



The United Parish
ECHO



October 2007

Elkton United Parish Church 605-542-7101
PO Box 218 Elkton SD 57026
website: [Http://www.elktonunitedparish.org](http://www.elktonunitedparish.org)

United with Christ



Luke 10:2 And He was saying to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

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United Parish Board Members

President: Beverly Buller.....	605-542-3611
PPR Chair: Shirley Hegerfeld.....	605-692-7370
Financial Secretary: Donna Magnus.....	605-542-3241
Treasurer: Dawn Boltjes.....	507-548-2051
Secretary: Carrie Thompson.....	605-542-8051
Pastor: Rev. Daren Junker	
Church phone.....	605-542-7101
Personal cell phone.....	605-929-4892
Pastor's email:.....	pastor@elktonunitedparish.org
Echo Editor email:.....	echo@elktonunitedparish.org

Birthdays

- 3 – Cassandra Timm
- 3 – Ryan Magnus
- 6 – Shirley Hegerfeld
- 10 – LeRoy Brown
- 21 – Edith Deters
- 25 – Katherine Brown
- 27 – Robert Wiskur
- 31 – Marlene Bruening

Anniversaries

- 10 – Loyd & Laura Tjernagel
- 12 – Don & Sherry Bauman
- 17 – Ralph & Donna Lynn
- 20 – Ed & Marsha Timm
- 25 – Bruce & Alice Kinner

Church Cleaning Crew:

- Sherry Bauman
- The Kinners

Ushers & Acolyte

Ushers:

Acolyte:

Liturgists

- 7 – <open>
- 14 – Dawn Boltjes
- 21 – Linda Kampmann
- 28 – Virginia Fixsen

Pastor's Desktop

United Parish does NOT have a financial problem. United Parish has a spiritual problem. I will explain.

The first indication that we do not have a financial problem is that even if funds are a bit late at times, the bills do get paid. The strange thing is the pattern with which the money to pay those bills arrives. There has been one consistent pattern, which the previous Parish Board president noticed and continues yet today. Every time the Board reports that giving has improved it worsens, and every time they express a dire need that looks hopeless, the money somehow comes together even when it is many times the usual giving level.

Another indication that it is not a financial problem is the way in which we have been able to come up with the money to pay for capital improvements, like the renovation of the parsonage before we moved in, or the landscaping, or now the furnace replacement for the church. It is things like this that show that there is a world of difference between paying for building or improving and paying for operating. This is part of natural human psychology, you know – the part that is unredeemed, which brings us to the real problem.

The real problem is spiritual. Think back to a time that you were in love. I mean the head-over-heels, completely twitter-pated, lost-your-mind kind of love. If your loved one asks for any little thing, no matter how mundane, perhaps taking out garbage or washing dishes, it will be done without a moment of thought. What happens 10, 15, or 40 years later? Those same tasks are 'chores'. What changed? The work is the same. The person is the same. There has

been a change within your own heart! What was once a joy is now a burden because it is no longer done in love but out of duty.

How could we think our relationship with Christ could be any different? If we lose the love for Christ in our daily walk, we will do the 'chores' out of duty and there will be no joy in it. Has Christ changed? Has the work changed? No, of course, but we may have.

There have been several people who have been consistently giving as they are able, giving according to what God has given them rather than giving according to what the church needs. I am personally grateful for their obedience because of the impact it has on my family. I am also glad, professionally, to see the mature examples that exist in United Parish. The concern comes because there are apparently several who are more interested in control than in giving thanks. Gifts may be withheld to ensure that United Parish doesn't change. By keeping the church on a starvation diet, it can be kept manageable. If it gets 'too much' money, it will do things God intends for it, like reaching out to people who don't agree, or don't see things the same way, or aren't from around here.

The only way to defeat a spirit of control like this is for each and every one of us to look for its effect on us and turn that over to Christ. Have we tended to control by withholding our selves or our money? Then it is time to recommit our lives to Christ and let Him have complete control. Have we been the victims of control and hold back out of hurt? Then it is time to bury the past in our baptism into Christ and let it be part of the dead works of the flesh so that we can forgive and press on toward the goal unhindered. Have we stood by the sidelines, abstaining from par-

ticipation because we don't want to be part of a fight? Then it is well past time to die to self in Christ and jump in for the glory of God and be surprised to find that "those who are for us are greater than those who are against us".

I am greatly encouraged by the fact that it is a spiritual problem, because Christ is already victorious! It is up to each of us to decide to participate in that victory and the Holy Spirit makes it possible.

In Christ's service,
Pastor Daren

Parish Board Meeting

The Parish Board meeting was called to order at 7pm in the church fellowship hall on September 19th, 2007. Officers in attendance were President Bev Buller, Treasurer Dawn Boltjes, and Secretary Carrie Thompson. Others in attendance were Carol Styf, Linda Kampmann, Nikki Glover, and Pastor Daren Junker. The minutes from the August meeting were read with the following corrections: Johnny Boltjes and Shelby Kampmann will be helping with Release Time instead of with Sunday School.

The Treasurer's Report was given and approved.

Beginning Balance 7-31-07	\$338.79
August Income	4,048.82
August Expenses	<u><5106.73></u>
Ending Balance 8-31-07	<719.12>

Building Fund (checking)	\$54,000.00
Building Fund (money market)	\$57,176.52

The Financial Secretary's Report, given by Dawn Boltjes, was read and approved.

Passbook Savings

Building Fund	\$6,381.41
Memorial Fund	1,222.84
General Fund	2,506.24
Building Fund CD's	<u>\$65,820.43</u>
Total Funds	\$75,930.92

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PPR – no report

Trustees – The faucets in the kitchen were fixed by John France. A thank you will be sent. Nancy talked to Keith Kinner about getting some of the dirt from his housing projects to fill in the Peace Lot now that it has settled and will be able to plant some grass. He is willing to let us have the dirt. Troy will talk to Brownlee to see if they are willing to drop it at the Peace Lot since they are hauling it for Kinner. The other estimates for the furnace replacement have finally come in with many thanks to Audrey Thompson. Ekern's Home Heating was a Lennox for \$4600.00 but we have to get rid of the old furnace ourselves. Perry Electric was also a Lennox for \$10,100.00. Lynn's Home Heating gave an estimate of \$5896.00 for a Ruud furnace that had a similar efficiency rating as the Ekern furnace and Lynn's will do the removal of the old furnace as well. Dawn made a motion to [accept] the Lynn's estimate and Linda seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried. The furnace will be ordered. Dennis Lundgren will take care of getting some one in to measure and give us an estimate for carpet.

Christian Ed – They still need a teacher for the 7th and 8th grade Sunday School class. Pastor will be doing a 2 stage Confirmation Program. Release Time materials have been purchased.

Worship – no report

Missions – Programs have been a success with one more to get started on.

UPW – There are 2 or 3 going to the Ingathering on Saturday. They will be taking the school kits, sewing kits, and health kits that were made up. The Chicken Supper is the 26th. It was mentioned about raising the price to meet the similar events in the surrounding area. The advertising had already been started so this will have to be tabled for now.

Historian – We are still looking for anyone who knows the whereabouts of the years' past records for baptisms, etc. Nikki suggested looking in the Christian Ed records for older info.

Pastor Report – Pastor Daren reported that he had made 1 hospital visit and attempted another. He had made 3 LTC visits, 2 home visits, 1 Brookings van trip, and offered a Cozy Corner Chapel with no takers. He will keep in contact with the residents so that he is available to them if they choose to have chapel time. He spoke at Enoch Farm during their tent meeting about what God is doing for Elkton and United Parish. He has arranged the sound system repairs and settings. A few more wires need to be changed. Pastor has planned Sunday worships and prepared sermons, he has prepared the worship elements such as praise song, liturgical prayers, and MP3s. He has printed the Sunday bulletins and conducted Sunday worship. He has done the publication for the Echo (except printing). He has also writ-

ten his article for the Echo and been available 24/7 for crisis to town, church members and school.

Building Committee – Ed Langen has been ill and his daughters have been working on the land title issues with the Railroad.

Membership – the committee met and they have now delivered 10 packages. After the Chicken Supper is past, they will be working on the membership list, and also updates for birthdays, anniversaries, etc.

Constitution Committee – A meeting will be arranged and matters need to be finished up by the January meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

We received another flier for stained glass windows that will be added to the Building Info file. We also received an e-mail from the Dakota Conference Lay Speaking Ministries that gave information about upcoming Lay Speaking Training and also promoting Stewardship training to anyone interested.

OLD BUSINESS

The ABC's of Natural Church Development information was discussed and Pastor will find out how long we are eligible for the mentoring and coaching offers of this program. We also want to check with the rest of the Board members as whether to pursue this or not.

NEW BUSINESS

Any known calendar events for the year that anyone feels should be listed on the church web page calendar should be given to Nikki Glover. She has generously offered to fill in

the events on the site for us. Contact her at glov0053@um-n.edu.

Other new business includes the Board Members' offices that are up for this term. They are President, Secretary, and Financial Secretary. The current Secretary will be putting together a Nominating Committee by the next meeting. She will need 2 or 3 people.

There was mention of making sure a copy of the Constitution is made available to all new members.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer. The next Board meeting is October 17th, 2007 at 7pm.

Secretary, Carrie Thompson

Christian Education

The committee met Sept 19th to discuss confirmation curriculum. Nikki Glover, co-superintendent, had a brochure on "Making Disciples" a 13 session mentor program to review. The committee decided to use it for the first year with the plans that this program would start in October and last thru about April 08. Then the second year the students would attend some type of classroom style lead by Paster Daren. A letter was drafted among us and Sherry Bauman will type it and mail it out to those who are eligible to attend this 2 year program. Nikki will order the material once we know how many are attending. Any questions you can call myself or anyone on the committee..

LaRee Farnham
Chairman

Financial Update

Checkbook balance 8-31-07		-719.12
(Still Holding a \$101 check from August)		
	9/2 Sunday Donations	689.07
	9/9 Sunday Donations	<u>1,616.12</u>
	Balance	<u>1,586.07</u>
Paid 9/15	Payroll	1,303.43
	Ottertall	297.52
	Churck Insurance	646.00
	ITC-Church Phone	38.91
	City of Elkton	<u>160.64</u>
	Balance	-860.43
	9/16 Sunday Donations	<u>994.12</u>
	Balance	133.69
Paid 9/19	VISA-Van Gas/Office	50.09
	Cokesbury-Bulletins	50.96
	Van Insurance	<u>31.62</u>
	Balance	1.02
	9/23 Sunday Donations	<u>1,167.00</u>
	Balance	1,168.02
All Paid	Health Insurance	1,581.30
This Week	Cenex-Propane	550.00
	Cenex-Repairs	76.46
	Cenex-Late Charges	9.46
	Payroll	1,303.43
	Parsonage Phone	20.00
	Pastor Health Savings	144.20
	Pastor Pension	417.09
	Mowing	<u>45.00</u>
	Absolutely Must Receive Today 9/30	-2,978.92

Financial data provided by Dawn Boltjes, Treasurer,
for the Parish Board.

UPW

The UPW met on September 5th in the church basement. The evening began with the program entitled "Fear Not-Pray Earnestly" which was presented by Karen-Marie. She

shared that God fulfills our prayers in his way and his own time and reminded us to find God in our prayers.

Patty called the meeting to order with a devotional reading called "Paint Chips". The purpose was read by 16 members. Roll call items were paper products for the food pantry.

The secretary's report was read with no additions or corrections.

Linda presented the treasurer's report. The balance on hand at the end of August was \$1139.43. There were no bills submitted.

Patty read a thank you from the Food Pantry. She also read a letter about the Glacial Lakes District Annual Meeting which will be September 15th in Huron.

Standing Committee reports was next.

Donna Magnus reported that Get Well cards were sent to Dennis Kampmann, Ralph Lynn, Marsha Timm, and Carrie Thompson. Sympathy cards were sent to Linda Kampmann and the Don Myers family.

Gertrude reported one funeral for Dennis Kampmann with 250 people served.

Marsha reported she sent the annual report in for this year, so we can start reading program books for next year.

Names of our shut-ins were distributed among our members for missions. Bev encouraged us to visit, pray for or send cards to our shut-ins.

Old Business:

Linda presented fliers for the Annual Chicken Supper. Various members took them to hang up in surrounding towns. Linda also presented sign up sheets for volunteer duties.

The church cleaning sign up sheet is going around.

Bev reported that she made 17 bags for this year's Ingathering for World Hunger which is September 22 in Mitchell. Bev and other volunteers will take the items for the bags and fill them for the Ingathering. A motion was made by Ann and seconded by Bev to donate \$50 to Ingathering. They are also accepting Campbell Soup labels and Silent Auction Items.

The committee for the October 6th baby shower for Melissa and Dayton Wiskur will be Linda, Sherry, Deanna and Georgi.

New Business:

Patty mentioned that the Nominating Committee needs to meet.

The Special Mission Recognition pin will be presented on September 9th during the church service.

Reminder: Joel Finnesgard will be at the Community Center on the evening of September 9th. We will be providing beverages and snacks. Everyone is encouraged to bring friends. There will be a free will offering that night as Joel does not charge a fee.

Prayer Quilt Ministry meets at 2pm on September 8th.

Bingo will be September 26th at Cozy Corner.

Gertrude shared that United Parish received a donation of plastic pie stackers.

September birthdays are: Malinda Bessler and Virginia Fixsen. There were no September anniversaries.

The next meeting will be October 3rd at 7:30pm with Beth Holm and Ann Aaker as hostesses. Georgi Jensen will have the program. Roll call items are storage bags. We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

A delicious lunch was served by Linda Kampmann and Shirley Hegerfeld.

Submitted by Sherry Bauman, UPW Secretary

Grape Vine

We have only received 44 of the 99 post cards sent out in last month's Echo. Please send them in, or contact Pastor Daren or Dawn Boltjes, even if you have no changes.

Where are the records? This mystery remains unsolved. There were some records in the church office and a couple of books passed on through Gert DeZeeuw and LaRee Farnham. All of these have been handed to our Historian for safe keeping, but occasionally the pastor gets a phone call or email looking for membership information about a past member – and sometimes it is only recent past – and yet no record of their baptism, confirmation, or transfer can be found. Many of our current members do not have a confirmation, transfer, or baptism date recorded. MaryAnn Stuefen has said that most of the things that were still stored in Evelyn's basement were just old bulletins and no records.

If you have any information that leads to the finding and entering of membership records, a reward awaits in heaven and gratitude on earth. Please contact Pastor Daren or Nancy Wiskur if you have any clues of where more of our records may be.

Open house baby shower for Dayton Wiskur, son of Troy and Melissa Sat., Oct 6th at 10.00 am at the United

Parish. Dayton is registered at Target. Everyone is welcome.

Faith Comes By Hearing, which provided us the free CD's with the entire Bible on them, is trying to complete recordings in Kurdish, so that audio Bibles can be given to the areas of Turkey, Iraq, and Iran settled by Kurdish people. Our Treasurer will soon be sending off the check for the gifts designated to participate in that project, but you can still add your donation by giving a check with "FCBH" or "audio Bibles" in the memo field.

FAUCETS ARE FIXED!

The next time you see John France, give him a great big hug! This man took it upon himself to go down to our church kitchen, check out the faucet situation, make two trips to Brookings and spend several hours replacing both faucets and most of the attending hardware. And he did it out of the goodness of his great big heart! Thank you from the bottom of ours....God Bless you!

Dakotas Conference – Help Wanted

The Dakotas Conference of the United Methodist Church is accepting applications for Director of Finance/Treasurer. The starting date for this position will be March 1, 2008, thereby allowing three months of training with the current director. This position will become available June 1, 2008 following the retirement of the current director.

Required qualifications include bachelor's degree and knowledge of United Methodist structure. Desired qualifications include 5 years of experience in related field; skilled in personnel and financial management techniques;

working knowledge of computer based network systems; and proficiency in fund balance accounting.

Send resume, references, and letter of application by Oct. 5th to: Bonnie Carlson Dakotas Conference, PO Box 460, Mitchell, SD 57301-0460 or e-mail bonnie.carlson@dakotasumc.org. Visit www.DakotasUMC.org for detailed position description.

October Echo Sponsors

October is a time of harvest, cooler weather and Halloween. There is nothing spooky about our October Echo Sponsors – thank you to Bruce and Alice Kinner for stepping in to help get this worthwhile publication mailed to those of you unable to pick it up on Sunday. We are truly thankful for your thoughtfulness on our behalf.

Just a reminder to get those postcards in to us so that we know if you want to keep getting the Echo in paper form, via email or maybe you are sick and tired of seeing my name in here so you don't want to get it at all...either way, send us those cards as soon as possible. The cards were in your last month's Echo.

If you would like to help with the cost of mailing or printing of the Echo please contact me at 548-2051.

God Bless All of You,
Dawn Boltjes