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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

HAPPINESS CAKE

PASTOR: Rev. Theron
(Tom) Conrey

LAY MINISTER IN
TRAINING: Patty Smith

SUNDAY SERVICES:
In person worship
Sundays—9:30 AM

- 1 cup of good thoughts.
- 1 cup of kind deeds.
- 1 cup of consideration for others.
- 2 cups of sacrifice.
- 2 cups of well beaten faults.
- 3 cups of forgiveness.

Mix thoroughly. Add tears of joy, sorrow and sympathy. Flavor with Love and Kindly service.

Fold in 4 cups of prayer and faith. Blend well. Fold into daily life. Bake well with the warmth of human kindness and serve with a smile anytime.

It will satisfy the hunger of starved souls.

- *From the Lighthouse Bakery, Dauphin Island, AL*

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Updates:

- We were blessed to be able to worship in person for Easter for the first time in two years, including an Easter egg hunt for the kids held indoors as it was snowing! (Photos, pg. 3.)
- Patty will be obtaining her lay ministry license by June and will be in the pulpit in May and June. There will be a congregational meeting regarding the ministers, tentatively set for June 5.
- We have new windows in the office. Plans are being made to make a much needed overhaul to the cement area at the front exterior of the church, and to prune the huge cottonwood trees, as funds allow. Both are expensive projects.

UKRAINE

Ecclesiastes 3:8b: “a time for war and a time for peace.”

Luke 22:36b: “And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one.”
The Russian war against Ukraine is ever present in our daily thoughts. Wars tend to do that – to crowd out and occupy our attention in the midst of all else that is happening. A war has no equal in the affairs of humans when it comes to demanding attention.

In our world of instant information, it would be a waste of words in this article to describe the Ukraine war. But it is worth asking about its place in the life of Berwick (broadly meaning the Berwick community and the wider outreach of the church). Why, we may ask, is this happening in a world ordered by God? And how is it our problem?

I believe the Ukrainians are us. The Berwick community has a life, a culture and a history. Berwick has children and working families with daily lives lived closely and caringly with each other. It has buildings, such as Berwick Church, and houses and schools and roads. It has Four Mile Creek and the Berwick Cemetery. We have all inherited this “Berwick” and we all grow Berwick anew each day as we live in it.

What if someone said to us, “You are nothing; you have nothing; you must all leave and everything you have built must be leveled to the ground.” Having lived in the Berwick community for 62 years, one thing I know is that we are “scrappy.” We sometimes “scrap” with each other, but are even more prone to help when others of us are in need, such as the church does with our food program. We care about each other and what we have. We would fight for each other, for our history and our future. We would resist.

As a church we can pray for peace. But I don’t believe God will fault me for praying also for “peace through victory” for Ukraine, since the “peace” their aggressor wants is peace through death, driving the people out, kidnapping their children, erasing structures and records of their history. The “peace” of genocide.

To me it appears as “a time for war,” and a time when we can place a sword in the hands of a people who want only to have a future decided by them, and not by Vladimir Putin.

- Editorial by William Nelson Pearce

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- All those impacted by Covid 19
- The Ukrainians
- Our shut-ins
- Charles Neagle
- Gerald Banning
- Mary Feters
- Bill Sprague
- Nina Moore
- Pastor Tom



IOWA/NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION MEETING

Patty and her good friend, Pastor Linda Hauschild, attended this event in Ashland, Nebraska April 23. This was the first time the association of churches has met since the beginning of Covid, and 18 attended the meeting.

NACCC ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

The National meeting and conference will be held in Wichita, Kansas, from June 25-28, 2022. Pastors Kay and Rich and Patty plan to attend this meeting. The youth of the Association will also be meeting at this time.

EASTER, 2022, WAS A GREAT DAY WITH A BREAKFAST, FOLLOWED BY WORSHIP SERVICES (AND A BIG CROWD IN ATTENDANCE). THE MORNING CONCLUDED WITH AN EGG HUNT FOR THE KIDS (IN THE SANCTUARY BECAUSE OF SNOWY, COLD WEATHER).

PICTURE PAGE



Thank you to the Holmes' and Pearces' for providing the Easter breakfast, to Zinna and Lori for organizing the egg hunt and to all those who contributed the eggs and prizes, to all who provided Easter lilies (16!), and to those who contributed to the special Easter food baskets provided to our 60 Food Co-Op families!

To contact Berwick Church:

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Pastor Tom: 515-480-3396
Patty Smith: 515-321-8326
Church Secretary: 515-262-9047 (Karen)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Mothers Day: May 8
Council Meeting: May 22
Congregational Meeting: June 5
Fathers Day: June 19
NACCC Mtg-Wichita June 25-28
Vacation Bible School: July 10-14

KIDS CLUB AND YOUTH GROUP
NEWS; VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our kids club and youth group are not meeting again until the fall, at which time Patty and Zinna will resume with them. More news later!

We are excited that Lori will be able to have Vacation Bible School again this year. Mark your calendars for the week of July 10-14 for Vacation Bible School.

MISSIONS

Please save your household items to donate to the Morgan-Scott Project to send with Rich & Kay in May!

Our May Mission is A Christian Ministry in the National Parks (ACMNP). Our June Mission is Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC) plus birthday bag supplies for the Food Co-Op.



Berwick Congregational Church

Please send your contributions to: **Berwick Congregational Church, P.O. Box 308, Berwick, Iowa 50032.** Thanks so much!