



The United Parish
ECHO



August 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



Vacation Bible School

August 4-6, 2008

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: Ed Timm.....	605-542-2241
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.....	605-929-5957
Pastor's email:.....	pastor@elktonunitedparish.org
Echo Editor email:	echo@elktonunitedparish.org
	dlkamp@itctel.com
Online Calender Updates	gl0v0053@umn.edu

Happy Birthday to :

August Birthdays

- 2 Jim Anderson
- 4 Rufus A DeZeeuw
- 6 Beth Holm
- 8 Bruce Holm
- 9 Janaii White
- 12 Donna Lynn
- 20 Troy Wiskur
- 21 Merlin Thompson
- 23 Patty DeZeeuw
- 28 John Boltjes
- 31 Michael Junker

Happy Anniversaries

- 31 Rufus& Patty DeZeeuw

Church Cleaning Crew:

- Shirley Hegerfeld
- Janaii White

Ushers & Acolyte

- Ushers:
- Carrie Thompson

Acolyte:

Liturgists ; August

- 3 Dennis Lundgren
- 10
- 17 Beth Holm
- 24
- 31 Linda Kampmann

Pastors Desktop

The most dangerous enemy is the one you don't think is there. History provides many examples of this in nearly every war. It is often referred to as 'the element of surprise'. Most wars start with a surprise attack and military strategists are always alert for any additional surprise attacks that can be made later. If this is so well known at the human level, how could it be less known at higher levels of existence? Logically, the element of surprise would be useful for spiritual enemies as well.

What spiritual enemies?

It suddenly reminds me of the elephant joke about why elephants paint their toenails different colors - to hide in a bag of M&M's is the jovial reply. But the joke is not done. Next the jokster asks, "Have you ever seen an elephant in a bag of M&M's?" To which the obvious answer is, "No." And the joke teller finishes by declaring that it works!

It is silly, isn't it? Just as silly as adults believing in a red fellow with a pitch fork and a tail, which is a preposterous idea indeed, but also a false, and I would daresay, intentionally misleading one. Now who could come up with such a brilliant strategy as convincing whole societies to believe that the supposed enemy is an outlandish, easily-identified, cartoonish, character so that later generations will conclude with complete certainty that there is no such enemy? That would take supernatural intelligence and a strategy that lasts for centuries. After destroying the credibility of anyone who proposes such an enemy could exist, it is easy for that enemy to operate in broad daylight without detection.

To be sure, I am not proposing that there is a spiritual being that is red and comes complete with horns, tail and pitch fork. I am proposing that there are real spiritual enemies, though. This is not a new, nor even exclusively Christian, concept. Paul warns Timothy (1 Timothy 4:1-2) that deceiving spirits would pull people away from the faith. Jesus himself referred to the devil as "the father of lies" (John 8:44) and spoke of a specific spiritual being when he said he "saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning" (Luke 10:18). This is the same spiritual being the author of 1 Peter referred to as a "roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (5:8) and advised that Christians stand firm in the faith, resisting him just as the confirmation oath requires yet to this day.

There is an enemy - a highly intelligent, powerful enemy that even the archangel Michael did not dare to think he could best, but simply asked the Lord to rebuke. Even though this enemy has lost the war through Christ's victory on the cross, he still fights, or Paul would not have to remind the believers in Ephesus that, "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 6:12)

If you don't believe there is spiritual warfare, then there is no point in following Christ, and putting on the 'armor of God'. Beware of false teachers who would convince you that there is no enemy. The bible is quite clear on the dangers of false teachings and that many of them seek to undermine the very purpose of faith, but instead build worldly power through social influence: flattering their 'friends' and grumbling and finding fault with others. This, too, is not my imagining, but straight from the book of Jude in the New Testament.

Isaiah 55:6 "Seek the LORD while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near."

**In Christ's service,
Pastor Daren**

Parish Board Meeting

The United Parish Board met on Wednesday July 9th, 2008 at 7pm in the church basement. Officers in attendance were President Ed Timm, Financial Secretary

Donna Magnus, Treasurer Dawn Boltjes, and Secretary Carrie Thompson. Others in attendance were Carol Styf, Travis Stuefen, Linda Kampmann and Pastor Daren Junker. The minutes from the June meeting were read with the following corrections: The Building Committee meeting will be the 27th of July instead of the 24th.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Dawn Boltjes. Mileage being paid for Pulpit Supply was discussed. The IRS rate is .58.5 and the UCC rate is .30. Subject was tabled until able to find out what the State rate is and maybe meet in the middle. The yearly fee for the "Special Music" is coming due. This fee is to renew the license to be able to download for public use at church service.

Beginning Balance	5-31-08	<872.32>
June Income		11,020.39
June Expenses		<9587.30>

Ending Balance	6-30-08	\$560.77
----------------	---------	----------

The Financial Secretary's Report was given by Donna Magnus and was approved. There was a total gain of \$895.53.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

PPR- nothing new

Trustees- The greenery and rocks have been removed. Verle Thompson will be doing the landscaping. The seeding at the Peace Lot will be done in the fall. Denny was asked about the roof on the Parsonage. He and Troy looked at it and said that it may need to be re roofed. They will be getting bids. Pastor Daren suggested trying to sneak through another winter.

Christian Ed- Vacation Bible School dates have been changed to the first week in August. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday instead of the usual Sunday, Monday, Tuesday.

Missions- The "Coat Drive" continues til August. Georgie is working on a "Shoe box Christmas" project to be taken at the Ingathering.

UPW- There will be coffee this Sunday after church. So far, there is no chairperson for the Chicken Supper. Everyone is getting ready for the "Guest Night" next month on August 6th.

Pastor's Report- 3 phone/ office visits, 3 longterm care/ home visits, a Cozy Corner Chapel time, Harvest Festival, the UCC Annual Conference, the UCC Ecumenical Counsel in Brookings, Don Krogmann's Funeral, planned Sunday worship, prepared Sunday sermons, prepared children's messages, gathered worship elements, prepared and printed the worship and children's bulletins, conducted Sunday Worship, written article for the Echo and was available 24/7 for crisis to church members and to school.

Building Committee- The Brainstorm meeting will be held July 27th, 2008 starting at 4pm in the church basement. Lunch will be served. Everyone has been invited to attend.

OLD BUSINESS

Pastor Daren talked to Mark Stuart with the UCC about sharing a pastor. He found out that we are able to cross conference (or State) lines with another church. The other church(es) must also agree with having both a UCC minister and a

Methodist minister since we alternate between conferences. It was discussed that it may also be an idea to look into having a "part time" or "3/4 time" minister. This would mean that they would also hold another job that may provide insurance. However this would also mean that the pastor would not be as readily available. PPR needs to look further into this.

The bank has suggested that there be some others as signatures on the bank cards. Nancy will co-sign on the checkbook and safety deposit box and be backup on the phone account. Linda has agreed to be Donna's backup. Her signature will be needed on the card as well.

NEW BUSINESS

The marquee out front of the church needs to be changed. Bev Buller's name is still on it . It needs to be changed to Ed Timm.

The meeting was adjourned with "The Lord's Prayer". The next meeting will be held on August 13th, 2008 at 7pm.

UPW Minutes

The United Parish Women met on July 2, 2008. Beverly Buller presented a program called "Offering Hospitality to the Sojourner." It reminded us to extend a welcoming hand to immigrants and refugees in our community.

Acting president Deanna Lundgren called the meeting to order with a devotional reading about gratitude. Psalm 85:12 tells us to be grateful to God for everything he gives us.

Fourteen members read the purpose. Roll call was breakfast items.

The secretary's report was approved as read.

The treasurer's report was approved as read. We have a balance on hand of \$1487.56 Donna Magnus presented a bill for expenses for the Don Krogman funeral.

Under correspondence, a thank you was read from the family of Violet Kalousek for the meal provided for her funeral. Sherry also shared a thank you from the Class of 2008 for the Senior Luncheon.

Standing committee reports was next.

Gifts & Cards: get well cards were sent to Patty DeZeeuw, Dick Buller, Don Krogman, Mary Clarin, LeRoy Brown, and Ray Sportel. Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Edith Deters and Don Krogman.

Funerals: the committee served funerals for Violet Kalousek and Don Krogman.

Reading Program: no report.

Missions: Bingo will be on July 23 & 30; prayer quilt ministry will meet on July 12.

Bev shared that prayer quilts were given to Don Krogman and Charles Marquardt, and they will be working on finishing a few more. Coats for Kids will be picked up on July 17.

Old Business:

The Senior Luncheon was held in May and went very well. There was no report on Harvest Festival.

New Business:

Deanna brought up the Annual Chicken Supper. We need to set a date and get a committee together. Bev volunteered to check on a date at the Community Center.

The Ingathering will be September 22 in Mitchell. Deanna reminded us to keep working on our projects to take along. Marsha mentioned the need for "Flood Buckets" for flood victims. She will find out what specific items are needed.

Gertrude made a nomination for a Special Mission Recognition recipient. Donna seconded the nomination, and a unanimous vote was cast.

Gertrude made a motion to leave the 2009 Pledge to Mission amount the same as in 2008. Donna seconded the motion and the motion passed.

School of Christian Mission will be July 17-20 at DWU in Mitchell. Marsha will be attending.

No one has signed up for Second Sunday Coffee.

Deanna reminded us our thank offering for July is to give 50 cents in thanks for the many freedoms we enjoy in this country.

July birthdays include Arlyne Janssen on the 18th. July anniversaries: Rudy and Gertrude DeZeeuw on the 21st.

Our next meeting will be August 6th at 6pm. It is our Annual Guest Night/ Salad Luncheon, with local churches invited, as well as all women of United Parish. All UPW members need to provide a salad. Beverage committee will be Kate Brown, Malinda Bessler, and Laura Tjernagel.

Roll Call for August will be non-perishable food items, and for September it will be baby food items.

Motion to adjourn by Bev, seconded by Virginia. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Note Local churches invited to our Guest Night: Prairie Winds Baptist, First Baptist, Immanuel Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, and Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Sherry Bauman, Secretary

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be held on August 4th – 6th. Our Operation Round-Up (Mission Project) is Support The Elkton Troops. Some of the items that the Troops would like to receive are: beef jerky, baby wipes, foot powder, chips, cookies (any food that won't melt), coffee, crystal light powder to add to water,

hand sanitizer, lotion, shampoo, Q-tips, granola bars, dried fruit, phone-cards. There will be a box at the back of the church for items to be collected.

We are asking for a donation Hot Dogs and Hot Dog Buns (3 Dozen of each) and two bags of Apples. If you would be willing do donate any of these items please give Melissa Wiskur a call at 605-690-4725 or 507-548-4682.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE QUARTERLY REPORT			
3/10/08 TO 6/10/08			
Balance on Hand: 3/10/08			\$ 460.50
Plus Income:			
Church Offering			\$ -
UPW Offering			\$ -
SS Offering			\$ 126.29
Donations from OGHS Carnival/Bingo			<u>\$ 126.50</u>
			\$ 713.29
Expenses:			
Awards & pins			\$ 9.27
Teacher Gifts/Mother's Day Flowers			\$ 93.83
Confirmation Books			\$ 27.38
Gift to OGHS/UCC			<u>\$ 126.50</u>
			\$ 256.98
Income		\$ 713.29	
less Expenses		<u>\$ 256.98</u>	
Balance on Hand: 6/10/08			\$ 456.31
Submitted by LaRee Farnham			
6/29/2004			

Grape Vine

The mission committee wants to thank everyone for the outpouring of coats for our coat drive. We boxed up 6-7 large boxes of coats and Marsha Timm delivered them to the project coordinators when she went to the School Of Christian Mission in Mitchell. Thanks so much Marsha. The “way to go” award goes to Shirley Hegerfeld. She walked away with several arm loads of really nice coats at a couple of garage sales.

Georgie Jensen will be heading up our next Mission Project “Shoe Box Christmas”.

Items needed for this are as follows:

For infants: baby powder, bibs, bottles, quilts,blankets and infant toys.

Girls 2-7 : Age appropriate educational items, reading books, dolls,stuffed animals, coloring books,crayons, and watercolor paints or makers,puzzles, hair accessories,hats mitten gloves, or scarfs.

Boys ages 2-7: age appropriate educational items, cars,trucks, coloring/painting books, crayons, watercolor paints or markers, Lego's, construction toys, reading books, games and gloves and hats.

Older boys 8- youth: loves electronic handhold games, watches board games, puzzles, reading books and hats and gloves.

Older girls 8- youth, love purses, makeup, nail polish, hair items, bath items, games, puzzles, reading books, hats and gloves.

Please take a shoe box and wrap the lid and bottom separately, pack unwrapped items in the wrapped shoe box and the put a rubber band around to hold the lid and box together. Please mark if it is for girl or boy and the age group using a gift tag.

This will run thru the middle of September so they we can take them to the Ingathering in Mitchell for distribution.

The UPW is hosting the annual Guest Night on August 6 at 6pm. There will be a salad supper and a short program. All ladies of the United Parish are invited and please bring a guest. We have invited women from the other Elkton churches.

Echo Sponsor

As I type this the sun is shining, the heat is shimmering in the distance and the humidity is curling my hair. The dog days of summer are here at last. We don't have a sponsor for the August mailing of the Echo. Not to fear, we have a supply of stamps on hand to hold us for a couple months. The Pastor uses his printer for the Sunday bulletins and it will probably be needing ink cartridges soon. The last time we purchased cartridges it cost us close to \$500! Anyone wishing to help defray this tremendous expense is more than welcome to let me know. Along that line I notice that the church copier is short of paper. We are in need of mostly letter size white copy paper and maybe a ream or two of legal. Next time you are in a large discount store and happen to walk down the office supply aisle, pick up a ream for your church. These can be placed downstairs in the office. I and everyone else who uses the copier would be thankful.

Oh, and while I am on a begging spree, if you happen to have any colored letter size copy paper lying around, bring that down to the office too. Various committees use the colored paper, including Sunday School and Release Time, for all sorts of print jobs. They don't have to be complete reams, just whatever you might have extra. Again, thank you for helping

This might be a little late in coming but I would like to thank the Harvest Festival committee members for the wonderful job they did. It is always amazing how our church food stand always seems to run clockwork every year. This degree of organization is due to the diligence and experience of the committee. Thank you all for the long hours and hard work you put into this fund raiser.
God Bless you, Dawn Boltjes, Treasurer

Reminder

Everyone should have received a letter from the Building Committee informing them about the brainstorming session and luncheon to be held Sunday, July 27 at 4:00 PM in the basement of the church. We need your ideas about what you want in a new church building. We will be discussing your ideas starting at 4:00 with luncheon being served at 6:00 PM. If you are unable to attend, please give your thoughts to someone who will be at the meeting or to any building committee member. This meeting isn't restricted to United Parish members. Friends, relatives, or parties just interested in our project are also welcome to attend.

We hope to see you there.

Building Committee

Dennis Lundgren, Nancy Wiskur, Rufus DeZeeuw, Dawn Boltjes, Ed Timm, and Austin DeZeeuw .

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