



Community of Christ

**LAMONI
CONGREGATION**
531 W. Main St.
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PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

Thanks for taking time to read some current thoughts going through my mind on this second to last day of May, 2007.

As some of you know, the Lamoni congregation follows a traditional school year calendar. That means your newly formed pastorate of Ron Ellis, Judy Badder and myself is underway in making plans for the 2007-2008 church year, which will officially kick off the first weekend of September. Lorrie Long will continue her dedicated service as pastor through the summer, and then relinquish those responsibilities to Judy on September 1st. I find myself very thankful for the willingness of these good folks to offer their gifts to the congregation and Lamoni community.

I want to share with you a story that really spoke to me and what it means to be a congregation that offers service to each other and to our community. During our last congregational conversation, it apparently came up that we had a graffiti problem in our women's bathroom and something needed to be done about it. A few members of our congregation, following the congregational conversation took it upon themselves to scrape and paint and take care of the graffiti. Nobody asked them to do this; they simply did what needed to be done. These willing participants (I would be in big trouble if I told you who they are) were very simply seeing a need and taking immediate steps to help beautify our congregational home. What a healthy reminder for all of us to follow this sound advice: "when something needs to be done, just do it."

I hope that by sharing this story, that you are reminded not to wait to be asked to do something. Our congregation accomplishes a lot by such loving and willing members, who when asked to do something, rise to the occasion. Imagine how much more we would accomplish if each one of us recognized a need, and rather than being asked to do something, simply did it. More lives will be impacted as we take this attitude, and I have no doubt our God in heaven would be really pleased.

Continue to know how blessed I feel to be one of your pastors. Your commitment to the Lord is inspiring and touching. Thanks for what you do. Talk with you next time!!

Stu

July 8-14 Junior High Camp

Come to camp to become THE BODY OF CHRIST. Discover how to get our arms reaching, hands healing, words teaching and feet going. This camp is for those who have completed grades 6, 7 or 8 this spring. Shelly Twitchell is the director, Steve Bolie is the assistant director and Cooper Jones is the director-in-training.

JUNE 2007

The next time someone needs you ... just be there.

We are not human beings going through a temporary spiritual experience.

We are spiritual beings going through a temporary human experience.

July 14-20, 2007 Reunion #2

Come and join us for reunion #2 July 14-20 at Guthrie Grove. We will be exploring ways to share the Peace of Jesus, going deeper in many different activities with all of our friends from across the mission center. We have activities planned from canoeing, golf, swimming, Jr. High/Sr. High worship; children's church; movie night, plus an auction on Tuesday evening to help cover the costs of the reunion with excess going to capital improvements at Guthrie Grove--And, this is besides coming to worship with Jesus. New this year is a young adult class for those just out of high school and up a few years. Don't forget about wall ball!

Hope to see YOU there!



AV/PROJECTS REPORT UPDATE FROM PASTOR RON

There have been several questions about the AV/Lighting/Carpet/Concrete project lately that we have been giving funds to and earmarking for this project. I wanted to take this opportunity to fill people in on what is happening and how the project is progressing.

The property committee has seen fit to prioritize parts of the project in the order they need to happen. The plans are to put in a new sound system, new lighting control and lights, new floor coverings and a new concrete apron with drainage at the front entrance to the church. The committee felt the first order of business would be the electrical infrastructure so we could pave the way for lights and sound and that way the flooring could be changed after all the electrical work is finished.

Baker Electric has provided a bid to complete the project to make it possible to pull wiring to the different parts of the sanctuary for the lighting and sound. The bid came in at just over \$36,000 and was approved at the last business meeting on May 13, 2007. They will be creating four square holes in the concrete rostrum for microphone cables, adding three circuits around the rostrum that can be controlled by the light board, installing a small dual spotlight to highlight the baptismal font/worship center area, and adding conduit raceways for wiring in the basement for the fellowship hall speakers. They will install two light bars in the sanctuary ceiling for us to add spotlights and floodlights to help illuminate the rostrum. They are moving the AV booth to the back of the balcony so it won't be visually in the way for people sitting up there. Conduit for a new speaker system in the overflow area will also be installed. They will install two new breaker boxes that will replace and augment our current fusebox and make it possible for us to turn the lights on and off in the sanctuary from three different locations instead of just in the closet off the rostrum. Electricity will be installed at the top of the baptismal font to accommodate an electric projection screen and the necessary wiring for the projector mounted in the balcony and cabling to connect from the rostrum or the AV booth will be included. We are having them wire the AV booth for the Internet so we can host more services from the World Church like we did during World Conference. There are a few other minor things they will be doing to help our project along.

Once the electrical infrastructure is in place, we can move ahead with the floor coverings in the sanctuary. With enough funds in hand, we can add lighting appliances and sound equipment that will make it possible for us to become very flexible in the way we set up our worship experience. Among the new sound equipment proposed are two new speaker columns set at either side of the rostrum that can be aimed at different parts of the sanctuary so that everyone in the room will hear the sound equally well. We are also installing a new hearing-assist system that will work like magic. If you are wearing one of the new headsets and are in the sanctuary you will be listening to whatever is going on in the sanctuary. If you then move to the overflow area they will pick up the class or meeting in that area. The same applies for the fellowship hall in the basement. With an electric motorized projection screen over the baptismal font and a projector mounted at the back of the balcony near the ceiling, everyone will be able to see projected services or videos or pictures and/or words on the screen. There will be a computer in the back at the AV booth as well as connections for laptop computers from the rostrum floor boxes.

Baker Electric began their work on June 11th and are currently working on coordination with the lighting and sound companies before they complete the contract. Once the electrical infrastructure is complete we will come to the congregation with recommendations for new flooring in the sanctuary. We look forward to an exciting transformation in our church facility in the very near future. Stay tuned!

Enter a new song Submit a new song or hymn for the 2007 Peace Colloquy concert, "Songs of Peace," to be held Saturday, October 27. The Graceland University Choir will share new music with the gathering. Submissions should focus on the theme of peace and justice and be received by September 1. Please mail your submission to Jeanette Hicks at International Headquarters or e-mail jhicks@CofChrist.org.



July 21-28 Graceland Spectacular

Spectacular is the largest annual gathering of Community of Christ youth and friends. Over 1000 participants from all over the country will join together for a week of fun, fellowship, worship, athletics, music, leadership and fine arts. Spec is held on the campus of Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa from July 21-28.

This camp is for high school students entering 11 grade in the fall of 2007 through 2007 graduating seniors. Contact Dee Jones with any questions.

July 29- August 2 Junior Camp #2

Jr. Camp #2 is for those who have completed grades 3, 4, or 5 this spring. The theme is GOD IS HERE and the campers will find him everyday and learn how they can be an example of God for others. Shawn Manchester and Sandy Marr are the co-directors and Tammie Settler is the assistant director.

Lost and Found

There are some items of lost and found from the June Reunion. If you left any items at reunion, please contact the Lamoni Mission Center Office (phone 641-784-3353).

Mission Center Youth Trip Coming up! Update!

The Mission Trip youth are working hard to earn money and meet their own requirements for the trip. We have 13 youth representing the Bloomington and Lamoni congregations. So far, true to our mission, we have held fundraisers that not only provide funds for the trip but also serve as service projects for others. For instance, the World Market sale of Chub Long's jewelry that we held during World Conference allowed us to donate several hundred dollars to the World Conference Delegate Travel Fund.

We raised almost \$500 during the city-wide yard sales, thanks to donations from many Lamoni families. Of that money, almost \$100 was specifically from Chub's jewelry sales. So we not only raised money, we helped our community clean out its closets, attics, and garages!

Thus far, we've had two "change drives" totaling about \$40. April Mohler and Dane Mahi are working very hard right now to complete "church seal" garden stepping stones. They are beautiful, and we will be taking orders very soon. And we're patiently (?) waiting for a Saturday with beautiful weather to hold our first of two car washes.

We ARE scheduling yard projects (working around the weather), so if there are families in need of weeding, planting, cleaning up, etc., they are invited to call Marjie at 442-5528.

We are working with a travel agent to secure flight times and costs, so that is our next step. We leave the day after Spec ends - July 29 - and return August 5!

October 26-27 2007 Peace Colloquy

The 2007 Peace Colloquy will be held October 26-28 at the Temple in Independence, Missouri. This year's theme is "Real World, Real Peace: Share the Peace of Jesus Christ." Discover Christ's peace for you personally, for the congregation, and for the world. The First Presidency invites every congregation in the USA and Canada to send at least one representative. Priesthood training with Temple School credit is available. See the Herald; ask your pastor for details from a recent mailing; go to www.CofChrist.org/PeaceColloquy/; or contact Jeanette Hicks at jhicks@CofChrist.org or ext. 2224. Register before September 28, 2007, and save \$10!

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Community of Christ

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TO:

Please remember them in your prayers:

- Bob & Holly Pranatt (and Pratt family)
- Leslie Stevenson (daughter-in-law of Joyce and Lester)
- Joe DeBarthe Family
- John Edwards
- Samra Magruder—sister of Bobbi Ellis
- Frank Hough
- Joyce Stevenson
- Dick Fisher
- Ruth Leighton
- Rose and Ken Bolie
- David Clothier (traveling son of Lou & Dick)
- Michael Jackel (in Iraq)
- Emily Salter (daughter of Janie & Cliff Neeley)
- Chelsey Jackel & Erin Farnham (moving to Chicago)
- ...and others you may know of.

The Memorial Service for Joe DeBarthe will be 7:00 p.m. Thursday, July 5 at Lamoni congregation. Memorials can be sent to Outreach International, Community of Christ, or the Enid and Joe DeBarthe Scholarship Fund at Graceland.

The theme for this year's Community of Christ float in the July 4th parade is **'Jesus is our Champion'**. If you know of any youth who would like to help prepare the float &/or ride on it, please contact Barb McKiernan @ 784-6873 or Tracy Martin @ 784-4878. We're looking for a few good candy throwers... **THANK YOU!!!**

Needed: Laundry Heroes.

Rev up your washer and dryer and get ready to help kids both here at home and from across the continent! Once again Lamoni area residents have the opportunity to wash athletic gear for Spec participants. It's a great fundraiser to send our own youth to Spec, and a much-appreciated service for the visitors on campus. It's also a great way to be involved with Spec! If you can wash 1-3 loads of laundry per night for the 5 nights of July 22-26, please contact Linda DeBarthe at 784-6201 by July 9 so I can make all the arrangements before Reunion. You (and your washer) will be greatly appreciated!