

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THERE WILL BE A FAREWELL RECEPTION** for Pastor Randal & Linda from 9:00-10:00 a.m. on **August 25**. Donuts and coffee will be served. There will be no Sunday School next Sunday.

**THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** on September 1 due to the Labor Day holiday.

### AWANA BEGINS SEPTEMBER 11TH—3:30-5:00 PM

Watch for more info coming soon!

**Reaching Kids with the Gospel of Christ and Training them to Serve Him**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A COME & GO BRIDAL SHOWER** for **Kate Tobin, bride to be of Jon Christians** on August 24 from 10:00– 11:30 a.m. They are registered at Amazon and Target.

### COLLEGE STUDENTS FOR PRAYER LIST

We like to pray for those from our church family who are in college. If you or someone in your family will be in college this year, you can write the student's name and college on the back of the Connection Card and we will add them to our bulletin prayer list.

### WOMENS RETREAT—HIDDEN ACRES—SEPTEMBER 13-14

**Kim (Nelson) Harms** will be the speaker on Saturday morning. Sign-up sheet and flyers are on the table in the foyer.

### TAKING SEALED BIDS FOR EXTRA PEWS

We will be taking sealed bids for the extra pews left after the stage renovation. If you would like a pew or pews, please write down the amount you are willing to give for them and which one(s) you are interested in. Put them in an envelope and turn them into the church office by **August 25th**.

4 pews -6 ft. long      1 pew -4 ft. long      1 pew from old church 78" long

### LARRY & RITA FOX HAVE MOVED TO TOWN

Here is their new address:

716 3rd Ave. SW  
Britt, IA 50423

### THE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF BRITT

810 2nd Ave. NW, Britt, IA 50423

Website: [www.brittfreechurch.com](http://www.brittfreechurch.com)

Phone: 641-843-3861

Wifi: EFC Guest Wifi or EFC Guest Wifi 5G—Password: brittfree82

Youth Pastor—Jesse Bewley—[brittfreechurch.jesse@gmail.com](mailto:brittfreechurch.jesse@gmail.com)—331- 999-4615

Office Staff—Cherlyn Johnson, Katrina Peterson—[brittfreechurch@gmail.com](mailto:brittfreechurch@gmail.com)

Custodian—Tom Kardoes - 515-320-3349

Prayer Chain—Marlys Perkins 843-3319

## THIS WEEK

### TODAY 8-18

8:30 a.m.—Common Ground  
9:00 a.m.—Sunday School  
Fellowship Time/Common Ground  
9:30 a.m.—Ushers & Greeters Prayer  
10:00 a.m.—Morning Worship  
4:30 p.m. - Prayer Walk at West Hancock

### MONDAY 8-19

9:00 a.m.—Staff Meeting

### TUESDAY 8-20

6:30 a.m. Elder Prayer  
Noon—Community Prayer

### WEDNESDAY 8-21

6:00 p.m.—Combined Youth Group  
Fall Kick-off (See Insert)

### THURSDAY 8-22

7:00 p.m.—Grief Group

### FRIDAY 8-23

Office Closed

### SATURDAY 8-24

10:00-11:30 a.m.—Come & Go Bridal Shower for Kate Tobin & Jon Christians

### SUNDAY 8-25

8:30 a.m.—Common Ground  
**No Sunday School**  
9:00-10:00 a.m.—Farewell Reception for Pastor Randal & Linda  
Fellowship Time/Common Ground  
9:30 a.m.—Ushers & Greeters Prayer  
10:00 a.m.—Morning Worship  
3:00 p.m.—Westview Service

## REMINDERS

### This Week

**Nursery** (9:00) Denise Johnson, Dan & Jamie Kruger  
**Nursery** (10:00) Rob & Kristin McNeese  
**Greeters:** Matt & Nancy Anderson

### Next Week

**Nursery** (9:00) Brady & Hilary Wilson  
**Nursery** (10:00) Dennis, Lori & Shayna Ostercamp  
**Greeters:** Marv & Diane Johnson

## GIVING UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$6,600

General Fund Offering--8-11-19: \$6,471.50

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for these people with health issues or other concerns

David Peterson    Josh Johnson    Nancy Anderson    Stacy Anderson  
Doug Kneisel    Blanche Friedow    Maria McNeese    JoAnn Harle and the move

- For God to give us a passion to see Christ move in our community
- Servicemen & Women—including Chaplain Charles Causey
- Missionaries including Ritch & Susan Trca—Czech Republic
- Sunday School—including 2nd & 3rd Grade Class —Teacher—Paul Christians
- Life Group Leaders—including Mike Stevens
- Youth Pastor—Pastor Jesse
- Interim Pastor Randal & Linda Kay
- Pastor Steve & Carol Couch as they get ready to move to Britt and begin ministry here.

“Got Ears? Being the Church” Part 1  
*Revelation 2:1-17*

Notes

The Shepherd's Staff  
Pastor Randal

August 18, 2019

We Are Family

In 1979 *Sister Sledge* released the song “We Are Family. The first stanza proclaimed,

*We are family  
I got all my sisters with me  
We are family  
Get up everybody and sing*

Within the lyrics of the song is a truth that bears upon each of us who are part of the church of Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul often calls his readers brethren (brothers and sisters) and the Apostle Peter reminds his readers, “*Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.*” (1 Peter 2:17) Yes, within the family of God we are called to live together in love and unity, it was Jesus’ prayer for His followers, “*that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.*” (John 17:21-23)

Did you notice what Jesus said was the purpose of our oneness, our unity? It was so that the world would know that Jesus was sent by the Father. The oneness and unity of the church are one of the greatest evangelism tools we possess. Therefore, let us live together in unity so that the world may know, or as *Sister Sledge* said, “*We are family / Get up everybody and sing.*”