



More Than Just Sunday July 2024

Pastor's Message

I have caught myself shaking my head and thinking, "What is wrong with people??" more often than I would like to admit lately. I don't know if that is because people really are changing or I am getting more judgmental as I age. Either way it isn't a helpful way to react to the world. It assumes that I am right and they are wrong. As much as I like to think I am right all the time, my kids are quick to remind me that is a fantasy world with a population of one.

The gospel of Matthew in chapter 7 famously reminds us, "Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. 2 For the judgment you give will be the judgment you get, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. 3 Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye but do not notice the log in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your neighbor, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye."

So how do we do that? How do we stop from judging others so quickly? I have found that listening with a curious heart almost always helps me move from judgment to empathy. If I take the time to listen to someone's story, their circumstances begin to make clear their actions. And even if I disagree with their actions, I can at least see how they got there and offer empathy instead of judgment. It is my prayer that we can all be less judgmental and more curious as we go forward together.

May it be so.

Pastor Mel



This is a Viceroy butterfly. The spiritual meaning of a Viceroy butterfly is Personal Growth and Transformation. This butterfly is often mistaken for the Monarch butterfly, although it is notably smaller than the Monarch.

If you would like to attract Viceroys to your yard or garden, their host plants are willow, cottonwood and poplars. In addition, the Viceroy butterfly eats dung, carrion, fungi, and the nectar of flowers from golden rod, thistles, and asters. So keep your eyes open for them starting in the month of July to the month of September.

The butterfly has been used as a symbol for the human soul since ancient times. The physical metamorphosis of a butterfly has been compared to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ since the dawn of Christianity. Portrayed through the imagery of butterflies is the transforming process of spiritual rebirth.

Summer is an excellent time to ponder our own growth and rebirth. Think of the transformation of a butterfly such as this beautiful Viceroy butterfly - as poet Maya Angelou said, "We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty." We learn how nature can help us to appreciate our own transformations in life. Enjoy the remainder of summer, my friends. - Lori Elbermaw, Christian Administrator.

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Birthdays

Victor Herrig, Keira McKelvey	July 01
Brian Harris, Melynda McKelvey	July 03
Dalton Pierson, Robert Wiley	
Cindy Craw, Tallie Kehm,	July 04
Steve Younker	
Spencer Arndt, CarolAnn Eppens	July 05
Alexandra Moon	
Karl Griffith, Carter Hammervold	July 06
Carter Hammervold	
Diane Bissig, Christy Calaway	July 07
Nathan Kleckner, Anne Lewis	
Helen Ackerson, Jay Austin,	July 09
Dea Epley Birtwistle, Gloria Taylor	July 10
Gail Dahlquist, Ryley Holmes	
Myron Lunning, Collin Platts	
Grace Onder, Dalton Waslick,	July 11
Dave Wharton	
Steven Colombo, Janice McCauley,	July 12
Connor Moorman	
Summerlyn Starr	July 13
Lincoln Hanna, Kendra Miller	July 14
Ginger Krueger	July 15
Elly Gutierrez, Jean Johnson,	July 16
Jean Johnson, Kris Salmon,	
Joseph Starr, Hayden Boldt	
Demond LaSalle, Norma Meyer,	July 17
Brittlyn Starr	
Gary Hoffman, Larry Miller	July 18
Michelle Miller	July 19
Jerry Currie, Peggy Schultz	July 20
T. J. Stalker, Kathy Wild	July 21
Bruce Jensen, Jaylin Nuehring,	
Paula Schultz, Jada Williams	
Carter Hannam, Jan Kostka	July 23
Katie Larson, Tari Marson	
Aaron Onder	
Gary Herrig, Marie Hicok	July 24
Brice Cody, Joyce Colombo	July 25
Jim Morrise, Sydney Nuehring	
Chuck Bennett, Nathaniel Mallo	July 26
Mason Mallo	
Liz McCaskill, Bailey Thompson	July 27
Reagan Asche, Jarry Baker	July 28
Luke Mulholland	
Adam Beller, Doug Calaway	July 29
Susie Frescaz, Kathryn Gossweiler	
Addison Menke	
Kaden Bruggeman, Karen Eppens	July 30
Joyce Nielsen, Rob Parker	
Seth Lee, Gloria Richardson	July 31

Anniversaries

Megan & Christopher Manues	July 01
Molly Paullus-Vollmers, & Mark Vollmers	
Smith, Ken & Lori	July 09
Allison & Dion Cody	July 14
Kayla & Chad Helland	July 16
Karl & Lynn Griffith	July 17
Nancy & Gary Hendrickson	
Jerry & Doris Tieszen	July 20,
Michelle & Charles Sanders	July 22
Dennis & Kathryn Gossweiler	July 24
Dan & Dawn Pruisman	
Don & Marsha Kibsgaard	July 25
Cathy & Jim Hrubetz	July 30

Welcome!

Our new office manager is Jade Funk, please extend a warm welcome to her when you see her, or when you hear her voice on the phone. We look forward to working with her!

Sunday Coffee Hour

9:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary or Facebook Live

Sunday Radio Broadcast

11:00 a.m., KCMR 97.9 FM

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Closed Friday and Saturday

“Our hearts are devoted to serving the Mason City community with boundless love and unwavering compassion.”

First United Methodist Church

**119 S Georgia Ave
Mason City, IA 50401
641-423-4905**

**Rev. Melanie Greengo
Senior Pastor**

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Prayer Chain

Please call the church office at 641-423-4905 to submit a request to the confidential prayer chain. Call Rev. Melanie Greengo at 641-781-0264 if there is an emergency and need for pastoral care outside of office hours.

Radio Broadcasts

Radio Broadcast sponsorships for KCMR are \$80 And are available by contacting the church office for availability.

The following days for July are still open:

July 7th

July 14th

July 23rd

July 16th Broadcast is sponsored by Colleen Lohrbach, in memory of John's birthday.

You May Be Interested:

The Mason City Arena is excited to Welcome Christian recording artist, Matthew West featuring Megan Danielle on Sunday, August 4, 2024. The concert starts at 7 pm and tickets are available now!

www.masoncityarena.com/west/

Matthew West is a five-time GRAMMY® nominee, NSAI's 2022 Songwriter-Artist of the Year, ASCAP's 2023 Golden Note Award recipient, and a multiple ASCAP Christian Music Songwriter/Artist of the Year winner. He has received an American Music Award, a Billboard Music Award, K-LOVE Fan Awards, GMA Dove Awards, and has been named Billboard's Hot Christian Songwriter of the Year. A recipient of the Rich Mullins Impact Award, West also received a Primetime Emmy® Award nomination for Original Music & Lyrics for the title track for the feature film "The Heart of Christmas." Dubbed "one of Christian music's most prolific singer-songwriters" (Billboard), West has been awarded RIAA Gold and Platinum certifications and notched 30 number one songs combined as an artist and songwriter.

Announcement

Friends of Leslie Burdick - A memorial service has been planned for July 13th at 10:30 a.m. at the Lake Elmo Christ Lutheran Church, 11194 36th St. North, Lake Elmo, MN. Pastor Jane Harris, former finance coordinator at FUMC will be officiating. Luncheon for family and out of town guests will be at 1:30 p.m. and will need an approximate count for those wishing to join the luncheon.

Please RSVP with Darlene Petersen, 641-420-6116.

Upcoming Events

Please see your weekly bulletin inserts for weekly events.

Firefly

by Elizabeth Madox Roberts

A little light is going by,
Is going up to see the sky,
A little light with wings.
I never could have thought of it,
To have a little bug all lit
And made to go on wings.



Fireflies in the Garden

By ROBERT FROST

Here come real stars to fill the upper skies,
And here on earth come emulating flies,
That though they never equal stars in size,
(And they were never really stars at heart)
Achieve at times a very star-like start.
Only, of course, they can't sustain the part.



From Scott's Desk:

VOLUNTEER CHOIR opportunities

If you would like to participate, simply be in the sanctuary by 9:30am on the Sundays below. At that time, we will sing through the piece a few times and then sing it as the anthem on the following dates:

July 7 & August 18

SPECIAL MUSIC

There are still a couple of open Sundays (August 25 & Sept. 1) to be filled during the summer months. If you or someone you know would be interested in sharing your/their gifts, we would love to have that worship enhancement. Please contact Scott Blankenbaker for more information.

Dad Jokes for Summer

***What did the ocean say to the beach?**

Nothing. It just waved.

***Why aren't lobsters generous?**

Because they're shellfish

***Where do birds stay when they go on vacation?**

Someplace cheep.

***Did you hear about the ice cream truck accident?**

It crashed on a rocky road.

***What do you get when you cross an elephant and a fish?**

Swimming trunks.



Sermon Series:

COMING SOON TO A PULPIT NEAR YOU:

6-week Sermon Series titled:
"Yes. These stories really are in the Bible!"

July 14th- Aug 18th

Come and learn from our very flawed and very human ancestors in the Older Testament. Together we will explore some fascinating and often wild stories found in the Older Testament.

July 14- What can we learn about faith and doubt from Abraham and Sarah?

July 21- Learn how to live out your convictions from Shiphrah and Puah.

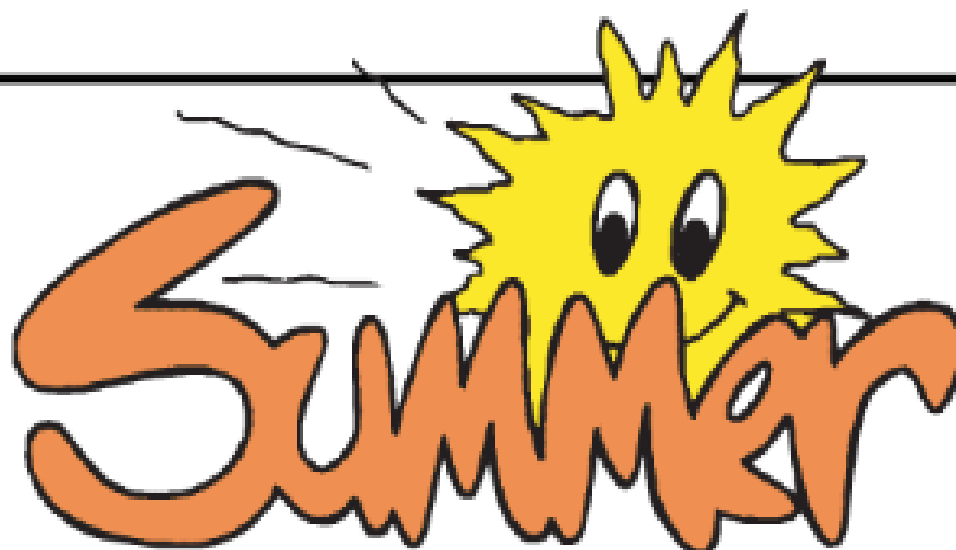
July 28- See what God has to say about grumbling and complaining (it may surprise you!)

Aug 4- See what being Holy means through the eyes of Samson.

Aug 11- Learn how God turned around Elijah's ministry with a nap.

Aug 14- Let's explore Esther's story together! (There will be props, so come prepared!)

God's peace and love to you.
Pastor Mel Greengo



WORD SEARCH

U Q E Z J Y L A V E X S T F L
N O I T A C A V L G A C Y Q O
Q X D C C T G T T G A K V P L
Z T F U P F S U N F L O W E R
H O Q Q T A C A O X A D Q H X
H E A T C I I Q L T Q U C N Y
B V B D Q C N A E O H A V W F
F A N P D E C S M P E V L U S
G A S K B C I F R B O P A W K
S N V E A R P C E C G O I N O
F S I S B E L J T D F M L D G
U I O T W A K J A X M Q E B F
A I Y S A M L F W I V N A F G
I T A C E O H L N G D B Y V F
T F Z C G K B G O V W N P Y C

BEACH
BASEBALL
ICE CREAM
SWIMMING

PICNIC
VACATION
SUNFLOWER
WATERMELON

SANDCASTLE
HEAT
BOATING
POOL



MORE Than Just Sunday



First United Methodist Church
119 S Georgia Ave
Mason City, IA 50401
641-423-4905

Rev. Melanie Greengo Senior Pastor
Lori Elbermawy Christian Administrator
Jade Funk.....Office Manager
Troy Gobeli Custodian
Scott Blankenbaker Director of Music
Lisa Nelson Accompanist
Betty Chipman Event Coordinator
Sue Simmons Security

Email: office@masoncityfristumc.org
Website: www.masoncityfirst.com

www.facebook.com/firstunitedmethodistchurchmasoncityiowa

