



**Elkhart Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

May - June Newsletter

252 N.W. Washington Ave.

P.O. Box 97

Elkhart, Iowa 50073

515.367.5125

www.elkhart-christianchurch.com

Come and Worship

Chancel Choir: 8:00 am - September through May

Sunday School: 1st Sunday after Labor Day until last Sunday before Memorial Day

Gathering: 9:15 am-Sunday School Classes:9:30 am

Worship Service 10:30 am

Handchime Rehearsal: 4:00 pm - September through May

Fellowship: Immediately after worship

Worship Attendance and Offering

	<u>Attd.</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>S.S. Offering</u>
3/18	62	\$1,076.36	\$26.42
3/25	58	\$1,079.16	\$28.10
4/01	84	\$1,553.62	
4/08	31 Sunrise		
	81	\$2,292.86	
4/15	55	\$1,169.00	\$15.00
4/22	51	\$ 705.00	\$21.00
4/29	46	\$1,290.56	\$21.00
5/06	57	\$1,569.98	\$12.00
5/13	40	\$ 869.00	\$15.00
5/20	42	\$ 779.00	\$14.01

Easter:	\$ 154.50
Christmas Offering:	\$ 95.00
Week of Compassion:	\$ 35.00
Pentecost:	\$ 35.00

Mission Statement

Elkhart Christian Church is a family of faithful Christians actively caring for the needs of others; sharing our faith through worship, education, and outreach; and providing fellowship that represents Christ's love and presence in our community and our world. Our mission is to nurture and prepare everyone God entrusts to us to become mature and dedicated Disciples for the glory of God.

If you have information for the weekly church bulletin or monthly newsletter, or if you would like to have your birthday printed and it is not already on the list, please place it in the secretary's mailbox, email it to eccsecretary@windstream.net or contact Mary Jo at the church office. (515) 367-5125. **Please note new email address.**

Note: Elkhart Christian Church has a Website:
<http://elkhart-christianchurch.com>

Youth Group End of Year Fun!

Sunday June 3rd is our last meeting until fall. We decided at our last meeting to go to Mike & Robin Luke's for softball/volleyball and other outdoor activities instead of miniature golf. So you can now invite one friend to join you and bring your glove if you have one. Meet at Luke's at 5:00 and the youth group fund will buy pizza, pop, and water

Hope to see you there!
Coral

60+ Group

The next meeting for the 60 + group will be on Thursday, June 14th, at 2:00 pm. Save the date and plan on attending an afternoon of great games and fellowship. Bring a friend.

CWF

On June 20, at 6:30 pm, the CWF will hold its annual business meeting. Old business will be completed, new business will be discussed and election of new officers for the upcoming year will be nominated and elected. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. Come and have a voice in YOUR CWF! If you need a ride, please call Sandi Gaulke, current board chair, at 515-967-9157.

Elkhart Garage Sale Days—June 22-23

2nd Annual ECC Garage Sale fundraiser will be the same days as the Elkhart town garage sale. If you would like to have a garage sale of your own, you may rent a table and spot for \$10.00 - If you would like to just donate your items to the church, please have them marked and at the church by Wednesday, June 20th. If you have your own garage sale, you are responsible for any unsold items. If you donate your items to the church, unsold items will be donated to Goodwill.

Food and Drink will also be served for a minimal fee. The menu has yet to be planned. If you would like to help, donate, or rent a table, you may contact Cathy at 515-964-1544.

Annual Ice Cream Social

Also on June 23 will be the annual Ice Cream Social - Among other activities - the Men's Quartet, Higher Power will perform at 7:00 pm. If you would like to help with this, donate a dessert or have ideas for activities - please contact Barb at 515-383-4371.

Greeters, Ushers, Fellowship Hosts, and Worship Leaders:

We can use new blood in all these areas, particularly with hosting Fellowship time on Sundays. At this point, some people are hosting rather frequently, and could use more break time in between. Please speak to Barb O’Neel or Pastor Anne if you can help in these ways.

Milestone Birthday Signup

If you or a loved one or friend have a milestone birthday (60, 70, 80, 90?) coming up, please fill out the following and return to the church office. Mary Herman, as the representative of the Questers group of CWF, will be sending cards.

Name: _____

Birthday and year: _____

Spouse’s name: _____

Birthday and year: _____

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**DOC News Service—NBA (Nat’l Benevolent Assn.)
offers resources for
“Bully” movie discussion** May 2, 2012

Bully, a documentary about bullying among youth, was released last weekend amid intense controversy about the film’s rating. In the end, *Bully* was released without a rating, leaving the decision about who should/could see the movie up to parents, young people and educators. The Disciples approved a resolution (see link at bottom) on this subject at the Nashville assembly in 2011.

For information about the movie as well as advocacy and educational materials related to bullying go to:

<http://action.thebullyproject.com/>

A few discussion starters after viewing the film:*

- What is bullying? Can you define it?
- What is at the heart of bullying?
- How does this film reveal some of the effects that bullying has on a child or teen?

- Did the response of the parents in this film frustrate you? What is the role of parents if they suspect their child or teen is being bullied in some way? How can silence or denial on the part of parents add to the pain of a child/teen being bullied?
- Do you feel that this film was fair to the school administration? Is there a role for school instructors/administrators in preventing or responding to bullying? Are there limitations?
- What if you were in the room when one of these kids/teens was being bullied? What role should a Christian take in a situation where someone is getting bullied?
- Christianity is not always painted in a positive light in this film. Perhaps fairly. How might some "Christians" distort Christianity and justify or participate in bullying?
- Why don't more of us defend those who are being bullied? Should our helping depend on the reason someone is being bullied?

*Some of the questions are drawn from the work of Warren Throckmorton, *The Golden Rule Pledge* and Dave Cover, *The Crossing Church*

More information at:

<http://www.disciples.org/DisciplesNewsService/tabid/58/itemId/1205/NA-offers-resources-for-Bully-movie-discussion.aspx>

Save the Date

Saturday, August 25



School for Congregational Learning

TOOLS

In the Footsteps of "The Carpenter"

2 Locations:

**West Des Moines Christian Church
Minneapolis**

"When Barnabas came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose..."

Acts 11:23

What is Church?

They say 'home is where the heart is', and my heart is most definitely here in Swaziland! I have grown in my understanding and love for the diversity in the human family. I recently visited Lavumisa, in the southern part of the country, where it is very dry, and there are very few jobs. It is common for a home to house 15 people, it is also common that only one person is employed, two if they are a lucky family. If there is a man in the family, he will often go to stay where the work is, and come home once a month to see his family and bring home his paycheck. In these homes, it is never the 'traditional family' structure; it is most often a grandmother, a mother/wife possibly, maybe a father/husband, some adult children (20s/30s, unmarried), often a baby or two of the adult children, and some younger school age children - then there are the adopted children (of aunts, uncles or sisters who have died from AIDS), who are now incorporated into the family. They are not treated differently; they are simply called daughter or son. No one gets a free ride and laziness is not an option when food must be found to feed so many. Everyone is expected to contribute to the household through work, to bring home some income, or by doing household chores.



LIZZY BEACH

Kukhany'okusha Zion Church (KZC), our Global Ministries mission partner in Swaziland, is responding at this point of deepest need - knowing that prayer isn't enough to cure HIV, bring parents back from the grave, or make food magically appear on the table. Zionists have a long, and strong tradition of helping the needy, even though most of them are needy themselves. These people of faith do not waiver. They pray and pray and pray - and sing - for hours! and they work very hard to help others. They know - while a new church building would be nice - church is in the heart of the people. And even if (when) the church falls down, God will build it back up. These are a faithful and loving people, who give all they can to their families, communities, and churches. I know this - I have seen it.

Pray that our faith may be as vital, lively and giving as the church of Swaziland, and that they will sense the hope and care we send to them through our prayers.

Lizzy Beach, Global Ministries long-term volunteer, assists with youth development programming and sustainability with the Kukhany'okusha Cares for Children Project (KCCP), a project of Kukhany'Okusha Zion Church in Swaziland.



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

May 2012—Pastoral Thoughts

I've never met Jamaldeen Karim. But Peggy Cross has, and her family has, and Laura Butler has. Karim is an 18-year-old student living in Tamale, Ghana, and he's the sole support of his ailing grandmother and his two much-younger siblings.

What a life he's lived already! Living in a leaky hut, where his grandmother had to lie on a straw mat and be carried out to a neighbor's hut every time it rained. Walking miles and miles to town, to carry bags of cornmeal home for his family and his neighbors, and earning a few coins for doing it. Trying to go to school, and—once in awhile, to get to the internet café.

Karim friended Peggy on Facebook one day. That's how anyone in Elkhart knows about him. Now, I know what you're thinking. So did Peggy and her family. But they were able to make contact with the local schoolmaster and learn that his is a true story. So, since then, they've talked on Skype, built a true friendship, and worked to scrape up financial support for Karim and his family.

So far, they've been able to move to a small apartment where the rain doesn't come in and his grandmother can lie on a real mattress. She says she can get up and around a little now, since she rests more comfortably the rest of the time.

Karim was hit by a motorcycle a couple of months ago, and had a head injury and an arm injury. The motorcycle rider was killed. It was a very tough, and sad, time. But because of the support of a few people on the other side of the world, he's on the mend and back in school.

Some people say they'd rather not give money to organizations, because of the overhead—and how can you trust them, anyway. Sometimes the same people say they'd rather not give money to individuals, because what if they make bad decisions? I say God has done something very special through the internet, through Karim, and through Peggy and her family. Laura, our long-serving, and recently-retired, World Outreach Chair, agrees enthusiastically. Please pray, and please help this family, who are now our friends far away.

Christ is Risen,
Anne

June Birthdays

- 02 Michelle Anderson
- 07 Jessica Voshell
- 08 Sandra Parmenter
- 10 Hunter Hykes
- 11 Randy Sorenson
Amy Finchum
Hannah Oldham
- 12 Hollis Scott
- 14 Julie Morris-Parisho
- 18 Krista Van Gorp
- 19 Elizabeth Peterson
- 20 Dave Anderson
- 24 Michelle Sledge
- 28 Aimy Cory
Kenneth Sledge
John Ralls
- 29 Tara Owen

July Birthdays

- 02 Timothy Goforth, Jr.
- 04 Keith Batson
Kristin Van Gorp
- 05 Rachel Hall
- 06 Chad Mathis
- 08 Ellie Owen
- 11 Jill Myers
Lisa Spratt
Mike Luke
Julietta Cory
- 13 Ruth Anderson
- 14 Donna Lee*
Tom Cory
- 14 Dustin Ralls
- 16 Melody Hannagan
- 18 David Ralls
- 19 Dale Owen
- 21 Thomas Scott
- 23 Dave Mathis
Carren Voshell
Chandler Parsons
- 24 Gayle Adams
Timothy Cory
Jeanne Williams
- 26 Lori Grismore
Sarah Luke Enos

July Birthdays, cont.

- 26 Ben Hall
- 28 Jessica Cory
Danielle Albaugh
Karen Kaltenheuser
Maxine Pierce
- 30 Marty Bussanmas
Carley Snyder

August Birthdays

- 01 Jami Edler
- 02 Douglass Cartwright
- 03 Ned Cory
- 04 Lester Morris
- 05 Aimee Grismore
Teresa Kaltenheuser
- 06 Penny Howard
- 07 Jim Mathis
- 08 Kristi Blair Balentine
- 10 David Passmore
Rebecca Lahai
- 12 Wrigley Reynolds
- 13 Brian Ault
- 16 Aaron Reinke
- 17 Lanette McHone
- 18 Rachel Owen
- 20 Laura Thomas
Riley Owen
- 22 Sherri Sorenson
- 23 Brody Caswell
- 24 Anna Edwards
- 25 Bekah Ward
- 27 Zach Brown
- 30 Eric Hall
Michelle Brown
- 31 Janet Albaugh

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P.O. Box 97
Elkhart, IA 50073
(5125) 367-5125

Church Staff

Ministers: The Congregation
Pastor: Rev. Anne E. Gregory
Board Chair: Dave Kalsem
Church Sec.: Mary Jo Ward
Pianists: Brenda Dobson
Robin Luke
Organist: Sharon Payne

"Sharing Our Faith and God's Love"

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