

MAY-JUNE 2026

COLFAX HEARTLINE

THE NEWSLETTER OF COLFAX CENTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Colfax Newsletter, May 2026

Mark 4:26-29 - And [Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

Do these words from Jesus almost sound too simple? Plant the seed. Go about the business of living, and then harvest the grain. Don't overthink it.

Here at Colfax Center Presbyterian, we desire to see the kingdom of God grow. I think that the answer from every single member of our church would be in the affirmative — “Yes, grow!” Each one of us desires to grow: in number, in Biblical knowledge and wisdom, in prayer, in grace, in local and global outreach. Multiplication is the name of the game.

Why growth?

Our reason for existence, the “chief end” is to glorify God and enjoy him forever. That dictum applies to us as individuals, to the two major groups where God has placed us (family and local church), and to every other grouping of people (such as workplace and residential neighborhood). Just because the majority of people appear not to follow the “glorify God and enjoy Him forever” mandate does not make it any less true.

Our church family is intended for growth. In the Old Testament, God's first recorded words to the man and woman who he created were: **Genesis 1:28 - And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it....**They did as God commanded, in spite of the fall into sin.

After the flood, God gave the same command. **Genesis 9:1 - And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.”** Noah and his sons complied.

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Continued

The theme of people-multiplication continues in **Genesis 35:10-11** as God is setting apart a particular people for His own: **And God said to him, “Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name.” So he called his name Israel. And God said to him, “I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come from your own body.** That happened.

Sadly, those people sinned against the Lord, forgot about Him, forsook Him in pursuit of idols, and were scattered abroad. What did God say as He promised to bring His people back to Himself? **Jeremiah 23:3-4** - **“Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, neither be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the Lord.**

In the New Testament, where God is bringing people into His church, things haven't changed. Being fruitful and multiplying remains on God's heart. God the Son said this about multiplication: **And Jesus came and said unto them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.... (Matthew 28:18-20).**

Do we strongly desire to see the attendance and participation in worship of God at Colfax Center **multiply**? Yes, we do! This glorifies God and encourages us. “The more, the merrier,” as the saying goes.

How will we grow?

Our text at the beginning of this article provides the answer, and it's so simple! Scatter the seed on the ground. Then, after a period of time, harvest.

We scatter the seed each and every Sunday morning. The Good News about Jesus Christ and the “pardon for sin and a peace that's enduring; God's own dear presence to cheer and to guide” is on display at each and every worship service. You need to be at church at 9:30 on Sunday — consistently, regularly — and so also, your kids and grandkids need to be there. And you invite your friends; and you welcome someone else's friends. And then you pray and live your life, and watch how God brings about a harvest.

There are other ways that we scatter the seed, but the primary vehicle is the worship service and the preaching of the Gospel.

Have you considered that every soul that is converted, as God uses Colfax Center to reach people here, is one more soul that has been turned from hell to heaven for all of eternity? One more lowan, who, rather than being in eternal agony, is in the wonderful presence of God for ever and ever and ever (amen!). And some of those in the harvest will be your friends and family.

I'm excited for us to sow the Gospel together. In word and in deed. I'm thankful that God Himself will produce the harvest! Let's buckle up and get ready for the adventure that awaits us as participants at Colfax. I love you, and I love being here with you for the great things that God has in store for us.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Hutch

LET'S CATCH UP

PALM SUNDAY



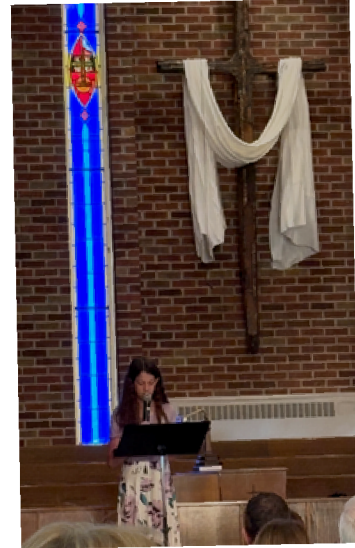
LET'S CATCH UP

GOOD FRIDAY



LET'S CATCH UP

SONRISE SERVICE



LET'S CATCH UP

SONRISE - CON'T



LET'S CATCH UP

CHILDREN'S SERMON & SINGING



UPCOMING EVENTS

2026 Colfax Center Missions

The Lord has blessed Colfax Center for many years through your giving to Missions. Thank you!

Our new team (Pastor Hutch, Leon Johnson, Macy Boomgarden, Karen Dieken, Amanda Everts, Doreen Getting, Judy Harberts) is working hard to improve our communications with you and the missionaries.

Our 2026 supported projects will be included in the weekly bulletin so we can be in prayer for them.

We will begin setting criteria and guidelines at our June meeting for who we support in 2027.

Missionary pictures, articles, thank you's, etc. can be found on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. We will also have a booklet soon for you to browse through for information. It will be placed throughout the church, starting in the Coffee Chat area outside Pastor's office.

2026 Mission Feast will be held October 4th, with Emad & Michelle Mikhail (in a sensitive country). Sunday School will be at 9:30, worship at 10:30 followed by a catered lunch. More detailed information will be shared as it becomes available.

Please pray for our team, missionaries and projects. Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR PRESCHOOL THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL WILL BE SUNDAY MAY 17.

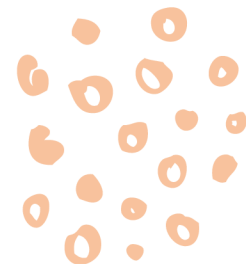
STUDENTS WILL BE GIVING A RECAP SUMMARY DURING COFFEE FELLOWSHIP
OF WHAT THEY LEARNED IN THE 2025-26 YEAR

CHECK OUT THE CHILDREN'S PICTURES ON THE SUNDAY SCHOOL HALLWAY.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the cards and especially the prayers and words of encouragement I received when I was in Iowa City and after I was home. It's wonderful to know you have friends and family who care so much.

LuRae Eberline



We'd like to thank you for all your prayers, cards and support during our health concerns recently! Our church family is so loved and appreciated!

Leon and Sheryl

Thank you everyone for remember me with prayers, cards and phone calls when I had my eye surgery and recovery. Your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated.

It means a lot.

God bless

Marlene Mennen

BIRTHDAYS

MAY

1 - JUSTIN STAHL
1 - SAMANTHA MACKIE
8 - ERIN AALFS
10- KAITYLYN HAYUNGS
11 - VICKEY BENSHOOF
13 - ELAINE SENTS
14 - BRIAN BOOMGARDEN
16 - JOYCE BLYTHE
17 - MELADIE STEWART
17 - BENJAMIN WIERS
18 - JEMMA EBERLINE
18 - KODIE EBERLINE
19 - JERRY EBERLINE
19 - KEITH MURRA
20 - AMANDA EVERTS
23 - JAMESON SURA
24 - LEON JOHNSON
24 - TANNER REENTS
25 - LINDA KRUGER
25 - RON ARENDS
26 - BERNITA LAMFERS
26 - JANE LYONS
30 - LURAE EBERLINE
30 - BRITNY EBERLINE
30 - MAESA EVERTS
31 - JOE ANN ENNENGA
31 - KASEY LYONS

JUNE

2 - HILLARY REENTS
5 - MARGIE KUHLMAN
6 - EMILY ALBERS
6 - JAMES LYONS
6 - RORY REENTS
7 - ALLISON BOOMGARDEN
9 - BECKY RANDALL
9 - BRANDON SENTS
11 - RHONDA SAMO
12 - LEAH LARSON
12 - JACK LYONS
13 - KRISTIE SALO
17 - RICHARD LAMFERS
17 - ELLIOT WIERS
19 - DARWIN HARMS
23 - DAN BLYTHE
24 - ANASTASIA WIERS
25 - BETTY HEEREN
25 - DEAN SALO
25 - STEPHANIE LARSON
26 - DONN ANDERSON
27 - LORI HOOK

Early July

2 - CHUCK THOREN
2 - BRIA STEINMEYER
3 - MAGGIE BENINGA
4 - WYATT SURA
5 - SCOTT SMIT

VOLUNTEERS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

May 17 Tom & Sandy S
 May 24 Donn & Pam A
 May 31 Fran H & Vickey B
 June 7 Mike & Karen D
 June 14 Curt, Julie & Sandy
 June 21 Chuck, Ruth & Jan W
 June 28 Elaine S & Lorraine M
 July 5 Leon, Sheryl & Patti
 July 12 Jesse & Lori W
 July 19 Tom & Sandy S

COFFEE CHAT

May 17 Erin L
 May 24 Joseph & Rachel S
 May 31 Elaine S
 June 7 Jesse & Lori W
 June 14 Blake & Britny E
 June 21 Erin L
 June 28 Joseph & Rachel S
 July 5 Sandy S
 July 12 Jesse & Lori W
 July 19 Blake & Britny E

PPT & SOUND

May 17	Steve J	Jeremy S
May 24	Patti	Jeremy S
May 31	Jane L	Jeremy S
June 7	Bryleigh A	Jeremy S
June 14	Steve J	Jeremy S
June 21	Steve J	Jeremy S
June 28	Jane L	Jeremy S
July 5	Bryleigh A	Jeremy S
July 12	Steve J	Jeremy S
July 19	Steve J	Jeremy S

CAMERA & ELEVATOR

May 17	Leon J	Bryce E
May 24	Steve J	Coty A
May 31	Steve J	Shawn A
June 7	Steve J	Jim B
June 14	Leon J	Jason S
June 21	Leon J	Curt B
June 28	Steve J	Mike D
July 5	Steve J	Bryce E
July 12	Leon J	Coty A
July 19	Leon J	Shawn A

GREETERS

May 17 Joyce B / Mike & Karen
 May 24 Harberts & Johnsons
 May 31 Jim & Maggie B / Curt B
 June 7 Morris Family & Elaine S
 June 14 Fran H & Maxine H
 June 21 Joyce B / Mike & Karen
 June 28 Harberts & Johnsons
 July 5 Morris Family & Elaine S
 July 12 Fran H & Maxine H
 July 19 Joyce B / Mike & Karen

NURSERY

	Worship	Sunday School
May 17	Lyons' Family	Kasey L
May 24	Joseph & Rachel S	N/A
May 31	Karen & Macy B	N/A
June 7	Jesse & Lori W	N/A
June 14	Blake & Britny E	N/A
June 21	Lyon's Family	N/A
June 28	Joseph & Rachel S	N/A
July 5	Karen & Macy B	N/A
July 12	Jesse & Lori W	N/A
July 19	Blake & Britny E	N/A

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