

THE HERALD

August 2025

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

We are coming to the end of summer. We've started to see days that are not blisteringly hot. School is about to start back up. Heritage is gearing up to get back into the swing of things. Rally Day is September 7th, where Sunday School, DUCs, Choir, and Coffee Corner start up again (though Coffee Corner never really took a break). We will also celebrate Communion that morning, so please join us for all that Heritage has to offer!

I want to start a conversation about AI, which is probably long overdue with how far it has spread within society and the internet. There are many different forms of AI; here's some we most commonly run into: spelling and grammar checkers, virtual assistants like Siri or Alexa, smart-home technologies, and the personalized recommendations or feeds you see on social media and services like Netflix or Amazon. But the AIs we really need to talk about are Generative AIs and Language Learning Models (LLMs). These AIs learn from the vast number of images, videos, and written content on the internet (often without permission from the creators) and create content based on prompts given to them by users. This is the kind of AI we refer to when we talk about ChatGPT.

The denomination sent out a survey for Pastoral Leaders and their opinions on AI. I filled out that survey, expressing my objections to using AI in relation to my work, which got me thinking that I should be clear about a few things with all of you: **I do not and will not use AI to write my sermons.** I have moral and ethical objections to using AI which I am happy to talk about at any time, but I also have theological objections; where is the Holy Spirit if you are using AI to write your sermons? Can an AI find deeper meaning in a text? Can it evoke the kinds of emotions and images that a preacher would call upon to make their point? I view preaching not just as a teaching moment but as a connection point between God, the Scripture, the people within the Scriptures, ourselves, and this moment in history. Can an AI do that in any meaningful way? I don't believe so and therefore feel it has no place in this sacred moment where you and I are reaching for God.

This is a complicated and nuanced issue and deserves more than a few paragraphs in a newsletter. If you have questions about any of it, please let me know. I am happy to talk about it and seek answers together.

Blessings of peace and wisdom,
especially as our world grows ever more complicated,
Pastor Erica

JULY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

03 – Kay Schweitzer
07 – Lew Sieber
07 – Dave Thompson
18 – Larry Baker
23 – Loretta Neill
24 – Katrina Kendle
30 – Raymond Meester
30 – Erica Nelson



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

11 – Debbie & Wade Kendle
21 – Marsha & Scott Hunzeker



AUGUST BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

02 – Bruce Snyder
07 – Alan Shuman
11 – Scott Minks
17 – Freddie Bonnett
18 – Bill Bahr
19 – Kate Singaas
20 – Ilah Harmon
24 – Finn Singaas
26 – Tristen Singaas
28 – Margie Propp
31 – Dan Broeder



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

01 – Patty & Jeff Wahlgren



RALLY SUNDAY

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 7. All the things will be happening here that day. DUCs and Sunday School will be meeting again after enjoying time away for the summer. Coffee corner will be enjoying fellowship that involves deep, meaningful conversations. Choir will once again be adding music to inspire us. We will also be celebrating communion during our worship service.

CHOIR

Choir at Heritage will be resuming practices on September 3rd and rehearsing on Wednesdays from 5:45-6:45pm. We look forward to our choir members adding their voices to Sunday worship services.

CIRCLE

Circle will resume meeting in September.

A HUGE Thank You to everyone that helped package meals for Kids Against Hunger. Volunteers packaged 4,000 meals to be distributed locally and internationally.



Mission Committee is planning another mission project at Calvin Crest this fall. More details to come.

2024-2025 SESSION MEMBERS

Class of 2025: Amanda Miller
Lew Sieber

Class of 2026: Belle Kendle
*Frances Beurivage

Class of 2027: Dehnia Bullerdiek
Jennifer Dierks

*denotes 2nd term

2025-2026 COMMISSIONED DEACONS

Christie Werner (Prayer Chain Chairperson)
Ruth Hunzeker
Sue Nelson
Vivian Jones

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 10:30 AM Worship	1	2 10:00 AM Circle	3 5:45 – 6:45 PM Choir Girl Scouts	4	5 10:00 AM Al-Anon	6
7 9:30 AM DUCs & Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship with communion	8	9 Boy Scouts	10 5:45 – 6:45 PM Choir	11	12 10:00 AM Al-Anon	13
14 9:30 AM DUCs & Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	15	16	17 5:45 – 6:45 PM Choir Girl Scouts	18	19 10:00 AM Al-Anon	20
21 9:30 AM DUCs & Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	22	23 Boy Scouts	24 5:45 – 6:45 PM Choir	25	26 10:00 AM Al-Anon	27
28 9:30 AM DUCs & Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	29	30	1 5:45 – 6:45 PM Choir	2	3 10:00 AM Al-Anon	4

Please refer to the online calendar for updated/changed events.



THE HERALD

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Heritage Presbyterian Church
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**DEADLINE FOR THE
NEXT HERALD**
September 30, 2025
Items received after this date
may not be included!