

JULY 2026

LAMPLIGHTER

First United Presbyterian Church

201 W. Evergreen St.
P.O. Box 259
Elmwood, IL 61529

elmwoodpresbyterian@gmail.com
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July 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Quilt Club 8 AM - 4 PM Pastor Marla will be out of the office thru July 3rd	2 Bible Study 9:00 AM	3 office closed in honor of Independence Day	4 
5 Communion 9:00 AM Adult S.S. 10:30 AM Worship	6	7 Pastor COM Mtg 10:30 AM zoom	8	9 Bible Study 9:00 AM	10	11
12 9:00 AM Adult S.S. 10:30 AM Worship	13 EBW 6:00 PM	14	15 Quilt Club 8 AM - 4 PM Pastor New 2 U Board Mtg here 1:00 PM	16 Bible Study 9:00 AM Quilt Club 8 AM - 4 PM	17 Quilt Club 8 AM - 4 PM	18
19 9:00 AM Adult S. S. 10:30 AM Worship	20	21 Brandi will be out of the office	22 Pastor EDA Mtg 12 noon Brandi will be out of the office	23 Bible Study 9:00 AM	24	25
26 9:00 AM Adult S. S. 10:30 AM Worship Coffee Hour	27 PEO 6:00 PM	28	29	30	31	

Upcoming Events

Bible Study.

Thursday Mornings @ 9AM

Adult Sunday School

Sunday Mornings @ 9AM

Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday School is off for the summer and will resume in September

Quilt Club

July 1st 8AM – 4PM

July 15th, 16th & 17th 8AM – 4PM

Session Meeting.

Session will not meet in June or July

Deacons Meeting.

Deacons will not meet in June or July

Out of the Office

Pastor Marla will be out of the office thru July 3rd

Out of the Office

Brandi will be out of the office July 21st, 22nd & 23rd

Coffee Hour

on the 4th Sunday of each month following worship



Donations

We are collecting non-perishable food items & household supplies for the Little Free Food Pantry at Knox & Main Street. Our deacons are responsible for filling it in July.

Happy Birthday.

July 4th

Brett Stevens

July 6th

Judy Groeper

July 10th

Gayla Gunter
Baer Beckstrom

July 11th

Emily Roberts
Susan Flinn

July 17th

Wayne Asbell

July 20th

Pat Vaughan

July 21st

Sarah Lueschow

July 27th

Brendan Stevens
Mary Beth Hitchcock

Happy Anniversary.

July 4th

Bob & Mary Shoop

July 8th

Fred & Pam Paige

July 21st

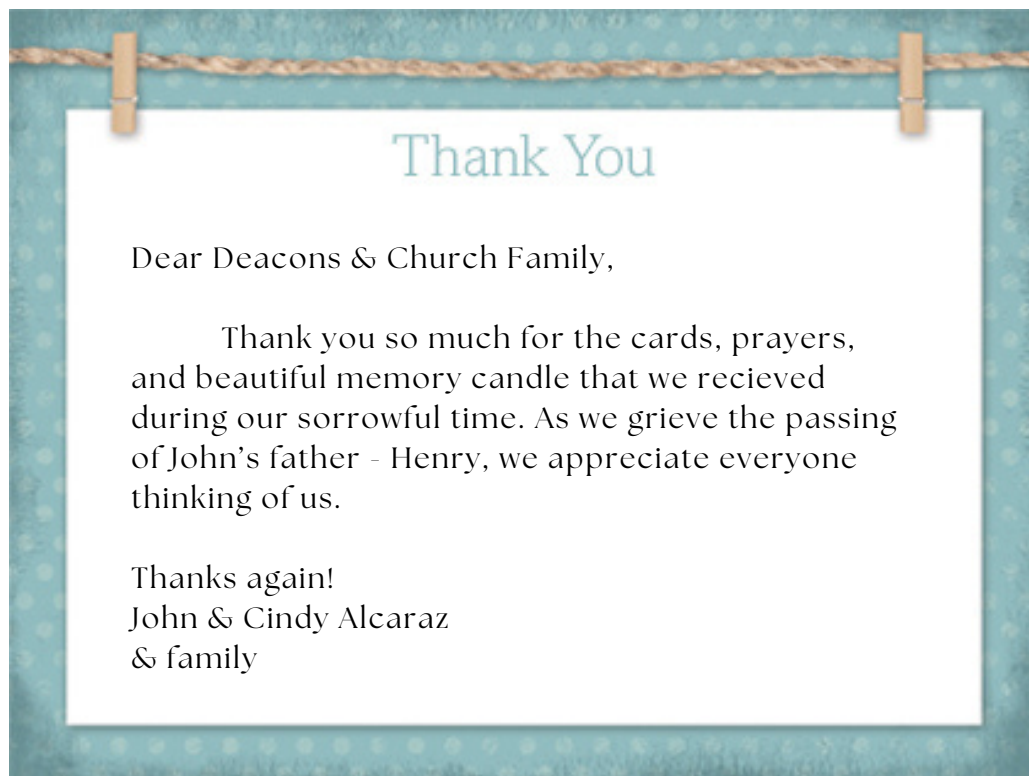
Jack & Stephanie Colgan

July 22nd

Gene & Pat Vaughan

July 27th

Brett & Brandy Stevens



Thank You!

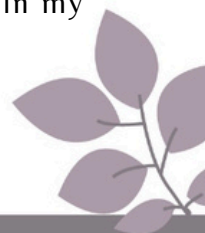
Thank you for the cards, calls and visits I have received. They have meant so much to me because I have missed being in church and seeing you all.

I especially thank Pat Vaughan for taking the pictures for me that were in last months's newsletter. Also thank you Judy Groeper for taking over for me. They are both a blessing!

The retirement dinner was a wonderful ending to my active years of service. The decorations were beautiful and the food was delicious! Thank you for the gifts I received and for the money that was donated to the church in my name.

I'm sorry for the belated thank you.

Pat Althiser & Family



Congratulations to
Stuart & Megan Bauler
who welcomed newest member,
Oliver Andrew "Ollie" on June 17th!



A Letter From The Pastor



July 2026

-³⁴ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:34-36

My dear friends,

When you read this newsletter, we will be just about a week away from celebrating our country’s 250th birthday. It will be a day of great celebration across this nation as the citizens rejoice and give thanks for the freedoms we have. Freedoms which came to us because of brave men and women who stood against tyranny and unfair rule. They risked not only their homes and possessions but their very families’ lives and their own lives were on the line. We owe these signers of the Declaration of Independence our gratitude but not only them—for there are thousands of others who didn’t sign it but who also stood for freedom and placed their own lives in harm’s way.

Not only do we have freedom granted us by the constitution but we have freedom granted us from Jesus Christ, our Lord. Freedom from sin, condemnation and death. For when we believe in the saving power of Jesus and his death on the cross, the chains of sin and death are broken. I think sometimes we forget that, as modern-day Christians. We forget that when we speak the name of Jesus, his name is power, his name is healing and his name is life. Those are blessings of the freedom we have in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Let’s try to celebrate this Independence Day not only with celebrations of our national freedoms but with our spiritual freedoms. Praising God for all that’s been done for us.

Blessings,

Rev. Marla Bauler

End of the school year

To my faithful supporters,

Hello everyone!

My last school year at Bingham has officially come to a close last week! It has been a very nostalgic, sad, and exciting season as we look to end our time in Ethiopia and transition to Thailand the middle of July.

The rest of this school year has flown by and I had a great year with my students. I will miss them dearly! As mentioned in my previous newsletter, I will be ending my time with Teach Beyond and being on support this summer therefore this will be my last newsletter. Feel free to follow me on social media as I will post some throughout next year. My Teachbeyond email will also be deactivated, so feel free to email me at hncarter5@gmail.com if you want to stay in touch.

Thank you all again so much for your support, prayers, and love over these past few years of me being in Ethiopia. I could not have had this experience, met my husband and lots of great freinds, and experienced what God was doing across the world if it wasn't for you. May God bless you all for your faithfulness and if you are ever in Bangkok, let us know!

Love, Haley (Carter) Amenu



My class enjoying Christmas activities earlier this year. They had a Christmas concert outside because it was 75 degrees and they needed sunscreen! Nothing says Christmas in Africa quite like that. :) We also had a Christmas PJ day.



Dear friends that we will miss greatly next year! They are from Germany, Ethiopia, and the US.

Last day of school picture with these kiddos!
This year I had kids from England, Italy, Finland, The Netherlands, Ethiopia, USA, Canada, Switzerland, and South Korea.



Last Bingham staff retreat with this great group!