



Waukee Christian Church Newsletter

Waukee Christian
Church
(Disciples of Christ)

June 2011

The Great Giveaway June 11, 2011 9:00am—2:00 pm

The Great Giveaway is like a garage sale without the “sale.”

Do you know a family in need? Invite them to this great event. They can win prizes, pick up some free goodies, let their kids play in the play area, and have some fun all while listening to our uplifting Praise Team!

Let’s show God’s love by serving those in need this summer!

We are still collecting new and gently used items to give away at this event. You can bring your

donations to the church anytime. There is a bin in the fellowship hall for smaller items, or put them in the preschool Sunday school room. Larger items can be brought out the day before the event. Any cash donations need to be clearly marked for “The Giveaway Event.”

We still need volunteers to sort items on June 10th and to set everything up on June 11th from 7am-9am. Volunteers are also needed for the children’s play area, to help make and serve lunch,



and to clean up after the event.

Even if you don’t have a specific task to do, everyone in our church family can come out for the fun, mingle among our guests, and extend the warm hospitality of Waukee Christian Church.

All donated items left over will be taken to Hope Ministries.

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Summer Schedule

We will be having one joined service through the summer. Please remember to join us at 9:00 am Sunday Mornings for Worship Services. In mid-July we will evaluate the one service format to see if this is an option that the congregation would like to continue throughout the year.



UNDER THE STEEPLE

By Pastor Larry Squier

What comes to mind when you hear the word “church”? Some may imagine a building; envisioning a white steeple, a cross, perhaps sitting on the side of a hill as a beacon to faith. Others might consider people, especially those with whom they have become as church. All definitions soon move toward more biblical metaphors like fellowship, worship, brothers and sisters, the table, the ordinances, baptism, and of course the Body of Christ. But another question is, “What is key to being the church?”

I learned something important about church from my woodworking. Yeah, I know it might seem like a stretch but when my spirit and mind are immersed in woodworking I am often liberated to do some free-thinking. So I was thinking about the business of joinery. Joining things is key to woodworking. Joints are the things woodworkers try to master, because if wood is not “joined” well it falls apart easily. The most important joint to master as a woodworker is the dove-tail joint. All of the classic and iconic furniture around the world will have dove-tail joinery. It is such a masterful joint because it has the uncanny ability to keep the joint together even if the adhesive or glue used with it fails. Looking at the illustration of a dove-



tail will show you why. The fingers of the joint interlock so that when the joint is pulled from front to back it will not part. That is why dove-tails are most often used in drawers that are pulled in and out all the time. And even if the glue that adheres it fails, the joint will not fail. Another great joint for putting two pieces of wood together is the box-joint or finger joint. It’s a lot like the dove-tail, but it has only interlocking fingers so that under stress and pulled in either direction the box joint will fail. However, because it has so many gluing surfaces, when glue is applied, it makes for an excellent joint.

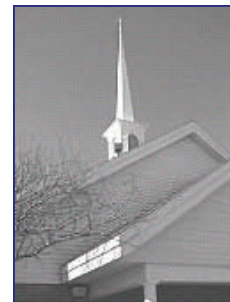


Unfortunately, in the past, glues were not that great and over time often deteriorated. Hide glues (made of horses hooves) were especially vulnerable to heat and humidity and would lose their hold. That’s why master woodworkers would opt for dove-tail joints and that’s why many ancient pieces of furniture held together for centuries. But, new advancements in the adhesives industry have provided woodworkers, carpenters and anyone who needs to glue two things together glues that are phenomenal in their holding power. With the development of polymer glues like Titebond and Elmer’s, joints are now virtually impossible

to separate. In fact, tests have proven that in either a dove-tail or finger-joint the joint will fracture in the wood surrounding the joint but not in the joint. Why, because the glue penetrates and intertwines with the joints surfaces and penetrates into the wood to “lock” the pieces together.



So what does all of this teach me about church? First, it reminds me that the purpose of church is that of a people who believe in God and desire to be “joined” together. Further, the greater that binding or joining, the stronger the church. I am reminded that interlocking with each other, especially in time of stress or strain, further guarantees that the joint of membership will hold up. And yet, even all the intertwining of members with one another will not suffice save there is a very special glue. I believe that glue is Jesus Christ: believing in him and what He teaches and believing what it means to be a part of His body, the church. Christ is the glue that holds our joining together. Isn’t that what he said in John 15 when he talked about being the vine and us being the branches? “⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.” Christ is the glue that



holds the church together; but more than that, is the *secret ingredient* of that glue, the **Koinonia** or loving fellowship. The way that Paul described that fellowship in the Body of Christ is to say that it is the connector of all the various parts so that the Body of Christ can, “bear all things, believe all things, endure all things.” The magic ingredient of the church is love. The kind of love that does not let go, that does not break down, that does not fracture under pressure. (Read again 1 Corinthians Chapters 12 and 13.)

At summer camp we often sing “bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.” If we “join” one another into an intertwined fellowship of love for each other that is held together by the strong adhesion of Christ’s love for us and our love for one another; there is nothing” in all creation that will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:37-39)



Points to Ponder

By Pastor Nancy Thomas

On Sunday, June 19, we will celebrate two special occasions-- Father's Day and the birthday of the Christian church. Both of these occasions usually involve gifts of some kind. Many fathers hope they get a terrific "big boy toy" and not another package of tube socks. What do Christians get? They get the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The liturgical name for the birthday of the church is Pentecost. On one Pentecost Sunday when I delivered the sermon, I placed a couple of wrapped birthday gifts in front of the communion table. I then asked for everyone in the congregation to come forward with their gifts. Only a few people came forward, but not with boxes wrapped in colorful paper and bows. They came forward and presented themselves as a gift. That was exactly my point!

We, indeed, are gifts from God—life is a gift! What we do with our lives is our gift to God, the church, and each other. The Holy Spirit blesses each one of us with specific gifts that God intends us to use for God's purposes. We can read about these gifts of the Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, and Ephesians 4.

Some of us recognize our spiritual gifts and use them well and wisely. Some of us have never associated the gifts of the Spirit with our own lives and therefore don't know which gifts we possess. Another group of us realize that God has given us some gifts and talents, but we hide behind excuses and don't use our gifts for the purposes God has intended.

Following is a list of people who had lifestyles that may not seem to "measure up" to God's holy plan or who made excuses when God called upon

them. Despite their excuses or questionable lifestyles, God used them to build the kingdom.

So, the next time you feel like there's nothing you can do, just remember...

Noah was a drunk, Abraham was too old, Isaac was a day-dreamer. Jacob was a liar, Leah was ugly, Joseph was abused. Moses had a stuttering problem, Gideon was afraid. Samson had long hair and was a womanizer, Rahab was a prostitute. Jeremiah and Timothy were too young, David had an affair and was a murderer. Elijah was suicidal, Isaiah preached naked, Jonah ran away. Naomi was a widow, Job went bankrupt, Peter denied Christ. The Disciples fell asleep while praying, Martha worried about everything. The Samaritan woman was divorced and Mary Magdalene was, well, not the good girl next door.



Zacchaeus was too small, Paul was too religious, Timothy had an ulcer.

AND

Lazarus was dead!

There's the proof of how God works! As the song says, "It's no secret what God can do. What he's done for others, he'll do for you." Don't sell yourself short. Don't hide behind excuses. Remember, you aren't the message, you are the messenger. Only God is God! Awesome, powerful, all-knowing and always with you.

God knows what you can do. God gave you the gifts to do it. Let go of your doubts and fears, accept your gifts and talents, and let God use you! Today!



Adopt A Bill



In an effort to take care of our budget shortfall, we have decided to get creative and start an "Adopt a Bill" program. If you are able to help out financially above

your regular giving, please take a copy of a bill of your choice off of the board and write a check to the church designated to that bill. Please put the check and bill in the offering plate or mail it to the

church. We will make sure that the money that you have donated goes toward getting that specific outstanding bill paid and the amount is listed in your giving record.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL BIG JUNGLE ADVENTURE!

July 24-28, 5:30-8:00 pm

Please mark your calendars with the date of July 24-28 for Vacation Bible School (the incorrect date appeared in the May newsletter.)



VBS offers creative and fun ways for children age 4 through Grade 5 to learn about God's love and develop a deeper understanding of the teachings of Jesus. One of the most valuable experiences children will

have is their interaction with the adults who get to know them and share their faith with them.

We have many ways adults can be involved with VBS, both actively as hands-on leaders and behind the scenes through prayer and encouragement. Posted on the Youth bulletin board are a sign-up sheet and job descriptions for the leadership roles as well as behind-the-scenes

support.

We would like the congregation's help with props and decorating materials for our "jungle" theme, including the loan of your large green plants. A specific list of other items will be announced at a later date.

If you have any questions or need more information, contact Linda Wilcox or Pastor Nancy.



We appreciate each one of our Christian Education Leaders!

Darcey Gruber	Children's Garden
Joyce Breckinridge, Suzanne Koch	Preschool, Kindergarten
Nancy Cross, Lorie Keller, Marvin Cross	Grades 1, 2, 3
Jessica Keller	Grades 4, 5
Kathy Dean	Grades 6, 7, 8
George Risinger	High School
Linda Wilcox	Adult Class
Shared leadership	Bible Basics for Adults
Nancy Thomas	Spiritual Formation
Larry Squier, George Risinger	Youth Groups
Vonda and Kyle Brock, Nancy Thomas	Praising Kids Choir
Gena Pierce	Substitutes in Sunday school
Kyle and Vonda Brock,	
Gena Pierce, Lisa Clay	



Thank You Waukee Christian Church!

A huge thank you to CWF, WOW, and Pat Carpe for the beautiful flowers and baby shower gifts. You brightened my day! I have enjoyed getting to know the Tuesday Tea at Ten and Knit Wit gals and always enjoy the extra people and things going on during Tuesdays!

Sincerely,
Adrienne Nelson

To all my wonderful "Church Family".

Thanks for all your kind words, cards, and support during my recent (undeserved) award. Your backup meant so much to me!! Love you all very much.

Vivian



WCC Members,

Thank you for the book, I really enjoyed it! Thank you for all your support over the years. I have enjoyed attending the church, and working with Klothes For Kids.

In Christ Love,
Nikki



CHILDCARE MINISTRY

Thank you, Joyce Breckinridge and Suzanne Koch, for continuing to be the only volunteers in our childcare ministry on Sunday morning.

They need your help! The more volunteers we have, the fewer times any one person has to miss worship services. If you have ever appreciated hav-

ing a place for our active children to play so you can concentrate on worship, please volunteer for a Sunday or two in the Children's Garden.



Craft Night

Come join us for a night of fun, fellowship and crafts! Bring your craft ideas and

projects to the church to work on June 9th at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for this

event. Craft projects will benefit the "Shops on T Ave" fundraiser!

Monthly Motorcycle Lunch Ride

Every 3rd Saturday of the Month We will leave from the church

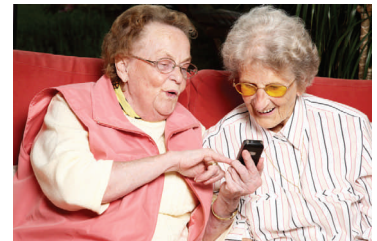
at 10am and ride for awhile before stopping for lunch. Call Wayne

Breckenridge at 515-978-4936 with any questions.

CWF

The Christian Women's Fellowship group would like to invite all women to join their June meeting, which will take place at the

church on Wednesday, June 1st at 9am. The hostess for this meeting is Pat Carpe and the worship leader will be Pastor Nancy Thomas.



Cleaning Ministry

Many thanks to Linda Wilcox, Ron and Tammy Hardersen, Linda Foltz, and Kathy Dean for cleaning the church during the month of May. **The**

weeks in June are available for volunteers. Please check the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. To assist our volunteers, we have a checklist

of tasks that need to be completed every week. Most of our volunteers have been able to complete the cleaning in about 2½ to 3 hours.



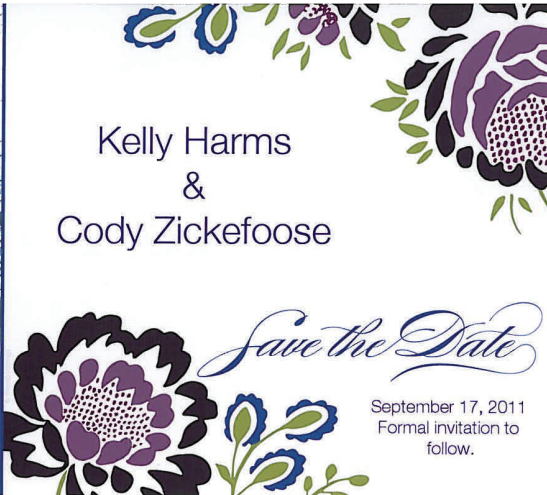
News From the Pews

Birth Announcement

Matt and Megan Spreacker are proud to announce the birth of their son Braylen David. Braylen was born on April 23, 2011. He weighed 7lb 7oz and was 19.25in long. Braylen's big sister Isabella welcomes him home.

The 2010 Citizen of the Year is Vivian Wilson!

Vivian was honored with an open house at the Waukee City Council Chambers on May 5th. Vivian was selected for this honor for her outstanding work in the community, especially for her work with the Waukee Christian Food Pantry.



Congratulations!

Darnell and Terri Jackson recently took the big step of adopting the child they have nurtured in foster care. Their son's new name is Jaden Chad Alan Jackson. Congratulations to the Jacksons and may God bless their journey together has loving parents of Jaden.





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

June 2011

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Cell Phone: 480-2688

Email: nancythomas52@q.com

Secretary: Adrienne Nelson

Praise Team Coordinator: Gena Pierce

... CHURCH OFFICE ...

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SUMMER WORSHIP

9:00AM

1st and 3rd Sundays Contemporary Service

2nd and 4th Sundays Traditional Service

May 29 through September 4

... MISSION STATEMENT ...

In our service to Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior,
we strive to be faithful to the Lord's Table and Scripture.

waukeechristianchurch.com

The Waukee Christian Church Newsletter is published monthly.