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Berwickchurch.com

THE DOVE

B E R W I C K C O N G R E G A T I O N A L C H U R C H

CO-PASTORS:

Rev. Richard Miller-Todd

(Jan-March and
July-September)

Rev. Theron (Tom) Conrey

(April-June and
October-December)

Sunday Services and

Sunday School:

9:00 AM



Chad, Mary, Steve, Judy and Lois in a skit about Gifts to God, featuring mother (Lois) and her "children."

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A fun evening Christmas caroling at nine homes in the area visiting shut-ins and other families in the community and bringing baskets of goodies!

T H A N K Y O U

To everyone who provided gifts for our special family at Christmas!

ANNUAL WIDOWS' AND WIDOWERS' VALENTINE BRUNCH will take place at Perkins in Ankeny on Valentines Day (Feb. 14) following church services. Please contact Shirley Holmes if you would like to participate as a guest or as a sponsor:

515-490-6319



Ladies' and Men's Nights Out:

The ladies will meet on Friday, January 15 and on Friday, February 12 at the church at 6:30 PM. The program for the night is being planned!

The men will meet the same nights at the home of the Pearces (card playing will probably be the plan and snacks will be served).

MISSIONS

We were delighted to have Dan and Jodi Appleby of Mission Aviation Fellowship visit us. We were sorry, however, that Dan was back to be with his brother during the final months of his earthly journey.

We continue our mission sponsorship of Jonathan at Happy Life Children's Home in Kenya.

Our monthly mission offering in December went to help support the work of the PanAmerican Institute in Tijuana, Mexico. The school was established by Congregationalists in the 60's and has grown to be a respected institution in the area.

OUTREACH

Rich and Kay Miller-Todd visited fellow Congregational Churches at Allison and Clear Lake. It was a time of shared fellowship with other churches in our Association.

THE PULPIT

Rev. Rich Miller-Todd will be with us for January, February and March and then Pastor Tom Conrey will resume pastoral duties for April, May and June. As we enter into the season of Epiphany members have been asked to work on filling out a booklet that will give the Diaconate some ideas as we plan the church year.

BIBLE STUDY PLANNED:

JANUARY 17, 24 AND 31 FOLLOWING CHURCH SERVICES.

PIE POTLUCK!

Our second annual "Pie Potluck" will take place on Sunday, January 24, following church services. Bring either a "sweet" pie (such as cherry) or a "savory" pie (such as chicken pot pie) to share. (National Pie Day is January 23!)



SPAGHETTI DINNER

A spaghetti dinner will be served at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, February 10. A free-will offering will be taken for the dinner.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE: FEB. 10—6:30 PM

P R A Y E R C O N C E R N S

- Charles & Hazel Neagle
- Mary Fetters
- Jodi Schlenker
- Nina Moore
- Walter Biddle
- Gerald Banning
- Maren Hegna
- Others in our hearts.

We pray for Emily Miller-Todd as she continues her internship until May when she will graduate from seminary.



PRAYER CHAIN: Call Jodi Schlenker or Judy Sprague to start the prayer chain when you hear of a need.

T H A N K S T O O U R M A N Y H E L P E R S !

JAN 3:

Communion—Kathy & Patty
 Cleaning—Karen & Nelson
 Sun. School—Cindy
 Ushers—Pastor Tom & Ray S.

JAN 10:

Cleaning—Brandsens
 Usher & Sun. School—Jodi
 Fellowship—Kathy Hansen

JAN 17:

Usher—Shelly
 Sun. School -unscheduled
 Cleaning : Shelly

Council Mtg & Bible Study

JAN 24:

Cleaning: Shirley & Donn
 Usher: Patty
 Sun. School—Shelly

PIE POTLUCK & Bible Study

JAN 31:

Cleaning: Ray & Amy
 Ushers: Don & Lori
 Sun. School—unscheduled
MAKE BIRTHDAY BAGS and Bible Study

FEB. 7:

Communion—Patty
 Cleaning—unscheduled
 Sun. School—unscheduled
 Usher: Jodi

FEB. 14:

Cleaning—unscheduled
 Sun. School—unscheduled
 Usher: Patty
WIDOWS/WIDOWERS BRUNCH

FEB 21:

Cleaning—unscheduled
 Sun. School—unscheduled
 Usher: Shelly
Fellowship: Judy Sprague

FEB. 28:

Cleaning-unscheduled
 Sun. School—unscheduled
 Usher: Mary
VIDEO AND POTLUCK 5:30

VIDEO SERIES AND POTLUCKS

“Exploring the Story of Easter Through Art” will be shown over three Sunday evenings—February 28, March 6, and March 13 together with a potluck supper at 5:30 PM. This will take place at the party room of the apartment complex in Ankeny where Lois Allen lives. Watch your Sunday bulletin for more information.

TELLING OUR STORY

Our new church sign has enabled us to broadcast our programs in a great way. The church website is also new and getting up to speed. Church members and friends are encouraged to check out our website (Berwickchurch.com) and see the photos and news, including a color issue of the Dove. (Thanks to Karen Pearce for her work as editor of the Dove, and to Jodi , Kay and Stephanie for their work on the website.)

THANK YOU TO THE CHOIR FOR THEIR MANY WEEKS OF PREPARATION FOR THE CHRISTMAS CANTATA AND OTHER SPECIAL MUSIC; TO KAY FOR HER IDEAS AND DIRECTION; AND TO OUR ORGANIST, JERRY!!



Our wonderful Christmas program—directed by Lori Holmes!



Special music on Christmas Eve included playing of the bagpipes by Jim Jorgenson (There also was beautiful special music by Maya Brandsen and by Carol Dahlstrom.) THANK YOU!!



BERWICK
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UPCOMING DATES:

- ◆ Ladies Night/Men’s Night -
Fri. Jan. 15 and Fri. Feb. 12
- ◆ Bible Study Jan 17-24-31.
- ◆ Youth ice skating Jan. 23 1 PM
- ◆ Pie Potluck—after church Jan. 24
- ◆ Make Birthday Bags—Jan. 31
- ◆ Spaghetti Dinner—Feb. 10—5:30PM
- ◆ Valentine Brunch for Widows and
Widowers-Feb. 14 at Perkins-Ankeny
- ◆ Lenten video and potlucks—Sun Eve
Feb 28, March 6 and March 13.



Berwick Congregational Church

To contact Berwick Church:

Church Phone: 515-262-0949
 Rev. Rich: 515-669-9554 (Jan-Mar; July-Sept)
 Pastor Tom: 515-480-3396 (Apr-June; Oct-Dec)
 Church Secretary: 515-262-9047 (Karen)

“Vanishing Grace: What ever happened to the Good News?”

Last fall, our church was introduced to this video series that deals with how Christians can respond in our changing world. The first session helped to identify the problem of how many people negatively view Christianity. What ever happened to the Good News? During three Sundays in January, the church will have the opportunity of exploring how we can go about making the gospel good news again. Join us after worship services on **January 17, 24, and 31** to discuss effective ways to share God’s grace with others in a society that is often hostile to the church.

HOSANNA INDUSTRIES

The Iowa-Nebraska Association of Congregational Christian Churches is hosting a mission trip in July 2016 to Pennsylvania to help Hosanna Industries for one week. Hosanna Industries helps build homes for people and helps to repair existing homes. The mission has supplies and tools to use for the project. It also has housing for volunteers. Its primary need is people who will give of their time to make a miracle happen. To learn more about this mission trip, contact Kay Miller-Todd at kmillertodd@msn.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR -

Epiphany Appearance

“Star light star bright I wish upon a star tonight. I wish I may, I wish I might have the wish I wish tonight.”

I remember summer nights when I rested on the bank by the creek that ran near our house. As a kid, I looked into the sky and wondered if wishes might come true. Reaching adulthood brought other wishes to mind but while those stars still captured my attention. I no longer saw them as a means to accomplish my petty desires. Sometimes those stars shone bright as a reminder of that Biblical journey from the East.

Epiphany – the appearance – is meant to challenge our limited vision. Surely some back water astrologers could never be affected by a “King of the Jews.” But this is an early sign that this gospel of love was not just meant for the Jews. It was the first of many happenings that spoke to the gentile world.

This Epiphany, we begin our worship services with a call to go out. Our thematic choral opening is a tune we all know – “Go Tell It On The Mountain”. It reminds us of our call to go into the world. Charged with the call we are actively seeking ways to live out that faith.

For the first few weeks of Epiphany, we are asking all who worship with us to look at the ways we minister and ways you may wish we would minister to the community. Please pick up an Epiphany booklet if you do not already have one. Our plan for the church year will incorporate your ideas.

Remember to get your ice skates and join us for a party on the ice later this month. We go into the world as a community of joy: living, playing, and serving in Christ’s name. *Rev. Rich*