

SCOTLAND UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 2012 Newsletter

Pastor Ron Shifley

Parsonage Phone: (605) 583-2831 Office Phone: (605) 583-4187 Website: www.scotlanducc.org

Church E-mail: uccscotland@goldenwest.net Pastor's Email: pastorron@mergewithjesus.org

Daniel: Daring to live faith in tough times

Our church's Vacation Bible School theme this year is "*Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity.*" During VBS our kids will be getting a chance to examine the faith and life of Daniel and his friends Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego as told in the Old Testament book of Daniel. What is remarkable about these stories about Daniel and his friends is how they refused to waver in their convictions and their faith even though they were living basically as prisoners of war, as captives, as exiles in the land of Babylonia after the destruction of Jerusalem and the defeat of God's children of Israel by the Babylonian army. Let's face it, in the grand scheme of things, Daniel and his pals were losers. They were defeated.



Most people who find themselves on the losing team hang their heads in shame, and try to melt into the crowd so that they won't be taunted by their peers. Most of us recognize that losers are supposed to make concessions to their victors as a result of being on the wrong side of history.

Yet, what we observe in the book of Daniel is a group of men, who while their nation, was defeated by the enemy, did not hang their heads in shame or even regard themselves as being on the wrong side of history. They held their heads high, held fast to their faith in God, and stood strong even in the face of persecution and peer pressure. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown into a fiery furnace because they refused to bow in worship to an idol of the Babylonian king (Daniel 3:8-29). Daniel himself was thrown into a lion's den because he refused to stop praying regularly to his God even though such public faith was outlawed by the state (Daniel 6:10-23). In both cases, the defiant faith of Daniel and his friends made a dramatic impact on their foreign captors. They showed them that even though they were considered losers by society at large, that they were indeed the victors in life because their faith in God was greater than their troubles and circumstances.

We all could learn a lot from the faith of Daniel and his pals. Too often when life gets tough, when things don't go our way, when we lose the battle, we hang our heads and declare defeat. At times, we even bemoan our faith in God who we think failed us. Yet the truth is, we worship and serve a God who is greater than even our darkest hours. David knew that when he penned these words from Psalm 23:4, "*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me.*" This assurance in the ever abiding strength of the LORD our God is enough to stand firm when everything and everyone around us crumbles. The Apostle Paul puts it this way in Romans 8:31, "*If God is for us, who can be against us?*"

The knowledge that God is on our side should be enough to give us strength to stand firm when life tries to knock us down. After all, God has always provided victory to those who were temporarily defeated, but who remained faithful. Just look at the examples of Samson, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, Moses and the Hebrew slaves in Egypt, the apostles Peter and Paul and even Jesus Christ our Savior. All of them experienced the humiliation of defeat at one time or another, but they all triumphed in the end because of the faithfulness of our God. The prophet Nahum said it well in Nahum 1:7, "*The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.*"

Do you know that confidence in the LORD today, even when life isn't going your way? If not, take some time to look at real stories of people just like you who not only experienced defeat, but who also enjoyed final victory simply because they refused to give up their faith in God. These heroes of the Bible can serve as living examples for your life and my life today. Thanks be to God who does not give up on us even when we feel defeated! Amen.

Church Picnic set for June 24

A Church picnic has been planned for after worship on Sunday, June 24th @ 11:30pm in the Scotland City Park-North shelter. Please bring a dish to share, your own plate, cup, silverware—beverages will be provided. **Homemade Ice cream will be served**☺ A Gospel Sing-a-long is also being planned—so mark your calendars and be ready for great food and fellowship!!

VBS Program and luncheon to be held June 3

Our church's Vacation Bible School program will be held on Sunday, June 3 following the 9:30 am worship service. A luncheon will be served in the Fellowship Hall for the entire congregation featuring hamburgers and hot dog sandwiches. After lunch, the kids will present a program featuring VBS songs from this year's VBS theme "Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity." Bring the whole family for an afternoon of fun and fellowship as we celebrate the conclusion of this year's Vacation Bible School with the kids VBS program! You won't want to miss it!



Pastor Ron accepts national leadership position with EA

Pastor Ron has been asked to serve on the national Board of Directors for the (EA) Evangelical Association of Reformed & Congregational Christian Churches. Our church's Council agreed at their May 9 meeting to let Pastor Ron take on these wider church responsibilities in addition to serving as pastor of our church. The position means that Pastor Ron will have responsibilities for networking with pastors and churches from Reformed, Christian, Evangelical, Congregational and Independent traditions (in a three-state region of North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota) who seek ties with other like-minded, Bible-based churches through the post-denominational network that the EA offers.

The position begins in September when Pastor Ron and Deanna will travel to the EA's National Convocation in Louisville, Kentucky. Pastor Ron's work on the Board of Directors will be an extension of the work that he and Deanna already are doing with the EA as co-editors of the EA's national desk calendar and work on the national Web Ministry Team.

The Evangelical Association is a post-denominational fellowship of churches that links and networks pastors and churches (both non-denominational and those with affiliation in one or more denominations) for the purpose of missions, ordained clergy recognition, clergy placement and educational training and programming. The EA coordinates direct contact and relationships with 63 global missionaries through its Mission Renewal Network. Learn more about the EA on its national website: www.evangelicalassoication.org.

Faith & the Arts group to share "The 7 Days of Creation"

Members of the Faith & the Arts group will share their photographs depicting "The 7 Days of Creation" based on Genesis chapter 1 on Sunday, June 3, 2012. The photographs will be featured (with Scripture) as part of a multi-media presentation during the 9:30 am worship service. The presentation will feature creative photography by Joyce I. Frey, Sheryl Frey, Tricia Gall, Sydney Gall, Holly Neth, Pastor Ron, Deanna Shifley and Linda Ulmer.

Youth Ministry News

Senior UCY-May 6, 2012 meeting:

The Senior UCY met on Sunday, May 6th. The following members were present: Kennidy, Morgan, Lindsey, Katie, Kyle, Mason, Mitch, Audrey along with advisors Kim & LeAndra.

The meeting was called to order.

Old Business:

- ❖ BBQ in the Park-announce was made in church that we are only doing every other year opposite of Live Nativity. Left on the floor for open discussion
- ❖ Walk Ditches-went good, cleanliness was good
- ❖ Progressive Supper-yummy food☺

New Business:

- ❖ Presents for Seniors-\$20-25 each for Mitch, Kyle, Jymmi, Scott and Abby
- ❖ Vote for President-nominated Christy-majority vote-motion passed
- ❖ Vote for Treasurer-nominated Kennidy-Majority vote-motion passed
- ❖ Vote for Vice President-nominated Katie-Majority vote-motion passed
- ❖ Vote for Secretary-nominated Audrey-Majority vote-motion passed.

Next meeting is TBA via text by Advisor Kim

Meeting Adjourned

Kennidy Asche, Secretary

Confirmation Jeopardy a great night of fellowship

Alexis DeBoer and Sydney Gall were able to show off how much they had learned during their three years of Confirmation instruction when they faced off against their parents (Jeff & Mary DeBoer and Fred & Tricia Gall) at Confirmation Jeopardy Night on May 18.

The evening featured a Jeopardy Game held in the sanctuary with questions being projected on the big screen. Pastor Ron emceed the night asking questions of the 8th Grade Confirmation Class and their parents from categories like “Bible Trivia,” “Church History,” “Scotland UCC History,” “The Reformation,” “Holidays,” “Words Beginning With the Letter ‘C’,” “Historical Landmarks,” “Hymns of the Church,” ”Pop Culture” and “The Heidelberg & Congregational Catechisms.” The teens and their parents knew the answers to most of the questions, but were stumped on a few in which they had to ask their “life line” (members of the audience) for help.



Confirmation Jeopardy Night paid homage to the old Examination Night that had been a part of our church’s Confirmation program in years past. The difference was Jeopardy was a lot less stressful for the students and provided the congregation with a night of fun, learning and fellowship for the whole church family. A number of folks from the audience shared that the evening was a lot of fun for everyone who took part. The evening ended with refreshments being served in the narthex.

Children’s Fellowship Camp Out Planned for July

All children K-5th grade are invited to a “Camp Out” on Friday, July 20th!! We will be camping out on the church lawn, so bring your sleeping bag, pillow, bug spray, etc. for a great time. We will begin by having supper followed by games and a campfire. This event will begin at 6:30pm on Friday evening and end Saturday morning following breakfast at approximately 8:30pm. Join the fun—see you there!! Contact Pastor Ron or Holly Neth for more details.



Christian Education seeking donations/funding for computers

The Christian Education Committee is seeking donations and/or funding for computers that will be used this fall as part of a Computer Bible Lab with our church's new rotational Sunday School program called Bible Discovery Zone. In the new program that has a 6-year curriculum; kids will attend the Computer Bible Lab once a month as they learn a single Bible story over a month's time. With four groups rotating through the learning stations (Art Studio, Cartoon Cinema, Drama/Puppet Theater, Computer Bible Lab and Hands-on Discovery) each month, a group of kids will be using the computers each Sunday morning.

The 8th Grade Confirmation Class already used computers this past year to help memorize questions from the Heidelberg Catechism, study our church's history, tour the Holy Land via virtual reality and reflect on different topics of faith through use of multi-media. The donation and/or purchase of additional computers will help continue this teaching approach as Confirmation Classes will have larger enrollment over the next few years.

Finally, the addition of computers into our Sunday School classrooms was discussed by members of the Church Council in 2011 as one way to position our church to help attract younger families into the membership.

Anyone interested in donating a new or used computer to the church is welcome to provided that the computer runs on Windows 7, Vista or XP Microsoft Windows operating systems. Financial donations will also be accepted and checks can be made out to the church with "Computer Bible Lab" listed in the memo line. Contact Holly Neth or Pastor Ron form more details or to see some of the software that our kids will be using in Sunday School and Confirmation.

Sunday School classrooms to be renovated for fall program

The children's Sunday School classrooms will be getting a total makeover this summer following the conclusion of VBS to ready them for this fall's new Bible Discovery Zone rotation-model Sunday School program. Each classroom will be decorated to make them functional and attractive for active learning. The learning stations will be an Art Studio, Cartoon Cinema, Drama/Puppet Theater, Computer Bible Lab and a multi-purpose room for Hands-on Discovery.



Please excuse our mess as there will be painting and other construction going on over the summer months. Some of the scenery from this year's VBS will be refurbished to help decorate the learning centers.

Missions Committee seeking monthly donations for local food pantry

The Bon Homme County Food Pantry is in need of churches to help fill the shelves for patrons who utilize the food pantry on a monthly basis. Our church's Mission Committee has decided to ask the congregation to donate suggested items to the food pantry on a monthly basis. **Items for June are: noodles, spaghetti, cake mixes, peanut butter and laundry detergent.** Donations can be dropped off at the specially marked Food Pantry Box located in the narthex. Thanks for your help and support!

Sponsorship:

If you'd like to sponsor the Bulletins/Newsletters/Altar Flowers for a month, please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex. The newsletter cost \$35/month and bulletins are \$5/Sunday (Example: 4 Sundays in a month= \$5 x 4 = \$20).

The June Altar Flowers are sponsored by Al & Esther Gall.

The June Newsletters/Bulletins are given by Nadean Auch in memory of **Archie Auch**.

Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex!

Babylon

Daniel's Courage in Captivity™



Join us for Vacation Bible School!
 May 28 – June 1 from 6:00 to 8:30 pm
 (VBS Program at 11:30 am on Sunday, June 3)

There's still time to invite your friends and neighbor kids!!
 Join one of the 12 lost Tribes of Israel for summer fun!

Kids, don't forget to bring along a white t-shirt with you that we'll make
 into a souvenir shirt for the week!

When things change,
 God is with you.

When you need help,
 God is with you.

When you're afraid,
 God is with you.

When you're lonely,
 God is with you.

When you're thankful,
 God is with you.



Asher
 אשר



Benjamin
 בנימין



Dan
 דן



Gad
 גד



Issachar
 יששכר



Joseph
 יוסף



Judah
 יהודה



Levi
 לוי



Naphtali
 נפתלי



Reuben
 ראובן



Simeon
 שמעון



Zebulun
 זבולן



June Birthdays

June Treick	June 4
John Frey	June 4
Arliss Kost	June 6
Hope Fuerst	June 8
Henry Weidenbach	June 10
Dale Schlechter	June 10
Barb Elliott	June 10
Richard Gall	June 13
June Weidenbach	June 14
Mary DeBoer	June 14
Robert Goeken	June 15
Mike Fuerst	June 15
Kenny Longville	June 16
Linda Kronaizl	June 16
Marjorie Sayler	June 17
Linda Ulmer	June 18
Sandy Freier	June 24
Gladys Buechler	June 24
Chris Suess	June 24
Steven Neth	June 26
Lois Hehn	June 27
Daxton Comstock	June 27
Kevin Neth	June 28
Melissa Jensen	June 28
Dale Dietsch	June 29
Charlie Deutscher	June 29
Damien Fuerst	June 30

We will celebrate 2 Church Family weddings during the month of June...

Casey Comstock & Amanda Becvar

June 2 @ 3:00 pm

Mark Mehlhaff & Nicole Snyder

June 30 @ 4:00 pm

Congratulations to both families and God's blessings as you celebrate the Covenant of Marriage together!



June Anniversaries:

Vernon & Vivian Gall	June 3
Roger & Robin Neth	June 4
Dale & Lori Baltzer	June 6
AJ & Jodi Andretta	June 7
Marvin & Ferne Baltzer	June 8
Duane & Leona Mogck	June 9
Jesse & Melissa Jensen	June 12
Vern & Amy Fuerst	June 18
Bob & Bev Ulmer	June 20
Mike & Holly Fuerst	June 20
Chris & Tiffany Suess	June 23
Roger & June Treick	June 25
Shane & Rebecca Miner	June 25
Charlie & Myrna Deutscher	June 26
Gary & Lori Suess	June 28
Aaron & Andrea Legband	June 28
Don & Cindy Hight	June 29
Dennis & Linda Kronaizl	June 29

June 2012 Ushers:

3rd-Kevin Neth & Sue Asche
10th-Melvin Haase & AJ Andretta
17th- Fred Gall & Kim James
24th-Jack Herrboldt & Holly Fuerst

June 2012 Greeters:

3rd-Bob & Phyllis Goeken
10th-Melvin & Jessie Haase
17th-Mary Jo Halverson
24th-Calvin Herrboldt

June 2012 Offering: Sunday Worship--**Sr. UCY Member**

Scholarship Awarded:

Congratulations to Amy Vanorny, she is a recipient of the South Dakota UCC Conference Scholarship.

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UCC Women's Fellowship Guest Night May 2, 2011

The UCC Women's Fellowship Guest night was held on May 2nd. Pastor Ron gave the table prayer and a delicious salad luncheon was enjoyed by the ladies in attendance. The tables were decorated with petunias which were given to ladies that won the egg game.

The program committee for the evening was Marge Saylor, Chairperson, Shirley Orth, Geraldine Herrboldt and Deanna Shifley. Marge introduced David Fergen from Menno. He sang a variety of songs and gave a short testimony what each song meant to him personally. He closed his program with prayer. His presentation was an inspiration to all.

The hostesses for the evening were Phyllis Goeken, chairperson, June Treick, Bernice Pedersen, Sharon Neth and Elsie Magstadt.

Our next regular meeting will be June 7th.

Secretary,

Shirley Orth

Church Council Minutes:

The United Church of Christ Council met on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 @ 8:00pm. Members present: Gary Suess, Don Hight, Tim Asche, Bob Ulmer, Mark Ochsner, Calvin Herrboldt, Sheryl Frey & Sandy Freier. Others present were Lynn Buck & Pastor Ron.

Chairperson Gary Suess called the meeting to order.

The minutes from the April 2012 meeting were read. A motion to accept the minutes was made. Motion carried.

The Financial Secretary's Report was reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Financial Secretary's report. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Following discussion about the monies to be used for the projector project, a motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Pastor Ron led the group in devotions.

Pastor Ron gave his report. Pastor asked for permission to do some decorating of the sanctuary for Pentecost & Confirmation. He also said that there would be questionnaires in the sanctuary for those who were unable to attend a "Dream Session" and once those are turned in Pastor will give a report on the results. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Pastor's Report. Motion carried.

A thank you was read from Linda Kronaizl for the use of the fellowship hall for her piano students' recitals. A donation of \$50.00 for the use was also received.

Old Business:

1. Landscaping on hold.
2. Nothing new on the Financial Secretary's position.
3. The Council discussed Pastor Ron's request to serve on the EA National Board of Directors and after some discussion, Mark Ochsner moved to consent to Pastor Ron's request with the stipulation that time away would be used as vacation time at Pastor Ron's expense. This request will be revisited on an annual basis. Motion made & approved. Motion carried.
4. Basement water fountain was discussed. Tim will ask Craig Hlavac * Duane Hochstein about the repair.
5. Transportation for the shut-ins: still working on this.

New Business:

1. Gary asked for volunteers to make egg-bakes for the Buechler Benefit.
2. Pile of rock by the Petersburg Cemetery: the state highway department requested to put a pile of rock on the property of the Petersburg Cemetery. It was decided to do whatever the care-givers committee for the cemetery choose to do.
3. Items currently in the storage shed were discussed. Tim said that there are 2 cornerstones out there. Considered using the cornerstones some way in the new landscaping scheme.

The next meeting will be June 6th at 8:00pm.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Sandy Freier Recording Secretary (Pending approval)

United Church of Christ
Treasurers Report—General Checking
Account
Submitted by Lynn Buck
April 2012

Bank Balance		\$16,168.21
Received from Financial Secretary		\$10,753.81
	Total	\$26,922.02
Less Expenses		
	Pastor's	
	Salary	\$2,500.00
	Annuity/Health	\$1,622.38
	Mileage	\$122.20
	Utilities	\$500.00
	One-Half SS/Med. Care	\$141.26
	TOTAL PASTORAL EXPENSES	\$4,885.84
	Parsonage	
	Repair	\$0.00
	Church	
	Ground Care	\$0.00
	Water	\$25.37
	Electricity	\$281.81
	Gas	\$70.05
	Telephone	\$67.96
	Repair	\$0.00
	Custodial-Salary	\$445.93
	Supplies	\$0.00
	Office-Salary	\$694.70
	Church Supplies	\$297.62
	Insurance	\$0.00
	Payroll Taxes	\$420.16
	Missions	\$100.00
	Other Expenses***	\$5,731.41
	TOTAL CHURCH EXPENSES	\$8,135.01
Total Operating Expenses		\$13,020.85
Bank Balance		\$13,901.17
***Easter Breakfast	\$95.38	***Projector Project
***Palm Branches	\$18.02	***Electrical hook-up for Projector
***Costumes for Sr. UCY-Good Fri.	\$244.49	***Safe Deposit Box Rent
		\$4,704.09
		\$654.43
		\$15.00
Spend able Checking Account Balance		\$8,156.54
<i>(\$13,901.17; Less designated for Missions \$5,680.00; Less Compassion Kids \$23.63; Less Landscaping Project \$41.00)</i>		
Savings Account		\$564.03
NOW Account		\$5,149.33
Total Available Funds		\$13,869.90

April,
2012

Financial Secretary's Report, United Church of Christ, Scotland

Sandra Freier, Acting Financial Secretary

Receipts

Collect Date	Collection Plate-Cash	Members:			Check Acct Receipts	Other Receipts
		General	Wider Mission	Other Income		
1-Apr	108.81	1,764.00	20.00	300.00	2,192.81	-
6-Apr	136.00	130.00	-	-	266.00	-
8-Apr	423.50	1,642.00	89.00	95.00	2,249.50	-
15-Apr	54.00	1,537.00	45.25	-	1,636.25	-
22-Apr	32.50	2,825.00	25.00	50.00	2,932.50	-
29-Apr	63.25	1,413.50	-	-	1,476.75	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr Tot	818.06	9,311.50	179.25	445.00	10,753.81	-

Deposits

Deposit Date	General Fund	Wider Mission	Other Use	Check Acct Deposits	Other Deposits
9-Apr	266.00	-	-	266.00	-
9-Apr	2,160.50	89.00	-	2,249.50	-
16-Apr	1,591.00	45.25	-	1,636.25	-
23-Apr	2,907.50	25.00	-	2,932.50	-
30-Apr	1,476.75	-	-	1,476.75	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Apr Tot	10,574.56	179.25	-	10,753.81	-

Notes:

1-Apr	20.00	OGHS Mission
1-Apr	10.00	Gift for Landscaping Project
1-Apr	30.00	Gifts from Non-Members
1-Apr	200.00	Books for adult SS Class
1-Apr	60.00	Supplies for Faith in the Arts
5-Apr	-	Maundy Thursday service - No collection taken
6-Apr	266.00	To expenses of Youth Drama Ministry

8-Apr	95.00	Gifts from Non-Members
8-Apr	89.00	Lenten Mission - Placerville Including Mission card-collections of "quarters"
15-Apr	45.25	Lenten Mission - Placerville Including Mission card-collections of "quarters"
22-Apr	25.00	Lenten Mission - Placerville
22-Apr	50.00	Gifts from Non-Members

United Church of Christ
350 Williams Street, PO Box 373
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Scan with your smart
phone to visit our website!

*Relax and enjoy the summer, but don't forget to join us on
Sunday Mornings☺*

