



WAKONDA NEWS

June 2022
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Wakonda Christian Church
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From the pastor's desk...

The world is changing.
The world has changed.
The church is changing.
The church has changed.
We are changing.
We are changed.

This has, is, and will forever be the story of our world. And, as people of faith, it is fundamentally the story of the people of God. We look to scriptures and hear such strange fanciful stories. And yet, if we pull back the ancient and foreign, we discover the same human struggles. The same needs and desires. The same sin, as well as the same God: constant, steady, ever ready to listen, guide, and pour out grace.

We can choose to fear the changes happening around us – within us. or, we can accept this is the rhythm of life. It's why we cycle around the liturgical stories, the heart of God's presence throughout history, every year.

As we prepare for the season of Pentecost, the time when the Holy Spirit inspired the church through our kicking, screaming, change resistant spirits, I invite you to ponder this poem. This is also the cycle and rhythm of what it means to be the church – what it means to witness to God's covering, hovering, Spirit.

"The Raincoat"

When the doctor suggested surgery and a brace for all my youngest years, my parents scrambled to take me to massage therapy, deep tissue work, osteopathy, and soon my crooked spine unspooled a bit, I could breathe again, and move more in a body unclouded by pain. My mom would tell me to sing songs to her the whole forty-five minute drive to Middle Two Rock Road and forty-five minutes back from physical therapy. She'd say, even my voice sounded unfettered by my spine afterward. So I sang and sang,

because I thought she liked it. I never asked her what she gave up to drive me, or how her day was before this chore. Today, at her age, I was driving myself home from yet another spine appointment, singing along to some maudlin but solid song on the radio, and I saw a mom take her raincoat off and give it to her young daughter when a storm took over the afternoon. My god, I thought, my whole life I've been under her raincoat thinking it was somehow a marvel that I never got wet. + Ada Limón

Board Chair Bits...

Welcome to SUMMER! We had our annual congregational meeting on May 15th with many people attending. The report included quite a bit of activity that has occurred within our congregation during the past year! We are a church that is alive and thriving. Copies are available in the church narthex.

The Knights of Columbus at Christ the King parish will be holding a Flag Retirement ceremony on Flag Day, June 14th. They have reached out to us to let us know that if we have flags that we need to have properly retired, we can bring them to the church here and Gene will get them to the Knights. Please have them to the church no later than Sunday, June 12th so that Gene can get them to the Knights before their June 14th ceremony.

We will be holding a congregational town hall type meeting on **June 26th at 9:00 AM** prior to the morning service. This meeting is to share with the congregation the proposed by-law updates that the Visioning Team has recommend to the Board for acceptance and to give you the opportunity to provide additional input and to answer any questions. This meeting is open to all in the congregation.

We will also be holding a training session for our new board members and leaders on June 15th beginning at 5 PM. During this time, we will be reviewing the expectations of the board along with establishing goals for the upcoming year. Then, on Sunday, June 19th, we will be holding an installation of the new leaders during our worship service.

The Principal Charity Classic held at the Wakonda Golf and Country Club will again be using our parking lot for a fee. This is another fund raiser that our youth will staff and support. The Tournament is being held June 1 – 5 this year so be aware of this if you are accessing the church. There will be room for us on Sunday morning, June 5th.

Thank you to the board and leaders for this past year. It's been one of many activities for our church and I have learned much about who we are, what we do together and how we get it done.

Blessings to you all,
Nancy Koll, Board Chair

Music Notes...

Hi, everyone!

I hope you've had a good month of May, even if you've had to constantly navigate whether to wear short or long sleeves in this fluctuating weather.

Well, your choir has just wrapped up a busy year of singing and will be taking the summer off. I'm grateful for all the rehearsals and Sunday worship moments with this fine group. We've come a long way through the pandemic, and while we will always welcome new members, I've admired the way this small choir somehow manages to sound like double its size. They are also a really fun group of people to hangout with every week. So you might want to join the choir in the fall!

You'll continue to hear a few choir members as soloists in the summer months ahead. And speaking of which, if you have any interest in singing or playing a solo piece during June, July, or August, please reach out to me. We'd love to get you on our schedule. Mike or I could accompany you, or you could perform along with a backing track.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Seth

June Sermons

June 12

Spirit of Truth
John 16:12-15

June 19

For We Are Many
Luke 8:26-29

June 26

Compelling But Not Critical;
Demanding But Not Paramount
Luke 9:51-62



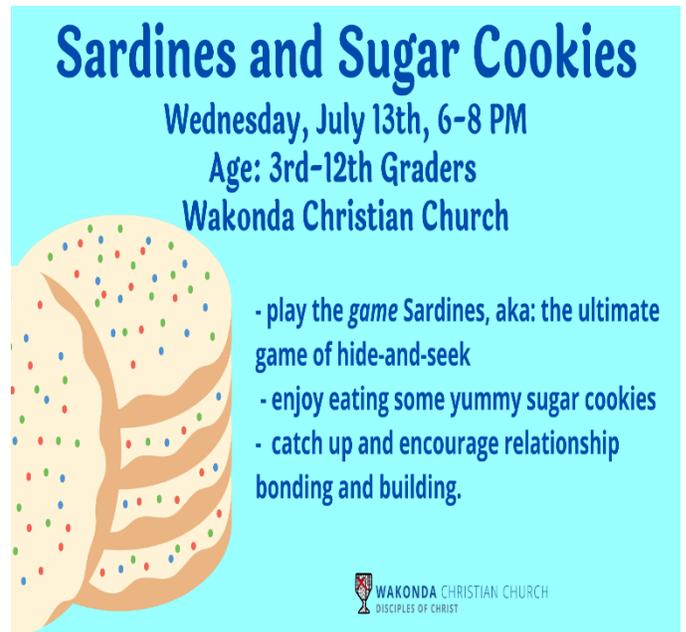
We are thrilled Jane Bishop and Megan Lane are joining together to teach and serve at Wakonda Preschool.



Jane Bishop comes to us with over 30 years of teaching and childcare directing experience. Most recently working with DMPS Metro Kids, Jane has a passion for early childhood education, coupled with the gifts and graces to help our Wakonda Preschool grow, serving more children and families.

Megan Lane, having served as our Interim Director this past semester, continues to serve with us. She brings her connections with Wakonda Preschool students and families, alongside her years of childcare and Girl Scout camp Director experience.

This team of leaders his committed to encouraging and educating our students, while continuing to live out Wakonda Preschool's over 50-year commitment to setting children up to thrive.



June Birthdays

- | | |
|---|--|
| 6 Howard Robbins, Carol McGarvey, Dianne Reckling | 7 Gene Koll |
| 12 Jo Burnett | 15 Tiffany Thompson |
| 18 Bob Baker | 16 Allison Lane |
| 23 Dale Steffen, Martha Blackford | 19 Sherry Worthington |
| | 22 Nancy Amend, Jeff Fox, Jillian Lane |
| | 28 Deene Ehliis, Kelly McAninch |
| | 29 John Mooers |



We're Going to Camp!

Will you please send us some encouraging mail?

Camp Address:

Name of Attendee & Camp Name (EX: Junior Camp #1)

Christian Conference Center
5064 Lincoln Street
Newton, IA 50208

**Note: Sometimes mail takes a while to get to Holy Ground. Please send mail by Tuesday of the week of camp to ensure attendees will receive their mail while they are at camp.

Sara, Josh, Caleb, Isaiah Patty (Campers):

Family Camp, June 3-5

Clara Uthe (Camper): Junior Camp #1, June 13-18

Kristen Alstott (Helper): Junior Camp #1, June 12-18

Liberty Marcum (Counselor): Junior Camp #1,
June 12-18 & Junior #2 July 10-16

Robyn Bles (Director): Chi Rho Camp #2, June 19-25

Cody Saveraid (Counselor): Chi Rho Camp #2, June 19-25

Carson Harvey (Counselor): Chi Rho Camp #2, June 19-25

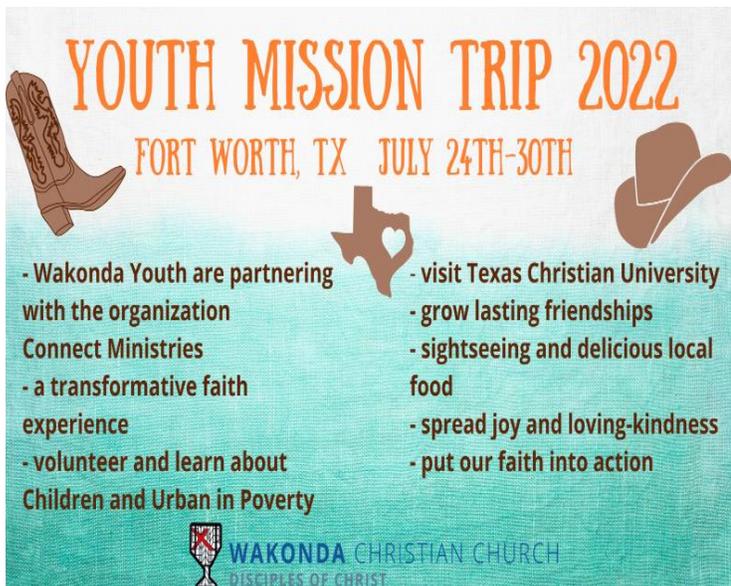
Sharon Newman (Counselor): Chi Rho Camp #2,
June 19-25

Lillian Marcum (Camper): Junior #2 July 11-16

Summer Small Groups

This Summer, there are many ways to connect with the amazing people of Wakonda, while also enriching your faith.

- Mondays: **Lessons by the Lake.** Join in a Bible Study on the southwest corner of Gray's Lake. Every Monday at 6:00.
- Wednesdays: **Bible Study.** Dive deeply into the upcoming sermon text from the comfort of your own home. Join us on zoom at 9:30 for coffee & conversation, followed by Bible Study discussion at 10:30.
 - Click on the link, or contact the church office for an email link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/348363611?pwd=V2NheFRjNk0xaXZCa0gzTk5EU01Edz09>
- **Book Club:** Our anti-racist book club is continuing our growth and work toward racial reconciliation by reading *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray. Join us in our book discussion on September 20th.



YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2022
FORT WORTH, TX JULY 24TH-30TH

- Wakonda Youth are partnering with the organization Connect Ministries
- a transformative faith experience
- volunteer and learn about Children and Urban in Poverty

- visit Texas Christian University
- grow lasting friendships
- sightseeing and delicious local food
- spread joy and loving-kindness
- put our faith into action

WAKONDA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



Meet at Wakonda Christian Church Playground
June 4th, July 2nd, August 6th
10-11 AM

Summer Preschool Playdates

- Group Activity, Snack, Playtime, Relationship Building, Siblings and Friends Welcome



What's Happening at Wakonda

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|--------|---|
| 29 8:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship | 30 | 31 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats | June 1 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM | 2 | 3 | 4 8:00 a.m. B.O. B. 10:00 a.m. Preschool Play Date |
| 5 Food Pantry Collection 8:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship | 6 6:00 p.m. Lesson's by the Lake | 7 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats | 8 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 5:30p.m. Elders Meeting | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Food Pantry Collection 8:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship | 13 6:00 p.m. Lesson's by the Lake | 14 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats | 15 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 5:30 p.m. Board Orientation | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 <i>Installation Sunday</i> 8:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship | 20 6:00 p.m. Lesson's by the Lake | 21 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats | 22 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 9:00 a.m. By-Laws Revision Review Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship | 27 5:30-7:30 VBS 6:00 p.m. Lesson's by the Lake | 28 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats 5:30-7:30 VBS | 29 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 5:30-7:30 VBS | 30 5:30-7:30 VBS | July 1 | 2 8:00 a.m. B.O.B. |

May Outreach Giving
DMF \$1625
W.O.C. \$603
Food Pantry \$714
Total \$2942



PENTECOST MISSION OFFERING – RECEIVED JUN. 5 & 12

It provides funds for Starting and Supporting New Churches



Each year at **Pentecost** congregations across the United States and Canada collect a special offering for the birthing of **brand new worshiping communities and also support of on-going, young start-up congregations in the in the Disciples of Christ tradition.**

offer new life for this denomination of faithful followers, and it is exciting to report they are growing, praying and serving alongside their more mature brothers and sisters in well-established congregations.

Those working with these new congregations report that among we *Disciples of Christ* these fresh new congregations presently represent **“a rainbow of color, and a symphony of 28 different languages . . . and counting.**

St. Paul in 1 Cor. 15:58 says “Be steadfast & immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord – knowing your labor is not in vain!”



**SUNDAYS,
JUN. 5 & 12
D.M.A.R.C.
HEALTHY
FOODS
COLLECTIONS
DAYS**

Bring your donations of non-perishable food items, personal items and/or a monetary contribution for the DMARC FOOD Center. **MOST NEEDED ITEMS:** tomato, orange or vegetable juices (in cans or plastic bottles); fruit cocktail canned in water or 100% juice (not in heavy syrup);_ cans of tomatoes, green beans, mixed vegetables; sweet potatoes (no salt added); dark red kidney beans dry, or canned in

water (not pork and beans); peanut butter; tuna, chicken, salmon or sardines (canned in water); dry pasta: whole grain, veggie pasta or egg noodles; rice (white or brown); vegetable soup (low sodium and high protein); pasta sauce (no sugar added and low sodium); cereals: whole grain Cheerios, Wheat Chex, Wheaties, Granola, Shredded Wheat, instant or regular Oatmeal (no sugar added).

FRESH PRODUCE like fruits and vegetables (please donate far before expiration and prime ripeness).

PERSONAL ITEMS: Diapers (large sizes); baby wipes; formula and baby food (well-before their expiration dates); soaps, shampoos, lotions, dental products; cleaning products; etc.



**OUR MISSIONARY PRAYER
 CALENDAR FOR JUNE**

[Please Pray For One Ea. Week By Name]

Wk. of Jun. 05 – Phyllis Byrd
 Serving In **Kenya**, East. Mid- Africa

**Wk. of Jun. 12 – Bruce & Linda
 Hanson**
 Serving In **Honduras**, Cent. America

Wk. of Jun. 19 – Jeff Mensendiek
 Serving In **Japan**, Island of East Asia

Wk. of Jun. 26 – Fiona Kendall
 Serving In **Italy**, Southern Europe



**REPORT ON OPEN HOUSE AT
 THE NEW
 DMARC FOOD DISTRIBUTION
 CENTER**

Your *Mission Ministry Team* visited May 26th and are pictured above – L. to R. Bruce Gowan, Stu Shepherd, Richard Guentert, Carol and David Thomason

Everyone was extremely impressed with the new facility and its capabilities. We saw most all sections of the new building including the reception area, intake, conference room, offices, kitchen area, the garage for the three mobile units, the warehouse and the huge new refrigeration units. For the self-guided tour, DMARC personnel were located in every section and answered questions as long as people wanted to ask them.

The new facility at 100 Army Post Road is spacious, beautiful and functional. They are currently providing for the pick-up of food for 15,000 individuals per month – and that number is expected to grow in the coming months. It is a phenomenal ministry. A number of *Wakonda Christian Church* members proudly contribute regularly. We are hoping to arrange a *Wakonda C.C.* evening tour in the near future.

**PERSONAL AND HOUSING GIFTS
 FOR REFUGEES
 ARE TEMPORARILY ON HOLD**

We've been informed by the U.S.C.R.I. (the *U.S. Committee on Refugees and Immigrants*) that for the time being, other than monetary donations, there is a temporary hold on all donations of personal items, and also all furniture, kitchen and bedding items for Afghans Refugees and Immigrants in our community.

When they are able to receive those gifts again, we will put that information out to the congregation in a timely manner.

APRIL & MAY MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

- ~ Food, monetary donations and personal items continue to flow to the **DMARC food pantry**.
- ~ **Prayers** for missionaries abroad are happening daily.
- ~ Volunteers fix delicious **breakfast casseroles** for the Salvation Army each month.
- ~ Mission **offering amounts** given are listed monthly in the *Wakonda Christian Church Newsletter*.
- ~ The April **Easter Offering** offered aid to our General Church ministries of the Christian Church (DOC)

