

FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER

Thanks to all of you, we will begin our 2009 year in the best condition we have had in several years.

We came within \$5000 of paying off all “carry-over” debt and meeting 100 percent of our 2008 obligations. All of our 2008 Apportionments are paid in full and all current bills from 2008 are paid in full. We start 2009 with a short of \$5000. Not bad when you consider a year ago it was almost 3 times that amount.

Total Receipts in General Fund 2008	\$164,904
Total Expenditures from General Fund 2008	\$157,264
Deficit from 2007	\$ 12,690
Short for the year	\$ 5,050

Chuck Cressy
Treasurer



NEW MEMBERS

We welcome these new members to our congregation. They joined our church membership on Sunday, Dec. 21.

**Justin Haag
Cricket Haag
Nichole Karr
Rob Brown
Tiffany Brown**



**Justin Joseph Haag
Sawyer Joseph Haag
Kiera Dee Haag
Tiffany Marie Brown
Jaelyn Dena Brown**

UNITED METHODIST MEN

United Methodist Men met at 7:00 a.m. December 7 with 14 attending. Breakfast was by Allen Alderman and Ozzie Ostrander.

The men voted to donate these sums to the following organizations:

Sunrise Community Services	\$ 50.00
Red Cross	\$ 50.00
“Shop with a Cop”	\$100.00
Camp Norwesca	\$100.00
The Church – reduction of debt	\$100.00
Girl Scout Troop meeting Tuesdays	\$ 25.00
Girl Scout Troop meeting Thursdays	\$ 25.00

Checks for the above have been delivered. Good bag ingredients were purchased by Russ and Colleen Harford. The men spent their meeting program putting all these good things in plastic sacks for all those who took part in the Christmas program.

It looks like our next regular meeting will be at 7 a.m. on Sunday, January 18, 2009.

Ed Bieganski , UMM Secretary/Treasurer

CONGRATULATIONS!



CSC graduation was held in December for those graduating at mid-year. We have two members who completed their Master’s degrees:

Ann Young	Master of Arts in Education
Vicki Eitemiller	Master of Education
Jody Young	Bachelor of Arts

... trust in your God and return to Him. Be loyal and just, and wait patiently for your God to Act.

Hos. 12:6 GNB



REMINDERS for January

Ushers for January 4 & 11

David & Cheryl Kay and Ken & Bev Marlatt

Ushers for January 18 & 25

Tyson Budler, Austin Brown

Trevor Hinn, Jordan Trueblood

Acolytes

4	Luke Tiensvold & Dan Dunbar
11	Shelby Blundell & Dawn Dunbar
18	Jared Fernau & Ethan Graves
25	Kyler Behrends & Julia Evertson

Camera operators

4	Rob Wahlstrom
11	Aaron Gaswick/Tim Gaswick
18	Loren Young
25	Scott Cotton

Fellowship - The Committee on Lay Leadership & Church Endowment will be serving:

4	Randy & Doralie Lawson
11	Janice Cressy
18	
25	

Thanks to everyone helping with our Sunday ministry.

LOOKING AHEAD

February

1	Souper Bowl of Caring
8	Camp Sunday with Mollie Ronge, Camp Manager
25	Ash Wednesday

January Sermon Series:

“Now What?”

January 4 th	Joshua 1:1-11	The Next Step
January 11 th	Joshua 5:2-12	The Mark
January 18 th	Time to Worship	Joshua 6:1-27
January 25 th	It’s the Right Thing to Do	Joshua 20:1-9

FROM THE PASTOR'S PROCESSOR

You may have noticed a change in our worship service recently. There has been an added emphasis on giving thanks, on gratitude. As A Church Family that Makes a Difference we are well aware that each one of us is a valued contributor to God's ministry here in Chadron, in Dawes County, and to God's children throughout the globe. At almost every worship service we provide an opportunity to give thanks and to recognize those valuable moments of gratitude that need to be shared. Since I appear before the congregation for most of the service I do not participate in this gratitude sharing – these *Thank You Minutes*. However, in the column I want to take the opportunity to do so now.

Over the Christmas break my family and I took a short vacation to see relatives in the eastern part of the state. Due to the wonderful volunteer help of Tony Serbousek who led worship for me the Sunday after Christmas, we had the opportunity to worship in a church where I formally had pastored. It was beautiful to be in worship with old friends and parishioners. In addition to that worship experience we participated in my parents Open House and had numerous opportunities to see old friends and relatives. In almost every occurrence we were asked the same question, "so how's it going in Chadron (or Western Nebraska)?" In each instance we told of our love and affection for this area, for this church, and for the people of the Chadron United Methodist Church. We truly are blessed and I want to personally thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your pastor.

Throughout the past year you have not only provided for the basics of my salary support, but kept me warm in my office in the winter and cool in the summer. You have provided me with internet access so we can share our ministry on the web and through e-mail. You have granted me travel money so I can drive my car to visit parishioners that live in the country or to see people who are hospitalized in Scottsbluff and Rapid City. But more importantly you have given me the opportunity to watch a church grow through incredible ministry. Thank you for given me the chance to offer stimulating Bible studies like *Alpha* and *The Heart of Christianity*. Thank you for letting me grow our children's ministry to the point where we had over 50 children participate in our Sunday School Christmas program. Thank you so much for letting me hire our first student intern, Angie Heesacker, a Chadron State

College student exploring her call to ministry. You have been patient with me as she expands our college and youth ministries and has allowed us to offer more musical opportunities through our *A Joyful Noise Band*.

Every time I was asked the question by people in the East how our ministry is going here in Chadron I wanted to share with them this list. I am just so thankful that I get to pastor this wonderful church that gives me the opportunity to serve God in new and faithful ways. Thank you for such a blessed 2008 and thank you for letting me commit myself to God again as your pastoral leader for 2009.

--Seth



CLASSES

What an exciting year to start (or continue) your walk with Jesus. The Chadron United Methodist Church is offering three opportunities to study God's Word. Two offerings of the Alpha Bible study will be offered this spring. One on Monday night's starting at 6:30 p.m. the other course will be on Thursday's (time to be determined). Our Thursday course is specifically seeking our Chadron State College students but is open to persons of all ages.

Wednesday nights during Family Nite we will be offering a new study called *The Heart of Christianity*. This study is based on the best selling book by noted Historical Jesus author, Marcus Borg. This 12 week study focuses on Faith – the Way of the Heart, The Bible – the Heart of the Tradition, God – the Heart of Reality, Jesus – the Heart of God, and many more subjects. The study is intended for both graduates of the Alpha study **and** can easily be picked up by those who either attended just a few Alpha classes or none at all. The class seeks to be a place of learning and an opening for questioning the very heart of one's faith. Class begins during our Family Nite hour at 6:30.

Angie Heesacker, our student intern, is also starting a course for college students but the date, time, and place for this study is yet to be determined. As with all studies please check out the schedule in the weekly bulletin or on the web at www.chadronumc.org.

MISSION TRIP

In the "cold and snow of winter" how does a work mission trip to Mexico sound? We have been invited by the Scottsbluff First United Methodist Church to participate in their annual mission trip to Nuevo Progreso, Mexico. You will be building wood casitas in an area adopted by many Nebraskans for building homes. Work will be done through Pastor Rueben Huddler of the United Methodist Church in Nuevo Progreso. Both Sarah and Seth have participated in this worthwhile and life changing mission experience. Hurry time and space is limited. The group leaves January 23rd and returns January 31st. Please call Seth as soon as possible for more information.

FAMILY NITE

Family Nite continues to grow with excellent discussion, great meal opportunities, time for fellowship, and as always play. Family Nite is organized around the popular Wednesday night church model. Offerings include rehearsal time for the Belltone Belles, Vocal Choir, and a new Bell Choir starting at 5:00 p.m. (name to be chosen). We eat supper – pot-luck style – at 6:00 with our Adult Nite offerings beginning at 6:30 and Kid's Nite starting at 6:45. Kid's Nite takes place in the Sunday School area and includes Bible story time, craft, music, and much more. Come join us on Wednesday night for Family Nite.



CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE

Sunday, January 18th at 3 p.m. the annual "Christian Unity Service" will be held at the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

THANKS

A special thank you is extended to all who helped with the food and monetary donations for food distribution for those in need in our community this past holiday season.



**“HAPPY BIRTHDAY”
To Those Celebrating in**

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------|
| 1 Doralie Lawson | 18 Dee Cockrell | 5:00 |
| Charles Marsh | Kyle Fend | 5:45 |
| 2 Shawn Savage | Cheyenne Nickel | 6:00 |
| 4 Suze Jones | 19 Chuck Cressy | 6:30 |
| Kyler Behrends | 20 Stephanie Orton | 6:30 |
| 6 Bill Christensen | 21 Mollie Ronge | |
| 8 Bob Jones | 22 Bruce VanVleet | |
| 10 Jessie Tulloss | 23 Dolores Nydahl | |
| 11 Wayne Jones | 24 Luella Christensen | |
| 12 Brett Dunbar | 28 Emma Leypoldt | |
| 13 Jim Sheaffer | 30 Jane Druecker | 7:00 |
| Johnny Williams | 31 Robin Foulk | |
| 15 Ashley Orton | | |
| 16 Terry Gilman | | |
| James Koerber | | |
| Joe Young | | |

**“HAPPY ANNIVERSARY”
To Those Celebrating in**

- 2 Robert & Melody Herbert
- 13 Jim & Mary Willey
- 23 Norm & Betty Martin

*Seek ye first His kingdom and His righteousness,
and all these things will be added unto you.*

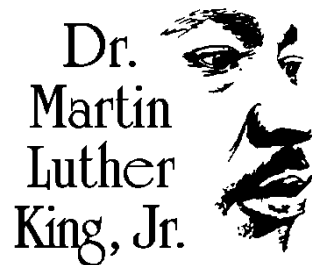
Matthew 6:33 KJV

**Write it on your heart that EVERY DAY is
the BEST DAY in the year.**

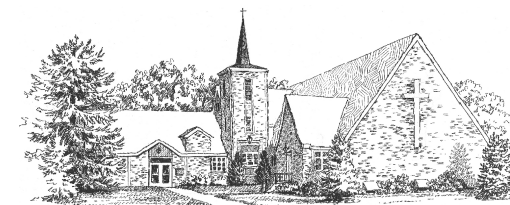
--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Family Ministry

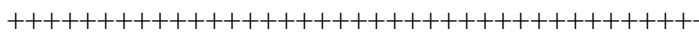
- New Bell Choir
- Handbell Choir Practice
- Potluck Dinner
- Adult Nite Study
- Youth (Jr & Sr High School students) will
- attend UnderScore at the Ridgeview Church
- Vocal Choir Practice



**Birthday Observance
Monday, January 19**



**THE CHADRON CROSS
2008**



**Epiphany Sunday
Sunday, January 4**



**Winter Beach Party
At Camp Norwesca!**

Who? Campers in grades 5 through 8
When? January 23rd (7 PM) through January 25th (11 AM)
How Much? \$48 for the whole weekend!

Camp Norwesca is the place for winter fun!
 Enjoy s'mores around the warmth of the huge fireplace - sled the hill (if there's snow) - enjoy other great games inside and out. Strengthen your faith and spend time with old and new friends at this winter youth event.

Call (308) 432-3872 or email norwesca@bbcwb.net to Register!

Norwesca: A Place to Grow with God in All Seasons

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