



“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.”

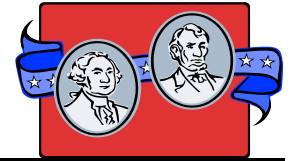
John 14:1 NRSV



**UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 276
DENISON, IOWA 51442**

FEBRUARY

**2012
NEWSLETTER**



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------------|---|
| Birthstone—Amethyst Flower—Violet | | | 1 Youth Group 6:00 Methodist Church Chancel Choir 7:30 | 2 TOPS Bible Study 10:00 Evening Circle 7:30 Danica Roki (Home) Hostess & Program | 3 | 4 Presbytery Meeting Manning 9:30 Girl Scouts 10:00—11:30 |
| Sunday School 9:15 Worship/Comm. 10:30 Coffee 11:30 SUPER BOWL SUNDAY | 6 | 7 Men's Bible Study Family Table 7:00 am | 8 Ministerial Mtg. NOON Bingo@CareCenter 2:00 Youth Group 6:00 Methodist Church Deacon & Elder Bible Study 5:30 Deacons Mtg. 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:30 | 9 TOPS Bible Study 10:00 | 10 Cluster—Odebolt | 11 |
| Mission Comm 8:30 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Annual Mtg. 11:30 Potluck Dinner to Follow Annual Mtg. LINCOLN'S BDAY | 13 | 14 Men's Bible Study Family Table 7:00 am | 15 Youth Group 6:00 Methodist Church Chancel Choir 7:30 | 16 TOPS Bible Study 10:00 Session 7:00 | 17 | 18 |
| CE Comm. 8:30 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Coffee 11:30 Harvesters TBA | PRESIDENTS' DAY | 21 Men's Bible Study Family Table 7:00 am | 22 Youth Group 6:00 Methodist Church Chancel Choir 7:30 ASH WEDNESDAY WASHINGTON'S BDAY | 23 TOPS Bible Study 10:00 | 24 | 25 Girl Scouts 10:00—11:30 |
| Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Coffee 11:30 1st Sunday Lent | 27 | 28 Men's Bible Study Family Table 7:00 am | 29 Youth Group 6:00 Methodist Church Chancel Choir 7:30 | | | |



February 2012

Pastor Paul's Ponderings

As we continue to contemplate what God is calling our church to do and to be, and as we seek to discern what our gifts are and how to use them successfully in ministry, there are some things that we already know for sure. When Jesus left us he instructed us all to: "..... go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you....." (Matthew 28:19-20). Don't worry—nobody is being ordered to move to Africa and be a missionary. In the original Greek the verb 'go' may be better translated as "as you go". Making disciples is something that we can do right here in Denison, Iowa as we live our normal lives. Jesus instructs His followers to make disciples. The word 'disciple' simply means one who follows someone else—AND who leads others. We are commanded, and ordered by Jesus to tell others about him, and to lead others to him, and to teach them to do the same thing: lead others to Jesus and teach them to follow Him.

Jesus also commands us to 'baptize them'. We are not going to build a baptismal pool in the front of the church anytime soon—but we are not to take this charge lightly either. Perhaps another way to look at this command is to say that we are to welcome and initiate people into God's family! In Baptism we celebrate and share our connection to God—and to one another. Perhaps we should look at this command of Jesus as a command to fellowship and to invite and initiate others into this fellowship. Let's have a party!

Jesus also instructs us to ".....teach them to obey everything I have commanded you". We are to teach them to obey—but they first need to know what they need to obey! We need to instruct and teach them the things that Jesus taught us. In short, one might say that we are commanded to make disciples—make those that know and follow Jesus. And we are to teach them what Jesus commanded us. What did Jesus command us? Simply to Love God and love one another, and to make disciples, baptizing and teaching them.

How do we love God? We worship Him! When we worship God we are telling God of our love for Him, and we praise Him by acknowledging his attributes and greatness. See there, we are commanded to go to church! Not really. We can worship (love) God anywhere, anytime—but when we worship together we are pleasing God—and truly worshipping, and it is easier to worship with the aid and gifts of others.

How do we love one another? Ministry is what we do to love one another. When we minister to others in God's name, we are showing them and demonstrating God's love for them. When we meet peoples' needs, we are ministering.

These are the things that we are commanded to do—as a church and as individuals. As the church of Jesus Christ we are to follow his orders and directions. Most simply we need to be about making disciples, worshipping and ministering. How are we called to do that? Each church has its own history, experiences, gifts and skills that enable it to answer its specific calling. What has God called us to do? What has he gifted us and prepared us to do? Let's find out! But we can't go wrong by inviting friends, family and neighbors to come to church.

Session Notes

- A joint meeting of Deacons and Session was held prior to the Stated Session meeting on January 19, 2012 at the church with Rev. Paul Seefeldt moderating the meeting. Discussion included God's commands for Christians/Churches and what it looks like to follow God's commands. (Ex.: God commands that we love God and that looks like worship, etc.). The joint Deacons and Elders will participate in a Bible Study beginning on February 8th at the church from 5:30 to 6:30 and on the second Wednesday of each month February through May.
- 78 persons received Holy Communion on Christmas Eve during the worship service, and 55 persons received Holy Communion on Sunday, January 1, 2011 during worship.
- Mission projects include organized work groups to help in the community. Please let Joan Osterlund or Shar Hulstein know if we can help you with any job at your residence or in the community. Neighbor Helping Neighbor is the mission project during the month of January 2012.
- New church officers that were ordained/installed on January 15, 2012 include: Elders Les Lewis, installed, Deb Fitzgerald, ordained; Deacon Dr. Rosemary Mason, installed.
- A weekly prayer time is being planned to begin in the near future. Details will be announced at a later time.
- Two new furnace/air conditioning units should be arriving soon for the church.
- The Session VOTED to elect the following: 1) Mary Ann Irwin as Clerk of Session for 2012, 2) Bill Irwin as Church Treasurer for 2012, and 3) Marilyn Jepsen as Commissioner to Presbytery for 2012. Communion dates were approved for 2012 as were special offerings (One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peacemaking, and Christmas Joy).
- The Session VOTED to hire a new janitor for the church to replace Mark & Pat Kirby. He should begin in the near future.
- The Session set the Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, February 12, 2012 for the purpose of reviewing annual reports, electing nominating committee members, and any other such business needing to come before the congregation after morning worship.

Please remember the Session in your prayers as they strive to discern God's guidance as spiritual and financial leaders of the church.

Mary Ann Irwin, Clerk of Session



PRAYER LIST

Please remember in your prayers: Brett Martinson (Son of Donna & Vernon Kuehnhold), Betty Fouts (Sister of Vernon & Donna Kuehnhold), **Laura Goettsch, Michele Olson, Charles Kruse, Fred Worrell**, Barb Saunders, **Leo Burmeister, Putsy Powell, Dale Saunders, Mary Jean Rasmussen, Ron Bierma, Garry Chapman, and Ruth Overhue.**

We want to include anyone who has a need for prayer. Please help everyone out by notifying the church office if you know of a need. Some of the requests are for folks that are not members or are living away. If you know of a need, please call the church office (day or night) at 263-4130 or e-mail the church at thehill@frontiernet.net.

SOUP LABELS



Please continue saving your Campbell Soup Labels. There is a sample copy of a label and what part we need to save posted on the bulletin board. Give you labels to Barb Haley or drop them at the Church in the Narthex of the office. Thank you for your help!!

Stuff you didn't know you didn't know!

Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better.

The State with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of what? Their birthplace

If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter 'A'?
One thousand

What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers have in common?
All were invented by women.

What is the only food that doesn't spoil? Honey

Which day are there more collect calls than any other day of the year? Father's Day

Coca-Cola was originally green.

The average number of people airborne over the U.S. in any given hour: 61,000



FEBRUARY DEACON

Carol Igou

***FEBRUARY DEACON TO CALL FOR A RIDE**

Carol Igou

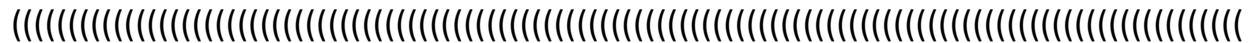
If you need a ride to worship service, please call Carol at 712-263-4851.

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>USHERS</u> | <u>GREETERS</u> |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 5 | Wayne & Carol Igou | Vernis & Jean Nihsen |
| 12 | Wayne & Carol Igou | Marilyn Weatherman |
| 19 | Wayne & Carol Igou | Carol Brus |
| 26 | Wayne & Carol Igou | Dale & Penny Kinney |

LITURGIST: Beth Argotsinger

COMMUNION STEWARDS: Bill & Mary Ann Irwin, Bob & Sharon Irwin

*If any member needs a ride to the Church on a Sunday or any other day of the week that an event is happening at the church, please call the Deacon of the month giving rides for arrangements.



Please remember your church officers and your minister in your prayers as they work together to lead our church.

CLERK: Mary Ann Irwin

Important Church Information

ELDERS

Garry Chapman
Jerry Boettger
Daryl Philipp
Deb Fitzgerald
Beth Argotsinger
Les Lewis
Ken Davis
Marilynn Jepsen
Wayne Igou

DEACON

Patti Boettger
Kyle Bohnker
Robert Lyons
Carol Igou
Jayne Lyons
Phyllis Harms
Mary Goettsch
Michele Olson
Rose Mary Mason

Mailing Address: PO Box 276

Shipping Address: 205 N 24th St.
Denison, IA 51442

Email Address: thehill@frontiernet.net

Office Telephone: 712-263-4130

Fax Line: 866-397-7618

Pastor Study: 712-263-5332

MODERATOR - Rev. Paul Seefeldt

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|
| <i>Alex Fitzgerald</i> | 2-01 | <i>Marlys Riessen</i> | 2-13 |
| <i>Denise Philipp</i> | 2-04 | <i>Mark Clark</i> | 2-17 |
| <i>Scott Chapman</i> | 2-06 | <i>Holly Namanny</i> | 2-17 |
| <i>Charlotte Dueland</i> | 2-06 | <i>Pat Bilsten</i> | 2-19 |
| <i>Juanita Bachmannn</i> | 2-12 | <i>Bob Eisenbraun</i> | 2-24 |
| <i>Carol Brus</i> | 2-13 | <i>Austin Vazquez</i> | 2-24 |
| <i>Mary Eisenbraun</i> | 2-13 | | |

*Love in your heart wasn't put there to stay;
 Love isn't love, till you give it away.
 Author Unknown*



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!

As we have no anniversaries in this "Valentine" month, it is a perfect time to remind us what love is. There is no better place to find the true meaning of love than the "Love" chapter of the Bible - 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13. In part it tells us -

*Love is patient and kind, love is not jealous or boastful;
 it is not arrogant or rude.
 Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;
 it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right.
 Love bears all things, believes all things endures all thing,
 LOVE NEVER ENDS.*

Please help us keep our birthday and anniversary lists updated and accurate. If your name has been omitted or there is a mistake in the month of your birthday, please call the office at 263-4130 or e-mail to thehill@frontiernet.net with the correct information. Many thanks!