



August 2025/ Clare Congregational Church Newsletter

Contact Information

Contact: Clare Congregational Church
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Office Hours:
10am-2pm Tues.-Wed.-Thur.

General Information

Sunday Morning Bible Study: 9:30 am

Sunday Morning Service: 10:30 am

Coffee Hour: Fellowship Hall
(after service)

Potluck: 2nd Sunday each month

Church Council Meeting:
2nd Tues. each month

Women's Meeting:
3rd Thurs. each month

Greetings From Pastor Connie

Recently I read a quote from Danny DeVito. He said, "You've got to get up everyday thinking about how you're going to make it easier for the people you're working with or you love or eat breakfast with. Because it's infectious—everyone starts to feel good." I like that philosophy. Last Sunday at the picnic I listened to conversations at different tables. LuAnne was entertaining without even knowing it. Meredith was keeping her table lively. Anyone sitting with Melinda and Jim are always smiling. Then there was the table I sat at. Without realizing it, the two chocolate covered almonds mixed in with my salad greens. I took my plastic silverware and tried to cut the almonds thinking they were black olives. The one jumped off my plate. To my amusement. The other one did also. People at my table were watching with polite smiles all around the table. Jesus states in John 15:11, "It is my desire for Christians to have my joy and for others to be full." The joy of the Lord is my strength! How about yours?

God's blessings,
Pastor Connie

Church Picnic

A "BIG" thank you to dr. John and Angie Allen for hosting the church picnic. Outdoors the temperature was 91°. However, in their beautiful basement, the air conditioner kept everyone cool and comfortable. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship. Oh, and the food was delicious also!

Moderator's Report

Dr. John Allen

Summer is flying by! We have had great weather although a bit warm for some folks. Days are slowly shortening.

Our church continues to be very busy. Our annual picnic was held on the 27th at Allen's in Farwell. It was very well attended (30+), food was awesome and plentiful.

It was nice to see some of the girls from Mt. Pleasant in church a couple weeks ago.

Our downstairs storage room is newly drywalled and ready for primer and paint.

Anyone?

Many thanks to Barb and Ron Kunse for donating and moving the rock now in front of the church. Our street "look" has been greatly improved.

The Pig roast/Auction is nearing, schedules for August 16th. Frank Bongard is spearheading the event. We have many great items to auction but can always use more.

Contact Frank if you have something. He also has tickets, \$10.00 each. Thanks to Marcus Chinn for his donation of the pig and preparing it. We look forward to a great and well attended event.

Guess that's it from me for now. See you at the pig roast!

John

We have had requests to be able to make direct deposits into our church account.

The numbers needed for the general fund are:

Routing # 072403004

Account # 9950046947

If you have any questions contact John Allen @ 989 621-7003

Please contact the church for donations to other accounts such as:

Memorial fund

Renovations

Women's Fellowship

Adult Sunday School

Each Sunday a group of adults meet around the parlor table to learn from one another and our text, the book of Galatians. We have many laughs and serious moments. Our class continues to grow. We always have room for one more! Come join the class at 9:30 every Sunday morning.

Sarah's School Supplies

Thanks to everyone who donated supplies to send to Newberry. The church driver, Jim Colville will be loading up August 10th and traveling on August 11th to deliver to the school. Sarah and teachers will be waiting. Students will truly benefit due to your generosity. Our congregation makes a difference.

Coffee Hour

Our Potlucks on the second Sunday of the month need more volunteers. Please sign up so we know we have plenty of food for all! The sign up sheet is on the board next to the main office, or let Wanda know. I will be posting the October sign up sheet. I cant believe we're thinking October already.

Women's Meeting

The group at our July meeting was small but very enjoyable. Nancy Orr provided our luncheon. Thank you Nancy! Our next meeting will be at noon on Thursday August 21st. Hope to see you there. If you'd like to volunteer to bring something please let Wanda know.

Craft Day

Craft days are suspended until fall, the 3rd Tuesdays of the month in the fellowship hall. Update in the next newsletter.

Bell Choir

The Bell Choir plans to play in worship on August 17th. There will be **NO** practice on August 5th. Frank would like to practice Christmas music and perform during Advent. Some of the “Ringers” will be leaving for warmer climates so we need some replacements. Practice is at 2:00 on Tuesday.

Quilt Sale

The donated quilt sold for \$200.00. Denise Jenks, our loved custodian purchased it. Thank you Denise and enjoy. The workmanship is beautiful. The quilt was hand quilted by an aunt of Nancy Orr's .

Back to School Prayers

As the dates to return back to school get closer please pray for our administrators, teachers, staff and students to be safe. When Frank and I visited our Colorado grandchildren, my grandson asked me, “ Do you think I'll get shot?” The question truly stunned me. Please remember to pray for safety and kindness.

Vacation

Frank, Ryleigh and I will be leaving Sunday after worship for a weeks vacation. If there is an emergency please call Dr John Allen or Karen Jones. Looking forward to some fun in the sun!

Building and Grounds Maintenance

Steve Schumacher is our new head of maintenance. If you have any concerns or questions, please give Steve a call at 989 424-8737

Auction/Pulled Pork Dinner

August 16, 2025

Pulled Pork tickets are available from Wanda. We are planning to serve 150. There are 30 tickets sold. Please HELP. Marcus Chinn has donated the pig and he is preparing it. Dinner from 5:00—6:00 and then the auction. Proceeds from this event goes to the women's group. The women pay for all the cleaning supplies, purchased chairs in fellowship hall, blinds and bistro tables. They also pay for decorations and table centerpieces. Kitchen items have been purchased. They help with our outreach projects. Please support this event.



Holiday Bazaar

The date for the Women's Holiday Bazaar this year will be November 2nd. 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. We have received several nice donations for the bazaar, but there's always room for more. If you have Fall or Christmas items you'd like to donate please let us know. If you like to bake, we will be having the a bake sale for the Holiday Bazaar. Please contact Melinda Lard and let her know what you'd like to bake. We will also be displaying a few items in our newly added Holiday Boutique. We are collecting craft items to sell, so, let's get crafting. To all the men and women, clear your calendars for this event. If you aren't working this event remember we need lots of people to also purchase to make this event successful. Thanks everyone!



August Anniversaries

August Birthdays

Phyllis Carrigan	8/01
Bridget Forsberg	8/01
Melinda Lard	8/07
Byron Schunk	8/21
Morgan Jones	8/22

Bob & Meredith List	8/05
Bill & Paula Newkirk	8/15
Marcus & Jeana Chinn	8/18
Byron & Jennifer Schunk	8/18
Justin & Caitlin	8/18
Tom & Janet Kunse	8/21
Steve & Lynn Schumacher	8/23
Kurt & Leeann Keppner	8/28

Facts & Figures: Month of July

Date	Attendance	Offering
July 6	42	\$ 1353.00
13		1591.00
20	36	119400
27	34	1590.00

Serving Month of August

Officiating: Pastor Connie Bongard
 Liturgist: Dr. Kurt Keppner
 Ushers: Jim Sutton & Teresa Mackie
 Accompanist: LuAnne Humphrey

REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Prayer List: Phyllis Carrigan, Tom Johnson, Patty (Humphrey) Hazen, Mike Humphrey, Jerry Forsberg, LuAnne Humphrey, Ivah Forsberg, and Felix Lyons



Please help keep the prayer list current; if you know of any changes, or additions, please call the office at 989 386-7582, leave a note for the secretary, or send an email to: office@clarecongregational.org