



A Monthly Publication of Solon United Methodist Church

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Our Father, who art in heaven . . . Most of us are very familiar with the Lord's prayer. Maybe sometimes even too familiar. We pray it every week in church, and we may say it often enough that we stop thinking about what it means. Most scholars agree that the everyday language that Jesus would have spoken was neither the Hebrew that was used for worship and scripture, nor the Greek language (that the New Testament was written in), but Aramaic. Aramaic is a very old language, that was used in the Middle East. It existed before Arabic, and is more closely related to the Hebrew language than to the Arabic language.

My sermons for July and the first Sunday in August will be based on some very interesting connections and images that are present in the Aramaic language of the Lord's Prayer as Jesus and his followers would have spoken it.

For example, the word "shem" in Aramaic means, "name," and is the word that was used when we say, "Hallowed be thy name." In Hebrew or Aramaic, when you say the name of something or someone, there is a sense that the spirit and power of that thing or person is present—such as praying or doing something "in Jesus' name." The word for "heaven" in Aramaic is "shemayim," which contains the word "shem"—name. So rather than "heaven" being a distant or future place, that we are not connected to, it is the place where God's name and spirit is present and vibrates—which is the whole of creation!

Does it impact how we think about the natural world if we think of God's spirit and power being present in all of the natural things around us, rather than God being away from us in heaven? Especially as we may spend more time outdoors in the summer, try imagining God's spirit and power in creation around you, maybe even offering comfort and guidance to you without words, or calling to you to care for creation in a new way. Let's enjoy exploring together some new meanings that come from Jesus' words in the Lord's prayer, as he would have spoken it!

See another article in this newsletter about taking action on some of our outreach ideas!

On July 14 we will hear from the youth and adults who went on the mission trip to Louisville, Kentucky, as they, I'm sure, will have experienced both reaching out in love, and being touched and inspired by God's presence in a different context.

On the week of July 15th, we'll be preparing for our Solon Beef Days luncheon on Saturday the 20th, and the parade in the morning. See details elsewhere.

And as July draws to a close, we'll be getting ready for Vacation Bible School, August 4th-8th!

Summer blessings,
Pastor Peggy

**OUR
FATHER
WHO ART IN
HEAVEN**

Worship Schedule

July 7- Communion

Scripture: Matthew 6:5-15 & Psalm 104

Message: Our Father, Who Art in Heaven

July 14

Scripture: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-46 & Luke 17:20-21

Message: Thy Kingdom Come

July 21

Scripture: Exodus 16:4-8, 13-21 & Matthew 14:13-21

Message: Give Us This Day our Daily Bread

July 28

Scripture: Mark 2:3-12 & John 21:15-19

Message: Forgive Us Our Trespases



This summer, you won't be missing out on great music at SUMC! While summer is usually the time when many groups take a break, we have amazing musicians that are ready to keep things going! I am so thankful for so many wonderful people that are willing to share their talents.

July 7th – the Chancel Choir will be singing “Potter’s Hand” – one of my favorites! See below for more about this beautiful piece.

July 14th – special music by John McFarland

July 21st – Cathy Boggs and Ruth Spieker will be singing “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

July 28th – special music by John McFarland and Nancy Worrell

I will be gone on a trip with Todd and my mom for a couple of weeks but am fortunate to have amazing substitutes. Marian Anderson will be here on July 14th and Donna McCullough on July 21st.

Here is a little background about the song, “Potter’s Hand” that the choir will be singing. The song is based on Jeremiah 18:4 – “But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so, the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.” Darlene Zschech is the composer of the song based on this verse. At one point in her life in 1997, “The Potter’s Hand” was a prayer she made to God. The words came from this - “take me, mold me, use me, fill me; I give my life to the Potter’s hands.” I love the imagery of this. While all of us have known struggle or adversity, it is life experiences – good or bad – that shape us. The blog writer, David Cain wrote, “The good news is that the Holy Potter doesn’t need a perfectly smooth, beautiful vase...But when I realize that I’m not the only strange-looking clay jar, I gain something, and so do we all. I’m unique, and if I own that as a gift from above, I climb above my shrinking, self-doubt, and contact the Divine One.” May we all emerge better from being molded and filled.

Wishing you all a wonderful July filled and lifted through music. *-Angie*

Worship Attendance

June 2	62
June 9	50
June 16	58
June 23	55

Give us this day our daily bread. ~Matthew 6:11

Christian Education

happy
SUMMER!

I hope you are having a great start to your summer. I am reminded of God's creations this summer when I step out of my house and hear all the cicadas talking to each other. Even though our student programs have ended for the school year they are not getting their summers off from learning about God's love.

For our pre-k and grade school age students we have children's bulletins every week for them to work on during worship time. These bulletins are based on Sunday's sermon. They can be found with our other bulletins as you go inside the sanctuary. There are colors and pencils for them to use and return for the next time. I have sent fun packets for our students to do over the summer as well. If you would like more packets please let me know. I have plenty to share!

Mission Trip Bound!

Our youth group is making last minute preparations for the mission trip. They will be meeting Sunday, June 30th bright and early at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast. The group will then join the worship service at the beginning for a blessing and a prayer before leaving for their journey. **Please remember to come to the service for the send off!** They will be going to Louisville Kentucky where they will share their faith with other youth and the people that they will be serving.

Connection Junction!

Connection Junction will be meeting three times over the summer for our youth of all ages. It is open for ages pre-k to seniors in high school. For those who do not like to play board games I will have craft items to do. We will meet on June 23rd, Sunday, at the fellowship hall from 4pm till 6pm Pre registration is not required. Parents will have to sign in their child(ren) when they arrive for all of Connection Junction activities.



Our second save the date activity will be July 21, Sunday. We will meet at the church at 4p.m. We will be cleaning the streets after Beef Days. The group that has the most trash will get a small prize. The church will supply gloves and garbage bags. Feel free to bring your own work gloves marked with your name if you wish. We will have make your own subs and sundaes afterwards. Parents can pick their children up at 6pm.

Our last save the date event will be August 11th, Sunday. This time we will meet at Randell Park for fun in the park! The younger students can play at the playground while the older students can play horseshoes, corn hole, and volleyball! We will be having hot dogs, chips, and of course s'mores!. We will meet from 4-6 pm.

Vacation Bible School!

Our theme is Camp Firelight this year. We will have a Beef Day float promoting our VBS. Please see Dee Swartzendruber to see how you can get involved in creating our float, being on the float, or passing out candy and information flyers. Our VBS will be held at the church on Aug.4th-Aug. 8th from 6:00 p.m. -7:30 p.m. People say it takes a village to raise a child. Well it takes a whole church to have a VBS. I will have a sign up sheet for those who wish to have summer time fun with our students. Click [HERE](#) to register online or grab a paper registration from the bulletin board.



I look forward to seeing our students throughout the summer at these fun activities to help them continue their walk in faith.

I have a very special thank you for Melody Morris. Melody and I worked together for over 3 hours to clean and reorganize the teacher work area. Even though we have some work left to do it looks wonderful. I couldn't have asked for a better volunteer to help me accomplish this task.

As we continue to hear God's creatures big and small this summer, we may be reminded that He is with us no matter what we will be doing during this time of year.

**Peace,
Dee**

Youth Group Work Day

Our youth group and leaders had a work day at Dan & Cathy Boggs' home on Sunday, June 2. The saying "many hands make light work" rang true as we split into teams to set fence posts, dig out a stone path and other rocks and pull grass. It was hard work, but working together made it fun! Dan and Cathy treated us all to a delicious picnic dinner when we were finished.

Many thanks to those who participated - Youth: Liam Gilroy, Audrey Howell, Tanner Kerkove, Toby Kleinsmith, Ryan Locke and Kate Richards. Adults: LeeAnn Gilroy, Dave & Carol Richards, Dee Swartzendruber and Sue Wilkinson, and of course Dan & Cathy!

Also, many thanks to Dan and Cathy for making a donation to the mission trip fund! Some of the kids picked up valuable fence building skills along the way, too!

The youth and chaperones will be leaving for Louisville, Kentucky on Sunday, June 30. Please keep them all in your prayers!



Beef Days Luncheon 2024

Beef Days is right around the corner!

**Mark your calendars for
July 19th and 20th!**



**SOLON
BEEF DAYS**

SUMC will host the Beef Days Luncheon once again. The Luncheon will be on Saturday the 20th from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM. Last year it was a huge success and we are looking for a repeat! In order for that to happen we **NEED volunteers like you!**

**Are you interested in donating items and wanting to sign up to help? Sign-ups are on the clipboard! Stop in the church and sign up or use the links here —> [Beef Days Food Donation Sign Up](#)
[Beef Days Volunteer Sign Up](#)**

Let's show the community how Solon UMC comes together and puts on a great event!

As always, many hands make light work!

Beef Days Luncheon images from the past few years.



Taking Action from Our Outreach Workshop

We HEARD YOU and the Council established next steps to advance our church outreach. At our Council meeting on June 18, the top 5 priority areas identified by church members through the outreach workshop in April or recent survey were discussed. We are moving forward with the three most easily accomplished and will follow with the other two in the near future. Here are those outreach topics and a contact who will be organizing the activities and developing the plan:



1. Reaching out to those who used to be more active here at SUMC, and inviting them to re-engage. Alan Harrington, our Membership Secretary (alanharrington48@gmail.com)

2. Figuring out how to contact new residents in Solon and letting them know about our programs and our church (Lisa Evans and Barb Kalm are getting this started. Contact Barb Kalm at dbjkalm@gmail.com)

3. Making a connection with the LGBTQ student group at the high school to see if we can offer support somehow. (Pastor Peggy at pastorpeggy@soloniaumc.org)

We WELCOME and NEED church member volunteers, so if you are interested in helping with any of these projects, please contact the lead person indicated.

Updated Rental Policies at SUMC

From Trustees and Church Council - June 2024

Fellowship Hall Rental will be free to all members, active constituents, and nonprofit groups. Other groups and individuals will be charged our regular rental rates.

Family Life Center gym one time events, will be rented to members and active constituents at half of the regular rental rates. (One time event fees: \$50/3 hours regular, \$25/3 hours half price)

There is no charge for SUMC church sponsored events and groups. In most cases those should be open to the public, will be publicized by SUMC, will require any necessary supervision of children and youth according to our Safe Sanctuary policy, and may need approval from the Pastor, Christian Education Director, and/or the Church Council.

Individuals who have a key to the Family Life Center are limited to using the FLC for the days and hours they have reserved and paid for.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

UWF will be going on a road trip in July. Information will be forthcoming in the church bulletin. Jan Stock will do Bingo at the Retirement Village on July 18th.

There will be no meeting in August.

Questions? Contact Shirley at 319-541-0732 or Verlee at 319-530-2793.



UNITED METHODIST MEN

We meet Saturday mornings at 6 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The first Saturday of the month we meet for breakfast! Come join us!

Contact Mike Turner at 624-2061 for more information.

Prayers and Celebrations

In Our Prayers

Roma Pearl's son Jim's surgery went well on, she asks for continued prayers as he goes through further treatment.

Continued prayers for Byrne and Ryder families, after unexpected death of Dave Ryder recently. Families of Mike Jensen and Dean Wiggins, from Greenfield, who died in the tornado.

We celebrate all of those graduating from Solon High School, especially our own Brynn Deike, Braden Haugland, Maddie Kerkove, Keenan Kruse, Kate Richards and Tyson Wheeler.

Verlee and Arnie Lauderbaugh celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 25th.

Erin Kerkhoff graduated from UNI, and won a silver medal and almost a bronze medal in the recent Paralympic games.

Al Hulse lifted up thanks to Nancy Worrell for washing windows in Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, additional thanks to those in the UWF who have been doing a variety of cleaning projects around the church.

Prayers for all the places in the world where there is violence, hunger, fear, and poverty.

Prayers for all impacted by the tornado that hit Greenfield. There was major damage to the Care Center and the hospital.

Keel Herr & Alan Harrington's daughter-in-law, who has a hip injury.

Darcy's friend, Karen and her family, in the loss of her husband, Glen.

LeAnn Gilroy's sister as she continues with a new chemo regimen –and praise that it seems to be working and she's feeling quite well.

For the Wilton United Methodist Church and the family of Rev. Steve Braudt as they mourn his death in a car accident on Sunday May 26th.

Phil Kakacek asked for prayers for Maria, a friend of the Wesley class, who is undergoing cancer treatments.

Tawnia Kakacek asked for prayers that her bursitis shots will be effective.

Cathy Boggs asked for prayers for a friend, Mark McAndrew, who has been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease, and also had a recent fall that caused a skull fracture.

Denise asked for prayers for Bonnie, a friend who has had both a lung transplant, a recent fall, and kidney failure.

Nadine Sojka asked for prayers for a friend, Bill, who has bladder cancer.

Darcy Miller asked for prayers for a friend, Valerie, who has liver cancer.

Roger Swartzendruber as he recovers from knee surgery.

Darcy Miller's son-in-law's father, who had a heart attack. Added challenge is that his wife has dementia.

Connie Railsback's sister-in-law, Janice, has an unknown illness.

Nadine Sojka's husband, Dick, was in the hospital with sepsis. He is now battling cellulitis at home.

Al Hulse is recovering from pneumonia.

Prayers for the family of Steve Miller, a local farmer who died in a tractor accident.

Audrey Howell asks for prayers for the family of a friend whose aunt died.

Rejoices & Thanksgiving

Praise that Richard and Norma Novak made it to Solon, OH to see their grandson, Crawford, graduate and that another grandson, Zeb, will be wrestling in a tournament.

Thank you to all of our youth and adult leaders who made the workday at the Bogg's house a huge success! The 6 youth and 5 leaders got more work done than was expected!

Erhart family had a reunion recently that was a good gathering of family once a year. Marilyn Hansen's birthday, which was on June 9th.

Verlee Lauderbaugh shared joy for a family gathering and anniversary celebration in Florida, and that everyone returned home safely.

Tawnia Kakacek expressed thanks for our special music, Todd Bransky on euphonium, and other music and special music at SUMC.

Gratitude to Melody Morris for sending out cards.

Barb Kalm is grateful for fathers and father figures on this Father's Day.

Jill Mack offered prayers of gratitude that her father is still alive, and that at age 94 he can still drive to come to see a great-grandson's baseball game.

Carol – visiting from New Hampshire, lifts up gratitude for her stepmother, Colleen Pumphrey, who celebrated her birthday Saturday.

July Birthdays

MECHTENSIMER, Gary	07/01
RYAN, Taylor	07/01
SILBERSTEIN, Kathryn	07/01
SILBERSTEIN, Neil	07/01
RICHARDS, Jill	07/04
WEETMAN, Eric	07/05
BOTSFORD, Hollyn	07/06
SCHMIDT, Grayson	07/12
ERHART, Jeanne	07/15
WICKER, Tate	07/17
FIALA, Grace	07/20
FIALA, Mary	07/20
UTHOFF, Susan	07/20
WHEELER, Wendy	07/20
PUETTMANN, Karla	07/23
REYNOLDS, Dena	07/24
LOCKE, Jeanette	07/24
DVORSKY, Brooklyn	07/25
VASQUEZ, Gio	07/25
KAKACEK, Phil	07/25
MOSES, Madelyn	07/26
NOVAK, Richard	07/27

IT'S A BIRTHDAY Party!

Please come celebrate

Duane McAtee's

80th Birthday

July 13th

1:00-4:00 PM

Fellowship Hall



*Making disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation
of our world*



SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Worship, 9:00 AM

Rev. Peggy Garrigues, Lead Pastor 319-855-7911
pastorpeggy@soloniaumc.org

Dee Swartzendruber, Christian Education Director
Angie Grecian-Bransky, Music Ministry
Lindy Hopp, Office Administrator
Ivan Hasselbusch, Treasurer
Ruben Galvan, Custodian

Church Phone: (319) 624-2288
Address: 122 North West St., Solon, IA 52333
Website: <https://soloniaumc.churchtrac.com/>
Facebook: Solon United Methodist Church—Iowa
Instagram: soloniaumc