

# The Messenger

November 2011

*Federated Church*

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## From your Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ:

We are encouraged to maintain “an attitude of gratitude” throughout the year. Excellent advice! When we focus on what we are grateful for our glasses immediately become half-full instead of half-empty!

This Thanksgiving season I am remembering a prayer uttered by a grateful person: “Lord, thank You for all that You have given to me; thank You for all that You have taken away from me; and, thank You for all that You have left for me. Amen.”

Make a list of all that God has given to you. My list would include the joy of being a pastor of such a wonderful church of loving and caring Christian people! And while that is on my mind, let me thank you for the picture and kind words you had published in last Sunday's newspaper for “Pastor Appreciation Week.” How thoughtful! It meant a lot to Kathy and me and we thank you very much.

Also make a list of all that God has taken from you or that you would like Him to take from you. For example, perhaps He has taken from you a time of feeling depressed or hopeless, or maybe He has taken from you the tendency to be envious or jealous of others, or just maybe He has taken from you overwhelming desires for the material things of this world and given to you instead a growing longing for all that is eternal. We can give thanks for all that He has taken from us, and we can place our confidence in His divine wisdom as we ask Him to take from us all that He wishes. Our Heavenly Father only wants all that is good for us.

Finally, like our Pilgrim forefathers, we can give thanks for all that we have. Even in their meagerness the Pilgrims remained a grateful and faithful people! What a rich heritage we have!

Happy Thanksgiving to each of you and to your loved ones!

Peace and Joy,

**Pastor Chuck**

# November Birthdays Anniversaries

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Clayton Johnson	11-2	Bob & Dorothy Kraft	11-15-59
Kelly Martin	11-3	Ron & Anne Charles	11-22-62
Dick Moore	11-4	Don & Laura Lebruska	11-26
Erika Prautzsch	11-9		
Kent Docekal	11-10		
Brittini Thomas	11-11		
Dorothy Kraft	11-11		
Michelle Andersen	11-11		
Kevin Helser	11-12		
Ron Charles	11-14		
Toni Buettner	11-17		
Bonnie Cawiezel	11-27		
Sandy Gompert	11-28		
Kevin Thomas	11-29		

## *Where Would You Like to Serve?*

Each month a calendar is posted in Fellowship Hall announcing who will be serving as an usher, greeter, Scripture reader and so forth. Please be sure to check the calendar each month for your name, and if your name is not listed please let Pastor Chuck know where you would like to serve. Thank you.



## *Just a Little Humor*

Sometimes we forget just how big God really is. Take, for example, the children going through the cafeteria line getting their lunch trays filled. When they came to a bowl of big red apples they noticed a sign stuck in the bowl that read: “Take only one apple. Remember, God is watching!” Each child dutifully took only one apple. But when they got to the brownies at the end of the line they noticed a sign one of their friends had quickly written. The sign said: “Take all the brownies you want because God is busy watching the apples!”

## *Bible Memory Verse*

“He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.””

Psalm 91:1-2



The Christian Education Committee met October 12<sup>th</sup>. Persons attending this meeting included Connie Birdsall, Kevin Helsler, and Melissa Schneider. Pastor Chuck was out of town.

Kevin reported that the Sunday School collections for month of September came to \$20.86. Duties for the Sunday School Superintendent were established. It was also decided that the “Packing Party” for the Operation Christmas Child project will be on November 20<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall. The C. C. Circle has offered to provide lunch for those packing the shoeboxes.

There will be no Sunday School classes on October 30<sup>th</sup>. This is the fifth Sunday of the month when we use music to celebrate and praise the Lord. We want the children to be in the sanctuary to experience the music and also to sing a couple of songs for the congregation.

Our next Christian Education Committee meeting will be in the Parlor on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

### *C. C. Circle*

The next C. C. Circle meeting will be Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Hostesses will be Janet Johnson and Connie Birdsall. Sharon Gowin will give the Devotions and Jenni Martin will present the program. The Fall Cash Festival is underway. The C. C. Circle Budget Committee has presented a budget for the F.Y. 2011-2012, and it has been distributed to the membership.

### *Library*



Remember our church’s Elliott Family Memorial Library downstairs. It is full of wonderful books, audio tapes, and video tapes to enhance your Bible study or provide great reading for edification and relaxation.

### *Member Information*

Kinley Dawn Lease was born Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> to Spencer and Amy Blehm Lease. Grandparent is Lori Blehm, and Great-grandparents are Arvid and Jackie Gompertt. Congratulations on such a special blessing!

Also, Betty Gompert Underberg passed away on Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Betty was a

member of the church all her younger life. Betty was a sister of Arvid Gompert.

Patti Larsen's daughter, Erica (Larsen) Dockray, just returned home from a teaching assignment in Jakarta. She worked hard but, as one can imagine, she had a very interesting experience with such marked cultural differences!

### *Special Joys*

Verne Lewellen has been discharged from the hospital! He has healed sufficiently so that at this time he no longer requires inpatient care. Congratulations, Verne! Keep up the good work of rehab (even though it is painful and hard) so we can one day soon see you back on Sunday mornings. We love you!

Tyler and Casey Debus had their infant daughter, Lillian Mae Debus, baptized Sunday morning, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Helen Spencer is Lillian Mae's great-grandmother; Robert and Lorraine Thomas are her great-grandparents. Max and Bonnie Cawiezel, and Kent and Bobbie Debus are the grandparents.

### *Special Concerns*

Don Lebruska is in the Rapid City Regional Hospital being treated for digestive problems. He also is coping with pneumonia. Laura has been with him the entire time. Please keep Don in your prayers for health and healing, and Laura for courage and strength.

Jack Fox is in room number one, bed B at the Med. Center in The Residency. He is healing from surgery while fighting cancer. Jack needs your prayers for healing, comfort, and encouragement.

### *Health Tips for the Month of November*

- Have you had your flu shot and/or pneumonia shot this year? It is not our most favorite thing to do but it is very important in order to avoid even greater discomfort further down the road! If you need this done, stop right now, pick a date and promise yourself you will get it done on that date!
- When was the last time you changed the battery in your smoke detector alarm at home? If you are not sure give it a test and see if it "beeps" when you push the button. Some people make a mental note to themselves to change the batteries in their smoke detector alarms each time they change their clocks to or from Daylight Savings Time.
- If you use a space heater during the cold months you should be certain your heater is on a level, hard inflammable surface. Keep your heater at least 3 feet away from drapes, bedding, furniture or other flammable materials. Also, when you leave the room you must be sure to turn your space heater off. Do not leave a space heater on while you are sleeping.

## *Church Council*

Church Council Meeting  
October 13, 2011

Church Council met with the following members present: Sharon Gowin, Janet Johnson, Kevin Helser, Vern Pedersen, Ermadean Haas, Joy Pedersen, Maxine Walker, Colleen James, Mike Gompert, Larry Birdsall, Connie Birdsall, and Russ Noel. The meeting was opened with prayer by moderator Russ Noel at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes of September 8, 2011 Church Council meeting was read by the members. Motion made by Ermadean Haas to approve the minutes as read. Kevin Helser seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as read.

The Treasurer's report was read by the members. Colleen James made motion to approve the report as read. Sharon Gowin seconded the motion. Treasurer's report approved as read.

### **Board Reports:**

Trustees-No report.  
Managers-No report.  
Elders-No report.  
Deacons-No report.  
Deaconesses-No report.

### **Committees:**

Building and Grounds: Vern Pedersen present.

- (1) Fisher Roofing called several times in past six weeks and still is saying sometime this week.
- (2) New Boiler passed state inspection.
- (3) Rental houses are now painted.
- (4) Ceiling has been repaired in rental house.

Christian Education Committee: The Committee met on October 12, 2011. Kevin Helser, Connie Birdsall, and Melissa Schneider were present for the meeting. The Committee decided that on November 20<sup>th</sup> we will have another "Operation Christmas Child" packing party. C. C. Circle will provide the lunch. The following duties were established for the Sunday School Superintendents: A) Keep attendance; (B) Take snacks and drinks up to the rooms; (C) Pick songs for the kids to sing; (D) Take garbage out, (if necessary); (E) Keep rooms cool; (F) Greet the kids; (G) Dismiss the kids after church.

October 30<sup>th</sup> kids sing in church and stay during sermon.

Teachers of the month are Connie Birdsall and Brittini Thomas.

Offering for month of September: \$20.86

Membership Committee: Members present were Ermadean Haas, Colleen James, Maxine Walker, and Joy Pedersen. There will be a Carry-in Dinner October 16<sup>th</sup>.

Worship and Music Committee: No report.

Scholarship Committee: No Report

Stewardship and Finance Committee: Mike Gompert was present; no actions were taken.

Missions Committee: Members present were Larry Birdsall, Sharon Gowin, and Janet Johnson. Vouchers made:

JAARS.....	\$200.00
Doves.....	\$100.00
KCMI.....	\$50.00
World Neighbors.....	\$100.00

C. C. Circle: Members present were Ermadean Haas, Joy Pedersen, Maxine Walker and Colleen James. The Fall Cash Festival is in progress. The C. C. Circle Budget Committee met and set up the budget for 2011-2012. Copies of the budget have been given to the members. The Treasurer's audit of books has been done. Erma Lewellen was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a Birthday Card for 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Old Business:** Audio/ Visual installer to be here next week to recheck system. Old monitors were taken to Staples to be disposed of properly.

**New Business:** We will return to meeting times of 6:00 p.m. for Boards, 6:30 p.m. for committees, and 7:00 p.m. for Church Council meeting. Discussion of replacing steeple lights was held.

**Pastor's Report:** No report as pastor was on vacation.

Motion made by Vern Pedersen to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded by Colleen James. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maxine Walker, secretary

## *Last Call*

### *Baptism of Lillian Mae Debus*

