



"The Steeple"

A Weekly Newsletter from First United Presbyterian Church
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Friday, July 3, 2026

We pray for...

Connie Banks
Gordy Clark
Nolan Collins
Carol Jacobs
Jake Jacobs
Kathy Jackson Sas
Bob Kuhns
Pat Kuhns
Sally Leeper

Tish McKee
Kate Sullivan



Those known only to God

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus".

Philippians 4:6-7



Worship with us at the Historical Complex on July 5. The Winterset Ministerial Association is sponsoring a combined worship of community congregations at the County Historical Complex, Sunday, July 5, at 10:00 am. Join us for a service

of Christian unity, followed by a potluck lunch. Please bring a salad or dessert side dish to share, and your lawn chair!

Coming up...

Sunday, July 5 - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am - Ecumenical Service at Historical Complex

Wednesday, July 8

Artful Devotions

10:00 am - Coffee with Pastor Dave at The Bakery

Noon - Bus Tour Lunch

Sunday, July 12 - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am - Worship, Kevin de Regnier

10:00 am - Fellowship

Wednesday, July 15

Artful Devotions

10:00 am - Coffee with Pastor Dave

Sunday, July 19 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am - Worship, Rev. Ioan Ittu

10:00 am - Fellowship

There's still time for you to join us! We are joining with the congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Newton (Paul Millhollin's congregation), for a wonderful weekend of fellowship, worship, and work at Wildwood Camp from July 24-26. Please consider being a part of this ministry as we assist Wildwood in their important work! There will be things to do for all ages and abilities. While the folks at Newton will be spending the night at the camp, most of us here in Winterset will probably spend the night in our homes. Contact Pastor Dave at revendriss@gmail.com or 515-360-0764 for more information!



There's still time to register for **Synod School, July 26-31**. This year Beuna Vista University in Storm Lake will host Synod School organized by the Synod of Lakes and Prairies. Synod School is a learning and person enrichment experience for all ages. People come from all over the country with their friends and families to share in this week of worship, study, play and life together. Check out <https://lakesandprairies.org> where you can register and download the catalog with course descriptions, schedules, and more! We have a catalog in the church office for anyone interested and Pastor Dave will be going!

July 4th commemorates the day in 1776 that our nation declared itself to be an independent nation, and no longer a colony of England. On that date, a number of our leading citizens signed what is known as the Declaration of Independence, stating our determination to become a free country.

Our independence did not come easily; only after several difficult years of war would it finally be won. Nor were our first years as a nation free from problems and controversies (as is still true). But our forefathers were determined to establish a free and democratic system of government, and the Declaration of Independence (together with our Constitution and the Bill of Rights) became the foundation for this. They have stood the test of time, and on July 4th we give thanks for the wisdom and faith and courage of those leaders.

Although it is not a religious holiday like Christmas or Easter, for many Americans July 4th is a time to reflect on God's goodness to us as a nation. Molded into the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia (which proclaimed our independence) are these words from the Bible: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof" (Leviticus 25:10, KJV). Our legal system reflects our Judeo-Christian roots.

While we look with gratitude to the past on this July 4th, may we also look in faith to the future, and commit it and our lives to God and His will. The ancient words of the Psalmist are still true: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12).

(written by Billy Graham)