

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."

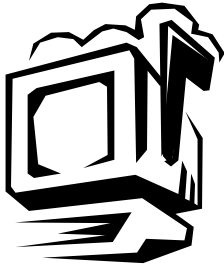
From the Pastor

YOU NEVER MISS YOUR WATER, UNTIL YOUR WELL RUNS DRY

It is easy to take things for granted when they work well. When things hum smoothly along, we can forget to be grateful for ordinary graces. When things get out of whack we become painfully aware of the fragile balance of everyday life.

Typically, I enjoy excellent health, but for the past few weeks, a nameless malady knocked me flat out. For a person always on the go, being a patient patient has been a challenge. I've had a lot of time to lie still and reflect. I used many of these hours to offer prayers of thanksgiving: for the compassionate people in my life, for the self-giving love of this community, for peace and cooperation in the wider world. There has been ample time to appreciate the crew who participated in the Crop Walk on a dismal gray and rainy Sunday afternoon, and to pray for those who would reap the benefit of their efforts. I've had time to appreciate the small and large things that usually take no effort, and time to give thanks for people willing to step up and fill in the gaps.

Beginning my day in grateful awareness affects every aspect of my day. We are so quick to go to God with our needs; how often do we turn to God in prayer with our gratitude? Give thanks not only for what happens, but also for your near-misses. Thank God for all the could-have-beens that never came to pass. Suffuse your day with appreciation, and live in grateful awareness of the abundant blessings in your life. Don't wait until you are flat on your back to look up and around at the everyday miracles in your life.



BULLETIN BOARD

THANK YOU'S

DEAR UNDERWOOD FAMILY,

Many thanks to all of you for your prayers and well wishes. Your prayers, cards, and concerns helped buoy my spirits, and sped my recovery. I continue to appreciate your patience as I return to good health.

Jamie

DEAREST UNDERWOOD FAMILY,

Thank you so much for your kind understanding and compassion and all the beautiful sympathy cards when my father, Owen J. West, Jr. was called home by Jesus Christ. It was a difficult time for me as most of you know. Without your support, I would have had a more complicated time.

Thanks again, all of Underwood.

Love, Shari West

FINCA thanks you for your generous contribution to help operate 100,000 Village Banks all over the world, helping blighted villages into vibrant communities, humming with grassroots economic activity.

Sincerely, Katie Touchton-Leonard

Thank you for your support of Doctors Without Borders. The Doctors continue to focus on helping those struggling to survive today's most acute conflicts and epidemics.

Sincerely, Nicolas de Torrenté

WORK MORNING

Please join us in a Work Day on Saturday, **November 3rd**, from 8:30 a.m. – Noon. We'll rake leaves, fix gutters, remove vines, and do anything else to prepare for winter. Call Eric with questions. 414-257-3016.

THE VINES ARE COMING DOWN

Just so you are not surprised one of these Sunday mornings, you will soon see the vines removed from the south wall of the church. While the vines are attractive, they present a hazard to the wood and stone surfaces beneath. The Ministry Council has decided therefore, to have them removed before they become more evasive.

BUSINESS MEETING

On Sunday, **October 28th** at 11:00 a.m. Underwood will hold a brief business meeting to discuss the 2008 budget. Please plan to attend immediately following the worship Service.

CHRISTMAS VOICES

Have you always wanted to join the choir but did not want to make the time commitment? Then you should consider a "No Strings Attached" choir membership, good for the Christmas Eve service only! This year we are going to have two options: a women's chorus that will sing *Gesu Bambinu*, a mixed voice chorus, or both. If you are interested in temporarily joining, please speak with any choir member or Emilie Rohde-Terrien.

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW

Project Focal Point is an inner city agency sponsored by American Baptists – located on 8th & Burleigh Sts. Underwood Church has been involved in this ministry for 25 years with board members, tutors for Teens (and young children), our Christmas Eve offering and food and mitten donations. As of now, repairs to the building must be made and there are no extra funds. One way we can help is to support the annual; dinner, which is on **November 10th**, at the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church at 2433 W. Roosevelt Dr. Tickets are \$25 – good food and a good program. See Grace Morgan for tickets.

PLAYING AND PRAYING FOR PEACE IN EL SALVADOR

This past summer, a group from Underwood Church traveled to El Salvador to help build a Peace Park. Construction work is almost complete there. We are raising funds to give the community of El Puente de Cuscatlan, playground equipment for their park.

\$10,000 will purchase the play set, and will cover shipping and installation costs on the ground. Why not give a gift that gives more than once? Give a loved one a gift of a swing, or a slide, or a share in the jungle gym, and give our Salvadoran sisters and brothers a chance to realize their vision of peace.

Working together, we can make this dream a possibility.

Please give what you can, and share this with others who would like to help transform the park into a place of peace and shared community.

Slide	\$ 2000
Swing Set	\$ 3000
Jungle Gym	\$ 5000
A trip down the slide	\$ 250
A swing	\$ 150
A rung on the slide	\$ 50
A turn on the swing	\$ 25
A share in the Jungle Gym	\$ 15

UNDERWOOD'S SENIORS HONORED

The annual luncheon honoring Underwood's members and friends who have achieved the magical age of 80 and above was held Sunday, October 21. It continued the long-standing tradition of 30 plus years

Fifteen of our seniors were present: Jim Christenson, Bette Day, Eleanor Fitch, Myrtle Hand, Margaret Jeske, Hanie Lykins, Martha Merkt, Grace Morgan, Joe Sanders, Dee Schowalter, Ken Smith, Jeanne Vermeulen, Helen Weiland, Wyla Wong, and Millie Youngquist.

Over 50 honored guests, members and friends enjoyed the Oriental themed meal provided by Mary Ann and Duane Hand and Jan Schneider. Lorraine Genich and Sarah Torbenson decorated the tables beautifully, using a fall theme. They also served the food along with Doreen Reitmeyer and Bonnie Sorenson.

A lively sing-a-long followed lunch. Musical therapist, Miriam Larson, used her guitar and the piano to lead the group in singing hymns and old-time songs. Additionally, Allison Hochmuth and Brent Sherry entertained everyone with their songs and guitar playing.

Thanks to all who made this event exceptional, including Sarah Hand for the unique invitations sent to all the special honorees.



THE LIBRARY CORNER

NEW BOOKS AVAILABLE

Attention, Beverly Lewis fans – This favorite author of novels about Amish culture has begun another series. ***The Parting*** is the first of the Courtship of Nellie Fisher books.

The back cover note states: “The [Amish] people themselves dare to challenge the old ways of their heritage...and each patriarch must choose a side.” It is a good read. Look for it soon in the “new books” display.

Earlier this year the library acquired books II and III of Gilbert Morris’ Singing River series. We have completed that four volume series with ***The Homeplace*** (book I) and ***The Courtship*** (book IV). These books are set in the time of America’s Great Depression.

Another Nicolas Sparks’ novel, ***Dear John***, has been donated, along with two books by Joni Eareckson Tada. We now have another copy of Eugene Peterson’s modern translation of the Bible, ***The Message***. I expect to process these new books very soon.

USED BOOK SALE

Thank you to everyone who purchased books or CDs at the September 30 used book sale. We plan to use the money toward a new video and DVD display rack.

The unsold books will be offered at the April Rummage Sale.

Carolyn Sanders, Librarian

WMO 2007 CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS

Despite a slow start for this year’s **World Mission Offering**, the month-long campaign ended well. This year we collected a total of **\$1140**

Once all the coin boxes have been collected and counted, we should be very close to the projected goal. An anonymous donor has promised to make up the difference to assure we meet our \$1175 goal.

Thanks, as always, for everyone’s generosity. Your money assures that the Word of Jesus Christ continues to be spread throughout our International mission fields.

WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE

Acacia Theatre’s first show of the 2007-2008 season starts on Friday, October 26. “The Women of Lockerbie” was inspired by the true story of the Lockerbie laundry project, though the characters and situations depicted are fictional. After a terrorist’s bomb brought down Pam Am flight 103 over Lockerbie on December 21, 1988, a group of women from the village sought healing by washing and returning to the victims’ families the 11,000 articles of clothing recovered from the wreckage. This play was developed during workshops and readings prior to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States. “The Women of Lockerbie” resonates even more strongly in the post-9-11 world.

All Acacia Theatre performances are at Concordia University’s Todd Wehr Auditorium, 12800 North Lake Shore Drive in Mequon.

The Women of Lockerbie will be performed on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, Oct. 26, 27, Nov. 1, 2, 3, at 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays, Oct. 28, Nov. 3, 4, at 3 p.m.

Call (414) 744-5995 to reserve your tickets for this show. Ask about their season ticket pricing.

GENDER DISCUSSION

Join us November 11th and 18th after worship,
for engaging and informative conversations led by Cyndie Ody-Weis
Sugar & Spice & all Things Nice... Snips & Snails & Puppy Dogs' Tails...
Boys will be Boys ... Girls Just Want to Have Fun

These sound like historical phrases. Are times really changing when it relates to gender roles and stereotypes? Just what is gender? Is it all wrapped up in an x and a y... a girl and a boy, the size and shape of the brain, self-declaration? Long hair or short? Facial hair or not? Careers and interests and SAT's and household responsibilities? Media Stereotypes? Just what is gender? Is there such a thing as masculine/ feminine?

In this class, we will look at the issues surrounding gender- both from an historical perspective and in 2007. We will delve into the scientific, genetic, social and educational issues, touching on the male-female dichotomy and the concept of a gender continuum, both psychologically and physically. We will discuss issues of homosexuality, omni (bi) sexuality, transgender, inter-sex, hormonal influences before and after birth, and other fascinating gender-related themes. We will explore gender stereotyping, learning differences, toy choices, parenting styles, role models, sexual harassment, abuse, sports, violence, bullying, social interaction patterns etc. Make a point to participate in these timely discussions.

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Friends and Others Known to the Church Family: Tifuh Amba's mom, aunt, Anne Marie, sister, Mourine Amba; Pam Clark's mom, Wilma Clark; Nancy Fritter's mom, Jean Thomas; Steve Heimerl's brother-in-law, Frank Slayton; Margaret Jeske's cousin, Erwin Zapf; 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's friends, little Shannon & brother Danny, Stacey, Crystal, Sarah, Jessica, Jess, Sharon, David, Bob, Sammie & William, Sandy, Mary, Al & Nancy; Rhonda; PFC. Mario S. Vasquez, friend of Shari, serving in Baghdad; & all soldiers in active duty; Keith & Virginia Wick's nephew, Leo; Wendy Whitaker.

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ITEMS NEEDED FOR MILWAUKEE CHRISTIAN CENTER

REMINDER: Please sign up for one or more items on the poster on the easel in the narthex. Participants of the Milwaukee Christian Center's programs will appreciate your gifts as will the mothers of newborn babies born in various mission fields.

Bring the items by **Sunday, November 11** and place them in the box marked Milwaukee Christian Center in the church office, or give to Carolyn Sanders.

The baby items should be marked "White Cross," and can be also placed in that box.

Thank you for your generosity!