



The Tower

Denison First United Methodist Church

June 2010

Effectiveness for God

The word effective indicates a measurement of success or failure. In order for someone to be determined as effective a result needs to be produced. For example, an apple tree is effective if it produces apples or a bee hive is effective if honey can be collected. How is effectiveness for God measured?

The Iowa Annual Conference is struggling to define effectiveness for God. What does it mean to be effective in ministry? What results can we produce? The quick answer is numerical with increased attendance in worship, Sunday school, bible studies, etc. Although the number of these fruits can be bountiful, the true question is which fruits are ready for harvest and which fruits have become rotten? I believe there is another result that can demonstrate our effectiveness for God.

The product I look for is in how we fulfill Jesus' new command, "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." I believe effectiveness for

God is when we, out of our love for God, reach out in love, care, and true concern for another human being. This means sharing what we know to be true by the way we speak, listen, and work. This is measured through our courage to share our faith story and to think of how our individual acts affect those around us. In other words, how have we personally grown closer to God? Are you ready to pray in public? Are you more comfortable talking about God? Are you more invested in the church and the ministry it is offering to everyone?

Effectiveness for God is more than numbers we count on Sunday morning; it also involves the transformation of hearts. I believe effectiveness for God is helping others know God's grace, love, forgiveness, and everything else God has to offer. I also believe that to be effective for God, I first have to know who God is and what God offers. As United Methodists, our



Rev. Alberta Ervin

Read: John 13:33-35

mission is to make disciples for the transformation of the world. Effectiveness for God begins with transformation of my heart. My prayer is that in this next year we, through transformed hearts, will be effective servants for God. What's your prayer?

Food for thought,

Pastor Alberta

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The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church. In all things-Charity

UMW SCHEDULE

UMW MEETINGS

No Executive Meeting

6/2-2:00 pm

Guest Day

General Meeting in the Sanctuary & Fell. Hall
 Leader: Nelva Petersen
 Program: TBA
 Hostess: Afternoon & Eve. Circles

6/23- 9:30 am

Morning Circle

Hostess: TBA in the Fire-side Room
 Lesson: TBA

No Afternoon Circle

6/28- 7:30 pm

Evening Circle

Hostesses: Dee Dozark & Sandi Sharp at the home of Dee Dozark
 Leaders: Sandy Welch & Marilynn Keuck
 Lesson: Marilynn Keuck

Bible Verse:

Matthew 10:40



“Serve wholeheartedly as if you were serving the Lord not men.”
 Ephesians 6:7

Worship Assistants Schedules

Communion

June 13: Tom & Kathi Gustafson, Pat Roush, Colleen McLaughlin, Anthony Lewis

Greeters

June 06: Jo Jenkins & Coletta Weeda
June 13: Tom & Kathi Gustafson
June 20: Ala Smithson & Arlene Brummel
June 27: Jeff & Deb Nelson

Ushers

June 06: Palmer & Ruth Volkmann, Wayne McLaughlin
June 13: Jim Beaman, Cliff Miles, Ala Smithson
June 20: Jim Beaman, Dee Dozark, Ala Smithson
June 27: Sandy Welch, George & Shirley Berry

Children's Sermon

June—August :
Pastor Alberta Ervin

Coffee Time

June-Membership/Young Adult Committee

July-Administrative Council

Acolytes

June 06: Anthony Lewis
June 13: Lori Beam
June 20: Becky Bell
June 27: Rhonda & Zach Rauch

Nursery

June 06: Christy Welch
June 13: Julie Schmidt
June 20: Jan LaRue
June 27: Kathy Struck

Liturgist

June 06: Ala Smithson
June 13: Larry Struck
June 20: Kim Ingerslev
June 27: Jane Crabb



Caring/Sharing and Thank Yous

All prayer requests will be in the Tower for one month and then will be taken out unless otherwise requested. Those prayer requests will still be thought of as being under the unspoken needs and concerns.



Prayer Requests

- *Those affected by severe weather
- *Government Leaders
- *Service Men and Women
- *Unspoken needs and concerns



Thank Yous

Many thanks for all of the salads, Muffins, bars, and meatballs you ladies brought for our salad luncheon in May. Also, thanks to all the workers. We appreciate all the help. Also, we couldn't manage without our male dish washers!

UMWomen

***Dear Congregation,** Thank you so much for all the things you sent us in our care package. The treats were delicious & much appreciated! Also, the other supplies came in very handy. It was nice of you to think of us while we were away at college. Thanks also to all who helped pack everything together. Sincerely,
Brandon & Brennan Irvine

***Thank you to my church family for my May Day gift. The mints & cup cake were very tasty. Thank you, Genevieve Wight**

***Thank you for the salads, bars, & sandwiches and everything from the lunch circle ladies. The Walter Holtorf Family**



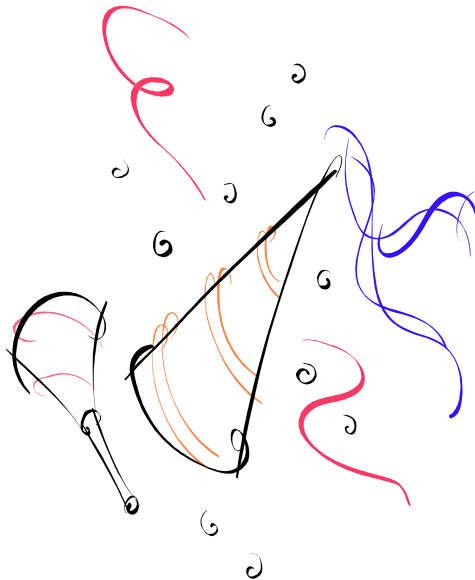
Announcements

If anyone is interested in being involved in the Prayer Shawl Ministry, contact Marilynn Keuck at 263-2934 for more information. Page 6 and 7 in this newsletter tell the story of the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

VBS will be next month, July 12th -14th from 1-4 pm. The VBS program will be Thursday, July 15th at 4:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Just fill out the registration form on the next page of this newsletter to register your children or call the office at 712-263-2934 with your children's information.

HAPPY Birthday!

- Kim Ingerslev 06/01**
- Robert Crampton 06/02**
- Christy Welch 06/11**
- John Brus 06/18**
- Chris Nelson 06/19**
- Courtney Sorensen 06/24**
- Perry Bekkerus 06/28**
- Kylie Schmidt 06/29**



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Ed & Pearl Schau 06/03**
- Robert & Irene Crampton 06/06**
- Erich & Kelli Brus 06/07**
- Chris & Abby Nelson 06/09**
- Mike & Rhonda Rauch 06/21**
- Fred & Marilyn Clements 06/24**
- Dennis & Mary Bell 06/28**

Events

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join Us For Vacation Bible School

July 12th—14th

From: 1:00-4:00 pm

For Preschool—6th Grade

Denison First United Methodist Church

113 S 14th Street, Denison, Iowa

Phone: 712-263-2934

Program: Thursday, July 15th at 4:30 pm in the Sanctuary

✂—————cut and return this form below to register for VBS-Keep the top for your information—————

July 2010 Vacation Bible School Registration Form

Name: _____

Grade: _____ Age: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____



June 2010



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 /—Lori on—→ 11:30-5:30 pm Bloodmobile 4-6pm SPS Group upstairs rooms 7pm PEO in the Fireside Room	2 —Vacation—→ 2pm UMW Guest Day/Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary 7pm SPPRC/ Library 8pm Ad Council/ Conf Room	3 —————→ 9-5pm WESCO in Library/Conf.Rm 9am Lap Robes in Room 2 1pm Quilters in Room 1	4 —————/ 9-5pm WESCO in Library/Conf.Rm 8pm AA/Fireside 8pm Al-Anon in the Library	5 Annual Conference in Des Moines
6 9am Worship 10:15 am Adult Sunday School in Conference Room Annual Conference in Des Moines	7 Annual Confer- ence/Des Moines 9am Lap Robes in Room 2 1pm Quilters in Room 1 4pm Reading Pro- gram	8 Annual Conference in Des Moines 7pm Cub Scout Leaders/102/104	9 10am Eventide	10 9am Lap Robes in Room 2 1pm Quilters in Room 1	11 10 am Denison Care 8pm AA/Fireside 8pm Al-Anon in the Library	12
13 9am Worship 10:15 am Adult Sunday School in Conference Room	14 9am Lap Robes in Room 2 1pm Quilters in Room 1	15 9:45am Child Health 2pm Newsletter Deadline 5:30pm Paradise Pioneer 4-H Club In Fellowship Hall	16 8pm Trustees in the Conference Room	17 9am Lap Robes in Room 2 10pm Prayer Shawls/Fireside 1pm Quilters in Room 1	18 8pm AA/Fireside 8pm Al-Anon in the Library	19
20 9am Worship 10:15 am Adult Sunday School in Conference Room 10:15 am Finance in the Fireside Room	21 9am Lap Robes in Room 2 1pm Quilters in Room 1	22 /—Pastor on—→	23 —————→ 9:30 am Morning Circle/Fireside Room No Afternoon Circle	24 —Vacation—→ 9am Lap Robes in Room 2 1pm Quilters in Room 1	25 —————→ 8pm AA/Fireside 8pm Al-Anon in the Library	26 —————→
27 —Pastor on—→ 9am Worship 10:15 am Adult Sunday School in Conference Room	28 —Vacation—→ 11:30-5:30 pm Siouxland Blood- bank/Fell. Hall 9am Lap Robe/2 1pm Quilter/Rm 1 3pm Baby B. 7:30pm Eve Circle Dee Dozark home	29 —————→	30 —————/			



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

THE HISTORY OF THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

A Prayer Shawl Ministry was started at the First United Methodist Church in Denison after a UMW member noticed a display of Prayer Shawls at a District meeting.

Since that time a group of knitters and crocheters has been meeting once a month in the Fireside Room. We open and close with prayer.

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord: Bless my hands as I knit/crochet today. May each twist of the yarn guide me to create a pattern of love and comfort in my work and remind me of your ultimate protection. Wrap me in your Spirit so that I will be more caring towards those in need. Grant me patience as I create this shawl and bless my handiwork as it travels to bring comfort, peace and joy. Amen.

www.shawlministry.com.

Closing Prayer

We thank you for the generous gifts we have received and ask for your continued blessings on our homes and families. May the Holy Spirit guide us as we share of our time, talents, prayers and love in the Prayer Shawl Ministry. We also ask your blessings on the recipients of the shawls that they may feel comforted by your steadfast love. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Good Shepherd Parish, Edmonton, Alberta Canada.

WHAT IS A PRAYER SHAWL?

A Prayer Shawl is a soft, warm shawl knitted or crocheted. It is given to persons who are ill, have suffered a loss or who are celebrating a joy or special occasion. There is no right or wrong way to create these gifts of love. They do not have to look alike nor be the same color. The patterns are simple and each shawl is one of a kind. The shawls are blessed by Pastor Alberta.

JOIN THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The ministry group meets at 10:00 a.m. on the third Thursday of the month. They knit and crochet. If you don't know how to do either, it's easily taught. Members also work at home.

To be involved in this ministry you can:

1. Knit or crochet a shawl
2. Share the name of a friend or a loved one who is in need of God's blessings
3. Help financially or donate yarn
4. Join us

For more information please contact Arlene Brummel at 263-5481, Nancy Miles at 263-5336, or Marilynn Keuch at 263-4232.

Knitting Instructions

Use size 13 needles; Cast on 57 stitches; Patter: knit 3, purl 3 to end of row; turn and repeat pattern; finish with fringe or crocheted shell stitch

Crocheting Instructions

Use size N or P hook Chain 53, turn; sc for 3 rows; turn; in the second sc from the hook *do 3 dc, sk 1 st; sc in next st; sk 1 st; in next stitch repeat from * for width of shawl. Chain 2; turn (You should have 13 dc shells across) Note that the 3 dc shells are done in the center of the dc group in the row below. Repeat this row until shawl is desired length. End with 3 rows of sc. Finish with crocheted shell stitch.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

About the Shawls...



Photo By: Shana Sureck - The Hartford Courant August 7, 2002

In 1998, Janet Bristow and Victoria Galo, two graduates of the 1997 Women's Leadership Institute at The Hartford Seminary in Hartford, Connecticut gave birth to a ministry as a result of their experience in this program of applied Feminist Spirituality under the direction of Professor Miriam Therese Winter, MMS. Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry and spiritual practice which reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as in celebration and joy. Many blessings are prayed into every shawl.

Whether they are called Prayer Shawls, Comfort Shawls, Peace Shawls, or Mantles, etc., the shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is sent on its way. Some recipients have continued the kindness by making a shawl and passing it onto someone in need. Thus, the blessing ripples from person-to-person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God!

(*The shawls can also be crocheted, quilted, woven or machine knitted as well!)

prayershawlministry.com





Denison First United Methodist Church

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*Serving God Through Spiritual
Growth and Reaching Out*

We are on the web!

denisonumc.org



Bit of History

On Sunday, June 5, 1966, the consecration service for the newly constructed educational building was held.

According to the booklet prepared for this special occasion Sunday school classes were held as usual at 9:15 am followed by the hour of worship at 10:30 am. The setting of the "Date Stone" was at 1:45 pm followed by an open house from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Guided tours were conducted, or you could browse on your own. Coffee and punch were served by the ladies of the church.

The Service of Consecration was at 7:00 pm that evening with Dr. J. Henry Teele, Superintendent of the

Council Bluffs District, delivering the sermon. The opening hymn was "Make This New House Thine Own" and the closing hymn was "The Church's One Foundation is Jesus Christ Her Lord".

The service ended with this Litany of Consecration recited by the congregation: "We consecrate this building, grateful for the heritage of faith, conscious of the sacrifice of all who have shared in it's building, and aware of the tasks that lie before us in making Christ's way of life visible in deeds as in bricks and mortar. Grant us, O God, a continuing Spirit of joy and dedication to the honor and glory of Thy name. Amen.

May we continue that Spirit of joy as we worship together.

Roberta Yankey

