

# THE FLAME

Volume 53, Issue 6

June 2023



June Fits Us to a Tea!

## Summer Events

**Sock Hop, Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30—9:30 PM**

**Bring Friends, Bring a Chair  
and don't forget your dancing shoes.**

**Family Game Night, Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>**

**6:30—8:30 PM**

**Popcorn, lemonade, games and  
lots of fun for all ages.**

**(See page 6 for list of volunteers needed.)**



### Greetings from the Choir Loft!

The month of June is the end of the 2022-2023 ringing/singing season for the music department as both the Chancel Choir and Carillon Handbell Choir take a well-deserved break during the month of July. To end this season both choirs are preparing special music for Music Appreciation Sunday scheduled on June 25th. On this Sunday, the church recognizes the service of its musicians, those individuals who freely give of their time and talent to provide meaningful music for our worship services and other special events. So, mark your calendars and plan to take a moment on the 25<sup>th</sup> to say "thanks" to the dedicated individuals who sing, ring, or play a musical instrument to the glory of God.

On July 2nd at 6:00pm, Prairie Carillon Handbell Choir under my direction, will present a Patriotic Concert, "Let Freedom Ring" in the sanctuary of First Christian Church and features several ringers from First United Methodist Church. Our very own, Bonnie Otto, will play a Bell Tree solo. Some of the titles you will hear include "My Country Tis of Thee", "Battle Hymn of the Republic", and the "Star-Spangled Banner", in addition to a few Americana songs such as "Bell Boogie" and "Down to the River to Pray". This will be a great way to start your July 4th celebration! The concert is free and open to the public.

With blessings...Marta



Women have a unique place in society. When we are young we are someone's daughter. Then we become someone's wife, someone's mom and then someone's grandmother.

If you are a widow, you are going through a time of grief, grief that isn't over in a specified amount of time. You suddenly find yourself in the situation of trying to decide who you are and what you want to be at this time in your life.

We are looking for women who find themselves needing more support and less sympathy while finding "Time to be Me." For those who need more one on one counseling, we will partner with the Stephen Ministry to meet those needs.

No by-laws, no officers, no planned programs, just getting together, sharing our needs, and having fun. Maybe going out to eat together or taking day trips to shop or go to some of the festivals around our state. We will be open to any suggestions you may have for our group.

If you are interested, we will initially plan to meet the second Thursday of the

month, June 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM in the church parlor. The day of the month and time are not set in stone, we will work to meet the needs of our members.

For more information, contact Dianne Clark in the office.



### PRAYER MAIL

Somewhere in the emptiness of the mailbox and the silence of the cell phone are the thoughts of you and memories of our friendship.

They make me laugh and smile when my heart is heavy with the world's care. I know that life has taken us down different roads that keep us fairly busy.

It's for that reason I try to make my thoughts into little prayers, because I know that God is always with you in the midst of your cares.

So when the cell phone is not ringing and the mailbox is empty just remember, I'm sending you my love on a wing of a prayer from God.

~Dan Flewelling





## Confirmation and Baptism



Two were baptized\* and six were confirmed.

- Kelsey Baichtal\*
- Alex Biery
- Nicholas Biery
- Samantha Biery
- Ruby Cervantes
- Trent Fleming\*

Confirmands with parents and sponsors.



Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6



The Cinco de Mayo fundraiser was a huge success. The food was amazing and our Scout Troop did a wonderful job serving. Funds raised will go to funding some of our 130th Anniversary projects.



Pictured are our Scout Troop, part of the kitchen staff, and a few of those who came to enjoy the meal.



**PRAYER CORNER**

Lord our God, our Father in heaven, with all our hearts we want to thank you for giving us joy on earth and for sending us your radiant light from heaven. We praise you for the light you give our hearts, the light that lets us find great joy together because we become one in you, one in your Spirit, one in awaiting your promised good. Grant that we may be your children. May we always find the paths where you can go with us and give us what we cannot give ourselves. May our whole life glorify you and our every breath belong to you. Through communion with you may we remain in your

safekeeping in body, soul, and spirit. For all you have done and for all you will do for us, we ask you to accept our thanks. Amen.



**LOST AND FOUND**

We now have a lost and found box. If you have misplaced something, look in the white basket on top of the coat rack outside the women's restroom in the Welcome Center.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

After many years of being your church librarian, I have turned the library over to Gineta Swanson. I have enjoyed taking care of the library and will miss it, but it is time for me to step aside. There are many new books in the library. Books on all topics and something for everyone to read. Also, Jayne Detten has set up the adult Sunday school curriculum on the east wall. It is available for anyone to use. Just be sure to sign the checkout sheet. Take advantage of and enjoy your church library.

Arleen Jacobson



SUN

MON

TUES

WED

THUR

FRI

SAT

				1	2	3
4 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Communion Caring Fund Sunday 6:00 Sock Hop	5 8:30 Angel Academy 6:00 Handbells 6:00 Scouts	6 8:30 Men's Coffee Group 9:00 Intercessory Prayer <b>Dan Petty</b>	7 8:30 Angel Academy 6:00 GLOW 7:00 Choir	8 <b>Becky Hightower</b> <b>Don Nuzum</b>	9 6:30 Game Night in the Pavilion	10 <b>Tom Burton</b> <b>Birthday Party in Fellowship Hall 10—2</b>
11 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	12 8:30 Angel Academy 6:00 Handbells 6:00 Scouts <b>Diana Dawdy</b>	13 8:30 Men's Coffee Group 9:00 Intercessory Prayer	14 8:30 Angel Academy 5:15 Finance Committee 6:00 GLOW 7:00 Choir	15 9:00 Stephen Ministry	16 9:00 Lay Leadership Committee <b>Paul Kuehny</b> <b>Ann Powell</b>	17 <b>Earl Behara</b> <b>Janet Ray</b> <b>Terry Stephen</b>
18 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship <b>Ron Matheson</b>	19 8:30 Angel Academy 6:00 Handbells 6:00 Scouts	20 8:30 Men's Coffee Group 9:00 Intercessory Prayer <b>John Gilberg</b> <b>Desta Parks</b>	21 8:30 Angel Academy 6:00 GLOW 7:00 Choir	22 <b>Jarod Hinch</b>	23	24 <b>Diane Cavett</b> <b>Kara Wells</b>
25 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship <b>Viviane Wells</b>	26 8:30 Angel Academy 6:00 Handbells 6:00 Scouts	27 8:30 Men's Coffee Group 9:00 Intercessory Prayer	28 8:30 Angel Academy 6:00 GLOW 7:00 Choir <b>Rylee Webster</b>	29 <b>Jean Jennings</b>	30	

“Far up in the deep blue sky, great white clouds are floating by; all the world is dressed in green; many happy birds are seen; roses bright and sunshine clear show that lovely June is here.”

~ F. G. Sanders



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## JUNE HAIKU

Joy is in the air.  
 Christ and His Church; mates forever.  
 Love is thru God's Grace.

~Wayne Moore

## SUMMER EVENTS

Volunteers are needed to help with the summer events. The first event, Game Night, is June 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM in the Pavilion. Duties are as follows:

- Two people to prepare and serve lemonade
- Two people to help with popcorn
- Two people to stay in the church building to help people find restrooms as needed
- Two people to help break down and clean up
- One person to stake out the FUMCPC banner

Buddy up and serve.

If you are willing to serve, contact Lilly Freeman at (580) 716-7360, leave a message or text, or email her at [lillyfree60@outlook.com](mailto:lillyfree60@outlook.com).



*There is no trouble so great or grave that cannot be much diminished by a nice cup of tea.*  
 ~Bernard-Paul Heroux.

*Come along inside... We'll see if tea and buns can make the world a better place.* ~Kenneth Grahame.

*Honestly, if you're given the choice between Armageddon or tea, you don't say 'what kind of tea?'* ~Neil Gaiman.

*There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea.* ~Henry James.

*There is something in the nature of tea that leads us into a world of quiet contemplation of life.* ~Lin Yutang.

“Society is a strong solution of books. It draws the virtue out of what is best, worth reading, as hot water draws the strength of tea-leaves.” ~Oliver Wendell Holmes

## ANGEL ACADEMY

It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to Joyce Shreffler. She has retired from our Angel Academy program after 12 years of service. Stillwater isn't that far, so we hope she will return to Ponca frequently!



## OUR STAFF

### SENIOR PASTOR

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### MUSIC DIRECTOR

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### CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

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### MDO & NURSERY DIRECTOR

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### ORGANIST

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### BUSINESS MANAGER

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### CHURCH SECRETARY

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June 2023

Daily



## Prayers for YOUTH

- Our Sons/Daughters, Grandsons/Granddaughters  
& all the ones we love.

1

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. ~ Psalm 103:8

Glorious Lord, please build up (name)'s knowledge of You so she knows You are compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in love for her. Amen!

2

... those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance ~ Hebrew 9:15

Adonai, please deepen (name)'s faith so he knows he can rely on Your promises. Amen!

3

For God loves a cheerful giver.  
~ 2 Corinthians 9:7

Awesome Lord, may (name) be a generous soul, sharing her possessions with no fear of lack, for You Lord, love a cheerful giver. Amen!

4

My tongue will proclaim your righteousness, your praises all day long. ~ Psalm 35:28

Lord of Peace, please give (name) a distaste for pointless talk. When he speaks may it be to praise You and tell of Your righteousness. Amen!

5

I will reject perverse ideas and stay away from every evil. ~ Psalm 101:4

Blessed Father, please protect (name) from engaging in anything that You deem evil. Amen!

6

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be ... abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.  
~ 1 Corinthians 15:58

All Powerful God, please open (name)'s eyes to opportunities when he can serve You by serving others. Amen!

7

"I knew you before I formed you. Before you were born I set you apart ... ~ Jeremiah 1:5  
Glorious Lord, whenever (name) feels inadequate or insignificant, please remind her You specifically created, redeemed & selected her as Your own; she is therefore of great value to You. Amen!

8

Commit your works to the LORD And your plans will be established. ~ Proverbs 16:3

Merciful Father, as (name) embarks on his projects, please prompt him to commit his work to You, so his plans will be established. Amen!

9

We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers.  
~ 1 Thessalonians

Almighty King, for entrusting me with this opportunity to cover (name) in prayer. Please bless her Lord. Give me insight each day in what to pray about concerning her. Amen!

10

I pray that your love will overflow ... growing in knowledge and understanding... so that you may live pure and blameless lives ...  
~ Philippians 1:9-10  
Lord God, I pray that (name)'s love will overflow, and he continue to grow in knowledge and understanding, so he may live a pure and blameless life. Amen!

11

Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices  
~ Colossians 3:9

My God, my Lord, may (name) be ill at ease whenever she tells an untruth. Amen!

12

One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.  
~ Proverbs 18:24

Eternal Father, I pray for godly friendships for (name). Please send exactly the right friends for him; reliable, loyal friends who will stick close to him like family. Amen!

13

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty pride, but in humility consider others more important than yourselves... ~ Philippians 2:3-4  
Gracious God, please prompt (name) not to act out of selfish ambition or empty pride, but in humility consider others more important than herself, considering their interests, not just her own. Amen!

14

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! ~ Philippians 4:4

God of All Hope, please cultivate a joyful spirit in (name). May he exude joy, always finding cause to rejoice in You. Amen!

15

Little children, let us not love in word or speech but in action and in truth. ~ 1 John 3:18

Savior Father, please teach (name) how to take the initiative to love not just in word or speech, but in action and in truth. Amen!

16

Get wisdom; develop good judgment. Don't forget my words or turn away from them.  
~ Proverbs 4:5

Blessed God, may (name) be one to seek knowledge. May he get wisdom and develop good judgment, not forgetting or turning away from Your Word. Amen!

17

... "Love your neighbor as yourself." No other commandment is greater than these."  
~ Mark 12:31

Omnipotent Lord, please teach (name) how to love her neighbor as herself, knowing there is no commandment greater than this. Amen!

18

Brothers, do not be children in thoughts, yet in malice be babies, but in thoughts be mature. ~ 1 Corinthians 14:20

Father, may (name) not be childish in his intellect. With the passage of each day, may his thinking mature, while remaining childlike when it comes to evil thoughts or deeds. Amen!

19

Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up.  
~ Galatians 6:9

Dear God, may (name) not get tired of doing good. May she persevere at her tasks, so she reaps a good harvest at the proper time. Amen!

20

You must not follow the crowd in doing wrong.  
~ Exodus 23:2

Heavenly Father, please prompt (name) to make good choices. May he be level-headed and not follow the masses in doing wrong. Amen!

21

..., "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." ~ James 4:6

Lord God, as (name) becomes more accomplished, please remove any arrogance or pride that makes her think she is self-sufficient. Stir her to bow before You for Your continued gift of grace. Amen!

22

Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God  
~ Leviticus 19:32

All-Powerful God, please teach (name) to be respectful to others. May he know to stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and those in authority over him. Amen!

23

And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. ~ Micah 6:8

Holy Lord, May (name) act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with You. Amen!

24

"But forget all that—it is nothing compared to what I am going to do. ~ Isaiah 43:18

Righteous Father, please teach (name) to release the past and focus on Your gift of today. May he learn to treasure his present blessings and the glorious new things You are doing in his life. Amen!

25

Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself,  
~ 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Eternal King, may (name) recognize that her body is a temple of the Holy Spirit and care for it with high regard, glorifying You with her choices. Amen!

26

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you your heart's desires. ~ Psalm 37:4

Lord Jesus, as (name) enjoys the summer, remind him how bright his future is. May he delight in You as You give him the desires of his heart. Amen!

27

Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image ... ~ Genesis 1:26

Lord All-Powerful, help (name) banish envy and the desire to be like someone else. May she embrace her uniqueness and celebrate the good and perfect gift of being made in Your image. Amen!

28

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ~ Romans 10:9

Blessed Father, I pray that (name) will know You Lord, and develop a deep and intimate relationship with You. May he unashamedly declare that "Jesus is her Lord, her Savior and her Protector".  
Amen!

29

If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them.  
~ James 4:17

Almighty Lord, may (name) have a strong moral compass. May she choose to do what is right each day. Amen!

30

I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!  
~ John 15:11

Merciful Father, please fill (name) to overflowing with Your joy. May he be content, satisfied, and not feeling a lack of any good thing. Amen!

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

1 John 5:14

