

# The Messenger

September 2011

*Federated Church*

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## From your Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ:

This month we as a nation will remember that tragic day of September 11, 2001. On that day an act of terroristic violence changed our nation forever.

There will be services honoring those whose lives were taken from them ten years ago. Stories will be retold of those who would have been at work in the World Trade Center if it had not been for a sick child they needed to care for at home; or, if they had not been caught in traffic; or, if they had not taken a few extra moments to run an errand on the way to work.

This year – as in years past – the mayor of New York City, Michael Bloomberg, will not invite the presence of clergy at the Ground Zero commemoration. There is a growing sense of urgency that clergy need to participate in this special service and petitions are circulating from several major groups attempting to pressure Mayor Bloomberg to reverse his decision. So far, the mayor refuses to reconsider his decision.

Bloomberg is described as a “secularist” which seems to be another word for “atheist.” On that fateful day millions and millions of people turned to God in prayer asking and pleading with Him to minister to and care for those families who lost loved ones in the tragedy and those who were injured. In almost an instant we became a nation in prayer to God the Father Almighty! And it was a tender, grieving God who reached down to lift us up and to give us courage and hope to survive and eventually move forward.

I thank God for the thousands of people who resist Bloomberg's secularism knowing that it is pure folly to lean on our own understanding. I thank God for those who are speaking out and demanding the public presence of God's spokespersons. And I thank God that His spirit will be present throughout that commemoration ceremony and that prayers will be lifted up to Him throughout the day. There is no edict Bloomberg can issue to block God's presence or to stifle prayers from the hearts of believers! God Bless America!

Peace and Joy,

**Pastor Chuck**

# September Birthdays Anniversaries

# September

Lowell James	9-1	Arvid & Jackie Gompert	9-1-48
Verne Lewellen	9-6	Adam & Jennifer Hill	9-29-07
Dorothy Pedersen	9-6		
Carol Jones	9-7		
Ruth Lukens	9-10		
Nick Gompert	9-25		
Marci Docekal	9-26		
Erica Larsen	9-27		
Donna Sessler	9-29		
Ben Schneider	9-30		

## *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*

### Famous Quotes from Mothers:

Paul Revere's Mother: "I don't care where you think you have to go, young man. Midnight is past your curfew!"

Humpty dumpty's Mother: "Humpty, if I've told you once, I've told you a hundred times not to sit on that wall! But would you listen to me? Nooooo!"

Christopher Columbus' Mother: "I don't care what you've discovered, Christopher. You still could have written!"

Michelangelo's Mother: "Mike, why can't you paint on the walls like other children? Do you have any idea how hard it is to get that stuff off the ceiling?"

Albert Einstein's Mother: "But Albert, it's your senior picture. Can't you do something about your hair? Styling gel, mousse, just something...?"

George Washington's Mother: "The next time I catch you throwing money across the Potomac, you can just kiss your allowance good-bye!"

Thomas Edison's Mother: "Of course I'm proud that you invented the electric light bulb, Thomas. Now please turn off that light and get to bed!"

### *Bible Memory Verse*

“Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.



Sunday School will resume September 11<sup>th</sup>! The Education Committee has been meeting and preparing for the coming year. Our next Christian Education Committee meeting will be in the Parlor on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

All Sunday School teachers who have taught Sunday School or who will be teaching this year are invited and urged to attend this important meeting. We will be discussing the Sunday School curriculum and the plan for the entire 2011-2012 Sunday School year.

### *C. C. Circle*

The next C. C. Circle meeting will be September 1<sup>st</sup>! Maxine Walker, our Church Secretary and the Secretary of the C. C. Circle, will present the program. She will present some astonishing information on plants that surround us in our yards and gardens. You will want to know what she has to teach!

### *Library*



Are you looking for a good book to read? Check out the beautiful new library in the lower level beneath the Church Office. We have a great assortment of books, audio tapes, and video tapes that can be checked out. It seems each week new books are donated to our library. Thank you to those who donate these reading materials.

It is easy to check out a book – just sign your name and the title of the book you are borrowing, and check your name off when you return it.

How easy is that?!

### *Special Joys*

A special picnic for our choir was held at the Mitchell City Park on Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. Ron and Anne Charles hosted the picnic and Ron was the chief chef! The choir does so much for our worship services and this was a time for them to get together for food and fellowship and not have to prepare for the coming Sunday’s worship service. Thanks Ron & Anne for this event, and thanks to the choir for all that you do! Pictures taken by Floyd Gowin of this fun time are at the end of this newsletter.

The Scholarship Committee (Verne Lewellen, Mike Gompert, and Clayton Johnson) was

pleased to award on behalf of the Federated Church scholarships to Dana Anderson and Brittnay Charles. Dana is attending her first year of college of Chadron State College, and Brittany is attending her first year of college at Western Nebraska Community College. We wish both of these special young ladies God speed and much success in their college careers.

Bonnie Clampitt's daughter, Cindy, is visiting Bonnie & Chuck. What a special time that is for their family!

### *Special Concerns*

Eloise Littlejohn recently went into the hospital for surgery on her appendix. The repair was successful. Please keep Eloise in your prayers.

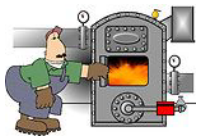
Galen Burkey continues his battle with cancer. Please keep Galen and his wife, Jane, in your prayers.

Lloyd Strong continues to receive care in the "Med Center" at the Residency. Elsie is now residing in the Northfield Villa. Each day Elsie goes to the Residency to be with Lloyd and to eat dinner with him.

Glenda Hilyard is recovering from knee surgery. The rehabilitation phase is a painful but necessary treatment to realize the full benefits of the surgery. It was great to have her with us last Sunday morning! Keep up the good work, Glenda!

Mike Welton is home now recovering from back surgery. We miss not having Mike worship with us Sunday mornings but know he will be back as soon as his health permits.

### *New Boiler Update*



The new boiler has been installed! Thanks to the Building and Grounds Committee for their diligence in getting bids to replace the old boiler with our new one. A lot of work and planning went into this project and now we are set for the chilly Fall days and for the blasts of Arctic air that comes with Winter! Also, a special thanks to each of you who contributed to the purchase and installation of this important piece of equipment. Thank you, thank you!

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

Once again the West Nile virus is being carried in Western Nebraska by mosquitoes. Here are some tips for repelling those pesky critters from wanting to feast on you.

- Wipe exposed skin surfaces with a sheet of Bounce Fabric Softener, and then stick the sheet in a belt loop or pin it to your blouse.
- Some persons report that taking Vitamin B-1 keeps the mosquitoes away from them.
- Also, stop eating bananas! There is something about the banana oil as your body processes it that attracts mosquitoes. Who would've thunk it!

- An odor the mosquitoes hate is Vick's Vaporub. A lot of humans do not like the smell either but it appears to drive the mosquitoes away!
- Some people recommend rubbing their skin with Avon Skin-So-Soft bath oil mixed with alcohol (50-50 mixture).
- Finally, beautify your yard with marigolds. They give off a smell that drives many different kinds of insects away. Some people report this has reduced the amount of insecticides they use in their yards.

### *An Opportunity to Serve*

I call this opportunity the opportunity of *Driving Miss Daisy*. There is a lady at the Mitchell Care Center who would like to come to Church on Sunday mornings to worship with us but she needs transportation. Would you like to be the answer to her prayers? Please contact Pastor Chuck.

### *Church Council*

Church Council is not meeting during June, July, and August unless a special meeting is called.

### *Pastor's Report for the Month of August, 2011*

I continue making home visits, hospital visits, nursing home visits, and telephone calls/personal contacts. During the month of August I made 7 nursing home visits; 6 hospital visits at RWMC; 5 telephone calls to parishioners recovering from surgery and/or illness; 1 home visit; and 4 appointments with congregation members.

There were no meetings of the Mitchell/Morrill Ministerial Association or the C.C.C.C. High Plains Pastor's group

I attended the Christian Education Committee meeting August 10<sup>th</sup>.

I worked with the Audio-Visual upgrade task force in preparation for the installation of the new equipment.

### *Choir Picnic (Thanks, Floyd, for the pictures!)*

