

The Messenger

First Presbyterian Church,
Kewanee

JULY 2025

Elmira United Presbyterian
Church, Toulon

First Presbyterian Church
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Elmira United Presbyterian
(309) 896-3481
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Toulon, IL 61483
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Administrative Assistant office hours in Kewanee
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KEWANEE



ELMIRA UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



At First Presbyterian Church of Kewanee, we commit ourselves to worshipping God, growing spiritually together, and reflecting Christ in our daily lives.

SESSION NEWS

On Sunday, June 1, we had a Special Congregational Meeting for the election of the PNC. Those on the committee are Lanny Anderson, Curt Reeves, Matt Martin, Lisa Hammons and Terri Wolfe. Motion made to accept was Matt and seconded by Niles.



MISSION FOR JULY IF RELAY FOR LIFE

Relay for Life is on August 17th at Windmont park. The Luminaria Ceremony is a signature element of every Relay For Life event. At nightfall, these homemade paper lanterns, decorated with the names of loved ones, are lit in honor and in memory of a life touched by cancer. The ceremony includes a moment of silence for those we have lost. When you make a donation for a Luminaria, you are honoring a loved one while helping the American Cancer Society continue to fight cancer on all fronts. Luminary forms are in the back of the sanctuary. The cost for a luminary will be the same as in the past; \$10 each, floating \$25 and Torch of Honor is \$50. **Lisa & Terri will be helping out at our fundraiser at Happy Joe's on July 10th from 5-9pm.** Happy Joe's will donate \$5 for every large pizza ordered dine-in, carry out or delivery. Come see your team clean tables!



4th OF JULY DRIVE THROUGH

We will once again be having our 4th of July, rib-eye drive through luncheon from 11:00 till 1:00. We will be serving a rib-eye sandwich, bag of chips and a brownie all for \$12.00. We would appreciate if you could donate some brownies. You can drop them off on Thursday between 1:00 and 4:30 so we can get them bagged up. We are planning on ordering 200 rib-eyes like we did last year, so we will need lots of brownies!! We appreciate everyones donations and volunteering to help out.

Fundraising committee,
Lanny, Janie, Terri & Lisa.



MIKE MARSELLE

We lost Mike on June 7th, 2025. Mike was a member of the church for 53 years. Mike always was there whenever we needed him. Mike served on Session for a couple of terms. He always enjoyed helping out with grilling for the 4th of July drive through. He also loved to talk about when him and Dale German would go golfing and how he bragged about Dale when Dale got a hole-in-one. His family has requested a Celebration of Life service on Saturday, July 12th. The service will be just for Mike’s family and his church family with a luncheon to follow. We will miss Mike. God Bless him and his family.



ELMER THURSTON

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Elmer Thurston Jr. whose vibrant spirit touched the lives of many. Elmer left this world on June 20, 2025 at the age of 93, leaving a void in the lives of so many people. Elmer was a member of our church for 51 years. Elmer enjoyed living at Galva Courtyard Estates. He would always say how well everyone there treated him. The Pricilla’s class would go over to have lunch with some of our members that were also there and Elmer was always there with a smile. We will miss visiting with Elmer and sharing stories with him. God Bless him and his family.



OUR ACOLYTES

Thank you to Niles & Matt for stepping in to be our acolytes. You did a great job!!



THANK YOU LANNY & CAROLYN

Thank you to Lanny & Carolyn Anderson for taking the time to clean up our garden in the front of the church. They spent three and a half hours getting debris and weeds cleaned up. It looks so much nicer.



ST PETER’S ICE CREAM SOCIAL

St Peter’s Church will be having an Ice Cream Social on Friday, July 18th beginning at 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. They will be serving ice cream, BBQ sandwich, chips, pie or cake for \$10.00. Tickets available at the door.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Ida Meyer
- 20 – Wendy Smith
- 23 – Kathy Meyer

PRAYER CONCERNS

- Baker, Lisandra – stroke*
- Behnke, Tommie Jane – health problems*
- Bennett, Cody – car accident, grandson of Vicki Bennett*
- Bock, Lauren – 14-year-old diagnosed with leukemia,*
- Wendy Smith’s, friend’s daughter*
- Bornstein, Jaimee – stage 4 cancer – cancer is in remission*
- Bowman, Jeff, and Peg – cancer*
- Butler, Rich – health problems*
- Bridgewater, Kari –seizure disorder*
- Brown, Jeff – health problems friend of Lanny & Carolyn Anderson*
- Craig, Clifford – recovering from heart surgery*
- Cruse, Lynette – leukemia*
- Diane – health issues*
- Don & Jan – health problems, Bill & Ruth Anne’s friend*
- Duncan – health issues*
- Edelman, Dave – health problems and Sharon for his care*
- Evans, Dan – health problems*
- Faber, Peggy – in Kewanee Care with dementia*
- Ferkel, Randy – recurrence of cancer*
- Feldner, Hannah – recovering from eye surgery*
- Fryer, Alvah – breast cancer, friend of Lanny & Carolyn Anderson*
- Gasaway, Larry – health problems, friend of Lanny & Carolyn Anderson*
- Good, Billie – Health issues*
- Hammons, Lisa – upcoming hip surgery*
- Harding, Jack, Robert, Richard & Susan – health problems*
- Heane, Jeremy – tumor and angina*
- Huber, Denny – recovering from hip replacement Janet Huber’s son*
- Huber Karessa - health problems, Janet Huber’s daughter-in-law*
- Huber, Mallery – needs extra prayers for her lupus*

Huggins, Cindy – health problems
Jackson, Estavan – health problems, Annabell’s grandson
Johnson, Clay – many health problems
Johnson, Jerri – health problems
Johnston, Don – recovering from brain surgery, Roger’s brother
Larson, Ken – health problems,, friend of Lanny & Carolyn Anderson
Lindstrom, Madeline – health issues
Lloyd, Carla – recovering heart surgery, Pastor Annabell’s cousin
Martin, Anna – daughter of Freddie Martin, Jr. has MS
Marselle, Frank –health problems
McCullough, Kathryn – health problems
McQueen, Donnie – pancreatic cancer, friend of Lanny & Carolyn
Mirocha, Marty – on liver transplant list
Moodie, Chip – cancer spreading
Naslund, Ron – health problems, friend of Lanny & Carolyn
Newell, Nylan – 7-year-old has Lorenzo’s Oil Disease (ALD)
Olson, Rusty – inoperable tumor
O’Neill, Kay – her family
Pease, Mark - infection
Perrin, Steve & Debby – health problems
Reamer, Sheila – surgery for Stage 1 breast cancer
Reed, Shelly – complications with UTI
Scott, Gene – has MS- wife Rowann – health issues
Scott, Ruth Anne – health problems
Skinner, Dave – health problems
Smith, Wendy – good, on-going test results
Stacie – pancreatic cancer, Mary Jane’s friend
Stead, Tim – heart problems, Chris & Lisa’s cousin
Thompson, Michael – stamina
Thron, Butch – serious health problems
Wade, Lori (Scott) – MS & diabetes
Ward, Debi – congestive heart failure, Lanny & Carolyn’s niece
Ward, Dona – Parkinson
Welgat, Nick – stage 4 lung cancer Abby Hamilton’s brother
Wentworth, Michele – Going to Mayo’s for testing
Winter, Debbie – health problems
Williams, Alan – many health problems, Annabelle’s brother
Wood, Chris – cancer
Wood, Chris – heart problems, Autumn’s husband
Family & Friends of Mike Marselle
Family & Friends of Elmer Thurston
Family & Friends of “Charlie”

Elmira United Presbyterian Church, we will continue to be a thriving faith community reaching out to our community and the world.



A LITTLE BIT OF THIS & THAT

Not much going on at Church this month. Attendance has been good with 26-27 people in attendance each Sunday. So, maybe this is a time for those that do so much, especially during this time of transition, to get some recognition! First a big THANK YOU to our pulpit supply speakers during the past 2 1/2 months: Rev. Linda Philabaum, Rev. David Spalding, Rev. John Hauck, and our own Bill Scott. We are blessed to have speakers come so that we may continue to receive guidance and worship leadership during our search for a new Pastor. A huge thank you to Paige Milburn for all the time and work she has put in to finding these speakers along with her counterpart at Kewanee First. Good job! Paige is also doing parts of the service that help the pulpit supply people get through the service. She also does the videoing of Sunday services for Facebook. She is a busy gal! Thanks also goes to Dawn Milburn that has taken over the Children's sermon when needed. The kids adore her and she always has a memorable message along with a treat of some sort. Then there is Megan Lane that continues to provide our music for Sunday morning worship. We are blessed to have her playing for us, we do not do well without that strong piano sound. Thank you to Karen Steward for keeping our finances and books in order, not everyone has the gift to do that task! Thank you Kewanee First Pres., specifically Janie Metscaviz, for printing our bulletins for us. Thank you to our Jr. Ushers, Clyde and Milo Currier (and friends} for doing almost anything that is asked of them, with a smile on their faces and pride in what they are doing. This is the future of our church! A huge THANK YOU to Dave and Linda Grant for their continued work on the garden in honor of Bob and Shelia Grant and Dave's keeping the lawn looking so nice and all the watering that gets done by these two! A big thanks to John Oliver for keeping the hedge trimmed and finding all the little things that need work done. As they say, "It takes a village."

I feel like most of our members could be thanked for something they do for our little white church, and I'm sure I am forgetting some significant people in the life of this church. We all play an important role in keeping this church the warm, friendly, welcoming church it is. Thank you to every one of you! Keep it up.



SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday afternoon, August 3, 2025, the children of John Oliver, Adam, Ann and Sarah, are hosting an 85th birthday party for him in the church basement from 1:00-4:00pm. Light refreshments, along with birthday cake, will be served. Come join us as we celebrate, reminisce and see people we may not see frequently. Come one, come all. Cards appreciated, but please, no gifts.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 – Eunice Daniels
- 8 – Nora Anderson
- 13 – Megan Lane
- 16 – Kay Grieve
- 21 – Carissa Currier
- 22 – Clayton Ryan
- 23 – Karen Steward
- 29 – Johnathan Lane

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 – Phil & Brooke Esquer
- 20 – Sydney & Addison Ryan

SEND CARDS TO:

Donald Oliver Lois Seger
860 Sunset Drive 3121 Macineery Dr. #110
Box 112 Council Bluff IA 51501
Kewanee IL 61443
Barb Shambaugh
203 Willow Street
LaFayette IL 61449

Prayer Concerns

- Anderson, Steger, Shelby*
- Bayer, Peggy Grant*
- Blegen, Pastor Art & Annabell*
- Colver, Richard*
- Currier, Ron*

- Daniels, Eunice & Tom*
- Dickinson, Phyllis*
- Dykeman, Steve*
- Elliott, Debbie*
- Foglesong, Carolyn*
- Foglesong, Pat*
- Gjerme, Luann*
- Grant, Dave*
- Grieve, Kay*
- Houghy, Carolyn*
- Huber, Janet*
- Jackson, Estevan*
- Jack*
- Jim*
- Kathy*
- Kettle, Ron*
- Lindstrom, Diane*
- McGill, Mary Ann*
- Michael*
- Mirocha, Marty*
- Montooth, Tim*
- Moodie, Chip*
- Mummurt, Kymber*
- Parish, Brandon*
- Parish, Jim*
- Paxon, Scott*
- Perkins, Kathleen Green*
- Reed, Troy*
- Scott, Gene*
- Seckman, Marilyn*
- Seeger, Lois*
- Sigler (Pitzer), Mary*
- Slifer, DJ*
- Slifer, Tammy*
- Shipp family*
- Steward, Karen*
- Thurston, “Sy” & Gary*
- Tolley, Joe & Jenna extra prayers*
- VanVoren, Rev. Patrick & Pat*
- Welgat, Nick*
- Williamson, Larry*
- Wilkinson, Kathryn*
- Wilkinson, Patty & family*
- Wilson, David*
- Wood, Chris*

All who grieve: Especially the families of Del Jacobson, Barb Williamson, Lynne Roark Nancy Wilson, Tim Milroy Sue Carrington, Elmer Thurston and the Hemminger family

The Elmira United Presbyterian and Kewanee First Presbyterian as they start their search for a new Pastor.

JULY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 Drop brownies off for luncheon between 12:45 TILL 4:30	4 HAPPY 4TH OF JULY Rib-eye drive through luncheon 11:00 till 1:00	5
6 Elmira Service 9:00 a.m. Kewanee Adult Discussion 9:45 a.m. Service 11:00 a.m. Pastor John Hauck will fill the pulpit	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Elmira Service 9:00 a.m. Kewanee Adult Discussion 9:45 a.m. Service 11:00 a.m. Pastor Cheryl Lunday will fill the pulpit	14	15	16	17	18 St Peter’s Ice Cream Social 4:30 to 6:00	19
20 Elmira Service 9:00 a.m. Kewanee Adult Discussion 9:45 a.m. Service 11:00 a.m. Pastor Spencer Lawrence will fill the pulpit	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Elmira Service 9:00 a.m. Kewanee Adult Discussion 9:45 a.m. Service 11:00 a.m. Pastor Spencer Lawrence will fill the pulpit	28	29	30 Today is give someone a hug day	31		