

Summer is here!!

May was a busy month for us here at the United Church! We had graduation Sunday on May 12th with 7 graduates: Presley Acheson, Joseph Bond, Natalee Hofer, Sierra McGregor, Tage Ortman, Cayden Scott and Ashley Tieszen. It will be so fun to watch these kids as they move into their adult lives!

Then we went right into Confirmation Sunday on May 19 with 9 confirmands. Katelyn Bond, Taya Bunger, Abigail Keller, Kaedyn Kennedy, Katelyn Kennedy, Lily Montgomery, Joshua Popkes Jr., Amelia Remacle and Katelyn Tieszen. We are so proud of these kids and the choice they have made to walk with Christ.



VBS VBS VBS VBS



THIS YEAR WE GOT TO GO CAMPING WITH CHRIST! WE HAD 40 KIDS, WITH ABOUT 10 ADULT HELPERS, 35 YOUTH HELPERS AND 5 KITCHEN HELPERS. VBS IS ALWAYS A FUN TIME FOR ALL INVOLVED. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED FOOD AND TIME. WE APPRECIATE YOU! SOME FUN VBS FACTS: WE ATE 136 HOT DOGS, 48 POUNDS OF HAMBURGER, 3 GALLONS OF BAKED BEANS AND 1 LEFTOVER CONFIRMATION CAKE FOR THE LEADERS AND HELPERS THAT LASTED ABOUT 5 MINUTES:)

the-ol-o-gy

"Everyone reads, everyone hears things discussed. Consequently, if you do not listen to Theology, that will not mean that you have no ideas about God. It will mean that you have a lot of wrong ones - bad, muddled, out-of-date ideas."
- C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Good theology
leads to good
orthopraxy

FAITH IN ACTION WITH:
MORE TALKING. MORE WEeping.
MORE EXPLORING JOY. AND MORE
SHARING MEALS. MORE LIFE
AND MORE JESUS.



Scholarships are due by July 1st for all college kids! Fill out the application and please return by email unit-edchurch@goldenwest.net or leave in the office. Thank you!

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

Eric and Amy Tieszen

About our family:

Eric and Amy, together we farm and run Dakota Tiling.

Ashley, 18, Freshman at Colorado State University in Biomedical Engineering & Chemical and Biological Engineering this fall.

Landon, 16, Junior this fall at Canistota

Katelyn, Sophomore this fall at Canistota

Hobbies or Activities:

We love fishing, traveling, hunting, shooting sports, gardening, spending time out on the water and watching our kids in their activities of volleyball, track, cross country, band, robotics & 4-H activities, archery, rifle and shotgun.

How did we get connected with UCC:

We moved back to Canistota in 2010 and joined the United Church as Eric grew up here.

Eric is part of the Finance Committee.

Amy leads Middle School Sunday School, helps in Shine and VBS when she can and is a part of the Elders Committee.

Ashley has played bells and piano for church and is part of the youth group.

Landon and Katelyn are a part of the youth group and have helped with Shine and VBS. Katelyn has also played bells in church.



May 30, 2024

Dear Friends at United Church,

God's grace and peace to you. As spring gives way to summer and the days grow longer and warmer, I hope that you are finding time in these next couple of months to relax and take time to practice sabbath. While summer is a time for rest, fun, and enjoying the outdoors, there are several exciting things happening at the church these next couple of months. Below is a list of what to expect in June, July, and August.

Starting in June there are two fun and creative fundraisers that you're invited to participate in. One is a raffle, and the other is a Chase the Ace activity, which we are doing in partnership with the Canistota American Legion. Look for more details coming soon on how to participate.

Potluck on June 9th. Please bring a food item to share as we send the middle schoolers off on their mission trip to Kansas City. Donations are welcome for the youth fund, which will help offset the costs of the mission trip.

Please be in prayer for the middle school mission trip, which is June 9-14. There are 11 youth and three adults going on the trip.

On June 16 we welcome into the waters of baptism Weston Gerken and Suttyn Hofer. Also, the elected elders to the newly formed elder's team will make their vows during worship.

Please be in prayer for the high school mission trip to Los Angeles, which is June 22-29. There are 11 youth and three adults going on the trip.

Canistota Sport Days is July 11-13 this year. The church will be having a float in the Sport Days parade, again, this year. The Worship and Membership committee is designing and constructing the float. Please reach out to Dick Dawson if you're interested in helping.

Church outing to the SF Canaries baseball game on Sunday, July 21st. Game time is at 4:05 pm. Tickets are \$15. If you're interested in going, please sign-up on the church bulletin board or call the church office by July 14th.

There will be a back-to-school cookout and bonfire on Sunday, August 11th at 7 – 10 pm. Please bring yard games and snacks. Hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be provided.

As mentioned above, there are six elders who are part of the new elder's team. Their responsibilities will be assisting with pastoral care, leading worship and helping with communion, and facilitating adult faith formation opportunities. The elders include: Bo DeKramer, Amy Tieszen, Dorene Richarz, Brad Schroeder, Ivan Ortman, and Cody Church. In addition to Pastor Jerry, you are encouraged to reach out to them should a pastoral care need arise.

Again, I pray for blessings on your summer months as you find time to rest, rejuvenate, and spend time outdoors.

Blessings,

Pastor Jerry Bertelson



DEVOTIONAL

One of the first theological words I learned growing up in my home church was grace. It's a word that describes a gift, namely the unmerited favor of God through Jesus Christ. In 2 Corinthians 12:9, God says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (NIV). As we journey through life God's grace remains a constant support.

Embracing grace means recognizing that we are loved and valued, not because of what we do, but because of who we are in Christ. We are called God's beloved. It's a reminder that our worth doesn't diminish with age; it flourishes through the wisdom and experiences we share. As Philip Yancey writes, "Grace, like water, flows to the lowest part." It permeates all of life.

Today, I invite you to take a moment to reflect on the countless ways God's grace has carried us through life's highs and lows. Let us share this grace with one another, uplifting and encouraging those around us. As Mother Teresa said, "In loving one another through our works we bring an increase of grace and a growth in divine love."

Rev. Jerry Bertelson

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

