

# Burlington Zion Express

August 2011



Sometimes I have low expectations. And I certainly had low expectations for the Youth Leadership Workshop that took place last Sunday afternoon. Reverend Nicole Havelka, Associate Minister for Youth and Young Adults, came to Zion and led an afternoon of empowering one's church for youth ministry.

I expected very little.

Not because Nicole isn't a dynamic speaker and excellent minister, but because I just thought we were not that fired up for youth. And as everyone knows, it demands a lot of energy and effort to maintain the momentum in a youth group in this secular culture. I guess I just thought "what can Nicole tell us that we don't already know?" And to lower my expectations even more, the day before the workshop, only 2 people had said they were definitely going to attend.

My low expectations couldn't have been more wrong.

Nicole brought a fresh perspective into the topic, challenged us to think about our own beliefs about youth, did away with some useless stereotypes, and energized everyone (even me). And to make things even more wonderful-- 15 people came to the workshop. Out of the afternoon session arose some refreshing ideas about the needs of today's youth in the church (as opposed to the older model of youth group that we are all used to), and two individuals voiced a desire to take on the role of directing and facilitating volunteers concerning youth. Everyone in the room seemed ready and willing to pitch in to make Zion a place of vibrant youth participation. Maybe it's time for me to give up my low expectation.....

-- continued on next page --

## *Pastor's Page 2 continued. . . .*

But maybe it is not surprising that I had low expectations. Our culture has learned to expect little from the Church and perhaps we are reaping the results of expecting the least. (When I say "the Church" I mean mainline Protestantism, not just Zion). Many would say that we have seen a rise in apathy about religion, a decline in church attendance, a loss of solid leadership at the local and national levels. And with a shaky economy, there is less money in the churches. We look around our world wondering about the future of the Church. And we lower our expectations. We *expect* fewer people in worship. We *expect* decreased giving. We *expect* declining membership. And unfortunately this lack of expectation can lead to two things: acceptance without resistance, and the inability to see when things are actually improved.

Sometimes I hear members at Zion talk about the church as if it were in decline. My response is both surprise and frustration. I want to say "look around you. *What* is in decline?" We have slightly more people in worship than 10 years ago (last Sunday we had 102 in attendance), we have a solid financial status, effective programming, mission and outreach, lots of new members, energy, love, humor, extravagant welcome, and people who know how to have fun. Decline? Where? Maybe we just need to set our expectations higher.

Is there an area at Zion where you have low expectations? Is there some aspect of Zion that you find yourself expecting little? Sometimes low expectations are an indicator of a place that needs work or an input of energy. I had low expectations for our youth program. So we brought in someone from outside of our community who inspired us, gave us fresh ideas, and empowered us. And now our youth program has a new energy and a future.

Share with me your low expectations. I'd love to tackle them with you.

See You in the Pews!

Jane

## August Worship

### Sunday, August 7 - Communion

10:00 am: Worship

Scripture: Matthew 14:22-33

Flowers: **Date open**

### Sunday, August 14

10:00 am: Worship

Scripture: Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

Flowers: In memory of Earl Sorenson from Darrell and Sue Eden

### Sunday, August 21

10:00 am: Worship

Scripture: Matthew 6:13-20

Flowers: **Date open**

### Sunday, August 28

**10:00 am: Worship in the Park**

Scripture: Matthew 16:21-28



## Worship in the Park

Sunday, August 28

10:00 a.m.

Please join us for our annual “Worship in the Park” service in the Crapo Park large shelter house. Judy Winkelpleck will be our guest preacher. Her sermon title will be, “God is Still Speaking; How’s Our Hearing?”

Immediately afterwards will be **games for all ages** and then the **potluck**. The fellowship committee will provide drinks for everyone and get the tables set up. Please bring food to share and your own table service. Hope to see everyone there!



## August Worship Helpers

August church closer: Cathy Boeset

### Sunday, August 7

Communion Preparers: Bill Daws and Jim Ritters

Greeters: Lyle Gibson, Rich and Deb Goble, Bob Parmeter

Reader: Kaye Hanna

Tower Bell: John, Caleb, and Jared Paulus

Valet: Bill Daws

### Sunday, August 14

Greeters: Jon and Darcy Hedges, Joanne Mauer, Sharon Thyne

Reader: Theresa Ritters

Tower Bell: Marvin Fraise & Chase Graham

Valet: Jim Ritters

### Sunday, August 21

Greeters: Marvin and Marcia Fraise, Lisa Graham, Deb Ruble

Reader: Craig Neises

Tower Bell: Ashlie Graham

Valet: Rich Goble

### Sunday, August 28 – Worship in the Park

Reader: Rod Reeves

## Guest Musicians for August



August 7 – Mary Baum, vocalist

August 14 – Aaron Wagner, vocalist

August 21 – Sharon Gygi, flute and vocal

August 28 – Worship in the Park

## CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

by Janice Gibson



Come one, come all to a **NOIZ Kids “Back to School Bash”** on Monday, August 8, at the church from 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

It will be a day to celebrate summer with some Bible stories, games, crafts, and water activities to keep us cool!

We’re also going to do a couple service projects for our church. So bring your friends and don’t miss out on the fun!



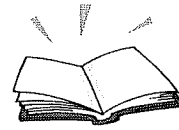
Wednesday,  
August 31  
7:00 p.m.

Zion’s adult choir will begin rehearsals again on Wednesday, August 31, at 7:00 p.m. We usually practice every Wednesday except the first Wednesday of the month – during NOIZ Nites for Families. We are an informal group that just loves to sing! Anyone and everyone who might be interested in singing is invited to join us!



## Adult Sunday School

Sunday, Sept. 11, 9am



Just a reminder that beginning on September 11, the Sunday following Labor Day, this 9:00 a.m. class will resume by examining “**Grief: How We Cope with the Loss of Someone We Love.**”

Our summer reading program has been focusing on the following books:

A Widow’s Story by Joyce Carol Oates

The Long Goodbye by Megham O’Rourke

The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion

One True Thing by Anna Quindlen

When Bad Things Happen to Good People

by Harold Kushner

Swimming in a Sea of Death by David Rieff

Epilogue by Anne Roiphe

Mourning Diary by Roland Barettes

Still Alice by Lisa Genova.

Everyone was asked to read at least two of these books over the summer. In addition to book discussions, we are planning several panel discussions with widows, pastors, and hospice. See Jerry Goddard for more details and to share your own thoughts and ideas.

## Christian Ed. Meeting

The **Board of Christian Education** will meet on Monday, August 29, at 7:00 p.m. at the church. This will be a planning meeting for the fall activities.

## Senior Women's Bible Study Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.



Pastor Jane is conducting a Bible study for senior women every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the church library. This study is based on the book Life Lessons with Max Lucado – Book of James. A book is still available for purchase on a table in the narthex for \$8.35. More participants are welcome!

## Nursing Home Sing-along

Bickford Assisted Living  
Sunday, August 21  
3:00 p.m.



Thank you to the following volunteers who led the sing-along at Rosebush Gardens on July 24:

Charles Brissey, Debbie Gottschalk, Margaret Helt, Don and Vivian Kellar, Pauline Kuster, Milt and Laurie Paule, and Don Thie.

Please join us on Sunday, August 21, when we sing at Bickford Assisted Living at 3:00 p.m.

The Burlington YWCA Women's Resource Center **Domestic Violence Shelter** is holding a **fundraising event** on Sunday, July 31, at the Port of Burlington from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. A detailed flyer is on the bulletin board in the sanctuary. It will be a kid friendly event with lots of games and activities, refreshments, & raffle tickets for door prizes. Donations are accepted. All proceeds will go to the Shelter and are very much appreciated!



Earlier this week we advised of an urgent need in our Zion Bridging the Gap food pantry. Many of you brought food and paper product donations into the church. Thank you very much!

We have supplied sacks of food to several families this week alone. Any time you would like to bring food donations, it will always be appreciated.

\* \* \* \* \*

Some possible non-perishable suggestions are:

Cereal – Cheerios, Rice Krispies, Corn Flakes, etc.  
Soup – Chicken noodle, vegetable beef, tomato  
Crackers  
Peanut butter  
Jelly  
Cans of tuna or ravioli  
Cans of corn, green beans, peas, pork & beans etc.  
Cans of peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, etc.  
Applesauce  
Spaghetti or other pastas  
Spaghetti sauce  
Boxes of macaroni & cheese  
Brownie or cake mixes  
Jars of apple juice  
Pudding cups (non-refrigerated)

Other suggestions are:

Toilet paper  
Soap  
Kleenex  
Paper towels  
Detergent

Thanks in advance for any help you can provide!

Deb Ruble, Director of Bridging the Gap

## Silver Seniors Victorian Tea

Thursday, August 4

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.



All senior adults are invited to this afternoon tea in the church fellowship hall. The room will be beautifully decorated, and you'll be able to listen to lovely background music while you enjoy finger sandwiches, scones, and desserts.

This will be a somewhat formal affair, so please dress up (gloves and hat for the ladies, jacket and tie for the gentlemen) if possible.

Our chauffers will be available to provide transportation for you from your home or care center. Please call the church at 752-2305 if you still need to make your reservation.

This promises to be a delightful afternoon, and we thank Judy Taylor for planning and directing the entire event.



Thursday,

August 18

7:00 p.m.

This month our book discussion group will discuss the national bestseller, The Wednesday Sisters – A Novel by Meg Waite Clayton. There are just a few books left on a table in the narthex. Cost is \$11.20 each. The meeting will again take place at the home of Judy Tomkins at 1738 Deer Run Drive.



Zion's garage sale will take place on **Friday, August 12, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** in the church basement.

Volunteers may begin organizing and pricing items at any time. Final set-up days will be on Wednesday, August 10, and Thursday, August 11.

Everyone – please look through your houses and garages and see what you have that you could donate. Items should be put in the youth room. No clothes, please. It's a great time to get the church and your houses cleaned out.

There is no chair person for the garage sale committee so all those who signed up to help with it can begin to work on it as they find the time. It will be a more organized effort the week of the sale. Thank you for making this happen!

## Paint-a-thon

Saturday, September 10



Team UCC-Zion will be participating in the paint-a-thon again this year. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for those who are willing and able to help. Preparation and painting will begin on September 6. We'll have our home assigned to us by mid-August. Please call me at 754-5974 if you have any questions. Thanks.

--Pam Daws



## "The Power of Purple"

August 5 – 6

6pm – 6am

Team UCC "Purple Paws for the Cause" will be participating in the Relay for Life being held Friday, August 5 – Saturday, August 6, at the Great River Medical Center Lake Walkway from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

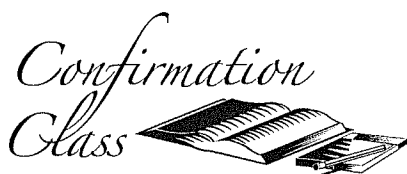
We will sell hot dogs, pop, water, frosted pretzels, puppy chow, rice krispie treats, and dog bones during the Relay for Life. Treats and water will be provided for your pooches free of charge!!!

Raffle tickets will be sold for \$1.00 each or 3 for \$2.00. You will have a choice from six different themed baskets.

Together we can celebrate those who have survived cancer and remember the people we have lost. Thanks for your support!

Deb and Theresa Ritters, Team Captains

- ❖ *Please look for the flyer included in this newsletter which lists the complete agenda for the night.*



Just a reminder that confirmation classes will begin in October with Pastor Jane for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Classes will be on Wednesday nights from 6:00–7:00 p.m. Please call the church if you have a young person who will be participating.



## Project:

# CRAYON

**Last Day to Give is  
August 12**

We have partnered with F&M Bank & Trust again this year to help area elementary schools get the supplies they need. There is a box at the back of the sanctuary to put the supplies in. If you prefer to donate money for this project, you can drop your donation in the offering. Checks should be made payable to "Project: Crayon."

The F&M Bank flyer is included in this newsletter which should answer any questions you might have. The schools can use almost any type of supplies. Be sure to get yours in before the deadline! The supplies must be new. Thanks!

## Over the Hill Gang

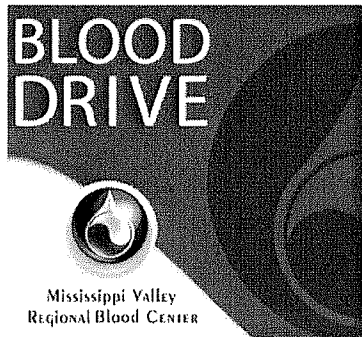
### Thursday, August 25

2:00 p.m.

Our August meeting will be at the church. We will have a presentation concerning senior I.D. theft. An officer from the Burlington Police Department will explain how seniors can protect their bank debit and credit cards, and talk about computer protection of our identification. A bank representative may also be there to tell us the steps to take if our identification is stolen.

On September 22<sup>nd</sup> the Paules are planning a lunch and activity for us at Carthage Lake. More details to follow.

–Marcia Fraise



**Monday, September 12**  
**1:30 – 6:30 p.m.**  
**First United Church of Christ**

Please save the date and plan to be a blood donor at the annual **Downtown Churches Blood Drive**. This year it will be held at First UCC, located at the top of Snake Alley.

Jackie Welch, our volunteer parish nurse, will be coordinating this effort for Zion and will provide more details about signing up as we get closer to September.

## MEETINGS

Mon., Aug. 1, 6:00 pm – Fellowship Committee  
Tues., Aug. 2, 6:30 pm – Buildings and Grounds  
Committee meeting and work night  
Mon., Aug. 8, 6pm – Missions/Outreach Comm.  
Thurs., Aug. 11, 6:00 pm – Elders  
Thurs., Aug. 11, 7:00 pm – Consistory  
Wed., Aug. 17, 6:30 pm – Social Justice Comm.  
Mon., Aug. 29, 7:00 pm – Christian Ed. Board



Sunday, September 11 – Fall Sunday School begins

Saturday, September 17 – Top of the Hill picnic at Pastor Jane and Don's home

Saturday morning, September 24 (tentative date) – Consistory Officers' Retreat

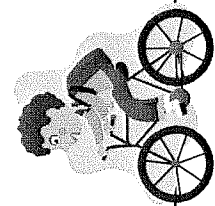
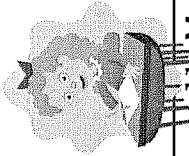
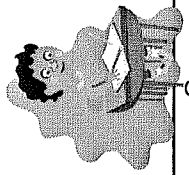


Arrangements are being made with Olan Mills for a new Zion pictorial directory. Photographers are scheduled to be here October 4, 5, and 6 from 2pm until 9:20 pm to take pictures.

Everyone photographed will receive a \$25 portrait gift certificate (one per family) toward a variety of portrait products. The complimentary 8x10 was upgraded to this \$25 certificate. This gives your families a better value and more choices at your Olan Mills portrait sitting. No purchase necessary!


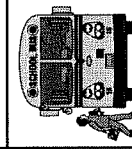
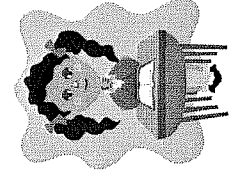
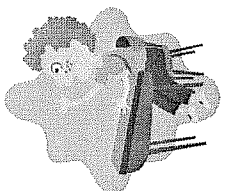
Deb Ruble is coordinating this project and will advise when you can start signing up for your portrait sitting. More details will be available in next month's newsletter.





# August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

 10:00 am: Worship	6:00 pm: Fellowship Comm.	7:30 am: Bible Study at Diggers Rest 6:30 pm: Buildings and Grounds Comm.	9:00 am: Quilters 10:00 am: Senior Women's Bible Study	2:00 - 4:00 pm: Silver Seniors Victorian Tea	5:30 pm: Rehearsal at Zion	4:00 pm: Wedding at Zion
7 10:00 am: Worship	8 9:30am - 1:00 pm: NOIZ Kids Back to School Bash 6:00 pm: Missions/Outreach Committee meeting	9 7:30 am: Bible Study at Diggers Rest	10 Garage Sale work day 9:00 am: Quilters 10:00 am: Senior Women's Bible Study	11 Garage Sale work day 6:00 pm: Elders 7:00 pm: Consistory	12 8:00 am - 2:00 pm: Zion's Garage Sale	13
14 10:00 am: Worship	15	16 7:30 am: Bible Study at Diggers Rest	17 9:00 am: Quilters 10:00 am: Senior Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm: Social Justice Comm.	 18 First day of school 7 pm: Book Group	19 Marilyn on vacation	20
21 10:00 am: Worship 3:00 pm: Sing-along at Bickford	22	23 7:30 am: Bible Study at Diggers Rest	24 9:00 am: Quilters 10:00 am: Senior Women's Bible Study	25 2:00 pm: Over the Hill Gang	26	27
<b>Pastor Jane on vacation and out of the office -- Monday, August 22 - Monday, September 5</b>						
28 10:00 am: Worship in the Park & Picnic	29 7:00 pm: Christian Ed. Board	30 7:30 am: Bible Study at Diggers Rest	31 9:00 am: Quilters 10:00 am: Senior Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm: Choir			
<b>Pastor Jane on vacation - Monday, August 22 - Monday, September 5</b>						

# August Birthdays

- 1 ---- **Joe Deal**, 9183 Gaslight Dr.  
 2 ---- **Kyle Des Jardins** (17), 605 Melville Ct.  
           West Burlington, IA 52655  
 3 ---- **Sandra Deal**, 9183 Gaslight Dr.  
       **Evelyn Tiemeyer**,  
           1095 Silvercrest Circle - Apt 211  
           Iowa City, IA 52240  
       **Carrie Wagler**, 1011 S. 12th St.  
 4 ---- **Dillan Roth** (18), 10817 115th Avenue  
 6 ---- **Stella Hartman** (10), 2405 Madison Ave.  
 7 ---- **Pat Parmeter**, 2636 Northwood  
 8 ---- **Kathy Morrish**, 1001 Parkway Dr.  
       **Patty Kerr**, 9328 Glenmark Dr.  
       **Nanci Ell**, 1919 S. Main St.  
 9 ---- **Joe Haley**, 604 S. Adams Place,  
           Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641  
 10 --- **Barbara Meth**, 217 Spring St.  
           West Burlington, IA 52655  
 13 --- **Gary Chapman**, P.O. Box 591  
 14 --- **Connie Ralston**, 3219 Crystal Dr.  
       **Randy Wachter**, 1028 Short Ave.  
 15 --- **Vivian Kellar**, 128 Greenwood Dr.  
       **David Levins**, 714 Whitewood St.  
 19 --- **Dennis Dietzman**, 2819 Fair Acres Dr.  
       **Marvin Fraise**, 1002 W. Mt. Pleasant  
           West Burlington, IA 52655  
 20 --- **Jennifer VanScoy**, 11453 147<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
           West Burlington IA, 52655  
 21 --- **Fred Bechtel, Jr.**, 1606 S. Garfield  
 23 --- **John Des Jardins**, 605 Melville Ct.  
           West Burlington 52655  
 24 --- **Titania Reynolds**, 305 Shields St.  
       **Marilyn Stein**, 197 Crestview Drive  
 26 --- **Allison Luckenbill**, 706 Ramsey St.  
           West Burlington, IA 52655  
 28 --- **Judy Nesius**, 710 Louisa St.  
       **Diane Deal Casady**, 1640 93rd Court  
           Des Moines, IA 50266

## Early September birthdays .....

- 2 ---- **Louise Rolf**, 1731 Dehn St.  
 3 ---- **Natasha Long**, 1805 S. 10th St.  
 4 ---- **David O'Rourke**, 1604 Parkway Dr.  
 5 ---- **Nancy Oetken**, P.O. Box 231  
           West Burlington, IA 52655



# August Anniversaries

- 6 ---- **Milton & Laurine Paule** (56)  
           2601 S. 3rd St.  
 10 --- **Jeff & Marian Fritz** (37)  
           5956 Hunt Road  
 11 --- **Rev. Jane Willan & Don Lutz** (4)  
           2404 Florence Ave.  
 18 --- **Lyle & Janice Gibson** (38)  
           204 Crestview Dr.  
       **Bill & Connie Krieger** (32)  
           12396 Y Camp Rd.  
       **Chuck & Connie Heuvelmann** (21)  
           14578 Maranatha Lane  
           West Burlington, IA 52655  
       **Peter & Rachel Rugg** (4)  
           7312 Harrison St.  
           Kansas City, MO 64131  
 19 --- **Jeff & Julie Werner** (11)  
           10817 115th Ave.  
 25 --- **Darrell & Sue Eden** (38)  
           218 Lewis St.  
 31 --- **Gary & Janet Chapman** (42)  
           P.O. Box 591

## Early September anniversaries .....

- 3 ---- **Dick & Patty Kerr** (39)  
           9328 Glenmark Dr.  
 5 ---- **Dan & Lisa Graham** (24)  
           321 Summer St.  
           West Burlington 52655



# 18<sup>th</sup> Annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Des Moines County "The Power of PURPLE"

## 2011 Event Agenda

4:30PM **Survivor registration begins**

5 – 6:00PM **Survivors' Picnic**

5 – Dusk **Snack Shack Open** – sponsored by Heritage Medical Equipment

6:00PM **Opening Ceremonies**

Welcome – Ted Cockrell Jr.

National Anthem – Jennifer Gardner

Burlington High School Cheerleaders

6:15PM **Celebration of Life Ceremony**

Introduction of University of Iowa Researcher and/or Carrie Jackson??

Introduction of Survivors

Survivors Photo

Survivor and Caregiver Lap - led by the Stepperettes!

7:00 **Introduction of Relay Teams-** Dane Danforth

Team Parade and Photos

8:00 **Entertainment:** Zumba Demonstration! (at the team campsites)

Dusk **Luminaria Ceremony** –

Gathering Prayer

Special Music – Jennifer Gardner

Caregiver Story –

Lighting of Bags – Girl Scout Troops

Luminaria Slideshow

**Theme Lap:** Light of Hope

10 – 11PM **Entertainment:** "Relay's Got Talent"

11:15PM **Pizza Party**

Midnight **Theme Lap:** Holiday Lap

**Entertainment:** Frozen T-Shirt contest

1:00AM **Theme Lap:** Purple Power Lap

**Entertainment:** Twister

2:00AM **Theme Lap:** Super Hero Lap

**Entertainment:** Dancing Musical Chairs

3:00AM **Entertainment:** Poker laps. 5 Laps given a card each lap. Best hand wins.

4:00AM **Theme Lap:** Hawaiian Lap

4:45AM **Theme Lap:** Pajama Lap

5:00AM **Closing Ceremony, Breakfast, Team Awards**

- Please come support Team UCC Friday Aug. 5 at Great River Medical Center. Our campsite will be selling hot dogs, pop, and lots of goodies to eat and we are raffling off baskets. We will also have water and treats for your pets. Thanks!

Deb and Theresa Ritters, Team UCC Captains

# Project: CRAYON

**What is Project: Crayon?** Project: Crayon is the Farmers & Merchants Community Foundation's way of helping to get area elementary schools the supplies that they need.

**How can I help?** Helping is easy. ~~After purchasing the supplies, drop them off at any F&M Bank & Trust location.~~ Monetary donations are accepted. We would also like to partner with groups and churches to hold special events.

**What Schools have endorsed this project thus far?** All Burlington, West Burlington, Mediapolis elementary schools have agreed to participate.

**Can I specify my donation to a particular school?** Yes. If you are making a monetary donation.

**Where do I take my donations?** ~~To any F&M Bank & Trust walk-in or drive thru locations:~~

A box is located at the back of the sanctuary – no need to take your supplies to the bank.

**What do the schools need?** Almost anything. Pencils, crayons, paper, notebooks. You name it they need it.

**Can I give cash instead of items?** Yes. Make checks payable to Project: Crayon and we will buy the school supplies for you.

**Do the items have to be new or unused?** Yes.

**Is my donation tax deductible?** Yes. 100% of all donations will be given directly to area elementary schools.

**What is the time frame of Project: Crayon?** July 20-August 12

Project: CRAYON

contact for more information:

Amy Walsh or Patty Moad in the F&M Bank & Trust Marketing Department  
319-768-6116 acw@fmbanktrust.com plm@fmbanktrust.com

Pastor's Report  
Consistory Meeting  
July 14, 2011

**Worship**

Preached 5 sermons

**Christian Education**

- Taught 5 bible study groups
- Planning meetings with Janice
- Reading for adult Sunday School

**Membership**

- new members fellowship party at my house
- Dinner with a potential new family

**Weddings and Funerals**

- 1 funeral (Iona Snider) and funeral meetings
- 11 weddings! (a personal best for a single month)

**Visiting**

**Hospital visits and surgery**

Rachel Wachter  
Mary Klein (3x to Iowa City)

**Nursing Homes and Assisted**

**Living:**

Mary Klein

**Meetings and Church Events I have attended**

- BTG meeting with Deb
- Various planning meetings

- Planning curriculum for Senior Women's Bible study
- Taught Hope Haven Bible Study
- Sing-Along at Klein
- Meeting concerning Elders group

**Counseling**

12 pastoral counseling sessions

- Discernment meeting with Judy
- Met with Tee Turner

**Ecumenical meetings and Conference Meetings I have attended:**

- Clergy Lunch
- Clergy Support Group
- Committee on Ministry
- PFLAG
- Interagency Meeting

**High Points**

Attending General Synod and hiking with Don and dogs! (see photo on back)

Submitted 7-14-2011

*Rev. Jane Willson*



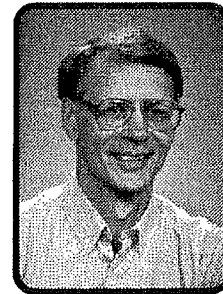
## A story from your Global Ministries

*“By this God is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.”*

JOHN 15:8

### Bearing Good Fruits

**W**hen school is in session there is a church service on Sunday mornings for the boarding students. About once a month or so students lead the service and this month our Scripture Union group led the order of worship and hymn-singing, offered prayers, read the scripture, received the offering, and shared a message during the sermon time.



MARK BEHLE

The scripture the students chose was the story of the birth of Jesus in Matthew 1:18-25. Mphonyana and Bokang both spoke on these verses. Their names are quite appropriate for the text as they mean “Small Gift” and “Praise! Give thanks!” respectively. As God was with both Joseph and Mary during their difficult time, so God is with us even today in the problems we face.

Mphonyana, in particular, could testify to this as she was hospitalized after falling and suffering burns from hot water she was carrying. She has made a full recovery and although small in stature, she has a big heart for Jesus!

Later that afternoon our SU meeting was blessed by the presence of Mr. Waza. Ntate Waza is the high school coordinator for Scripture Union in Lesotho and he was spending a week visiting schools in the southern part of the country. He organized and led the SU Camp in December and is greatly loved by the SU kids. The group members were delighted to see him again and he will be leading a training session here for student leaders at the end of the month. He has borne much fruit through his labors in reaching out to the young people of Lesotho.

Jesus says in the remaining words of John 15:8 that by bearing fruit you will be “showing yourselves to be my disciples.” While telling others we are disciples is well and good, I’m always mindful of that old adage, “Actions speak louder than words.” Even better, we could remember that old grade school tradition of “Show and Tell”!

*Mark Behle is a missionary with the Lesotho Evangelical Church. He is a mathematics teacher at Masitise High School, Lesotho, Africa.*



### You make the difference . . .

The prayers and help you provide through your local congregations make possible the work and witness of GLOBAL MINISTRIES, which is supported by Disciples Mission Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM) of the United Church of Christ.

WWW.GLOBALMINISTRIES.ORG



# The BZ Express

## August 2011

---

### Zion United Church of Christ

412 North 5th Street, Burlington, Iowa 52601

319-752-2305 ~ Office phone

319-754-1467 ~ Office fax

641-202-0377 ~ Pastor's cell

Email: [office@zionuccburlington.org](mailto:office@zionuccburlington.org)

Website: [www.zionuccburlington.org](http://www.zionuccburlington.org)

---

### Our Staff

**Rev. Jane A. Willan**, Pastor

**Janice Gibson**, Organist, Choir Director,  
and Christian Education Director

**Kay Jacobs**, Treasurer's Assistant

**Renita Jarrett**, Choir Accompanist and  
Wedding Coordinator

**Megan Key**, Nursery Supervisor

**Anita Renteria**, Handbells Choir Director

**Marilyn Stein**, Office Administrator

**Earnest Turner**, Custodian and  
Buildings & Grounds Coordinator

**Jim Ritters**, Licensed Minister

**Deb Ruble**, Director of Bridging the Gap

**Jackie Welch**, Volunteer Parish Nurse  
(home/work phones: 754-4779 / 768-4417)