

June 2023

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Don Salge,**  
PRESIDENT of St. John's-Vilmar  
**Cell Phone:** 319-239-2816

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DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS  
of St. John's-Vilmar  
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**TIME CHANGE:**

During June, July, and August, the church services begin at 9 a.m. No Sunday School.

**UPCOMING DEADLINES:**

**Weekly Bulletins:**  
Thursdays at 9 a.m.

**July Herald Announcements:**  
Sunday, June 25 at 5 p.m.

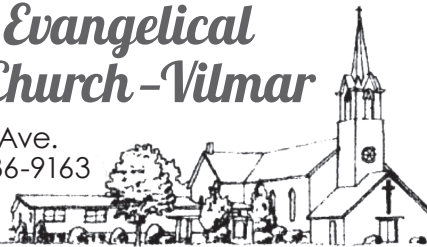
No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. JOHN 15:13

## St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Vilmar

16073 Keystone Ave.  
Greene, IA 50636-9163



NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Office:**  
(319) 267-2080

**Website:**  
vilmarchurch.org  
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## 'Tis the (Graduation) Season

The Mission and Outreach Committee of St. John's has made it a priority to live out one of the core values of the NALC by being a "mission-driven" church. As part of an outreach project to the local communities, every year the church awards a one-time, \$500 scholarship to one boy and one girl from the graduating class of North Butler High School. All students may apply, as the scholarship is not awarded based on GPA, nor is it limited to only St. John's members. The students are selected based on their application responses.



Pictured are this year's recipients, Ethan Litterer (left) and Kiya Johnson (right), during the awards ceremony at North Butler Middle School auditorium on Wednesday, May 17. Julie Eberline (center) presented the award for our church this year. Thank you.

It is a tradition at St. John's - Vilmar that high school and college graduates are recognized during the worship service on Commencement Sunday. There were a few students who are related to our church that graduated in 2023, and they were recognized and prayed for during the morning worship service on Sunday, May 21. Thank you to Ron Salge for reading the names and leading the prayer during the service.

While we extend our sincere congratulations to all the graduates on their accomplishments and achievements thus far, the advice we offer them - as they finish one journey and begin a new one - is good advice for each of us to remember.

SEE A LIST OF THE 2023 GRADUATES ON PAGE 8

See, **Graduation:** Page 8

# Treasurer's Report

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APRIL 2023

**Beginning Operating Balance .....\$98,899.74**

## INCOME:

Envelopes ..... \$9,636.00  
Vanco ..... \$754.00  
Loose Offering –NB Schlarships..... \$139.61  
March Missions – NB Scholarships.....\$550.00  
Vilmar Cemetery ..... \$1,000.00  
Easter Offering – Luther League ..... \$507.00  
Lenten Offering – LWR..... \$412.00  
Wells of Inspirations ..... \$2,680.00  
Thrivent Funds ..... \$877.95  
From:  
– Thrivent Funds for NB Scholarships....\$100.00  
– Wells of Inspirations..... \$10,021.40  
**Total Income.....\$26,677.96**

## EXPENSES:

Pulpit Supply ..... \$750.00  
Pulpit Supply Auto Mileage ..... \$665.29  
Wages / Janitors ..... \$461.74  
Wages / Director of Communications ... \$769.58  
Payroll Expenses ..... \$612.06  
Electricity ..... \$518.73  
LP ..... \$461.05  
Telephone ..... \$71.06  
Printer Contract..... \$83.49  
Postage ..... \$21.06  
Vanco ..... \$8.19

## EXPENSES, cont.:

Snow Removal..... \$200.00  
Vilmar Cemetery ..... \$1,000.00  
Vilmar Luther League..... \$507.00  
Wells of Inspiration..... \$10,021.40  
TO: NB Scholarships..... \$789.61  
TO: Thrivent..... \$102.95  
TO: LWR-Turkey ..... \$412.00  
TO: Wells of Inspiration ..... \$3,455.00  
**Total Expenses .....\$20,910.21**

**Operating Balance .....\$104,667.49**

## SPECIFIED ACCOUNTS:

Thrivent Funds.....\$3,725.84  
Scholarships..... \$2,634.64  
Youth Camp Fund ..... \$615.00  
NALC Disaster Relief..... \$996.76  
LWR-Turkey.....\$1,723.84  
Mission ..... \$2,932.66  
Operation Christmas Child ..... \$535.90  
Easter/IA Youth NALC Mission Trip... \$258.00  
Wells of Inspiration..... \$6,264.42  
**Specified Accounts Balance .....\$19,687.06**

**GENERAL FUND BALANCE.....\$124,354.55**

**Respectfully Submitted By:**  
Margaret DeBower, *Treasurer*

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## Parade Volunteers

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St. John's – Vilmar Luther League will walk in the Allison Days parade on Saturday, June 3. We are looking for people to join us! If you are interested, meet us at the Butler County Fairgrounds on Saturday at 12:30 p.m. We will be passing out candy and Bible verse cards. We also have T-shirts with our church name for participants to wear.

Our parade float will be a large painted sign of our church.

\*We will also be walking in the Greene River Days parade on June 17 and the Bristow Days parade on July 29 – more details will be available closer to those dates. If you have questions, please talk to Monica Edeker, 319-939-7348.

## ST. JOHN'S – VILMAR COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, April 30, 2023

The council met for a quick update on Sunday, April 30 following the church service. Warren Van Dyke will send a thank you to Fred Mine for his volunteer work at the church. Dick Ulrich made a motion to accept the bid from Dralle's Dept. Store for approximately \$500 to replace the flooring in the basement bathroom. Margaret DeBower seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Warren Van Dyke made a motion to send a \$100 campership donation to Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp in Story City for Annabelle Stirling. Julie Eberline seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

Rhonda Edeker, *Secretary*

### MEMBERS PRESENT

P Don Salge (President)	A Dale Janssen	P Meredith Steere
P Margaret DeBower (Treasurer)	P Diane Hummel	P Julie Eberline
P Rhonda Edeker (Secretary)	P Tyler Seehusen	P Dick Ulrich
P Barb Meyer	P Ron Taylor	P Warren Van Dyke

## ST. JOHN'S – VILMAR COUNCIL CAPSULE

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

The St. John's Church Council met for its regular meeting on Wednesday, May 10. Diane Hummel led the devotions and prayer. Chairman Don Salge called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

### REPORTS

- **Secretary:** Report read and approved with correction to the dust control amount; correct amount is \$1.40/foot for 547 feet twice this summer.
- **Treasurer:** Report read and approved.
- **Chairman:** None.
- **Stewardship & Finance:** None.
- **Mission & Outreach:** 20 flood buckets were sent to NALC disaster relief; May mission funds will be sent to the NALS; June mission funds will go to Relay For Life; Hope Sunday will be Sunday, June 11.
- **Worship & Fellowship:** None.
- **Deacons:** None.
- **Trustees:** Lee Mobile Glass replaced the glass in the door in the sanctuary for \$290. Rhonda Edeker made a motion to remove the dying bushing around the church and educational unit. Dale Janssen seconded. Motion carried. Warren Van Dyke made a motion to accept the bid from Wells Hollow to replace the river rock and update the landscaping areas in front of the narthex. Ron Taylor seconded. Motion carried unanimously. We will use memorial money for this project.

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continued from page 3

- **Parish Ed.:** None.
- **Director of Communications:** Extra AED pads were purchased at a cost of \$145; Luther League will be walking in the area parades this summer, and invites anyone to join them.

OLD BUSINESS

- We are waiting for a the installation of the new speaker in the sanctuary.
- The flooring in the basement bathroom is now estimated to be \$800 instead of \$500.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ken and Margaret DeBower have registered for the NALC Convocation on August 9-11 in Oklahoma City.

NEXT MEETING

The next council meeting will be held Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

CLOSING

The meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**  
Rhonda Edeker, *Secretary*

MEMBERS PRESENT

- |                                |                  |                   |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| P Don Salge (President)        | P Dale Janssen   | A Meredith Steere |
| P Margaret DeBower (Treasurer) | P Diane Hummel   | P Julie Eberline  |
| P Rhonda Edeker (Secretary)    | P Tyler Seehusen | A Dick Ulrich     |
| P Barb Meyer                   | P Ron Taylor     | P Warren Van Dyke |

DATE	GENERAL	MISSIONS	OTHER FUNDS
4/30/23	\$1,970.00	\$35.00	\$200 — Wells of Inspiration
5/07/23	\$1,210.00	\$185.00	\$382.00 — Simply Giving \$1,550.00 — Wells of Inspiration \$225.00 — Riverside Bible Camp
5/14/23	\$1,745.00	\$125.10	None
5/21/23	\$1,260.00	\$30.00	\$372.00 — Simply Giving \$102.95 — Thrivent
5/28/23	\$1,960.00	\$25.00	\$200.00 — Wells of Inspiration

**Flowers**

During the summer, if anyone would like to share flowers for the altar, feel free to bring them with you on Sunday morning and be sure to collect them before you leave. Thank you!

**Special Music Notes**

If at any time you, or someone you know, would like to provide special music (instrumental, vocal, or both!), please let Senior Choir Director Jane Thompson know.

# Serving in the Lord's House

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## SUNDAY, JUNE 4

**Guest Pastor:** Rev. Solveig Zamzow  
**Organist:** Diane Hummel  
**Reader:** Betty Rewerts  
**Fellowship Hosts:** Jeff and Carol Seehusen  
**Notes:** Holy Communion at the rail

## SUNDAY, JUNE 11 – HOPE SUNDAY

**Lay Leaders:** Margaret DeBower and  
Jennifer Seehusen  
**Organist:** Diane Hummel  
**Reader:** Owen Ausborn  
**Fellowship Hosts:** Host Needed  
**Notes:** Relay For Life Luminary Reading

## SUNDAY, JUNE 18 – FATHER'S DAY

**Guest Pastor:** Rev. Robert Salge  
**Organist:** Barb Wagner  
**Reader:** Jason Edeker  
**Fellowship Hosts:** Warren and Lollie Van Dyke  
**Notes:** Processional Holy Communion

## SUNDAY, JUNE 25

**Lay Leader:** James Block  
**Organist:** Barb Wagner  
**Reader:** Ron Salge  
**Fellowship Hosts:** Bill and Betty Debner

# Happy Father's Day!

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We wish extend a loving and appreciative father's day blessing to all the fathers, grandfathers, great-grandfathers, and great men of Vilmar on Sunday, June 18. May God's blessings be with you always.

# Attendance Report

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<u>Worship Service</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Communed</u>
Sunday, April 30:	63	55
Sunday, May 7:	57	n/a
Sunday, May 14:	58	n/a
Sunday, May 21:	50	45
Sunday, May 28:	48	n/a

# Announcements

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**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION:** A birthday celebration in honor of Bill Debner will be held Wednesday, June 21 from 1-3 p.m., at the Greene Community Center. His family will be hosting the party, and they invite the public to attend.

# Mission and Outreach

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## JUNE MISSION SPOTLIGHT

For the month of June, Vilmar is designating its mission money to the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life of Butler County to support the fight for a cancer-free world.

Relay For Life brings local communities together to honor individuals who have fought bravely against cancer. Survivors, their families and all those who have been affected by this disease come together to walk, run and camp out at the fairgrounds, to create a united network of support and dedication. The Relay begins with a Survivor Lap, an inspiring time where survivors are honored by participants in support of their incredible fight. One of the most memorable events during the night is the Luminaria Ceremony, where everyone has the opportunity to light candles and take a moment to honor those who have beat the disease, those who are still fighting, and those who have courageously fought but have lost their lives to cancer.

# Sunday of Hope

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Vilmar will hold its annual Sunday of Hope on Sunday, June 11 during the worship service. The sanctuary will be decorated with the Relay For Life luminaries in honor and memory of our loved ones who have been affected by cancer. If you would like to purchase a luminary please contact Margaret DeBower and Jennifer Seehusen. Cost is \$10 each. The names will be read and a special prayer will be given to commemorate the day.

## VILMAR WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NOTES: JUNE 2023

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### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

- Women's Bible study will be held on Tuesday, June 6 at 9 a.m., in the church fellowship hall. Margaret DeBower will lead the study and JoAnn Taylor will serve.
- There will be no Bible study in July because our meeting date is on the Fourth of July. We will meet again on the first Tuesday of August.

### ALTAR COMMITTEE

The altar committee for June is Betty Debner and Diane Hummel. We appreciate your willingness to serve in this way.

### SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Sunshine people for the month of June are Jen Seehusen and Barb Meyer.

### BINGO

The Allison nursing home is looking for volunteers to play BINGO. Vilmar is scheduled to serve on the first Thursday of each month. Anyone who would like to volunteer may contact Betty Debner or Betty Rewerts.

### BIRTHDAYS

**June 21:** Bill Debner, 15354 Jay Ave.,  
Greene, IA 50636

### SEWING DAYS

The sewing committee is taking the summer off. We will resume in September. In the meantime they are still accepting donations of sheets and blankets.

### KITCHEN/FOOD DONATIONS

We welcome donations of items for use in the kitchen or for serving food. We just ask that a note be left stating that it is for general use. Sometimes things are left and we don't know if it is for a special occasion or something that anyone in the kitchen can use. Thank you.

### ITEMS AVAILABLE

Check the table in the basement for items for free will donation. These items make great gifts! All money raised will be used by Vilmar Women's Fellowship for their yearly mission donations.

## News from Bartels

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We appreciate St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – Vilmar as a Corporate Church of Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community. Your delegate, Barb Wagner, attended the Bartels Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 30. Fred Waldstein, board chair, reflected on 2022, including accomplishments and the challenges of the pandemic. Occupancy levels have rebounded, Bartels-At-Home is growing and continues to be a leader in the industry with eight levels of care. He also thanked the churches for their support. Paula Geise, CEO, shared Bartels' focus

on organizational values and culture. 2022 brought staffing challenges, but applications are slowly starting to come in. Eichhorn Haus and Eisenach Village are both full. The new development of Anna Estates is underway with the first home being built this year, including seven single-family homes and 20 duplexes. Bob Brunkhorst presented the financial report, and Dr. Lee Fagre gave his medical director update. Thank you for your continued service to Bartels and support of our mission, "Enriching lives through quality services and Christian care."

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## Mowing Volunteers

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We are looking for mowing volunteers to take care of the church/parsonage lawns for the upcoming summer/fall. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Thank you to everyone for being good stewards of our land by helping to keep the church property looking sharp.

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## Remember in Our Prayers

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### PRAYER CONCERNS:

Mari Ann Wearda, Harold and Marlys Kruse, Bruce and Deb Johnson, Dean and Barb Westendorf, Robert and Jurene Dralle, Ellie Munis, Amy Cooper, Evalyn Nettleton, Joy Schueler, Ali Matteson, Robert Vieker, Carol Finke, Cheryl and Kayla Sankey, Jimmy Rogers, Donna Hardy, Jaxon Hartkopp, Pastor James Puotyual, Larry Voigts, Jim Wubbena, Sandra Greenlee, Emily Martzahn, Randy Brinkman, Pastor David Craig, Barb Kelly, Pastor Rich Eddy, Paul Hughes, Wendell Debner, Helen Debner, Dave Hubbard, Jerrylyn Brinkman, Michelle Miller, and Althea Uhlenhopp.

### SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN:

Lloyd Davis, Rashell Haxhijaj, and Alexa Page.

### FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

**Remember the Family of Sheryl Johnson:** Sheryl, 60, of Waterloo, passed away on Friday, May 12, 2023. A Celebration of Life will be held from 2-6 p.m., Saturday, June 17, at the Fisher Shelter House in George Wyth State Park, Waterloo. Sheryl was a member of Vilmar, the daughter of Robert Dralle and mother of Josh Johnson.

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## Pastoral Care

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During this time if you need assistance of any kind, please let Council President, Don Salge (319-239-2816) or Director of Communications, Monica Edeker (319-939-7348) know, and they will arrange for your needs.

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## Cookbooks Available

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Cookbooks are available. They are \$15 for the 1979 edition (white cover) and \$10 for the 2004 edition (green cover). Contact Margaret DeBower, Barb Wagner or Monica Edeker if interested.

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## Simply Giving

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If you would like to enroll in Vilmar's electronic giving, contact council secretary Rhonda Edeker for the paperwork. We appreciate everyone's continued financial support of Vilmar's ministry.

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## Contributions

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If you are not able to worship in-person with us, we encourage you to continue your tithes/offering by mailing financial gifts to the church at, St. John's–Vilmar, 16073 Keystone Ave., Greene, IA 50636.

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## Want More Information?

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To learn more...:

**About Vilmar's ministry**

[vilmarchurch.org](http://vilmarchurch.org)

**About the North American Lutheran Church**

[thenalc.org](http://thenalc.org)

**About the Iowa Mission District–NALC**

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

**About the Women of the NALC**

[wnalc.org](http://wnalc.org)

**To stay up to date with current activities going on at the church “like” our Facebook Page:**

[Facebook.com/StJohnsVilmar](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsVilmar)

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## Corrections, Information

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If you have corrections or announcements for Vilmar's directory, the bulletins, Heralds, or website please contact Monica Edeker at 319-939-7348, [vilmarchurch@gmail.com](mailto:vilmarchurch@gmail.com), or send a note to the church. Everyone's communication and cooperation is very much appreciated. Thanks!

# 2023 Graduates

(Graduates are listed as they were provided to us)

- **William Wicks**, Prairie High School - Cedar Rapids, grandson of Ken and Margaret DeBower
- **Alli Butler**, West Branch HS, granddaughter of Warren and Lollie Van Dyke
- **Andrew Brinkman**, MOC-FV HS of Orange City, grandson of Dean and Kay Brinkman
- **Trevor Brinkman**, Iowa State University, grandson of Dean and Kay Brinkman
- **Blake Debner**, North Butler HS, great-grandson of Kenny and Helen Debner; great-grandson of Dean and Barb Westendorf
- **Camryn Buseman**, Waverly-Shell Rock HS, daughter of Chuck and Jen Buseman; granddaughter of Barb Wagner
- **Nathan Opperman**, Bachelor's Degree from Missouri Science and Technology in Rolla, MO, grandson of Dave and Phyllis Opperman
- **Kiya Johnson**, North Butler HS, daughter of Renae Johnson; daughter of Josh Johnson; granddaughter of Julie Eberline; great-granddaughter of Jean Morris; and great-granddaughter of Robert and Jurene Dralle
- **Peter Miller**, Newman High School, grandson of Fred and Suzanne Miller
- **Evan Perry**, son of Craig and Kari Perry; grandson of Diane Hummel

# GRADUATION FROM PAGE 1

Whatever challenges we encounter, God has promised to help us. As it is written in Jeremiah 29:11, “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” As we all continue our adventures on this earth, we must remember to carry the promises of God with us. When our faith is tested or circumstances are uncertain, we can rest confident in the guarantees from God’s Word. We must keep our faith – believe in Him; study His word; and live His will. We can be confident – through our faith and Christ’s redeeming love – that someday we’ll all graduate from this life into a new, perfect one in heaven.

May God bless and guide all the graduates on their new journeys, as well as all of us, as we continue in our lives. May he surround us with His grace and mercy, and keep His hand of protection on us. I pray God blesses each of us with a hope that keeps our hearts open and eager to help make the world a better place by serving Him and seeking ways to help others. May the road before you all be paved with opportunities that bring honor and glory to the Lord’s name.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**  
Monica Edeker, *Director of Communications*



On Monday, May 28 the Allison AMVETS Post #88 Drill Team held a brief Memorial Day Ceremony at the South Vilmar Cemetery.



## JUNE 2023: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church-Vilmar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline 1:30 p.m.: BINGO at Allison Rehabilitation Center	2	3 7 a.m.: Bible Study at Allison Congregational 12:30 p.m.: Allison Days Parade Line-up
4 9 a.m.: Worship Service with Holy Communion 10 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship	5	6 9 a.m.: Women's Fellowship Bible Study	7	8 9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline	9	10 7 a.m.: Bible Study at Allison Congregational Church
11 <i>Sunday of Hope</i> 9 a.m.: Worship Service with Relay For Life Luminary Commemoration 10 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship	12	13	14 7:30 p.m.: Church Council Meeting	15 9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline	16	17 7 a.m.: Bible Study at Allison Congregational 10:30 a.m.: River Days Parade Line-up
18 <i>Father's Day</i> 9 a.m.: Worship Service with Holy Communion 10 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship	19	20	21 1-3 p.m.: Bill Debner's Birthday Celebration at Greene Community Center	22 9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline	23	24 7 a.m.: Bible Study at Allison Congregational Church
25 9 a.m.: Worship Service with Holy Communion 10 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship <i>July Herald Announcements Due</i>	26	27	28	29 9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline	30	July 1 7 a.m.: Bible Study at Allison Congregational Church

Deacons: Ron Taylor and Dick Ulrich