

Faith First Community Church

1630 W. 38th Street, Davenport, Iowa 52806

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July 2025

Vol. 2-7 Issued Monthly

Rev. Heidi Hulme

Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH

Focus on Faith



JULY is the month to collect school supplies for the EICC Student Success Store! Bring paper, pencils, pens, markers and backpacks to the church any time during July. If you want to donate cash, we will do the shopping for you! We will bless these supplies on Sunday, August 3 and deliver them to the store during August.

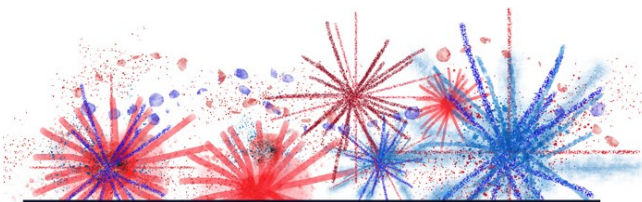
FAITH FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH
Celebration Event—August 17 at 10 a.m.
VBS, Worship, Games, Food and More!

COMPLETE JOY

Because Jesus came to do such serious work, we often imagine him straight-faced. Yet Jesus also enjoyed fun times, such as the wedding celebration at Cana. When the wine ran out, Jesus miraculously produced more.

Jesus also warmly welcomed children. Picture him lifting an infant into the air or tickling a giggling youngster while another child, grinning, climbs on his back.

Summer usually allows more time for fun and play. So use these months to teach the kids in your life — and to remind yourself — that Jesus came so our “joy may be complete” (John 15:11). Laughing, playing, having fun, relaxing and enjoying life are part of living and loving as faithful disciples.



PERSPECTIVES ON PATRIOTISM

While pondering differences between patriotism and nationalism, Ryan Hamm looks to Jesus’ example in Luke 19:41-44. “Jesus, it seems, loved his people, his city, his nation — so much so that he cried over it,” he writes in Christianity Today. “He didn’t despise his country or wish ill upon it — instead, he wanted nothing but the best for it, and it grieved him to see how his people had rejected his teachings.”



This example of “patriotism perfected” can serve as a guide for modern-day Christians, according to Hamm. “It’s an example that’s both pragmatic and romantic, shot through with justice, truth and love. It’s not a nationalistic patriotism — it’s a love for nation that doesn’t pit it against other nations. Instead, it’s a recognition of love followed by a mournful recognition of shortcomings.”

Put another way, God doesn’t love America more than any other nation. And he doesn’t want us to worship our nation alongside him, because that is idolatry. Instead, we are to love and proclaim God above any earthly realm.

THE FIRST DAY OF VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



One summer afternoon, a grandfather picked up his 4-year-old grandson at church. “Well, Jason, how did you like your first day of Vacation Bible School?” “It was great!” the boy replied. “We heard some stories and drew some pictures.

Then we went out to play, and when we came back in God had juice and cookies waiting for us!”

VBS at Faith First will be August 16th!



"A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough." ~ Galatians 5:9

My family and I have been eating a lot of hard boiled eggs lately, and one morning while I was having breakfast with Jarrod, he sprinkled salt on his egg and said, "It's amazing how just a little sprinkle of salt enhances the flavor of food."

Have you ever had food that is too salty? It ruins the taste. But a little salt, yeah, it's just right!

I think this holds true for a lot of things in our lives. Too much of something can actually ruin it. Over-eating can lead to health problems, excessive praise could potentially cause arrogance, too much free time could result in boredom or anxiety, or too much money (WHAT? Is there such a thing??) could lead to ideologies of privilege.

But a little bit of all of those things, we call it balance, can have incredible results!

Healthy eating leads to healthy bodies and minds, balanced praise leads to strong self-esteem, balanced rest and relaxation helps keep anxiety and other stressors at bay, and just the right amount of money? Well, anything is possible!

How many of you can remember the TV commercial from the early 1980's by Brylcreem? "A little dab'll do ya." I came across this on Facebook recently (right before Jarrod commented on the salt) and the reel keeps going through my mind, only not for the hair cream. I imagine a commercial that talks about kindness—just being kind to one another.

In the background, the song "The Kindness Song". Scenes of people walking, words pop up "All it takes is a smile." A person opening the door to a store, words pop up, "Hold the door for someone." Cars stopped at a red light that turns green, words pop up "Allow the car in front of you a couple of extra seconds before honking at them to move when the light turns green."

The song ends with the words, "It can take the clouds away. It can bring the sun to play. If I make the choice to say Kindness is the way every day." Or something like that.

But it is true. Just a little kindness, just a drop of compassion, just a wisp of love can actually change someone's life. It doesn't take much out of you, physically, emotionally, mentally, or spiritually. But it is what we are called to do as followers of Jesus' Way. To be kind to one another. To love our neighbor. To feed the hungry, offer clothes to the naked, justice to the oppressed. And it all starts with just a dab of kindness.

There is a trend going on right now where people are placing "Little Jesus" figures all over. "Everyone needs a Little Jesus." I found one after Karsten's graduation party on the window sill in the Fellowship Hall. It made me smile.

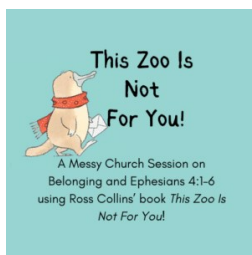


Jesus encompasses kindness, compassion and love, and so do we. Where do you see the need for kindness, compassion and love? Who can you offer those to on this day? Who needs a "Little Jesus?"

Always Peace, Pastor Heidi

THANK YOU!

I would like to thank everyone who came to my graduation open house to help me celebrate. Thank you for the gifts, as well as all the prayers and love you have given to me over the years. I feel blessed to be a part of this church. Karsten Hulme



**Vacation Bible School
Saturday, August 16
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.**

Jill Pepper is leading the VBS based on the book *The Zoo is Not For You*. The kids will also help with worship on August 17.

BIBLE QUIZ

In a parable of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, someone named Lazarus features prominently while other characters go unnamed. Who is Lazarus in this story?

- A. a friend Jesus raised from the dead
- B. a rich man dressed in fine linen
- C. a poor beggar at the rich man's gate
- D. the brother of the poor man
- E. an angel who carried the poor man to heaven



Answer: (See Luke 16:19-31.)

Hope at the Brick House

We are not scheduled to serve in July.

Share-A-Meal

We are scheduled to serve on July 29th.



**Women's Group
Will not meet in
July!**

Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month.

August Newsletter article deadline is July 20.

August Newsletter will be mailed by July 28.

Treasurer's Report May 2025			
PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE	MAY	GIVEN YTD
General Fund	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 6,243.00	\$35,607.00
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 120.00	\$ 1,637.00
OCWM	\$ 151.00	\$ 168.00	\$ 815.00
DOCM	\$ 45.00	\$ 26.00	\$ 74.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 360.00	\$ 314.00	\$ 1,615.00
Total Giving	\$ 7,506.00	\$ 6,871.00	\$39,748.00
GENERAL FUND	MO BUDGET		TOTAL YTD
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 6,363.00	\$37,244.00
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 65.87	\$ 1,514.63
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ -	\$12,092.13
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 6,428.87	\$50,850.76
Pastor Expense	\$ 7,549.00	\$ 5,943.88	\$36,104.00
Employee Expense	\$ 1,373.00	\$ 1,280.19	\$ 6,509.83
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 383.00	\$ 351.92	\$ 1,180.27
Office Expense	\$ 520.00	\$ 434.07	\$ 2,597.78
Property Expense	\$ 2,169.00	\$ 2,424.15	\$12,601.55
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$ 11,994.00	\$10,434.21	\$58,993.43
Net General Fund	\$ (5,044.00)	\$ (4,005.34)	\$ (8,142.67)
Submitted by Martha Watters			



- 1 Jan Hannel
Lindsay Ozmon
Jessica Daily
- 2 Jan Johnson
- 4 Judy Cummings
- 6 Maureen Miller
- 7 AJ Skinner
- 9 Cathy Koehler-Wright
- 10 Henry Pepper
- 14 Karen Risler
- 18 Vicki Ertel
- 21 Lincoln Wakeland
- 22 David Hulme
Harriet Meye
- 29 Bonnie Rae
- 30 James Sullivan
- 31 Shylynn Fox



Board Notes

Board Meeting— June 22

- Eagle Scout Project—LED lights have been installed in the Fellowship Hall. Painting has begun.
- VBS August 16. VBS kids will help with worship at the Community Celebration on August 17. Celebration Committee met to organize the food and games.
- General Fund—the operating account is at a negative balance through May 31st. \$(8,142.67).
- HTBH block party will be August 1.
- Next meeting - July 20 at 11:30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

PELICAN — In the Middle Ages, the pelican came to represent Jesus' sacrifice of his blood for the world. According to legend, a mother pelican, in times of famine, would pluck open her chest and feed her young with her own blood. An alternate myth was that she fed her dying young with her blood to revive them, losing her own life in the process. The depiction of a pelican with a drop of blood on her chest is called "the pelican in her piety."



Our Faith First Family

Deb Lobdell
Doug Cox
Glenn Perreault
Don Walton
Pastor Heidi
Sid and Ardella Boots
Karen Risler
Rev. Barb Koenig

Our Homebound

Paul Dammeier
Nancy Giles
Dennis Jacobsen
Jan Johnson
Hazel Jones
Virginia Lemons
Harriet Meye
Colleen Skinner
Harry Stroupe

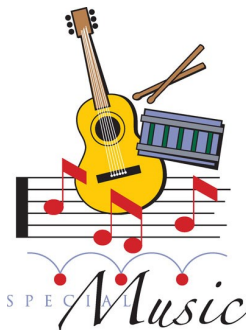
Our Family and Friends

Dillon Poole
Cal Klopp
Lorie House
Nancy
Fran Frutiger
Allison Byers
Judy Cummings
Cindy Norman
Taunia Waters
Deb
Nilofar Basti
Heather
Bruce
Terry Showens

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

Our World

Kenya, Tanzania, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Djibouti,
Somalia, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda



Thanks to Amy Dowell, Karleen Noteboom, Don Walton, Pam Edmond, Jan Hannel, and Karl Jensen for sharing their musical voices this summer while the choir is on summer break. We so appreciate the wonderful music that they and Susan Senn bring each Sunday.



We will be serving at one of the block parties at the Hope at the Brick House on Friday, August 1st. We will meet at 4:30 p.m. at the church. Check out the sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall and help where you are able.



PLEDGE DEADLINE APPROACHING

Pledges received through June 27th will be eligible for the bonus guarantee. The online donation page will be shut down after midnight on July 4th. Pledges should be mailed to: Birdies for Charity, 15623 Coaltown Road, East Moline, IL 61244. **Faith First's bird #2307**



TINY TEAMWORK

The focused teamwork of ants is astounding! How can we learn from them?

Directions: Answer the clues. Then write the words in order below to complete Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV.

This 6-legged arthropod can carry 20 times its own weight. _____
A sleepy, sloth-like and slow-moving person. _____
Having deep understanding and sound judgment. _____
A person in charge of military troops. _____
A person in authority. _____
The season when daylight hours are longest. _____
A substance you eat for nutrition. _____
When farmers reap the rewards of hard work. _____



Go to the _____, you _____;

consider its ways and be _____!

It has no _____, no overseer or _____,

yet it stores its provisions in _____





and gathers its _____ at _____.

Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV



Answers: ant, slugard, wise, commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer, harvest. Go to the ant, you slugard, consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	2	3	4 	5
6 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.	7 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	8 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	9 	10	11 Pastor Heidi At General Assembly	12 Fellowship Hall Reserved 2 pm to 8 pm
13 Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Pastor Heidi At General Assembly	14 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	15 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	16	17 Basket Class 5:30 p.m.	18 	19 Fellowship Hall Reserved 2 pm to 8 pm
20 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.	21 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	22 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	23	24	25	26
27 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.	28 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	29 Share-A-Meal 5:15 p.m. Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m. <i>Mail Newsletter</i>	30	31 