

The Westkirk Presbyterian Church

Shepherd

Volume 23 No. 8 August 2008

It's Almost Time

Yeah. August is here. The dog days are here and the State Fair is right around the corner. After that, back to school time. That means it's also time to begin the regular routine. What will you be involved in at Westkirk this fall?

Have you taken the Alpha Course? If not, I'd highly recommend it. It's fun. It's refreshing. And, it's a great place to bring a friend – especially someone who is not connected to a church, does not have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ, or needs to brush up on the basics of the Christian life. And to top it off, Alpha will meet, once again, downtown, right off Court Avenue at Java Joe's. A great environment to talk about spiritual things – not to mention see who God will bring in off the street!

Not quite your speed? Are you a good listener? Someone people tend to gravitate towards during tough times? Why not come to the informational meeting about Stephen Ministry on Tuesday evening, August 5 and find out more. Not sure you can do it? Fear not, there is much training in advance, and great support after you start. What an amazing way to bring the love and mercy of Christ to someone going through a tough time. Pray about it!

More of a project oriented person? Don't like meetings? See Ron Long, Rick Eyerly or Marv Nugteren about becoming a part of the House and Grounds Commission! These are the men and women who want to get their hands on something. Commission night is the first Monday evening of the month (we'll meet on September 8 next month, however) and House and Grounds will have a project around the church to start or complete.

Rather work with children or youth? Well, we're a church – we need lots of your type. The youth ministry especially needs women to come along side the girls and be a friend. Gotta be a bit crazy, though. And the children's ministry? When can you start? We have multiple opportunities to be with the children every week. Didn't get your fix at VBS? Let us know.

People person? Can you hang out at the Welcome Center and greet our guests? Help plan the big event as we celebrate the new space on Reformation Sunday in October? Speaking of food, would you like to cook, serve or clean up on Wednesday evenings? And then there is Choir, with Wednesday rehearsals at 7:30 p.m. (beginning August 27).

Pastor Michael



^{ESV} Ephesians 4:11 “And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...”



The Session

Moderator - Michael Mudlaff

Class of 2008

George De Graaf
 Chuck Heitbrink
 Ron Long
 Kevin Riggins

Class of 2009

Kevin Heer
 Marv Nugteren
 Barb Springer
 Kirk Yentes

Class of 2010

Rick Eyerly
 Ryan Glanzer
 Jerry Tuinstra
 Melinda Turnbull

Clerk of Session - Robin Riggins

Treasurer - Chris Brown

Assistant Treasurer - Aaron Pieper

Commission Chairpersons

Christian Education - Jerry Tuinstra
 Evangelism/Fellowship - Van Harden
 House and Grounds - Ron Long
 Missions - George De Graaf
 Stewardship - Chuck Heitbrink
 Worship - Kevin Riggins

Board of Deacons

Class of 2008

Barb Asman
 Dianne Glanzer
 Bette Jones
 Fran Nugteren
 Kris Thompson

Class of 2009

Marilyn Long
 Marillyn McCulloch
 John Schvien
 Sandy Tuinstra
 Sherie Whitehead

Class of 2010

Linda Aldrich
 Jeff Brady
 Kay Cunitz
 Cynthia Fisher
 Eric Wickemeyer



- 2 William Admussen
 - 2 Colleen Obrecht
 - 3 Linda Aldrich
 - 3 *Bryce Bone
 - 3 *Matthew Deviney
 - 3 John Frondle
 - 4 Ellen Kinnaird
 - 7 Eric Schulz
 - 8 Russ Harrison
 - 8 Randall Klem
 - 8 Lois Stecker
 - 8 *Samuel Thompson
 - 10 Mack Harbour
 - 11 Carolyn Chenoweth
 - 12 Paul Brisbois
 - 12 *Meredith Heer
 - 12 Beth Mogle
 - 13 *Alyssia Bone
 - 14 Peggy Bone
 - 15 Kay Cunitz
 - 16 Linda Campfield
 - 16 *Nicole Duff
 - 16 Marty Kinnaird
 - 17 Barb Earles
 - 19 Alvin Stecker
 - 20 Madeline Heer
 - 20 Myra Verros
 - 22 Benae Duff
 - 25 Paul Havnen
 - 27 *Isaiah Mudlaff
 - 29 *Katarina Louk
 - 30 *Jasmine Blanchard
 - 30 Somer Gillett
 - 30 Eleanor Smith
 - 31 *Victoria Benson
 - 31 Marillyn McCulloch
- *Youth Member

Ooops, We Goofed!

Last month we reported that **Bob Schmadeke** had a new great-granddaughter. But, it is a **boy**, a wonderful new great-grandson, **Drake A. Cornwell!** Congratulations, Bob!



- 5 Bud & Charlene North
- 6 Chris & Karen Admussen
- 8 Clayton & Margaret Kennedy
- 9 Don & Joyce Koroch
- 9 Kevin & Robin Riggins
- 12 Bill & Barbara Springer
- 17 Stuart & Eleanor Smith
- 20 Herb & Mary King
- 20 Don & Marilyn Lanham
- 22 Chris & Beth Mogle
- 23 Paul & Mary Carbone
- 30 Max & Barbara Asman
- 30 Donald & Nylene Dory
- 30 Jorge & Jennie Mesa

Condolences

We extend our deepest sympathy to **Golda and Bruce Beals** on the loss of Golda's sister, Alice Proudfit, who died June 18 in Rockwell, TX.

Our sincere condolences to **Kevin and Robin Riggins**. Kevin's father, Dr. Keith W. Riggins, died in Des Moines on July 5. A memorial service was held at Ankeny First United Methodist Church on July 9.



Happy Birth Day

Congratulations to **Kirk and Mona Yentes** on the birth of their grandson, Jackson William Post, who was born June 17.

Also, congratulations to **Pastor Steve and Stefanie Randall** on the birth of their daughter, Elliette (Ellie) Eileen. Ellie arrived July 8.



The Bulletin Board

August Activities – See related articles in this issue.

Sunday	8/3	Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. VBS Children Sing Meeting of the Congregation, immediately following worship
Monday	8/4	Commissions Meet, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8/5	Stephen Ministry Informational meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	8/6	Alpha Leadership meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday	8/7	Prayer Shawl Ministry, 7:00 p.m. * * * * *
Sunday	8/10	Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion, 10:30 a.m. Sunday Night at the Kirk, 6:30 p.m.
Monday	8/11-8/15	BLAST & CLUB 56 Ministry & Missions Week
Tuesday	8/12	New Light meeting, 6:30 p.m., Hospitality Room
Wednesday	8/13	Alpha Leadership meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Friday	8/15	September <i>Shepherd</i> articles due Movie Night at Westkirk, <i>Bella</i>, dusk,
Saturday	8/16	Youth Room Work Day, 8:00 a.m. Maple Street Church Picnic, 12:00 noon-3:00 p.m. * * * * *
Sunday	8/17	Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service; New Members Received, 10:30 a.m. Food Pantry Collection Liljedahl Recital & Reception, 2:30 p.m.
Monday	8/18	Session meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8/19	Stephen Ministry meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	8/20	Alpha Celebration Supper, Java Joe's, 6:00 p.m.
Friday	8/22	Last Movie Night at Westkirk, <i>The Final Season</i>, dusk * * * * *
Sunday	8/24	Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal immediately following worship
Monday	8/25	Children's Ministry Volunteers meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8/26	Bagpipers Luncheon, 1:00 p.m., Johnny's Steak House, Fleur Drive New Light meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	8/27	Choir Kick-off Party & Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., Great Hall * * * * *
Sunday	8/31	Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Summer Choir Sings



Food Pantry Collection August 17

The best way to help the Food Pantry ministry is by donating money so that the food items needed can be purchased at wholesale prices. Please make your check payable to *Westkirk* and indicate it is for *Food Pantry*. (You may simply put the check in the collection bag along with your normal offering.)

However, if you choose to donate food items, the Deacons will be distributing grocery sacks on August 3 and August 10 after the worship service. Please refer to the list of items that is attached to the sack when making your donation.

All gifts (monetary or food items) will be collected on or before **August 17**. Thank you for continuing to help feed the hungry by supporting this ministry.
... *Dianne Glanzer, Deacon*

More Volunteer Drivers Needed

Because a number of you are volunteer drivers, our senior saints and shut-ins of Westkirk can be present to be an active part of our church family. However, additional drivers are needed. It involves driving once a month, mostly to the area east of the church. Our thanks to those presently volunteering: George De Graaf, John Schwien, Don Lanham, Scott Bland, Stuart Smith, Le Main, Gary Robinson and Hugh Sheppard.

Call Elaine Hurst at the church office, 253-0330, for additional information and to have your name added to the list of willing drivers.

**The Session of
Westkirk Presbyterian Church
calls a Meeting of the Congregation
Sunday, August 3, 2008
immediately following worship to
present and approve the
final construction financing.**

Westkirk's Stephen Ministry Is Calling You!

Our first year after the commissioning of Westkirk's five Stephen Ministers has quickly passed with each having experienced the Godly challenge of serving as a caregiver to one who is experiencing a difficult time in life. Now we look forward, knowing that we shall have many others who could benefit from the services of a Stephen Minister. We are asking that all Westkirk members prayerfully consider the needs of our congregation and whether he or she might help meet them through participation in the next Stephen Ministry training class to begin September 16. Learn more by coming to the informational meeting **Tuesday, August 5 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Hospitality Room.



Stephen Ministers do all the following:

1. Provide quality one-to-one ministry as trained, caring Westkirk members reaching out to others in time of need.
2. Engage in a caregiving relationship that focuses on the unique needs of one person and lasts as long as the need exists.
3. Receive support, guidance, and supervision from Stephen Leaders and from each other in order to maintain effective Christian care to others.

For more information or questions about our mission, please call one of our Stephen Leaders who are:

Karen Breeding, 963-3954
Rick or Carolyn Eyerly, 252-9942
Pastor Michael, 253-0330
Elly Smith, 270-1611

A Message from the Session

The Session has called for a **Congregational Meeting on Sunday, August 3**, immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to present and approve the final construction financing.

We have completed the first half of the year almost exactly on budget with respect to receipts. Our expenses have been lower than planned resulting in a surplus of over \$9,300 for the first six months.

Listed below is the progress on the additional items requested for the new wing. If you would like to contribute to some or a portion of these requests, please indicate on your check the project for which you would like to have it earmarked.

- | | | |
|---|------------|--------------------------|
| • Audio/visual equipment for the Children's Mult-Purpose Room | \$3,800 | |
| • Audio/visual equipment for the Youth space | \$3,200 | |
| • Kitchenette for the Youth space | \$4,000 | \$2,750 remaining |
| • White/bulletin boards for Christian Education rooms | | donated |
| • Update Senior Pastor's Office furniture | \$2,000 | \$1,250 remaining |
| • Senior Pastor's Lounge furniture | \$4,500 | |
| • New carpet and installation for the Hospitality Room | \$4,600 | |
| • New access (door) to the exterior from the existing kitchen | | eliminated |
| • 8 clocks for the classrooms and nurseries | \$10 each | |
| • 3 round tables | \$200 each | |
| • 2 round children's tables | \$200 each | |
| • 24 metal folding chairs | \$25 each | |
| • 10 children's chairs | \$25 each | |
| • Window coverings for Multi-Purpose room | \$1500 | |

We are grateful for the continued support of the ministry by our members and friends.

. . . *Chuck Heitbrink, Stewardship Commission*

Celebrating Baptisms

On June 29, 2008 we celebrated the baptism of **Elijah Antony Carlson**, son of Chad and Amanda Carlson. Elijah was born January 16, 2008 and is the brother of Ian and Eva.

Shortly after the morning Worship service on June 29, we joined in the celebration of baptism by profession of faith of **Olivia Eyerly, Micah Mudlaff and Cora Springer** at Olivet Baptist Church in Urbandale.

This baptism was originally scheduled to be held at Grays Lake in Des Moines, but the park was not available due to the recent flooding.



Another family baptism was celebrated on July 20 when **Makenzie Joyce, Makayla Marie and Jase Kenneth Brumfield** were presented. These three are the children of Charles and Sarah Brumfield. Westkirk members Nancy Brumfield and Mark and Joy Dauterive are grandparents.

May God continue to bless each of these happy Westkirk families.





MEXICO MISSION TRIP

November 6th is an important date. The Mexico Mission team will be leaving for Monterey, Mexico. Have you considered joining them on this exciting trip?? They will be welcomed by Greg and Cathy Huffer, missionaries that serve with Back2Back Missions in Monterey, Mexico. Back2Back accommodates mission teams as they seek to offer their support for the ministry in Monterey. This can be done by helping out at an orphanage, holding children and just playing with them. Another way that one church group provided help was in taking some children to WalMart and buying shoes (that is correct, I said "SHOES") for everyone. Other ways are in helping with construction projects, serving meals, helping with medical teams, etc. Talk with Rus & Julie

Norem about going with them on this trip. The Huge Garage Sale receipts, close to \$2,000, have been set aside to help out with some of the transportation costs. If you want to assist in this area, it would be appreciated also. Make checks out to *Westkirk*, and specify *Mission Trip* in the memo section.

BABY BOTTLES FOR RUTH HARBOR

Final results show that \$755 was donated to Ruth Harbor. It was designated to help with their Maintenance Fund and will hopefully be used in acquiring a new driveway at their Des Moines facility. Mark McDougal was very appreciative of the support that Westkirk provides throughout the year and he expresses his thanks. The ministry at Ruth Harbor provides physical, emotional, family, and spiritual guidance for young women who come to them for assistance. It is indeed a unique ministry.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE (CHRISTMAS IN JULY!)

Thank you to those who wanted to help out with our trial run of this exciting ministry. We are not too sure if any other Churches in the Des Moines area are doing this, but the Mission Team thought it would be worth trying. We had to pick up more shoeboxes from the store. We even had some people returning boxes that have been wrapped and filled. Great, thanks!

TEACHING ENGLISH IN HUNGARY, POLAND AND ROMANIA

Maybe your gifts lead you to help others in this simple area. Dan Marvin will be heading out to Hungary this summer with a team to teach English. Dan is involved with International Messengers and that is part of their ministry. The Eastern block countries welcome them as they need the people to become more literate with English. Ask Dan about the specifics of the ministry and how you can be of support, perhaps join his prayer team.

Thank You for your part in supporting all of these ministries. Should you have any questions regarding the Missions that we support, please see any one of the Mission Commission. They are: George & Gail De Graaf, Cynthia Fisher, Somer Gillett, Ryan Glanzer, Dan Marvin, Rus & Julie Norem, Wendy Reed, Jerry & Diane Skinner, Alvin & Lois Lundgren Stecker, Larry & Sherie Whitehead.

... *George De Graaf, Chair*

Break Free from Your Pew, Become an Alpha Leader

They say that an elephant learns her place in the world, her limitations, while young. A heavy metal chain is attached to her hind leg so that she does not wander away. Not yet strong enough to break free, the young elephant finds that she can move only as far as the length of chain allows. Eventually, she'll grow tired of pulling at the chain and stop trying altogether.

Years from now, even a rope tied round her thick strong leg is enough to hold her. The mature elephant, even though it possesses the strength to uproot trees and flip over cars, has learned the lesson well: it is



not possible to break free. The world of the elephant is the length of a chain.

As Christians, unfortunately, we are not all that unlike a trained and broken elephant. We've been chained to our pews for so long that we've simply stopped trying all together to reach out to those outside of our church walls with the message of the gospel. We've learned the lesson well: church is a passive exercise, a weekend routine, where we listen to an amusing sermon and connect with old friends. But we are not called to be passive elephants sitting in our pews!

Alpha, our central evangelistic outreach effort here at Westkirk, simply cannot happen without an active participation from our church family. We need you to be present at Alpha, build relationships with non-Christians, invite neighbors and co-workers to attend the course with you, help lead small group discussions ... all for the purpose of fulfilling our mission as a church, to know Christ and to make Him known.

Please consider getting involved in Alpha this fall. A great place to start is at our Alpha **leadership training sessions** taking place at Westkirk on **August 6 and 13 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** Please contact Pastor Steve if you have questions or if you would like to break free from your pew this fall and help make Alpha a meaningful experience for those who don't know Christ.

Address Changes

Lenora Chamberlain

21401 Talisman St.
Torrance, CA 90503-5407
Phone: 515-491-0536

Wayne & Helga Hoffman

4314 Pond View Dr.
White Bear Lake, MN 55110-4155

**Mark & Erica Scheve
Madeline, Lydia & Anna**

6011 Oakwood Drive
Urbandale, IA 50322
Phone: 515-974-5666

Thank You, Thank You!

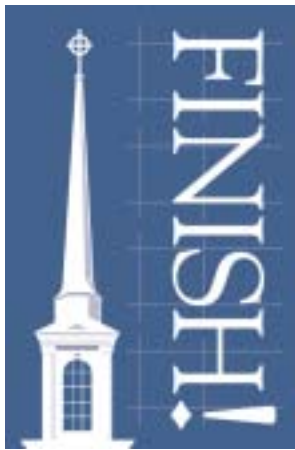
We thank the Pictorial Directory Committee who made the new directory possible: Irene Reed, Nancy Schmidt, Bette Jones, Marsha Raisch, and all those volunteers who helped out during the photography sessions.

A big thanks to the drivers who regularly provide rides to church functions each month for Mary and Martha Petty: Bette Jones, Fran Nugteren, Cynthia Fisher, Kay Cunitz, Jeannie & Paul Havnen, and Lou Heitbrink. This gives the twins an opportunity to participate in various church activities.

From the Building Committee

The sod has been laid. The retaining wall is in place. The balcony seating has been completed (check it out - Pastor Mudlaff looks 7 feet tall from the balcony when he is in the pulpit.) The administration offices are occupied. The finishing touches are now being completed so that the classrooms, nursery and multi-purpose room are all ready for the fall. The old parking lot will be repaired also in the near future.

The Building Committee is working on walk-through, punch lists and last minute items that need



fixing or changes. Please let us know if you spot anything needing attention as we might not find everything. The Building Committee is made up of Ken Bratney (Chair), Russ Harrison, Le Main, Bill Raisch, Pastor Mudlaff and our architect, Alvin Stecker.

The project is entering its final stage and will be completed soon, in time for fall classes. If you haven't toured the new wing, visited the balcony or noticed the changes, we hope you will do so. Any of the Building Committee members will be glad to show you around and let you know about the project or discuss any questions you might have. It has been a joy serving the Church and the Lord with this project. We, the Building Committee, hope you and all of God's children will enjoy the expanded Westkirk.

... *Bill Raisch*

Deacons Fund

Did you miss the opportunity to donate to the Deacons Fund last month on Communion Sunday? Well, you may still help our hard-working Deacons by dropping a check in the weekly Sunday collections. Please make your check payable to *Westkirk*, marked *For Deacons Fund*. Remember, this group operates solely on your contributions. They are not a part of the regular church budget.

Calling Westkirk Singers!

It's that time again when our Choir starts revving up for the 2008-2009 season. We will begin with a get-(re)acquainted party on **Wednesday, August 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Great Hall**. Everyone who would like to be a part our Music Ministry should be sure to come on the 27th. There will be assorted snacks to munch on while listening to some of the music scheduled for the coming year.

After the fun, comes time to get down to the business of singing! **Director of Music Larry Kussatz** begins fall rehearsal to prepare for the first Sunday of regular choir on September 14. Be sure to reserve each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. for Choir practice.



Larry is currently recruiting new members for all sections. If you're a singer just waiting to be asked to be a part of this ministry, this is your invitation! Larry or any Choir member will be happy to provide additional information.

Free Movies!

This is the last month for our free Movies Under the Stars series on Westkirk's campus. On **Friday, August 15 at dusk** come to see *Bella*. The last feature for the summer is scheduled for **August 22** when we will show *The Final Season*. Rain dates are set for the following evening.

We'll provide the ingredients for a great evening of fun and fellowship—free popcorn, pop and a family-friendly movie. Just grab a folding chair and/or blanket and a small portable radio (so you can hear the movie) and come along. See you at the Movies!

New Members to Be Received

The latest class to complete membership requirements will be received at 10:30 a.m. on **Sunday, August 17**. Please be on hand to welcome these newest members of our Westkirk family.

Presenting . . .

Martin and Ellen Kinnaird

Martin J. Kinnaird was born in New York City but spent most of his younger years in Springfield, Missouri. After Marty's father died, his mother decided to move the family to England. Marty was age 12 at that time and had two younger sisters and a younger brother. They stayed in England until the war became so bad that all American citizens were advised to leave the country. He can remember escaping to the bomb shelter in their back yard whenever the air raid sirens went off.



Marty was in the 8th grade when they returned to Springfield. He graduated from Springfield High School, the Merchant Marine Academy, and Navy Post Graduate school. He attained the rank of Captain in the U.S. Navy and retired after 31 years. Captain Kinnaird's final assignment was to the staff of Commander Naval Air Force U.S. Pacific Fleet where he served as Ship Material Officer. He actually received a personal letter of commendation from the Vice Admiral of the Navy expressing appreciation for his immense contribution to maintaining the high standards and improving the material readiness of the NAVAIRPAC carriers. Marty now enjoys hunting and fishing, putting in his workshop, and traveling.

Ellen Ann Ramey was born in Elkland, Missouri, but grew up in Springfield. She has one sister. After graduating from Springfield High School, she attended Southwest Missouri State. At age 35, tragedy struck Ellen's life when her husband died suddenly while he was on a business trip. Ellen, who had been a homemaker and full-time mother to two young sons, was now a widow with no career experience. Courageously, she entered the work force and was able to support herself and the boys by obtaining a position as office manager of a car agency. She later advanced her career by becoming sales manager of an employment agency.

Currently, Ellen enjoys traveling, reading, and decorating their gorgeous home in Waukee, which is surrounded by beautiful trees and a large yard for Radar—their yellow lab. Her two sons “have a great stepfather.” Donnie lives in Springfield and is a professional musician who plays guitar and drums in a band. Steve is the warehouse and shipping manager of a large printing company in Chicago.

Although Ellen and Marty were in school together since the 8th grade, they didn't really know each other because the school was so large. Fortunately, they both attended their class reunion 28 years ago in August. They got acquainted with each other that night and were married in December of the same year.

A friend told them about Westkirk when they moved here from Colorado three years ago. After the first visit, they decided this was what they were looking for because they were made to feel so welcome and enjoyed the beautiful music. Since joining our church family, the Kinnairds have served regularly as greeters and coffee hosts. They are also members of a HouseKirk, and Ellen has recently joined Dorcas Circle.

After spending time with Marty and Ellen, I can honestly say that they are two of the most entertaining people I have ever met. Not only do they have a lot of interesting experiences to talk about, they each have a delightful sense of humor that makes them fun to be with.

. . . By Dianne Glanzer

Youth Ministry

Youth Room Work Day Set for Saturday, August 16

A special thank you to Rick Eyerly, Olivia Eylery, Charlie Millis, Brad Millis, Hugh Sheppard, and Craig Van Gundy for helping us take our first steps toward the completion of the new youth room. Everyone worked very hard and was able to complete framing and insulating the entire room in just a few hours. Thank you and praise God for your service!!!



The next youth room work day is scheduled for August 16 at 8:00 a.m. Please consider joining us for step two. If you have questions or would simply like to let us know you'll be able to attend, please contact either Pastor Steve or Hugh Sheppard.



Upcoming *New Life* Events (Senior High Ministry)

If you are or are going to be a senior higher this fall (9th-12th grade), then we would love to have you join us for one or for all of our planned events during the month of August. Please mark your calendars for the following *New Life* gatherings:

- 8/2 Youth Painting Day, 9:00 a.m. at Westkirk
- 8/3 Bonfire at Westkirk, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- 8/15 Outdoor Movie Night at Westkirk, Dusk
- 8/17 Bonfire at Westkirk, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- 8/25 Outdoor Movie Night at Westkirk, Dusk
- 8/31 Bonfire at Saylorville Lake, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Thank You Notes . . .

Dear Pastor Michael & Elaine,

Thank you both for hosting the JGMJ follow-up Bible Studies at Westkirk. We had a wonderful time studying *The Vision of His Glory in the Book of Revelation*. The ladies attending were encouraged to continue their indepth studies and to be involved in a Bible believing church such as Westkirk. Susan and I felt like all the women were born again and involved in a local church.

In Christian love,
Linda Revell

Westkirk,

Thank you for the gift card. It was nice of you to do that.

From Aaron {Reed}

Westkirk Choir,

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers at the death of our sister, Alice.

The flowers are beautiful and it was nice to see them on the organ and share them with the congregation.

God bless you for being so kind. It meant even more than you know.

Love in Christ,
Bruce & Golda Beals



CIA at Westkirk?

The CIA at Westkirk maintains a low profile. But you will know them when you see them. They are Westkirk's *Christians in Action*, men and women who, behind the scenes and away from the church and their homes, assist those with special needs by fixing little things, mowing yards, checking out stuff, shoveling driveways, computer troubleshooting, delivering meals, etc., etc.

No doubt you have a hidden talent or skill you could share to assist a single mom, a shut-in, or someone else who needs a helping hand. Why not call our CIA Coordinator, Deacon Eric Wickemeyer at 360-5962 today!

Children's Ministry

"But the Lord has become my fortress, and my God the rock in whom I take refuge." Psalm 94:22

Last month we had a number of children attend Christian camp, learn about what it means to be a hero for God at Vacation Bible School, and spend a Saturday worshipping God and learning what it means to live out their faith now.

This month the children can look forward to Sunday School and children's church in the new wing! These are all wonderful experiences for our children to help them grow closer to God and help them see that He is indeed someone who is faithful and can always be relied on. Psalm 94:22 (above) in other translations refers to the Lord protecting and defending, being a stronghold and a hideout. Let's work together to show all children that they have a holy hideout available to them.

Calling All Heroes: Thank you to everyone who helped with Vacation Bible School! On **Sunday, August 3**, everyone who participated in VBS is invited to sing the VBS theme song, "Calling All Heroes" at Urban Heights Evangelical Covenant Church (7605 Aurora Ave., next to Urbandale Middle School) at their 9:30 a.m. service. Then we will all come to Westkirk and sing at our 10:30 a.m. worship service. Look for pictures from our Veggie Tale VBS in the September newsletter.

Ministry & Mission Week: August 11-15 BLAST & CLUB 56 will be teaming up for a week of projects to benefit the church, our community, and Christians around the world. We will meet at church each day and then have a celebration at the end of the week. Please call or e-mail Karen Admussen if you are interested in participating. Friends, parents, and siblings are welcome, too.

Opportunities for Service: As fall approaches, the Children's Ministry anticipates needing lots of team players. Yes, we need teachers, but we also need people to assist teachers in the classroom, work behind the scenes, do projects from home, help out during the week, greet children, work in the nursery, or even be available to substitute on a one-time basis. God has gifted each of us with different skills and all of those skills are important in carrying out God's plans. Not sure how your skills can be used in Children's Ministry? Look for the Children's Ministry table in the Narthex during August or contact Karen Admussen in the church office. We would love to have you be a part of the Children's Ministry Team, show God's love and discipling children to do the same. **Monday, August 25** there will be a meeting for all volunteers in the Children's Ministry from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Hospitality Room. At this time we will get to know each other better and learn more about how to minister to children.

. . . Karen Admussen, Director of Children's Ministry

**Watch the September issue
for a report on the excitement of
Vacation Bible School.**

Birthday Boys!

Pastor Michael and Pastor Steve both had birthdays on July 20. Wonder how often a church has two pastors with the same birthday. Here they are working with VBS in 2007. A fun time!



The Shepherd

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Dan & Jan Geisler
Chuck Heitbrink, Fran Nugteren
Bob Schmadeke, Genevieve Stogdill
Joan Thompson

Staff of Westkirk

Pastor - Michael Mudlaff
Assistant Pastor - Steven Randall
Administrative Assistant - Elaine Hurst
Director of Children's Ministry - Karen Admussen
Director of Music - Larry Kussatz
Accompanist - Dianne Glanzer
Youth Coordinator - Hugh Sheppard
Stephen Leaders
Karen Breeding, Carolyn Eyerly, Rick Eyerly,
Pastor Michael Mudlaff, Eleanor Smith
Custodian - Barbara McCargar
Head Usher - Fergus Taylor
Communion Stewards
Kay Cunitz & Cynthia Fisher
Paul & Jeannie Havnen
Ron & Marilyn Long
Wedding Coordinators
Carolyn Eyerly, Irene Reed
Flower Chairperson - Audrene Hansen
First Ladies
Jan Geisler, Lou Heitbrink, Fran Nugteren
Darlene Reighard, Myra Verros, Mary Lu Younkin



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