
The Waltham Courier

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A Family Journal

Volume LVI, Number 07 & 08

From The Pastor's Desk . . .

Poor Moses, can you imagine what it was like starting a new job as a shepherd at the age of 40. He was faithful to the boss, his father-in-law, in the desert for the next 40 years. I'm sure he learned a great many lessons, but I also bet that a great deal of his time was boredom and tedious detailed responsibilities. Although we try to glamorize the job of shepherd, it really wasn't and isn't all that profitable or exciting. Moses was called to faithfulness, not excitement.

One of the most rewarding jobs of a father is when our children contact us to ask for information or sometimes even advice. With smaller children it's an exercise of warmth and interest as they go through their various phases of life. For older children there's a different feeling. It's more a pride in their adulthood and a real sense of their own accomplishments. There are times, however, when a father recognizes the deep hurt and pain that one of his children is going through, and those times are one's listening, encouraging, and hurting with the child. (One sage stated, "A parent is only as happy as

his/her saddest child." I've found this to be true on many levels.)

Well, with all of this said, I received a phone call from one of my older daughters the other evening. She was riding rapid transit and had a free hand, so she gave me a call. She was on her way to work at her summer job. I listened as she rattled off a long list of why the job wasn't really all that good, and that it was a really boring job. The litany seemed to get longer the more I listened. Finally she came up for air, and it was my short turn.

My response came with great empathy, "Welcome to the real world, daughter! Sometimes jobs really aren't all that meaningful in the cosmic order of things, but they are steps towards something bigger, or supplying the basic needs of the present, or are necessary jobs that we simply have to do. These boring, non-glitzy jobs test the fiber of our souls, and we learn if we can be accountable and dedicated even in the boring non-glitzy everyday jobs."

There was silence on the other end of the phone. I like to think there was some kind of deep recognition on her part. More than likely it was simply a recognition that I hadn't stated what she wished to hear. After the silence she finally stated, "Well Dad, it's just so boring and it doesn't mean anything! It's so simple, and anyone could do it."

She stopped, and I added, “But you’re the one who has the responsibility, and you’re the person who gets to be bored by completing the jobs and tasks. It’s the real world. It really is.”

Recognizing that her sob story wasn’t going to fetch any sorrow on my part, the conversation rapidly ceased.

Moses, the great prophet, discovered that life wasn’t always exciting, or full of deep meaning, or glamorous; sometimes it’s simply meeting one’s obligations and responsibilities. Today excitement isn’t in, and necessary responsibilities aren’t very popular. Faith has similar dynamics. Our relationship with the Savior and other Christians may be very deep and wonderful, but not every job is exciting or openly rewarding. Sometimes a job leads to something better. Sometimes it simply tests our faithfulness. Sometimes it just needs to be done.

When God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses and the people of Israel, they were guidelines of everyday life and responsibilities, and the way the people either kept them or didn’t keep them determined the quality of their lives with God, one another, and the world at large. We too are called to be faithful, and the way we are faithful is a major factor in our relationships to God, ourselves, and the Lord’s world.

The Lord bless you all,
Pastor Roy C. Backus, Ph.D.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

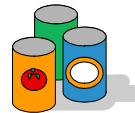
Presbyterian Women will be hosting the Presbytery meal on July 11th. We thank all those helping in any way to accomplish this task.

We will not meet in July or August - have a great summer!!

Kitchen cleaning will be on Wednesday, July 5th at 9:00 am. Please plan to help out!

REMINDER ...

No courier for August! Next articles due the week of August 22nd for our September issue.



FOOD PANTRY ***FOOD ITEM OF THE MONTH***

The food item for food pantry for July is ~
CANNED MEATS.

Food item for collection in August will be ~
CANNED OR JARRED SAUCES/GRAVIES.
Please leave your donations in the basket in the East hall at the church.

Thank You

“Thank you for the wonderful good wishes for my birthday. They helped to make my day a happy one. God Bless.”

Florence Charnesky

Thank you to The Vaughn Kiner Family and Floralcrest Flowers in Mendota for donating the plants for Teacher Appreciation Sunday.

Things to do ...

Multi-generational Sunday School classes are going to be held on the following dates from 8:45 to 9:45:

July 16

August 13

Please join us for this fun time!

On **July 12th at 7 PM** we will be having a **reception for the Hallead family** while they are visiting the area. We welcome anyone from Waltham community to join us as we visit with these friends from the past.

***Historical Museum Building
40th Anniversary Celebration!***

Join us Saturday, July 8th at 10:00 am for a preview showing of the Gerald Angell Collection, the Barn Renovation at 11:00 am, and Picnic Lunch at Noon. Please R.S.V.P. for the lunch to 667-4861.

All sites in the complex will be open Saturday and Sunday from Noon to 4:00 pm.
Mark your calendars today!

SUNSET GAP, COSBY, TN

We are busy working on our crafts and class work for VBS at Sunset Gap.

We will meet on July 5th at 7 p.m. at the Scharlau's.

There is still time for you to join us!! Payment for the trip is due to Diana Deutsch - payable to Waltham Presbyterian Church.

Tee shirts have been ordered for the 11 who have definite plans to join us. Soon we will be making decisions about how many vehicles we will be taking - so hope you let us know soon if you plan

to join us.

Any questions - call the Scharlau's - 667-4970.

MEETING REPORTS
SESSION

Regular Session Meeting June 15, 2006

The session of the Waltham Presbyterian Church of Utica, Ill. Held a regular meeting at 7pm in the Upper Lounge at the church. Rev.Dr. Backus opened the meeting with prayer. Present were: Rev Dr Backus, Elders Phyllis Mertes, Robert Van Drimmelen, Ida Brown, Ross Wilson, Nancy Tuftie. Absent: Monica Blue and Albert Hagenbuch.

The minutes were approved of the May 18, 2006 meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to have memorial funds from Ken Finley to be used at the Trustees discretion. Ken passed away on 4/26/06 and spent much time serving as a Trustee.

Treasurer's Report approved as submitted.

Benevolence Account, by mutual consent approved Linda Chalus sending \$1,137.73 to One Great Hour of Sharing, \$9000.00 to Githiga and also \$247.50-a personal donation to Githiga, and a total of \$1000.00 to Ill Valley Pads for 2006 year. Also reported was a personal donation of \$600.00 for grief camp for kids.

Christian Education is still working on Fall Sunday School Teachers. Pastor Roy requested all teachers be present by 8:30am each Sunday. Material for fall classes should be arriving any day. Monica Blue has Vacation Bible School staff and kids ready to go.

Mission Committee reported that a reception will be held for Glen Hallead on July 12, 2006 at 7pm.

Rev Dr. Backus requested vacation July 1-July 7th, 2006. Motion made and seconded. Eric Mertes will preach July 2, 2006, in Rev Dr. Backus's absence.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Rev Dr. Backus's expenses of \$231.97.

Session report continued ...

Funeral Service for John Edgcomb was held May 27, 2006 at Waltham Presbyterian Church.

June 11, 2006 Pat and Everett Christopher were welcomed members. Pat was moved from the inactive to active roles and Everett was received by letter of transfer.

Karlie Rae Reel and Isabella Grace Hagenbuch were baptized at Waltham Presbyterian Church in May..

A motion was made and seconded to have the next session meeting, July 25, at 7pm. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm after Rev Dr. Backus closed in prayer.

Nancy Tuftie

DEACONS

The Deacons met on June 13, 2006.

Four Deacons were present.

We discussed new visitor cards to be used at a future time. These cards will potentially be placed in the back of the pews, and are to be filled out by visitors of our church.

We also talked about the upcoming Communion Breakfast pertaining to how communion is to be served that particular Sunday.

An announcement in the bulletin was also composed to refresh the congregation of the pew prayer cards.

Also, coffee and juice fellowship time was discussed, in particular during the summer months. This item needs further thought and discussion.

Stewardship & Finance

No report received for this publication.

MISSION COMMITTEE

The mission committee met on Tuesday June 12th with five members present.

We discussed arrangements for the reception for the Hallead family. This will be held on July 12th at 7 PM. Each committee member will bring 2 or 3 dozen cookies and other responsibilities were assigned. We plan to have Glen speak informally about his mission and there will be a free will offering basket.

The session has approved \$250.00 to be sent to the Food Resource Bank. We will seek their approval for the PAD'S donation of \$250.00.

Thanks to Bev Scharlau, the work trip to Sunset Gap is in the planning phase. Since we will be working with two other churches, much co-ordination has been required. They will have \$2000.00 in funds from the Benevolence treasurer to use toward their trip.

The notices in the bulletin every Sunday have brought in a good supply of food and cash for the local Food Pantry. Our thanks to the generous congregation for their support of this mission. Janet Small and family take this food to the LaSalle site every month. Thanks for your commitment to the Food Pantry!

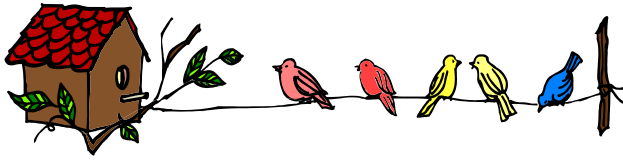
TRUSTEES

The trustees met on all committee night Tues., June 13th at 7 p.m. Three members were present.

*The asphalt surfaces were repaired and sealed that day and striped that week. *The sanctuary carpet and pew cushions will be cleaned June 26th. *Ceiling tile in the narthex were lifted back up. *The fellowship hall is being painted and we hope to get the floors buffed up before Presbytery on July 11th. *Shrubs need trimming and windows need washing - call Bev Scharlau if you can give us a hand.

*Dave Wilson has agreed to be our representative on Stewardship and Finance. *Trustee for the month of July is Jeff Ficek **There will be no meeting in July.**

Benevolence Fund



Balance on hand as of 6/29/06 - \$ 3,928.15

Memorial Fund

Joyce Anderson, Memorial Treasurer

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

No report received for this publication.

Treasurer's Report

Diana Deutsch, Treasurer

Deacon of the Month

~ July Glenn Stevenson & Bruce Brown
~ August Bruce Brown & Marilyn Laatz

Trustee of the Month

~ July Jeff Ficek
~ August Tony Mertes

Nursery Workers

July

July 2

Albert Hagenbuch
Joshua Brown

July 9

Dena Ficek
Nick Moshage

July 16

Amy Ploch
Alexis Ferracuti

July 23

Beth Hahne
Paige Hahne

July 30

Dave Deutsch
Diana Deutsch

August

August 6

Nikki Mertes
Tim Mertes

August 13

Phyllis Mertes
Tony Mertes

August 20

Relynn Olivero
Lindsey Olivero

August 27

Rita Van Drimmelan
Bob Van Drimmelan

Scout Master Bob's Corner

Upcoming Events

June 25-July 1 Summer Camp at Camp Bunn near Springfield, IL
 June 27 – No Scout Meeting because of Summer Camp
 July 4 – Independence Day – No Scout Meeting
 July 5 – TLC Meeting 7:00 P.M.
 July 11 Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
 July 14-23 High Adventure Canoe Trip to the Boundary Waters
 July 18 - Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
 July 25 - Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
 August 1 – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
 August 2 – Troop Committee Meeting 7:00 P.M.
 August 8 - Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
 August 9 – TLC Meeting 7:00 P.M.
 August 15 – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
 August 16-20 LaSalle Fest – Our Annual Money Maker for the Troop
 August 22 – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
 August 25-27 – Troop Campout
 August 29 – Troop Meeting/Potluck/Court of Honor – 6:00 P.M.

Troop 97 meets every Tuesday night at the Waltham Presbyterian Church.
 Contact Ralph Moshage at 667-4511 or Ross Wilson at 434-1469 for information about the troop.

21 Mr. & Mrs. David Wilson
 20 Mr. & Mrs. Dave Hendrix
 29 Mr. & Mrs. Tony Mertes

JULY BIRTHDAYS

2 Kathie Kleckner
 4 Robert Anderson*
 5 Brian Barto
 7 Brett Klein
 8 Karli Wensel
 9 Monty Whipple
 10 Rev. Lawrence Athorn
 14 Johnathan Hagenbuch
 16 Logan Finley
 17 Dave Deutsch
 18 Anne Finley
 19 Paige Anne Hahne
 20 Kyle Videgar
 Christina Whipple
 24 Mark Whipple
 25 Lynn Leonard
 26 Tylyn Jude Chapman
 Matthew Olivero
 Paul Young
 27 Steve Kleckner
 Jennifer Wilson
 28 Harold Kinzer
 Russell Finley
 30 Steve Wilson
 Daniel Ostrowski
 31 Alexa Finley
 Kim Freeman

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

1 Mr. & Mrs. Gary Barto
 13 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Walsh
 Mr. & Mrs. Ross Wilson
 14 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Robinson
 16 Mr. & Mrs. David Hagenbuch

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

4 Mr. & Mrs. Dave Edgcomb
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Anderson*
 7 Mr. & Mrs. J. Davis Small*
 18 Mr. & Mrs. Russell Finley
 24 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Dapkus

- 27 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Mertes
- 28 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Small

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Jim Feuerborn
Lindsey McConville
- 5 Esther Funk
- 7 Kyle Jordan Small
- 8 Paul Hess
- 10 Joe Kinzer
Roger Laatz
- 11 Natalie Hallead
Brian Robinson
Greg Whipple
Kathy Muckey
- 12 Norman Small
- 16 Douglas Carder
- 20 Reilly Muckey
- 21 Albert Hagenbuch
- 22 Ruth Ann Brizgis
Dena Ficek
Angela Givens
- 25 Don Scharlau
- 26 Marilyn Laatz
John Thomas Walsh
- 28 Gary Morrison
Tom Ostrowski

Texts and Sermons

JULY 2006

- 2 13th Sunday in Ordinary
Time
The Call to Worship: Psalm 130
Lectionary Texts are: 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-21;
2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43
The Sermon: By Eric Mertes

- 9 14th Sunday in Ordinary
Time
Communion Breakfast
The Call to Worship: Psalm 48
The First Lesson: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
The Second Lesson: Mark 6:1-13 & Exodus 20:8-11
The Sermon:
“Remember the Sabbath Day and Keep It Holy”

- 16 15th Sunday in Ordinary
Time
The Call to Worship: Psalm 24
The First Lesson: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
The Second Lesson:
Ephesians 1:3-14 & Exodus 20:12
The Sermon:
“Honor Your Father and Your Mother”

- 23 16th Sunday in Ordinary
Time
The Call to Worship: Psalm 89:20-37
The First Lesson: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a
The Second Lesson:
Ephesians 2:11-22 & Exodus 20:13
The Sermon: “You Shall Not Kill”

- 30 17th Sunday in Ordinary
Time
The Call to Worship: Psalm 14
The First Lesson: 2 Samuel 11:1-15
The Second Lesson:
Ephesians 3:14-21 & Exodus 20:14
The Sermon: “You Shall Not Commit Adultery”

Texts and Sermons

August 2006

- 6 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
The Call to Worship & Lectionary Texts:

Psalm 51:1-12; 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a;
Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35
(I am the Bread of Life.)

The Sermon: A Guest Preacher on this Sunday

13 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
The Call to Worship: Psalm 130
The First Lesson: 2 Samuel 18:5-9,15,31-33
The Second Lesson:
Ephesians 4:25-5:2 & Exodus 20:15
The Sermon: "You Shall Not Steal"

20 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
The Call to Worship: Psalm 111
The First Lesson: 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14
The Second Lesson:
Ephesians 5:15-20 & Exodus 20:16
The Sermon: "You Shall Not Bear False Witness"

27 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
The Call to Worship: Psalm 34
The First Lesson:
1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30,41-43
The Second Lesson:
Ephesians 6:10-20 & Exodus 20:17
The Sermon: "You Shall Not Covet"

Fun Facts ...

Betsy Ross and Our Flag



The first flag representing the United States was sanctioned by George Washington using colors from The British Kings Colours. It was called the Grand Union flag. Soon, it was decided that a new flag was needed to represent America, and it was decided to be red, white, and blue, with stars and stripes representing the colonies. It is said that George Washington, Robert Morris, and George Ross (Betsy Ross's late husbands uncle) came to Ross's home and asked her to sew the new flag. Originally, George Washington had wanted 6-pointed stars on the flag, but Betsy Ross demonstrated how to cut a 5-pointed star in a single snip, and the committee was so impressed that they allowed Betsy Ross to sew our new American flag, using the 5-pointed star.

According to the Department of State, red stands for hardiness and courage, white is the symbol of purity and innocence, and blue is the color of vigilance, perseverance, and justice.