



WAKONDA NEWS

August 2023

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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>

Inside this Issue

1. Pastor's Reports
2. Youth News
Preschool Note
July Outreach Giving
Summer Outside Worship
Dates
3. Calendar
August Birthdays
4. Summer Music & Movies
Celebration Sunday
Summer Outside Worship
Dates
Preschool Summer Camp

From the Pastor's Desk

"Tell me what it is you plan to do with you one Wild and Precious Life?"

-The Summer Day, by Mary Oliver

This is a cherished line from a favorite poem of mine. This lofty question is the final line of the poem which opens with the equally loft line: "Who made the world?"

But between these grandiose questions are the detailed descriptions of a grasshopper. How she moves her jaw back and forth as she eats one piece of sugar from the palm of Oliver's hand; how she washes her face then flips open her wings to fly away.

Such specificity and presence in the moment are buttressed by her opening and closing, larger than life questions.

I think beginning a new ministry year is like this. Our eyes are upon all that is before use. We are held, perhaps haunted, by all that happened last year.

But ministry is not the large sweeping moments – the rising worship numbers or budget line. The grand view of our ministry is in fact found in the immediate, day-to-day moments.

The way our ministries allow for someone to receive a hug at just the right time is in fact our goal.

The way a child proudly points to her church as she passes by saying, "That's my church" because she knows she is loved and belongs to a people, a place, a God much larger than our everyday.

The way a bible study conversation helps someone feel God's love in a whole new way.

As we begin a brand-new year of ministry together, I pray you know how very precious you are to me and to this church. As we plan, prepare, place dates on calendars, make arrangements, and invite folks to join us; remember these words from Mary Oliver:

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?

I am grateful for your ministry. I pray you find the kernels of sweetness in this wild and precious journey we share together.

Pastor Robyn

Youth News

Fall Children and Youth Programming:

Sept 13th: Wednesdays @ Wakonda starts back up
Sept. 17th: Sunday School for ages 3 years old-12th grade starts back up

Wednesdays @ Wakonda Youth Group Meals:

Volunteer to make a meal or donate food/drink for our youth on a Wednesday night. Spend the evening getting to know our youth, so they can get to know you, too! If you are interested in making a meal or donating food/drink, please reach out to our Youth Director Kristen Alstott. Phone: 712-371-2392 Email: kristen.alstott@wakondacc.com

Youth Mission Trip 2023

Our youth went on their 2023 Mission Trip to Nashville, TN on July 23-29, in partnership with the Be The Neighbor organization. Be The Neighbor taught our group to put their faith into action through relational, sustainable, and dignity affirming service and justice. This year, 6 of our youth and 4 adults went on our trip.

Keep your eyes open for the date of our fall Youth Sunday where we will present on all we learned and did during our mission trip to Nashville, TN. THANK YOU for the many ways you support our youth ministries and provide the resources and support for us to spread the good news and love of Wakonda across our country. We were honored to represent Wakonda in Nashville, TN in July.

Mission Trip Participants:

Jumi Kayode, John Mooers, Khloe Simms, Clara Uthe, Urban Uthe, Nate Worthington, Kristen Alstott, Robyn Bles, Randy Lane
Sherry Worthington

Wakonda Preschool

Summer Science Camp was great! We had a total of 14 kids throughout the week. Lots of fun, active learning happened. Seeing friends was a highlight. A big thank you to Diana, Margaret and Brents for volunteering and making it possible. Next camp is August 14-17 and it's Wet and Wild!

We are accepting registration for fall and would love to have more students join to preschool.

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.

We are looking for a tall, double door cabinet if anyone happens to have one, they could donate.

We are needing it for the expanded before and after school care supplies.

Thank you for your continued support of our preschool.

Jane

July Outreach Giving

DMF \$1625 W.O.C. \$774

Food Pantry \$366

Total \$2765

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:

August 13 September 10 (Celebration Sunday)



What's Happening at Wakonda

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	31 6:00 p.m. Lessons by the Lake	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 7:30 p.m. Music & Movie Night	5 8:00 a.m. B.O.B.
6 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	7 6:00 p.m. Lessons by the Lake	8 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	9 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 5:30 p.m. Elders Meeting	10	11	12
13 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship - Outside	14 6:00 p.m. Lessons by the Lake	15 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	16 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 6:30 p.m. Congregational Care Team Mtg.	17 1:00 p.m. Coloring Group	18	19
20 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	21 6:00 p.m. Lessons by the Lake	22 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats 5:30 p.m. VBS	23 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 5:30 p.m. VBS	24 5:30 p.m. VBS	25	26
27 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	28 6:00 p.m. Lessons by the Lake	29 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	30 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM	31	September 1	2 8:00 a.m. B.O.B.

August Birthdays

1 Adalaide Uhlman
12 Linda Hawkins
25 Kristi McIntosh

5 Seth Hedquist, Patty Sebring
13 Roger Hackbarth
28 Susan Bohlender

6 Max Reckling
21 Rich Hein
29 Dick Myers

30 Marla Fay



SUMMER

—Movie & Music on the Lawn—



**FREE
LIVE
MUSIC &
MOVIE**

**Friday
August 4
UP**

**7:30 p.m.
Music
8:30 p.m.
Movie**

Bring a picnic and enjoy the playground & movie before the show.
Popcorn | Live Music Performance | Popsicles | Movie

A ministry provided for all our neighbors
All Are Welcome!

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www.wakondacc.com



SAVE THE DATE:

Celebration SUNDAY

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH

Outdoor Worship and Lunch

Birthday Celebration & Mission Project

Wakonda Preschool Summer Camps



Week 1: Future Scientist
July 17-20

Week 2: Wild Water Week
August 14-18

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

Register: wakondacc.com/summer-camp

Summer Outdoor Worship at Wakonda



10 AM

July 16

Aug. 13

June 25

**Sept. 10
Celebration
Sunday**

meet on
parking lot,
lawn,
or playground

bring your
own chair
or blanket

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