

January-February, 2020, Vol. 12, No. 1
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 Berwick Congregational Church
 Box 308, Berwick, IA 50032
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Berwickchurch.com

THE DOVE

BERWICK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PASTORS:

Rev. Kay Miller-Todd &
 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

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Shortly before the beginning of Advent, the church was decorated for Christmas and we all enjoyed a chili supper. The children decorated the Christmas tree downstairs with candy canes donated by Beryl Horton.

(Below is a picture of Pastor Tom with the kids on Sunday morning.)



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**THANKS TO OUR
MANY HELPERS!**

USHERS:

Jan. 5: Kathy
 Jan. 12: Shelly & Zinna
 Jan. 19: Nelson & Karen
 Jan. 26: John & Janice
 Feb. 2: Mary Feters &
 Randy W.
 Feb. 9: Lori & Don
 Feb. 16: Ray & Amy
 Feb. 23: Shelly & Zinna

COMMUNION:

Jan. 5: Karen & Nelson
 Feb 2: Kathy

FELLOWSHIP:

Jan. 12: Kathy Hansen
 Feb. 9: Karen & Nelson

CLEANING THE CHURCH:

Jan. 5: Judy
 Jan. 12: Judy
 Jan. 19: Unsheduled
 Jan. 26: Unsheduled

GRADUATION OF CONFIRMATION CLASS

Russell Hansen and Randy Wilkinson completed their confirmation classes with Pastor Tom and became members of the church on December 29. Randy's parents, Mary and Randy Feters and Tayler, stood with Randy and Nancy and Jim Francois, Russell's aunt and uncle, sponsored Russell.



PIZZA RANCH FUNDRAISER

The church will be joining with Pizza Ranch to sponsor a fundraiser on Monday, January 13 from 5-9 PM. Pizza Ranch is located near Fareway on Oralabor Road and Ankeny Boulevard. \$2.00 slips are available and if presented when your buffet is purchased during that time, the church will receive \$2.00 for each buffet purchased, plus will receive money collected in tip jars at the tables.

COME ONE COME ALL!!

MONTHLY DINNERS

Our monthly dinners are growing. In December, the church served 19 children and their families. Chris Wolver made excellent pot roasts for the occasion, including a gluten free one. The monthly dinners are being offered to the parents, children and teachers of the Kids' Club and youth. It is a wonderful time of fellowship for all!

FIRE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT

The Delaware Township Volunteer Fire Department reported that the first potluck dinner provided to them by the church in November was tremendous and greatly appreciated. The church council has decided to provide another potluck to the volunteers on Tuesday, January 28. Any of you wishing to provide a dish, please bring it (in a disposable pan) to the church at 6:00 PM. Pastors and Kay and Rich will transport the delicious meal to the fire station.

PANAMERICAN INSTITUTE MISSION BASKETS

In December, the church provided sufficient funds for four food baskets for families of children attending Panamerican Institute in Tijuana, Mexico. Rev. Emily Miller-Todd, who is on the board of the Institute, went to Tijuana to prepare the baskets donated by many churches across the National Association. She met several of the families who received the baskets. She found their gratitude to be overwhelming.

CHOWDER RIDE FEBRUARY 15.

The church will again be providing a warming station with snacks, coffee, tea and hot chocolate for the annual Chowder Ride which passes through Berwick.

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS' BRUNCH FEB. 16

We will again be sponsoring a Valentine Brunch in honor of our widows and widowers. The brunch will be at 10:15 AM Sun, February 16 at Perkins on Oralabor Road in Ankeny. If interested, call Shirley Holmes for details (515-490-6319).

FOOD CO-OP SPECIAL HOLIDAY DONATIONS

The church provided our guests at the Food Co-Op, our delivery families, and our Cornell Elementary families with Thanksgiving meals and Christmas meals. These meals were made possible by the generous donations of Donn Henderson, Amanda Briggs, Susan Kirstein family, Janice and John McKinney, Mike VanScoyk, Beryl Horton, Roger Miller, Fareway, and the Food Bank of Iowa. Due to a special donation for Christmas, all the deliveries and guests to the Food Co-Op received hygiene products (Blessing Bags) as well as food. Approximately 50 families were served through this ministry. Thanks to all who made this ministry possible!!

Our first outdoor **CHRISTMAS CAROLING** in several years did occur on Wednesday, December 18. Four of our new youth group, along with Kathy Hansen, Judy Sprague, Sheryl Aguilar, Pastor Rich and Pastor Kay, sang to three of the Berwick Women's Club members. Bev Luing, Marilyn Helm and Mary Boyle provided festive welcomes to the group.

The **BERWICK KIDS' CLUB** just completed its second DeepBlue Rotation series - this one on the birth of Jesus. The theme was addressed through Art, Cooking, Games and Missions. Thanks to Amy Hansen, Linda Sanny, Judy McClain and Samantha, and Cindy Roby and Jenalee for leading these sessions. In the Mission session, the children made blankets for babies at Broadlawns.

The **YOUTH GROUP** has grown over the last few months. The group has held Bible studies, made blankets for Broadlawns, gone to Jolly Holiday Lights, participated in Christmas caroling and in the Christmas program. The youth have also begun to clean the church on Saturdays under the supervision of the adult who has signed up to clean for that day. It is hoped some of the youth will want to attend the Iowa-Nebraska winter retreat in Bayport, MN February 21-23.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- The family of Mike Mally
- Donn Henderson
- Charles Neagle
- Gerald Banning
- Laura Hemmes, Holly Hansen's mother
- Lyn Swing, Kathy Hansen's niece
- Mary Fetters



OTHER MISSIONS WE SUPPORT

Food Co-Op suggestions for January:
Canned goods/peanut butter.

February: Cereals and boxed meals.

January: Symphony John-Philippines

**February: Margaret Carlson
Compassion Fund**

Jonathan at Happy Life Children's Home, recently sent us a letter:

"How are you? I hope you are doing well. I miss you very much ...I am improving in my studies and I performed well in my last exams. I also love music, football and basketball. When I grow up I would like to become a pilot. I love being close to God and always pray for you day in day out. Thank you for supporting me whenever I need you...I am now twelve years and my birthday is on April 18. I am very happy for your love and caring. I wish you Merry Christmas. From: Jonathan"

What a wonderful year we have had at Berwick. I'm very proud of my church family and I spread your fame wherever I go. I'm looking forward to 2020 and what it will bring to our church. The mission of the church is so secure!! Sue and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the Christmas gift. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! May God continue to bless us throughout the new year.

Until April, Pastor Tom Conrey

THE PULPIT

We welcome to the pulpit Rev. Kay Miller-Todd who will serve as our Pastor (assisted by Rev. Rich) for January, February, and March. Pastor Tom Conrey will be back with us April 1.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Sunday, January 12— Council meeting

Monday, January 13—Pizza Ranch

Fundraiser

Sunday, January 26—Installation Service

Tuesday, January 28—Potluck for

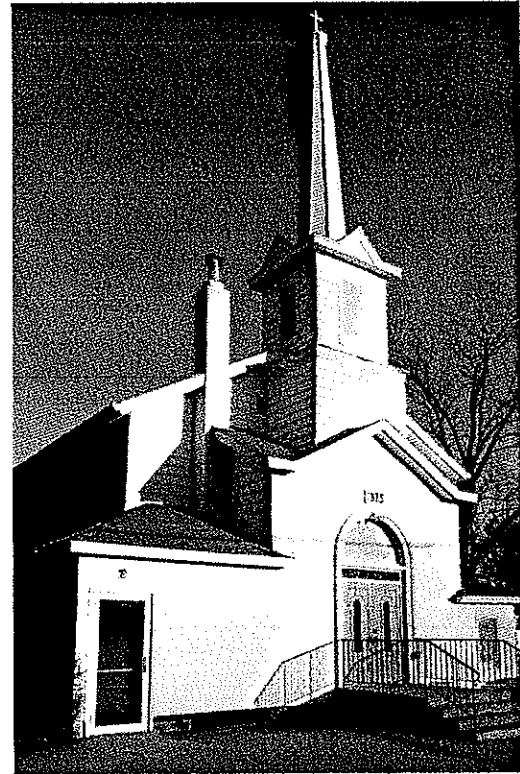
Delaware Township Fire Department

Saturday, February 15—Chowder Ride

Sunday, February 16—Widows and

Widowers' Brunch 10 AM

Feb. 21-23— Youth Retreat, Minnesota



Berwick Congregational Church

To contact Berwick Church:

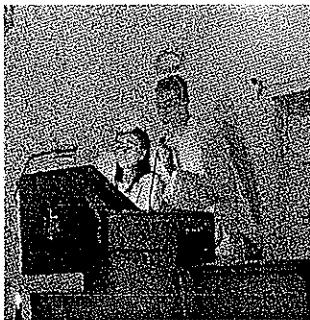
Church Phone: 515-262-0949

Revs. Kay & Rich 515-669-2202 (Jan-Mar; July-Sept)

Pastor Tom: 515-480-3396 (Apr-June; Oct-Dec)

Church Secretary: 515-262-9047 (Karen)

SUNDAY SERVICES: & SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

AND CHOIR SPECIAL MUSIC

On December 8, Lori Holmes, with the help of Zinna Pearson, led the children in their Christmas program, The Christmas Visitor. Abel, Bastian, Benjamin, Braxton, James, Jaxson, Kyra, and Tayler played their parts well. In addition to the children's program, the choir sang the Bethlehem Medley, accompanied by two teen-age angels, Madizyn and Donald. It was a festive and blessed Sunday morning!

