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# The Waltham Courier

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A Family Journal

Volume LV, Number 06

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## *From the Pastor's Desk . . .*

Have you ever noticed that Mothers are celebrated in May, and Fathers are remembered in June? In Burlington, Iowa, they always have the Snake Alley Art Festival on Fathers' Day. When discussing this with a few of the guys in that town, we realized that Burlington would never place an art festival on Mothers' Day! Why? Well, because special things are expected on Mother's Day – brunch and all that stuff! It's a celebration of the holy position of women in the family. In addition, we noticed a practical reality, Mothers get wonderful, creative and special art work and stuff made at school, while fathers do not receive the wonderful school creations in the summer. We men do suffer a great deal don't we, and we do it so quietly.

With that noted, June is the time of Fathers' Day, and the role of fathers is very important. Fathers make huge differences in a people's lives, and we fathers often forget this. Touchstone, a Christian magazine, recently discussed the value and importance of fathers. In an article by Robbie Low, a pastor in Great Britain, he discussed the importance and influence that fathers have on church attendance and morality. He titled the article, "The Truth About Men & Church." He investigated the absence of fathers in church and cited studies which addressed this phenomena. Here are a couple of quotes that I found very enlightening.

Concerning a father's influence and church attendance and spirituality:

In short, if a father does not go to church, no matter how faithful his wife's devotions, only one child in 50 will become a regular worshiper. If a father does go regularly, regardless of the practice of the mother, between two-thirds and three-quarters of their children will become churchgoers (regular and irregular). If a father goes but irregularly to church, regardless of his wife's devotion, between a half and two-third of their offspring will find themselves coming to church regularly or occasionally.

Another rather bold and clear statement got my attention too.

. . . A young lad in my congregation had to choose between his loyalty to the faith and spending Sunday with Dad, fishing or playing soccer. Some choice for a lad of eleven; earthly father verses heavenly Father, with all the crossed ties of love and loyalties that choice involves. With that agonizing maturity, he (the son) reasoned that his heavenly Father would understand his absence better than his dad.

It is not by accident that the biblical model of God is most often Father. We fathers must realize that our influence is enormous. We often get busy doing very important and essential things, but we forget about the most important aspect of a God created person. We often place aside our commitment to the Lord and to the people He has placed in our care. We dismiss the fact that men do make a difference in the life of faith, but we

know deep inside that placing the spiritual foundation at the center of our lives and the center of our relationships is how to make life full and complete for us and those whom we love and respect.

The men of Waltham Church are a great bunch, and none of us is really upset that Mothers' Day is so important. Maybe we can make everyday a Fathers' Day, at least a day when we fathers follow the leadership of our heavenly Father which makes all the difference in our worlds!

The Lord bless you!

Pastor Roy C. Backus

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

Presbyterian Women will go out for breakfast Thursday, June 23rd at 9 a.m. at Delaney's in Oglesby. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. The Birthday offering will be received. Hope you can join us!



We thank one and all for your generous contributions to the layette collection for Sunset Gap. The church school once again contributed \$100.00 to purchase items for the layette. Our thanks to Janet Small for doing a great job getting this project organized and completed!

**THANK YOU**

Thank you so much for the lovely Mother's Day surprise!! Honoring me with Presbyterian Women's Honorary Membership is very special to me. God has placed me in this place and working with my church family in all areas is a joy for me. You are all a very important part of my family's life. Again, many thanks and God Bless each of you. I will wear the pin proudly!

Bev Scharlau

**Announcements !**

*WANTED ... people who like children! Volunteer for VBS - call Monica Blue 667-4475*

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Don't Monkey Around - Join Our Prayer Safari at Kingdom of the Son!

We're excited about Waltham Presbyterian Church's Vacation Bible School to be held June 20 - 24, 2005. This year's program is Kingdom of the Son, a week of safari adventure!

Children will embark on a prayer safari into the Kingdom of the Son. Through their adventures, children will discover that "God Listens", "God Provides", "God Forgives", "God Protects", and "God Rules"! We will have a great time with lively songs, hilarious skits, creative crafts, exciting games, Bible stories and tasty snacks - all of the things that make Vacation Bible School so much fun for children. On top of that, we will be helping children learn to know God through prayer.

Kingdom of the Son can be an inspirational and educational expedition for your entire family.

Classes for children begin Monday - Friday 5:30 to 8:15 pm. Call today at 667-4475 for registration information, and plan to join us for a great time at Kingdom of the Son!

**SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS**

***Beginning June 5<sup>th</sup> there will be an 8:00 am worship service in addition to the 10:00 am service.*** This will go through and include September 4<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars and plan to join us in worship this summer!!

**Githiga Childrens Home ~ Kenya, Africa**

Claire Brennecka will tell what's happening with our partnership with the Children's Home on June 26<sup>th</sup> during the 8:00 & 10:00 am worship services. There will be a light breakfast served after the 8:00 am service. Plan to join us for this special time.

*"The greatest gift I ever had Came from God,  
and I call him Dad!"*

- Author Unknown.

**MEETING REPORTS**

**Session**

MAY 18, 2005

The Session of Waltham Presbyterian Church of Utica, IL held a regular meeting at 7pm in the lower lounge. Rev. Roy Backus opened the meeting with a prayer.

Present: Rev. Roy Backus, Dave Deutsch, Monica Blue, Phyllis Mertes, Robert VanDrimmelen, Patrick Hughes and Nancy Tuftie

The minutes of April 20, 2005 were approved. Also, the special meeting minutes From May 1, 2005 were approved.

A generous lady has offered to completely fund summer camp for one child, who otherwise may not be able to participate, at Stronghold this summer.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report, as written. This motion carried.

Benevolence Treasurer, Linda Chalus, reported approximately \$9,000 in this fund. Monica and Pastor Roy reported on Presbytery Meeting. Rev. Roy Backus gave session members a copy of the stewardship report and will distribute these to other committees. He encouraged session to read them carefully, lots of beneficial information there.

Christian Education Committee and anyone interested will be going to Stronghold May 24<sup>th</sup> to look at Sunday School material and adult education, as well. A childrens' mission yearbook will also be inquired about on May 25. A friend of Pastor Roy's will present leadership educational materials at Waltham. Pastor Roy wants teachers to submit expenses for their classes. It was

discovered that teachers have been spending their own money. He also encouraged this committee to spend time and money, not to short cut or make due, because educating children on Christianity is so important. He feels our church should know the total cost of Sunday School. Individuals can always give it back to the Church, as they are so moved.

AdHoc Ch. Ed. reports by Nancy Tuftie and Pastor Roy. Pastor Roy will obtain Leadership training for lay persons. This committee decided to begin a new Study starting this fall, Christianity for Dummies, on Thursday, once per month, At 7pm. This is a direct result of the recent church surveys. Marriage Enrichment and Parenting will be considered, to add, at some point in the future, based on survey results.

Evangelism Report – give any ideas on PR to Pat Hughes or Pastor Roy.

Mission Report – Monica said Clare will speak at both services and a breakfast will be hosted in between services, June 26, 2005. Motion made and seconded to give \$500 for Labor of Love. Motion carried. Motion made, seconded and carried to give food and money on June 5<sup>th</sup> to the Illinois Valley Food Pantry.

Trustees working diligently – no one had color preference for kitchen to be painted. They'll be scheduling a workday soon!

Consecration Sunday will be November 13, 2005. Plans will be made for a catered meal, to celebrate giving to the Lord.

Motion made, seconded and carried for the Memorial Fund to give Stronghold,

\$2735 for the Capital/Building Fund there. Nancy Tuftie will ask Joyce Anderson to mail the check to them.

Motion made, seconded and carried for Scott Moshage's family to use the church on the afternoon of August 28, 2005 for his Eagle Scout accomplishment.

Pastor's Reports accepted as written. Motion made, seconded and carried for Pastor Roy to be away May 31 – June 3 with his family.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Pew prayer cards done – Kyle and Deacons have been working hard on these.

Signs to soon be distributed to increase community awareness of Waltham Presbyterian Church.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Pastor Roy to order business cards. Motion made, seconded and carried.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Tuftie

**Christian Education**

Our Church family will be honoring its graduates *and* Sunday School teachers on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at the 10:00 am service. Those graduating are listed below:

- Joshua Brown, 8th Grade, Oglesby
- Katherine Swenson, Jr. High, Princeton (Maxine Cole)
  
- Eric Swenson, High School, Princeton (Maxine Cole)
  
- Jason Cole, College, Ferris State University, MI (Maxine Cole)
  
- Rachel Van Drimmelen, 8th Grade, Mendota
- Patrick Fox, College, University of Illinois
- Christopher Hahne, 8th Grade, JFK, Spring Valley
- Eric Mertes, College, SIU, Carbondale
- Scott Moshage, High School, LaSalle-Peru
- Tim Kinzer, High School, OHS
- Justine Larabee, High School
- Ashley Small, High School, LaSalle-Peru (Norm and Janet Small)
  
- Katie Videgar, Master's, Rockford College
- Kati Hagenbuch, Master's, Northern
- Maharah (Backus) Jones, BA in Math and Secondary Education, Augustana University

***Congratulations to you all - we are proud of you!***

**AD HOC Committee on Christian Education  
Summary and Report**

**Results of Adult Church Education Survey:**

<b>Availability:</b>		<b>Time of Day:</b>
Mon	10	Morning.....9
Tues	11	Afternoon.....6
Wed	11	Evenings.....29
Thurs	9	6 p.m.....3
Fri	2	6:30.....2
Sat	0	7 p.m.....10
Sun	7	7:30.....1
All	7	

**How Often:**

Weekly	9
Every Other Week	11
Monthly	18
Quarterly	5
Bimonthly	1

**Topics:**

Christianity for Dummies	11
Reconfirmation	6
How did we get the Bible?	6
Marriage Enrichment	5
Parenting	4
Bible Study	4
Any topic	3
Other religious beliefs	3
Study other religions	1
Other Believers	1
Any topic in the Bible	1
Scriptures	1
Praying	1
Books of the Bible	1
New findings on Early Christianity	1
What's a Presbyterian?	1

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

- Usage of Book (workbooks along with the Bible)
- This place needs prayer and more prayer.

- Could use info on basics-learn about women's role in the Bible.
- Do not like summer times. Go back to 9:00 a.m. like it has been. 10:00 people have 9 months at 10:00—give us 3 months at 9:00.
- Flexibility. Reconfirmation—also address those who may not have gone through Confirmation.
- Babysitting should be planned for young adults to attend.
- I would eagerly anticipate this. Thank you!
- What about a daily (m-F) service at 7 a.m. during the school year. ½ hour service.
- If it is a subject that needs weekly attention that's OK.

### 1). The discussion of the Sunday a.m. meeting discussion is basically:

Thursdays look like the best night, because it would not conflict with Boy Scouts and Tuesday Committee meetings nor Wednesday night Chimes, Choir, and Session meetings.

### 2). Leadership:

There was a great deal of discussion over who would lead these study groups. It was voiced clearly and well, that pastoral leadership is important, but Waltham Church has experienced the ups and downs of short pastorates. Each leaving of a pastor means that programming has to be put off and then retooled when the next pastor comes. **The necessity of training adults to lead adults is a major concern of the committee—and of this interim pastor!**

### 3). Training Options:

The Christian Education Committee will be meeting at Stronghold on May 24<sup>th</sup> and with Jeri Baker, a Christian Educator, on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

It is our hope that we can get some information regarding programs of training and programs worth training for in these two upcoming opportunities. In addition, there are a great many resources in the growing congregations of our Presbytery. These are great opportunities for us, and growing churches love to help other churches who wish to grow.

### Ad Hoc Evangelism Committee Ideas 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting, May 17, 2005

The first meeting of the Ad Hoc Evangelism Committee discussed the following ideas and issues. Present at the meeting were Davis Small, Pat Hughes, Linda Jones, and Pastor Backus. *If you have any ideas for this committee, please feel free to contact any or all of us.*

#### 1). Letting folks know we're here.

Sign-age

Newspapers

Other local PR pieces that are annually printed?

Yellow Pages

Television

Radio

Internet

Brochure about the church and its

ministries. (Needs to be inviting, flexible and up-datable! What should be included?)

#### 2) Helping our folks know what to do.

Training for "lifestyle" evangelism

Welcoming visiting folk

What are our procedures and follow up tactics?

How do we discover new folk in the Utica (LaSalle, Peru, Mendota, and Ottawa) area?

#### 3) Who should be in charge of these things down the line? And how are they to be funded?

#### 4) Other thoughts etc.

**Stewardship & Finance**

No report received for this publication

We reviewed our list of work and keep doing what needs to be done.

June trustee of the month is Bev Scharlau

Next meeting is June 14th at 7 p.m.

**Mission Committee**

The mission committee met on Tuesday with five members present and one excused. We discussed the request for funds from Labor of Love. Our church has always sponsored a home and we will give \$500 toward this project with the approval of the session.

On June 26<sup>th</sup> Clair Brennecka will be with us for both services and she will talk about her recent trip to Africa. Those who attend the early service at 8 AM on that day will be invited to the basement for sweet rolls and continental breakfast. Those planning to attend the second service at 10 AM are urged to arrive early and join in the social time planned. This will be the Sunday after Bible School, so the children will be singing at the second service.

Our Minute for Mission this month will be on the "Treasures of Life" Camp and will be offered on the fourth Sunday.

We discussed the possibility of sending half of our commitment to Githiga. Action on this subject was tabled until next meeting when we will have a better idea of the balance in the benevolent fund.

Those of us on the Mission committee continue to ask for your support, both with prayers and monetary gifts, as we strive to do the work of the Lord.

**Trustees**

Trustees met Tuesday, May 10th with 3 members present. We reviewed the details for the women's washroom cabinets and will place the order soon. The outdoor sign panels are back and ready to put in for the summer schedule.

**Deacons**

No report received for this publication.

**Decorating Committee**

We thank Mary Ann Small for arranging the beautiful red floral pieces for Pentecost Sunday.

We will enjoy them for years to come!

**Benevolence Fund**

No report received for this publication.

Linda Chalus, Treasurer

**Memorial Fund**

No report received for this publication.

Joyce Anderson, Treasurer

**Treasurer's Report**

General Account .....	\$ 14,082.02
Special Building Account .....	\$ 4,323.49
Youth Work Trip Account .....	\$ 441.60
Sunday School Savings .....	\$ 2,143.81
Stronghold Capital Campaign .....	\$ 13,765.00
	(Goal - \$ 16,500 by 2004)
Tornado Fund .....	\$ 2.37

Diana Deutsch, Treasurer

## Nursery Workers

June 05	Relynn Olivero Lindsey Olivero
June 12	Rita Van Drimmelen Bob Van Drimmelen
June 19	Albert Hagenbuch Joshua Brown
June 26	Dena Ficek Nick Moshage

### *Deacon of the Month - June*

Bruce Brown

Assistant - Lois Edgcomb

### *Ushering Group - June*

Session

### *Trustee of the Month - June*

Bev Scharlau

*"Father! To God himself we cannot give a holier Name. "*

- William Wordsworth

## Scout Master Bob's Corner

This summer Troop 97 is going to busy.

June 18-July 2 about 14 of our scouts and leaders are venturing to the Appalachian Trail to hike and backpack. While they are there they will be visiting Washington D.C.

July 22 – August 4, Josh Papineau, Jon Papineau, and Ken Dankenbring will be attending the National Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, VA. They will be 3 of about 40,000 scouts in attendance at this event. They will also be visiting Washington D.C.

July 10-16 is summer camp at Ingersall Scout Reservation. Scouts that did not attend the previous two events will be attending this summer camp. We will update you in the fall about our summer adventures.

### Upcoming Events

May 30 – Memorial Day

May 31 – 7:00 P.M. Troop Meeting

June 1 – 7:00 P.M. TLC Meeting

June 7 – 7:00 P. M. Troop Meeting – Election of New Officers

June 14 – 7:00 P.M Troop Meeting

June 18-July 2 High Adventure – Appalachian Trail Backpacking and Hiking

June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> – Relay for Life at IVCC – Service Project for all Scouts

June 28 – 7:00 P.M. Troop Meeting

July 5 – 7:00 P.M. Troop Meeting

July 6 - 7:00 P.M. TLC Meeting

July 10-16 Summer Camp at Ingersall Scout Reservation

July 19 - 7:00 P.M. Troop Meeting

July 22 – Aug.4 Josh Papineau, Ken Dankenbring, & Jon Papineau to National Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, VA

July 26 - 7:00 P.M. Troop Meeting

July 27 – 7:00 P.M. Troop Committee Meeting

Aug. 2 – 7:00 P.M. Troop Meeting

Aug. 3 – 7:00 P.M. TLC Meeting

Aug. 9 – 7:00 P.M. Troop Meeting

Aug. 12-14 Family Camp and Court of Honor @  
 Riverbend Retreat south of Utica  
 Aug. 16 – 7:00 P.M. Troop Meeting  
 Aug. 17-21 LaSalle Fest – Troop 97 money maker  
 for the year.  
 Aug. 23 – 7:00 P.M. Troop Meeting  
 Aug. 28 – 7:00 P.M. Scott Moshage’s Eagle Court  
 of Honor Ceremony at Waltham Presbyterian  
 Church  
 Aug. 30 – 7:00 P.M. Troop Meeting

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.

**JUNE ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 Mr. & Mrs. Ron Chalus
- 4 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Young
- 6 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Sroka
- 8 Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Ficek
- 12 Mr. & Mrs. Albert Hagenbuch
- 14 Mr. & Mrs. Gary Small  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alex Murphy
- 16 Mr. & Mrs. Norman Videgar
- 17 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Small
- 20 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Funk
- 22 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Finley  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ron Larabee
- 27 Rev. & Mrs. Larry Green
- 28 Mr. & Mrs. John Kinzer
- 29 Mr. & Mrs. Rich Muckey

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Ethel Anderson\*
- 2 Caleb Gage
- 4 Elizabeth Brown  
 Roger Morrison  
 Linda Robinson  
 Megan Small
- 6 James Wilson
- 7 June Freebairn
- 8 Rev. Glen Hallead  
 Shannon Brown
- 9 Douglas Hagenbuch
- 16 Kenneth Kinzer\*  
 Gail Munson
- 19 Dan Edgcomb  
 Nancy Tuftie
- 20 Juanita Edgcomb
- 22 Jessica Small  
 John Small
- 26 Kalli Steele
- 27 Jacob Small
- 28 Rita VanDrimmelen
- 29 Jackie Bailey  
 Jodie Foster  
 Sandy Wood  
 Sara Moshage
- 30 Leila Croissant

\* Special Birthday greetings from your Waltham  
 Church Family!

*"Praise, my soul, the King of heaven"  
 Father-like, he tends and spares us;  
 Well our feeble frame he knows  
 Praise him! Praise him!  
 Widely as his mercy flows."*

- Henry Francis Lyte

**JUNE WORSHIP TEXTS AND SERMONS**

Throughout this summer, we will be looking at the basic stories of our fore-parents in faith. I try to place the ancient stories in context with our Savior's ministry and our everyday lives. It's going to be a challenge, but I believe we'll all learn a great deal more about our God's gracious love and power in our lives.

**June 5<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Call to Worship: Psalm 33:1-12  
 The 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26  
 The 2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Genesis 12:1-9  
 Sermon: "What Does It Take to Follow?"

**June 11<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Call to Worship: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
 The 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)  
 The 2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7)  
 Sermon: "It's a Long Way Between Promise and Fulfillment"

**June 19<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Call to Worship: Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17  
 The 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Matthew 10:24-39  
 The 2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Genesis 21:8-21  
 Sermon: "The Divided Family"

**June 26<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Celebration of VBS at the Church and a Special African Mission Trip speaker.  
 Call to Worship: Psalm 13  
 The 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Matthew 10:40-42  
 The 2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Genesis 22:1-14  
 Sermon: "There's More to Hearing than Hearing"

June 6, 2005	Joel (3 chapters long)
June 13, 2005	Obadiah (1 chapter long)
June 20, 2005	Jonah (4 chapters long)
June 27, 2005	No Bible Study
July 4, 2005	No Bible Study
July 11, 2005	Nahum (3 chapters long)
July 18, 2005	No Bible Study
July 25, 2005	No Bible Study
August 1, 2005	No Bible Study
August 8, 2005	Habakkuk (3 chapters long)
August 15, 2005	Zephaniah (3 chapters long)
August 22, 2005	Haggai (2 chapters long)
August 29, 2005	Malachi (4 chapters long)

(We will not look at Daniel, Hosea, Amos, Micah, or Zechariah because they are the longer of the Minor Prophets. Note, every book we will study is only four or less chapters, so try to read the book ahead of the date it is to be studied. You could use it as your Bible study for the week.

Blessings! Pastor Backus)

**Monday Night Bible Studies Summer  
of 2005**