

MAY Birthdays

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 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
 May 31 Chris Lindgren

Attendance Records

3/29	77
4/5	107
4/12	88
4/19	93

Financial Reports

March 2026 Income	\$19,234.53
March 2026 Expense	\$36,560.74
Difference	(\$17,326.21)
Total 2026 Yearly Income	\$78,172.12
Total 2026 Yearly Expense	\$84,252.46
Difference	(\$6,080.34)

CHIMES

Vol. 46 No. 5

May 1, 2026



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



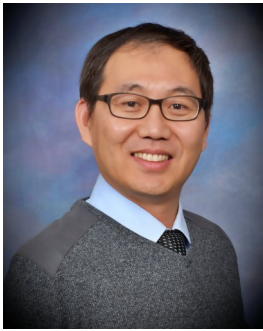
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Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jihoon Lee



A Message From Pastor Jihoon Lee

Dear Friends Walking Between Joy and Uncertainty,

May is a beautiful month in the life of our church. We celebrate, we honor, and we give thanks. Our choir completes another season of faithful singing, our children finish a year of learning and growing, and our students step forward—some graduating, some confirming their faith, some standing at the threshold of what comes next.

There is joy here—real joy. We see it in smiles, in laughter, in the pride of families, and in the courage of young people taking their next steps. These are sacred moments, and they deserve to be named and celebrated.

But if we are honest, that is not the whole story. Because in the same church, at the same time, there are other stories unfolding. There are those walking through illness, those carrying quiet worries, hearts filled with anxiety about things yet unknown, and burdens that have no easy words.

And for some—especially our graduates—there is another kind of weight. The celebration is real, but so is the uncertainty. Plans are not fully formed, doors are not yet open, and the future feels more like a question than an answer. In fact, some of the heaviest moments in life do not come from failure, but from standing at a doorway without knowing what lies beyond it.

So within one body, two realities exist side by side: joy and quiet struggle, celebration and unspoken heaviness. And we may wonder—where is God in all of this? Is He only in the joy, or only in the pain?

The answer of the gospel is deeper than both. God is not found on only one side; He is present in the space between. This is what Pentecost reveals to us.

Pentecost is often remembered for wind and fire—for a dramatic moment when the Spirit came with power. And it is true that there was sound, movement, and something visible. But what mattered most was not what could be seen. What mattered was this: God chose to dwell among His people in a new way.

Not only in great moments, but in every moment. Not only in clarity, but in uncertainty.

- **Graduation Recognition:** If someone in your household is graduating (high school, college, or graduate school), please notify the church office by May 13. Include their name, school, and any future plans. We will celebrate them on May 17.
- **College Students:** All college students who are interested in receiving a Clark and Ethel Taylor Scholarship for the 2026-27 school year can obtain an application form from the office. The completed application form and a school transcript must be submitted by June 15th.



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

FREE LAUNDRY NIGHT
MAY 21 4-7 PM

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

SUDS OF LOVE
OSKALOOSA
No strings Attached
A partnership between 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

Tues. May 26 & Thurs. May 28

Central UMC
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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Not only in strength, but in weakness. The Holy Spirit did not come only to fill extraordinary events; the Spirit came to dwell within ordinary lives—within ordinary people navigating very real questions, fears, and hopes.

That means the Spirit is present not only when we celebrate, but also when we do not know what comes next. The Spirit is at work not only in answers, but in questions; not only in peace, but in the middle of anxiety. And more than that, the Spirit gently holds these realities together, so that joy does not cancel out struggle and struggle does not erase joy.

The Spirit does not avoid the “in-between”; the Spirit fills it. So wherever you find yourself this month—in joy or in uncertainty, in gratitude or in quiet concern—hear this: the Spirit is already there.

He is present at the table where we celebrate, in the room where we wait, and in the silence where words do not come. We do not always see what God is doing, we do not always understand the timing, and we do not always feel steady, but we trust this: between what is visible and what is hidden, between what is certain and what is still unfolding, the Spirit of God is gently, faithfully at work.

Even in the places where you feel suspended between “what was” and “what will be,” God has not stepped away. He is closer than you think, quietly sustaining, guiding, and forming you. And because of that, no part of your story is outside His care. Even now, He is holding us together.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jihoon Lee



May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Central District Conf. & Pre-Annual Conf. at Waukee UMC from 9:30AM—1:30PM
3 Spec. Music: Tim Foster	4	5 Fellowship Hall Reserved 10am—3pm	6 Ed Comm.—6:00pm Choir—7:00pm	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day Spec. Music: CUMC Choir	11	12 SPRC—6:30pm Admin. Sec. Out of Office	13 Finance—6:00pm Trustees—6:30pm	14 Admin. Sec. Out of Office	15	16
17 Celebration Sunday Spec. Music: Children/Youth Choir	18	19	20 AD Council—6:30pm	21	22	23
24 Day of Pentecost	25 Memorial Day Church Offices Closed	26	27 Worship—6:00pm Admin. Sec. Out of Office	28	29	30
31 Confirmation Sunday Spec. Music: Tim Foster						