



August BIRTHDAYS

August 3rd Diane Gordy
 August 9th Dorothy Butler
 August 11th Wilma Brown & Miraldo Michel
 August 13th Sandra Voss
 August 16th Paul Burrow
 August 18th Heather Wilker
 August 22nd Barbara Johnson & Sheryl Dickey
 August 23rd Ken Howard
 August 27th Eileen Blom
 August 30th Carter Christensen

Attendance Records

7/5	58
7/12	68
7/19	63
7/26	61

Financial Reports

June 2026 Income	\$16,159.13
June 2026 Expense	\$28,043.26
Difference	(\$11,884.13)
Total 2026 Yearly Income	\$129,826.71
Total 2026 Yearly Expense	\$162,943.74
Difference	(\$33,117.03)

CHIMES

Vol. 46 No. 8

August 1, 2026



"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace.

*In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have
 overcome the world." John 16:33 (NIV)*



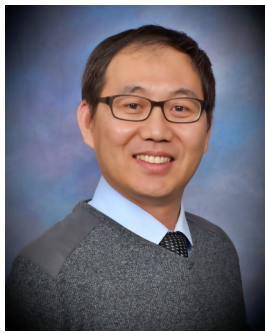
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Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jihoon Lee



A Message From Pastor Jihoon Lee

Dear Friends Moving Forward in the Heart of Christ,

Voyager 2 was still moving when Earth could no longer hear it.

The spacecraft had not broken down. It had not wandered from its path. More than twelve billion miles from home, it continued quietly through interstellar space, doing what it had done for decades. But its antenna had shifted just two degrees away from Earth. Two degrees does not sound like much. But distance has a way of enlarging small departures. Across that immense distance, the slight turn was enough to change a living signal into silence.

Voyager was still traveling forward. Its antenna was simply no longer pointed toward home.

August is a month when many of us begin moving again before everything feels settled. One suitcase is being unpacked while a school backpack waits by the door. Some people take one last trip; others return to classrooms, offices, and familiar routines. At church, empty chairs and returning faces share the same room. Meetings reappear on the calendar. Plans begin to gather speed.

The danger is probably not that we will refuse to move. More likely, we will begin moving before asking what will guide us.

For Christians, turning toward Christ cannot mean merely saying his name more often, attending worship more faithfully, or restarting the familiar machinery of church. These practices matter. But Christian forms can remain in place while the heart of Christ slips from the center. We can speak of Jesus while protecting our comfort, keep the calendar full while overlooking people, and preserve the work of the church while losing the way of Christ.

Paul writes, "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5). To be pointed toward Christ is to let his mind set our direction. This is not a vague religious feeling. The mind of Christ moves away from self-importance and toward the good of others. Christ does not cling to status; he empties himself. He does not remain

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

FREE LAUNDRY NIGHT

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

AUGUST 20
4-7 PM

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. Aug. 25 & Thurs. Aug. 27

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

August 30 at 9:30am

Join us for a Free Hour of
Worship Music!

Guided
JEFF ARRANDALE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Fellowship Luncheon**—August 19 at 11:30am Choice of Enchilada Casserole or Bacon Cheeseburger Casserole along with homemade rolls, green beans, chopped salad, fresh vegetables and cake for desert. Please RSVP by August 14 at 641-672-2564.



safely above human need; he comes near. Throughout the Gospels, his attention settles again and again on the person the crowd has learned not to see. He stops where efficiency says to keep going. He makes room where others see only interruption.

That is the alignment the church needs as another season begins.

Before asking how much we can accomplish this fall, perhaps we should ask a more searching question: Whom might the mind of Christ teach us to notice? The person whose absence has quietly become familiar. The family whose life does not fit neatly into our plans. The neighbor whose need asks for presence, not a program. Christ's heart is often revealed not where activity is greatest, but where love makes room.

NASA eventually sent a command across the darkness, and Voyager turned its antenna back toward Earth. It did not reverse course. It did not abandon its journey or retrace the billions of miles it had traveled. It continued forward, but once again in contact with home.

We do not need to return to who we were before summer. We come back carrying rest and fatigue, gratitude and grief, answered prayers and unfinished questions. Nor do we need to recreate the church of another season. But before our lives gather speed again, we can ask what our hearts are pointed toward.

August does not simply call us back. It asks what will guide us when we return. May we turn again toward the mind of Christ—and then follow his gaze toward the people he never overlooks.

In Christ,
Pastor Jihoon Lee



- **We are Hiring**—CUMC is seeking a part-time Director of Children and Youth Ministries to lead faith development for children and youth through Christian education, engaging programs, and volunteer leadership. Be sure to share the Facebook post on your Facebook to get the word out.

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 ED—6:00pm	6 Stitching Circle 9a-5p	7	8
9	10	11 SPRC—6:30pm	12 Finance—6:00pm Trustees—6:30pm	13 Stitching Circle 9a-5p	14	15
16	17	18	19 Fellowship Luncheon— 11:30am AD Council—6:30pm	20 Stitching Circle 9a-5p	21	22
23 Special Music by Tim Foster	24	25 EOMM—5:30pm	26 Worship—6:00pm	27 EOMM—5:30pm Stitching Circle 9a-5p	28	29
30 Jeff Arrandale Band	31					