



The United Parish  
*ECHO*



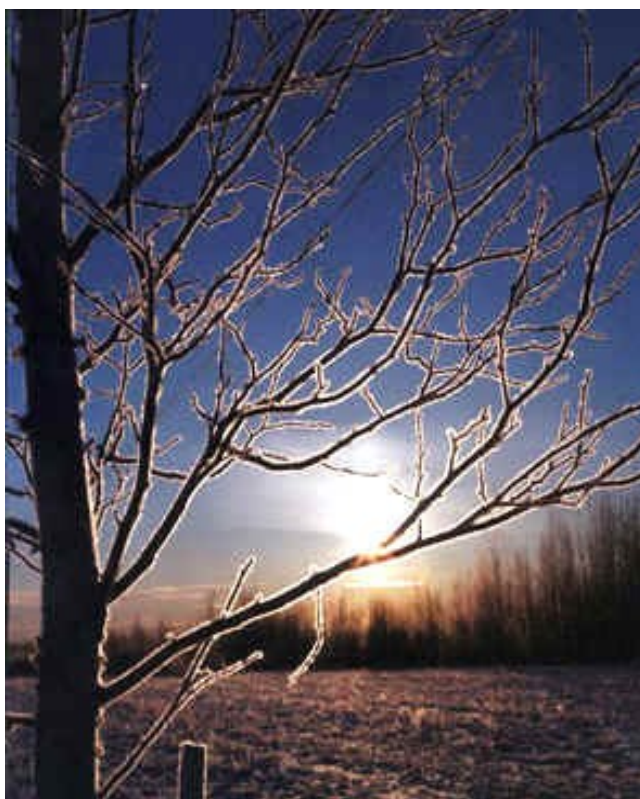
February 2007

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Elkton United Parish Church 605-542-7101  
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United with Christ



# Table of Contents

Pastor's Desktop.....	3
Parish Board Meeting.....	5
UPW January 2007.....	9
Grape Vine.....	11
Calendar.....	insert

## United Parish Board Members

President: Beverly Buller.....	542-3611
PPR Chair: Shirley Hegerfeld.....	605-692-7370
Financial Secretary: Donna Magnus.....	542-3241
Treasurer: Dawn Boltjes.....	548-2051
Secretary: Carrie Thompson.....	542-7131
Pastor: Rev. Daren Junker	
Church.....	542-7101
Personal cell phone.....	605-929-4892
Church email:.....	pastor@elktonunitedparish.org

## Birthdays

1 – Lynda Hegerfeld  
7 – Verle Thompson  
7 - Tommy Hegerfeld  
8 – Andrew Timm  
11 – Bruce Kinner  
13 – Shaelen Hildebrandt  
14 – Rebecca Holm  
18 – Paul Langner  
18 – Austin Farnham  
18 – Alissa Sudtelgte  
18 – Val Knutson  
19 – Brent Thompson  
22 – Dennis Lundgren  
23 – Deanna Lundgren  
23 – Katie Timm  
28 – Lil Anderson

## Anniversaries

10 – Dennis & Linda Kampmann  
14 – Walter & Evelyn Mueller  
28 – Jason & Becky Thomas

## Ushers & Acolyte

Ushers: Kate Brown  
          LeRoy Brown  
Acolyte: Austin Farnham  
          Chris Bauman

## Liturgists

4 – Ed Timm  
11 – Linda Kampmann  
18 – Nancy Wiskur  
25 – Rufus DeZeeuw

## Pastor's Desktop

There are three basic sizes of church, four if you count the 'mega-church' with thousands of members. Since mega-churches really work just like a collection smaller churches, it only makes sense to count three. I am only going to explain two in this article, the 'family' church and the 'pastoral' church.

The smallest church is called a family church. It tends to be able to support an active membership of 50 or fewer. This is because one family ends up working like a gatekeeper. When all is well, this family is a strong Christian family that preserves the faith for the rest of the members. Anyone who wants to join needs the approval of the matriarch or patriarch in order to remain comfortable attending and participating. In this size of church the pastor functions as a chaplain, administering sacraments, preparing sermons, and visiting the sick.

This is the level that United Parish is at. The two churches that came together were each family churches, but growth does not happen just by merging because the church will continue to function the same way. One patriarch or matriarch will be slightly more influential and the membership will settle back to the number that the 'gatekeeper' can personally know well enough to approve. You have seen this happen during the first 10 years after the formal merger. There is no way to grow beyond the 50 person ceiling unless the church fundamentally changes the way it operates. It is simply a limit of the number of relationships that one individual can keep alive.

The next size up is the pastoral church, with anywhere from 50-200 active members. As you can see, United Parish

is at the right size to make the transition, if we want to. The key is to change the way the relationships in the church are maintained. The only way to grow into the size of our membership list is to promote more families into true leadership positions. By leadership, I am not talking about board or committee positions necessarily, but social rank. Instead of putting all the pressure on any one person, the task can be divided among several.

An easy division is along ministry lines. Say, for example, that United Parish wants to begin ministering to our young families, or single parents. One of the most effective ways to bring growth is to build a member with a passion for ministry in this area into a true leader who can then be delegated the complete operation of this aspect of the church. Complete delegation is not even close to being unaccountable. Accountability is still to the Board for operational aspects and to the pastor for spiritual aspects of the ministry. Other ministry options work the same way. It is completely possible for United Parish to branch out in one, two, or even three different areas of ministry by empowering leaders. In effect, each ministry area becomes a miniature family church in full cooperation and with some overlap with the other groups within the church.

United Parish has enough active members and enough inactive members, and enough member prospects for this to be completely achievable. Aside from the simple fact that with God, all things are possible, in this it is even credible from a simple human level. The only thing missing is the leaders. There are some younger members that can be trained!

What is your passion?

In Christ's service,  
Pastor Daren

# Parish Board Meeting

Parish Board Meeting, January 17th, 2007

The Parish Board meeting was called to order by President Bev Buller. Other officers in attendance were Lay Leader Timm, Treasurer Dawn Boltjes, Financial Secretary Donna Magnus and Secretary Carrie Thompson. Also attending were Pastor Daren Junker, Carol Styf, Virginia Fixsen, Linda Kampmann, and Karen-Marie Bryanne. Pastor Daren gave the opening prayer. The minutes from the December meeting were read and approved.

Dawn gave the Treasurer's report and it was approved.

Beginning Balance 11-30-06	\$1,030.02
December Income	\$6,520.82
	\$7,550.84
December Expenses	<6,243.01>
Ending Balance 12-30-06	<u>\$1,307.83</u>

Landscaping Account(2.06 interest)	\$874.02
Building-Checking	\$54,000.00
Building-MM	\$58,881.93
((\$9000 deposit & 120.48) interest)	

Donna gave the Financial report and it was approved.

Building Fund-	\$5,697.21
Memorial Fund-	\$1,216.82
General Fund-	\$2,491.15 (carpet money)

Total                       
                    \$9,405.18  
Building Fund CD's - \$64,208

Total Funds \$73,613.18

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

PPR- They met last week and were pleased to have a good evaluation to give.

Trustees: Nothing to report. Will be making a “Honey Do” type jar to be placed near the mailboxes in the back of the church. Anyone noticing something that needs to be attended to should write it down with their name in case of questions and it will be checked and attended to.

Christian Ed: They met on 1-09-07 and discussed Annual Meeting and other upcoming events such as Confirmation and Easter. Confirmation Day is expected to be April 22nd . The last day of Sunday School is planned to be on May 6th and Awards Day being May 13th. They are looking into possibilities for workshops for any leadership position in the church. They discussed the search for a new superintendent. This is Sherry's last year and would like to have someone lined up to have a good hand off. Sherry has a “job description” made up and will be posted in the Echo. The Christian Ed Committee would like to ask the Board for permission to have available information on any known camps that might be of interest as well as the usual UCC and Methodist camps.

Worship: There will be a meeting in February.

Missions: No report.

UPW: Met January 3rd . The new officers were installed. They also received their new books. They discussed Love Packages for Valentine's Day. The shower for Jenny Nordstrom was on January 13th . Upcoming events are the Soup and Sandwich Supper on February 25th , and the Third Thursday Supper in March. They will be collecting items each month at their meetings for the Food Pantry and for UMCOR kit.

Historian: No report.

Pastor's Report: He has prepared and lead Christmas Eve and Day services, the Cozy Corner Worship Services, support for the Bible study and Confirmation Classes. He has made 1 hospital visit , 2 home visits, 2 long term care visits and 2 phone/office visits that required pastoral support. He is on 24 hour availability for crises for church members and to the school. He has prepared sermons and worship elements such as praise song, liturgical prayers, MP3 music and prepared and conducted the Sunday Worship Services. He has participated in the Christian Ed Committee meeting, printed Sunday bulletins, written an article and assisted in the publication of the Echo.

Membership: Nothing to report.

CORRESPONDANCES

We received information and metal buildings. This has been put in the file with the Building Information.

## OLD BUSINESS

Linda reported that most of the reports were in. The Nominating Committee still had not found a nominee for Lay Leader. Dawn is willing to be nominated for another term as Treasurer. More names were discussed to try. Dawn reported that our insurance company got a new carrier and sent new policies – most of the changes do not pertain to us. The disclosure has been retyped and given to Christian Ed. Dawn passed out the complete Budget and Expenses information that will be in the Annual Report.

## NEW BUSINESS

Need to renew the committee list for the year. Pastor Daren will get new sign up sheets ready to have in church. Timm's have requested the use of the church basement on May 20th. Thompson's requested to use the 2 coffee makers and 2 roasters for February 28th. These request were granted. The request to keep on file other camp information was also approved. Lisa Gebhardt, from the bank, had suggested that we make a new resolution stating who has authority to sign for things for the church business. It was suggested that we have a sponsorship for the printing of the Echo as well as the postage. This would replace the purchase of the toner cartridges. Pastor Daren will be checking into the prices on having the Echo printed off site as well.

## UPW January 2007

The UPW met on January 3 at 7:30pm in the church dining room.

The evening began with a skit written by Marsha Timm, entitled "What Is UPW?" Marsha and Cassie Timm performed the informative skit together.

President Linda called the meeting to order with a devotional reading entitled "Brewing Good Relationships."

Twelve members and one guest read the purpose. Canned soups were the Food Pantry items for this month.

The Secretary's reports was read and approved.

There was no treasurer's report due to Ann's absence. Bills were submitted.

Correspondences consisted of the following: a thank you from the Elkton FCCLA Alumni and Friends for providing a basket for the Tour of Tables, a bridal shower thank you from Melissa Bleeker-now Wiskur, a thank you from the Flandreau Food Pantry for our donations, and a thank you from Gen Sportel for the invitation to our Christmas Party.

Standing committee reports followed.

-Gifts and Cards: sympathy cards were sent to Verle & Audrey Thompson and Raymond & Virginia Kurtz.

-Funerals: there were no funerals.

-Reading Program: Marsha encouraged everyone to keep reading.

-Missions: names of shut-ins were drawn by our members.

Old Business was next.

The mitten tree has been taken down and the items were distributed. Two bags went to Elkton School, one bag

went to the Brookings Abuse Center, and one bag (of mainly men's gloves) went to the Harvest Table.

There will be a baby shower on Saturday, January 13 at 2pm for Jennifer Nordmeyer and baby Riley Robert.

Due to the baby shower, the Prayer Quilt Ministry has been moved from 2pm to 9am on January 13.

New Business was next.

The January 14th before church coffee will be hosted by Bev Buller and Linda Kampmann. No one has signed up for the February 11th coffee as yet.

Cassie Timm will become a new member of UPW in 2007. Welcome!

Our new UPW Program Books were handed out. Thank you to Patty DeZeeuw and her committee for their work in getting the books ready.

Linda informed the group that the Program Committee decided to ask for items for UMCOR kits to be donated monthly. This will make it easier than buying everything all at once. Basically, roll call is now to bring items for the food pantry and/or the UMCOR kit of the month. Members are asked only to do what they are able.

The new 2007 officers were installed and the outgoing 2006 officers were thanked for their service. The 2007 officers are: President-Bonnie Junker, Vice President-Patty DeZeeuw, Secretary-Sherry Bauman, and Treasurer-Linda Kampmann.

President Bonnie reminded members to bring items for love packages to the February meeting. Love packages will be given to: Rudy DeZeeuw, Don Magnus, Cal Steen, Milton Janssen, EllaMae Evans, Marge Oppelt, Harold Lee, Bob Higgins, Virginia Holmlund and the 6 residents at Cozy Corner, for a total of 15 packages.

There will be Soup and Sandwich Supper on Sunday, February 25 at United Parish. The event is to raise money for camperships.

There will be a Conference Spiritual Retreat on Friday and Saturday, February 2 & 3 in Aberdeen. Any members interested in attending should see Bonnie for registration information.

Patty DeZeeuw made a motion to give \$100 to BankStar's fund for the Bubach girls for the loss of their parents. Linda seconded and the motion passed.

January birthdays: Thelma Brandt, Elizabeth Erickson, and Nancy Wiskur. January anniversaries: Arlyne & Milton Janssen.

The next meeting will be February 7th at 7:30pm. Hostesses will be Karen-Marie Bryanne, Patty DeZeeuw, and Virginia Fixsen. The program will be the pledge service, presented by Linda Kampmann. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Lunch was served by Linda Kampmann and Sherry Bauman.

Secretary Bauman

## **Grape Vine**

OK, I haven't officially gotten the request to print this, so I hope it is okay, but we are all so excited about the latest baby!! Congratulations to Steve and Georgie Jensen with their little girl!!!

Please keep Justin Bauman in your prayers as he is healing from a fracture and surgery in his elbow.