

Offbeat

Methodists can't clap in 4/4.

It's the offbeat only polka indoctrination,
causing faint hesitation in the palms.

Pocketed, tentative khaki,
two sugars coffee, 9 a.m. service,
grape Kool-Aid blood of Christ sort.

The wedding, funeral, confirmation
all occasion church basement,
sneak in a can of Pabst sort.

The every kind of bar, (not tavern),
paper plate, coleslaw, more coffee
afternoon caffeinated plastic fork sort.

The pregnant, pin it on
flatland boredom procreation
turned haphazard fidelity sort.

The shotgun marriage,
red and wailing newborn
four months post ceremony sort.

The 35k one level,

two bedroom, cracked city block
liquor store two houses down sort.

The every other Dells summer
water park, fudge, moccasin,
day trip turned wave pool sleep sort.

The July festival food on stick,
accordion, brushes on snare in beer tent,
child may be burned by cigarette butt sort.

The fireworks must exceed tree tops sort.
The cover band must drown out a squealing
salmon colored Ferris Wheel sort,
The Germanic work ethic, competitive raking of leaves,
stoic neighborhood crown sort.

The chase away winter with Liverwurst
and Nyquil sort. The no photo obituary
Post Crescent, no light in February suicide sort.

The spring thaw, fresh curds
on Tuesday, empty shelves by noon,
hear the squeak, pass the bag around sort.

