



Ripley Church Meetings:

- Board of Deacons: August 2nd @ 10:00 am - Office
- Board of Trustees: Monday, July 13th @ 5:30 pm - Office

Ripley Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Quilting: Thursday, July 30th @ 9:00 am, Thursday Aug. 6th @ 9:00 am
 - Saturday Soul Stitching - Saturday August 15th @ 9:00 am
- Noisy Offering - July 26th - ThreeHouse Collaborative Campus Ministries
- VBS is still looking for volunteers August 3-6. Please let Christy, Becky, Lindsey or Jim know if you are interested.

Red Sand Sunday

- TODAY, after fellowship, we will join the Methodists across the street for pouring of Red Sand at 10:30, followed by a presentation by Chains Interrupted to raise awareness around human trafficking.

Collection for Junkman/Knobel Center - Pathways - June/July

- Collection of items to be donated to the Residential Center concludes this week. Thank you to all who donated.

Service of Ordination/Installation for Jim Coppoc!

- Saturday, August 1, at 4:00 pm @ Ripley
 - Clergy and lay members from Central Iowa and beyond will join in the ordination and installation of Pastor Jim as our settled minister. You are all invited to share in the moment.
 - Potluck at Taylor Park to follow, with music by Charles Michels, III.
 - Burgers, Beans, table service and drinks will be provided. If you'd like to bring a side or dessert feel free - but your presence is **all** that is requested.

Winding Stairs Festival - Aug. 7th, 8th, 9th

Ripley to Host Community Worship Service: Sun. Aug 9th at the Memorial Bldg

- Help is needed to provide Cookies, Bars and assistance to serve - sign up in the kitchen

Verona Staker Service of Remembrance

- Visitation tomorrow, 7/27, from 9-11am.
- Service at 11:00 with reception to follow at the Memorial Building
- <https://www.kruse-phillips.com/obituaries/verona-staker> for details



Ripley United Church of Christ Celebration of Worship

July 26th, 2026
Proper 12



Welcome and Announcements Prelude and Candle Lighting

Praise and Invocation (Psalm 105:1-4):

One: O give thanks to the LORD; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.
Many: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of his wonderful works.

One: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
Many: Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually.

Call to Worship:

One: Let us worship in the presence of a just and loving God.
Many: Amen

***Opening Hymn:** "Enter, Rejoice and Come In" (black hymnal #73)

Confession

One: Our Gospel proclaims the Kingdom of Heaven is near!
**Many: We fail to see God working in the world around us.
We fail to do our part to bring his kingdom near.**

One: All our God asks is that we come with the faith of a mustard seed.
Many: Overwhelmed by the world, even that much is often more than we allow ourselves to give.

One: Forgive us, God, our failings.
Many: Help us to build a better world in your name and to your glory.

Silent Prayer

Assurance:

One: Hear the Gospel! Our God is a gracious and loving God.
Many: By His grace, we are forgiven

One: By His love, we are set free
All: Amen

Passing the Peace/ Children's Procession

Our scripture teaches that the Kingdom of God belongs to those who enter it like a child. As our children come forward, it is our custom to greet each other from our places, then sing the children to the front with the traditional song "This Little Light of Mine." If you are worshiping with us online, please feel free to say hello in the comments, so we know you are here.

Children's Celebration: "Down to the River..."

Reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Message: "Heaven Grows"

***Response:** "Be Now My Vision" (black hymnal #451)

Offertory:

***Presentation of our Offerings:** Doxology (black hymnal #780)
***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Quilt Blessing (see insert)

***Closing Hymn:** "Take My Life, God, Let It Be" (black hymnal #448)

***Benediction**

Postlude

* Please stand, in body or spirit
CCLI license number: 22384815, Size A; 22384822, Size A



Thank you for attending Ripley UCC. We're glad you came.

"No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

***CE helper today was David Calderwood

***Reader was Denis Winklepleck, Sr.

The congregation of Ripley UCC extends its deepest condolences to the family of Verona Staker. She will be missed.

Find us online at www.ripleyucc.org, or by searching "Ripley United Church of Christ" on Facebook. Or join us for refreshments downstairs after the service. An elevator is available by the south door for those who need it.

Pr. Jim is available to the community at 515-708-4343 (text is best) or jimatripley@gmail.com





Blessing the Quilts

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.

One: Our church has many hands.

Many: Blessed be those who sew, who join together the fabric of our community.

One: Our church has many hearts.

Many: Blessed be those who give, who use their time and their talents to create enduring testaments to their love of neighbor.

One: These quilts are destined for hospital and hospice, infant and elder, the homeless, the veteran, the oppressed.

Many: These quilts are destined to comfort the afflicted and care for the stranger in all stages and phases of life.

One: As we lay hands on these quilts and ask God to bless them, let us remember the love with which they were made, the warmth they will bring, and the compassion with which we send them into the world.

[the congregation rises in body or spirit, and extends their right hands toward the quilts]

One: The Gospel tells us the righteous will ask, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the Lord will answer, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me."

One: Creator God, who fashioned the heavens and the earth, we ask your blessing on these, the gifts our congregation has created.

Many: We ask that you fill the hearts of those who receive them with the Spirit in which they were made.

One: Keep them warm, keep them safe, keep them loved.

Many: Amen

