



The United Parish

ECHO



June 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

God Bless America



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<u>United Parish Board Members</u>	
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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	
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Happy Birthday to :

July Birthdays

- 1 Aaron Thompson
- 2 Tony Kampmann
- 3 Dick Buller
- 4 Ralph Lynn
- 5 Kristi Placecek
- 12 Bud Janssen Sr
- 17 Justin Sudtelgte
- 20 Jennifer Nordmeyer
- 21 Tal and LaRee Farnham

Church Cleaning Crew:

- Norma Krogman
Donna Magnus

Ushers & Acolyte

- Ushers:
Shirley Hegerfeld

Acolyte:

Liturgists :

- | | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Happy July Anniversaries | 6 |
| Raymond and Harriet Kurtz | 13 |
| 11 Glenn and Mary Lang | 20 |
| 21 Rudy and Gert DeZeeuw | 27 |

Pastor's Desktop

As we celebrate freedom in America and remember the great wealth that our society as a whole has enjoyed, all I wish to do this Independence Day is remind myself and you that it is all from God.

1 Chronicles 29:12-16 "Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all, and in Your hand is power and might; and it lies in Your hand to make great and to strengthen everyone. "Now therefore, our God, we thank You, and praise Your glorious name. "But who am I and who are my people that we should be able to offer as generously as this? For all things come from You, and from Your hand we have given You. "For we are sojourners before You, and tenants, as all our fathers were; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope. "O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided to build You a house for Your holy name, it is from Your hand, and all is Yours.

May our gratitude always be in the right place: our Lord and Savior.

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In Christ's service,
Pastor Daren Junker

Parish Board Meeting

The United Parish board met on Thursday June 12, 2008 at 7pm in the church basement. Board members in attendance were Ed Timm, board president, Donna Magnus, Financial secretary, Dawn Boltjes, Treasurer and Shirley Hegerfeld, Lay Leader. Secretary Carrie Thompson was absent because of work and Linda Kampmann took minutes in her absence Others present were Carol Styf and Pastor Daren Junker. Pastor Daren opened with a prayer for guidance as we do the work of the church.

Linda read the minutes from the May meeting and they were approved as read.

Dawn presented the treasurers report and it was approved.

Beginning Balance on May 1	<\$971.28>
May Income	\$3770.29
May Expense	< \$3671.33>

There were questions on the amount of mileage we pay for visiting pulpit supply. At the present we pay the federal amount but Ed will check into the SD and the conference mileage amounts too. Dawn made a motion to amend the budget for pulpit supply from \$200.00 to \$300.00, Donna Magnus seconded it and it passed.

Financial Secretary. Donna Magnus presented the report. Only changes on our deposits were a gain of \$186.34 in interest. Dawn also brought up that Bankstar Financial suggests that we have more signatures on our bank cards. Dawn will check into this.

Committee Reports

PPR: Shirley Hegerfeld reported that many people had shared with her that they prefer Pastor Daren not walk to the back of the church during his sermon. Daren said he had many tell him that they do like him walking around. He appreciated the feedback and will try to come to a compromise. She also reported that various church members had suggested that due to our financial struggles maybe we will need to share our pastor with another church. This is very common in the United Methodist churches. This will be looked into. Pastor Daren will visit with UCC pastors while he is at the UCC conference this weekend and others will check with both conferences and bring back information.

Trustees: Troy Wiskur has been mowing the UCC lot and we think that Denny Lundgren is mowing the church ground. We thank them both very much. The rain gutters need to be put back on the parsonage. Dawn will check with Denny and Troy about the roof of the parsonage.

Christian Ed: A sign up sheet will be passed around in church for volunteers for Vacation Bible School. We will have VBS on July 21-23 with Our Lady of Good Council.

Mission: The mission committee has met and will be honoring the dads for Fathers Day with a free ice cream cone at the C Store. Also they have started a variety of mission projects that will run thru December. Our first one is our coat drive.

UPW: The ladies had Ladies Night Out and we went to supper at the Feathers Nest in Ward. Patty tried to get someone from the Brookings Domestic Abuse Center to speak but that night was also their meeting night so she passed out folders of information about the center and the work they do. We collected office supplies to donate to the Abuse Center.

Pastors Report:

2 phone/ office visits

2 LTC visits + 2 attempts

Cozy Corner Chapel

Vacation

Plan worship service

Prepare sermons

Prepare Children's message

Gather worship elements (praise songs, liturgical prayers, MP3)

Prepare and print worship and children's' bulletins

Conduct Sunday worship

24 hour availability for crisis (church members and school)

Building Committee: They met and were brainstorming about what to do next concerning a new church building. It was decided to hold a Brainstorming meeting with the entire congregation. This will be on July 24th and more information and details will be sent to each member.

Old Business None

New Business: The Blue Cross Blue Shield Health insurance will be going up \$69.60 a month. Dawn had suspected there were be an increase and had already adjusted the original budget for it.

ITC needs contact people who are the only ones authorized to inquire about phone matters. Dawn Boltjes and Nancy Wiskur will be the contact persons.

Treasurer Dawn Boltjes is concerned because we have not been able to pay the carpet fund back the money that was borrowed. Jenny Nordmeyer had informed Dawn that Carpenter auction in Lake Benton let organizations sign up to serve food at auctions. We will be put on the list and when we are notified Dawn and Jenny will put a committee together to help with the food and serving. It was agreed this was a good way to raise some money to help pay back our debt to the carpet fund.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be July 9th at 7pm at the church.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Kampmann, Acting Secretary

UPW

On Thursday June 5th about 9 brave women from the UPW traveled to Ward for an evening out despite severe storm warnings in the area. We enjoyed a great meal and lively conversation. Patty DeZeeuw handed out literature from the Brookings Abuse Shelter and we collected office supplies to donate to the shelter. There is information about the Abuse Shelter in this edition of the Echo also. We enjoyed the evening and arrived home safe from any storm.

Grape Vine

Nine ladies from the United Parish were salad luncheon guest of the Lake Benton United Methodist Women on June 11. Delicious salads were served. The program was given by Rev and Mrs Boe on early railroad and slavery depicted by quilt squares. Prizes were e won by Ann Aaker, Virginia Fixsen and Donna Magnus. It was a very pleasant evening. Submitted by Donna Magnus.

The Mission committee will be introducing a variety of projects over the next few months. Our project for June will be to collect good, clean ,wear-able winter wear for infant to 18 year olds. These will go to the Indian Reservations. The school children are not allowed on the school buses if they don't have coats to wear. If they don't get on the bus they not only miss a day of education but also the two meals that are served at the school. If you can donate please bring them to the church during the month of June. It will be so appreciated. (this is repeated from the June Echo)

Keep your eyes on the front of the church because word has it that the “garden fairies” have been hard at work. So far they have removed some very old pointella bushes that were intertwined with weeds. They also removed a very deep amount of landscape rock and have the area all cleaned out. Sometime before fall there will be new greenery to greet us as we enter church. So when you see Nancy, Susan, Verle, Audrey, Justin, Johnnie and Micheal be sure to thank them for all their hard work.

July Echo Sponsor

As I type this it is a cool and refreshing morning in June. Perfect weather for just about anything. The first day of summer was June 21 but the signs of summer have been around for quite a while.

Boats being hauled to area lakes, tents staked outside to air out, gardens growing, lawn mowers diligently keeping the grass short and kids riding their bikes through town every day of the week. Yes, summer is here.

Robert and Marion Groth are our July Echo sponsors. Thank you, Bob and Marion, for your generosity.

God Bless you, Dawn Boltjes, Treasurer

Food For Thought

At our UPW members night out Patty DeZeeuw handed out information from the Brookings Domestic Abuse Shelter. It was very alarming to read some of it. We don't think of people needing protection from abuse here in our beloved Brookings county. But read on:

* In the last year (2006-2007) the Brookings Domestic Abuse Shelter assisted 404 individuals, sheltered 60 individuals and answered 961 crisis calls.

Some other national statistics are even more heartbreaking.

Almost 4 millions women were physically abused by a loved one in the last year.

A female is abused every 9 seconds in this country.

More than 3 million children witness acts of domestic violence every year.

Children from homes where they have witnessed abuse are 8 times more likely to attempt suicide and abuse drugs and alcohol.

Children who grow up in homes where there is abuse are more confused, fearful, feel hopelessness and have trouble being in a normal relationship.

If you have an interest in helping out in any way you can contact the Brookings Shelter at 605-692-5400. They are always in need of office supplies, personal items such as toiletries, also gas cards, phone cards and non perishable food.

And one of the best things we can all do is pray for the victims, the abuser and the wonderful people who staff the shelter.

I Am the Flag of the Of America

I am the flag of the United States of America.

My name is Old Glory.

I fly atop the world's tallest buildings.

I stand watch in America's halls of justice.

I fly majestically over institutions of learning.

I stand guard with power in the world.

Look up and see me.

I stand for peace, honor, truth and justice.

I stand for freedom.

I am confident.

I am arrogant.

I am proud.

When I am flown with my fellow banners,

My head is a little higher,

My colors a little truer.

I bow to no one!

I am recognized all over the world.

- I am saluted.

I am loved - I am revered.

I am respected - and I am feared.

I have fought in every battle of every war for more than

200 years. I was flown at Valley Forge, Gettysburg,

Shiloh and Appomattox,

I was there at San Juan Hill, the trenches of France,

in the Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome and the beaches of

Normandy. Guam, Okinawa, Korea and KheSan, Saigon,

Vietnam know me.

I'm presently in the mountains of Afghanistan and

the hot and dusty deserts of Iraq and wherever freedom

is needed.

I led my troops, I was dirty, battleworn and tired,

*But my soldiers cheered me and I was proud.
I have been burned, torn and trampled on the streets
of countries I have helped set free.*

It does not hurt for I am invincible.

*I have been soiled upon, burned, torn and trampled
in the streets of my country.*

*And when it's done by those Whom I've served in battle -
it hurts.*

But I shall overcome - for I am strong.

*I have slipped the bonds of Earth and stood watch over
the uncharted frontiers of space from my vantage point
on the moon.*

*I have borne silent witness to all of America's finest
hours.*

But my finest hours are yet to come.

*When I am torn into strips and used as bandages for
my wounded comrades on the battlefield,*

*When I am flown at half-mast to honor my soldier,
Or when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving parent
at the grave of their fallen son or daughter,*

I AM PROUD



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