church & Rotary Club working together is scheduled for Wed-Saturday morning on August 9-12. Helpers sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex. We can fit your abilities to different jobs, and we are happy to train newcomers. Come out to welcome our guests. Questions call Kay Jensen, 842-5325.





CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Summer is in full swing and we are enjoying the beautiful weather and fun activities. With our Facebook Page being down, watch your email for updates on upcoming CYF events and registration. If you have any questions, please contact me at lpetersen@kfumc.com.

Living Way Youth Meetings

- Summer Youth Group
 - July 22nd-23rd, Service Weekend in Ankeny
 - August 27th, Bonfire

Watch your emails for RSVP dates and details on our summer Youth Group gatherings.

Mark Your Calendars

God's Laboratory Summer Day Camps:

- July 6th – 9am-12pm – Noah's Ark
- August 3rd – 9am-12pm – The Power of God and the Holy Spirit

Story Time – join us once a month for the reading of a Christian children's story accompanied by a fun activity. This event is not supervised, please provide supervision for your children.

July 19th, 10-11am at the Marion County Fairgrounds, Bingley Building

- August 15th, 10-11am at Auld Park, East Shelter

VBS: Hero Hotline – July 25th, 26th, and 27th, tentative time 5:30-8pm

Volunteers Needed:

We need volunteers to help with our day camps and VBS this summer. If you are interested in volunteering for any of the above events, please contact me as soon as possible.

Thank You

Thank You to everyone who helped with our June Day Camp. We had a wonderful turnout with 27 kids who enjoyed learning about the story of creation through crafts, games, and science experiments!

Blessings,
Lauren

MSPS ENROLLMENT

Enrollment is open for the 2023/2024 school year. Please contact Katie for enrollment information at msschool@hotmail.com. Only a few spaces remain in each of our classes for next year so enroll soon!



Montgomery Street Preschool

**Enrollment for the
2023/2024 school year is
open**

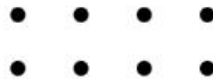
**Limited space available for 2
year olds, 3 year olds, and
PreK for 4 and 5 year olds**

Enroll today!

Email: msschool@hotmail.com

Phone: 641-842-2193

Website: www.kfumc.com



HOW TO CELEBRATE JULY



It's here—July, that is. The seventh month out of twelve. How do you celebrate July? July Fourth brings us parades, family celebrations, and fireworks. The full moon comes July 3, and is known as the “buck moon” because the deer antler’s growth is in full swing. We have our Marion County Fair this month. July also ushers in the promise of sweet corn on the cob, vine fresh tomatoes picked from our very own gardens!

We have so many things to do in July, but there is one more. We are going to call it “Christmas in July” and for a few days we’ll be ringing the Salvation Army Bell, looking to fill the red kettles with coins and bills to replenish the Marion County Salvation Army balance. In the Bible, John wrote, “Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.” Are you able to be part of the action?

You have the opportunity to help your neighbor in need. We are ringing the bell on July 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8. If you’d like to ring the bell, contact Pastor Brent at 641-891-3974. We’ll be ringing at Fareway Food Store.

--See you Sunday!
Pastor Brent Hanna

July 2023

July 2023

August 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jun 25	26	27	28	29	30	Jul 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Faith Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church Office Closed for Independence Holiday 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop (Annex) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heather's Birthday 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting (Activity Center) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katie's Birthday 12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am God's Laboratory Summer Day Camps (Kids) 12:00pm Classical Stretch 5:00pm Pickleball (Plex) 7:30pm NA Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting 6:00pm Narcotics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community/Food Donation 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity) 5:00pm Chapel Worship Service (Chapel)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communion Sunday/Food 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Faith Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church Office Closed for Independence Holiday 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop (Annex) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heather's Birthday 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting (Activity Center) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katie's Birthday 12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am God's Laboratory Summer Day Camps (Kids) 12:00pm Classical Stretch 5:00pm Pickleball (Plex) 7:30pm NA Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting 6:00pm Narcotics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community/Food Donation 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity) 5:00pm Chapel Worship Service (Chapel)
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Faith Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church Office Closed for Independence Holiday 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop (Annex) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heather's Birthday 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting (Activity Center) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katie's Birthday 12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am God's Laboratory Summer Day Camps (Kids) 12:00pm Classical Stretch 5:00pm Pickleball (Plex) 7:30pm NA Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting 6:00pm Narcotics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community/Food Donation 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity) 5:00pm Chapel Worship Service (Chapel)
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Service Weekend (Group U) 8:00am Set Up for Assembly 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erin Off (Off) 10:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop (Annex) 6:00pm Finance Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch 5:30pm VBS: Hero Hotline 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 5:30pm VBS: Hero Hotline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00pm Classical Stretch 1:30pm Sarah Circle 5:00pm Pickleball (Plex) 5:30pm VBS: Hero Hotline 7:30pm NA Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting 6:00pm Narcotics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity Center) 5:00pm Chapel Worship Service (Chapel)
30	31	Aug 1	2	3	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Homebuilders 9:00am Holy Donut Hole 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Faith Forum 4:00pm Pickleball (Plex) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room 1) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 2:00pm Almost Free Shop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Classical Stretch 5:30pm VBS: Hero Hotline 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00pm WINGS (Fellowship Hall) 1:00pm Neighbor Helping Neighbor (Activity) 5:30pm VBS: Hero Hotline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00pm Classical Stretch 1:30pm Sarah Circle 5:00pm Pickleball (Plex) 5:30pm VBS: Hero Hotline 7:30pm NA Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00am Almost Free Shop (Annex) 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting 6:00pm Narcotics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00pm Clean & Sober Social Group (Activity Center) 5:00pm Chapel Worship Service (Chapel)