

Dear Friends in Christ,

We are entering the months of Summer which means that we have had a flurry of birds in our back yard. We have some interesting ones such as a local Catbird (which does make sounds like Puddytatt), Goldfinches and my mom's favorite—Orioles.

This summer promises to be another wonderful season. We are not standing still at the church. Even in the midst of summer, ministry continues. We are planning a re-dedication at the end of June. We are also planning our Annual Park worship at the end of August—not to forget our Christmas in July worship.

With our improved facility, we are also investigating starting a new ministry which will be more focused on individuals who live in our group homes—and others who might be "differently gifted" who wish to worship together. I have been in contact with Mosaic (with the help of Julie Zittergruen) who would assist us in setting up the program. We are in need of a couple of people to help organize in our end of things—I have one great recruit already.

I will be out and about this summer also—you will see me at ball games and around town. I also have some time to do additional visits as they fit into the schedule. Due to Mom's health issues, we have no plans other than to be at home. Thanks again to everyone for your visits, thoughts and prayers when Mom was not doing well. Lately, she has been better than she has been in 6 months—quite remarkable.

We will continue with our Drive-Thru Food Pantry which served over 110 families in May. We are also making plans for our Confirmation program which will see over 15 students in the 7th and 8th grades. Ministry here at St. John's keeps growing thanks to your support. Thank you for all that you do.

Peace,  
Pastor Mike



**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
PO Box 819  
203 Pearl Street  
Guttenberg, IA 52052

**Pastor Michael Ashman**

319-231-6440  
[mikepstr64@gmail.com](mailto:mikepstr64@gmail.com)

**CHURCH WORSHIP:**  
5:30 PM - Saturday  
9:15 AM - Sunday

**Church Office Hours:**  
Tues: 7:00AM - 3:00 PM  
Wed & Fri: 7:00AM - 12:30 PM  
Thursdays 12:30-3:30 PM



### AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Carter Judkins, Pastor Mike Ashman, Chloe Hansen



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School  
June 12-16th!



Pastor Harold McMillin is celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> year of Ordination on Sunday June 11 at St. Peter in Garnavillo during the 9:30 Worship Service.

St. Peter and Peace Lutheran invites to a meal at 11am in his honor. No gifts please.

Please call our church office if you are interested in attending the meal. Your reservation needs to be in by June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, we plan to re-dedicate our fellowship hall with the Bishop of Northeastern Iowa, Rev. Kevin Jones.

Plans are being made—so please mark your calendar for that date!!



We are looking to hold a New Member Sunday sometime in June. If you or someone you know is interested in joining St. John's Lutheran, please contact our church office or Pastor Mike for more information. Thanks!!



This summer Pastor will be open for some visits after VBS is done. He has no vacations planned. Give the office a call—or drop an email to pastor.



Feel free to bring them for the altar during the spring and summer months!



### -PLEASE PRAY FOR-

Ross Abbott, Renee Schaburt, Vera Ashman, Bev Aulwes, Owen Aulwes, Kay Bahlmann, Cecil Bahls, Kay Becker, Lois Davis, Bob Ferguson, Tammy Goodman, Jerry Kolker, Paul Kraus, Brayton Kuhse, Richard Larson, Kathy Meskimen, Jenny Meyer, Randy Moser, Shirley A. Moser, Shirley M. Moser, Tiffany Moser, Jean Pensel, Mick Pierce, Shelby Preston, Zander Purman, Denny Reth, Pat Rodenberg, Denny Roth, Rich Schmelzer, Jim Solomon, Mary Sundermeier, Terry Thein, Bill Tielbar, Arthur Tomkins, Everd Tuecke, Al Ullerick, Paul Wolter

**River Living Center:** Nell Stone, Arlene Tackman, Mae Jetter, Janet Lundt, Judy Olson, Ed & LaVonne Rodenberg, Virginia Roth, Bob Ferguson

**Guttenberg Care Center:** Shirley Moore, Shirley Moser

**Ennoble Nursing Care:** Dennis Roth



#### CARE CENTER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

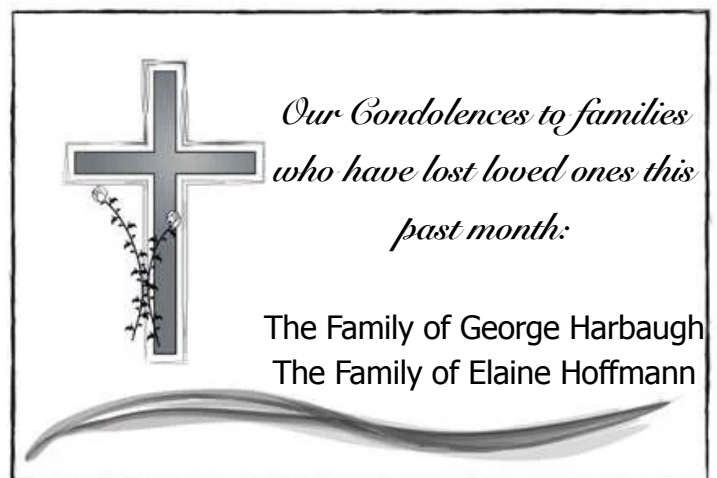
GUTTENBERG CARE CENTER: Every Monday at 10:00 AM

RIVER LIVING CENTER: Thurs. June 1 - 10:30 AM

Many thanks to Karilyn McArthur for providing music when possible!



If you would like to join, or know someone interested in finding a church home, please let us know. We are also very flexible – you are welcome to join on any weekend—just contact Pastor Mike!





## YOUTH MINISTRIES

### Camera Ministry



#### SUNDAY

June 4 - Jovi Allyn  
 June 11 - Madi Thomas  
 June 18 - Natalie Thomas  
 June 25 - Crystal Duwe &  
 Brandon Duwe

#### SATURDAY

June 3 -  
 June 10 - Gavin Stoerp  
 June 17 -  
 June 24 - Gavin Stoerp

#### SUNDAY

June 4 - Delaney Brown  
 June 11 - Madi Thomas  
 June 18 - Caleb Bittner  
 June 25 - Jovi Allyn



*Welcome to  
 Confirmation*

### Attention 6 & 7th Graders:

Please see Pastor Mike to sign up for your required Acolyte and Camera positions.

This is a great way to get a head start on your Confirmation requirements. We are also looking for an acolyte for Saturday Evening worship.

## JUNE Stewards

	Ushers	Lector
<b>June 4</b>	Kevin & Rabecca Hennessey	Kevin Hennessey
<b>June 11</b>	Mary Streich	Cindy Niehaus
<b>June 18</b>	Pat Meyer Linda Hackett	Craig Tuecke
<b>June 25</b>	Rick & Mary Beth Allyn	Mary Beth Allyn

**FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Greetings!

As I write this newsletter entry, we just got home from church on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May, we were moved by the youth singing and reading for the service. Our Sunday School staff of teachers and helpers have done such a wonderful job this past year and in the past years as well. It takes a great deal of dedication from our teachers and helpers. Also, many thanks to the parents for getting them to Sunday school. This lays the foundation for these young people's faith and provides them with the support so that they will become future members and leaders of the congregation. Pastor also deserves credit for his involvement with the youth through the children's sermon, involvement with the Sunday School and his commitment of attending events that our kids are involved with through the school and community.

As the Sunday School year ends, we also have several young people who will be graduating from High School with ties to St. John's. As this group of young people celebrate and reflect on the past years of education, hopefully they have felt the power of the Lord in their lives and will continue to seek a better understanding of the teachings of Jesus. May they also understand that as they go through their commencement exercises, that "commence" also means "a beginning". As a congregation, we wish all graduates the best and keep them in our prayers.

I have known these students as a substitute teacher and have been a coach for many of them. I am confident that these young people will do well in whatever they decide to do in the future. They are fine young adults, and much credit goes to parents for their support and love throughout their lives. Best of luck to the Class of 2023 and may God Bless You.

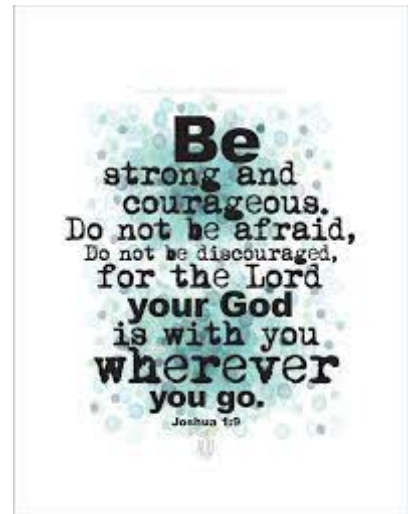
The basement project is going into the home stretch. The flooring will be finished soon and then the final aspects will be completed. The finishing touches include installing cabinets in the serving island, getting power to the island, installing the countertop and trim to the island as well. The storage area will be finished soon, and the interactive board will be installed. The kitchen area will need to be cleaned and cleared out so that the flooring company can come back and put new flooring in that area. The kitchen will be used for VBS before new flooring is installed. Soon, volunteers will be needed to help clean the kitchen, empty the storage unit, and put things in the storage areas that were moved and temporarily stored elsewhere.

Your support, as a congregation, for this project has been outstanding. With the current pledges and the \$100,000 dedicated by the council we are still in need of more donations. Any amount is appreciated. This project will serve our congregation and community for many years to come.

God Bless You,

Brian Rodenberg,

Council President



# WELCOME TO YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL 2023

Featuring | Chuck Hemann | Public Relations

## I grew up around...

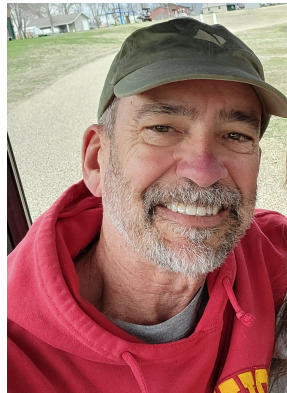
North Central Iowa on a family farm. It is situated near the small Iowa town of Stacyville, just miles from the Minnesota border. I miss the farm life each day but especially in the spring and fall. My father and mother raised nine children on this farm. I was third in line, the second son of four along with five sisters. Due to living on the farm and being a dairy farmer we only had one vacation. The trip we took in my childhood was to Texas. I was six or seven and there were only five of us kids back then. On this vacation we made a stop at Boys Town and it made an incredible impression on me. Even to this day I recall the place and my take-away was "Give back when you can".

## My most meaningful accomplishment in high school...

was not a specific event or honor but rather my classes in the sciences, mathematics, and playing the trumpet in band. In middle school I went out for basketball but it was too hard to sustain between my work on the farm, school work, and getting to and from practices. After three weeks, I gave up the pursuit of basketball and became content with farm life, family, and friends.

## After high school, I...

wanted to pursue an engineering degree from Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. However, due to the size of my family and the high costs of the university I attended Hawkeye for two years.



Upon completion of my Associates of Arts degree in mechanical engineering I then went to work for John Deere. While there I was laid off and during those years the company paid for my college tuition. I finished my BS degree in computer science at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls. Later I earned my masters degree in Business Administration. The blending of my farm experiences, the mechanical engineering along with my intense interest in computers allowed me to extend my career into IT for several companies.

I worked for the following companies and corporations over the years: John Deere, Case/New Holland, P & H, Viking, and IDEX Corporation manufacturing many products including the Jaws of Life.

## One of the biggest life lessons I learned from...

...was my experience visiting Boys Town. I feel very blessed and continue to practice their motto of "Give back when you can". I strive to feel grateful each day and appreciate being able to help others. Another life lesson for me is to not take things too seriously but rather keep life balanced. Keeping an even keel has benefited me throughout my life as well as looking for the good everywhere. As my wife, Paula, and I spend time with our combined five children and several grandchildren we feel truly blessed.

## To me, grace means...

living your life through personal ways of serving others. I enjoy assisting with the Mobile Food Pantry hosted at St. John's Lutheran each month. I serve on the St. John's church council and work behind the scenes with technology. Each day I see how God always has my back and I hope to emulate this promise from God with my friends and family.

## I'm a Lutheran because...

I am a Christian first and choose to worship in a church that strengthens me through the Pastor's message, the music, and the ministry practices of outreach.

**FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**



**Congratulations to our  
2023 Graduates!**

**Marshall Birch**

**Elliott Brown**

**Alexandra Esmann**

**Carter Esmann**

**Rebecca Hillers**

**Joseph Neiers**

**Keaton Reimer**

**Kurt Ross**

**Caden Strader**

Please contact Lorna Moser to help out with:

- \*After Worship Fellowship
- \*Vacation Bible School
- \*Saturday Farmers Market



The donation poster is in the Narthex for Vacation Bible School. Please grab a Post-It and donate an item!

The Fellowship Committee is looking for members and a person to sit on the council.

Please contact Lorna Moser 252-2559.

**Give your child an experience of a lifetime!**

**EWALU Bible Camp is offering unique programs for youth of all ages.  
experience.**

**St. John's Sarah Circle has scholarships available.**

*A great experience—great staff—and new friends!*



**A recipe for a fun adventure!**



## St. John's American Evangelical Lutheran Church Thursday, May 11, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

**Members present:** Diane Thiese, Craig Tuecke, Deb Preston, Lorna Moser, Forest Brown, Michele Von Handorf, Sherry Oliver, Penny Rausch, Chuck Hemann, Frank Davis, Mary Streich, Brian Rodenberg

**Staff Present:** Pastor Ashman

**Staff Absent:** Rebecca Hennessey

**Call to Order:** President Brian Rodenberg called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Devotions & Prayers:** Pastor Ashman led with an opening devotion from the Book of John and a prayer.

**Secretary's Report:** The council reviewed minutes of the April council meeting. No additions or corrections were noted. The minutes were approved as published.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chuck made a motion to approve the report as published. Michele seconded the motion.

General Fund:	\$22,697.07
Benevolence:	\$26,264.67
Improvement:	\$51,620.53
Memorial Fund:	\$82,868.16
Benevolence Savings:	\$15,774.13
Sunday School:	\$ 1,117.25
Organ Fund:	\$ 3,365.22
Scrip:	\$ 4,070.94
Luther League:	\$ 5,673.59
Ending Balance:	\$213,451.56

**Pastor's Report:** A written report was presented by Pastor Ashman highlighting last month's activities. Pastor reminded the Council that he will be attending a Synod meeting on June 9th. We continue to look for a volunteer to lead the Saturday evening worship. He also reported that there are several baptisms scheduled.

**Outreach Ministries:** Diane and Myron Thiese and Trudy and Gerald Glawe will be attending the Synod meeting on June 9 & 10th.

**Educational Ministries:** Penny continues to focus on VBS which will be held June 12th-16th. Ninety-nine students are currently registered. She continues to look for volunteers. Set up will be held on June 11th.

**Children & Youth Ministries:** Forest reported that they continue to seek input regarding mission trip options for this summer. A survey was sent to eligible youth.

**Public Relations:** No report

**Stewardship Ministries:** Sherry reported that the thermometer is up and showing the progress of the donations toward the basement renovation project. The group has also been discussing future temple talks.

**Worship & Music Ministries:** No report

**Property Ministries:** Frank discussed electrical issues to be addressed which include lighting in the "Rose" window.

**Parish Fellowship:** Lorna provided a report. She is working with Penny on VBS. A Kitchen crew has been organized. Following completion of the kitchen remodel, volunteers will be needed for set up of the kitchen to prepare for VBS. Volunteers are needed for openings during the Farmer's Market for coffee sales.

**V.P. Report:** No report.

**Old Business:**

Remodel update – Brian reported that the new flooring will be installed next week. The storage units will be installed following the flooring installation. Final finishing work will be completed after that.

Remodeling donations/pledge update – Craig provided a donation and pledge update relative to the remodeling project.

### New Business:

Transfer of funds from the Memorial Savings to the Improvement Fund in the amount of \$70,000 to pay outstanding bills for the remodeling project. A motion was made by Chuck and a second motion by Mary to approve this transfer. Motion carried.

A gift of \$7500 was received from the Green Bay Church where Pastor Mike had once served. A motion was made by Michele and a second motion by Forest to use this gift for the remodeling project. Motion carried.

Parsonage window cleaning was discussed. Michele will contact Dave Poggenklas whom has done it in previous years.

Replacement of some landscaping around parsonage. Frank will follow up with this.

Bulbs within the narthex lights that need replacing. Frank will follow up with this as well.

A Dedication Ceremony for the renovated basement space/fellowship hall is being planned for June 25th. Lorna, Michele, Deb, and Penny have volunteered for the planning committee.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:59 pm.

**Next regular council meeting:** Thursday, June 8th, at 7:00.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Deb Preston.

### Monthly Stewardship Report

#### **Amount Needed Weekly \$3,774**

Offering	Apr. 30	\$3,026
	May 7	\$6,757
	May 14	\$2,446
	May 21	\$2,539

## ADOPT A DAY

How would you like to consider adopting a day(s) and paying for St. John's church utilities for that day(s)? This would be above your regular church giving and would be a huge financial plus for St. John's. You choose the day(s). Why not consider adopting a day for your birthday or that of a family member, or an anniversary of your baptism, wedding or all of them and more?

***If you would like to adopt a day, just write your information on a piece of paper and enclose it with your payment of \$45 per day.***

June 2023, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

## Happy Father's Day!



At LSI, we strive to empower and celebrate fathers and father figures in every stage of their life. This Father's Day, take some time to celebrate and show appreciation to all the male role models in your life.

Through our Early Childhood Services, we provide fathers with the education and resources they need to become the best parents and caregivers they can be. In our Clinical Services Department, we support fathers and father figures by providing individuals with mental health counseling and the tools they need to create bright futures for their families.

Many Iowa children entering foster care need a positive male role model in their lives. In our Foster Care and Adoption services, we support male individuals through the

process of expanding their families, or becoming a new parent altogether.

We are able to provide these services to fathers of young children with the generous support from people like you! Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Senior Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563-676-2065.

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) and [facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

**Providing Support for First-Time Parents**

Brandon and Nevaeh first heard about LSI's Early Childhood services at the hospital, following the birth of their first child. As many first-time parents, they were looking for support and guidance through this exciting time in their life.

"I'm really glad that we took the leap and chose to participate in LSI's Early Childhood program. This program has taken a lot of stress off of us by providing us with resources that walk us through the developmental process, and to know where our baby is at through each stage," said Brandon. Brandon and Nevaeh work with Erica, an LSI Family Support Worker in our Early Childhood department. "The home-visits with Erica have been extremely beneficial," expressed Brandon. "The resources and educational materials she provides us help us to understand the developmental milestones that we should be expecting at every stage of our child's life."

"Our baby is 10 months old now, and we are still learning a lot through LSI's Early Childhood program. Having support groups and people that you can reach out to with questions is essential," said Brandon. "To any first-time parents, I'd definitely recommend LSI's Early Childhood program."



**JUNE CALENDAR**

Sat. June 3	5:30 pm (SJ) Worship
Sun. June 4	8:15 am (SP) Worship 9:15 am (SJ) Worship
Mon. June 5	4:30 pm (SJ) Stephen Ministers
Tues. June 6	1:00 pm (SJ) Tuesday w/God 5:30 pm (SP) Church Council
Wed. June 7	1:00 pm (SJ) Sarah Circle
Thur. June 8	7:00 pm (SJ) Church Council
Sat. June 10	5:30 pm (SJ) Worship
Sun. June 11	8:15 am (SP) Worship 9:15 am (SJ) Worship
Mon. June 12	8:00 am (SJ) Vacation Bible School
Tues. June 13	8:00 am (SJ) Vacation Bible School 1:00 pm (SJ) Tuesday w/God
Wed. June 14	8:00 am (SJ) Vacation Bible School
Thurs. June 15	8:00 am (SJ) Vacation Bible School
Fri. June 16	8:00 am (SJ) Vacation Bible School
Sat. June 17	5:30 pm (SJ) Worship
Sun. June 18	8:15 am (SP) Worship 9:15 am (SJ) Worship
Tues. June 20	1:00 pm (SJ) Tuesday w/God
Wed. June 21	5:00 pm (SJ) Food Pantry Drive-Thru
Thur. June 22	4:00 pm (SJ) Worship & Music 4:30 pm (SJ) Stewardship
Sat. June 24	5:30 pm (SJ) Worship
Sun. June 25	8:15 am (SP) Worship 9:15 am (SJ) Worship
Tues. June 27	1:00 pm (SJ) Tuesday w/God
Thurs. June 29	Noon - 5 pm (SJ) Blood Drive



**ALL BLOOD  
TYPES NEEDED**



American  
Red Cross

**Guttenberg  
Community  
Blood Drive**

**St. John's Lutheran  
Church**

**Thursday June 29th  
Noon - 5 pm**

**Church Office Hours**

The Church Office is Open:

Tues: 7:00 am - 3:00 pm

Wed: 7:00 am - 12:30 pm

Thurs: 12:30 - 3:30 pm

Fri: 7:00 am - 12:30 pm

*NOTE: Pastor will be out of the office on  
Friday June 9th*

*Rabeca will be out of the office on Tues. June 6  
& Wed. June 7*



**Sunday Worship Service will change  
to 9:15 am  
at St. John's beginning  
JUNE 4th**



**NORTHEAST IOWA  
FOOD BANK**

**MOBILE FOOD PANTRY**

Thank you to all who volunteered to help with the mobile food pantry, both pre-packing and distributing.

**Mobile Food Pantry is held on the 3rd Wednesday of  
each month. Truck from the Northeast Iowa Food  
Bank is scheduled to arrive at 4:30 pm,  
with distribution from 5 - 6 pm.**

**The next event will be a drive through event  
at 5:00 pm on Wed. June 21st --**

**volunteers needed at 4:30 to unload the truck**

If you are able to help, please call the church office and we will  
add your name to our volunteer list.



**THANK YOU** to the volunteers from Fidelity Bank  
who assisted with the May Mobile Food Pantry.

**JUNE Baptisms**

June 1  
Lynda Akers  
Lawson Waterman

June 2  
Marilyn Heitman  
Morgan Meyer

June 3  
Tonya Klein

June 4  
Maddelline  
Radabaugh

June 5  
Kya Brown

June 8  
Alyvia Brown

June 9  
Gayle Hanna

June 10  
Nancy Heitman  
Tom Weyant

June 11  
Wanda Lacy  
Brooklyn Witham

June 12  
Natalie Thomas

June 14  
Lyla Drewelow

June 17  
Troyce Vich

June 18  
Denise Moser

June 19  
Jenni Brown  
Colby Friedman  
Isabella Friedman  
Rebecca Hillers  
Austen Brown

June 20  
Linda Benskin

June 21  
Robin Esmann  
Darlene Hinderberger

June 22  
Isaac Sweet

June 24  
Sandy Tielbar

June 27  
Kirk Moser

June 28  
Jim Seevers

June 29  
LeAnn Watson  
Everett Anderegg

June 30  
Brandon Bries  
Harlen Reyerson  
Conor Strader

**JUNE Birthdays**

June 1  
Karen Backes  
Brycen Finnegan  
Trudy Glawe

June 2  
Ali Kann  
Kohl Moser

June 3  
Ashlynn Finnegan

June 4  
Cindy Johnson

June 5  
Brandon Bries  
LeAnn Watson

June 6  
Linda Benskin  
Jim Seevers

June 7  
Gavin Stoerp  
Penny Rausch

June 8  
Diane Bockenstedt

June 9  
McKenna Hackett  
Peyton Reth  
Al Ullerick

June 10  
Julie Davis  
Tom Kraus  
Aaron Moore  
Judith Moser

June 11  
Mariah Balajadia  
Mike Hinzman

June 12  
Dennis Reth

June 14  
Jack Benskin

June 15  
Paul Manson

June 16  
Chase Kann  
Dakota Olson

June 17  
John Barron  
LeAnn Esmann  
Katie Kraus

June 18  
Judith Olson

June 19  
Hunter Heitman  
Nathan Klein

June 20  
JoLynn Moore

June 21  
Carol Fischer

June 22  
Crystal Duwe  
Abrianna Moore

June 23  
Mary Allyn  
Shirley Moore

June 24  
Kim Heitman

June 25  
Jenny Meyer

June 26  
Mollie Schaefer

June 29  
Tate Moser

June 30  
Molly Heitman

**JUNE Wedding****Anniversaries**

June 3  
Jon & Stephanie  
Thomas

June 7  
Denny & Virginia  
Roth

June 8  
Richard & Mary  
Newbern

June 9  
Scott & Sarah Fischer

June 10  
Josh & Hilary  
Anderegg

June 12  
Dave & Sheryl Bahls  
John & Sandy Barron  
Jim & Maureen  
Seevers

June 14  
Paul & Joni Talsma

June 15  
Tim & Courtney  
Severson

June 16  
Dennis & Gayle  
Hanna

June 17  
Scott & Becky Kelly

June 18  
Don & Deb Bries

June 19  
Tim & Sherry Oliver

June 20  
Jack & Linda Benskin

June 22  
David & Renae Kraus

June 24  
Glenn & Donna  
Witham

June 29  
Paul & Joan Manson

June 30  
Harold & Linda  
McMillin

