

First United Methodist Church  
448 N. Kansas St.  
Superior, NE 68978-1851

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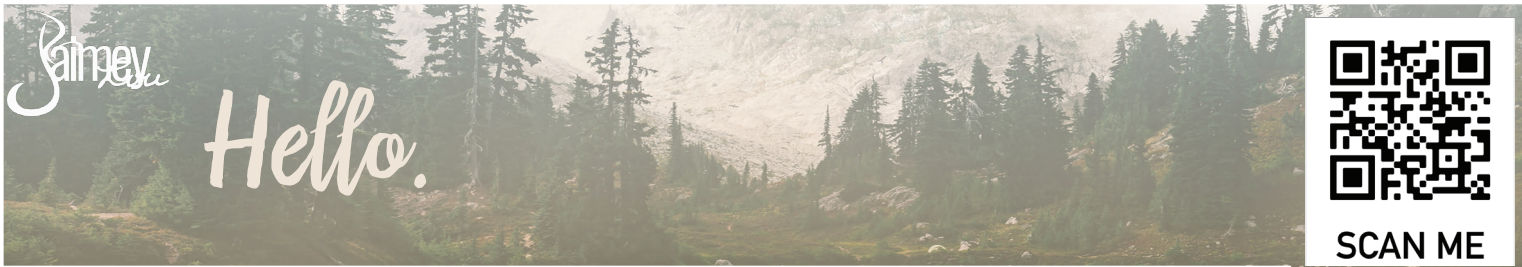
# THE HERALD

## September 2021

*Look Inside*

- Front Page
- Thank you
- Natalie's Notes
- Calendar
- Reports
- Announcements

<https://www.superiorumc.org/>



VBS Update

By Rev. Natalie Faust

First off I want to apologize that we did not get an August Newsletter out. Vacation Bible School 2021 took on a life of its own in so many different ways and overtook getting out the newsletter. However, I want to take an opportunity to thank the congregation and the community for our VBS adventure! VBS is the greatest opportunity that we have to reach out in mission and ministry to this community.

We had over fifty kids on Monday July 26th, and over twenty volunteers. We left that night in absolute celebration as we had only had about twenty kids registered the week before and it was hands down the smoothest first night of VBS Jaimey and I have experienced. We are so grateful for the help, contribution and participation of the Superior Church of Christ, especially Rachelle Sander in her preplanning and help that night!

We were so disappointed the morning of the 27th after being contacted by the Southland Health Department that one of our students had tested positive for Covid-19 and we were strongly advised to

quickly act in canceling the rest of the week in order to avoid further spread. I do not regret that decision, as because of our quick action, no other participants, other than the original family, contracted the virus. We appreciate the support and concern of all the community for us at the church and for the family that had to deal with Covid quarantine.

That said, we always collect change from the kids during the week of VBS to go to a mission of some sort and this year it was to be for antibacterial wipes for Superior Public Schools, which may be needed this year more than ever. If you would like to donate toward this cause since we were unable to continue the collection, we would greatly appreciate it!

We look forward to working with the Superior Church of Christ in 2022 for an awesome VBS once again and pray we will get a full experience as we continue to eradicate Covid-19.

Confirmation

On August 22nd, four ladies were confirmed in their faith before the congregation. Our 9th grader was Halle Bargen and 7th graders were Maddi Bargen and Olivia Smullins, along with Patty Studer. Though Patty has been a member of our church for quite sometime and was also confirmed as a youth, she chose to go through the experience again and learn more about her faith as she continues to grow. She wants to encourage other adults in our church to take the opportunity to experience this as well as it's a great way to grow in your faith and get to know the youth of our church and how awesome they are. The four ladies bonded so much over the course of the summer. All were presented with a cross necklace, a personalized Wesley Study Bible and a handknit stole made by Sylvia Imhoff. We are thrilled to have them be members of our church and look forward to continuing to watch them on their faith journey.



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Natalie's Notes

Stressed. Depressed. Anxious. Frustrated. Broken.

The labels stick to our hearts, covering our identities until we can't see who we are anymore. We come to believe that our struggles and circumstances define us. But those are just descriptions, not determinations. Who you are doesn't change based on the kind of day, week, or year you have. You are a child of God, someone loved beyond all you can imagine. No matter what.

A friend going through a difficult time called me. As we talked, she kept repeating the same phrase: "I guess I'm just the girl who has this struggle." I finally stopped her and said as gently as I could, "That's where you're at right now. It's not who you are."

You see, life's obstacles are temporary. Who you are is eternal.

My husband and I visited the Dominican Republic a few months ago. Imagine if we had stepped into a coffee shop and the baristas had

asked, "Who are you?" and I had answered, "I'm Dominican!" They would have taken one look at my touristy tennis shoes, blonde hair and listened to my Midwestern accent, then shook their heads in bemused disagreement. I imagine you would do the same. Because you understand this: there's a difference between a visitor and a citizen. And "we are citizens of heaven," declares the apostle Paul (Philippians 3:20).

When we look at what's happening in our lives and say, "This is who I am," it's much like me declaring myself Dominican just because I flew there in a plane. As Jennifer Dukes Lee once wrote in an email, "We don't have to be a 'citizen' of the 'place' we're standing in right now. I'm not a citizen of Sad City, a resident of Rejectionville, or a towns person of Trouble Town. I have a citizenship in heaven." Your circumstances may change, but who you truly are remains forever the same. Your identity is eternally secure in Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor Natalie

Sound Tech Assistants

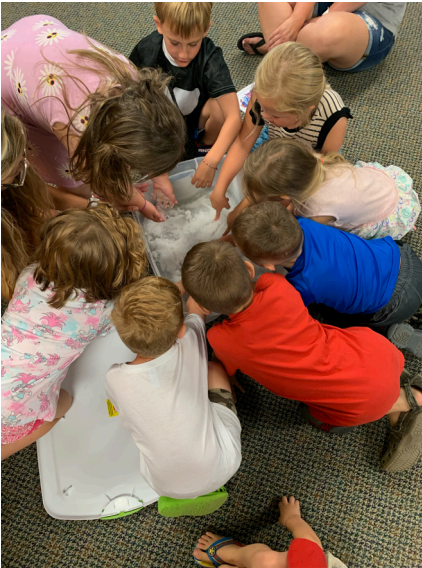
- September  
5 Sandy Borden  
12 Jeff Guilkey  
19 Marsha Ray  
26 Angela Garver

- October  
3 Beverly Beavers  
10 Marsha Ray  
17 Sandy Borden  
24 Angela Garver  
31 Jeff Guilkey



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

<b>Sunday, September 5th:</b>	
Pope's People . . . . .	10:30a
<b>Wednesday, September 8th:</b>	
Confirmation Begins . . . . .	4:00p
Youth Begins . . . . .	6:00p
<b>Thursday, September 9th:</b>	
Chapel at Kingswood . . . . .	4:00p
<b>Friday, September 10th:</b>	
Volunteer at Crest Theatre . . . . .	6:30p
<b>Sunday September 12th:</b>	
Sunday Funday Begins . . . . .	9:30a
Third Grade Bible Presentation both services . . . . .	8:15a & 10:30a
Bellissimos Performance . . . . .	10:30a
Church Potluck following	
Worship at Good Samaritan . . . . .	2:00p
<b>Wednesday September 15th:</b>	
UMW Potluck . . . . .	6:00p
<b>Weekly Groups</b>	
<b>Sundays</b> -Sunday Funday, Pre-K-5th Grades. . . . .	9:30a
<b>Monday-Thursday</b> - Devotions & Coffee Live on Church Facebook Page. . . . .	7:00a
<b>Mondays</b> -Women's Bible Study on Zoom (https://zoom.us/j/93828672777) . . . . .	7:00p
<b>Wednesdays</b> -Stitch & Chat . . . . .	9:00-11:00a
Confirmation . . . . .	4:00p
Youth . . . . .	6:00p
Bellissimos Practice (Only 1st, 8th, 29th) . . . . .	6:45-7:45p



August Happy Birthday September

1 Nancy Mikkelsen	4 Carmen Bruening
3 Zak Corman	6 Cooper Ehlers
4 Garrett Roe, Lilly Edwards, and Nate Baker	7 Alicea Gentry and Melinda Duncan
5 John Guilkey, Judy Corman	8 Jenny Krehbiel
6 Jason Hamilton, Kathleen Frerichs, and Linda Frerichs	9 Marsha Stauss
7 Julie Worman	10 Kip Ehlers
10 Avis Shaw	12 Bob Cox and Dennis Stauss
12 Larry Beavers	13 Jason Ray and Mary Reimers
16 Ashlyn Brown	14 LeRoy Barnes
17 Miles Ritter	15 Mary Hamilton and Troy Scott
18 Danny Corman and Linda Cox	17 Michelle Streit
19 Harold Sweet	18 Jahn Kile, Katherine Crook, Kirsten Studer and Mary Tietjen
20 Jody Langer	19 Hudson Ritter
23 Clarence Dove	22 Gage Woerner and Jesse Taylor
27 Phil Simonsen	24 Phil Dean
28 Bennett Faust	25 Andrew Faust
29 Claudia Hanson and Lloyd Watts	26 Jessie Smith
30 Robert Brown and Valerie Woerner	Joy Barnes
31 Gale Mikkelsen, Jo Wilbern	27 Doris Worm
	28 Tony Studer

Anniversaries

11 Jerred & Chrissy Ehlers	4 Dennis & Marsha Stauss
15 Brad & Julie Worman, Curt & Julie Drake	11 Frank & Bonnie Langer
16 Bob & Linda Cox	13 Neil & Ashley Bouray
17 Gene & Twilla Frerichs	15 Gary & Katherine Crook
26 Greg & Rhonda Edwards	Roger & Linda Nelson
28 Dave & Joann Taylor	