

# CLEVELAND CHURCH OF CHRIST

Vol. 26

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Corrections made June 4, 2008



## ENCOURAGERS

*By David Kester, Minister*

“...let us encourage one another...” Hebrews 10:25

Followers of Jesus are called to encourage one another. At least a dozen times in the New Testament, we are challenged to encourage each other. William Barclay said, “It is easy to laugh at men’s ideals, to pour cold water on their enthusiasm, to discourage them. The world is full of discouragers; we have a Christian duty to encourage one another. Many a time a word of praise or thanks or appreciation or cheer has kept a man on his feet.” “So, let us encourage one another....” (Hebrews 10:25)

We have some powerful encouragers in our congregation. People have sent me emails or written me notes, not always long in length but long in encouragement. A short note may be more powerful than you know. I remember a card I received in February 1980. It was a hard time in my life, my dad was very sick in the hospital. At the bottom of the note, a friend had written, “Remember the resurrection.” 28 years later, I remember the note and I have not forgotten the resurrection. I save some of the notes people have written me. I remember one that just said, “Thank you. I think you preached that sermon just for us.” Rick Walston wrote me a note on the day of my dad’s funeral that I will not soon forget. Brett Miller sent an email that moved me to tears. I cannot speak of encouragement without mentioning my dear friend Pam, who is one of my greatest encouragers.

The writer of Hebrews says, “Encourage each other.” Can you imagine what would happen if each of us encouraged even one person each time we came together as the family of God? Can you imagine the joy and celebration that would flow through us, as we realized not only does God care about but so do our brothers and sisters? It does not take a great deal to encourage someone: a thank you could be enough. Saying, “I’m praying for you,” or a pat on the back, or a hug could be just the encouragement someone needs.

The apostle Paul’s wrote to the Ephesians saying, “I am sending (Tychicus) to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you.” Recently, I noticed that the apostle Paul also mentioned Tychicus in his letter to the Colossians. He wrote almost the identical thing to the Colossians about Tychicus as he had written to the Ephesians. “I am sending (Tychicus) to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts.” Evidently, Tychicus had the gift of encouragement. The only other things I know about him was that he was from the province of Asia (Acts 20:4) and that the apostle Paul was accustomed to sending him on errands. (2 Timothy 4:12; Titus 3:12) I am sending him to you that he might encourage your hearts. When the apostle wrote to the Thessalonians, he reminded them that he had sent Timothy to them, “to encourage them.” Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, was called Barnabas by the apostles. His nickname meant “the son of encouragement.” (Acts 4:36) I have had a few nicknames in my life, none as good as Barnabas. Hebrews 3:13 challenges us to encourage one another daily.

It is easy to discourage someone – to pour cold water on his or her dreams – to belittle and deride. Anyone can be a discourager. Followers of Jesus are called to be encouragers. The question is if we will we live up to our calling?

## JUNE 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sun, June 1 — Summer Bible Classes begin:  
Class for All Ages in Fireside Room; Class for Women in Library; Class for Adults in Room 5
- Wed, June 4 — Wednesday Program – 5:45pm Meal and 6:30pm Adult Bible Study
- Sun, June 8 — Building Offering
- Sun, June 8 — Worship leaders training after the worship service
- Sun, June 8 — 7th-12th Youth and others interested meet to build Cherry Creek Day church float at R & J Lloyd's + Hotdog Roast – 3:00pm
- Mon-Sat, 9-14 — Surfacing the church parking lot. Sign the list in the foyer if you are willing to help, or talk to Doug S
- Tues, June 10 — Dorcas Fellowship – Meet at the church at 11:00am to car pool rides to Elli Gail's Bakery and Deli in Elysian
- Tues, June 10 — Church Board Meeting – 7:30pm; Orbbe C will host
- Fri-Sat, 13-14 — Cleveland Cherry Creek Days
- Sat. June 14 — 4th Annual Bob Guentzel Memorial Pancake Breakfast – 9:00am-Noon
- Sun-Thurs, 14-19 — Vacation Bible School at church – Sunday 6:00-8:30pm  
— Mon-Thurs 6:30-8:30pm
- Mon, June 16 — Elder's meeting at church – 7:30pm
- Thurs, June 19 — Vacation Bible School Program at church – 8:00pm
- Sun-Sat, 22-28 — David Kester at PHCA camp
- Thurs, June 26 — Ladies Nite Out at Perkins on Madison Avenue in Mankato – 6:00pm

## COMING LATER THIS YEAR

- Sat, Aug 16 — MINNESOTA TWINS GAME (This trip is in conjunction with Cleveland Community Ed.) Children ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. \$34 cost includes ticket, transportation, a regular hotdog and soft drink. Registration deadline is Monday, July 21. Pick up a registration form in the church foyer.
- Sun, Sept 7 — Friend Day at church
- Mon, Sept 8 — Vikings vs Packers Football Game on the big screen outdoors at Mary and Mark H's home in Faribault
- Sun, Sept 28 — Crossroads College Day at church
- October 11-19 — New Orleans Mission Trip

**MONTHLY BUILDING OFFERING** will be received on Sunday, June 8. In April, \$4,452.00 was given to the building fund. As of May 1, \$347,854.90 remained to be paid on the building loan.

## THE PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: Vacation Bible School 2008

A swashbucklin' bunch of vegetables will be the highlight of our Vacation Bible School curriculum this summer. Set on the high seas, "The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything" offers up Biblically based lessons taught by some ordinary guys (or, in this case, produce) turned heroes. With clips from the Veggie Tales movie of the same name, snappy shanties (songs), fun-to-make crafts, and grub fit for a buccaneer, it is sure to be something you won't want to miss.

VBS begins at 6:00pm on Sunday, June 15 and runs nightly from 6:30–8:30pm through Thursday, June 19. The program is offered to lads and lassies age three to those who have just completed sixth grade. Registration forms are available online and at the church.

Work is already underway on decorating. If interested in helping out with painting before hand, please talk to Judy L or Janice C. Volunteers during the week are always a blessing as well, so contact Connie P if you are able to help.

## 2008 PINE HAVEN CAMP DATES

It is not too late to sign up for summer camp. Our camp scholarship fund helps youth campers attend camp. Those in grades 5-12 will receive \$70 scholarship. \$30 scholarships will be given to those attending 4th grade camp. After the May 11 camp offering, we have \$1575.92 in our scholarship fund. We will need to raise an additional \$400 for scholarships and transportation costs before the end of the summer.

Another way of helping young people attend camp is serving as a volunteer driver. After each week of camp listed below, the number of drivers needed is given. If you are willing to help with transportation, sign the list in the three ring binder at the camp display, or contact David K.

June 15-21	11th-12th . . . . (1 driver)	Aug 10-13	4thGrade (1driver)
June 22-28	9th-10th ZONE A	Aug 14-17	Family Weekend
June 29-Ju 4	Family Week	Aug 17-22	5th-6th ZONE A . . (2 drivers)
July 18-20	Mature Adult Weekend	Aug 22-24	Motorcycle Weekend
July 20-25	Adventure Week	Aug 29-Se 1	Last Chance Camp
July 25-27	Ladies Retreat	Sept 4-7	Scrapbook Weekend
July 27-Aug 2	7th-8th ZONE A . (1 driver)	Sept 11-14	Scrapbook Weekend

## PARADE FLOAT & HOT DOGS

On Sunday, June 8, the 7th-12th Grade Youth (and other interested people) will be constructing a float for the Cherry Creek Day Parade which will be on Saturday, June 14. We will meet at Russ and Judy L's at 3:00pm to make the parade float and roast hotdogs around a fire.

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL** will feature a Women's Study Class in the Library (the Women of the Bible). An adult study of the book of Acts will continue in Room 5. A combined class for ALL young people (ages 2-99) will meet in the Fireside Room featuring Simple Science Experiments that Illustrate Principles from the Bible. (Children under 2 may join their parents in a class.)

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Join us for the Fourth Annual Bob Guentzel Memorial Pancake Breakfast Saturday, June 14, from 9:00am-Noon. Bob planned to cook pancakes for all of us, but went home to be with the Lord before he was able to do so. In Bob's memory and honor, his family hosts a pancake meal each year. This year, all money donated is designated for surfacing the parking lot. Come and invite some friends.

## CLEVELAND FOOD SHELF

Cleveland has a local food shelf to help those in the Cleveland Area. The food shelf operates on an appointment basis to help with short term or emergency needs. Requests for food can be made to David Kester at (507) 931-5924 or (507) 931-4044, or Cindy Flowers at (507) 420-2817. The food shelf is generously supported by the local churches, food drives from the local school, the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, the Community Club and other organizations, as well as many individuals. If you are in need of food, or know someone who is, contact the Cleveland Food Shelf.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help is needed in mowing the lawn at the church. Sign the list in the foyer. When possible, mow towards the end of the week, so that the lawn looks good on the weekend. A riding mower, string trimmer, and gas are available in the parsonage garage, or you may use your own mower, if you'd like. The terrain is rough, especially around the pond, so be careful as you mow. THANK YOU!

## NEW ORLEANS TRIP UPDATE

October 11-19, ten individuals from our congregation will be working in New Orleans to help with the rebuilding efforts following Hurricane Katrina. Although almost three years have passed since the hurricane, much rebuilding remains to be done in New Orleans. Mike W, Judy L, Graydon D, Laura D, Deb G, Ciara G, Ben T, Pam A, Patty Z, and David K will join with 70 other individuals from around

Minnesota to help rebuild homes in New Orleans. Two years ago, a team from our congregation helped in the demolition process. This year the team will be doing rebuilding! Please pray for those going to New Orleans in October.

Those going to New Orleans in October are reminded that the third payment of (\$100) is due by July 1. Make your check to the Church of Christ and mark New Orleans on the memo line.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2008 GRADUATES**

KIM S (daughter of Doug and Annette) graduated from the University of Minnesota, Crookston, with a degree in Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Management on May 3rd.

BECKY P (daughter of David and Sheila) graduated from the University of Minnesota Morris with a BA in Biology and a BA in Studio Art on May 17th.

BRIANA C (daughter of Dan and Jolene) will graduate from Gustavus Adolphus College on June 1st with a management degree. She will begin working as a store manager of an Abercrombie & Fitch store in the Twin Cities in early June.

### **THREE THANK YOU'S**

DEAR 30-HOUR FAMINE LEADERS AND PARTICIPANTS,

I am so thrilled by what you and your group accomplished during this year's 30 Hour Famine! You were seen. You were heard. And your commitment to be hungry is helping change the lives of children around the world.

My team and I pray regularly for you and your group-and we'll continue to do so. We ask God to continue working in the lives of your students, as they become men and women who care about the needs of the world's poorest children. We pray that your students will grow closer to the Lord each day-and that they'll forge closer bonds with each other. And we pray especially for you-that God will continue to bless you as you love, teach, and mentor your students, helping them become all God created them to be.

Thank you partnering with World Vision. I know you have lots of great activities to choose from, and we are deeply grateful that you decided to be a part of the Famine this year.

God bless you, Debbie Diederich, 30-Hour Famine National Director

DEAR CHURCH FAMILY,

My name is Crystal Blanchard and I am a sophomore at Crossroads College. I am from Reedsburg, WI, and I am pursuing a degree in music. I want to thank you for your generous support of our college. It means so much to know people like you make it possible to have a Christ centered education.

God Bless, Crystal Blanchard

DEAR PASTOR DAVID AND CONGREGATION,

Just to let you know that last Sunday I was deeply touched by the warm compassion and concern expressed to me by the people of Church of Christ. I sincerely appreciated the gesture.

I thank you all. Apparently, we (the people of Burma) are not the only ones – as we can see the moment – people going through the horror of fires, floods, earthquakes, famine, to mention only a few, and the loss of loved ones! What is more, it was really, really sad to know that many had lost their lives before having accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Our God is compassionate and gracious. And I pray that our Faith in him will grow stronger with the time.

Sincerely, Stella Poonyo

## DID YOU KNOW...?

- We received a gift from Stella P in fond memory of her sister, Dr. Violet Kinson. Thank you, Stella!
- The Cleveland Mail Carriers recently collected over 600 pounds of food for the Cleveland Food Shelf. Thanks to the mail carriers and all who generously contributed to the Food Shelf.
- Steve D, David L and David K helped at Pine Haven Work Weekend May 8-10.
- Jordan G was recently honored by the Mid-America Music Hall of Fame as a lifetime achievement recipient. Congratulations, Jordan!
- Carrie and Ethan M have moved to 202 N Fourth Street, St. Peter, MN 56082

## A SUMMER READING PLAN

Many libraries have summer reading programs to encourage young people to read even when school is not in session. One library advertised its summer reading program by saying, "Reading doesn't have to be a chore. Our book guide will inspire even the most reluctant readers with activities and games guaranteed to keep the pages turning." Reading can be a challenge. It can be difficult but it does not have to be a chore. In fact, reading can be a joy especially when we are reading the word of God. As a follower of Jesus, I would encourage you to make God's word the first part of any summer reading plan. If regular Bible reading is not already a part of your life, a reading plan might seem daunting. I suggest a simple reading plan that will give you a taste of much of the New Testament without being too onerous (i.e. wearing).

**DURING JUNE**, read one chapter of the GOSPEL OF MATTHEW each day. Matthew's gospel will introduce you to Jesus, His life, His ministry, His death and resurrection. There are twenty-eight chapters in Matthew's gospel. June has 30 days, so you will even have a couple days to catch-up with your reading if you get behind. If reading is a challenge for you, check out the four video series on the gospel of Matthew from the church library. Every word in these videos is taken from the gospel of Matthew.

**DURING JULY**, read one chapter of the BOOK OF ACTS each day. Luke, the physician, tells of the coming of the Holy Spirit, the beginning and growth of the church and the inclusive of the Gentiles into the church. Acts has twenty-eight chapters. July has 31 days so you will have three days to catch-up if you get behind in your reading during July.

**FOR AUGUST**, read the following... EPHESIANS (6 chapters) was written by the apostle Paul and is described by Ralph Martin as the most contemporary and relevant of all the New Testament books for the modern church. 1, 2 and 3 JOHN (7 chapters total) were written by the apostle John. They remind us of how we can be sure of our salvation and the importance of loving one another. 1 PETER (5 chapter) was written by the apostle Peter. He focuses much of his letter on describing who God is: Creator, Father and Judge. JAMES (5 chapters) is written by the brother of Jesus is all about practical, everyday Christian living. JUDE (1 chapter), who describes himself as the brother of James, is another brother of Jesus. His brief letter reminds "to contend (struggle) for the faith." If you read these twenty-four chapters during August, you will have a whole week to catch-up with your reading if you get behind.

If you stick with this simple summer reading plan, you will have read something from seven of the nine New Testament authors before the summer is over.

Remember: "Reading doesn't have to be a chore. Hopefully, this book guide will inspire even the most reluctant readers...to keep the pages turning."

If you are an avid reader and need some other suggestions for your summer reading program consider these books: 3:16 The Numbers of Hope by Max Lucado; Ruthless Trust, The Ragamuffin Gospel, Abba's Child – all by Brennan Manning; Prayer: Does it Make Any Difference by Philip Yancey. If you enjoyed the movies The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, or Prince Caspian, check out all seven of C.S. Lewis' the Chronicles of Narnia. You might even enjoy reading them as a family.

It is true that the writer of Ecclesiastes wrote, "Of making many books there is no end, and much study wears the body." However, some books renew the spirit and bring great joy, Plan to read a little this summer.

**SNACKS are needed** for the Sunday 10:00AM Fellowship Time. Bring 6-8 dozen snack items. Coffee will be made. Volunteers are responsible for setting up, serving and cleaning up on your service day. Sign up on the list on the kitchen serving-counter at church.

**CASSETTE TAPES** of the worship service are available upon request. **PRINTED COPIES** of each Sunday's sermon are also available. Contact David K if you are interested in a copy of the sermon. You may also receive a copy of the sermon each week via **EMAIL**. Send your request to [office@clevelandchurch.net](mailto:office@clevelandchurch.net).

**PRAYER** is an important ministry of the church. We have many people who are willing to pray for you if a special need arises. To activate our prayer chain, call David K at the church office (507) 931-5924 (w), or the parsonage at (507) 931-4044 (h), or (507) 380-1985 (c), with your request. If you are unable to reach David, please call Carrie M at (507) 261-0279.

### BIRTHDAYS

**JUNE 3** - Mary N, Sean S; **6** - Scott S; **8** - Gretchen J; **9** - Elsie E, Millie L, Dorothy R; **10** - Erika W; **11** - Dena S; **13** - Russ L, Connie P, Sandy S; **14** - Susan E; **16** - Shon S; **17** - David P; **22** - Rose O; **22** - Brooke P; **25** - Austin C, Janice C, Monie L, Shayne P, Ken S; **26** - Sandy Mulvehill; **28** - Pam A, Savannah K; **30** - Vanessa J

### ANNIVERSARIES

**JUNE 6** - Troy & Kim M; **8** - Harold & Donna P, Sherm & Jo R; **15** - Rick & Tina B; **17** - Wayne & Marilyn F; **22** - Sandor & Vadis R; **26** - Gary & Deb G; **27** - Nancy & Herb W; **29** - Brian & Connie P; **30** - Marvin & Lois T

### SERVING LIST

A PDF file of our April–July 2008 Serving List Chart may be downloaded from [www.clevelandchurch.net](http://www.clevelandchurch.net). See "Resources," then click "PDF Downloads."

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Website: [www.clevelandchurch.net](http://www.clevelandchurch.net)

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00am – Bible Classes for all ages  
10:00am – Fellowship Time  
10:30am – Worship Service

Office Phone: (507) 931-5924  
Parsonage Phone: (507) 931-4044

If you wish to no longer receive our email newsletters **or** to update your email address, please reply to this address: [newsletter@clevelandchurch.net](mailto:newsletter@clevelandchurch.net)

If you wish to email our minister and/or the church office use: [office@clevelandchurch.net](mailto:office@clevelandchurch.net)

Thank you,  
Church of Christ meeting at Cleveland, Minnesota