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[Berwickchurch.com](http://Berwickchurch.com)

# THE DOVE

B E R W I C K C O N G R E G A T I O N A L C H U R C H

## CO-PASTORS:

Rev. Theron (Tom)  
Conrey

and

Pastor Patty Smith,  
LM

(Co-Pastors,

Sunday Services

9:30 AM



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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - "OPERATION OVERBOARD"

Vacation Bible School begins  
at the Berwick Church on Sun-  
day, July 10 for all children  
ages 4-12.

On Sunday, Bible School be-  
gins at 4:00 PM with a light  
supper. It will end at 7:00 PM.

Monday through Thursday  
(July 11-14), Bible School will  
begin at 6:00 PM and will end  
at 8:00 PM.

Each night includes games,  
crafts and snacks!

## PASTOR'S PEN

It has been a very busy last two months. We have now opened up our church for in-person worship—post Covid. I have finished my Lay Ministry training and have been called by Berwick Congregational Church to be Co-Pastor with Rev. Tom Conrey. I have accepted the position and in October I will be ordained.

I attended the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches Conference from June 24 to June 29 in Wichita, Kansas and I will have a report for you.

This is my first "Pastor's Pen" and I look forward to many more. I am so honored to be your co-pastor and to be able to help our Father shepherd His flock.

*Blessings, Pastor Patty*

## PRAYER

The first week of May, I invited the congregation to join me in a prayer challenge. The purpose was to help all to get closer with God. I had several people tell me they don't know what to say or how to say it.

There are no rules. You just talk to God like He is your best friend. (He is you know.) Tell Him what is on your mind. He already knows anyway. He just needs to hear you say it, and ask for His help. He is an excellent listener. In the Sunday bulletin there is an insert with the current prayer for the week. We are to pray that prayer two times a day, every day and learn to add your own petitions to it. I also sent by email the prayer to those not in church. If I missed you, I apologize.

Anyone who would like to receive these weekly prayers, please email me at: [happy\\_patty51@gmail.com](mailto:happy_patty51@gmail.com) and I will send them to you. I would also like to hear from you if you have had any results since spending more time with God. If you have a special prayer that you would like to share, I invite you to email it to me and we will use it.

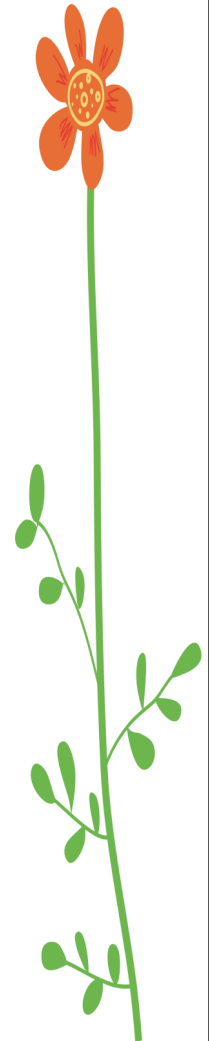
During this past week I was sharing with some folks about the challenge and their response led me to this week's edition. Their response was they did not know how to pray—you know, what do you say? My first response was "whatever is on your heart." First of all you praise God or the many blessings you have—even if they seem trivial.

Now I will teach you a hand/finger prayer.

**Start by thanking God, then move on to the fingers. The thumb is closest to us, so pray for those closest to you—family and dear friends. Your index finger or pointer finger directs one to pray for those who help us—doctors, teachers, pastors, etc. Then the longest finger/middle finger is to pray for those in leadership, all elected officials. all those holding office within an organization. The ring finger, also known as the weakest finger, reminds us to pray for the weak, those in need, those who are ill those who are suffering. Last but not least is the smallest finger, the pinky finger where we pray for ourselves last.**

If you use this guide, as time passes you will naturally just talk with God—about anything you want, and the thing is:  
HE WILL LISTEN.

*Blessings to you  
Pastor Patty*



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- All those impacted by Covid 19.
- The Ukrainian people
- Our shut-ins
- Those who are ill.
- Charles Neagle
- Gerald Banning
- Mary Fetters

JUST FOR FUN—SEE LEMON DROP COOKIE RECIPE TO THE RIGHT!

Have a zesty day! When life gives you lemons, make something sweet! You're simply the Zest!

### LEMON DROP COOKIES

**MIX:** 1/2 cup butter, with 1 cup sugar.  
**ADD:** 1 egg, 1 tsp vanilla, 2 Tbsp. lemon zest, and 1 Tbsp lemon juice. Stir to combine.  
**ADD:** 2 1/4 cups flour, 2 tsp baking powder, and 1/4 tsp salt  
Scoop into 1 inch balls and place on parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Bake for 10 minutes at 350 degrees until cookies are set but not browned. Let cool slightly and then top with glaze:

**GLAZE:** 2 cups powdered sugar and 2 Tbsp lemon juice.

**BERWICK FOOD CO-OP**

**The Food Co-Op at Berwick Church is continuing throughout the summer. It is open for everyone between 5 and 6 PM every Thursday. A huge thank you to our loyal group of volunteers who help run the Co-Op so efficiently each week! Special donations from the congregation would be appreciated including: Spaghetti sauce in July and canned vegetables in August. We are hoping to resume supplying birthday bags soon!**

**A LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION —**

Summer is now upon us, and it is hot! Most of us are busy in gardens and just being outside. This is also the time when a lot of us travel. There is so much to see, even in our own state. Iowa really is a beautiful place.

My guess is that as we travel, we still pay our bills. The gas and electricity still need to be paid, even though we are not at home. The water bill needs to be paid as well. We wouldn't think about not paying our bills for the time we are not in our homes. Yet, that is how many treat the church. We give on the Sundays we are there and that seems to be enough. But is it?

Two months ago, the church had enough money to keep running through the end of the year. And with summer being historically a period of low giving to the church, we are continuing to face financial difficulties. The end of the year still looms as a time of closure for the church.

So, what I'm asking the members and friends of Berwick Congregational Church to do is to remember the church, even on the Sundays you are not here. I'm asking that you give as if you are here every Sunday. Help keep this church open and viable for many years to come.

**Your friend and pastor, Tom**

**IOWA-NEBRASKA NEWS**

**The next meeting of the Iowa-Nebraska Association will be October 7-8 at Berwick Congregational Church. See next issue of the Dove for more details! Pastor Patty Smith will be formally ordained at this meeting on Saturday, October 8, so it is a big day in the life of Patty and our church!**

**CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS**

- As Patty Smith cannot serve as a Deacon while serving as co-pastor, the Deacons at their June meeting elected Nelson (Bill) Pearce to fill her position until the Annual Meeting in September. Janice McKinney is now the Chair and Zinna Pearson is the Vice Chair of the Council.
- Concern was expressed at the state of our finances as receipts are lower than usual. They would appreciate it if donations could be mailed to the church if members are unable to attend on a particular Sunday.
- The building committee, headed by Judy Sprague, has been busy taking care of the building and grounds. We hope to be able to soon fix the cement problems at the front of the church and check the state of the bell.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY/  
ANNIVERSARY TO:**

**JULY**

- 3 Judy and Gil Gillman—Anniversary
- 7 Gerald Banning
- 11 Dorothy Hull
- 20 Zinna Pearson
- 21 Tayler Fetters
- 22 Jerry Milholin
- 29 John & Janice McKinney-Anniversary

**AUGUST**

- 1 Janice McKinney
- 7 Unyke Beyer
- 8 Eli & Aiden Weissinger
- 9 Rich & Kay Miller-Todd—Anniversary
- 11 Jameson Presnall
- 13 Bill & Shirley Sprague—Anniversary
- 19 Jim Farrell
- 20 Zinna & Steve Pearson—Anniversary
- 25 Scott Kirstein

Please let Karen know if we overlooked your birthday/anniversary so it can be added to our list (515-262-9047). These dates do not appear on our web site for the church.





**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**SUNDAY SERVICES: 9:30 AM**  
**Vacation Bible School: July 10-14**  
**Council meeting: July 24 at 10:30 AM**

**To contact Berwick Church:**

**Church Phone: 515-262-0949**  
**Rev. Tom: Conrey 515-480-3396**  
**Pastor Patty Smith 515-321-8326**  
**Church Secretary: 515-262-9047 (Karen)**



Berwick Congregational Church

**PICTURED BELOW: Pastor Patty (center) with daughter, Amy (on the left) and Amy’s mother-in-law, Kathy Hansen (on the right).**



**PICTURED BELOW: Rev. Tom Conrey and his wife, Sue.**



**PHOTOS ABOVE TAKEN AT FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWING CONGREGATIONAL VOTE TO CALL REV. TOM CONREY AND PASTOR PATTY SMITH TO BE OUR PART-TIME CO-PASTORS. THEY WILL WORK TOGETHER TO SCHEDULE THEIR TIME WITH US.**