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A Monthly Publication of Solon United Methodist Church

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This month marks a mid point of the year and it comes with a bang. Yes, I did it. A bang! The fourth of July is a statement of hope and celebration of freedom. It flows with a parade or two with floats of joy and color.

Yet for all the laughter and smiles we know at the end of the day the week is yet incomplete. There are some who wish to point to those points that are imperfect and need work. Some of these points are well stated and made, and some are not.

Within the church we know this tension of imperfection all too well. We have set out together on a journey to find our home. A home that scripture says is beyond our full understanding for now. A land where the milk and honey is overflowing. A vision has been set and a goal, to strive, to reach. Yet there are some who say it is an imperfect dream of imperfect people. Look at us they say. You are not like your Savior and King. It is true, we are not yet who we hope to be. We are not yet who we are dreaming to be. We are a people on our way to a God who calls to us, and to a God who comes to us to show us the way.

There are times along the way when we must improvise and adapt. When we do this it is not that we have lost sight of the upward call, or to the vision set. No, we improvise and adapt and we will overcome by the Grace and Mercy of God. It is a choice we have made to do this together. Our Mission and our call is not to be done in solitude. Rather it is done with and in the community of believers. We are a part of a greater story which was begun long, long ago. So look around where you find yourself to be today. How are you doing and how are your brothers and sisters in the faith? There is still a lot of activity and the path is still set before us. Sometimes the path is smooth and sometimes rocky.

As I write this I hear a golf cart outside the house. A sign of a fellow traveler here in Solon with family and friends. I look forward to Beef Days and the parade. The music, the food and community coming together. We are not perfect. The changes we see in Solon are mind boggling for many. It is not **what it used to be we say! No it isn't. The truth is no one is the same.** We will however, move together knee deep in corn and family. We will laugh and cry. We will work and play. We will be the people we dream and hope to be together. Full of Hope, Joy, Peace and Love.

*Shalom,
Ken*



Worship Schedule

July 4, 2021 Communion

Scripture: Mark 6:1-13

Message: The Impossible Nudge

July 11, 2021

Scripture: Ephesians 1:3-14

Message: The Fullness of Time

July 18, 2021

Scripture: Ephesians 2:11-22

Message: Cornerstone of Passion

July 25, 2021

Scripture: John 6:1-21

Message: Loving the Numbers



Music Ministry

Hopefully you have had the opportunity to experience our great ,new visual slides in the sanctuary! They are viewed on the television monitor hanging on the side of the sanctuary near the choir area as well as projected onto the front wall above the lectern. I am using a new program and am excited to create and share its great quality. For many, the visuals are one more way to connect to the elements of the service. The hymns are now easier to follow along with and don't require you find the correct song in the hymnal or find the right verse! You can read along with the scripture readings in addition to listening to them read aloud. Also, the pre-service announcements are a great way to keep up to date on events occurring in our church. If you are watching our service online, you will also see the visuals. Our A/V helpers switch back and forth between the visuals and a live view of the sanctuary as needed. One thing many of you may not know, is that the visuals are also available as a digital bulletin! From your browser on your computer or smartphone, go to:

<https://faithlife.com/sumc-7/bulletins>

This gives you one more way to connect to the service.

If you haven't tried out the 9:30 outdoor worship service, you are missing out! We meet every Sunday through August (weather permitting) over on the lawn outside of the Faith Life Center. We position ourselves just past the pine trees to take advantage of the shade. It is a beautiful, low-key, relaxing way to worship. What a great way to introduce a friend to our church! Bring your own chair and enjoy God's original sanctuary!

Blessings

Angie Grecian-Bransky

Worship Attendance

June 2021

	8:00AM	9:30 AM	Total
June 6	38	27	65
June 13	39	20	59
June 20	24	34	58
June 27	25	17	42

Beef Days Luncheon is BACK

Beef Days is right around the corner!! You've all been waiting and the time is almost here!

Mark your calendars for July 16th and 17th!

Beef Days is back and so is the Solon United Methodist Annual Beef Days Luncheon!!!! After the coronavirus took out the opportunity to have the luncheon last year, we are back and excited to host this great event. In order for us to put on this event, we NEED volunteers like you! We estimate needing about 40 volunteers to sign up to be able to make the luncheon successful. Are you interested in donating items and wanting to sign up to help? There are clipboards that will be going around in church to sign up, and we have also created a sign up genius so you can sign up online!



Please talk to your family and consider volunteering. Remember that we put this luncheon on to raise money for our annual mission trip.

Let's show the community how Solon UMC comes together and puts on a great event!

As always, many hands make light work!

If you have any questions don't hesitate to email me at sbierman@soloniaumc.org



[Food and Dessert Donations for Beef Days Luncheon—Sign up Genius Link](#)

[Volunteer Sign up for Beef Days Luncheon—Sign up Genius Link](#)



Upcoming Missions Include:	July 11th	Solon Food Pantry
	July 25th	Imagine No Malaria
	August 8th	Habitat for Humanity

The Solon UMC Congregation has contributed to these cause through these Mission Moment collections within the past few weeks!

APRIL 18th	Native American Ministries	\$107.00
APRIL 25th	UMC Youth Mission Trip	\$107.00
MAY 2nd	Golden Cross Sunday	\$85.00
MAY 16th	Rural Life Sunday	\$156.00
MAY 30th	Peace with Justice Sunday	\$52.00
JUNE 13th	Heifer International	\$156.00

Trustee Update

The church entry renovation has began. The old ramp/steps and sidewalk have been torn out, the new ramp and steps were formed and cement poured.

The new sidewalk will be formed and cement poured by middle of third week of June. Curing will take up to three weeks, once cement is cured new railings, new electronic front doors, and stonework around the outside entry walls will be installed. A temporary handicap ramp was installed in the back entry of the Fellowship Hall to accommodate all entering the church till the renovation is completed. We appreciate everyone's patience during this renovation work!

The City of Solon has approved installing of curbing on both sides and new asphalt on the street in the front of the church beginning at Main St. This project timeframe is in August , dates yet to be determined.

The FLC gym floor has been rejuvenated and looks great! A big thanks to Wayne Anderson and Ruben Galvan for their expertise and work for a few days to complete this project!

The remaining six new windows were ordered for the sanctuary and are planning to be installed by the end of June. Thanks to Dolfi Kalm for his leadership in this project!

The Velma Beck Garden looks great! Big thank you's go out to Penny Tompkins, Wayne Anderson, Marilyn Hansen, Barb Kalm, Ron Puettmann, Karen McGill and Jill Weetman for this effort and the maintenance required.

The Church Council has approved funding from the PE fund for the following projects:

- installation of new flooring for the narthex/office areas and painting of the narthex
- replacement of the old Velma Beck Garden shed with a new 12'x16' garden shed in the same location, a cement pad will be poured for the new shed

Additional thanks and appreciation for their efforts goes out to:

- Jay Proffitt for his leadership of the church entry renovation and coordinating with the contractors involved and the City of Solon officials!
- Al Hulse for his support and input during the onsite planning and meetings with all involved in the entry renovation!
- Barb Kalm, Dolfi Kalm, Verlee Lauderbaugh for maintenance of the Fellowship Hall and church flower/plant beds, looks great!
- All church staff for ongoing communication and support of these projects and their patience!
- The Church Council members for their guidance and support of the trustees projects!

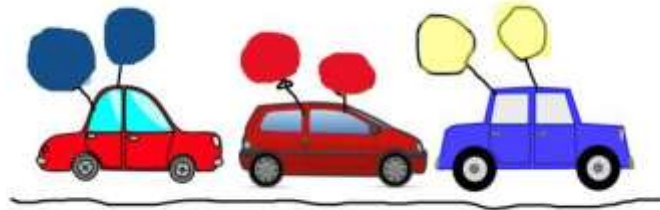
Please continue praying and thinking of Ed Haury (trustee) as he continues to deal with his recovery challenges!

***Blessings,
Paul Miller-Trustees Chairperson***



Christian Education News

Christian Education has been staying busy throughout the summer. July is going to be a busy month! First, I am in the process of planning some minute to win games for the kids to participate in after our outdoor worship on July 11th. Some of the ideas that I have for games include; The Cheetos Toss, Classic Water Balloon Toss, Bucket Dash and a Post-It Note Game! So, please join us!



One of the big events that Solon holds every year is Solon Beef Days. The Solon UMC is doing their part of the beef days by having a revival. The church will be having a float in the parade. This will be the first time in a while that the church has had a float. I will

be walking in the parade with some of our youth. We will be handing out flyers for VBS and to let people know about our luncheon. Our Vacation Bible School is August 3rd-5th. If you are interested in volunteering to help out or even make some snacks, please send me an email at sbierman@soloniaumc.org, as VBS takes a lot of volunteers to be able to put on!



On June 17th, I had the great opportunity to go to the UMW's annual Brunch with Barb Kalm. The women and I were invited to Barb Kalm's house for a tasty meal which included; Quiches, Coffee Cake, Fruit, Sausage and Egg Bakes. I had a great time being able to talk to some of the women that make up the "core" part of our church. After we ate, I was the guest speaker for the day, so I talked to the women about what I was doing. Some of the things I talked about were; how my spiritual journey started, some of the ministries that we will be updating at our church, and getting them excited to sign up to help with the church's annual Beef Days Luncheon. I had such a fun time that I even got to bring some leftovers home with me to have for supper. Thanks again to Barb Kalm and the UMW for letting me be a part of their annual brunch.

Blessings,

Sam Bierman

Christian Education Director



Luncheon



Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is on the horizon and planning is in full swing!
To make things easier we have set up online registration for VBS this year.

Please use the link below sign up!

[SUMC Vacation Bible School Registration Link](#)



Join us for SUMC's VBS 'Treasured'

Dates: August 3rd-5th

Time: 6:00 PM—7:30 PM

Where: SUMC Family Life Center

Ages 3 years old through 4th grade

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UMW 2021 Road Trip

If you ever wanted to know about Matthew 25's Urban Farm and the Groundswell Cafe this is your opportunity to join us. On Wednesday, July 7 we will be meeting in Fellowship Hall at 9:00am to car pool to Urban Farms in Cedar Rapids where we will have a tour and presentation about the farm. After the tour we will proceed on to Groundswell Cafe for lunch. Anyone is welcome to join us in this adventure!



For more information call Shirley Andersen at **319-541-0732**, or Barb Kalm at **319-321-4078**.



UNITED METHODIST MEN

We meet Saturday mornings at 6 a.m. at the Family Life Center. The first Saturday of the month we meet in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast! Come join us!

Contact Mike Turner at 624-2061 for more information.

Prayers and Celebrations

In Our Prayers

The family of Liz Kroul, who passed away on June 20, 2021.

Bill Hawks and family

The community of Montezuma

Barb Kalm as she works to finish her book on the history of the church

Travel mercies for Joe & Sue Wilkinson and Cathy Boggs and family

Jay and Helen Proffitt upon the passing of Helen's sister.

Rejoices & Thanksgiving

Thanks to all the teachers, staff and school administration who worked so hard this past year!

All our garden volunteers who have been busy planting, watering and weeding!

Thanks to our Trustees for quickly finding a temporary wheel chair ramp for the back entrance during the front entrance renovation process!

Todd and Angie Bransky for all their work with all the work they are putting in on the new AV system

All who took part in our Mission Staycation with Shueyville UMC, what a great event!

Do you have a Prayer Request?

Please include it on the Communication Card in the pews, or call or email the church office at (319) 624-2288, soloniaumc@gmail.com.

SUMC is looking to restart the Outreach Committee!

If you are interested in learning more, have ideas or know you'd like to be involved please let the church office know!



This Committee will be reaching out to new families and to those we haven't seen for awhile.

July Birthdays

RYAN, Taylor	07/01
SILBERSTEIN, Kathryn	07/01
SILBERSTEIN, Neil	07/01
HUNT, Jo	07/04
RICHARDS, Jill	07/04
SCHMIDT, Grayson	07/12
ERHART, Jeanne	07/15
MACKE, Natalie	07/15
FIALA, Grace	07/20
FIALA, Mary	07/20
RANARD, Allison	07/20
WHEELER, Wendy	07/20
PUETTMANN, Karla	07/23
REYNOLDS, Dena	07/24
DVORSKY, Brooklyn	07/25
KAKACEK, Phil	07/25
MOSES, Madelyn	07/26
NOVAK, Richard	07/27
GRUBER, Ruby	07/29



*Making disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation
of our world*

Rev. Ken Ferguson, Lead Minister
Sam Bierman, Christian Education Director
Angie Grecian-Bransky, Music Ministry
Lindy Hopp, Office Administrator
Jenn Stieglmeyer, High School Youth Ministries
Sam Bierman, Middle School Youth Ministries
Hsin Hui-Liu, Accompanist
Mary Kucera, Director of Hand Bells
Ivan Hasselbusch, Treasurer
Ruben Galvan, Custodian
Lisa Hilton, Security
Lindy Hopp, Nursery Supervisor
Nurse staff: Alex, Annika, Cassandra, Kate & Selma



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Sanctuary

9:30 AM Outdoors

Church Phone: (319) 624-2288

Address: 122 North West St., Solon, IA 52333

Website: www.soloniaumc.org

Facebook: Solon United Methodist Church—Iowa

Instagram: soloniaumc