

The Waltham Courier

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October 2008

A Family Journal

Volume LVIII, Number 10

From The Pastor's Desk . . .

Sometimes, knowledge just sort of sneaks up on us. I'm always thankful when it grabs hold of my mind and expresses itself in ways that I can understand and feel.

It was a pleasurable evening visiting with four generations of an extended family in the Quad Cities. I wasn't the oldest Father and Grand Father, and there was even Great Grandparents on my Son-In-Law's side of the family. We were celebrating all the September birthdays, and my grand daughter Anavah was turning three while my wife Ann is turning all the better.

It was family time. Guys talked about hunting, work, marriage, cooking on the grill, and the new projects they were doing at their houses. The gals were talking child birth, new events in their family's lives, their jobs, and just talking.

Although I did my share of talking, I spent most of my time watching this new family generation of young parents with children ages one through three. It was a stitch.. And knowing that this new generation of twenty something year old parents was loving and caring for their children was another blessing.

The weather was great. The fellowship was wonderful. The family watching was inspiring. evening was inspiring.

What struck me more than anything else in the evening was the reality that another generation of families was rising up in my view. Family's with young ones, like I used to have. Young men and women who are excellent, cooperating parents caring for their children and meeting the needs of their families. It was delightful. I must admit I remembered when that was me, but at the same time, I knew that I wasn't at that age anymore. They were the inheritors of this next generation of active, vital, dreamers who will shape the world for their children. My role was no longer of that import, so I knew my job was one to support, love, encourage, and get out of the way of these families as they find their ways in the Lord's world.

Watching, I realized that the world isn't in all that bad of shape, because these families worshiped the Lord openly and freely; praying; talking about the Lord's leadership in their lives; concerned about the Christian and religious commitment of their children; involved in the witness of the Lord in their communities; active in their pursuit of finding God's will for their lives.

It was an observing and learning time for me. I just felt good inside and thanked God that he transcends time and age and continually employs all of us to achieve his will.

Blessing in the
Lord,



Interim Pastor Roy C. Backus,
Ph.D.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women will meet in fellowship hall Thursday, Oct. 23rd at 9 a.m. Our new Bible study is JUBILEE! - Luke's Gospel for the Poor. Prepare by reading Luke 4:16-30 - Jesus Announces Jubilee.

PECANS AND WALNUTS

We are now receiving orders for pecans and English walnuts. The nuts are from this year's crop. We do this as a service to our members and community - keeping the prices just above our costs. ***Pecans are \$6.75 per pound bag and English walnuts are \$6.50 per pound bag. The sign-up sheet is on the narthex bulletin board or you may call Linda Chalus @ 667-4946. Deadline for orders is Oct. 19th*** so delivery is made by holiday baking time.

We received this note of thanks for the items collected for the Waltham School Children...

"On behalf of the Staff, students and Administration of Waltham, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the donation of the extra clothing and food items for both buildings. The items helped fulfill a great need for many students/families. We are truly fortunate to have the support of such a caring group of ladies. Thank you again for your generosity."

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Kristen School, Superintendent

P.W. thanks all for your participation in this collection of items. We will continue to collect sweat pants, hats and gloves as they become available to purchase.

REMINDERS . . .

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKETS + SUNDAY, OCT. 19TH

*LET US LOVE, NOT IN WORD OR SPEECH,
BUT IN TRUTH AND ACTION.*

I John 3:18

Church World Service has spent the last 60 years responding to disasters at home and around the world. Tools and Blankets provide the right tools at the right time, making a difference in the lives of children and families. Some 8,000 congregations and groups across the U.S. hold this offering providing resources to help people in some 80 nations, including the U.S. With our own recent hurricanes, the need seems even greater. \$25 can provide five warm blankets for a family left homeless by a hurricane or other disaster. We will be participating in the Tools and Blankets Offering on Sunday, Oct. 19th. We pray our offering will be even greater than in years past!!!

Don't forget the Mission Study meetings on Sunday Sept. 28 and Oct. 5, 12, & 19. All meetings will be in the Fellowship Hall at 6pm, except for the Oct. 19 meeting which will begin at 6:30pm.

Note . . . Bonnie Walsh and Dave Deutsch should have been listed on the PNC letter. My apologies, Kathie Kleckner

Things to do . . .

Trunk or Treat & Bonfire

Mark your calendars for the community wide night of Halloween Trick or Treat and Bonfire at the church on Sunday, October 26th, 2008.

Trick or treating will start at 5:00 p.m. Please park around the edge of the parking lot (leaving the center empty) so the kids can walk around the lot to receive their treats. Last year we had a great turn out and all the kids took home a full bag of candy.

Around 6:00 p.m., we will have a bonfire to roast hot dogs and marshmallows. The committee will provide hot dogs, buns, marshmallows, drinks and table service. Please bring finger snacks and desserts to share.

The committee members include: Steve & Karen Pillion*, Jeff & Dena Ficek*, Pat & Sue Hughes, Nick & Clarissa Barto, James & Keri Sundberg, Gerry Ellerbrock & Melinda Truckenbrod.

*denotes chairmen

Mark your calendars . . .

Youth retreat at Stronghold - January 16 - 18, 2009. This will be for youth grades 6 through College. Watch for more info!

Burgoo Festival

The 39th Annual Burgoo Craft Festival will be Sunday, October 12th from 9 - 5, rain or shine! Plan to attend this fund-raiser for the LaSalle County Historical Society.

IL Valley Sunrise Rotary is sponsoring a circus to benefit our local food pantry. It will be held at the IL Valley Regional Airport on ***Thursday, October 2nd***. There will be 2 performances - 4:30 and 7:30 pm.

Tickets are \$9 adults, age 13 +, and \$5 children (in advance), under age 2 are free. Tickets will be more at the gate.

If you are interested in tickets please call J. Burt at 223-1222 or Donna Hess at 224-3658.

This circus has been playing to sold out performances all over the Chicago-land area. You won't want to miss it!

MEETING REPORTS

SESSION

The session of the Waltham Presbyterian Church of Utica, IL held a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at 7:00 in the upper lounge of the Church. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Backus. Members present-Dave Edgcomb, Ross Wilson and Eileen Hagenbuch. Absent-Ralph Moshage, Bonnie Walsh, and Ida Brown.

A motion was made and carried to have Eileen Hagenbuch act as clerk for the meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2008 meeting. The motion carried

A motion was made and seconded to approve a request from Presbytery to have the Presbytery meeting at Waltham on September 8, 2009. The motion carried

Session cont'd . . .

A report was received from the Mission Committee. Items in the report to the session were the mission committee work with Labor of Love and work again this year with PADS meals. They also expressed their willingness to help with the Presbytery meeting in September of 2009.

A report was received from the Deacons. Items in this report to the session were the work being done with the Family Ministry program they are starting. They also expressed their willingness to help with the Presbytery meeting in September of 2009.

A report was received for the Christian Education Committee. Items in this report were about the start of the fall Sunday School program with a full slate of teachers and substitutes. Rally Sunday went well with a good attendance in Sunday school. The children's Christmas program will be December 14th at 12:30. The tuition for Simon Gnomo has been paid for 2009. They also expressed their willingness to help as they could for Presbytery in September of 2009.

It was moved, seconded and carried to adjourn at 7:55 pm. The meeting was closed with prayer by Rev. Backus.

Eileen Hagenbuch, acting Clerk of Session

MISSION COMMITTEE

Mission Committee Meeting September 9, 2008
Members present: Carol Freebairn, Carol Shaver, Kathy Fox.

Monthly giving update: Labor of Love \$ 500.00

Linda Chalus discussed her check writing responsibilities.

Minute for Mission: Sept - Labor of Love

Committee discussed & covered food needed to supply lunch for Labor of Love workers.

Discussed Pads meals - our church will again provide a meal on the 2nd Wednesday of each month beginning in October. Committee will provide a sign-up sheet.

Mission Ideas : Discussed ideas for use of Charlotte Kennedy's gift. Decided to table discussion until more members are present. Need to decide by 12/31/08.

Members of committee left word we will be happy to help with Presbytery Meeting in September 2009.

Next Meeting October 14th.

PADS MEALS

Volunteers are needed to prepare & serve a meal once a month. We will be serving a meal the second Wednesday of every month beginning in October. We are to prepare dinner for approximately 20 people, an entree, salad, vegetable, dessert, & drink are needed.

Please see Relynn Olivero (Mission Chairman) for the month of October. A sign-up sheet will also be put up in the Narthex.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Sunday school children will be singing in church once a month.

Sunday School Teachers for the fall:

Pre School - Karen Pillion and Sharon Reel

K-1st - Dena Ficek and Carol Shaver

Christian Ed cont'd . . .

2nd-4th - Veronica Blue and Monica Blue
5th-7th - Rita VanDrimmelen and Ross Wilson
Subs - April Medley, Wendy Oliver, Heather Freebairn, Heidi Hendricks, and Kathie Kleckner

The Children's Christmas program will be December 14, 2008 at 12:30 p.m. following the potluck. Any one interested in helping with the program please contact Dena Ficek.

TREASURER'S REPORT

For period ending August 31, 2008:

4 deposits/credits -	\$ 6,634.31
26 Checks/Debits -	\$ 11,143.87
Ending Balance -	\$ 107,929.76

Keri Sundberg, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

No report received for this publication.

DEACONS

No report received for this publication.

BENEVOLENCE FUND

No report received for this publication.

MEMORIAL FUND

No report received for this publication.

Stewardship & Finance

No report received for this publication.

Scout Master Bob's Corner

Upcoming Events

Sept. 19-21 – Family Campout at Woodhaven Lakes in Mendota

Sept. 23 – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
Sept. 30 – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
Oct. 1 – Troop TLC Meeting 7:00 P.M.
Oct. 2 – Cub Scout Meeting 6:30 P.M.
Oct. 7 – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
Oct. 11 & 12 – Troop Community Service Project with Historical Society at Burgoo Fest
Oct. 14 – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
Oct. 16 – Cub Scout Meeting 6:30 P.M.
Oct. 17-19 – TLC Training Campout
Oct. 21 – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.
Oct. 28 – Troop Meeting 7:00 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.

NEW ADDRESS

PFC Papineau Joshua
C Co 832nd Ord. Bn. 3rd PLT
Redstone Arsenal, AL 35897

Coffee and Juice Organizers - October Missions

Liturgist Organizers - October Deacons

Deacon of the Month - October Mary Sundberg & Kathie Kleckner, Asst.

Trustee of the Month - October Dave Deutsch

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

October 5

Ann Backus
Lois Edgcomb
Joshua Brown

October 12

Tony & Phyllis Mertes

October 19

April & Jessica Medley
Judy Applebee

October 28

Volunteers Needed

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

9 Mr. & Mrs. Steve Kleckner
11 Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Moshage
13 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Geil
17 Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Edgcomb
25 Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Barto
28 Mr. & Mrs. Tim Leonard
31 Mr. & Mrs. Randy Tuftie

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Bonnie Walsh
4 Janis Ferracuti
Jeff Ficek
Warren Morrison*
Jane Wilson
5 Velma Clement*
Louise Robinson*
7 Belinda Givens
8 Bobby Van Drimmelen
Jacqueline Walsh
11 Dawson Ploch
12 Bonnie Klinefelter
15 Beth Crane
Ashley Small
17 David Hagenbuch
Marlene Moshage
19 Zachary Hallead

Katie Videgar
22 Michael Delaney
24 Mason Jennings Videgar
25 Casey Baker
26 Erica Gutesha
27 Donna Barto

21 Claire Kinzer
22
23 Colin Kinzer

Bonnie Kinzer

Alexis Ferracuti

** Special Birthday greetings from your Waltham Church Family!*

TEXTS AND SERMONS

October 5, 2008 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Communion Sunday

The Call to Worship: Psalm 19

The 1st Lesson: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

The 2nd Lesson: Matthew 21:33-46

The Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Chris Clemmer

The Epistle: Philippians 3:4b-14

October 12, 2008 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Call to Worship: Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23

The 1st Lesson: Exodus 32:1-14

The 2nd Lesson: Matthew 22:1-14

The Sermon: "RSVP. Attire: Black Tie: Formal"

The Epistle: Philippians 4:1-9

October 19, 2008 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Call to Worship: Psalm 99

The 1st Lesson: Exodus 33:12-23

The 2nd Lesson: Matthew 22:15-22

The Sermon: "Mixed Messages"

The Epistle: I Thessalonians 1:1-10

October 26, 2008 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Call to Worship: Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

The 1st Lesson: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

The 2nd Lesson: Matthew 22:34-46

The Sermon: "Pick One or Two"

The Epistle: I Thessalonians 2:1-8