



July 2023

Volume 67, Issue 7

Wakonda Christian Church
3938 Fleur Drive DSM IA 50321
515-285-8394

Office Hours

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sr. Pastor Robyn Bles

402-301-9170

Small Group Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4598748094>

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WAKONDA NEWS

From the Pastor's Desk...

"THE SUMMER DAY"

Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean —
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down —
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.
Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, ***what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?***

+ Mary Oliver

On this Summer Solstice, the longest day of the year, I'm in the woods with middle schoolers. They notice the grasshoppers. This age the childlike wonder begins to blend with the grown-up repulsion. They still ponder questions like, "what is that ant thinking?" while youthful longing for autonomy sparks "why do *you* make the rules!"

The lengthening of days, the deepening of prayer, all lead to the greater question of what is God calling me to do, to be in this life?

Here at camp, it becomes even more clear part of this question holds the sweetest nugget of truth: "*How can I love more deeply, more fully, more completely?*"

I hope in this season of summer you pause to see how this world, and everything in it, bends toward loving and supporting our mutual thriving.

We only have to figure out how best to live in this love, one day at a time.

Summer blessings, dear ones.

Pastor Robyn

Leaders of the Church:

Wakonda Leadership Retreat and Training:

Sunday, July 16, 11:30 – 3:00 p.m.

All Board, Ministry Team and Trustee leaders are needed for the vision and prayerful planning of our upcoming year of ministry.

We'll share ideas, plan our annual calendar, and prepare for a great year together.

Lunch is provided. Please RSVP to Pastor Robyn

June Outreach Giving

DMF \$1625 W.O.C. \$720

Food Pantry \$1759

Total \$4104

July Worship

2: Find your Center: In all things, *Charity*
Colossians 3:12-17

9: Our Identity: Serving with Compassion
Matthew 7:5-13, Courage to the Core

16: Our Identity: Serving with Generosity
1 Kings 17:8-16

23: Richard Preaching, Our Identity: Embraced in God's
Inclusive Love – Luke 17:11-21

30: Bruce Preaching, Our Mission Connects us in Worship
Psalm 100 (Doxology)

Happy Summer, Everyone!

I stepped away from work for a few weeks in June while my wife and I welcomed our new baby, Lola. Thank you all for your thoughts, prayers and support during this time. All in the family are doing well!

I'm back now and looking forward to being with you all in worship and during special summer occasions, like our outdoor movie night on June 7th. I'll be playing a set of music at 7:30pm, leading up to when the show starts, around 8:30. Also, keep your eyes (and ears) open for special guest soloists during these summer weeks while the choir is off.

I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Seth Hedquist
Wakonda CC Music Director

Wakonda Campers

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 early to ensure attendees will receive their mail *while* they are at camp.

CYF Camp #2 July 17-22

Nate Worthington

Adventure Camp July 24-29

Jilly Lane, Allison Lane



Wakonda Preschool Summer Camps

Week 1: Future Scientist
July 17-20

Week 2: Wild Water Week
August 14-18

Register: wakondacc.com/summer-camp

Wakonda Preschool
9-11:30 AM
3-5 year olds
\$50 per week

Summer Outdoor Worship at Wakonda

10 AM

July 16

Aug. 13

Sept. 10 Celebration Sunday

June 25

meet on parking lot, lawn, or playground

bring your own chair or blanket

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Wakonda Preschool

July newsletter information-Preschool

Summer fun is in full swing.

We are working on getting the Pre K/TK classroom painted this summer. Mr. Gene has been preparing the classrooms for a fresh start this fall.

We currently have 18 students enrolled for fall. Offerings this year include:

M/T mornings for 2's

M-F mornings for 3's

M-F all day for 3's

M-F mornings for PreK/TK

M-f all day for PreK/TK

Morning and afternoon wrap around care is also available for.

If you or someone you know is interested please contact

jane.bishop@wakondapreschool.com.

Our first summer camp will be July 17-20- Future Scientist. We still have a few openings if interested contact Jane.

Mark your Calendars for Summer Outdoor Worship.

We'll enjoy God's great creation as we worship in our parking lot. Please bring a lawn chair and join us!

Summer Outdoor worships:

July 16 August 13 September 10 (Celebration Sunday)



What's Happening at Wakonda

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	3	4 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	5 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM	6 11:30 a.m. WOW @ Barettas	7	8
9 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	10	11 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	12 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM	13 1:00 p.m. Coloring Group	14	15
16 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship - Outside	17	18 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	19 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM	20	21	22
23 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	24 5:30 p.m. VBS	25 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats 5:30 p.m. VBS	26 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 5:30 p.m. VBS	27 5:30 p.m. VBS	28	29
30 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	31	August 1 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	2 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM	3 11:30 a.m. WOW @ Barettas	4	5 8:00 a.m. B.O.B.

July Birthdays

1 Gloria Marshall	2 Susan Thies	3 Connor Uhlman	8 Jamie Badger	9 Becky Shreffler
10 Peggy Sharpe	11 Linda Greco	13 Brents Oliphant	14 Steve McIntosh, James Uthe	
16 Larry Scott	17 Emily Guentert	18 Marion Scott	20 Natalie Worthington	
22 Nancy Koll	23 Marcia Lund	28 Margaret Page	31 Bill Rutledge	



SUMMER

—Movie & Music on the Lawn—

**FREE
LIVE
MUSIC &
MOVIE**

**Friday
July 7 &
August 4**

Family & Friends Welcome

Wakonda Christian Church Back Lawn

8:00 p.m Music | 9:00 p.m. Movie

Bring a picnic and enjoy the playground & live music before the show.

— **Popcorn | Live Music Performance | Root Beer Floats | Movie** —

A ministry provided for all our neighbors

All Are Welcome!



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