



# AUGUST



DENISON UPC

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2020

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**Session**

Shar Hulstein  
Kendall Von Glan  
Bill Bruce  
Pat Chapman  
Wayne Igou  
Kyle Bohnker  
RoseMary Mason  
Carolyn Bukacek  
Clerk of Session:  
Penny Kinney

**Deacons**

Joyce Bohnker  
Marge Meyer  
Corrine Mehaffey-Kinney  
Jayne Lyons  
Denise Philipp  
Rebecca Brown  
Eric Olson  
Mary Ann Irwin  
David Moen

## *Reflections from Pastor Jen*

As time goes on, I have to cringe every time I hear someone say they “just want to get back to normal” or “back to the way things used to be.” I know what they mean and that it’s a way to express a deep desire to not have our lives disrupted by the coronavirus. Most of us are uncomfortable with change and prefer routines and at least a sense of knowing how things will be. All of that has gone down the drain, so to speak, and we all live with a lot of uncertainty now. However, the reason I so dislike the idea of “returning to normal” is because I see this period in our lives as an opportunity for growth. Sometimes we have to get a swift kick in the rear before we will get going and try something new. Sure, we knew that having our worship services online would be nice for those who couldn’t attend in person. But without COVID-19 pressing upon us, we might not have ever gotten around to it. Having online services has had MANY blessings. It has allowed us to include those who aren’t able to get out or who live far away or who don’t go to church at all or anywhere. Plus, we can stay in our jammies and drink coffee.

I don’t want to go back to the way things used to be. I want to keep moving forward and learn new things, new ways of doing things. I don’t want to get stagnant and stuck. I believe that God wants us to always be growing – spiritually, intellectually, mentally, emotionally. When we accept and learn something new, we are regenerated! When we step outside of our comfort zone and face new challenges, it renews our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

We all want to be able to worship and fellowship in our church building again. Many of the churches in town are back in their sanctuaries. Why aren’t we? Read the COVID-19 Task Force report in this newsletter for an explanation.

We are gathering outside for Lawn Chair Church on Saturday evenings now through Labor Day. The first one went really well, with 27 people there. Several people parked their cars right in front of the service and listened on their radios, able to see everyone. We all enjoyed seeing each other in person and sharing in prayer and worship together.

We’ll see this time through – with each other and with God alongside us. Take courage, do not lose heart, and trust in the Lord.

*Yours in Christ,*  
*Pastor Jennifer +*

# AUGUST WORSHIP

**Our Worship Services** are live on Zoom every Sunday at 10:30 am. You can check in at 10:15 to say hello before the service. Invitations to the Zoom services are sent out early on Sunday mornings and posted on the church's Facebook page. If you cannot access Zoom and would like for someone to teach you how, please contact the church office at 712-263-4130 or email Pastor Jenn at [pastorjennolson@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjennolson@gmail.com).

Recordings of the services will be emailed out and posted on Facebook on Sunday afternoons. You can watch those at anytime. Here's a link to watch Sunday June 28:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/5\\_VIbIDw929OE7PB0BD8d756OYfYaaa82iFP\\_sPyUdD2ZMZ3u-9jadJXFwhwEsC](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/5_VIbIDw929OE7PB0BD8d756OYfYaaa82iFP_sPyUdD2ZMZ3u-9jadJXFwhwEsC)

## Communion this Sunday, August 2

### Bread & Juice will be given out at the Sat. evening Lawn Chair Church



Eric Olson has been busy baking bread for communion on Sunday August 2. We will have individual loaves of bread and a grape juice packet for each family, which will be given out at the Lawn Chair Church service on Sat. Aug. 1. Contact Pastor Jenn at 317-797-5860 if you need it delivered to you.

## WORSHIP VIEWS

June 28

38 participants  
on Zoon

July 5

49 participants  
on Zoom with  
Communion



July 12

37 participants  
on Zoom

July 19

41 participants  
on Zoom

## Stewardship & Finance

Online giving is available on our website @  
[www.upcdension.com](http://www.upcdension.com)



GENERAL FUND:  
BALANCED 05/31/20

### We're Getting our Website Updated!

Just think – in a few months, our website will be fresh and new with all sorts of useful features and information! The Session and Finance Committee applied for and received a Technology Grant from our presbytery, Prospect Hill last month. With additional donations from the F & O Committee, Harvesters, and several members, money needed was raised. We have contracted with local website designers, PPP Design, to get started. It will take 3-4 months as they have to rebuild the site. If you have ideas or suggestions for things you'd like to have on our new site, please let Barb or Pastor Jenn know.

### Bible Verses to Investigate...

Romans 12:9-21

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Matthew 14:13-21



**SESSION**

Next Meeting: Thurs., Aug. 27 @ 7PM

The Elders met via Zoom on Thursday July 23, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Jennifer Olson served as moderator. The Session voted to approve the use of our church building for the Hunger Fighters food distribution. Hunger Fighters has been using the elementary school as a distribution point since April. The Siouxland Food Bank will drop off the food at the church and volunteers will sort into boxes. Volunteers will then deliver the boxes to families that drive up. The Session felt like this was a good way for our congregation to become more involved in the local community.

The COVID-19 Task force reviewed the current status of active cases in Crawford County. At this time, the criteria for reopening the sanctuary has not been met. The Task-force is closely monitoring the reports to see when reopening is possible.

The Deacons reported on a project to help TAP (Temporary Assistance Program) restock items for community need. The Worship Committee reported that communion will be held via Zoom on Sunday August 2, with bread being provided.



**Which book in the Bible teaches us that husbands should make the coffee?**

**HEBREWS**

**Join us each week on Zoom for  
Coffee Chats!**

**Thursday mornings at**

**9:30 – 10:15 am**

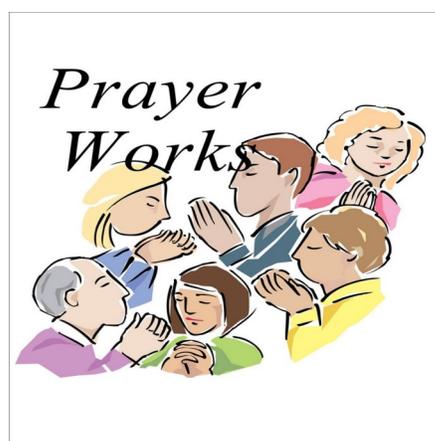
We've enjoyed friendly conversations two mornings a week during July. In August, we'll have chats every Thursday from 9:30-10:15 am.

Everyone is welcome! You can log onto Zoom with a computer, tablet, or smartphone. The Zoom link will be emailed out on Thursday mornings.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Maggie Chapman is heading to Iowa State the first week of August. Good luck and be safe!
- Corrine Kinney-Mehaffey's long-awaited knee replacement surgery went well!
- Continued prayers for Roy Voggesser and Roy's brother, Harold
- Earl and Mary Lou Olsen
- Tim Chapman, recovering from COVID-19
- Ray and Becky Hall's son and 4 year old granddaughter in Texas who have COVID-19
- Duane Mullen and family as they move to Jefferson and their job search
- Donna Kuehnhold – back pain
- Mat Gotto – continued recovery from accident injuries
- Lynne Rihner
- Linda Moran's mother-in-law
- Teachers, students, staff, bus drivers, as preparations are made for the new school year
- All who have been affected by, sick from, lost loved ones due to COVID-19



## Do You Love Homemade Bread, Rolls, Cookies, and Donuts?

**If so, sign up to be on Eric Olson's Bakery give-away list!**



Whenever he bakes fresh goodies, he will send out an email or text and let you know. If you want anything he's made, just reply and set up a pick up time. As always, there is no charge for items. They are baked with love and generosity and a gift to anyone who is interested. Email or text Eric to let him know you'd like to join his Bakery List at [oleolson09@gmail.com](mailto:oleolson09@gmail.com) or 712-269-4597.

The Will of God, never takes you where  
The Grace of God, will not protect you.

## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH



### YOU'RE INVITED!

To save time and energy, many Presbyterian Women have been meeting regularly for lunch at Washington Park each Thursday at noon. Pack a lunch or take out from one of our local restaurants as we share a meal together. There is no need to respond or call anyone, just show up at noon with your lawn chair and lunch. In case of rain, we do not meet. "Where two or three are gathered ....(in this case, 10-15)." Lunch can take us anywhere from an hour to two hours. This week, dessert was provided by Eric Olson.....fresh donuts! Thanks soooooo much, Eric! They were "melt in your mouth" fabulous!

## July Bible Trivia Answer

Where does 'pride of life' come from?

B) The love of the world

Explanation: If something is of the world, it is not of God

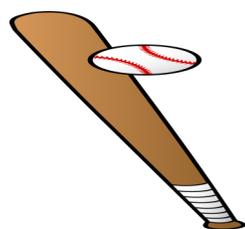
Reference: 1 John 2:16

## August Bible Trivia

After Saul's death, which of his articles did David receive?

- A) Sword & Shield
- B) Crown & Bracelet
- C) Sandals & Tunic
- D) Scepter & Staff

*\*look for the answer in next month's newsletter*



What did Jesus tell the Chicago Cubs?

Don't do anything until I get back

## Want to Learn More about Zoom?

Need help learning how to use Zoom? We have people who can teach you how to use it. Contact the church office 712-263-4130 or Pastor Jennifer 317-7979-5860 or [pastorjennolson@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjennolson@gmail.com) and we'll see what we can do!



## Do You Have Unused Technology?



We want everyone to be able to participate in worship services, meetings, and events online. Do you have an iPad or tablet or computer you aren't using that we could share with someone in the congregation who doesn't have one? Contact the church office if you do!

## Book Study on Antiracism Continues through August

It's not too late to take part!

Pastor Jenn has some books available. It's an ongoing conversation, led by Nancy Voggesser, teacher-extraordinaire. Tuesday evenings at 7:00-8:00 pm on Zoom.

## We are Starting a New Ministry!

At our last Session meeting, it was unanimously approved to be the distribution site for the Crawford Cares-HungerFighters food distribution! We are very excited about this ministry. Since the pandemic, this community project has given out food from the Siouxland Food Bank every 2-3 weeks. Volunteers to help unload the trucks, set up and pack the food, distribute it, deliver, etc. come from the community. It is expected that the first distribution from UPC will be toward the end of August.

Contact Eric Olson 712-269-4597 or [oleolson09@gmail.com](mailto:oleolson09@gmail.com) or Pastor Jenn if you want to be a part of this important and much-needed ministry!



## LETTER TO CONGREGATIONS

Dear Church Family,

July 31, 2020

**UPC Denison will be holding “Lawn Chair Church” on Saturday evenings at 7:00 pm (weather permitting) in the shady lawn by the Church parking lot. Unfortunately, neither the Sanctuary or the UPC Denison church building can reopen at this time.**

*Now for the details to explain how we can make this announcement...*

Over the last several weeks a return to church “Covid 19 task force” has been meeting about once per week. The task force includes Pastor Jennifer, Shar, Rosemary and Bill. Work has included a review/discussion of the Covid 19 published literature and case data for Crawford County. Our Presbytery has been a key resource in access to guidance for the safe return to services in the UPC Sanctuary and subsequent expansion of service to the full utilization of our building.

On June 25<sup>th</sup> at the monthly Session meeting the COVID-19 Task force recommended specific criteria for a conditional re-opening the Sanctuary, and also for a conditional re-opening the rest of the church building.

The COVID-19 Task force provided specific guidelines for operation when opening such as: wearing a mask; walking one direction in and out; a stationary offering plate; ushers to open doors and direct people, etc. At this time an unconditional (as it was before COVID-19) re-opening is not proposed. Church services will continue to be available online via Zoom, Facebook, YouTube, etc.

A motion was passed to re-open the sanctuary and the building when the following is met:

**Sanctuary Reopening:** Using the state of Iowa Covid 19 published data for Crawford County the sanctuary would reopen IF the total number of (positive) cases over the prior 15 days was less than 50 for a continuous 15-day period.

**Building Reopening:** Using the state of Iowa Covid 19 data for Crawford County the entire building would reopen IF the total number of (positive) cases over the prior 15 days was less than 5 for a continuous 15 day period.

Both would include the latest recommendations concerning wearing a mask, walking in one direction, a stationary offering plate and enhanced use of ushers to make sure everyone was attending was educated and supported to follow reopening criteria. It was noted that with current CDC recommendations a total of 45 “households” would be the capacity of the sanctuary to enable us to maintain physical distancing.

In addition, the Session approved the purchase of an FM transmitter and related sound system to enable outdoor services to be held with a total cost not to exceed \$600. This would be funded with the \$17,000 support we have recently received through the Federal Payroll Protection Program (PPP Program). The task force and Session were grateful to have the PPP Program funds to support this expense, as well as the qualified expenses related to labor and utility costs of UPC Denison.

## LETTER continued...

**To say the least, this is disappointing news!** As such, the sanctuary reopening is again in a waiting pattern until we have our criteria met. This is only being done to protect the health and safety of our congregation, both young and old.

Recognizing that holding in building services is a challenge the task force also discussed and received support to hold a Saturday evening outdoor service in addition to the ongoing services via zoom on Sunday mornings. On July 25, we began worship services outdoors. It went very well, with attendance near 30.

Through at least Labor Day weekend, Pastor Jennifer will hold a “Lawn Chair Church” service on Saturday evenings at 7:00 pm. Ushers will be posted in the parking lot to direct those that wish to bring their own lawn chairs and those that wish to remain in their cars to listen in the on their automobile FM radio. The service will be limited to about 30 to 45 minutes. Please keep in mind that you should bring lawn chairs/a blanket to sit on in the grass and grass attendance will require that you wear masks for arrival and departure from the grass seating area.

The UPC Reopening Task Force will continue to meet on a frequent basis to review the latest literature and our local county Covid 19 case data to enable a return to services inside our UPC Denison building as soon as safely possible.

I recognize this is a frustrating time for all of us. As you reflect in prayer please include adding a “verse” to encourage health and tolerance as we travel through this worldwide challenge.

*Peace and All Good,*

*Bill Bruce and the COVID Reopening Task Force Team, Dr. RoseMary Mason, Shar Hulstein, and Rev. Jennifer Olson*



## THANK YOU'S

*Thank you for all your hard work & hard decisions during this time*

*Ron & Carole Evilsizer*



## DEACONS



The Deacons are beginning a project to help TAP restock items for community need. We are asking the congregation for help, by donating a chosen item for TAP the 1st through the 14th of each month and a different item the 15th through the end of the month. The items should be put into the outside bench seat (seat lifts up and is waterproof) by the East entrance, and will be picked up and taken to TAP by a Deacon.

The first item unit beginning July 27th through August 14th will be spaghetti & spaghetti sauce.

The item for August 15th through August 31st will be a box of cereal. This will be an ongoing project to serve the community.

Thank you for your help in serving this community.

How do we know God was a helicopter pilot?

“...and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.”

Keep up with news and info from our presbytery here:

<https://prospecthillpresby.org/enews/>

JULY PUZZLE ANSWERS

# God Creates the World Word Search



Read the story below. Find and circle the words that are **underlined**. The words can appear in any direction: horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwards.

## God Creates the World – Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

## Solution

In the **beginning**, God created the **heavens** and the **earth**. God said, "Let there be **light**." And there was light. God saw that the light was **good**. God called the light "**day**" and the darkness "**night**." There was evening, and there was morning. It was day one.

God said, "Let there be a huge space between the waters." God called the huge space "**sky**." There was evening, and there was morning. It was day two.

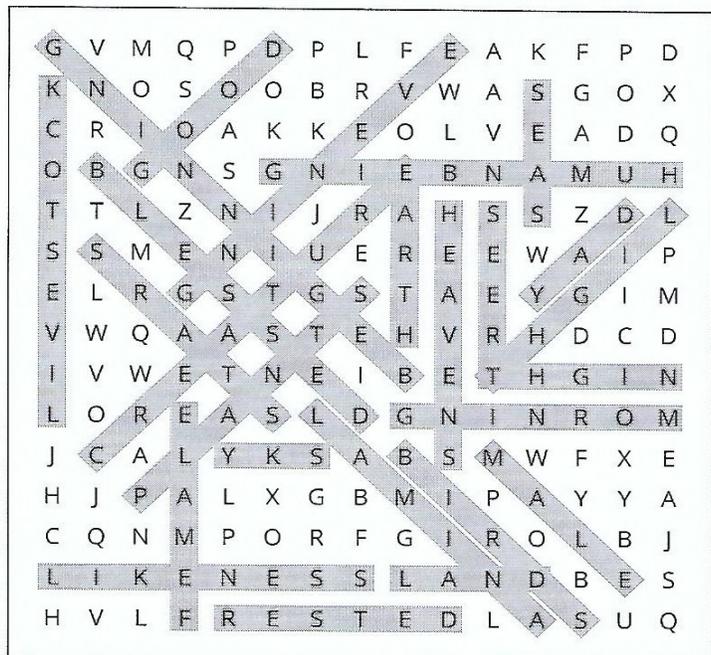
God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered into one place. Let dry ground appear." God called the dry ground "**land**" and the water that was gathered together "**seas**." And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the land produce **plants** and **trees** that grow fruit with seeds in it." So the land produced plants and trees. God saw that it was good. There was **evening**, and there was **morning**. It was day three.

God said, "Let there be lights in the sky." God made two great lights. He made the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night. He also made the **stars**. God saw that it was good. There was evening, and there was morning. It was day four.

God said, "Let the seas be filled with living things. Let **birds** fly above the earth." So God created every kind of living thing that fills the seas and every kind of bird that flies. And God saw that it was good. There was evening, and there was morning. It was day five.

God said, "Let the land produce every kind of living **creature**." God made every kind of wild **animal**, every kind of **livestock** and every kind of creature that moves along the ground. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make **human beings** so that they are like us." So God created human beings in his own **likeness**. He created them as **male** and **female**. God saw everything he had made. And it was very good. There was evening, and there was morning. It was day six.

By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing. So on that day he **rested** from all his work. God **blessed** the seventh day and made it holy.



## AUGUST PUZZLE

# The Fall of Jericho Word Search



Read the story below. Find and circle the words that are **underlined**. The words can appear in any direction: horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwards.

## The Fall of Jericho – Joshua 6

The gates of **Jericho** were shut tight and guarded closely because of the **Israelites**. No one went out. No one came in.

Then the Lord said to **Joshua**, "I have **handed** Jericho over to you. March around the city once with all your **fighting** men. In fact, do it for **six** days. Have seven **priests** get **trumpets** made out of rams' **horns**. They must carry them in front of the ark. On the **seventh** day, march around the **city** seven times. Tell the priests to blow the trumpets as you march. You will hear them blow a long **blast** on the trumpets. When you do, tell the whole **army** to give a loud shout. The wall of the city will **fall** down. Then the whole army will march up to the city. Everyone will go straight in."

So Joshua **ordered** the people, "Move out! March **around** the city." They marched around the city once and **returned** to **camp**. They did this for six days.

On the seventh day, they got up at **sunrise**. They **marched** around the city, just as they had done before. But on that day, they went around it seven times. On the seventh time around, the priests **blew** a long blast on the trumpets. Then Joshua gave a **command** to the army. He said, "**Shout!** The Lord has given you the city!"

The priests blew the trumpets. As soon as the army heard the sound, they gave a loud shout. Then the wall fell down. **Everyone** **charged** straight in and they took the city.

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

# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/8 Lisa Langholz

8/11 Jayne Lyons

8/13 Marge Meyer

8/13 Robin Adams

8/14 Jacob Irwin

8/17 Cathy Christiansen

8/20 Dale Kinney

8/22 Mary Ann Irwin

8/24 Rosemary Hansen

8/25 Steve Fitzgerald

8/26 Dean Argotsinger

8/30 David Adams

# AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

8/5 Brian Mehaffey & Corrine Kinney-Mehaffey

8/15 John & Lisa Langholz

8/19 Don & Jayne Lyons

8/30 Bob & Sharon Irwin



The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the 'alarm clock' of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.. seeking COFFEE **1 Thes 4:16**