



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

**August-September Newsletter**

252 N.W. Washington Ave.

P.O. Box 97

Elkhart, Iowa 50073

515.367.5125

[www.elkhart-christianchurch.com](http://www.elkhart-christianchurch.com)

## Come and Worship

Chancel Choir: 8:00 am - September through May

Sunday School: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Labor Day until last Sunday before  
Memorial Day

Gathering: 9:15 am-Sunday School Classes:9:45 am

Worship Service 9:30 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>
7/08	36	\$ 1,088.14	
7/15	50	1,468.00	
7/22	36	1,250.13	
7/29	52	1,257.11	
8/05	50	1,658.93	
8/12	41	5,587.49	
8/19	40	1,199.92	
8/26	45	1,230.88	

Christmas Offering: \$ 90.00

Week of Compassion: \$ 45.00

Pentecost: \$ 45.00

World Outreach \$ 140.00

## 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](mailto: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>**

## August-September 2012— Pastoral Thoughts ECC—Citizens of the World

**The Tom Albaugh ear of corn has gone viral!** In a recent issue of the Des Moines Register, a picture was shown on the op-ed page of a drought-affected ear of corn, from “the **Tom Albaugh** farm near Ankeny, Iowa.” Maybe not something we want to be known for, except that a large portion of the whole country is affected this year.

For you non-techies out there, “viral” means that something has been put on the internet, and then is seen popping up all over the internet.

I was reading a worldwide news website that I go to often, and at the top, where there are a number of small pictures, I saw an ear of corn that looked mighty familiar. (I’m glad to say that I must be learning more and more about Iowa and farming, if I can recognize an ear of corn.) Sure enough, in an article about drought throughout the U.S., it was a picture of the Albaugh ear of corn.

In another recent issue of the paper, there was a picture of the **Wartburg twins**, Janis and Joyce (Romick), taking a bite out of either end of the same hotdog at the Iowa State Fair. This picture appeared 50 years to the day after a picture of the same pose appeared on the front page of the paper. Same girls, same pose, different hotdog.

In another recent issue, Elkhart Christian church was mentioned in an article about the daily hymn sing at the State Fair, something Disciples churches in our region have sponsored for many years. I had the privilege of helping to lead the singing one of those days, and a reporter happened to be present. He put my name and yours in the paper.

So. We may think we come from a small town, or small towns, in a quiet state in the heartland, but we are connected with the larger world more and more. It reminds me of the spiritual, “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands.” And we have more of a part to play than we even realized.

Blessings,  
Anne

## Changes to Church Landscape

ECC will be getting a specially-designed cross on our front lawn—something for which a donation was given a long time ago. By the time you read this, we will be minus some trees on the front lawn—and the Board did receive permission from the families who had memorial connections with those trees. Yes, there will be some grief over losing them, but there is also a long-range plan for what will come. That plan includes changes to the church sign, so that it will be more sturdy and also more visible to passing traffic. It will likely be moved to a different part of the front property.

If you have questions, please ask a Board member, or please know that you're welcome to attend any Board meeting. The Board's new schedule is to meet at 11:00 a.m. on the second Sunday of the month.

## Flu Shot!

Elkhart Christian Church will be hosting a flu shot this year. Stop by after services on Sunday, September 30 and get yours. They will be giving the shots from 11:00am-12:30 pm.

## Annual Fall Dinner and Bazaar

This year's Harvest Dinner and Bazaar will be held on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. The Bazaar, which will include a Bake Sale and White Elephant Sale, will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 2 or 3 p.m., and the dinner will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with a menu of roast beef, mashed potatoes, vegetables, salad, and pie. As always, Christian Women's Fellowship members will be making donations or making a pie and helping in numerous ways, and **Craig Ellyson** will be offering his annual shoe-shine service. This year, all ECC participants are being encouraged to help, including the men and the youth, and you'll be hearing more about that.

Already, a good number are signed up to work together, with **Sue Owen's** leadership on the dinner, **Barb O'Neel's** leadership on the bazaar, and **Connie Carney's** on the White Elephant Sale. **Cathy Handley** and **Mary Campbell** have already offered leadership through a **Night of Fellowship and Craftiness**, held in August, where many gathered and worked on craft projects that were already begun for us by Cathy's expert friends.

Remind your friends and neighbors! This is some of the best roast beef (and potatoes. And pie.) you've ever tasted (but veteran attendees know that).

The quilt this year is a “**9 Patch Jewel Tone**” pattern, and has been made by Jean Bean. Jean has made the annual quilt for a number of years now.

There will also be a drawing for a **box of beef** from Carney Family Farms.

Donations are \$1.00 for each quilt ticket and each beef ticket, and the drawing will be made the day of the dinner. You need not be present to attend.

Note: Bring your White Elephants to the church by October 7, and please put price tags on everything ahead of time.

### **Choirs Begin Again**

Both the Chancel Choir and the Joyful Noise Chime Choir will be starting rehearsals on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Chancel Choir will meet at 8:00 a.m. on Sundays, as in the past, unless otherwise announced. Things will seem a little different, since the worship services are now starting at 9:30 a.m., rather than 10:30. New members are welcome!

The Chime Choir will continue to meet at 4:00 p.m. on Sundays, unless otherwise announced. And new members are welcome there, as well!

### ***Update from Disciples Together Express:***

#### **Missionaries Returning from China—Visiting YOU!**

Board of Global Ministries Missionaries Tom & Lynnea Morse arrived home from China. They will be in the Upper Midwest Region September 3-23. And they want to meet You!

Below are stops on their visit near us where you can meet them and hear them speak. To see their full itinerary, go to the Regional website: [www.uppermidwestcc.org](http://www.uppermidwestcc.org) or contact the Regional Office: [cddumw@gmail.com](mailto:cddumw@gmail.com) or 515-255-3168. What a great way to be Disciples Together! Go hear our missionaries and visit with them & other congregations!

Tuesday Sept. 4, 10:00 am **Christian Conference Center, Newton**—Coffee time and program from Morses

Thursday Sept. 13, 7:00 pm **FCC, Nevada**—light refreshments and program

Saturday Sept. 22, 2:00 pm **Indianola Heights CC, Des Moines**—program and fellowship time

## **Week of Compassion Update—A Fair Trade Pilgrimage**

*In July, Amy Kay Pavlovich represented Week of Compassion as part of an Equal Exchange delegation to Los Colinas Coffee Cooperative and other important partners in El Salvador. Equal Exchange is a Fair-Trade partner of Week of Compassion through the [Disciples Coffee Project](#). **Following a devastating storm that dumped a year's worth of rain on Central America in eleven days in October 2011, the co-op lost about 15% of their coffee crop and all of their corn and beans.** The road they used to ship their coffee out was also washed out by the storm. Along with other interfaith partners, Week of Compassion provided a grant to provide emergency food aid, and help the co-op rebuild the road.*

*Amy Kay is an ordained Disciples Minister who owns Just Good Trade, a Fair Trade store in Jacksonville, IL. She also serves as Chaplain at MacMurray College. Amy Kay grew up in a Kansas farm family and served two churches in Missouri for 11 years before moving to Illinois. She and her husband Dane have been married 16 years and love their two boys: Sebastian (7) and Atticus (4).*

*Amy reflects on her trip in this week's update:*

Dearest Disciples Friends -

It is my pleasure to return greetings to you from the people of El Salvador!

Last month, I represented Week of Compassion as part of a delegation of 13 people made up of Equal Exchange staff and representatives from other partner denominations. We not only learned about the history of the country and its current political situation, we were graciously invited to live with farmers in the Las Colinas cooperative for three and a half days. As a Disciples minister and Fair Trade store owner, I am so proud to have participated in this journey. My time in El Salvador has given me hope for developing deeper partnerships as we stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world.

We heard first-hand about the difficulties endured by the Los Colinas Coffee Cooperative over years of oppression and forced coffee labor. We heard of their lives through 1980-1992 when the country was broken by a terrible Civil War. We heard of their appreciation for Week of Compassion, Catholic Relief Services, and a Fair Trade market built in partnership with Equal Exchange. **They were able to accomplish so much with their recent WoC grant!** Roads were rebuilt (an extremely difficult process), water ways made better and a wall was improved. For more details about Los Colinas' recovery effort, funded by the grant from Week of Compassion and other members of the Equal Exchange Interfaith Coffee Project, please visit my [blog](#).

Thanks to some well-placed aid and all of the cooperative's hard work and perseverance, they now have high hopes and dreams for their future. **Members want their children to go to high school and maybe even college someday.** They want better care for their water sources so that there is always good water for their homes and coffee harvesting. They want to grow their relationships with coffee buyers so future generations will have access to fair markets. Their dreams moved each of us in the delegation.

After full days with the delegation, "Christians for Peace in El Salvador" (CRISPAZ), the organization that accompanied our group, hosted the Unitarian Universalist representative and me for two days of extended learning about artist cooperatives. We visited fortunate, prosperous groups that thrived even through the country's Civil War, as well as other groups who needed to seek safety as refugees during those years. When those displaced by the fighting returned, no homes or churches remained. Everything had been leveled from extensive bombing. Even now, as their communities have slowly rebuilt, these groups of talented and motivated artists are without resources or market access. **In one instance, nine women share one embroidery hoop because that is all they can afford.** They have one partially working sewing machine. My heart was just broken as we heard from these groups without so much but with great skill and desire. They brought to life what Amy has reminded me many times: despite the difficulties we encounter, we carry on. We must.

As a movement of Disciples, we will stand with all of God's people and work toward wholeness together. We will reach out to those who have been told and shown that they are expendable through war and economic oppression. We will respect one another and live on in such a way that God's peace can be known on earth as it is in heaven.

May it be so! -  
Amy Kay Pavlovich

For more information about the Disciples Coffee Project, follow this link: [www.equalexchange.coop/doc/](http://www.equalexchange.coop/doc/)

### **Blood Drive Update**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the blood drive! Arlene Anderson, Jacki Ausman, Karen Bellis, Roger Bender, Dawn Beukema, Betty Byers, Sara Cornelius, Dona Cowman, Peggy Cross, Bill & Sharon Dunbar, Andrea Fisher, Delores Gamble, Cynthia Goodrich, Anne Gregory, Charles Halligan, Lorrie Hanlon, Elizabeth Hess, James Hudson, Jared Hummel, Sandra Hunter, Asa Jacobe, Douglas Jones, Lisa & Tim Kautza, Michael Lenz, Barb Liske, Rita McClain, Jack McDermott, Patricia Nelson, Kathy Petersen, Lisa Pritchard, Brenda Reid, Peter Relyea, Dawn Reynolds, David Schilling, Charlotte Sears, Bridget Smith, Karen & Ron Stafford, Jessica & Susan Stillmunkes, Mary Thomas, Mary Jo Ward, Jeffrey Way, and Joshua Williams. A special thanks to the first time donors, Ashley Ausman and Andrea Dyer.

Our community donated 41 units, including two first time donor and seven double red cell donors! Only through committed and generous volunteers like you can we continue to provide the much needed blood and blood products for hospital patients in Iowa. Thank you for being a partner in saving 123 lives!! It couldn't be a success without you.

Our next blood drive is scheduled for October 25, 2012, 3:00 to 7:00p.m. in the Social Hall at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Please consider joining us. For more information or to sign up, contact Tim and Lisa Kautza at 515-964-7687 or kautza@netins.net.

### **Wedding Shower**

Women of the Church are invited to a bridal shower honoring Sadie Parker, fiancée of Derek Carney, on Sunday, September 16 from 2:00-4:00 pm at the church. Please pick up a recipe card, fill it out with your favorite recipe and bring it with you to the shower. Please RSVP to Brenda Dobson at 367-4344 by Sunday, September 9. Sadie and Derek are registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond and Target.

### ***Sixth Ice Cream Social – 2012***

Elkhart Christian Church was a buzz of activity on June 23. As shoppers checked out the garage sale at the church and maybe purchased and ate their lunch while there, the once-a-year ice cream factory churned up in the kitchen to make the ice cream to be served at our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Ice Cream Social held that evening. The seasoned team of Jim Mathis, Bill McLean, Paul Reinke, and Dave Kalsem (and Barb tried to help) cranked out around 14 gallon of ice cream in an amazing amount of time!

The ice cream was oh so very good and went well with any of the delicious desserts so generously made and donated by church members!

Fellowship Hall was beautifully decorated thanks to the talents of MaryAnn Mathis and her helpers, her sister Barb and friend Madeline. They provided activities for children to color and/or play games on each table and that was a superb idea and very well received! The decorations would certainly say to someone that there was ice cream involved in the evening's activities!

Amanda Passmore certainly stepped up to provide balloon animals for the children during the day and at the social. She did a wonderful job and we found she has one more talent!!

The Gospel Quartet, Higher Power, entertained and blessed all in attendance with their wonderful music! It worked out quite well having them perform in the sanctuary.

A "Thank You" needs to be extended to all who helped with this event in any way, especially to:

- the guys who made the ice cream (and or provided ice cream makers)
- those who made cash donations
- all who donated desserts
- everyone who helped in the kitchen
- all who helped with advertising by hanging flyers and mentioning the social on Facebook!
- to the CWF ladies who made lunch available to the ice cream makers
- a huge one to Carl Van Gorp who once again donated all of the ice
- and to all who attended and supported this event!!

Dahl's in Ankeny gave us the ice-cream mix at their cost minus another 10%; the manager wanted to totally donate it but he would have had problems with the corporate office. We appreciate that they did as much as they could. We were able to make some money for the church.

We need your input about this being a continuing event for next year. If you have ideas or comments please let me know. We are always looking for good, inexpensive musical talent! Again, thanks to all who contributed to making the Ice Cream Social a fun event.

*Barb Kalsem, Chair,*  
*Membership/Evangelism Committee*

## September Birthdays

- 01 Tom Albaugh
- 02 Jill Dobson
- 03 Judy Franzen
- 04 Wilma Scott
  - Douglas Praska
  - Johnathan Ralls
  - Shanda Owen
- 05 Connie Carney
- 06 Mattison Hill
- 08 Sue Owen
  - Chris Scott
- 09 Gary Cory
- 11 Kelsey Caswell
  - Bob Reinertson
- 12 Stephanie Ault Reynolds
  - Alice Struthers
  - Steve Romick
- 13 Brody Batson
- 14 Matt Elmore
  - Taber Jamison
- 15 Joyce Romick
  - Jan Wilson
- 16 Diane McHone
  - Dennis Miller
- 17 Roger Cory
- 20 Mark Parmenter
  - Brent Sorenson
  - Justin Voshell
- 21 Barb O'Neel
  - Dan Higginbottom
  - Logan Albaugh
  - Norman Higginbottom
- 22 Bill Mason
  - Jacob Oldham
- 23 Craig Ellyson
- 24 Mary Cory
- 25 Marti Birchmier

- 25 Marci Long
  - Kyle Cory
  - Ginger Swenson
- 29 Dick Hudson

## October Birthdays

- 02 Alan Brazelton
  - Scott Durrell
  - Julie Owen
- 03 Kathy Warrington
  - Steve Snyder
- 05 Nancy Owen
  - Nathan Dobson
  - Linda Brazelton
- 07 Jim Elmore
  - Don Swartout
- 08 Steve Albaugh
- 09 Galen Freel
  - Jay Mathis
  - Renee Lamfers
  - Dustin Bussanmas
  - Kalven Owen
- 10 Tony Thompson
  - Ronald Cory
- 12 Gavin Cory
- 13 Brandon Cory
  - Kristina Smith
- 14 Jacob Van Gorp
- 15 David Spratt
  - Eric Bean
- 16 Andy Hall
- 18 Lane Hill
- 20 Gloria Elmore
- 22 Bill McLean
  - Donna Spratt
  - Brent Bean
  - Sharon Reinertson
- 24 Mike Olesen
- 25 Barb Angstead
- 26 Ashley Owen
- 27 Richard Higginbottom
- 29 Maxine Owen

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252 N. W. Washington  
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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