



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

GOTHENBURG FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
1401 LAKE AVENUE
GOTHENBURG, NE 69138
REV. GRACE GICHURU

May 2021– Volume 32– Issue 5



Congratulations to our Seniors



Abigail Johnson is the daughter of Tami and the late Brock Johnson. She will go to college in the fall and study Art and Design.



Brodee Gugelman is the son of Sonya Gugelman and Steve Gugelman. He plans on studying graphic design in the fall. His choice of school is undecided.



Hugo Morau is an exchange student visiting from Sweden. He is living with Brad and Lisa Jorgenson. Upon graduating, he will return to his home in southern Sweden and complete his senior year of high school there.



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

~Jeremiah 29:11

Not pictured Reed Weyers

The Beat

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Gothenburg First United Methodist Church

Letting you know about the camps at Camp Comeca this summer. Justin and Amy Hoehner, camp directors, are looking forward to camp this summer. Below is a list of the available camps. Please use the Camp Comeca website to register for the camps. Our camp scholarship fund will pay for 1/2 your camp cost. Contact Lynnette Stevens for information and for your camp scholarship.

FACTS AND FIGURES

General Giving Thru Apr. 30 Actual:
\$71,942 Budgeted: \$76,041

Percent of Budgeted: 94.6%

Paid Apportionments Thru Apr. 30
Actual: \$6,379 Budgeted: \$6,379

Percent of Budgeted: 100%

MAY BIRTHDAY'S

- 4– Jim Hotz
- 5– Robert Lane
- 6– Bowe Oliver
- 8– Maverick Macek
- 11– Karen Peterson, Jodi Macek
- 12– Harold Vass
- 14– Beck Groene
- 15– Milan Franzen
- 16– Zeb Blauvelt
- 17– Evelyn Miller
- 19– Taylor Burge
- 20– Tom Abramson, Nick Kirkpatrick,
David Loostrom, Grant Sell
- 21– Ty Bartels, Tara Foster
Carolyn Peterson, Kelly Phillips
- 24– Emma Jorgenson
- 26– Dennis Kirkpatrick

- 27– Tucker Bartlett
- 28– Amanda Larson
- 30– Laron Peters
- 31– Regi Lane, Brian Macek



© Fiona Childs



 COMECA
CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

2021 SUMMER CAMPS

Join us at Comeca for an awesome experience this Summer! Each Summer Session is packed with excitement, laughter, community and worship with Christ-centered and age-specific activities, messages, games and much more!

SPECIALTY CAMPS

Survivor Camp | \$400

6th – 12th Grade (Entering Fall 2021)

July 12th – 16th

Guardian Angel Camp | \$100

Pre-K – 2nd Grade (with Adult)

July 12th – 13th

Sonshine Camp | \$200

Pre-K – 2nd Grade (with Adult)

July 14th – 16th

Family Camp | cost varies by lodging style

Labor Day Weekend

ELEMENTARY CAMPS

1st – 5th Grade (Entering Fall 2021)

3 Days / 2 Nights | \$200

Session 1 (June 14th – 16th)

Session 2 (June 16th – 18th)

Session 4 (June 28th – 30th)

Session 5 (June 30th – July 2nd)

Session 6 (July 5th – 7th)

Session 7 (July 7th – 9th)

Session 8 (July 26th – 28th)

Session 9 (July 28th – 30th)

5 Days / 4 Nights | \$400

Session 3 (June 21st – 25th)

Session 10 (August 2nd – 6th)

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CAMPS

6th – 12th Grade (Entering Fall 2021)

3 Days / 2 Nights | \$200

Session 1 (June 14th – 16th)

Session 2 (June 16th – 18th)

Session 4 (June 28th – 30th)

Session 5 (June 30th – July 2nd)

Session 6 (July 5th – 7th)

Session 7 (July 7th – 9th)

Session 8 (July 26th – 28th)

Session 9 (July 28th – 30th)

5 Days / 4 Nights | \$400

Session 3 (June 21st – 25th)

Session 10 (August 2nd – 6th)



From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings Easter People,

Hard to believe we are in May already. The month of all the celebrations - graduations, Mother's Day, Pentecost Sunday, Memorial Day, and this year, the GP United Methodist Annual Conference, among others. May is packed!

Thanks to those who participated in our Holy Week services whether in person or virtual. From Palm Sunday, Wednesday programs, Holy Thursday service, Good Friday Service to Easter Sunday. I hope you found the week to be meaningful.

I know it may seem as though Easter was an eternity ago. And in many ways, it is. Since Easter Sunday, a lot has taken place in our lives. Funerals, school, work, family obligations, and so on. I can see why it is easy to forget Easter so quickly, and yet each of these happenings point us to the resurrection promise. It however does take some effort, and a reminder on our part. A reminder that every day is Easter day for Christians, and a reminder of the Easter message. In Easter what looked like an ending is actually a beginning. That is Easter faith, and this year Easter season extends into the busy May month.

Easter faith makes us aware of the one who is with us even when we assume we are alone. Easter faith is built upon the one who rolls away the stone even when we are at the end of our own strengths and efforts. Easter faith is rooted in the one who continually teaches us that endings can be beginnings. Easter faith gives birth to resurrection living. Easter faith is about glory and victory and at the same time about fear and uncertainty. May we this Easter

season, as we celebrate graduations, mothers' day, Memorial weekend, weddings and other special events, learn to hold on to Easter faith, and see the resurrection promise in each of our experiences.

Congratulations to all graduating students. Happy Mothers' day to all moms. Thanks to our brave servicemen, and safe celebrations to all.

Pastor Grace.



SAVE THE DATE!

An Interdenominational 'Prayer Walk' for Gothenburg community is planned for Saturday, May 22nd. The purpose of the walk is to intercede for and as an outreach to our community. The walk is sponsored by the Gothenburg Ministerial Association and everyone is welcome to participate. Participants will end the walk at the Ehmens Park for ice cream. Stay tuned for more specifics in the coming days.

The Beat

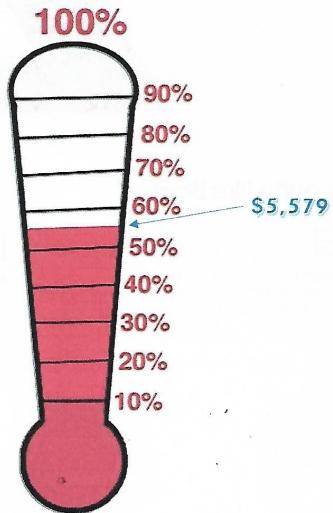
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Furnace Fund



Here are the latest numbers for the Furnace/Air Conditioning Fund. With summer just around the corner, we wanted to let you know. It's always nice to have a "cushion" in case of unexpected repairs. If you would like to donate to this fund, simply put "furnace" on the memo line of your preferred donation method.

In Memoriam

Irvin Williams

August 12, 1934– April 5, 2021



FAMILY MATTERS..MATTERS

Family Matters will conclude for the summer on May 5th. HUGE thanks to Lynnette, Sarah, Jordan Suhler, and Joe Gray for leading the children and youth each Wednesday. Also BIG thanks to Jodi Hinds, Judy Jensen, Sharon Sukraw, and Joan Windrum for feeding them each week as well. Last but certainly not least, thank you to everyone who has so generously donated cookies for the group each week. Family Matters will resume again in September!!



WE'RE BACK!!

Wednesday, May 5th the Lunch Bunch Retirement Group will be starting up again. We are encouraging all senior citizens age 55 and older to meet in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30 am to celebrate Spring and Mothers. A type of Sloppy Joe will be served. The following are some suggested side dishes for those wishing to bring something: **Salads, chips & dips, beans, and desserts would be welcome.**

We are encouraging masks and gloves be worn (which will be provided) while serving yourself food. Other times will be optional. If you are comfortable coming and sharing time together we would love to have you attend. Contact Dennis or Carol VanO for further info. 537-2173

ANNUAL CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2021 Great Plains Annual Conference sessions will be held virtually from May 26 to 29. All worship services and the business session of annual conference will be livestreamed on the conference website and Facebook page.