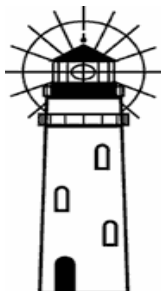


UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
116 Third Avenue S.E.
Belmond, IA 50421
Return Service Requested



THE BEACON

BELMOND UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL
JULY 2008

Interim Minister: Reverend Donna Buckman

Donna's Cell phone: 515-571-1940 Klemme church: 641-587-2462 Klemme Parsonage: 641-587-2458

Church Office: 641-444-3407

Church E-Mail: belucc@kalnet.com

Church Secretary & Editor: Linda Walrod

Home Phone: 641-444-3474

E-Mail: swalrod@frontiernet.net

ECUMENICAL SERVICE IN THE PARK

The annual Community Worship Service in the Park will be held on Sunday, July 6th at 10:00 a.m. We will not have worship services at our church and encourage you to join with others from throughout the community at City Park.

An offering will be collected. If you wish to make your contribution to the Belmond UCC, be sure the name of the church is on your check or placed it in an envelope marked Belmond UCC.

Bring your lawn chairs. In case of rain, we will be meeting at the Trinity Lutheran Church.

A Community Choir is being organized to sing at the Ecumenical service on July 6th. If you would like to be a part of this choir, rehearsals will be held on Wednesday, June 2nd at 7:30p.m. and on Sunday, July 6th at 9:00a.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church. Everyone is welcomed join this choir.

BELMOND FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL BREAKFAST BENEFIT

The Belmond Fire Department will host their annual Breakfast Benefit on Sunday, July 6th, at the Belmond Fire Station from 8:00a.m to 1:00p.m. They will be serving fresh omelets, sausage, pancakes and juice or milk. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children (12 & under). The proceeds will go towards Quick Attack Truck Equipment for the fire station.

*They will again be selling
raffle tickets for a pedal fire truck.*

So plan to come and eat before or after the Ecumenical Worship Service in the City Park.

Your support would greatly be appreciated!!!

Pastor's Page:

A.A.D.D. - AGE ACTIVATED
ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER

This is how it develops:

I decide to water my garden. As I turn on the hose in the driveway, I look over at my car and decide my car needs washing. As I start toward the garage, I notice that there is mail on the porch table that I bought up from the mailbox earlier. I decide to go through the mail before I wash the car. I lay my car keys down on the table, put the junk mail in the garbage can under the table, and notice that the can is full. So, I decide to put the bills back on the table and take out the garbage first.

But then I think, since I'm going to be near the mailbox, when I take out the garbage anyway, I may as well pay the bills first. I take my checkbook off the table, and see that there is only 1 check left. My extra checks are in my desk in the study, so I go inside the house to my desk where I find the can of Coke that I had been drinking. I'm going to look for my checks, but first I need to push the Coke aside so that I don't accidentally knock it over. I see that the Coke is getting warm, and I decide I should put it in the refrigerator to keep it cold.

As I head toward the kitchen with the Coke, a vase of flowers on the counter catches my eye - they need to be watered. I set the Coke down on the counter, and I discover my reading glasses that I've been searching for all morning. I decide I better put them back on my desk, but first I'm going to water the flowers. I set the glasses back down on the counter, fill a container with water and suddenly I spot the TV remote someone left on the kitchen table. I realize that tonight when we go to watch TV, I will be looking for the remote, but I won't remember that it's on the kitchen table, so I decide to put it back in the den where it belongs, but first I'll water

the flowers. I pour some water in the flowers, but quite a bit of it spills on the floor. So, I set the remote back down on the table, get some towels and wipe up the spill.

Then, I head down the hall trying to remember what I was planning to do. At the end of the day; the car isn't washed, the bills aren't paid, there is a warm can of Coke sitting on the counter, the flowers don't have enough water, there is still only 1 check in my check book, I can't find the remote, I can't find my glasses, and I don't remember what I did with the car keys.

Then, when I try to figure out why nothing got done today, I'm really baffled because I know I was busy all day long, and I'm really tired. I realize this is a serious problem, and I'll try to get some help for it, but first I'll check my e-mail.

GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY.

GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL.

**LAUGHING AT YOURSELF IS
THERAPEUTIC.**

P.S. I just remembered. I left the water running in the driveway!

We at Belmond UCC, Congregational have been busy. It is good! And things are going well. But unless we laugh a little and look upon ourselves as we really are we become too busy to see how God has blessed us and been with us in all we do.

Here are a couple of Bible verses to go along with the above story to let us know the humor is OK.

Job 8:21 God will yet fill your mouth with laughter, . . .

Psalm 126:2-3 Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

Pastor Donna

I would like to thank everyone for all the acts of kindness and condolences for the death of my mother. I appreciate the plant that was given me from the congregation.

*I also want to thank all who helped with the worship services during my vacation time!
Pastor Donna*

SCHEDULE FOR JULY 2008

**July 6th - Ecumenical Service in the Park
10:00a.m. at Belmond City Park**

No service at our church

Liturgist:

- 13 Lauralee Schmid**
- 20 Imogene Hinman**
- 27 Sharleen Sorum**

Ushers:

- 13 Steve & Linda Walrod, Sharion Hinman**
- 20 Bob Watermiller, Lynn & Sharleen Sorum**
- 27 George & Imogene Hinman, Myrna Baker**

Greeters:

- 13 George & Imogene Hinman**
- 20 Bob & Shirley Watermiller**
- 27 Louie & Frances Mennenga**

Acolyte: All month Jeremy Rockow

Nursery:

- 13 Lee Ann Waltzing**
- 20 Sarah Waltzing**
- 27 Jessica Hinman**

Coffee:

- 13 Angie Hinman, Michele Miltenberger**
- 20 Karen Kusian, Shirley Watermiller**
- 27 Frances Mennenga, Sharleen Sorum**

Communion Server: *No Communion this month*

SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 2008

Liturgist:

- 3 Lynn Sorum**
- 10 Heinz Schmid**
- 17 Lynn Sorum**
- 24 Sharion Hinman**
- 31 Sharion Hinman**

Ushers:

- 3 Bob Watermiller, Roger & Connie Johnson**
- 10 Steve & Linda Walrod, Angie Hinman**
- 17 Sam & Janet Rockow, Lee Ann Waltzing**
- 24 Lynn & Sharleen Sorum. Lynda Etchen**
- 31 Kathy, Gabby & Alex Parks**

Greeters:

- 3 Bob & Shirley Watermiller**
- 10 George & Imogene Hinman**
- 17 Lynda Etchen, Helen Hinman**
- 24 Heinz & Lauralee Schmid**
- 31 Lynn & Sharleen Sorum**

Acolyte: All month Lisa Hinman

Nursery:

- 3 Lee Ann Waltzing**
- 10 Sarah Waltzing**
- 17 Jessica Hinman**
- 24 Lee Ann Waltzing**
- 31 Sarah Waltzing**

Coffee:

- 3 Lauralee Schmid, Lee Ann Waltzing**
- 10 Imogene Hinman, Jill Stoffer**
- 17 Myrna Baker, Janet Rockow**
- 24 Sharion Hinman, Connie Johnson**
- 31 Frances Mennenga, Martha Slining**

Communion (August 3rd) by intinction - Connie Johnson

There are copies of the 2008 LUGAN list on the back table of the sanctuary at the church. Pickup a copy and you will know your duties for the full year.

If you cannot meet your scheduled commitment, please recruit a substitute and let Linda Walrod knows as soon as possible so the Sunday bulletin can reflect the change. Thank you!

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE
MONTH OF MAY 2008

INCOME	\$ 5,303.15
EXPENSES	<u>\$ 3,859.17</u>

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 19, 2007

Moderator Linda Walrod called the meeting to order and Pastor Donna gave opening prayer.

Present were: Tim Landgraf – Treasurer, Jan Libbey – Pastor Parish Relations, Pastor Donna Buckman, Sharion Hinman – Christian Education, Lauralee Schmid – Benevolence, Lee Ann Waltzing – Evangelism & Devotional Life, George Hinman – Trustee, Myrna Baker, Missions and church clerk. Andrew Landgraf and Sharleen Sorum also attended.

Tim moved to accept the May minutes as written and Sharion seconded, carried.

Tim gave the Treasurer's report stating that it was a very good month with a net of \$1442.98, which brought the year net to \$963.24. Tim transfer \$1500.00 into Savings (\$500.00 + the \$1000.00 from the Medical Center). \$2000.00 has been added to the savings so far this year. The CD at the First State Bank for \$15,540.74 that came due in May was moved into the savings account.

Lauralee reported that the Benevolence Inflows for May were OCWM \$538.00 – Sunday school \$ 9.02 – Strengthen the Church \$190.00. Total inflows for May - \$ 737.02. There were no Out Flows. \$600.00 was given over two Sundays for the Parkersburg Tornado Assistance and those funds were sent in to the Conference to be sent on to the Parkersburg Ministerial Assistance.

Board Reports

Trustees: George stated they did not meet, but the church was checked for water after the flooding in Belmont and there was none. He also said the West door at the parsonage had been replaced and a storm door installed.

Stewardship: The Stewardship program this year will be a personal visitation. The board

TOTAL (income over expenses) \$ 1,443.98

*Our 2008 church budget totals \$60,730.00.
A total of \$5,060.83 is needed each month to
meet our 2008 budget.*

members plus three other members from the church will visit church members.

Christian Education & the Mission boards did not meet this month.

Evangelism & Devotional Life: Discussed the monthly items and that our church will join in the Ecumenical Services on July 6th in the City Park. There will be no communion in July.

Women's Fellowship: No meetings during the summer.

Committees Reports

PPR: Met May 28th and review the purpose, discussed the new happenings in church and good conversation on what this committee does. Committee members are: Jeff Hinman, Steve Walrod,

Myrna Baker, Jan Libbey and Pastor Donna. Jan is the chairperson and Jeff and Steve will be the representative on the PPPR between Klemme and Belmont Churches.

Good Will: No meeting but it was noted that on July 5th the NLFCC will hold a special celebration.

Next Step – Special Committees:

Finance – Lee Ann stated they were waiting for the “budgets” from the other Next Step-Special Committees so they could begin to put in place some financial planning.

A Building – The Building Committee has met twice since the last Church Council meeting. We have made the commitment to ourselves that we will try to explore any and all options that might be available when deciding on a permanent home for Our Church. Therefore we are looking at existing buildings that might be available and feasible, exploring the possibility of moving the Church Sanctuary, working with other congregations on sharing a building (new

or existing), and checking on the possibility of constructing a new building for our use.

So far we have been in contact with St. John Lutheran Church, the Bethany Reformed Church and the Klemme Immanuel Reformed and have had some positive feedback from them. The other options that we are exploring are in the stages of collecting cost estimates, etc.

Worship Place - Sharion said they had met several times to look at different facilities and have tried to assess each as far as accessibility, size as to Sunday School rooms, office space, kitchen area, bathrooms, some small storage areas, reasonable size for worship/fellowship and cost of getting it ready to use for short term and for the possibility of a permanent building. She said there are not a lot of choices out there, but they felt they could recommend the Jim Swenson building knowing that this is an interim solution.

Items to Keep - Myrna reported that they had a walk thru of each room in the church and made a check list of items that may be used in a new location. She stated that several items were on the list because they felt it would be easier to take off items over trying to add them on. They are checking on semi-trailers for long term storage and getting costs on how things can be removed.

She also stated that memorials that have been given to the church were going to be given special consideration. The committee members also felt that a lot of sorting would need to be done and it was their suggestion that the board that supervises that area do the sorting.

The sanctuary of the church would not be taken apart till after the Service of Celebration, but other areas could be done. A lot depends on what the Worship Place Committee suggests for an interim place of worship as to what may be used now and what will need to be stored.

Memorabilia: Jan stated they had not met but would be soon.

Pastor Donna's Report: Pastor Donna was quite busy again with meetings, visitations and preparing worship services. Pastor Donna was on vacation from June 6th - 17th and even then

We will continue to research the possibility of working with other congregations on sharing a building. Each congregation would be able to keep their own identity, yet share one building that would be completely accessible to all.

she did a marriage, baptism, attended a graduation in Texas and conducted the memorial services for her mother. She's back at work to rest up. You may see her detailed report on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

Old Business

Iowa Conference Annual Meeting - No report - our delegates were unable to attend at the last minute. Pastor Donna stated that the attendance was low, due to the flooding though out Iowa.

Karl Andersen - Jan gave a review of the meeting and will be submitting a detailed report in the July Beacon.

New Business - None

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned with all saying the Lord's Prayer, after which the council members went to tour the Jim Swenson Building.

Next meeting will be July 17th at 7:00 and Tim will give devotions.

Respectfully submitted

Church Clerk

Myrna Baker

WORSHIP PLACE
COMMITTEE REPORT

Bob Watermillier, JoAn Skyrme and Sharion Hinman have met several times to look at different facilities and have tried to assess each as far as accessibility, size as to Sunday School rooms, office/sec. space, kitchen area, bathrooms, some small storage areas, reasonable size for worship/fellowship, monthly cost and cost of getting it ready to use for short term and for the possibility of a permanent building.

There are not a lot of choices out there, but we feel that we can recommend the Jim Swenson building, located at 111 5th St SE, knowing that this an interim solution. We are also looking into the possibility of sharing space with another

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A PPR IF YOU SAW ONE?

First of all - what is a PPR? PPR is the acronym for our Pastor Parish Relations Committee. We do have one, but it tends to have a pretty low profile. While the committee is not quite as visible as other church committees or Boards, members of our congregation should be aware of and make good use of this resource.

Committee members include: Myrna Baker, Jeff Hinman, Jan Libbey, and Steve Walrod.

Second of all - what would you do with a PPR? PPR Committees serve to support and maintain an open and healthy relationship between the Pastor and members of the congregation. According to a booklet titled The Pastoral Relations Committee, the PPR provides "...a framework in which conflict can be dealt with creatively [and joys can be shared for affirmation and encouragement]... It's goals are the professional growth and well-being of the pastor and the promotion of mutual ministry between the pastor and the congregation."

The Committee carries out its work in a strict commitment to confidentiality and trust. If you have concerns, this group may be able to help. Your issues will be taken seriously and addressed with care. If you have joys to celebrate, this group also wants to capture these stories.

What would you do with a PPR if you saw one? All committee members are very approachable and available. Keep this committee in mind to use as your sounding board for both joys and concerns. We hope and encourage our members to use this committee as one of the very important tools to help us carry out our mission effectively.

church and looking into any other leads that we get.

We have not gotten storage for the items taken out of the church but has inquired about the storage units south of town and there is one large still available and several smaller ones.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 10th.

CONVERSATION WITH KARL DEEPENS UNDERSTANDING

What's the significance of the words we use? "Church" vs. "space", "report" vs. "communication", or "move" vs. "transition". In each case, choosing our words carefully reflects a deeper understanding of what we mean..

During our June 1 conversation with Karl Anderson, our planning facilitator, we were invited to consider the significance of the words we use amidst planning for the closure of our church building as a turning point in our ministry.

While we are leaving our beloved church building and searching for a future location, Karl encouraged us to consider the distinction between the "building" as a center of our faith and the building as a "space" for our faith activities. He shared a book titled "Church Without Walls" which encourages Christians to recognize that church buildings, however rich in memories, meet the physical aspect of our space needs. The ministry of our faith community is held within the heart of our relationships.

Several "Next Step" Committees shared their planning to date in a way to expand upon reports. Intentional, participatory "communication", Karl pointed out, involves more than printed "report" and helps avoid conflict and invites ownership of the whole process.

Karl praised the work of the Belmond UCC. He reflected that many small rural congregations are accepting decline as inevitable. Here,

however, we have been given a gift of new opportunity. This change has the potential to be a "transformational" experience...far more than a "move". Karl encouraged us to continue the good work of listening to and with one another, to have fun, and to recognize that letting go of our building, figuring out how and where to relocate our ministry is at the forefront of church change. It can be a time fraught with

concerns, but he encouraged us to focus on this as a time of tremendous opportunity.

Watch the July Beacon for the date and time of our next conversation with Karl. In the meantime, listen to the words we use - they matter.