

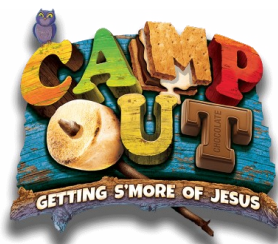
July 2021– Volume 32– Issue 7

# SUMMER TIME IS CAMP TIME



Some campers have already been to camp this summer, but there are many more camps to come!! There are camps for elementary ages, middle school ages, and high schoolers. There is even a Family Camp coming up on Labor Day Weekend!

The staff at Camp Comeca is so excited to welcome your kids and ready to come along side them as they experience to joy of camp and the love of Jesus.

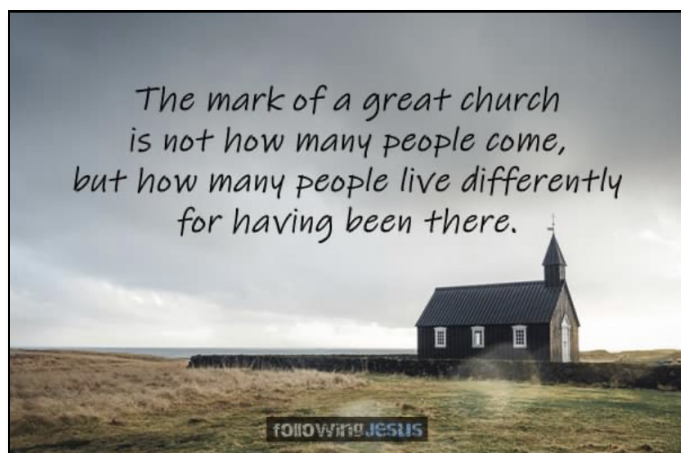




## The Beat

July 2021– Volume 32– Issue 7

Gothenburg First United Methodist Church



## FACTS AND FIGURES

General Giving Thru June 30 Actual: \$93,124  
Budgeted: \$104,812

Percent of Budgeted: 88.8%

Paid Apportionments Thru June 30  
Actual: \$9,568 Budgeted: \$9,568

Percent of Budgeted: 100%

## THANKSGIVING IN AUGUST

**WE'RE BACK!!!** Last year, COVID forced us to take a break, but this year we are ready!! Join us on Sunday August 22 from 11:30 am– 1:00 pm, or until the food is gone. We will be serving our “traditional” homemade chicken noodles over mashed potatoes, fruit salad, dinner roll, and dessert. This will be a free will donation and all proceeds will go to purchase groceries to distribute to local families in need at Thanksgiving time. After you have enjoyed the LOL festivities at Lake Helen, come have lunch with us!

## *In Memoriam*

*Alvin Geiken*

*April 8, 1922– May 23, 2021*

## JULY BIRTHDAY'S

- 1– Kevin Lunkwitz, Pat Ambler
- 2– Kendra Humphrey
- 7– Lindsey Tederman, Shane Houchin, Ross Ostergard
- 11– Addison Bartels, Micha Edson
- 14– Anne Anderson
- 17– Kayla Weyers, Paul Peterson
- 18– Gracie Stienike, Phil Kuhlman
- 19– Becky Boson, Bella Sabin
- 21– Alexandra Abramson, Christian Houchin, Shannon Peterson
- 22– Wendy Bartels
- 23– Devyn Ostendorf
- 24– Gary Garner
- 25– Carmen Ackerman
- 28– Janet Kranau
- 30– Jack Loostrom





## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Summer greetings,

For some reason, all my devotional readings this week had to do with fear. So, I felt a reflection on fear and God's promises would be perfect for this month.

The grip of fear can be most devastating. Fear can rob us of life. Elizabeth O'Connor in her book *Cry Pain, Cry Hope* puts it this way "When I reflect on my life and what I really want, it is not to be afraid. When I am afraid, I am miserable. I play it safe. I restrict myself. I hide my talent in the ground. I am not deeply alive, the depths of me are not being expressed. When I am afraid, a tiny part of me holds captive most of me. When I am afraid, I am a house divided against itself. So more than anything else, I want to be delivered from fear..."

From time to time, we all want to be delivered from some fear. But who can deliver us from such fear? One time Jesus' disciples were caught in a frightening storm as recorded in Mathew 14:27. Scripture says they were battered by waves" "the wind was against them" "they were terrified" "they cried out in fear". When Jesus went to them, the first thing he said to them was "Do not be afraid, take heart, I am here"

James More in his book *The Top ten List for Christians* shares some statistics showing that the phrase "fear not" or "do not be afraid" appears in the bible three hundred and sixty-five (365) times. Then he emphasizes that, that is one "fear not" for each day of the year. "Each fear not" is often followed by a promise of God's presence. So many times, we read "Fear not for I am with you says the Lord" How assuring is that? God knows our situations and our fears and is always present with us.

***"... So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand".***  
(Isaiah 41:10)

Wishing you continued Blessings and safety this Summer and a happy July 4th!!

Pastor Grace.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## Retired Persons Lunch Bunch

An indoor picnic, that is! It's time for the Senior Lunch Bunch to have its indoor picnic to celebrate Independence Day. We will be gathering on Wednesday, July 7th at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. The VanO's will be furnishing the burgers. If you need a reminder of what you signed up to bring or to inquire about bringing an item contact Carol at 537-2173. Just a reminder first timers do not need to bring a thing. Just come, check us out, and have an enjoyable time. We look forward to seeing you. Mark your August calendar for our gathering on Wednesday August 4, 2021.



## Vacation Bible School

We will be teaming up again with the American Lutheran Church this year. The dates are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, July 6th, 7th, and 8th, from 6:30 pm— 8:00 pm. Kids ages 3 through 5th grades will learn about Jesus through story, music, and art. You can pick up a registration form at the office or request one by email. The \$25 registration fee will be paid for through the Methodist Church Camp Fund. If you have any questions please contact Lynnette Stevens at 402.615.4096

## Pot Luck Brunch

Please join us for a Pot Luck Brunch following service on Sunday July 18th. Everyone loves brunch and what a better excuse to stay after church and fellowship with our church family. Drinks and table service will be provided, you only need to bring your favorite brunch type food to share. Egg casserole, fresh fruit, and cinnamon rolls are some suggestions. Whatever your favorite is, it will be delicious!! Hope you can join us!!