

The Tidings

Rev. Jamie P. Washam, Pastor

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*"We are living proof that Jesus Christ is our peace who makes
strangers into friends, breaks down dividing walls and builds up real persons."*

August 2007

From the Pastor

Being About the Business of the Church

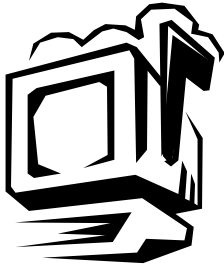
I've just returned from Texas, where N J and I celebrated our marriage with family and friends. It was good to take some personal time. You may have noticed my absence more than usual in the past several months. I've noticed, too.

The summer of 2007 took me many places on behalf of the church, doing the work of ministry. We may tend to think of church work as being something that takes place solely in the church house, but the bulk of our service takes place beyond the walls of the Underwood building. Apart from the ministries we participate in here in Milwaukee, like St. Bens, Greater Milwaukee Interfaith, and the Fair Housing Council, I represent Underwood far beyond Wauwatosa.

This summer's work sent me to El Salvador for a mission trip, Washington D.C. for the national ABC biennial, Camp Tamarack for junior high camp, and Green Lake Conference Center as a senator for the National Minister's Council. All of these excursions carry a bit of our congregation out into the wider world, and in turn, enrich our fellowship on return. They also mean I miss some Sundays. Ministry never takes place in a vacuum, and a church cannot be bounded by stone and stained glass.

You might wonder how my being away affects our fellowship here. Conversations about the direction of our denomination are driven by what takes place in our pews. Wherever I go, I take your voices and witness. Meetings with other clergypersons open new possibilities for worship, study, and fellowship in our congregation. Testimonies about our family here inspire around the globe. Whenever I participate in worship that some one else leads, I return to Underwood with fresh ideas and a refreshed spirit.

It is a privilege to serve as your pastor and representative. I love to tell people about our church family and the work we do here. As we turn toward fall, I look forward to being home long enough to enjoy the tomatoes ripening on the vine. I also anticipate harvesting the spiritual fruits of seeds planted in this past season. Thank you for your love, prayers, and support.



BULLETIN BOARD

DEAR UNDERWOOD FAMILY

Thank you for all the love, flowers, music, and pie that made our wedding reception such a special time. What a beautiful day! We appreciate your generosity and well wishes for our married life.

With gratitude, N J & Jamie

DEAR FRIENDS

of Underwood Baptist Church
My God be with all.

Today I open the email and received the notification of the deposit of \$2,575.00 in my work account for the peace park that is really and answer of our prayers. Each of you that came and helped here at the park, know the effort that we do daily for construction of something that give a space for peace here at the mission in El Punte. Say thanks to all in Christ.

Thanks to Pastor Jamie for your support.

Rev. Dr. Magda Aguirre
Missionary El Salvador

VIVATEENS

This upcoming fall, the VIVATeens! will be supporting the **CROPWALK**. The Crop Walk is a fund raiser that helps relieve hunger nation and world-wide. We are looking to form a team of at least 25 walkers to each raise \$100.00. The date of the walk is October 14th, and anyone unable to walk is encouraged to make a pledge. If you are interested in walking or pledging, feel free to contact any member of the VIVATeen! group.

THE BABIES HAVE ARRIVED!

Congratulations to two Underwood families. Dereck and Niki welcomed Lucy Nicole Vernon on July 27th at 3:12 p.m. Sarah and Matt Torbenson welcomed Hannah Margretta on July 28th. We rejoice the safe arrival of these new little bundles of joy.

Underwood's 2007 goal is \$1,000. Promotional materials are delayed. Watch for news soon.

RALLY DAY

Sunday, September 9th

8:45 am Christian Education Classes

Adult

Youth

Elementary

Nursery

10:00 am Worship (nursery for 0-3)

11:15 am Refreshment & Fellowship



THE LIBRARY CORNER

Greetings from your librarian!

Did you manage to find time for reading this summer, perhaps on August's gloomy rainy days? We have new books for you.

Marge Gaeth donated the interesting book, **90 Minutes in Heaven**, by Don Piper. The author, a Baptist pastor, died in a horrific traffic accident, but was revived after 90 minutes. The book, written with co-author, Cecil Murphy, chronicles his fascinating story. The account of his minutes in heaven should make us all the more eager for our heavenly home. How God has used Rev. Piper's life since his 1989 accident makes for a good read.

Other new books in the library include another of Gilbert Morris' books, **The Miracle**. This is Book III of his Singing River series. I plan to also purchase Book I and Book IV of the series. Mr. Morris, a prolific author, writes his novels using authentic historic backdrops. I enjoy his books.

Pastor Jamie gave us a book for parents or teachers to use with children, **If You Choose Not to Hit**, by Kathy Beckwith. It teaches peaceful alternatives for children.

Going for the Record by Julie Swanson is a good story for young and older soccer fans.

Thank God for St. Jude's Thrift Shop, as Pat Walker has found us another book, this one celebrating the 15th anniversary of Habitat for Humanity. Frye Gaillard has written **If I Were a Carpenter**. Our Habitat volunteers (and others) will enjoy this book.

Carolyn Sanders, Librarian

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE BOOKS & DVD?

ADULT:

Branch, T.	<i>Parting the Waters</i>
Lucado, M.	<i>When God Whispers Your Name</i>
Scammon, J.	<i>Living with the Psalms</i>
Shanks, H.	<i>The Brother of Jesus</i>
Shurden, W.	<i>The Baptist Identity</i>
Torbet, R.	<i>A History of the Baptists</i>

DVD #2:

Lewis, C. S.	<i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i>
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The above information was inadvertently omitted from the June/July *Tidings*. Although the notice appeared in a couple of bulletins, wider readership is needed in hopes of finding these missing items.

Please search your bookshelves at home and return any materials found. No questions will be asked.

It is particularly disturbing that someone has taken the replacement copy of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* DVD. Its card was tossed on the library desk – but with no name or date noted.

Reminder, ALL library materials must be signed out.

Please read the updated Library Procedures poster on the desk.

Thank You

This month we want to give a big **Thank You** to an Underwood family that does many things behind the scenes, sometimes stealthily at nights or weekends so we aren't aware until later of what they accomplished.

Yes, we are thanking the Henderson family: Dan, Gloria, Nick, and Jeffrey. Before becoming college students, Nick and Jeff helped their father in many projects such as building the pastor's study. That involved closing off the Fireside Room and relocating the library.

Dan was the person who did the remodeling of the handicapped bathroom on the first floor. Additionally, Dan is the "main man" for our boiler. Thanks to him we enjoy a comfortably heated church each winter.

During the Stable House renovation, they gave valuable time and resources including all the insulation and then installed that insulation. A current project in progress is replacing the ceiling in the second floor nursery rooms.

About ten years ago following an August torrential downpour, Dan used his equipment to remove five inches of standing water in our Fellowship Hall. He also loans and sets up scaffolding when needed, making it easier for an electrician to service the ceiling fixtures in the sanctuary or entrance hall.

Gloria often assists Hanie Lykins with special coffee hours and post-funeral receptions. One year she served on the audit committee, checking Underwood's financial records.

This family has done innumerable projects for Underwood over the years, all with a great sense of humor.

Our hats are off to you, DAN, GLORIA, NICK, and JEFFERY. Good work!

THIRD ANNUAL BRAT FRY ABLAST!

On Sunday, August 26, 58 people enjoyed a wonderful picnic meal in Fellowship Hall following the worship service. Grilled brats, hamburgers, veggie burgers or wieners, accompanied by potato salad, cole slaw, fruit salad, chips, pickles and delectable desserts, were consumed with gusto. Thanks to Marge Gaeth, along with the many volunteer grillers, table setters and clean-up crew, we had a wonderful time. A special thanks goes to Charles Berry and his daughter, Sarah, who assembled the four new wooden high chairs just in time to be used on Sunday. If you helped in some way or brought food, thank you!

The money remaining after paying expenses for the event was sent to the Wauwatosa Food Pantry.

AN INVITATION

The members of **Small Group One** will begin their monthly meetings again in September. We invite you to join us.

Since this group started two years ago, we:

- Studied the history of Baptists
- Explored Underwood's history
- Read and discussed Jimmy Carter's book, *Our Endangered Values*
- Read and discussed Barack Obama's book, *The Audacity of Hope* (with the direction of Cyndie Ody-Weis)

At the September meeting the group will decide their course of action for this year. If you are interested in getting to know people better through a small group, talk to Bonnie Sorenson or Carolyn Sanders for further details. Watch the bulletin for the start date.

2007 MINISTERS COUNCIL SENATE WORKS TO SUSTAIN AND IMPROVE MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP

The 2007 Ministers Council Senate met at the American Baptist Assembly in Green Lake, Wisconsin August 11-14 to continue their work of building up the church of Jesus Christ by sustaining and improving the ministerial leadership of the American Baptist Churches in the USA. Their strategy for this work includes encouraging monthly face-to-face collegial covenant groups as normative to faithful and effective ministry, empowering and resourcing strong constituent Councils with exciting programs, and establishing a pattern of national conferences for pastoral leaders.

WISCONSIN EAT LOCAL CHALLENGE

Spend 10% of your food budget on local food September 14-23, 2007. Learn about the importance of buying locally grown foods. Sign up for the Wisconsin Eat Local Challenge. Visit <http://www.cias.wisc.edu/eatlocal> or contact Brian Joiner at BrianJoiner@mindspring.com or 608-238-6358 for more information.

JUVENILE DIABETES WALK

Dear Family and friends,
Our family will be participating in the "Walk to Cure Diabetes" on **September 23rd** at the Milwaukee County Zoo, with our team called "Bri's Brigade". (As many of you know, my niece was diagnosed with Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes in July of 2004.) Will you please support us by making a donation to Bri's Brigade? There are three ways you can help:

- Cash donation.
- Check made payable to JDRF
- Or contribute with a credit card online by going to: <http://walk.jdrf.org>

Thanks for your support, Sarah Torbenson

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES LOOKING FOR BEDS

Ako Hasegawa, Community Resource Developer of Lutheran Social Services (Refugee & Immigrant Services) notified us that LSS is looking for beds for refugee families from Burma and Somalia, arriving in September. If you have anything available for donation, please contact her at 414-325-3063 or at ahasegaw@lsswis.org.

Underwood was so generous three years ago when we sponsored a Somali family. Can you help at this time with furniture?

PRAYER CONCERNS

Members: Tifuh Amba, Eva Berry, Jim Christenson, Bette Day, Marge Gaeth, Kathie Hanold, Joyce Johnson, Jack Kearnan, Janice Melcher, Maggi Monahan, Grace Morgan, Pat Ransom, Virginia Reininger, Charlyn-Mai Roberts, Carolyn and Joe Sanders, Shari West Schmit, Dee Schowalter, Shirley Tupper, Llew Walker, Lisa Wilkening, Tim Wilkening.

Friends and Others Known to the Church Family: Tifuh Amba's mother, aunt, Anne Marie, sister, Mourine Amba; Judy Chan; Pam Clark's mom, Wilma Clark; Nancy Fritter's mother, Jean Thomas; Kathie Hanold's friends, Jimmy & Faith Givings; Steve Heimerl's brother-in-law, Frank Slayton; Margaret Jeske's Cousin, Erwin Zapf; Joyce Johnson's niece, Jean Kate Moten; Chad & Sarah Kafka's friends, Brian & Anita; Janice Melcher's friend, Kali; Grace Morgan's son, David; Sei Pramenko's sister, Masa; Julie Pruett's cousin, Lisa; Carolyn & Joe Sanders' daughter, Jenneane; Shari West Schmit's friends, little Shannon and brother Danny, Stacey, Crystal, Sarah, Jessica, Jess, Sharon, David, Bob, Sammie & William, Sandy, Mary, Al and Nancy; Rhonda; PFC. Mario S. Vasquez, friend of Shari, serving in Baghdad; and all soldiers in active duty; Earl and Carol Schultz' daughter-in-law, Gayle Schultz; Keith and Virginia Wick's nephew, Leo; Wendy Whitaker.

Sympathy: The Underwood Church family extends to the Sleik and Heimerl families upon the July 23rd death of their mother and grandmother, Sadie Sleik.