

# The Lamplighter

*The mission of our church is to respond faithfully by living and sharing the teachings of Jesus Christ.*



June, 2009

## Pastor's Paragraph

### Sweeping Changes

Last week was one of sweeping change. I mean it.

The trustees, in the form of Sally Smith and Marilyn Bath, came on Wednesday and moved the worship material out of the education office. Craig Long and Vern Heskett then completely dismantled and moved the sturdy shelf system made by Eldon Kistner to the previous pastor office area.

While this was going on, Teresa was wading through a number of years of office debris: sorting, throwing, keeping, recycling. Among the great finds were a box of exterior letters for the highway facing sign on the north lawn, and a "we didn't know it even existed" sackful of keys for education unit doors.

Later that night, Craig, Vern and I pushed a nine foot storage cabinet toward the hallway ceiling and on the fifth try wedged it through the office door. We carefully wheeled it to the end education room so it could be used by newsletter preparation, A.A., prayer ministry and adult education. We took Teresa's desk apart with flying wrenches, and deftly moved it. We assessed, then decided it would be best to put it together where it was originally. We did rearrange other office furniture, though. And yes, we vacuumed everywhere.

Sheila Mayfield came in the next day and assessed the materials needed for wall displays in the entry area. She then sorted: some things went to the Neighbor to Neighbor garage sale. Other items had seen the end of their useful life and went the way of all things trash.

My office is now twenty-seven steps to the east in the previous education office/worship storage/youth library/and folding area. The education office and internet café are now housed with the church secretary, her copy machines and office supplies.

The shakedown shed pounds of now useless and uncared for material. The remaining resources are now an effective ministry tool in a manageable amount. An additional bonus is that we know what the resources are.

Motivation for this work came from a simple idea: saving money by having all offices together. This is more efficient because we will use one heat pump instead of two for the offices. We will also no longer spread heating and cooling throughout the buildings unnecessarily. We also expect to have better inter-office communication and will be more available to our members and the public. We feel more focused, leaner and more directed to our goals. And we will be more green.

Many thanks to all who helped.

Perhaps your life could use a sweeping change. If you want to be more focused, leaner and more directed toward God's goals, I highly recommend it. God's blessings to you all in your sweeping change!

--Fred

### Signs of Discipleship

Connectional Joy & Commitment	p. 8
Gracious Generosity	p. 6
Heartwarming Worship	p. 2
Radical Hospitality	p. 4
Risk Taking Mission and Justice Ministries	p. 5
Vital Faith Formation and Prayer	p. 2

*Heartwarming Worship*

## Summer Special Music

We are now seeking volunteers to provide special worship music this summer. A sign up sheet is on the south table in the library or you may call the church office to volunteer.



on the Sunday you choose. You are welcome to invite your friends and family to share their musical gifts with us. What's acceptable? All music suitable for worship; all instruments or voices—contemporary, classical, jazz, or hymn tunes.

We do ask that, if possible, you agree to provide music at both the 8:30 and 10:45 service



The "Upper Room" and "Alive Now" daily devotionals are provided for you by the Church. Please feel free to take one for yourself and a friend. July/August, 2009 issue will soon be available. Daily devotionals may also be read on-line at: [www.upperroom.org/devotions](http://www.upperroom.org/devotions).

# Summer Worship Schedule

Sunday's at 8:30 & 10:45 am.

*Vital Faith Formation and Prayer*

## Children's Faith Formation

Teachers needed for July & August  
 Contact the office or Amy Conner

### Summer Sunday School



June 7–August 30  
9:30 am.

### 2009 Vacation Bible School

July 13-17

6-8 pm



A cooperative effort of the Auburn First UMC, St. Paul Lutheran and First Presbyterian Churches

Host church: St. Paul Lutheran

*Volunteers needed.*  
 Contact the office or Amy Conner

## UMW Reading Program

All members of the congregation are welcome to check out the books on the clipboard. Please return them by July 3 to be returned to the conference library. The books are on the east wall of the library.

Children's books:

- *Catching the Moon* by Crystal Hubbard, Illustrated by Randy Du Burke

- *Crossing BOK Chitto*, a Choctaw tale

Adult books:

- *52 Simple Ways to Make a Difference* by Paul Simon
- *Peace in the Storm*, Meditations on Chronic Pain & Illness by Maureen Pratt
- *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser
- *Rescue*, abducted and threatened w/death by Jean Phillips
- *Courageous Spirit*, women in ministry from Upper Room Books
- *Stories for a Faithful Heart*, in Large Print by Alice Gray

## Summer Campers



This year we are expecting to send at least 14 youth and adults to Camp Fontanelle. Those planning to attend are: James & Tracy Reyes, Sadie, Lexie and Josie; Kathy Grant with Mollie and Leah Grant; Erin Conner, Madison Meade, Hannah

Jones, Claire & Brenna Schulte, Ellis Clopton, and Chelsea Randolph.

These campers will be visiting Camp Fontanelle various weeks during the summer months. Opportunities for all ages are still available for those considering attending a summer camp. Contact Sherry Black, Pastor Fred or the church office if you are considering a summer camp.

Thank you to those who

have generously contributed \$2,310 to the church's camp scholarship fund. Because of your generosity we are able to help with camping fees where needed.

Remember our summer campers, our UMC Camps and counselors in your prayers this summer.

## Prayer Chain Ministry

To start the prayer chain during office hours, call the church office at 274-3329 or e-mail your request to

[aubunumc@windstream.net](mailto:aubunumc@windstream.net).

Office hours are from 9-3 Monday through Friday. After hours you may contact **ONE** of the following to have your request passed to the members of the

prayer chain.

- Trudy Peaslee  
grammyboo3@gmail.com  
274-4536
- Arlene Whisler  
aw03712@alltel.net  
274-7634
- Carol Ehmke  
carolehmke@hotmail.com
- Susan Kruse  
susankruse07@yahoo.com

Midge Mason  
274-4257

If you do not have e-mail and would like to be a part of the prayer chain ministry, please contact Jeannine Crotty. She will receive requests by e-mail and call those who do not have internet or e-mail access.

## Radical Hospitality

### Bloodmobile Canteen

First UMC will host the canteen during the July 20 & 21 Red Cross Bloodmobile at the Nemaha County 4-H Building. A chairperson is needed to coordi-

nate the needs of the canteen. A full job description and outline is available from Kathy Grant. Please contact her at 274-4670 to volunteer.

#### Father's Day



June 21

### Happenings

#### Births

Jacque (Ehmke) and Trevor Feuerhelm of Johnston, Iowa announce the birth of their son, **Joseph Scott**, on April 13, 2009. He weighed 8 lbs 13 oz and measured 20.5 inches long. Joseph was welcomed home by his sister, Faith, age 3. Grandparents are Carol Ehmke and Dennis and Jan Ehmke of Auburn. Great-Grandmothers are Janis Ehmke of Syracuse, Nebraska and Audrey Dye of Kear-

ney, Missouri.

On May 11, 2009 **Emma Marie** was born to Matt & Shannon Dunekacke. She weighed 8 lbs 10 oz and measured 20 1/2 " long. Grandparents are Craig & Gina Long.

#### Baptisms

On April 19, 2009 **Barrett Gregory Verkuilen** received infant baptism. Barrett was born on December 11, 2008 to Greg &

Brenda (Black) Verkuilen of Brainard, Minnesota. Grandparents are Tom & Sherry Black. Dr. Fred Richart performed Barrett's baptism.



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- |                    |                     |                         |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Kaye Shenefelt  | 8. Jolene Bantam    | 21. Pam Allison         |
| 2. Treven Shaw     | 10. Chris Oden      | 26. Xavier Beger (1989) |
| 3. Alan Bysfield   | Chris Pippert       |                         |
| Kendall Comstock   | 12. Eileen Rhoades  |                         |
| Kristi McLaughlin  | 16. Norma Apple     |                         |
| 4. Phillip Monfelt | Amy Conner          |                         |
| 6. Paige Aue       | 18. Brent Comstock  |                         |
| Claire Schulte     | 19. Bill Lynch, III |                         |
| Krista Torres      | Dave Pippert        |                         |

Please report any names of persons missing from the birthday calendar to the church office.

## Risk Taking Mission and Justice Ministry

### Youth Mission Trip

Three youth and three adults from our church will be going to Boys & Girls Country Ranch in Hockley, TX (near Houston) from June 6-June 12. We will be teaming up with a youth group from Faith UMC in Spring, TX working on some upkeep and general maintenance tasks. Boys & Girls

Country is a home for children from families in crisis.

The youth are really looking forward to this trip. We will spend some time doing a couple of fun things too, of course (top of the list is a trip to the beach at Galveston!). We are asking for prayer partners for

these youth and your thoughts and prayers while we are away. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Sherry Black at 274-4365.

More information on Boys & Girls Country can be found online at [boysandgirlscountry.org](http://boysandgirlscountry.org).

### Volunteers In Mission to Visit Haiti

Auburn UMC is sending a team to Haiti from September 4 - 14 and we need your help: We need your prayers and we need your donations, either one will be welcomed. Each of the six VIM members have paid for their own airfare. The group still needs about \$7,200 for food, lodging, transportation and construction material.

We are going to the small village of Source Philippe on the south side of the small island of La Gonave off the coast of Haiti. As you might imagine, it's not a tourist destination, so it is expensive to get there and conditions are quite harsh once

you do. On that side of the island, there is no electricity, no plumbing, and no transportation other than walking, donkeys, and small boats. The government tends to be corrupt and unstable, the literacy rate is only 15%, and people are living on less than \$1 a day. Imagine that if you can.

We will help with a new water well and/or improve the village pier and help in the local church clinic. But most importantly, we will listen, learn, and spread Christ's Love.

It will cost about \$1400 per person which includes construc-

tion materials, but not the typhoid shots or malaria meds. We will live in the same village conditions, eating mostly what might be currently available from the sea -there is no grocery store there. So your prayers are welcome as well as your funding assistance.

People who are starving can be surprisingly generous. If you start the day with nothing, then it's no big deal to end the day that way, so the people of Source Philippe tend to share whatever they happen to have.

-Mission Team

### Parish Health Ministries

**TICK ALERT!** Deer ticks that spread Lyme disease are most active now through July and they lurk on the tips of weeds and bushes, grabbing you as you walk by. Reports of Lyme disease has increased each year, so the use of insect repellents with 20-30% DEET applied to pants, socks, and shoes is rec-

ommended by the CDC. Walk in the center of trails, and wear light-colored clothing so you can spot ticks more easily. If a tick attaches, you have about 24 hours to remove it before it can transmit Lyme disease to you, so always do a full-body tick check after being in the woods. To remove ticks, use

fine-tipped tweezers to firmly grasp the tick close to the skin and pull. Clean area with soap and water. Don't use nail polish Vaseline, or burning matches to remove ticks.

Here's to your good health!




Mile of Pennies Collection For



**NothingButNets.net**  
SEND A NET. SAVE A LIFE.



Total to Date: \$211.44  
Amount needed: \$ 844.80



So Far over 60 pairs of glasses have been collected.

Place donations in the round wicker basket on the shelf inside the south entrance.

*Gracious Generosity*

## Peace with Justice Sunday—June 7

### Building Youth at the Peace Builders Club

“We have been implementing our programs and activities as planned,” said Frido N. Kinkolenge of the Peace Builders Club at the Brighter Future Children Rescue Center in Monrovia, Liberia. The project focuses on “training workshops, skill training, study sessions and discipleship from children to children. Children are involved in activities geared toward awareness building on social issues that disrupt peace and harmony in the community. They have erected a billboard with many


writings: say no to violence, to war...all of that climaxed by the sponsor ‘PWJ - GBCS’ (Peace with Justice—General Board of Church and Society) at the bottom of the board. It is exciting to see the boys talking to journalists who come to interview them, no longer fearing identification as ex-combatants. Thank you for your support of our ministry.” United Methodist offerings on Peace with Justice Sunday assist



the Peace Builders Club and other ministries in the United States and around the world.

Source: [umcgiving.org](http://umcgiving.org)

**Remember the SENCA Grocery Cart in the church library.**



Donations of non-perishable food and paper items are collected and given to the SENCA food pantry. Remember this month kids are home and more are on their own for lunch. Consider these items: cereal, peanut butter, jelly, mac & cheese boxes, juice boxes, snack packs, etc. Also remember baby items such as formula and diapers are always needed.

## Mission Share—Ministerial Education Fund



*ther graduated from college, traveled to another country or made much money. As I look back, however, I marvel at their hard work, their consistent sacrifice and their unwavering faith in God. Their stories, interwoven into the fabric of the American story, show our diversity and our common ground.*

Acacia Salatti has achieved the dream of higher education that past generations couldn't. *"My grandmothers, Blanche and Pirtella, grew up in my hometown of Bamberg, S.C. Blanche was raised on a small farm in rural Bamberg County. Pirtella was a sharecropper who worked in the cotton and cornfields. They gave birth to 13 children between the two of them. Nei-*

*Enduring the slings and arrows of the Jim Crow South, my grandmothers did not allow fear and hate to steal their hope. Instead, they instilled in their children and their grandchildren an inherent sense of personal dignity and worth and a belief that anything is possible.*

*I am the granddaughter of sharecroppers. I graduated*

*from college and graduate school. I work for the third-highest ranking member in the U.S. Congress. I am the embodiment of the American dream, of the unwavering belief that the impossible can become possible.*

*If my grandmothers could dream and achieve a better world for me, then surely we all can do the same for our children and grandchildren. In that better world, all work together for the common good. Everyone should have a seat at the table. We cannot sit until everyone does."*

Salatti, a graduate of Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, is a legislative assistant in the office of Rep. James Clyburn (D-S.C.) and the lead staffer for the Democratic Faith Working Group.

Source: [umcgiving.org](http://umcgiving.org)

## Lawn Mowing Schedule

June 7 Ted Yager

June 14 McMann/Beger

June 21 Ted Yager

June 28 Grant

Please mow on the Friday or Saturday before the date listed. Also, it is always appreciated when you trim and then sweep the sidewalk clear of clippings. Please check the church calendar for weddings or funerals before beginning.



Thank you to everyone who contributes their time, gas and moving equipment to keep the lawn looking nice.

### Administrative Note:

Teresa will be out of the office June 5th through June 13th for the youth mission trip. Pastor Fred will be away for Annual Conference June 9-13. If you are interested in attending the phones while we are away, please contact Teresa at 274-3329 or 414-1215.

Teresa will be making photographs of the mission trip available for viewing online during the youth trip. You will be able to link to the photos through the website ([auburnneumc.com](http://auburnneumc.com))

## Connectional Joy and Commitment

### Nebraska Annual Conference

#### “All Are Welcome”

Each year the Annual Conference (AC) Session theme surrounds one of the Nebraska Conference vision statements from the Six Signs of Discipleship. “All Are Welcome” is this year’s theme and expresses a tenant of Radical Hospitality. Special guest Bishop Robert Schnase, author of “Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations,” will lead the teaching sessions. His

book uses slightly different categories, but reflects the core values of the Nebraska Conference’s “Six Signs.”

The 2009 AC Session is set for June 9-13, 2009, at the Cornhusker-Marriott Hotel, in Lincoln. Saint Paul UMC, a block away from the hotel, will once again host several events and several worship services.

Dr. Fred Richart, pastor & Sally

Smith, lay representative will attend Annual Conference. The Conference will be streaming live video of some sessions through the internet. A complete video streaming schedule for the Annual Conference Session will be available at [www.umcnebraska.org](http://www.umcnebraska.org). Sessions will also be recorded and offered on UM-TUBE for later viewing. Contact the church office for links to these sites.

### Advancing God's Kingdom

#### The Next Generation

The Nebraska United Methodist Foundation will be hosting this free seminar on Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 7:00 – 8:15 pm in the Lancaster Room of The Cornhusker Marriot Hotel, Lin-

coln. The seminar will be presented by Douglas A. Dillon, Senior Partner, Jerold Panas, Linzy & Partner, Chicago & Boston. Mr. Dillon has an inimitable ability to motivate and challenge people to move their institutions to new heights through strategic

planning, management and fund development. He will share how the Church can better prepare for the future and the importance of "leaving a legacy." Please contact the church office or Pastor Fred if you would like to attend.

### Newsletter Deliver Option—please complete and return to office

I/we would like to receive the monthly "Lamplighter" by the following method (please check the appropriate box).

- E-mail: my address is \_\_\_\_\_
- I will view on the website ([www.auburnneumc.com](http://www.auburnneumc.com), click on "Newsletter" in the navigation column on the left) Please let me know by e-mail when it is posted. My address is \_\_\_\_\_
- I will pick up my newsletter on the last Sunday of the month. If I am not able to be here, please send it to me on the following Monday.
- Please send to me by first class mail.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you have already given your preference you do not need to complete this form.*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Youth Mission Trip—to June 13
7 1st Sunday after Pente- cost  <b>Peace with Jus- tice Sunday— Special Offer- ing</b>  Summer Sunday School begins	8	9  "Advancing God's Kingdom" 7-8:15 pm Lincoln Corn- husker Marriott	10	11	12	13
			<b>Nebraska Annual Conference</b> <b>Youth Annual Conference</b>			
14 2nd Sunday after Pente- cost	15	16  S/PRC 6:00 pm.	17	18	19	20
21 3rd Sunday after Pente- cost  <b>Father's Day</b>	22	23	24  6:00 pm Administrative Council	25	26  5:30 pm DUMP (meet to carpool to Lied Lodge in Ne- braska City)	27
28 4th Sunday after Pente- cost	29	30				

**Weekly Activities**

Sun.

8:30 Worship  
9:30 Sunday School  
10:45 Worship

Mon.

10:00 Prayer Shawl Knitting/Crocheting

Tues.

9:30 Prayer & Share

Thurs

10:00 Women's Bible Study  
12:00 Ladies' Brown Bag Study  
8:00 A. A.

Sat.

8:00 A. A.

**Fitness Group:**

M-F at 6:30 am. Meet at the church to walk (we will be in Fellowship Hall in the event of rain).

Auburn First United Methodist Church  
Presiding Bishop, Rev. Ann Brookshire Sherer  
District Superintendent, Rev. Randy Sailors  
Pastor, Dr. Frederick Richart  
Secretary, Teresa Fletcher

**Worship Times**  
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:45 am.  
Sunday School 9:30 am.

# The Lamplighter



We're on the Web  
[www.auburnneumc.com](http://www.auburnneumc.com)

(402)274-3329  
Fax: (402) 274-3385

Non-profit  
Organization  
Postage Paid

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
1205 "L" ST  
Auburn NE 68305