



The United Parish

# *ECHO*



April 2008

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



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<u>United Parish Board Members</u>	
President: Ed Timm.....	605-542-2241
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Financial Secretary: Donna Magnus.....	605-542-3241
Treasurer: Dawn Boltjes.....	507-548-2051
Secretary: Carrie Thompson.....	605-542-8051
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## April Birthdays

- 5 Rufus DeZeeuw
- 6 David & Daniel Junker
- 8 Susan Sudtelgte
- 9 James Stuefen
- 11 Shannon White
- 12 Emma Kampmann
- 23 Alice Kinner
- 24 Jerry Styf, Les Langner
- 24 Bev Lytle, Daren Junker
- 29 Gertrude DeZeeuw

## April Anniversaries

- 6 Joe and Susan Sudtelgte 20
- 6 Greg and Carol Jensen 21
- 16 Jack and Bev Lytle

## Church Cleaning Crew:

Carrie Thompson

## Ushers & Acolyte

- Ushers 6 Linda K & Carol S
- 13 Linda K & Dawn B
- 20 Linda K & Gert D
- 27 Linda K & Carol S

Acolyte: Shelby Kampmann

## Liturgists

6

13

20

21

## Pastor's Desktop

Do you ever feel inadequate for what you believe God wants you to do? If so, you are in good company. Moses couldn't understand why God would pick a guy with a speech impediment to be his spokesperson. David knew time and again that it was only God's power that saved him, since he was not the 'big strong warrior'. Jeremiah told God he was too young to be used. Often we recite the words of the centurion seeking Jesus' help for his servant, "Lord, I am not worthy for You to come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed." And how worthy did Peter feel in Mark 14:72 "Immediately a rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had made the remark to him, 'Before a rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.' And he began to weep." You and I are inadequate, and it is when we know it but proceed anyway that God can use us. As Paul writes to the Corinthians, "And He [the Lord] has said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.' Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me." You see, any time that we are working in our own strength, relying on our ability, we are very likely to build up our selves, our reputation, our 'kingdom' instead of giving God the glory. When we trust God enough to work where He is calling even when we feel inadequate, then we are quick to acknowledge God's working in it and give Him the credit for what has been accomplished.

It works for planning as well. Proverbs 16:3 says, "Commit your works to the LORD And your plans will be established." So whether presently working on a ministry project, or planning for one, if we keep our focus on the Lord, anything can be achieved. This is what Paul was talking about when writing to the people in Philippi, "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."

You can do all things through Christ, who strengthens you.

In Christ's service,  
Pastor Daren

## Parish Board Meeting

The United Parish Board met on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 7pm in the church basement. Officers in attendance were President Ed Timm, Lay Leader Shirley Hegerfeld, Financial Secretary Donna Magnus, and Secretary Carrie Thompson. Others in attendance were Carol Styf, Linda Kampmann, Virginia Fixsen and Pastor Daren Junker. Pastor Daren gave opening prayer and the meeting was called to order.

The minutes were read from the February meeting with only a couple of corrections made to the year being 2008 instead of 2007.

The Treasurer's report was gone over and approved.

Beginning Balance 1-31-08	\$1590.18
February Income	3707.98
February Expenses	<4604.87>
<hr/>	
Ending Balance 2-29-08	\$ 693.29

The Financial Secretary Report was given and stands approved.

### Passbook Savings

Building Fund - \$6,023.96

Memorial Fund- \$1,229.00

General Fund- \$1,018.35

Building Fund CD's- \$66,966.63

Money Market - \$66,356.46

Total Funds- \$141,594.40

Gain- \$223.52

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

PPR- no report

Trustees- no report

Christian Ed- There will be no Sunday School on April 6<sup>th</sup>. The One Great Hour of Sharing will take it's place.

Missions- There will be a meeting after committee sign up is complete. Then the new projects will be discussed.

UPW- They are doing 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Supper this Maundy Thursday. There are lots of people signed up to help! Great!!

Pastor's Report- 1 phone/office visit, 1 Brookings van trip, preparation and conduct 4 Lenten services, 1 Cozy Corner chapel time, 2 Release Time and 2 assists, represented United Parish and attended the Henderson ministry anniversary, planned Sunday Worship, prepare sermons (usually at least 20hrs/wk), prepare worship elements( praise song, liturgical prayers, MP3s), printed Sunday bulletins, conducted Sunday Worship, write article for the Echo, and 24 hour availability for crisis( church members and school).

Building Committee- no report. Ed signed the FSA paperwork and arrangements were made for Mike Ponto to rent the new church land.

### CORRESPONDANCE

Ed received a letter from the 2008 Dakota Conference about nominations for someone as Lay Leader at the State level. He also received word from UCC about the resignation of Dr. Rev. Miller as Conference Minister.

### OLD BUSINESS

New confirmation books arrived after the last meeting and the confirmed have been contacted and classes will start as soon as the kids pick their mentors. It was decided that we would go back to having board meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

### NEW BUSINESS

We discussed having adult Sunday School even through summer. We also discussed having a children's church to help break up the time for the kids. We will get with the Christian Ed committee to see what they think. Easter Sunrise service is at 7:30am then the Youth Group will be having breakfast, and regular service at 9:30am. No Sunday School.

The next meeting will be April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 7pm. Meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer. Carrie Thompson, Secretary

## UPW

The United Parish Women met on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm with Ann Aaker opening with the Easter program entitled “You Can’t Hold Back the Dawn.” Acting Chairman, Linda Kampmann called the meeting to order, and shared a devotional reading. 15 members read the purpose and answered the roll call items of canned meat for the Food Pantry.

The secretary’s report was read and approved.

Linda reported we have a balance on hand of \$1666.30. There were no bills submitted.

For correspondence, thank you’s were shared from Don Krogman, EllaMae Evans, and Rudy DeZeeuw for the Love Packages.

Standing Committee reports were next.

Get well cards were sent to Roween Cameron, Rudy DeZeeuw, and Virginia Fixsen. There were no funerals. Marsha was not present to report on the Reading Program. For Missions, the Quilt Ministry will meet on March 8<sup>th</sup>, and Bingo at Cozy Corner will be March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Old Business was next. United Parish will be serving the Third Thursday Supper on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Since it is Maunday Thursday, church services will be at 7:30 after the supper. The committee is Nancy Wiskur, Linda Kampmann, and Shirley Hegerfeld.

The Second Sunday Coffee will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> with Virginia and Deanna serving.

Linda reminded everyone to change their clocks ahead an hour so they don’t miss the coffee. Discussion on the Soup and Sandwich Supper will be tabled until the April meeting. Linda also reminded us that Elkton’s day and time for Prayer Vigil is March 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-8:45am and we are to offer up prayers for national spiritual wellness.

Under New Business, Linda reminded us that Focus Day is April 19<sup>th</sup> at Gary, South Dakota. Nikki shared that the Sunday School is putting on a penny carnival for One Great Hour of Sharing on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Birthdays for March are: Linda K., Bev B., and Evelyn M. Anniversaries are: Dawn and John Boltjes, Kate and LeRoy Brown, and Nancy and Bob

Wiskur.

The next meeting will be April 2<sup>nd</sup> with Georgi Jensen as chair. Marsha Timm has the program and hostesses will be Marsha and Sherry.

We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer and enjoyed a festive St. Patrick's Day lunch provided by Nancy and Shirley.

Submitted by Sherry Bauman, UPW Secretary

### **Christian Ed Report**

The Christian Ed group met on March 13th and the following was discussed.

\* LaRee is getting the palms for Palm Sunday from HyVee this year. The Sunday School kids will be singing in church and LaRee will remind the congregation of the early bird discount (April 18th) for church camps this summer.

\* Nikki and Georgie are arranging to have an Easter Egg Hunt for the S.S. kids on Easter Sunday after the Sunrise Service and Breakfast. There will not be Sunday School classes.

\* One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) will be on Sunday April 6th from 10:45-11:45 in place of regular Sunday School classes. There will be carnival games and prizes. Upstairs will be Bingo and a silent auction (taking donations of knick knacks, homemade items, baked goods, etc.)

The youth group will be selling rolls, juice, and coffee. All proceeds will go towards OGHS. Everyone of all ages is encouraged to stay after church service and join in the fun!!

LaRee Farnham  
Chairman

### **Grape Vine**

Camping time is just around the corner and the camping brochures are here. They are on the back table at church. Looks like some really fun and interesting camps being planned for this summer. The early bird savings for the Dakotas camps is April 18. There is also information on the Placerville Camps too. And the best news is the United Parish Women's group continues to pay for half of all camperships. So pick out your camp soon.( repeat from last month)

The United Parish served the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Supper in March and we had a good turn out. Served about 130 people and they had a great choice of wonderful salads and delicious desserts to go along with their Sloppy Joes and chips. We had such good help and thanks to everyone for all the donations of food and time. We will donate the money to the Community Center.

A big round of applause to our youth and their leader Beth Holm. The Sunrise Easter service was well worth getting up early for. And the breakfast that they served along with a big help from their parents was a super nice treat for the rest of us. We are blessed to have such talented and willing young people, their leader and the support of their parents. Many thanks again. Also, I know the kids loved the Easter egg hunt.

The UPW still has some very nice cutlery for sale. If you need a gift for a wedding or shower these knives would be great. Contact Gert DeZeeuw if you are interested.

### **April Echo Sponsor**

As I type this it is a lot warmer outside than it was the last time I did this. Elkton was lucky enough to only get about an inch or so of really wet snow out of the St. Patrick's Day storm - for this I am thankful. Our gracious Lord has seen fit to let me slide on the shoveling this time.

Our Echo sponsor for the month of April is Ella Mae Evans. Ella and Harold are two of the sweetest people around and their generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you from the bottom of all our hearts!

Ella Mae is the last name on my list of sponsors so let me know if you want to help out with the mailing of our illustrious publication. You can supply stamps, or the funds to purchase the postage, or help with the printing costs, or both. Any and all donations are welcome. I can be reached by email at [djboltjes@itctel.com](mailto:djboltjes@itctel.com) or you can phone me at home at 548-2051. If you are calling long distance be sure to include the area code 507. Leave a message if I am away. God Bless you, Dawn Boltjes, Treasurer

**The following is reprinted with permission from the March 20<sup>th</sup> Elkton Record. They are featuring Sunday School teachers.**

## **Sherry Bauman**

I currently teach the preschool/kindergarten but have taught all age groups.

I have taught Sunday school for 13 years.

The thing I enjoy most is the student's eagerness to hear bible stories and learn about God's love for us and the sacrifices He made.

The children teach me patience and that the simple things count the most.

I have many fond memories over the years. I do feel proud of students I have taught at an early age that go all the way through to confirmation. I also love seeing past students become Sunday school teachers as well!

## **Annalise Sudtelgte**

*Age group that you teach:* 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>

*How long have you taught Sunday school?*

This is my first year as a Sunday school teacher.

*What do you enjoy most about teaching Sunday school?*

What I enjoy most about teaching is that I get to learn along with the younger kids. It's a good way to learn about God at any age and it really helps with staying devoted to reading the Bible. I also like listening to the kids during their music time! They have fun and have great singing voices.

*What do the children teach you?*

The children teach me a lot. One main thing is that it's a lot harder teaching than I ever thought. It requires patience and really trying to understand and see things through a 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> graders eyes or mind. It's still a lot of fun and a great learning process.

*What is your best memory teaching Sunday school?*

I can't really say I have a "Best" memory since this is only my first year, but it brings back a lot of memories from when I was in Sunday school. Singing some of the same fun songs, it seems like just yesterday I was in those chairs. They are all great memories.

## **LaRee Farnham**

*Age group that you teach:* K & 1<sup>st</sup> grade

*How long have you taught Sunday school: 6 years*

*What do you enjoy most about teaching Sunday school?*

Teaching them about God & Good things in life.

*What do the children teach you?*

To appreciate more even the small things and the importance of having teachers.

*What is your best memory about teaching Sunday school?*

I have two boys of my own that at times I was their teacher. I did enjoy it but it's kind of nice to have all girls this year in my class.

**Linda Kampmann**

*Age group that you teach: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade*

*How long have you taught Sunday school?*

I have taught 10 years plus.

*What do you enjoy most about teaching Sunday school?*

The children, and sharing God's love and his message with them and telling them how much God loves them and will guide their life. I love watching the Sunday school Christmas program come together.

*What do the children teach you?*

They teach me so much, the innocent acceptance of God's love.

*What is your best memory teaching Sunday school?*

At the end of the year I always ask them what they have learned and my favorite answer is "that Jesus loves me".

**Melissa Wiskur**

*Age group that you teach: All*

*How long have you taught Sunday school: 2 years*

*What do you enjoy most about teaching Sunday school?*

*I enjoy working with all the age groups. The children have a lot of energy.*

*What do the children teach you?*

They teach me to keep smiling. They also teach me to have lots of energy

and enjoy your time.

*What is your best memory teaching Sunday school?*

One of my best memories is working with the children on the Christmas Program. They surprise me every year with how much energy they have.

## **Read only if you have time for God**

God, when I received this e-mail, I thought...

I don't have time for this... And, this is really inappropriate  
during work

Then, I realized that this kind of thinking is.... Exactly,  
what has caused lot of the problems in our world today.

We try to keep God in church on Sunday morning...

Maybe, Sunday night...

And, the unlikely event of a midweek service.

We do like to have Him around during sickness...

And, of course, at funerals

However, we don't have time, or room, for Him during  
work or play...

Because.. That's the part of our lives we think... We can,  
and should, handle on our own.

May God forgive me for ever thinking...

That... there is a time or place where...

HE is not to be FIRST in my life...

We should always have time to remember all HE has done  
for us.

Jesus said, If you are ashamed of me I will be  
ashamed of you in front of my father.

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