

The Spirit

Wednesday, July 28, 2010  Vol. 15 Issue 14

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HILLTOP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Teach Us To Pray

Dakotas Diary

“Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” (Matthew 6:9-10)

There's a great ad on television that I've seen recently that I really like. It first shows a mother pushing a child in a stroller. The child drops a toy and man walking by picks it up and hands it back to the child, and the mother looks grateful. In the next scene the same mother is walking out of a coffee shop and when she sees a coffee cup perched precariously on the edge of a table, she quietly pushes the cup away from the edge. Someone oversees that act and offers a hand to a man who has fallen. And on and on it goes. As someone sees an act of kindness, they are inspired to act kindly to another. At the end of the ad we hear these words:

“When a person does the right thing, we call it responsible. When an insurance company does it, we call it -----.”

Now I know it's an ad for an insurance company, but I still like the thought. And what I like about it is that it reminds us to do the right thing – to walk the talk – to live out what we claim to believe in our everyday life and actions. Perhaps we could put it this way: When a Christian does the right thing, they are living out the kingdom of God.

“Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

When I pray the Lord's Prayer, this tends to be the line I skip over rather quickly, and move on to **“daily bread”**, and **“forgiveness”**, and **“temptations”**. But I shouldn't. For just as the first line of this prayer is a declaration of our faith, this second sentence reminds me to look toward the bigger picture – the coming of God's kingdom here on earth. For prayer has the capacity to shape us in the ways of God.

As Christians, we are called to do everything we can to bring in the Kingdom of God. We are called to be Christ's hands and feet to the world and to embody God's love – God's grace – God's justice – God's compassion – in everything we say and do. We ought to be doing “the right thing” simply because it IS the right thing – it is what God would have us do.

In Richard Foster's book, *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*, we read this:

The true prophetic message always calls us to a spiritual defiance of the world as it now is. Our prayer, to the extent that it is fully authentic, undermines the status quo. It is a spiritual underground resistance movement. We are subversive in a world of injustice, oppression, and violence. Like Amos of old, we demand that **“justice roll down like wa-**

Cont'd. on pg. 2

| | August 1 | August 8 | August 15 |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Door Hosts | Fritz & Mim Fritzemeier | Bonnie Andersen | Ann Seely |
| Ushers | Dan & Lynnda Schoen | Jim & Elsie Vernon | Doug & Ginger Barnes |
| Liturgists | - | - | - |
| Flowers | Dan & Lynnda Schoen | - | - |
| Coffee Hosts | - | - | - |

Make it a habit—Visit our website regularly www.hilltopumc.com

Hilltop Spirit

7/17 & 18/2010 - 112
7/24 & 25/2010 - 123

STAFF

Dan Freed, Pastor
dfreed@hilltopumc.com
Don Vanderlip, Youth Director
dvanderlip@hilltopumc.com
Judi Zikmund, Office Manager
338-8689 FAX 338-8690
www.hilltopumc.com
Office Hours: 8:30-4 Mon-Thurs;
8:30-1:00 Fri.

Saturday 6:00 P.M.
Sunday Traditional 8:15 A.M.
Coffee Fellowship 9:15 A.M.
Logos 10:30 A.M.





Going to Camp

Please pray for these campers to travel safely,
play safely and grow spiritually

Courtney Arney July 31—Aug. 5

Jr. High Sand, Surf & Son

Danielle Luettel, Aislyn Manley, Sabrina Palmiotto

Pastor Dan is a Dean for this camp.

Aug. 5—11 Elem. Sand, Surf & Son

Cont'd. from pg. 1

ters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream” (Amos 5:24). We plead the case of the orphan and the widow, or whoever the helpless ones are in our context. In our prayers and in our actions we stand firm against racism, sexism, nationalism, ageism, and every other “ism” that separates and splits and divides (p. 247).

Friends, can you imagine what this world would be like if we all lived as though God's kingdom were already here?

As you pray this Disciple's Prayer this week, listen for ways God may be nudging you. In fact, try offering a prayer as you read your morning newspaper, or as you watch the evening news. Make prayer a way of life.

When you are frightened – pray.

When you are grateful – pray.

When you are touched by the beauty of God's creation – pray.

When you pound your fists in anger or frustration – pray.

When your heart is filled with joy – pray.

Make prayer a way of life. Make listening to God a way of being. And make living out the kingdom of God your goal.

Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire (UMH #492)

(Tune: Amazing Grace)

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, unuttered or expressed,
The motion of a hidden fire that trembles in the breast.

Prayer is the burden of a sigh, the falling of a tear,
The upward glancing of an eye, when none but God is near.

Prayer is the simplest form of speech that infant lips can try;
Prayer the sublimest strains that reach the Majesty on high.

Prayer is the contrite sinners' voice, returning from their way,
While angels in their songs rejoice and cry, “Behold, they pray!”

Prayer is the Christians' vital breath, the Christians' native air;
Their watchword at the gates of death; they enter heaven with prayer.

O Thou, by whom we come to God, the Life, the Truth, the Way:
The path of prayer thyself hast trod; Lord, teach us how to pray!

Amen and amen. *Bishop Deb*

Happy Birthday:

Aug. 2 Eileen Nelson, Rosemary Savage

Aug. 3 Michael Hout

Aug. 4 Coy Burk, Marianne Siefer

Aug. 6 Melissa Galer

Aug. 11 Mary Akkerman

Aug. 12 Eli Wade

Aug. 13 Matalina Palmiotto

Aug. 14 Doug Niemeyer

Aug. 15 Donna Dreesman



Happy Anniversary:

Aug. 3 Gary & Phyllis Kruger

Aug. 4 Michael & Caron Ferrin

Aug. 5 Anthony & Jennifer Green

Aug. 8 Matt & Tawny Palmiotto

Aug. 11 Duke & Jean Grossman,
Mark & Teri Noble,
Vance & Wanda Schaeppi

Aug. 12 Scott & Haley Beckstrand

Aug. 13 Bob & Helen Kennedy

Aug. 14 Bruce & Janna Christensen,
Emil & Penny Eberhart,
Dan & Ann-Drea Friemuth,
John & Rebecca Olsen

Aug. 15 Bill & Marta Hoffman



August Circle Meetings

UMW Mission Team—9 a.m. Mon., Aug. 9

Ruth Circle—11:30 a.m. Thurs., Aug. 12, Lunch

Sarah Circle—9:00 a.m. Mon., Aug. 16, Breakfast

Quilting and Needlework — 2nd & 4th Mondays at 9:00 A.M.

HUMC NEWS AND UPDATES

Auction of the Parsonage: No bids were received for the house, thus it did not sell. All appliances from the house were brought out, auctioned off and sold with total proceeds of \$325.00. The Trustees will meet at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 8 to begin looking at other possibilities. Input from the congregation will be appreciated. Members of the Board of Trustees are Lanny Beam, Sharon Ellis, Linda Hagen, Cory Harmon, Bill Hoffman, Bob Lane, Judy Miles and Roger Russell. Seek them out to share thoughts on a new direction to go with the former parsonage.

Ice Cream Social: Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Ice Cream Social. There was just enough food donated to feed everyone who came. After expenses, the proceeds totaled \$921.00. These funds will be sent to Ingathering to help fight hunger around the world.

Vacation Bible School: Everyone young and seasoned, had a blast at Galactic Blast VBS. The offering that was received will, again this year, support the SOS Project to fill school bags for children through the Banquet. Thanks for your generosity.

Schwan's Fundraiser: Schwan's products can be ordered between services Sunday, August 1. Linda Hagen will be available to help with orders and receive payments. If orders total more than \$750, HUMC will receive 10% to go toward our building repair needs. Delivery is Sat, Aug. 7 from 1-3 p.m. in the parking lot.

YOUR CALENDAR

| | | |
|-------|---------------|------------------------------------------|
| Sa 31 | 2:00 | Logos Band |
| | 6:00 | Worship |
| Su 1 | 8:15 a.m. | Traditional Worship |
| | 9:15 a.m. | Coffee Fellowship |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Logos Worship |
| Mo 2 | 6:00 | Planning meeting for Neighborhood Party |
| We 4 | 8:00 | Education Committee mtg. |
| Sa 7 | 1-3:00 | Schwan's product delivery for fundraiser |
| | 2:00 | Logos Band |
| | 6:00 | Worship |
| Su 8 | 8:15 a.m. | Traditional Worship |
| | 9:15 a.m. | Coffee Fellowship |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Board of Trustees mtg. |
| | 9:50 a.m. | Outreach Committee mtg. |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Logos Worship |
| Mo 9 | 9 a.m. | Quilting and Needlework |
| | 9 a.m. | UMW Mission Team mtg. |
| We 11 | 7 a.m.—5 p.m. | Avera McKennan Class |
| | 6:30 | Women's Summer Study |
| Th 12 | 7 a.m.—5 p.m. | Avera McKennan Class |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Ruth Circle Lunch |



www.hilltopumc.com

Next issue of The Spirit published August 11

Women's Summer Study

The Women of Faith 2009 "Grand New Day" DVD series will be the focus of a summer study for all Hilltop women who are interested. One speaker's presentation will be shown at each session with discussion following. Meeting time is 6:30—8 p.m. Featured speakers for each session are:

August 11—Luci Swindol August 18—Sheila Walsh

August 25—Lisa Welchel September 1—Marilyn Meberg

Put these dates on your calendar and plan to attend for spirit filled evenings of messages and discussions.

Neighborhood Block Party

Building on the success of last year's Neighborhood Block Party, and hoping for better weather, the 2nd Annual NBP is scheduled for Saturday, August 14. The parking lot will be humming with activities for all ages from 5:00—10:00 p.m. Chet DeYoung will be in charge of roast hog and tables will be laden with hot dishes, salads and desserts shared by all. **All men of HUMC are asked to attend a planning meeting at 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 2.**



**Backpack Sunday
Aug. 15
Bring backpacks to be blessed**



Neighborhood Block Party

All in the Family...

Prayer Concerns: **Mary Oster, Donna Dreesman, Frank Black, Janice Yauslin, Donna Kenison and family, Millie Blake, Elvern Westerman, Steve Whittier, Christa Buecher's mother Debra.**

In the Military: **Clayton Rees and Clayton Peters**

Bob Lanpher's brother, Donald, passed away recently. **Bob Kenison** passed away last Saturday. His funeral was Monday at HUMC. Our sympathy to the **Lanpher** and **Kenison** families.

From Church World Service: I want to thank you for your congregation's compassionate response to the people of Haiti. Six months after a deadly earthquake claimed tens of thousands of lives in Haiti, Church World Service remains at work assisting Haitians in their long, slow process of recovery. You are a part of the ongoing story, thanks to CWS Kits you helped to provide when we needed them most! To date, CWS has distributed hygiene, school and baby kits, blankets and other emergency supplies to more than 41,750 earthquake survivors. Thank you so much for your generous support!

Rev. John L. McCullough
Executive Director and CEO

Kits for 2010 Ingathering

School will be starting in a few weeks so this is the best time to purchase supplies for School Kits. In some countries, children don't have books or school supplies. Many have no classrooms. Often students must write down everything the teacher says on a board. The UMCOR School Kits will contribute to a better education for many children. Be sure all supplies are new and exactly as requested.

- ◇ 1 pair blunt scissors
- ◇ 3 pads (or loose leaf) 8 1/2 x 11" ruled paper
- ◇ 30-centimeter ruler
- ◇ 1 hand held pencil sharpener
- ◇ 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- ◇ 1 eraser, 2 1/2 inch
- ◇ 1 box of 24 crayons (only 24)

Several school bags have already been made and another sewing day is planned. The bags will be hung on the pew ends in the sanctuary to be taken and filled with the supplies.

Supplies needed for Layette Kits are night gowns, onesies or T-shirts and cloth diapers.

UMCOR is also asking for Birthing Kits to be filled with:

- ◇ 1 hotel-size bar of soap (1 oz. and up)
- ◇ 1 pair of clean latex gloves
- ◇ 1 square yard of clear 4 mil. plastic sheeting
- ◇ 3 pieces of clean string each 12" long
- ◇ 1 clean single use razor blade (carefully wrapped in paper or plastic to avoid injury)
- ◇ 2 flannelette receiving blankets, each 1 square yard