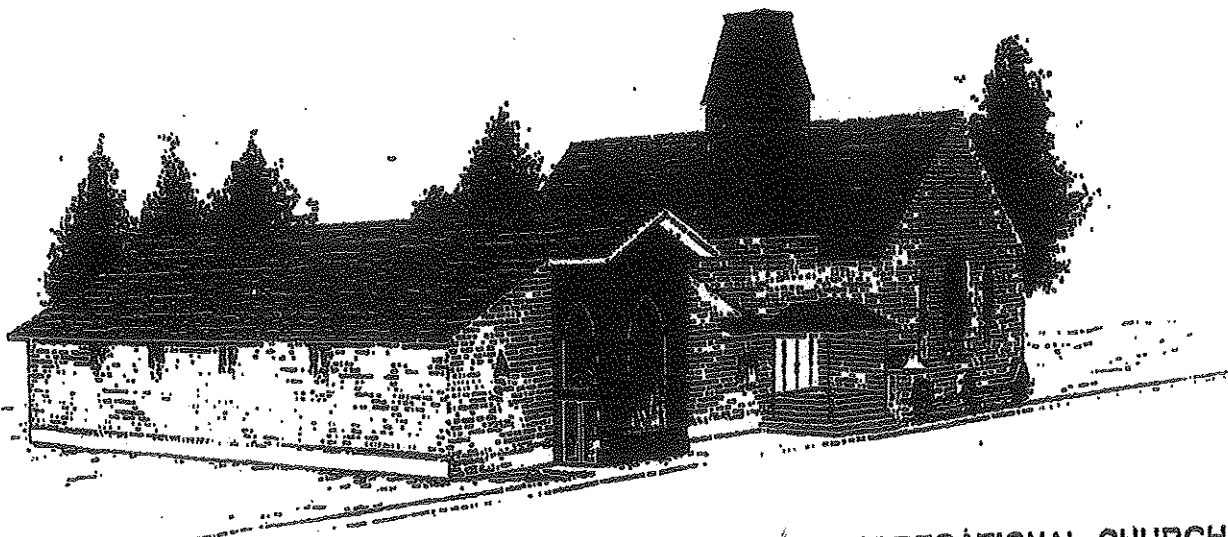
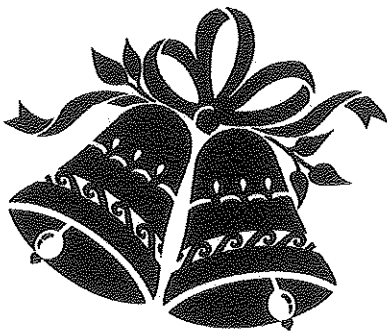


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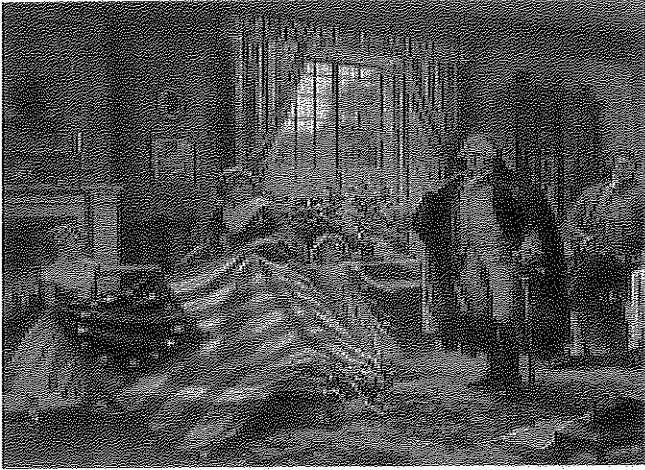
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*The
Chimes*

June Church News



SEWARD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SEWARD, ILLINOIS



Flag Day Celebrated

June 14, 1777

Today is Flag Day! On May 30, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation establishing a national Flag Day on June 14. Many Americans celebrate Flag Day by displaying the Red, White and Blue in front of homes and businesses. The day commemorates the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States.

Do you know the flag's history? According to American legend, in June 1776, George Washington commissioned Betsy Ross, a Philadelphia seamstress, to create a flag for the new nation in anticipation of a declaration of its independence.

On June 14, 1777, John Adams spoke about the flag at a meeting of the Continental Congress in Philadelphia. He said, "Resolved, that the flag of the thirteen United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union be thirteen stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation." There have been twenty-seven official versions of the flag so far; stars have been added to it as states have entered the Union. The current version dates to July 4, 1960, when Hawaii became the 50th state.

Many Americans sing, pledge, and pay respect to the flag, "Old Glory," as a symbol of the country's

democracy and independence. Saluting the flag is a way to celebrate and honor the United States of America.



Have you ever wondered about the significance of Flag Day? I have never looked up the history or the story of how this day came to be celebrated. This US Flag celebrates our independence and freedoms that we have all enjoyed from the beginning of this nation in which we live. While that is important to us—and it should be—there is freedom that is so much more!!

This freedom is that life that living for Jesus bestowed on us when He went to the cross in our place, took upon Himself all our iniquities, and offered us forgiveness and eternal life.

We will be celebrating Pentecost Sunday on June 5, which many recognize as the beginning of the Church, when the Holy Spirit descended on those in the room where the 120 disciples were—and on that day 3,000 believed in Jesus as Messiah and Savior. We have much for which to be thankful: our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the nation in which we live!!

Musings from the desk of Pastor Joel

Announcements

VBS: Growing with God VBS from June 6-10 from 9:30 a.m.-11:00 p.m. 3 year olds-5th grade invited. Please contact the church if you are planning on attending.

TRUSTEE'S: Will meet on June 22, at 6:30 p.m. We will meet in fellowship hall with social distancing

DIACONATE: Will not meet in June.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: The Women's Fellowship is having an outing on June 16th to the White Pines Dinner Theater. Arrival time is 11:20 at White Pines. There is a buffet luncheon, followed by a show with Jeff Gordon performing a combination of 60/70/80's rock 'n roll, with a little Elvis, a little Tom Jones, and a little Neil Diamond. Tickets are \$41.00 each, which includes meal, show and tip. Signup is on the bulletin board at church. Deadline for signup is May 15th. All are welcome, including spouses and friends.

WORSHIP SERVICE TIME CHANGE: Will change to 9 a.m. on **June 5, 2022**

REMINDER: All contributions for the CHIMES newsletter are due to the Office by the 3rd Friday of every month.

MONTHLY SUMMARY

April

General Fund Income \$4765.00
Expense \$ 6,243.23

Monthly Budget \$6,932.75

January-April

\$21,656.55
28,083.14

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

3—Mary Lou Speracino,
Nancy Kirby
8- Joshua Cowman
12-Ryan Viel
16-Jessica Cowman
20- Jacob Hilton
27- Alena Asche
29- Aaron Ackerman

Anniversaries

5- Allen & Mary Asche
19-Dick & Char Remer
30- Maury and Barb Daubs

Seward Congregational Church
Board of Trustees Meeting
April 20, 2022

Present: Peggy Whitney, Effie Hoppe, Matt Cowman, Brenda Van Hauen, Dick Remer, and Maury Daubs.
Absent: Pastor Joel

The meeting was called to order by Peggy at 6:30pm and Peggy also led us in prayer.

Minutes: The minutes from the March's meeting were read by Matt approved. Motion by Effie, second by Dick.

Financial Report was given by Effie and Brenda and approved. Motion by Matt, second by Dick. Maury read his financial review of updated investments.

Pastor's report: tabled in Pastor Joel's absence.

Old Business:

Sump Pump-Is working now. Maury fixed it.

Maintenance-Still need to find someone to help.

UV Bulbs-Decided they are not needed at this time, but Maury gave more information about the need for them.

Light Pole-Waiting for quote from JP Electric

New Business:

Seamless Gutters-Getting multiple bids for new gutters after receiving a letter about them.

Trustees-Reviewed job description.

Pastor Joel-sick/personal days

Tree Trimming-Crab apple tree and scrub trees need trimmed.

Next meeting will be on May 18, 2022 at 6:30pm

Motion to adjourn was made by Brenda, and seconded by Matt. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Cowman

May 3rd, 2022 Diaconate Meeting

Chairman Karleen Merchant called the meeting to order at 10:38 A.M. Pastor Joel led us in prayer.

Members present were Bev Weerda, Karleen Merchant, Jennifer Lloyd, Char Remer, Jean Mennenga, and Pastor Joel.

Jean read the minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting. Jennifer made a motion to accept the minutes. Bev 2nd the motion. The motion was approved. Bev presented the treasurer's report showing a balance of \$538.38. Jennifer made a motion. Jean 2nd the motion. The motion was approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

- Pastor gave us a sheet listing, home calls, nursing home visits, cards sent, and emails sent.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Discussed Lent, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter.
- Shirley has ordered canations for Mother's Day
- Pentecost is June 5th
- July 3rd Ray DeLaurier, Regional Pastor, will be our guest speaker
- June 5th service will be at 9:00 A.M. (Summer time)
- May 22nd Communion will be served

NEW BUSINESS:

- May 9th 5:00 P.M. Church cleanup. The date 4-H could be available to help. Noted that flowers by the church sign need to be moved because they obstruct the sign.
- Promotion Sunday is May 15th. Gift card will be given to Bev and Teri as a token for all their work in Sunday School.
- VBS will be held June 6-10th 9:30-11:00 A.M. The theme is "GROWING WITH GOD"
- June 19th is Father's Day so pie will be served at Fellowship.
- Coffee hour will continue this summer. Suggested to have donuts or coffee cake.
- May 26th-31st Pastor Joel will be on Vacation.
- Jennifer Lloyd agreed to fill the pulpit on May 29th in Pastor Joel's absence.

In othe business it was decided to have Greeters. Karleen will do the rest of May and a sign up sheet will be available for Greeters.

The motion for adjournment was made at 11:33 A.M. By Char, seconded by Bev.

Our next meeting will be announced later. It will be the last week of July or the first week of August.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Mennenga