



# CHIMES

Vol. 45 No. 5

May 1, 2025

May 1 Lawson Morris  
 May 2 Jane Ireland  
 May 5 Sharroll Edmundson  
 May 6 Rex Blom, Madeline Cox  
 May 7 Sarah Smith, Shelley Powers-Faidley  
 May 8 Pastor Jihoon Lee  
 May 10 Jack Dawson, Sage Cochran  
 May 11 Lincoln Morris  
 May 13 Jane Krutzfeldt, Bryan Johnson  
 May 14 Christine Wright  
 May 15 Craig Coen, Craig West  
 May 16 Dave Dickenson  
 May 17 Tim Burrow  
 May 21 John Crumly  
 May 24 Andrea Dursky  
 May 25 Jack Huyser  
 May 26 Nick Messamer, Zoe Kminek  
 May 27 Linay Seibert  
 May 28 Corbin Faidley, Jay Christensen, Kim Andeway  
 May 29 Karla Christensen  
 May 30 Chris Hyland, Adam Carriker  
 May 31 Chris Lindgren



*"Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful people; praise his  
 holy name." Psalm 30:4 (NIV)*

## Attendance Records

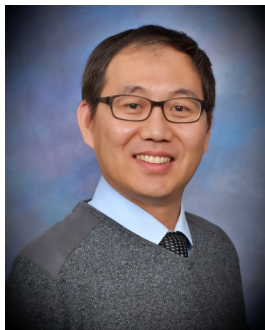
4/6 75  
 4/13 65  
 4/20 67  
 4/27 89

## Financial Reports

March 2025 Income \$14,719.40  
 March 2025 Expense \$22,253.93  
 Difference (\$7,534.53)  
 Total 2025 Yearly Income \$79,764.36  
 Total 2025 Yearly Expense \$57,487.17  
 Difference \$22,277.19



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 Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jihoon Lee



# A Message From Pastor Jihoon Lee

Beloved of God,

Spring is gently making its way to us once again. The signs are everywhere: grass growing faster than we can mow it, insects buzzing through the air, and dandelions beginning to burst from the ground. For many, dandelions are nothing more than stubborn weeds—unwelcome intruders in a manicured lawn. But to a child, dandelions are flowers—bright, cheerful, and perfect for a bouquet. Their value lies not in their classification but in the eyes of the one who beholds them.

It reminds me of something I once heard: “Weeds are simply plants we haven’t yet found a use for.” That statement carries a quiet, profound truth. What makes something unwanted? Why do we treasure a uniform lawn of green grass over a golden field of dandelions? Our rejection of dandelions says more about us—our preferences, our standards, our need for control—than it does about the plant itself. And I believe there’s a spiritual lesson growing right alongside those so-called weeds.

Years ago, as I strolled across the seminary campus on a bright spring day, I listened to a gospel song titled “Dandelions.” The song begins with a tender image: a young child picking dandelions and presenting them as a heartfelt bouquet to his mother. The mother, moved by love, proudly places them in a vase. The chorus captures the beauty of that moment:

“She sees love where anybody else would see weeds.”

As the song continues, the lyrics shift to a prayer:

“Where do I fit in this puzzle? What good are these gifts?  
Not a martyr or a saint—scarcely can I struggle through.  
All that I have ever wanted was to give my best to You.”

And the refrain echoes in a new way:

“Lord, search my heart—Dandelions. You see flowers in these weeds.”

## SERVING THIS MONTH

**Acolytes:** 5/4—Delila & Gemma; 5/11 Jackson; 5/18 Nyla; 5/25—**Need a Volunteer**

**A/V:** 5/4 Scott, Mike, & Jordan; 5/11 Aaron, Amber, & Lilia Morris; 5/18 Scott, Mike, & Justin; 5/25 Bryan, Janet, & Nate.

**Lector:** 5/4—Nick Messamer; 5/11—Lilia & Denise Morris; 5/18—Amber Shouse; 5/25—Cindy Drost

**Greeters:** 5/4—Andrea & Dennis Dursky; 5/11—Aaron & Amber Shouse; 5/18—Jim & Barb Johnson; 5/25—Marilyn & Dave Porter



Vacation Bible School

Evenings of July 6—9, 2025

Time: TBD

Where: Central UMC

Sign-up to volunteer.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FREE LAUNDRY NIGHT**

**MAY 15 4-7 PM**

**Need a Ride? Call or Text 641-638-1203**

**St Paul Congregational UCC & First Christian Church (DOC) presents...**

**SUDS OF LOVE Oskaloosa**  
No Strings Attached  
A partnership outreach of St. Paul Congregational UCC and First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

**Do your laundry FOR FREE!! (no strings attached!)**

**Laundry soap provided**

Bring your laundry to Stop & GO Laundromat at 1308 A Ave East in Oskaloosa.

**End of Month Meals**

**Tuesday May 27**  
Central United Methodist  
201 N Market St

**Thursday May 29**  
Central United Methodist  
201 N Market St

**FREE Community Meals!**

**Doors Open @ 5 - Meal @ 5:30**

EOMM hosts and helpers are: Central UMC, St. Paul Congregational UCC, First Presbyterian Church, and St. Mary's Catholic Church

## COLLEGE STUDENTS

All college students who are interested in receiving a Clark and Ethel Taylor Scholarship for the 2025-26 school year can obtain an application form from the office. The completed application form and a school transcript must be submitted by June 15th.

That line has stayed with me. It speaks to the heart of how God sees us and the efforts we offer in faith. So often, we hesitate to act because we doubt whether our small gestures or imperfect offerings make any difference. We wonder if our words carry any weight or if our acts of service are truly meaningful. We see only weeds—imperfect, unremarkable, or inadequate.

But God sees differently. In our sincere efforts to serve, to love, to build up others, to make disciples and nurture faith, God sees something beautiful. God sees obedience. God sees faithfulness. God sees love—where others might only see weeds.

As Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 1:27–28, “God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong... so that no one may boast in the presence of God.” What the world dismisses, God redeems and transforms.

In the kingdom of God, there are no weeds. Every one of us, with our quirks and imperfections, has something to offer. Whether young or old, active or limited by health or circumstance, your gifts matter. Your kindness matters. Your faithfulness matters. Do not be afraid of falling short, of not making headlines, or of giving your best and still seeing only dandelions. When offered in love, God sees flowers.

May you be encouraged this season to serve boldly, to love deeply, and to see beauty in unexpected places. And may you always remember: God sees flowers where others see weeds.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jihoon Lee



# May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 National Day of Prayer	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Mothers Day	12	13 ED—6:00 SPRC—6:30	14 Finance—6:00 Trustees—6:30	15	16 Admin. Sec.—Day off	17
18 Celebration Sunday	19	20	21 Luncheon—11:30 Ad Council—6:30 Choir—7:00	22	23	24
25 Tim Foster	26 Memorial Day Church Offices Closed	27 EOMM—5:30	28 Worship—6:00 Choir—7:00	29 EOMM—5:30	30	31