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[Berwickchurch.com](http://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

## PASTORS:

Rev. Kay Miller-Todd &  
Rev. Richard Miller-  
Todd

Rev. Theron (Tom)  
Conrey

(Schedule varies.)

Sunday Services cur-  
rently by video on  
Facebook (Rev. Con-  
rey ) or on Zoom

(Pastor Kay & Rich)

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**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS ALL YEAR!**

**PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING A CHRISTMAS GIFT TO BERWICK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH !**



## DEACON CHAIR REPORT NOVEMBER 2020

Patty Smith



Hello my friends and church family. It seems like forever since we have been together. Covid has definitely left its mark on us. While the building has been closed, our little church has still marched on.

Our CO OP has continued in a very different way; and yet, we are growing. EVERY week we have been getting at least one new family. We are now serving

66 families plus 11 Cornell children every week. The appreciation we see and hear is sometimes tear jerking. One family that Amy delivers to has children that just wait for her on Thursday evenings, run out to her truck and fuss about who carries what. The family that Scheryl delivers to is so very grateful, and wants to hug us. That is hard. We are “huggers.” It takes a village to pull off a successful Thursday night.

Thank you to ALL who play any part in doing God’s work, and serving our community. Thanks to Kay as well. She taught us well. Kay has maintained communication with all of our kids club kids so they know we still love them.

Because of Covid all of the NACCC annual conferences were cancelled. This was extra sad for my friend, (Pastor Linda Hauschild) and myself as we were going to the International conference out by Boston. This being our 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary, it would have been so very special as we would have gone to see the mayflower, Plymouth Rock, Southern plantations, and seen so many of our missionaries from abroad.

Covid has also put a damper on our own celebration. BUT, you know what? The pilgrims did not celebrate their 1<sup>st</sup> Thanksgiving the year they landed. They were not ready. So that means that in 2021 we can celebrate all year long, and maybe by Thanksgiving time it will be safe to celebrate in a big way, our 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

I am growing and learning so much in my lay ministry training. Keep a watch out for me. You may be seeing me in the pulpit again next year.

Through all our ups and downs, it has still been a very blessed year. God has shown us how we can worship in all different ways. Technology has been very helpful, and frustrating. He has shown us that “we” are the church – not the building. He has re-enforced that we are to reach out to all regardless of race, color, or creed or where they are.

2020 has come and almost gone. I pray that 2021 will be a very exciting, and safe year. I thank you for the privilege to serve as your chairman of the board. I wish you all the best.

May God be with and bless you all, Patty

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**PLEASE  
REMEMBER  
IN YOUR  
PRAYERS—**

- Charles Neagle
- Gerald Banning
- Mike Pearce
- Donn Henderson
- Mary Feters
- Zinna Pearson
- Pastor Kay’s brother
- Nina Moore
- All those homebound due to the Pandemic
- All those ill with the Covid 19 Virus or other health issues

## ANNUAL REPORT OF OUR MINISTER, REV. TOM CONREY

2020 is almost over and for most of us, if not all of us, we wish it never appeared! A year of COVID-19, wild fires, flooding, drought, and hurricanes. It seems as if the book of Revelations is coming true. Yet, here we are, looking forward to 2021.

Throughout this year, I have tried to learn how to be a televangelist and a long distant pastor to you. Neither of which were subjects taught in seminary! But through necessity, we all learn.

This year, like the past 5 years, I have been in the pulpit April, May, June, October, November, and December. That is going to change in 2021. Pastor Kay and I are working out the logistics of her and Rich becoming snowbirds De-

ember through March. Everything is fluid at this time, with no definite plans, yet. Pastor Kay has continued to be in charge of the food co-op, and because of the COVID-19 virus, I have stayed away. But I will need to step back in and help with the co-op again. I have missed working with the people and seeing all the families that we help. And I also need the weekly routine of being there. With being out of the picture, it seems like I need to be re-trained. I never thought that I would need a routine, but I guess I do. Maybe that's why I stayed in the military for 41 years, it was a routine and you knew what was expected of you. So, for the rest of the year, for the foreseeable, future, my routine will be: Jerry and I at church twice a month filming the worship services to be

posted on Facebook, and Thursday helping with the co-op. There will be other surprises coming in 2021, but those can wait for now.

I'm trying to figure out how to do the Christmas Eve service. Its become apparent that we may not be physically worshipping in the sanctuary for awhile and Christmas Eve has always been my favorite service. If anyone has any suggestions please let me know.

So, in the meantime, stay safe and stay healthy,  
God bless!

Your pastor and friend (and relative to some)

Tom

chaplain132@msn.com

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CHURCH

The Annual Meeting of the church will be held via Zoom on Sunday, November 8, at 10:00 AM. If you would like to participate, please send your email address to Karen Pearce, our secretary at:

[kpearceadoptions@gmail.com](mailto:kpearceadoptions@gmail.com) or call 515-262-9047 (home) or 515-238-3978 (cell), and Karen will see that you are included among those receiving the necessary Code to get into the meeting. Also, if you would like to receive an annual meeting information packet via email or via regular mail, please let Karen know and she will see that you receive this prior to the meeting.



## ANNUAL REPORT OF OUR MINISTER, KAY MILLER-TODD

Annual meeting time is a good time to review the past year at the church. In November and December 2019, the church provided holiday meals to about 50 families. Special blessing bags were also made for each family. The church held its Annual Hanging of the Greens and the children's Christmas program delighted all. The month ended with two new members joining the church.

The new year began with a burst of energy at all levels. Monthly family dinners on Wednesday continued to expand and so did the kids' club. The new youth group helped with the Pizza Ranch Fund-raiser. Many members helped sponsor a January dinner for the Delaware Fire Department. In February, the church celebrated with the Bondurant

to Berwick Chowder Ride and the Annual Valentine Brunch. The new youth group went to the Iowa Nebraska Winter Ski Retreat on February 21-23. February ended with a potluck meal on February 26 followed by an Ash Wednesday program by the children and youth.

March did a reversal. It came in like a lamb and roared out like a lion. COVID came to Polk County and restricted many activities. However, the Food Co-Op continued in a modified format with the Food Co-Op committee spreading out its duties among its members. Easter meals were delivered. The church parking lot was opened to the Saydel Community District for distribution of the free breakfast and lunch program. The church in-

stalled new furnaces and a new air conditioner. Two new refrigerator/freezers are now in operation. Flags lined the Berwick street on holidays. The ministers learned how to ZOOM and to use Facebook. Vacation Bible School was held through ZOOM. More than 40 children received school backpacks with supplies. Halloween treat bags were delivered to the children. Donations for Morgan Scout Project in Tennessee were collected and delivered.

Needless to say, it has been a challenging year. However, Berwick Church has maintained its mission for the Berwick Community. The potential for more outreach remains. God Bless You All.

- Kay



The November Mission is Panamerican Institute in Tijuana, Mexico. It is a fully accredited Mexican technical school that prepares deprived teenagers for jobs that would otherwise be out of their reach. Currently, the school provides a free

### Panamerican Institute

secondary education for 75 students from Tijuana. The president and most of the teachers are graduates of the Institute. With COVID, the school has continued with online classes by providing the families with laptops, internet costs, food and medical supplies. All of this has increased costs. Berwick usually has donated to the Christmas basket food program for the families. This year, the school also needs more sponsors for the Adopt-a-student program at \$35 per month. [www.paischool.org](http://www.paischool.org)

**T H A N K   Y O U !**

A huge thank you to all our dedicated workers who have been keeping the Food Co-Op running during the Pandemic.

Thank you to Lori Holmes for organizing putting together of 40 Halloween treat bags which Kay Miller-Todd delivered to the kids.

Thanks also to those who decorated and filled the bags with goodies!

Thank you to our ministerial staff for dealing with all the issues involved in trying to function as a church during the Covid 19 pandemic. You are amazing!



Jonathan is growing up! We would like to send him a Christmas gift of money so that items he needs can be purchased there. If you wish to contribute specifically to the Happy Life fund, please mark your check to indicate this. All contributions to the church may be sent to Berwick Congregational Church, PO Box 308, Berwick, Iowa 50032. Thanks so much for your support!

**MISSIONS**

**Food Co-Op, Outdoor Blessing Box, and Food Deliveries.** Our mission of providing food to the community continues. Thank you to all who provide food as well as manpower to keep this all running smoothly!

**Jonathan**

Our monthly commitment to Jonathan continues. We pay \$50 per month to Happy Life Children’s Home in Kenya for Jonathan’s support. (See photo and letter.)

**Other Missions**

We continue to support other missions, both at home and internationally.

November’s mission: Panamerican Institute. (**See separate article on page 4.**)

November Food Co-Op: Cereals/boxed meals.

**THE FOLLOWING LETTER WAS RECEIVED RECENTLY FROM HAPPY LIFE CHILDREN’S HOME:**

*Greetings from Nairobi! Its so good to hear from you Patty. I trust that you and your family have remained well and safe during this COVID-19 Pandemic. We at Happy Life are doing well and we thank God that none of our staff and children have been infected with the virus.*

*Jonathan is doing great and is growing. He is such a sweet boy! And he keeps asking me if you have written and asked about him, so today I am excited that I have an answer for him. I will forward you his recent picture shortly. Mary, our Admin asked him what he wants for Christmas and he said that he needs shoes, a watch and toy car :)*

*Thank you for asking about our other needs and for being faithful partners in the Mission over many years. Shoes and underwear especially for boys between 6-17 remain a constant need. These can be bought locally in order to avoid shipping costs and hustles. Other needs include socks for the smaller children 4-6.*

*Again, thank you for your love for Jonathan and all the other children at Happy Life. Pass my love to the women fellowship, your family and the Church.*



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

OCT. 25—Pizza delivered to Fire Dept.  
NOV. 8 —Annual Meeting—10 AM via Zoom  
NOV. 15—Council Meeting via Zoom 7 PM

CHRISTMAS SERVICES—unknown at this time, but most likely will be online due to Covid 19. Stay tuned for details!

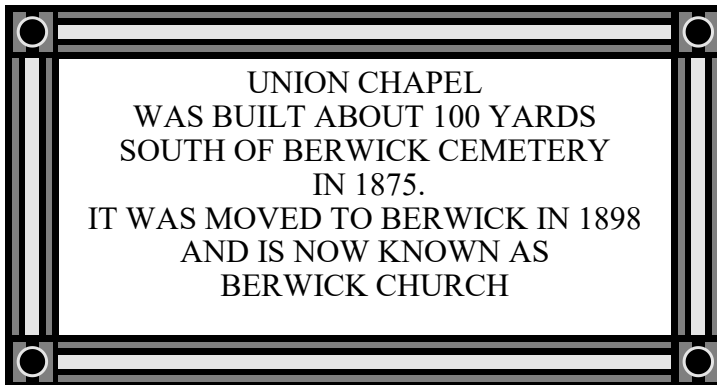
To contact Berwick Church:

Church Phone: 515-262-0949  
Revs. Kay & Rich 515-669-9554  
Pastor Tom: 515-480-3396  
Church Secretary: 515-262-9047 (Karen)

SUNDAY SERVICES VIA ZOOM OR FACEBOOK VIDEO

**UNION CHAPEL MARKER**

We plan to install a marker in the Berwick Cemetery commemorating the location of the original “Union Chapel” (now Berwick Congregational Church) with wording similar to:

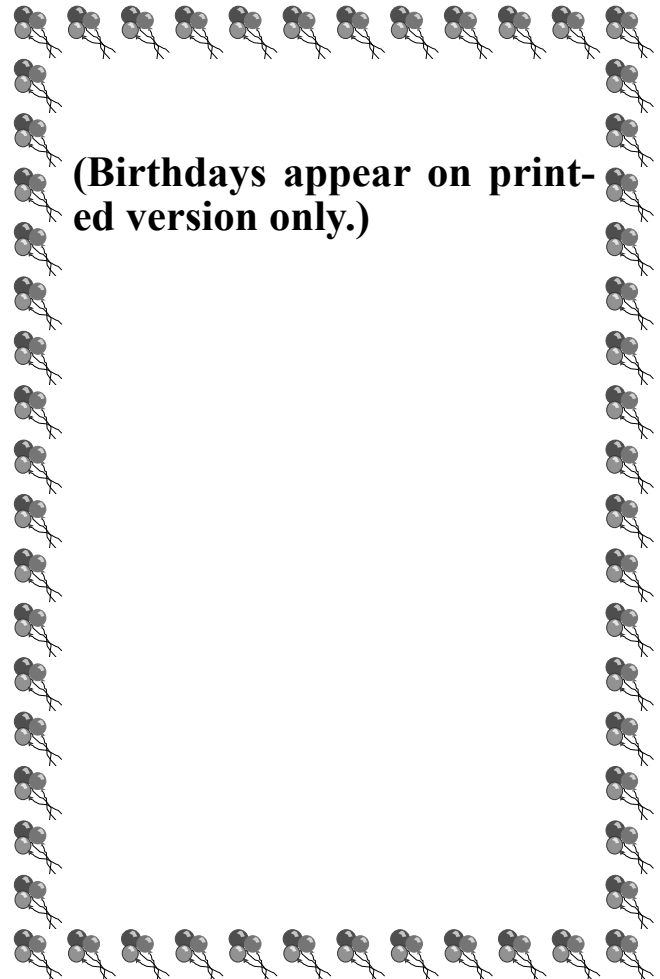


**THANK YOU!**

A big thank you to Jamie Schramm for updating our website. Please note birthday information will not be included on the website: [berwickchurch.com](http://berwickchurch.com)



Berwick Congregational Church



**(Birthdays appear on printed version only.)**