

# UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# JUNE



DENISON UPC

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2020

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UpcDenison

## 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

## Pastor's Ponderings

Our world has changed so much in the past few months. I suspect that you have noticed many changes in your own lives as well. The way we do what used to be simple, everyday things, like buying groceries, going out to eat, and gathering on Sundays for church services, either doesn't happen at all or has a number of restrictions and guidelines added to it.

My guess is one of the things we all miss the most is each other. Sitting together in the church sanctuary, chatting before the service (and for some of you, during the worship service!), eating delicious goodies while catching up with the latest during coffee hour in Fellowship Hall, working on the current jigsaw puzzle, just being able to stop by the church and say hello to Barb . . . That basic human interaction is so vital to our lives. There are some big holes in our lives these days. We've had to resort to phone calls, writing letters, email, text messages, Facebook to keep up with one another. Let's do our best to stay connected with one another!

Where are you seeing God in your lives during this time? How is God working in the world and in your life? Are you praying more? If you haven't already done so, I suggest turning to the Psalms in your Bible. They are short and you can find one for most any feelings you are experiencing.

**Worrying?** Psalm 43-45

**Anxious and stressed?** Psalm 25

**Thankful for the beauty of creation?** Psalm 24, 104

**Tired of waiting for God to do something?** Psalm 22, 40

**Hope and trust in God** Psalm 46

**Depressed and feeling hopeless?** Psalm 88

**Joyful and praise to God** Psalms 144-150

**Fearful?** Psalm 27

**Request for God's teaching** Psalm 119

**For peace and comfort** Psalm 23

May God be with you every day, every moment, and keep you safe.

Yours in Christ, *Pastor Jennifer*

# JUNE WORSHIP



The Session and Pastor Jenn are concerned about each and every one of you. Because of the uncertainty of the safety in group gatherings, we will continue to worship online.

You can watch the services at the church's Facebook page (upcdenison)

or access through the link sent out by email to our congregation.

You can watch them anytime, but new ones come out each Sunday at 10:30 am.

To comply with insurance company recommendations to document all ways that we are keeping the congregation and church building safe, the Session also voted to have a sign-in sheet at the entryways for all persons entering the building. There will be hand sanitizer, disposable masks, and disinfectant wipes available at sign in points. This is to also ensure that all areas accessed in the building are cleaned and sanitized. All persons entering the building will be required to wear a mask to prevent the potential spread of COVID-19. Bathrooms are also closed except those by the Kitchen/Fellowship Hall. We ask that anyone entering please abide by the signs & restrictions for everyone's safety.

If you'd like to read scripture, sing, play an instrument, or do a Children's Time, let Pastor Jenn know. You can record it on your phone and send it to her to be included in the worship service. Thanks to Shar Hulstein and Lisa Langholz for their participation, and of course, to Marilyn Jepsen for her weekly organ music.

## Special Shared Communion Service –

Online Sunday June 7 at 10:30 am

See information inside this newsletter

## WORSHIP VIEWS

<p>5/3/20 83 views</p>	<p>5/10/20 83 views</p>	<p>5/17/20 83 views</p>	<p>5/24/20 68 views</p>	<p>5/25/20 Memorial Day 52 views</p>
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## Stewardship & Finance

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

You can also leave in our church mailbox, drop off  
at the Crawford County Bank drive thru, or mail.



GENERAL FUND:

BALANCED 04/30/20

Your finance committee continues to meet via zoom. After securing the Small Business Loan, we are working diligently on keeping the records to help insure we can be forgiven the loan. It covers certain utilities & parts of our payroll. There has been a tremendous amount of paperwork associated with this process.

We have also been blessed with a grant from the Presbytery to upgrade our website. We hope to make it more user friendly & inviting. During these “new” times, online is a heavily used way to communicate to current & future members out there.

Contributions have slowed during these times and we would like to remind everyone to keep the contributions coming in as the bills still exist.

We pray for those who have been adversely affected by COVID-19. We request each of you keep the church and your fellow members in your prayers.

Thank you and God Bless.

### Bible Verses to Investigate...

Genesis 18:1-5, 21: 1-7

Romans 6:1-11

Matthew 28:16-20



**SESSION**

Next Meeting: June 25 7PM



The Elders met via Zoom on Thursday May 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Jennifer Olson served as moderator. The Session approved Shar Hulstein to serve as Duane Mullen's Session liaison. The Session unanimously voted to endorse Duane Mullen's request to enroll as a Candidate in the process toward ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. On June 1<sup>st</sup>, Duane will be evaluated by the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, and if advancement is recommended by the committee, the Presbytery will vote to accept the recommendation of the CPM at its June 6, 2020 meeting.

The Session voted to keep the church building closed and continue online worship services. To comply with insurance company recommendations to document all ways that we are keeping the congregation and church building safe, the Session also voted to have a sign-in sheet at the entryways for all persons entering the building. This is to also ensure that all areas accessed in the building are cleaned and sanitized. All persons entering the building will be required to wear a mask to prevent the potential spread of COVID-19.

The Finance Committee reported that the church was awarded the Presbytery's COVID-19 Technology Grant of \$1500 for updating our church website. A meeting will be held with local website designer, Pam Jacobsen of PPP Design, (a local website designer) to get started.

In an effort to reach other to our congregations and the community during this time of separation, Pastor Jenn and Pastor Mike Fillmore from the Methodist Church are planning to work together to offer at-home communion packs to both congregations (and others in the community) on Sunday, June 7. Eric Olson will bake individual loaves of bread; the Methodist Church will provide grape juice. Our Worship Committee will be working on a plan to distribute and/or deliver communion packs to all church families. We will also advertise on our church's Facebook page and Crawford Cares Facebook page if anyone in the community wants to join in. Everyone is invited to share in our communion service online at 10:30 am.

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

Deacons met via email in May following consensus that a formal meeting was unnecessary at this time. Several email messages, questions, and sharings of information were sent, received, and communicated to keep in touch. Deacons continue assisting in the community as a need is seen, praying for others, and reaching out within the parameters of social distancing and safety considerations.

***A Thorn in the Flesh***

Meaning: A persistent difficulty or annoyance. Any impediment which disturbs the body or nature.

Origin: Corinthians 12:7

“And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.”

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



The Christian Education Committee met via Zoom on Wednesday May 20, 2020. The Committee plans on hosting Zoom meetings with the youth on Wednesday evenings with the first meeting scheduled for Wednesday May 27, 2020. Activities are still being planned, and may include games, trivia, skits, music and lots of talking.

Pastor Jennifer is working on a plan for a youth led/assisted worship service sometime this summer. No date has been set at this time .

### May Bible Trivia Answer

Which female judge described herself as “ a mother in Israel”?

- A) Rehab                      B) Ruth  
C) Barak                      D) Rachel

None of the Above actually, correct answer is Deborah

See: Judges 5:7

### June Bible Trivia

What was the tenth and final plague unleashed on Egypt?

- A) Gnats                      B) Locusts  
C) Death to the first born      D) Darkness

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

**How do you get dragon milk?**

**From a cow with short legs.**



## SPECIAL SHARED COMMUNION SERVICE

Everyone is invited to join together for our online communion worship service. Pastor Jenn and Pastor Mike Fillmore of the Denison United Methodist Church are working together to find ways to stay connected with one another during this time of physical-distancing. So our Worship Committee will be giving everyone a communion packet, complete with freshly baked bread (from Eric Olson's bakery), grape juice, and grape jam to enjoy with the remainder of the bread. On Sat. June 6, you can pick up your packet in the church parking lot between 2-4 pm. If you are unable to pick up, please let Pastor Jenn know and we'll deliver to your door. Then on Sunday, we will all have communion together! We will be inviting the community to participate as well as a way to acknowledge that we are all one in Christ.



***Want your communion packet delivered?***

***Call the church office at 712-269-4130 and leave a message***

***or email [pastorjennolson@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjennolson@gmail.com)***

## The Church Building Remains Closed!

At our May Session meeting, your elders voted 8-1 to keep the church building closed, continuing with online worship services. Dr. RoseMary Mason gave an update on the latest information about COVID-19 and Pastor Jennifer shared information from the Presbytery about keeping our congregations safe. While we all sorely miss our Sunday worship services together – and maybe some of us even miss those committee meetings in person – it is the strong desire of the Session to err on the side of caution and safety. Not enough is known at this time about transmission of COVID-19. As things continue to remain uncertain, we are staying updated on what new information is coming out from the CDC, Iowa Department of Public Health, The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) the case count in our area, and guidelines from our Presbytery.

## New Church Building Restrictions

Beginning May 29, everyone who enters the church building is required to sign in and out and to wear a mask while in the building. The church insurance company has recommended documenting everything we do to protect the congregation. We ask that you only come inside the building for essential purposes. Thank you!

## GOOD MEASURE

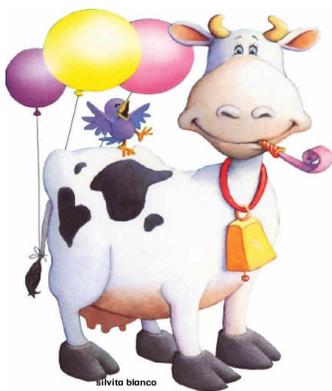
In Luke 6:32-38, Jesus said "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." What point was Jesus making? It can be tempting to hear this and focus on what we get out of giving, but doing so would miss the point. Jesus preceded that statement with this one: "Love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked." We don't give to get things; we give because God delights in our generosity. Our love for others reflects His loving heart toward us. In what ways have you experienced God's generosity in your life? How can you extend generosity to others? (by Remi Oyedele in *Our Daily Bread* devotional for May 28.)

When Daryl and I read that yesterday morning, I was prompted to think of stewardship at United Presbyterian. During this time while we are not physically meeting in our church building, we are still the church. Yet our offerings have been decreasing. Perhaps because of individual financial challenges. Perhaps because it is no longer convenient to drop something in the offering plate while the organist plays the offertory. If the former, our church family wants to support each other in whatever ways we can. Make your need known. If the latter, please know that your tithes and offerings are needed, and we want to make it more convenient for you. Your donation can be mailed to the church, left in the mailbox by the northeast entrance to the church, or dropped off at Crawford County bank. There is also an opportunity to give with an electronic funds transfer link on the church website. ([www.upcdenison.com](http://www.upcdenison.com))



Check it out. God has been generous with us.

Until we can meet again--*Denise Philipp*



## CONGRATULATIONS!

We would like to recognize

Amber Irwin

&

Maggie Chapman

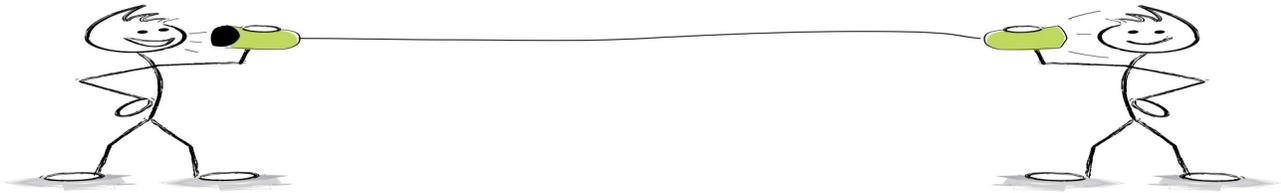
on their graduations.

Best wishes to them in their future endeavors!

**A lot of Kneeling Keeps You  
In Good Standing**

## STAYED CONNECTED

As your pastor, I am striving to find new ways to connect with you and to keep you all connected with one another. The Session and Board of Deacons have a list of people they call about once a month to check in with. As things play out, it looks like online worship services are here to stay, no matter when in-person starts up again. So as I learn more about how to do worship online, I will be asking more of you to be a part of it. No one wants to only see Pastor Jenn all the time! We need a variety of people to be a part of our services. Can you read scripture or a prayer? Can you play an instrument or sing? Record it on your phone and send it to me! Do you know how to do video editing? Give me a call! If you have ideas or suggestions for our online worship, please tell me about them. Do you want to have an online bible study? A Zoom coffee hour after the worship service? Let's try some new ways of doing things and see what we like. I'm counting on you to share in whatever ways you can. – *Pastor Jenn*



In 1889, the king and queen of Italy were traveling throughout their country. As they visited each city, its mayor and other VIPS's gave them expensive gifts. The city of Naples was quite poor, but wanted to do its best. A local chef, Raffaele Esposito, was planning a dinner for the royals. Why not invent a dish for them, he thought.

Taking tomatoes, mozzarella, and basil (the red, white, and green of Italy's flag), he bake them on a flat piece of dough. Italians had baked different toppings on bread for centuries, and called it pizza. But chef Esposito's recipe, called Margherita after the queen, is the one most famous. Few remember the extravagant presents the king and queen received on their tour. But millions of people enjoy the simple present that Chef Esposito invented.

God grants each of us talents. Too often, we assume that talent refers only to the performing arts. However, that not true. A talent for cooking could earn money at a church dinner. A talent for carpentry might perform need repairs at the church.

What are your talents? Think about ho you can give them to God. God is after all, our King.

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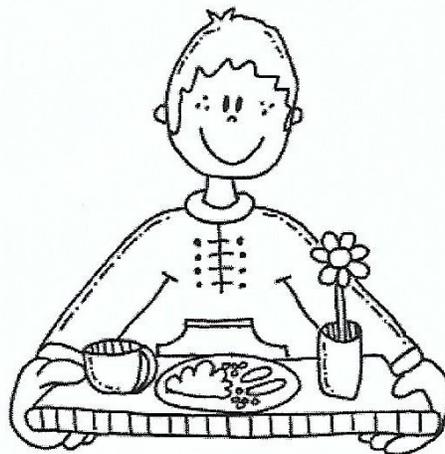
## MAY PUZZLE ANSWERS

## 4 x 4 Mothers Day Sudoku

Mother's Day is a celebration to honour mothers and mother figures. Cards and presents are usually given to honour the day. Children also often organise a special day out or a treat such as breakfast in bed!

l	o	e	v
e	v	l	o
o	l	v	e
v	e	o	l

Celebrate Mother's Day with our special "love" Mother's Day Sudoku. Fill in the grid with the letters L, O, V, and E making sure no letter is repeated in every row, every column and within each mini grid.



**JUNE PUZZLE**

**DANIEL IN THE LIONS' DEN CROSSWORD**

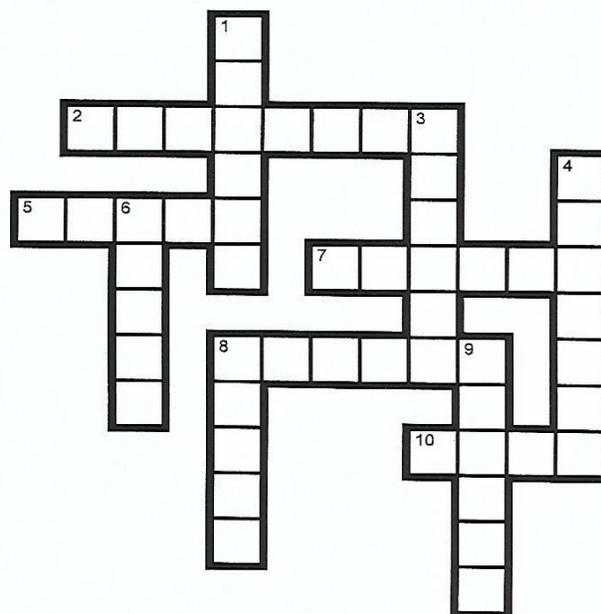
**Across**

- 2 Not hurt (8)
- 5 Not sleeping (5)
- 7 Persian ruler (6)
- 8 Stamp for marking documents (6)
- 10 Monarch (4)

**Down**

- 1 Daniel did this three times a day (6)

- 3 Legally binding law (6)
- 4 Not eating (7)
- 6 God sent one to protect Daniel (5)
- 8 This was laid across the mouth of the den (5)
- 9 Number of days the new law lasted (6)



BiblePuzzles.org.uk



# JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/16 Erin Adams

6/16 Barb Haley

6/17 Phyllis Lewis

6/25 Seth Irwin

6/28 Phyllis Weaver

6/30 Becky Hall

# JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

6/7 Ed & Marilyn Jepsen

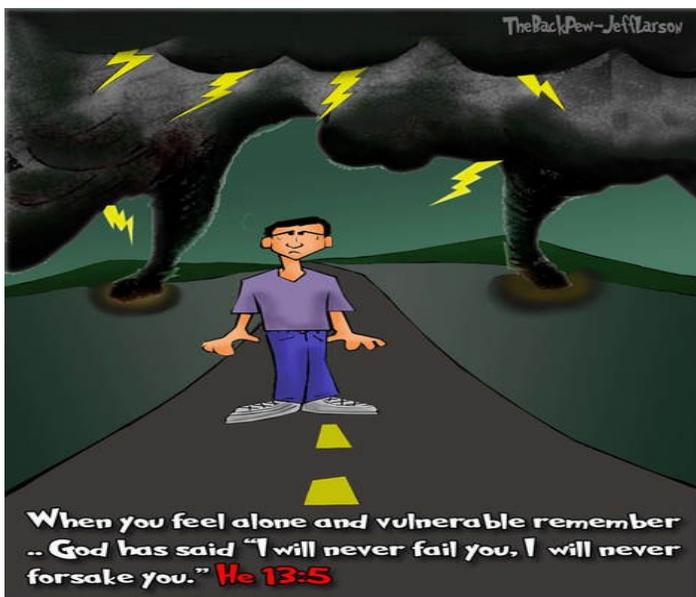
6/8 Roy & Ann Voggesser

6/14 Duane & Kristy Zenk

6/20 David & Barb Blair

6/22 Mike & Linda Moran

6/25 Bob & Mary Eisenbraun



David also caught 1 Muskie, 6 Walleye, 4 Bass, and 22 Crappies, but had to throw them all back as none of them were wearing a mask.

