

## IN THIS ISSUE

**Moderator's Moment**  
Page 2

**Progressive  
Theology**  
Page 3

**Upcoming Events**  
Page 4

**Social Action  
Spotlight**  
Page 5

**Schedule of Events**  
Page 7

**Hospitality Team  
and Schedule**  
Page 8

**Directory**  
Page 9

## AUGUST WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

### August 1<sup>st</sup> – Rev. Paul Rohde Preaching

Come and welcome back our guest preacher and friend from Augustana College, Rev. Paul Rohde, who will share with us stories, pictures, and insights from his sabbatical in Tanzania earlier this summer.

### August 8<sup>th</sup> – New Member Sunday & Focus Group

It's New Member Sunday. Come to meet and celebrate our newest members as they join Spirit of Peace. Plan to stay after worship to participate in the Building Debt Retirement Focus Group. Your input, insights, and observations are very important as we gather information during the feasibility study phase of this congregational endeavor!

### August 29<sup>th</sup> – Blessing of the Animals

Bring your dogs, cats, rats, hamsters, insects, and other two- and four-legged friends as we gather to Bless the Animals. Worship will be held on the lawn south of the building (south of the Community Room), so you'll want to throw your lawn chairs in, too! The Worship & Spiritual Life Ministry Team is sponsoring a potluck lunch following worship.

## BLESSINGS & FAREWELL, NANETTE!

**Join us in celebrating Nanette on Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>**

Our beloved choir director, Nanette Hofer, has accepted a teaching position in Gillette, Wyoming. She will be moving by the first of August, but will come back for worship on Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup> so that we can thank her for her dedication and commitment to us during the past seven years and wish her well in her new adventure.

## MODERATOR'S MOMENT

### Dear fellow Peacemeisters:

I trust that everyone is having a great summer. It is amazing how much quicker they go by as the years pass. Enjoy the view!

We have formally embarked on our Capital Campaign efforts, with an assessment being the first part of the program. Our consultant, Dave Brunkow, will be holding personal interviews, hosting a focus group, and sending out surveys so that we have the best information possible from the community about its desires to retire as much of our debt as possible. It is the goal of your leadership to eliminate the \$52,000 annual expense of principle and interest associated with our wonderful new home. This will allow us to invest your hard-earned pledge dollars in programs and ministries that represent the goals and ideals of this church. The formal Capital Campaign will then be kicked off in the fall, so be prepared!

We have started the process of replacing Carolyn as our Business Manager and will be tackling the secretary position soon. We have tried to ignore this as long as possible because we keep hoping that if we ignore Carolyn and Katie's pleas to pursue retirement and motherhood, respectively, that they will reconsider. Seriously, we know they both have other important phases of their lives to enjoy and we are just grateful to have had them as part of our family as long as we have. We wish them the best!

We have appointed a Personnel Committee to commence the search and hire process, with Richard Getting, Pat Curtis, Greg Olsen, Janet Blank-Libra joining myself on that committee to assist Jean in the hiring process. We have added this committee as a permanent committee to Leadership Council to help Jean with personnel matters, from driving the hiring process to putting together job descriptions to aiding in compensation reviews. We think this is an important step as we grow our congregation and add more staff.

As you might expect, we have had some attrition in our ministry groups due to many personal reasons. If you have some time and desire to contribute, please let Jean or myself know and we'll find you an important slot!

With those things occupying our summer, we are looking forward to kicking off the fall with new faces, lower debt, and lots of enthusiasm for growing our church and promoting its mission. We have a wonderful opportunity to make a difference!

Yours in the Spirit of Peace,

Kurt Loudenback  
Moderator

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## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are conducting a feasibility study for our proposed Capital Campaign to reduce the debt on our beautiful church home. You're invited to help us in this important work by filling out a survey that will be arriving in your mailboxes soon. Please fill out the confidential survey and send it back to church with the provided envelope before August 8<sup>th</sup>. Your insights and opinions are needed!

Please also plan to participate in the Focus Group on Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> following worship. Our consultant, Dave Brunkow, will take this time together to present the proposed Campaign plan and answer questions that you may have.

# BIBLE STUDY ON HOMOSEXUALITY

## “What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality”

Many leading biblical scholars claim that those who perceive Bible passages as condemning homosexuality are being misled by faulty translation and poor interpretation. Pastor Jean would like to invite anyone who is interested in exploring these passages more in-depth to sign-up for this Bible Study in the church office or call and leave a message on Jean’s voicemail at church (334-2802 extension 11). The day and time the class is scheduled will take into consideration the availability of those who sign-up. Jean anticipates the class will meet weekly for 1 ½ - 2 hours for 4-6 weeks. A schedule with weekly class topics will be published in the September Peace Post.

## MEETING REFLECTIONS

Check out September’s Peace Post to read a meaningful reflection by Anne and Bill Thompson about their time at the South Dakota Conference of the United Church of Christ Annual Meeting held in Watertown.



*Prayer Labyrinth, First Congregational UCC  
Watertown, SD*

# PROGRESSIVE THEOLOGY

**Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 - 4:00 pm**

**Discussion: *The Year of Living Biblically* by A.J. Jacobs**

Progressive Theology Group will continue their exploration of A.J. Jacobs’ book *The Year of Living Biblically*. In July we discussed Jacobs’ attempt to obey the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) as literally as possible. In August, we will consider the final third of the book, pages 250-350, in which Jacobs attempts to obey the Christian Scriptures (New Testament) as literally as possible. His writing is clever, insightful, and downright funny.

If you want to join in the discussion, but haven’t started the book, just read the last 100 pages. It will be a delightful addition to your summer reading!!

## PTG LOOKING AHEAD: FALL & WINTER

Progressive Theology Group establishes its reading schedule about two months in advance. But, a couple times a year, we look ahead to see what we might put on the schedule. The following is the tentative schedule looking into the fall and winter:

### September

*The Powers That Be*

Walter Wink

*Jesus and Nonviolence*

Walter Wink

### October

*Gandhi On Christianity*

Mahatma Gandhi

Book accompanied by an article on Hinduism

### November

*The First Christmas*

Borg & Crossan

### December

*The First Christmas (cont.)*

Borg & Crossan

### January

*Eternal Life: A New Vision*

John Shelby Spong

“The Sufi sees the one truth in all its forms. If anyone asks a Sufi to come and offer prayer in the Christian church, he is ready to do so. If someone would like to take him to the synagogue and pray as the Jews do, he would be quite willing; and among Muslims, he will offer nimaz [prayers] as they do. In the Hindu temple he sees the same God, the living God, in the place of the idol; the temple of the Buddha inspires him instead of blinding him with idolatry. Yet his true mosque will be his heart in which the Beloved lives, who is worshiped by both Muslim and Kufir [unbeliever] alike.

-from *The Heart of Sufism*, by Hazrat Inayat Khan (1882-1927)

Hazrat Inayat Khan was the first person to bring Sufism – the mystical tradition of Islam – to the Western world. He founded the Sufi Order International, a unique organization that emphasizes the wisdom found in all religious traditions.

## MINISTRY MEETINGS

Ministry Teams meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm (CE at 5:30 pm). It's time to gather again after our summer break. Please plan to meet with your Team on **Tuesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>** at the church.

Worship & Spiritual Life will meet at a special time to accommodate summer travel plans. Please contact Teri Drymalski or Jinny Tarver if you have questions.

Stewardship & Fundraising will meet as needed to plan for the upcoming campaign. Questions? Contact Karen Kraus.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Fellowship Dinner - Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>** **Mark Your Calendars Now**

You're invited to mark your calendars now and plan to join us in September for our first Wednesday of the month Fellowship Dinner. Come at 5:30 pm to enjoy a meal and connect with others in the Spirit of Peace family.

### **Church Ladies Summer Lunch**

The Church Ladies will meet for a summer lunch at the Olive Garden on Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. For reservations, please contact Donna Yocom (271-1727). Everyone is welcome to join the Church Ladies for lunch!

### **Spirit of Peace Book Club**

The Book Club will not meet in August but read *The Hour I First Believed* by Wally Lamb for September. If you have questions, please contact the Book Club Leaders - either Donna Yocom at [dmsy1937@sio.midco.net](mailto:dmsy1937@sio.midco.net) or Grayce Keller at [gkeller@sio.midco.net](mailto:gkeller@sio.midco.net).

### **Men's Group**

The Men's Group is enjoying a summer break. Please stay tuned for more information about their upcoming events. If you have questions, contact Arlie Gill (359-9668) or Greg Olsen (359-6646).

### **Yoga Starts in September**

Yoga will begin on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 5:45 - 7:00 pm. This class uses yoga practices to develop strength, balance, and flexibility in body, mind, and spirit. Yoga meets every Tuesday and is open to all!

# SOCIAL ACTION SPOTLIGHT

## **We're Building a House**

Spirit of Peace has joined in the Habitat for Humanity Apostles Build. Our work sessions for the Apostles Build will be Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 -11:00 am and 12:00 – 3:00 pm. We will need 8 -10 volunteers for each build slot. Contact Floyd Hunking (361-8075) if you would like to participate. Many thanks to all of the wonderful volunteers who got rained out June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Habitat Fundraising Update**

We have received \$1,800 already! Keep collecting your spare change during the summer in one of the 'We're Building a House' flower pots and we'll be harvesting your contributions in September. Mark your calendar for September 11<sup>th</sup> - we will be hosting a Harvest event. Details are currently in the works.

## **Survey and Connections**

Connect with others who share your concerns and passion for Social Action. Volunteer to work side by side with your Spirit of Peace friends making a difference in the world. Learn about upcoming events and opportunities. Please complete the Social Action survey available in the church entrance or contact the office for the Online version on Survey Monkey.

## **Seeds of a Harvest - Community Garden**

Take a look! The garden is full of flowers and vegetables. We have 25 plots this year. Keep watching the landscape as our flora grows. Is your green thumb itching? Maybe next year you could be tending to your own plot. What a sight it would be if the garden continues to grow in size as well as abundance.

## **Community in Need**

Terry Peters heads up the Lunch is Served program in Sioux Falls. LIS is a non-profit organization created for the purpose of offering nutritious sack lunches to the working poor. Their mission is focused on identifying working men and women in the Sioux Falls community who can benefit from a mid-day meal. She is in need of more volunteers and funding. Have some free time on your hands? Use those hands to pack lunches with Terry. To volunteer, contact Terry (339-3141).

## **Food Pantry**

Social Action will be collecting items for the Food Pantry on the first Sunday of each month. You are invited to bring non-perishable food items to church on **Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>**.

## **GLBT Community News**

Pastor Jean's sermon on Sunday July 11<sup>th</sup> discussed the division of church and state in the issue of Gay Marriage. Her sermon can be found on our Web site ([www.spiritofpeacesf.org](http://www.spiritofpeacesf.org)) by clicking the Worship tab.

The Sioux Falls Annual GLBT Pride event will be held August 21<sup>st</sup> from 12:00 - 10:00 pm at the Fairgrounds. Social Action will have an opportunity to host a booth with First Congregational UCC. Contact Cheryl Bixby (940-1704) if you'd like to get involved.

The AIDS Walk will be Saturday September 18<sup>th</sup>. Let's get a team of walkers together!

## **Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities**

Church World Service call for assistance – committee forming – contact Cheryl (940-1704).

Habitat Fundraiser Committee event to be announced 9/11/10 – contact Cheryl (940-1704).

Your Social Action Ministry Team will post current and future 'happenings' on the bulletin board outside the community room. Watch for items and events that you are interested in.

We would like to extend many thanks to Beth Davis for her contributions to the Social Action Ministry Team and Spirit of Peace. Beth is taking a break to attend to her mother's health and we wish them the very best.

- Spirit of Peace Social Action Ministry Team  
**Inspiring Compassionate Living**

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - MEET OUR CE COORDINATOR!

July is already coming to an end which means Sunday School is just around the corner!

Before I get into the excitement of this year, I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all of you. I am Kelli Meier; most of you would be familiar seeing me in the nursery, but I am currently transitioning onto the CE team. I grew up in southern Minnesota and moved to Sioux Falls in 2005 to attend Augustana College, where I graduated in 2009 with a double major in Religion and Philosophy. I am currently attending South Dakota State University and working toward a Master in Education with a specialization in Administration in Stu-

dent Affairs (I am hoping I never have to leave college life!). I also work at Augustana as a Hall Director in one of the freshman residence halls. I love my job because there is always something new and exciting every day!

This year we will be kicking Sunday School off on September 12<sup>th</sup>, with the theme *A Joyful Path*. If anyone would like to help teach, we would love to have you! I am really excited to be apart of the CE team and look forward to getting to know all of you better. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

*-Kelli Meier*

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Colin Block who received a UCC Undergraduate Scholarship to be applied to tuition and/or tuition related expenses for the 2010-2011 academic year. Congratulations, Colin. We are proud of you!

## BIRTHS

### **Edward James Becker**

son of Carianne and Heath Becker

May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010

7 pounds 10 ounces

### **Soren Rose Minister**

daughter of Stephen and LeAnn Minister

July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010

8 pounds, 14 ounces

## THANK YOU

Thank you for letting Lunch is Served hold our Board of Directors meeting and pack meals in your lovely facility on June 21<sup>st</sup>. We believe the brown bags we pack and distribute contain not only nutrition but a sign of support and encouragement from the community. YOU are a part of that now. Thank you for supporting Lunch is Served, Inc. in our effort to help the working poor in the Sioux Falls Community.

*-Terry Peters, Executive Director  
Lunch is Served, Inc.*

Thank you to Spirit of Peace UCC for your 2009 contribution of \$13,210 for basic support of Our Church's Wider Mission.

Thank you to the Church Ladies for serving meals at the regional UCC Pension Board meeting held at Spirit of Peace on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to Joy Outka for the lovely pulpit banner she created!

*-The Marketing Committee*

## AUGUST SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 1</b>	9:30 am	Worship Service - Communion Sunday Rev. Paul Rohde Preaching Pastor Jean Returns from Vacation
<b>Monday</b>	<b>August 2</b>	All Day	Capital Campaign Personal Interviews
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>August 3</b>	All Day	Capital Campaign Personal Interviews
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 8</b>	9:30 am	Worship Service - New Member Sunday
		10:30 am	Building Debt Retirement Focus Group
		2:00 pm	Progressive Theology Group - Fireside Room
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 15</b>	9:30 am	Worship Service
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>August 17</b>	7:00 pm	Ministry Meetings (CE @ 5:30 pm)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>August 19</b>	11:30 am	Church Ladies Lunch
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 22</b>	9:30 am	Worship Service
		10:30 am	Leadership Council
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 29</b>	9:30 am	Worship Service

## UPDATES FROM OLD FRIENDS

To My Old Crestwood Friends and New Spirit of Peace Friends:

Just in case anyone there still remembers me - and cares! - here is a brief update. I am continuing to practice family medicine with Smith & Mason Family Practice Associates in Dover, Pennsylvania. Since May, 2007, I have also been serving as pastor of Mt. Zion UCC in Spring Grove, PA. So free time is at a premium. Since last year, our congregation has been "twinned" with the Lüderitz Congregational Church in Lüderitz, Namibia, through the Namibia Partnership of the Penn Central Conference. This has added a wonderful new dimension to our congregational life. We are hoping for an exchange visit sometime in the future, but finances are a definite challenge. Also, since January 1<sup>st</sup>, I have been elected to serve as chair of the Committee on Ministry of the York Association, which, it turns out, is an enormous job. My greetings and best wishes to the entire Spirit of Peace family!

Shalom!

**Larry Smith**  
Co-Pastor, Crestwood UCC, 1976-1984

Spirit of Peace -

On the new home front in Georgia - Denise and I have started to adjust to the area, although we are still guessing if some of the plants that are popping up in the flower beds are actually good plants or weeds. So far, we have planted four blueberry bushes, four blackberry bushes, 10 strawberry plants and a peach tree (did that last sentence sound like it came from the 12 days of Christmas song?).

My new job has me doing dealer bulletins, press releases, and contributing to a company blog on Facebook. So, as you can probably guess, I spend a lot of time dreaming up things to say about our products.

On the church front, we have visited a bunch of churches looking for a new home. The top candidate has about 50 members (it's the only UCC church in about 50 miles, not a lot of us down here). We increased the attendance by 10% (22 total souls in the church) on one occasion. But, just like the *Cheers* theme song, everyone knows your name at a church like this. Take care!

**Marlin & Denise Melandar**  
[marlinmelander@yahoo.com](mailto:marlinmelander@yahoo.com)  
[dakneese@rocketmail.com](mailto:dakneese@rocketmail.com)

# AUGUST HOSPITALITY TEAM

## Team Coordinators:

Virg and Vi Andersen

Virg and Vi Andersen

Deb and Jack Billion

Joan Chadwick

RaDelle Deis

Brian Hardy and Robin Prunty

Redetta Jensen

Karen L. Roth

Pat Sundheim

John and Mona Wade

Lisa and Mark Bjorneberg

Carol Phipps

Pam Chronister

Doris Graham

Barb Sogn-Frank

Rick and Stacy Weiland

Rick Hauffe and Mary Jones

Sue Kersten

Ben and Sara Arndt

Mindy Laffin

Nanci Konopasek and Ronnie

Papstein

# AUGUST HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

## AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>

### **Greeters**

Virg & Vi Andersen

### **Ushers**

### **Refreshments**

Virg & Vi Andersen

### **Kitchen & Fellowship**

Virg & Vi Andersen

## AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup>

### **Greeters**

Pam Chronister

John Wade

### **Ushers**

Mona Wade

Doris Graham

### **Refreshments**

Pam Chronister

John & Mona Wade

### **Kitchen & Fellowship**

John & Mona Wade

## AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup>

### **Greeters**

Lisa & Mark Bjorneberg

### **Ushers**

### **Refreshments**

### **Kitchen & Fellowship**

## AUGUST 22<sup>ND</sup>

### **Greeters**

Brian Hardy

Robin Prunty

### **Ushers**

Jack Billion

Deb Billion

### **Refreshments**

Carol Phipps

Redetta Jensen

### **Kitchen & Fellowship**

## AUGUST 29<sup>TH</sup>

### **Greeters**

Doris Graham

Nanci Konopasek

### **Ushers**

Brian Hardy

Robin Prunty

### **Refreshments**

### **Kitchen & Fellowship**

Pam Chronister

Brian Hardy & Robin Prunty

John & Mona Wade

# CHURCH OFFICERS, LEADERS, AND STAFF

Moderator:	Kurt Loudenback	371-2279	bukifan@sio.midco.net
Assistant Moderator:	Nanci Konopasek	310-8459	itsmekono@yahoo.com
Council Secretary:	Joan Chadwick	334-8540	jchadwick@sio.midco.net
Archives Chair:	Vi Andersen	334-0374	vandersen@sio.midco.net
Building & Grounds:	Ed Peters	339-3141	edptrs@aol.com
Care & Invitation:	Arlie Gill	335-1401	vagill@sio.midco.com
	Megan Pederson	331-4520	megan@bridgetandlucy.com
Education:	Vickie Loomer Gill	335-1401	vickie.loomergill@va.gov
Social Action:	Cheryl Bixby	940-1704	cherylrph@yahoo.com
Worship & Spiritual Life:	Teri Drymalski	274-1022	terildry@hotmail.com
	Jinny Tarver	338-1334	rjtarver@sio.midco.net
Member-At-Large:	Janet Blank-Libra	339-8939	blanklib@augie.edu
	Greg Olsen	339-4983	gregbeth@sio.midco.net
Book Group:	Grayce Keller	361-6368	gkeller@sio.midco.net
	Donna Yocom	271-1727	dmsy1937@sio.midco.net
Men's Group:	Arlie Gill	335-1401	vagill@sio.midco.net
	Greg Olsen	339-4983	gregbeth@sio.midco.net
Church Ladies:	Elaine McKittrick	338-9991	smckittrick3@msn.com

## **Staff:**

Pastor:	Jean Morrow	275-4846	jean@spiritofpeacesf.org
Secretary:	Katie Stroh	334-2802	secretary@spiritofpeacesf.org
Business Manager:	Carolyn Vollan	334-2802	businessmanager@spiritofpeacesf.org
Organist:	Karl Graber	925-4654	karl.graber@usd.edu
Nursing Home Visitation:	Carl Serr	335-8237	cmserr@sio.midco.net
CE Director:	Kelli Meier	334-2802	ce@spiritofpeacesf.org
Maintenance:	Gordon Benda	362-9309	grmabenda@juno.com
Childcare:	Andrea Bernard		



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Sioux Falls, SD 57108

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## YOU'RE INVITED!

### Building Fund Debt Retirement Focus Group Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> following worship (10:45 am)

Last month we launched a feasibility study for our proposed Capital Campaign to reduce the debt on our beautiful church home. With the help of our consultant, we will be hosting a Building Fund Debt Retirement Focus Group on Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> following worship.

Your input, insights, and observations are very important as we gather information during the feasibility study phase of this congregational endeavor. Please plan to participate in the Focus Group on Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup>!



THE  
**PEACE**  
POST