



# “THE STARTER”

July 2022

Rev. Brian Beck

Our email: [1stcongregperu@sbcglobal.net](mailto:1stcongregperu@sbcglobal.net)

Web page: [firstcongregationalperu.net](http://firstcongregationalperu.net)

Phone 815-223-0722



Fun times at the Peoria Chiefs Faith and Family Night. Chiefs won 8-2!! Wonderful fireworks show after the game.



## Adopt Our Landscape 2022

It's that time to start our landscape adoption for 2022. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex with the display of pictures of the locations needing attention. Please let God lead you to an area that you can take care of. Primary responsibility is to keep the areas free of weeds and grass that don't belong. Any bushes that you find dead or in need of trimming, please let Vicki know

or a Trustee. Thank you for helping take care of God's beautiful landscape.



## Food Pantry/Pads

We are making it easier to support PADS and both area food pantries. They have more buying power with dollars than actual donated items. So we will be removing the collection baskets in the narthex and you can donate using the two boxes on the table. Any dollars put in the Food Pantry box will be evenly divided between Illinois Valley Food Pantry and Hall Township Food Pantry.



## Chancel Choir

A huge THANK YOU!! Chancel Choir for another season of beautiful music sung for the Lord. Even though the choir does not sing during the summer, we love to have music during the worship service. Should you wish to share your talents, singing or instrumental, please sign up on the Welcome table.



## VBS DAY “NOAH”

July 23, 2022

10-2pm

Join us for stories, crafts, games, fun, and lunch with snacks.

Water games in the afternoon with special guest appearances for the dunk tank.



*The Bible isn't antique or modern  
IT'S ETERNAL!!*

Pray for the health of Jane McClintock, Char & Pete Belski, Marilyn Cobb, Rita Tieman, Dawn's parents & Dawn Tieman, Hannah Marincic, Rick and Deb Taylor, Rob and Cyndee Dickson, Hannah Marincic, Les Tieman, Suzanne Doddy.

\*\*Please pray for daily grace for our shut-ins:

Myrle Sapienza Carol Edgcomb  
Don Walker Jane McClintock  
Lillian Mini Daryl & Lin Stuhr

\*\* Pray for Pastor Roy Jacob & Peace Mission in India caring for children and widows

\*\* Pray for Jews for Jesus

\*\* Pray for the Surbers and Supply & Multiply

\*\* Pray for Abigail Women's Clinic

\*\* Pray for Cup of Cold Water Ministries

\*\* Pray for Transport for Christ

\*\* Pray for PADS providing shelter to the Homeless



New Address

Steve & Linda Hoadley  
1913 Columbus St.  
Ottawa, Il 61350



Christian Ed Report

Christian Ed is very excited about some upcoming events. June Sunday Sundaes afternoon was enjoyed by all in attendance. July will bring VBS Day "Noah" with stories crafts, games and special dunk tank guests. A couple new events to come with more information coming as plans are made. Children's Church resumes July 10<sup>th</sup>, while the adult class continues to meet at 9:00am each Sunday morning. No Junior Senior class until fall. The Monthly Diner's meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at area restaurants for an evening of meal and fellowship. Everyone is always invited.



*Your greatest contribution may not be something you do but someone you raise.*

Happy Birthday America!

Recognition of the Supreme being is the first, the most basic expression of Americanism. Without God there could be no American form of government, nor American way of life.

Dwight D. Eisenhower



July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks

Peru will be having fireworks on the riverfront on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. weather permitting. There is no cookout on the church lawn this year but a potluck is available for those wishing to do so. Remember, the lawn is always available for viewing.



*Churches that become passionate about people outside their walls will be far more effective than churches that are passionate only about keeping the few people they have inside their walls.*



Reflections on the Declaration of Independence

The Declaration of Independence was approved on July 4, 1776. John Hancock signed first, saying "the price on my head has just doubled." Benjamin Franklin signed saying "We must hang together or most assuredly we shall hang separately." Of the fifty-six signers: 17 lost their fortunes, 12 had their homes destroyed, 9 died during the war, 5 became prisoners of war, 1 had 2 sons imprisoned on the British starving ship Jersey and 1 lost his son in the war.

As Samuel Adams signed, he said, "We have this day restored the Sovereign to whom all men ought to be obedient. He reigns in Heaven and from the rising to the setting of the sun, let His Kingdom come."

John Adams wrote of the day, "I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance, by

solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty...I am well aware of the toil and blood and treasure that it will cost to maintain this Declaration, yet through all the gloom I can see the rays of ravishing light and glory."



*Prayer is exhaling the spirit of man  
And inhaling the Spirit of God.*



Just for Fun

John climbs to the top of Mt. Sinai to get close enough to talk to God. Looking up, he asks the Lord, "God, what does a million years mean to you?" The Lord replies, "A minute."

John asks, "And what does a million dollars mean to you?" The Lord replies. "A penny."

John asks, "Can I have a penny?" The Lord replies, "In a minute."



*The power of a fully lived life or a truly learned mind is not a power to be sought of contrived. It comes as we let go of what we possess and find ourselves possessed by a truth greater Than our own.*

*Parker Palmer*



**THE PRELUDE IS A VEIL DROPPED BETWEEN EVERYDAY LIFE AND THE SANCTUARY; THE MUSIC; WHEN YOU CROSS THE THRESHOLD, SHOULD SEPARATE THE WORLD WITHOUT FROM THE WORLD WITHIN. IF YOU MUST WHISPER, LET IT BE A PRAYER.**



The Master Of The Wind

Our Savior used both land and sea,  
Whate'er the case happened to be.  
Some fishermen he chose to teach,  
To serve the masses and to preach.

One day our Lord was tired and said,  
The other shore we'll go instead.  
He fell asleep, a storm did toss,  
Before the men could get across.

They woke 'Him' up, with 'Him' did plea  
To calm the wind and angry sea.  
He chided them, said 'Peace be still',  
The wind and sea, obeyed His will.



*Accept what is, let go of what was,  
have faith in what will be.*



Fellowship

For anyone wishing to visit after worship service, there will be coffee and lemonade made available. All that is asked is you rinse out the coffee urns and pitchers after use.



Devotionals

Starting out the morning with God is the best time of day. Remember to stop by and pick up "The Upper Room" and "Our Daily Bread" devotionals.



*The more we know of God,  
the greater is our capacity to love Him.*

*The more we love Him, the greater is our capacity to obey Him.*

*Our new affection, however, must be made to grow. We are called to love God with our whole hearts.*

*The new heart of flesh must be nurtured.*

*It must be fed by the Word of God.*

*R. C. Sproul*





