



WAKONDA NEWS

From the Pastor's Desk...

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

Small Group Link
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4598748094>

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I didn't grow up on the ballfield. During my t-ball days, I think I hit the T, more often than the ball. My only time on base was the result of being walked and my position, if the occasional time I wasn't on the bench, was spent in right field. One time while occupying that position, I scratched a mosquito bite until it started to bleed (typical kid summertime activity). Forgetting I was "playing" softball, I walked into the dugout, slapped a band aid onto my arm and walked back out onto the field, only to realize a game had been going on the whole time.

I do, however, have fond memories of my parents playing in the church softball league. All the church kids would have free reign of the park, where we'd see who could get the highest on the swings, or we'd spend hours building forts or playing hide and go seek in the trees lining the park.

The ballfield wasn't about playing the game, but about being together. The atmosphere of the dirt, summer sun, and the snacks. While I know many players would have a very different perspective than this, I think they would agree that there is something magical about gathering together around the ballfield.

Summer was about watching baseball movies in order to get a break from the heat. Each of these movies, while centering on the game, also revealed there is so much more going on than just what happens on the field. It's much like a church community. So many different people coming together. We each have a

different skill set, specialty to offer. We juggle so much going on and off the field, inside and outside of church.

All of this gets me excited for our August Sermon Series, *Take Me Out to the Ballgame!* We'll feature a variety of baseball movies each Sunday, paired with a biblical text. And the most exciting part, you're also invited to join Wakonda on the ballfield.

We're going to the Iowa Cubs baseball game on Sunday, August 16th. First pitch is scheduled for 1:08 p.m. that day. Come to church that morning in your baseball gear and then head on over to the stadium after church. Kids are encouraged to wear their swim gear to cool off in the right field splash pad (this is more of my kind of right field). Tickets are \$7; however, we'll get a lower rate if we can recruit 25 people to join us. Friends and family beyond the church are welcome to join us.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please sign up and we'll make sure we have a ticket for you. See you on the ballfield, both in church and downtown.

Swinging with you,
Pastor Robyn

Save the Date:

Celebration Sunday, Sunday, September 13th. Outdoor Worship, picnic, blessing of backpacks and celebration of youth bibles are only the beginning of the fun. You won't want to miss it!



AMOS We the People 30th Anniversary Convention

Sunday, August 30th 3:00-5:00pm

Horizon Events Center- 2100 NW 100th St. in Clive

Join together with over 1,000 of our neighbors as we ask candidates from across the political spectrum if they will support our efforts to improve our community. AMOS have 5 primary concerns: A senior alert system for our most vulnerable seniors, providing vital support and concerted efforts in finding seniors when they need our support.

We're asking these candidates to support improving our water quality, the funding and support of our public schools, improving EMS response rates in our rural areas, and supporting immigrants and refugees in our communities.

AMOS represents five counties in the central Iowa area, and joins together churches, communities of faith, and other non-profits serving our communities. This is a non-partisan effort to work together to improve the quality of life for all members of our community.

Wakonda's Mission team invites you to join us at this event, lend your voice to leadership which supports our communities, and work together with all our neighbors.

Thank You Wakonda!

Thank you to all of the volunteers that helped us make Vacation Bible School a success and so much fun! We had a great time with our crafts, snow, dancing, snow cones, great food and so much laughter! Thank you for supporting this fabulous ministry!



We had a great experience in Fort Worth, Texas learning about food insecurity. We worked at farms, food pantries, learned what different organizations are doing to help others, and fed meals in shelters. We had some fun experiences ourselves too! We visited the Fort Worth water gardens, TCU, the Stockyards, Buc-ees and I introduced many from our group to Braum's! Thank you for supporting us! Just wait... we will have more to share!





August Sermons

August 2: Youth Mission Trip Sharing,
Matthew 14: 13-21

August 9: *Take Me Out to the Ballgame!*
Field of Dreams, Matthew 14:22-33

August 16: *Take Me Out to the Ballgame!*
A League of Their Own, Matthew 15:10-28

August 23: *Take Me Out to the Ballgame!*
The Sandlot, Matthew 16:13-20

August 30: *Take Me Out to the Ballgame!*
42, Matthew 16:21-28

Replacement of Sanctuary Air Conditioner

Our sanctuary air conditioning is provided by twin units on the north side of the building.

Unfortunately, one of the units has run its life course and needs to be replaced. The cost of replacement was estimated by our HVAC vendor, AJ Allen Co., to be around \$22,000. We have a restricted fund ("The Building Fund") which is dedicated to building upkeep. The fund currently has \$24,965 in it.

At the Wednesday night board meeting (July 22), the board of directors voted unanimously to get a final proposal from AJ Allen and to proceed with the replacement of the unit. We anticipate that it will be able to be fully paid from the Building Fund. If the bid comes in materially higher than the fund balance, we will revisit the issue.

Many, many thanks to our members who contribute to our restricted funds, especially to the Building Fund for the occasional large repairs that arise anytime you are managing a building the size of our beautiful church. Those contributions allow us to keep our facility in tip top condition. And thank you to Gene Koll for spearheading this project.

Music Notes...

Hello, Wakonda!

We have been blessed to feature a couple of fine organists / pianists to help us while Mike continues in his recovery. Special thanks to Shea Lueninghoener and Joan Shultz for sharing their skills with us. You will be hearing more from each of them soon!

Meanwhile, it's not too soon to begin looking to fall. First exciting announcement: we will have a children/youth choir sing on Celebration Sunday, September 13th!!! This group will rehearse before worship, at 9:00am, on both August 23rd and 30th. If there are any children / youth who have an interest in singing or playing an instrument in worship, this will be a great opportunity!

If you would like to our adult choir, we sing in worship 1-2 times a month and rehearse nearly every Sunday immediately following worship. Our Hand Bell Choir also returned to worship on Easter Sunday, and we will be featuring them seasonally. If you have an interest in joining either or both of these wonderful fellowship groups, please let me know.

Enjoy the rest of your summer! See you in worship!

Seth



August Birthdays

3 Ace Katich, George Stilwell
5 Diana Gilbert, Seth Hedquist
11 Chance Katich
12 Linda Hawkins
14 Kyle McCord, Pearl Stilwell
25 Kristi McIntosh
28 Susan Bohlender
29 Dick Myres
30 Marla Fay

What's Happening at Wakonda

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
22 8:45 a.m. Sunday School For All 10:00 a.m. Worship	3	4 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	5	6 11:30 a.m. W.O.W.	7	8
9 8:45 a.m. Sunday School For All 10:00 a.m. Worship	10	11 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	12	13	14	15
16 8:45 a.m. Sunday School For All 10:00 a.m. Worship 1:00 p.m. Cubs Game	17	18 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	19	20 12:00 p.m. Sack Lunch 1:00 p.m. Coloring Group	21	22
23 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	24	25 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	26	27	28	29
30 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	31	Sept. 1 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	2	3 11:30 a.m. W.O.W.	4	5 8:00 a.m. B.O.B.