



The United Parish

ECHO



February 2008

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



Table of Contents

Pastor's Desktop.....	3
Parish Board Meeting.....	4
UPW	7
Grape Vine.....	8
Calendar.....	insert
<u>United Parish Board Members</u>	
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
Elder's email:.....	elder@elktonunitedparish.org

February Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

- 14 Walter & Evelyn Mueller
- 28 Jason & Becky Thomas

Church Cleaning Crew:

- Linda Kampmann
- Beth Holm

Ushers & Acolyte

- Ushers (30) Bruce & Alice Kinner
(10) Dawn Boltjes
(17) Troy & Melissa Wiskur
(24) Bruce & Beth Holm
- Acolyte: Johnny Boltjes

Liturgists

- 3- Ed Timm
- 10 Carrie Thompson
- 17
- 24 Susan or Abbi Sudtelgte

Pastor's Desktop

There is one particular passage of Scripture that I believe really sums up what would benefit United Parish and its members the most. When Paul wrote to the believers in Galatia (part of modern-day Turkey) he reminded them that following Christ produces a Spirit-led life and the corresponding fruit. (And as Jesus taught, 'by their fruits you will know them.') Since we do not have debates about circumcision, I will start the passage at the point where Paul summarizes his main points related to how to approach such things.

The first thing Paul points out is that Christian freedom is not about self-service, but about serving others. Now when it comes to physical work, this is often easy to recall and apply, but Paul is writing this about arguments within the fellowship. Especially because it is hardest to remember to serve others in matters of HOW to do things, it is most important to make the effort at those times. He includes a strongly worded caution. Infighting, power plays, and squabbles can destroy a church, especially when conflicts become the focus of all of one's thinking, instead of Christ being the focus. This is part of what is meant when he cautions against being 'consumed by one another'.

The solution, of course, is to put the focus where it belongs. Living by the Spirit requires closely following Christ, not as a matter of human will-power, but of faith trusting God's ability to lead us. When trying to live spiritually, we find the truth of that common saying, 'We have met the enemy and they are us.' Paul explains how our fleshly (in others from the drive for self-preservation and self-protection) desires oppose the development of a spiritual life. If you look into the list of flesh-based works, you will see that it includes ordinary things such as strife (fighting for what you need), anger, and factions (cliques, or even gangs). These are some of the tools that the natural mind comes up with to give a better chance of survival. Because they are biological survival mechanisms, they are not quickly overcome. It is only the Spirit that can overcome reliance on those techniques and lead us into the higher ways of the Spirit such as generosity, patience, and self-control.

Galatians 5:13-26 'For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each

other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.'

In Christ's service,
Pastor Daren

Parish Board Meeting

Parish Board Meeting Minutes January 16th, 200

The Parish Board meeting was called to order at 7pm by President Bev Buller. Officers in attendance were President Bev Buller, Treasurer Dawn Boltjes, Financial Secretary Donna Magnus, Lay Leader Shirley Hegerfeld, and Secretary Carrie Thompson. Others in attendance were Carol Styf, Linda Kampmann, and Pastor Daren Junker. Pastor Daren opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes were read from the December meeting with the following corrections: the final cost for the furnace was \$5896 instead of \$5986. Also, in the Treasurer's Report, the November transfers should read 2,893.00 instead of 2,896.00.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Dawn Boltjes and it was approved.

Beginning Balance	11-30-07	<\$637.38>
December Income		7,868.91
December Transfers		49,000.00
		<hr/>
		\$56,231.53
December Expenses		<55,577.44>
		<hr/>

Ending Balance 12-31-07

\$654.09

Dawn went over the budget for 2008. Linda Kampmann made a motion to approve the new budget and this was 2nd by Donna Magnus. All were in favor and the new budget was approved.

The Financial Secretary's Report was given by Donna Magnus and was approved.

Passbook Savings

Building Fund - \$5893.96

Memorial Fund-\$1,229.00

General Fund-\$1,013.33

Total - \$8,136.29

Building Fund CD's- \$66,759.10

Money Market- \$57,131.22

Landscaping Account- closed out

Credit Union-\$5.00

Interest for 2006-\$5,067.99

Interest for 2007-\$6,128.55

COMMITTEES

PPR- nothing new

Trustees- Bob Groth has fixed the swollen drawers in the kitchen from the water damage. The Faucet has been fixed also.

Christian Ed- There is nothing new to report. The books for confirmation are still missing.

Worship-nothing

Missions- they are finishing up their last projects for the year and will be working on new projects for this year.

UPW-There has been no President for UPW. There will be someone chairing each month now as solution to this. They are going to begin working on "Love Packages" to be given to 12 to 15 recipients. The

meeting times have been changed to 7pm instead of 7:30pm.

Historian- nothing

Pastor's Report- The Pastor reported that he had 2 phone/office visits, 2 hospital visits, and 1 LTC/home visits with 2 more attempted. There has been 1 Brookings van trip and 1 Cozy Corner Chapel Service. He took the leftover fruit to the Bread Basket in Flandreau. He has planned, prepared sermon for and conducted regular Sunday Services and also Christmas Eve service. He has also prepared worship elements for these services. He has printed Sunday bulletins and written article for the Echo. He has taken care of the van inquiries and been available 24 hours for crisis to church members and school.

Building Committee- The land deal is finally complete!! The daughters made a deal with the Railroad and donated the last piece to our church. The committee is meeting January 17th at 7:30pm at the church to talk about what the next step is. A thank you is being sent to the daughters of Ed Langin for their generosity.

Membership- Nancy is making up the new membership list to be turned in for the Annual Meeting.

Constitution Committee- They have come up with 2 options to submit for vote to the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCES

We received a very nice thank you from John France regarding the the gift certificate that was sent to them for his donation and work on the sinks in the kitchen. We also received information on The Bishop's Laity Gathering being held Feb. 8th and 9th at the 1st UMC in Sioux Falls. This is hosted by Dakota Conference United Methodist Church Board of Discipleship and Board of Lay Ministries. The keynote speaker is Ray Buckley. More information about this is on the back table at the church.

OLD BUSINESS

The budget was discuss in the Treasurer's Report and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

A HUGE thank you is extended from a VERY grateful church board to everyone for the AWESOME donations that came in for the month of December!! We are able to start January 2008 in the BLACK!!! The Upper Room costs are increasing approximately 60 cents. It was mentioned

that maybe we should ask during services for people interested in the open officers positions coming up. The Annual Meeting is January 27th. Sunday School will be at 9:30am, Church at 10:30, potluck following church before the meeting. Also Mr. Hoffman will be coming at 12:00 to discuss the coaching and mentoring program. It will be a day of great interest!

The next meeting will be February 19th, 2008 at 7pm. The meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Secretary,

Carrie Thompson

January Financial Information

This information is contained in the Secretary's Report

UPW

The United Parish Women met on January 2, 2008. Patty presented the program entitled "Five Christian Resolutions to Keep." The five suggested resolutions are: reach someone who doesn't know Christ, become a grateful person, spend more quality time with your spouse and family, say "no" to something, and pursue Christ with vigor.

Patty then called the meeting to order with 10 members reading the purpose and answering the roll call of resolutions they made.

The minutes were read from the November and December meetings, with one correction- Linda and Patty provided the basket for the FCCLA Tour of Tables.

Linda gave the treasurer's report. We have a balance of \$1887.25. There were no bills presented.

We received a correspondence from Arlyne Janssen and family for helping with the lunch at Milton's funeral in November. We also received a thank you from Lois Rykhuis for the invitations to our Christmas party.

Committee reports:

-A sympathy card was sent to the Milton Janssen family. Get well cards were sent to Jean Janssen, Ray Sportel, Audrey Thompson, Rudy DeZeeuw, and Dick Buller.

-Gertrude reported that we served the Milton Janssen funeral in November.

-There was no missions report.

Old Business:

Patty said we need more members to sign up for programs and hostesses so that we can finish the 2008 program books. We still do not have a UPW president. After much discussion, members have volunteered to take turns serving as chairman each month. Sherry will provide agendas for each month's chairman.

New Business:

We will be serving coffee and snacks before church on January 13th which will be provided by Deanna Lundgren and Georgiana Jensen.

The Prayer Quilt Ministries will meet Saturday, January 12th.

The church's annual meeting will be January 27th. Church and Sunday School times will be switched.

We need to bring items for Love Packages at the next meeting and will be sending Valentines to our service men and women.

January birthdays: Thelma Brandt on the 4th, Nancy Wiskur on the 7th, and Elizabeth Erickson on the 16th.

We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Lunch was provided by Linda and Patty.

Secretary Bauman

Grape Vine

February *Echo Sponsor*

There is a saying that says "A blessing shared is multiplied. It blesses the one who shares it and the one who hears it. And God gets the glory." So for that reason I want to share how God has blessed me all of my life, but most importantly how He has blessed me recently.

All my life I realize how much He cared for me. He let me make mistakes and silly decisions but he also always made sure I learned from all of it. I know he always had my back, as the saying goes. But since I lost my Denny and the boys lost a terrific dad and friend that they looked up to and the entire extended family lost a man they all respected and admired; God has had His arm around our shoulders. He has let me realize that faith

makes things possible although not always easy. And as you have read in the Serenity Prayer He has given me the ability to **accept** the things I **cannot change**. What a gift that has been. But one of the greatest gifts He has given us is the wonderful church family that I adore and I can not imagine not having you all in my life. The entire community of Elkton has been so great to us and we are very grateful.

To all of us things happen that change our lives forever and we can't go back but God brings us forward (sometimes even when we resist). I will never be the same person I was but I know that I can go on.

And last but not least on Feb 10 Den and I would have celebrated our 40th anniversary. We (or at least I know I did) looked forward to that day. Now there will be no celebration but I am still so very thankful for the nearly 40 years we had together. What a blessing that has been to me. So, I remember the good times we had and the wonderful family that we have and I am celebrating that and thanking God everyday. In memory loving of Dennis and in honor of our anniversary and all of the blessings we have received I am sponsoring the February Echo. Linda Kampmann

Special Mission Recognition

Each year the United Parish Women selects someone from our church to receive our Special Mission Recognition Pin. Today it is my pleasure to tell you a few things about our 2007 recipient.

This person has a positive attitude and always sees the good in things. She always has a friendly smile and loves to share a laugh.

Anyone who has had the pleasure of working with her knows that she is one of God's faithful servants. She has served numerous times on the Harvest Festival Committee, helps with the Annual Chicken Supper, takes a turn at cleaning the church, empties the dehumidifiers all summer long and helps at any other church function where extra hands are needed.

She is a strong believer in family and is a loving caregiver to both her husband and her mother.

She is a heaven sent asset to our church family and we hope that she receives as many blessings from us as we do from her.

Here are a few more clues as to whom I am talking about:

N is for Never Negative

O is for Oh how she loves Jesus

R is for Ready to help wherever needed

M is for the Many lives she touches

A is for Almost Always walks to church

Congratulations Norma Krogman!

Food for thought.

CHRISTIAN WAYS TO REDUCE STRESS ...(from an email I received from Marsha Timm)

An Angel says, "Never borrow from the future. If you worry about what may happen tomorrow and it doesn't happen, you have worried in vain. Even if it does happen, you have to worry twice."

1. Pray
2. Go to bed on time.
3. Get up on time so you can start the day unrushed.
4. Say No to projects that won't fit into your time schedule, or that will compromise your mental health.
5. Delegate tasks to capable others.
6. Simplify and unclutter your life.
7. Take one day at a time.
8. Separate worries from concerns . If a situation is a concern, find out what God would have you do and let go of the anxiety
- 9.If you can't do anything about a situation, forget it.
10. Have backups; an extra car key in your wallet, an extra house key buried in the garden, extra stamps, etc.

11. K.M.S. (Keep Mouth Shut). This single piece of advice can prevent an enormous amount of trouble.
12. Do something for the Kid in You everyday.
13. Carry a Bible with you to read while waiting in line.
14. Get organized so everything has its place.
15. Listen to a tape while driving that can help improve your quality of life.
16. Write down thoughts and inspirations.
17. Every day, find time to be alone.
18. Having problems? Talk to God on the spot. Try to nip small problems in the bud. Don't wait until it's time to go to bed to try and pray.
19. Make friends with Godly people.
20. Keep a folder of favorite scriptures on hand.
21. Remember that the shortest bridge between despair and hope is often a good "Thank you Jesus."
22. Laugh.
23. Laugh some more!
24. Take your work seriously, but not yourself at all.
25. Develop a forgiving attitude (most people are doing the
26. Be kind to unkind people (they probably need it the most).
27. Sit on your ego.
28. Talk less; listen more.
29. Remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe.
- 30 . Every night before bed, think of one thing you're grateful for that you've never been grateful for before. GOD HAS A WAY OF TURNING THINGS AROUND FOR YOU.
"If God is for us, who can be against us?"
(Romans 8:31)

United Parish
301 West 2nd St
P.O. Box 218
Elkton, SD 57026