



# CHIMES

Vol. 45 No. 7

July 1, 2025

- July 3 Karen Messamer
- July 4 Dennis Ireland
- July 6 Steve Cochran
- July 7 Dara Paulsen
- July 8 Amanda Foster
- July 10 Emmett Ewing
- July 13 Victoria Laird
- July 14 Dave Dixon
- July 16 Victoria Carmer & Vickie Arkema
- July 22 Mike Laird
- July 23 Janet Johnson
- July 26 Julie Hyland
- July 27 Jackson Lahner
- July 28 Janet Osweiler
- July 31 Bennet Foster



*"I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts." Psalm 119:45 (NIV)*

## Attendance Records

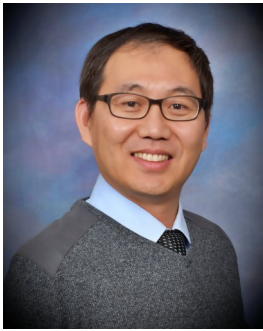
## Financial Reports

6/1	75
6/8	59
6/15	83
6/22	85

May 2025 Income	\$9,150.29
May 2025 Expense	\$29,401.51
Difference	(\$10,251.22)
Total 2025 Yearly Income	\$110,971.17
Total 2025 Yearly Expense	\$91,194.57
Difference	\$19,776.60



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 Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jihoon Lee



# A Message From Pastor Jihoon Lee

Dear Beloved Church Family,

July has arrived with all its familiar signals—sweltering heat, sudden downpours, and, of course, the lawn that seems to grow twice as fast the moment you put the mower away. Summer is in full swing. Children are on break, some of us are heading off for long-awaited vacations, and our church is alive with the joy and holy chaos of Vacation Bible School.

It's a season that feels both relaxing and relentless. We long for rest, but the days often fill quickly—with travel plans, yardwork, summer programs, or simply the need to stay cool and hydrated. In the middle of it all, July 4th reminds us of the precious gift of freedom. It's a time to give thanks for our country, to gather with friends and family, and to remember those who have sacrificed for the liberty we enjoy.

But as people of faith, we are also called to reflect on a deeper kind of freedom—the freedom we have in Christ.

In Galatians 5:1, Paul writes: "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." Paul isn't talking about political freedom here. He's talking about freedom from fear, guilt, shame, sin, and all the inner chains that can hold us back from living fully and joyfully as God's beloved people.

While political freedom is fragile—guarded by laws, often tested by conflict, and always shaped by human hands—spiritual freedom is eternal. It is a gift, not earned by merit or secured by force, but poured out in grace through Jesus Christ. And this freedom is not just for some, but for all.

What does that look like in the middle of a hot, busy July?

It might look like a parent slowing down during VBS to truly listen to a child's wonder-filled question about God. It might look like someone choosing to forgive an old hurt instead of clinging to resentment. It might look like a person finally laying down a burden of self-doubt and accepting that they are enough—loved, chosen, redeemed.

In these moments, we live into the freedom Christ has given us.

This July, I encourage you to rest in that freedom. Not just on the beach or by the lake, but deep in your soul. Take time to breathe. To pray. To read Scripture not out of duty, but desire. To enjoy creation without rushing past it. To notice the simple ways God is working all around you—even in the sound of children laughing during VBS or the smell of fresh-cut grass after a storm.


End of Month Meals

Tues., July 29 & Thurs., July 31  
St. Mary's Parish Center  
301 High Ave E

**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

## OSKALOOSA SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM




**EVERY WEDNESDAY from Jun 4 - Aug 13**  
Receive **BREAKFAST & LUNCH** for the entire week

### 2025 LOCATIONS & TIMES

<b>Oskaloosa Public Library</b> 11:15 - 11:45 AM	<b>Oskaloosa Middle School</b> 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM
<b>Oskaloosa Elementary School</b> 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM 5:30 - 6:15 PM	<b>University Park Community Center</b> 11:45 AM - 12:15 PM
<b>Webster School</b> 12:00 - 12:30 PM	<b>GRAB &amp; GO MEALS</b> <i>ONE PICK UP PER CHILD</i> Ages 18 & Under • No Income Limits

**Summer Lunch & Summer Reading Program Kickoff Party**  
Monday, June 2 • 5:00 - 7:00 PM • Oskaloosa Public Library

 **UNITED WAY**  
Mahaska County

*This is an Equal Opportunity Provider.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



And as we give thanks for our nation's independence, may we also commit ourselves again to the way of Christ's freedom. That means standing for truth with love, using our voices for the voiceless, and living not for ourselves but for one another. Freedom, after all, is not the absence of limits—it is the presence of purpose. May this month be one of both purpose and peace for you. May your days be full of sunshine, your heart full of grace, and your spirit renewed by the One who sets us free. With love in Christ,

Pastor Jihoon Lee



## Volunteer Opportunities

**Acolytes:** We do not have a summer schedule but if you know you will be here, let the office know so your child can be put on the schedule.

**A/V:** 7/6—Scott E., Mike D., & Jordan D.; 7/13—Aaron S., Amber S., & Lilia M.; 7/20—Scott E., Mike D., & Justin L.; 7/27—Bryan J., Janet J., & Nate L.;

**Lector:** 7/6: Jim Johnson 7/13: \_\_\_\_\_ 7/20: \_\_\_\_\_ 7/27: \_\_\_\_\_

**Greeters:** 7/6: Linda Lindgren & Sandy Powers 7/13: \_\_\_\_\_ 7/20: \_\_\_\_\_ 7/27: \_\_\_\_\_



# JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Church Offices Closed	5
6 VBS 5:30-8:00P	7 VBS 5:30-8:00P	8 VBS 5:30-8:00P	9 Finance—6:00 Trustees—6:30 VBS 5:30-8:00P	10	11	12 Andrea & Dennis Dursky's 60th Wedding Anniversary Open House 2 – 4p
13	14	15	16 AD Council—6:30	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Worship—6:00	24	25	26
27 Special Music: Tim Foster	28	29	30	31		