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Tulare United Church
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Pastor's Reflections

I don't remember the actual day this picture was taken but I do remember where it was taken—Placerville Church Camp. I also remember the T-shirt I had on. It says 'Happiness is Girl's Athletics.' In the mid 1970's when I was in high school., girl's basketball was just starting in area schools due to Title IX and I was happy to be part of the basketball and track teams. I may be a bit delusional but I like to think I was a "jock" (I know some of you are laughing out loud at this point.) Anyway, the reason I bring this up is because this picture puts things in perspective for me. I'm 50 now and no longer able to play basketball competitively or run for more than a few paces but my experi-

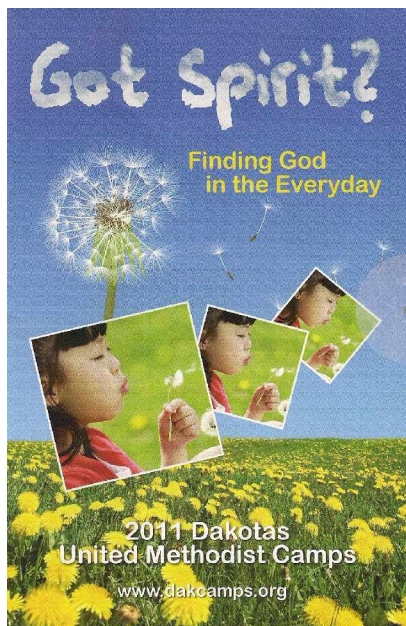


ence at church camp is a daily part of my life. As youth (and maybe some adults) we start to think that sports are more important than church... and society forces us to set our priorities by scheduling sports and other events on Sundays and Wednesday nights. During the summer kids are encouraged to get jobs, play in sports leagues and go to sports camps. None of those things are bad until they start to become more important than building your relationship with

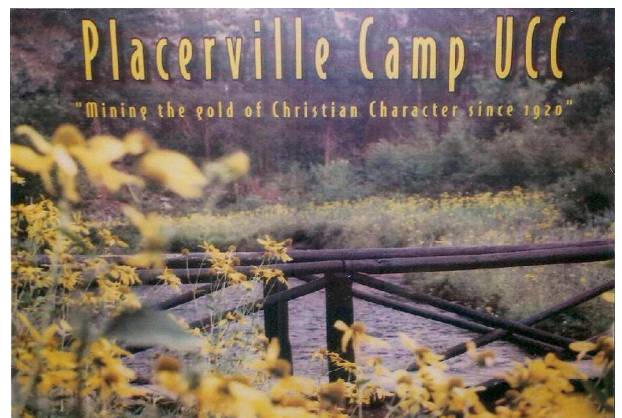
Jesus Christ. When *anything* - sports, 4-H, jobs, social activities, vacations - gets in the way of worship, mission, youth groups and church attendance, I think it's time to take a look at what is long lasting in life. Our physical bodies give out, we move from our hometowns, our hobbies change but our faith in God is eternal.

This summer—as you're planning your time and your financial resources—remember that church camp is an experience that has life long impact. My jump shot has lost its jump, the T-shirt is full of holes but the solid foundation that church camp gave to my life will last through all the seasons.

Peace, Pastor Lorah



Sign up now for church camp! Applications are available in the entryway. Talk to your friends and invite them to go also. TUC and both the UMC and UCC have financial assistance available. There are camps for golfers, family, martial arts, women (with babysitters for little ones), artists, water enthusiasts, hikers, basketball players, and photographers. Church camp is for everyone of all ages. "Got Spirit?" Feel it at church camp.



**TUC BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2011**

The TUC Board met in the Fellowship Hall at 7 PM. Those present: Erma Ames, Ivan Teveldal, Dan Bottum, Eric Knock, Judy Wagner, and Pastor Lorah Houser Jankord. Absent: Diana Erickson and Tasha Hull. Pastor Lorah opened the meeting with prayer, and Chairman Eric presided over the meeting. The minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer’s report for January were reviewed. Motion by Erma, seconded by Ivan to accept both reports, motion carried.

Old Business: The recent annual meeting was discussed. It went well, and Dan Bottum has assumed his position on the board. Pastor Lorah continues to work on the membership list. She announced that the Tulara Economic Development Committee has received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for repairs to be done on Salem Church. The community will need to provide matching funds, probably in the form of labor, to use this grant.

New Business: Pastor Lorah has received several inquiries from companies wishing to publish a church directory for our congregation. We decided to put some information in the upcoming newsletter to see if people are interested. The last one done at TUC was in 2005.

Tasha Hull has agreed to investigate possible mission projects for our church. They could involve all ages of the congregation, and probably would be within the state of SD. On March 13 there will be a Praise Band worship service. The Spring Fever Fair will be held on April 9, with Deb Kopplin in charge of table sales, and Mary Buchholz in charge of lunch. Both of these projects are designated fundraisers for missions.

Pastor Lorah announced Lent begins on March 9. There will be a light supper served prior to each Wednesday night service during Lent, by the TUC Women and the Youth Groups. Easter will be on April 24 with the Jr. Youth serving breakfast.

We discussed the breakdown of giving to the church by family units, as published in the last newsletter. There will be “Boundaries Training” on April 29 & 30 in Chamberlain. Ivan was asked if he could make a coat tree to hang the “Kid’s Bags” on in the entryway. We discussed community outreach, and Erma volunteered to help and see if some others would help assist Pastor Lorah.

Coming Events: Bible Study on Thursdays at 1:30 PM, Feb 12-baby shower for Adelynne Ihnen, Feb 13-coffee & rolls by Sr. Youth. Feb 14-SIS meets. Feb 15-Economic Development Committee meets. Feb 16-Jr. Youth. Feb 20-Communion. Feb 23-Jr Youth. Feb 27-Camp Sunday with coffee & rolls by Junior Youth Mar 9-TUC Board meets following Lenten Service. Mar 21 to 25-Pastor Lorah will be on vacation. No further business, motion by Dan, seconded by Ivan, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

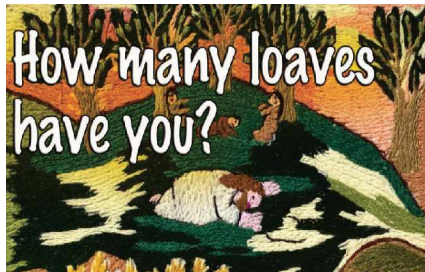
Judy Wagner, Sec.

If you are assigned to usher, video record or candle light and can not be there that Sunday please find someone to switch with you and take your place and let the church office (596-4156) know so we can correct the bulletin. Thank you. The last three Sundays we’ve had to find ushers at the last minute... Part of membership is participation.

March Musicians	
March 6	Diane Tipton
March 13	Totally His
March 20	Karla Schultz
March 27	Tammy Nowell

March Ushers	
March 6	George & Jean Semmler
March 13	Dan & Barb Bottum
March 20	Nick Kopplin & Dillon Koester
March 27	Chad & Kristie Binger

The World Day of Prayer Committee in Chile sees the theme question, "How Many Loaves Have You?", as an invitation to enter a process that draws us into the Bible, into the context of Chile, and into the real situations of our lives and communities. This year's Bible studies come from 1 Kings 17: 8-16 and Mark 6: 30-44. The widow of Zarephath story in 1 Kings 17, when a



woman's tiny amount of oil and flour do not run out even during a severe famine, has special meaning for Chile and its history scarred by times of extreme exploitation. In four stories told in the service, the women describe

critical devastating times when people chose to resist evil by forming community. Feel encouraged to consider times in your country or community when evil was overcome by people acting together for the common good.

We are ready now to turn to the Gospel of Mark 6:30-44, where the crowds listening to Jesus are hungry. The disciples advise Jesus to "send them away ... so that they may ... buy something for themselves to eat." Jesus responds by telling the disciples, "You give them something to eat." It would seem to the disciples that Jesus does not fully understand the situation. Even if they had the day's wages of 200 men, they could not buy enough bread for this crowd. Nonetheless, Jesus maintains his position that they give them something to eat. "How many loaves have you? Go and see." The search uncovers five loaves of bread and two fish. This amount among so many people is as meager as the flour and oil available to the widow of Zarephath. It is important for us to seek out a deeper level of understanding by reflecting on the mystery of the widow's oil and flour that did not run out and the mystery of the feeding of the five thousand.

During this year's service, we are asked to form small groups and to answer the question:

*How many loaves have you? What are your gifts?
What can you share?*

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be observed at the Wessington First Presbyterian Church on March 4 at 2:00pm.

Quilt Class Machine Appliqué Spring Banner

Saturday, March 12th

8:30 am

Tulare United Church

\$20 Registration Fee

Contact Sheryl Kloss

to Register

605-460-1023

Scrapbookers

Sunday * March 13 * 12:00-?

Fellowship Hall

will be available for you to use
to organize, cut, paste, tape
and make those

scrap book
pages.

Creative
Memories
supplies will
be available .



.....
: New in the Library...*Book of Angels* by
: Sylvia Browne.
: The library is located in the same room as the
: copier on the north side of Fellowship Hall.
: Stop in and see our DVD's, CD's, books and
: videos. All are available for your use.
:

March Candlelighters

March 6 Coby Stoner & Cassidy Johnson

March 13 Trajan Fliehe & Zach Binger

March 20 Ally Binger & Dawsyn Otto

March 27 Wyatt Brooker & Kennedy Tomsha

March Video Recorders

March 6 Kyle Kohnen

March 13 Cooper Gordon

March 20 Jacob Roeber

March 27 John Schultz

**In case of
inclement
weather please
check the web
site for service
and activity
cancellation.**

Pastor Lorah and Marilyn Perry have been coordinating a Financial Peace University Class every Sunday afternoon. The class is taught by Dave Ramsey on DVD. Here's what Dave says about **Tithing and Giving**.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Save, Spend, and Give - my big three principles. Most people forget about the giving part because they think I only scream "Save, save, save!"

Giving liberates the soul of the giver. You never walk away feeling badly. Whether through a tithe, charitable contribution, or gift to a friend in need, give away at least some of your money. Not only does it generate good feelings, but it generates contentment.

Remember, no one has ever become poor by giving.

Is it acceptable to pause tithing in tough financial times?

- The Bible does not mention anything about "pausing" tithing. Neither does it say that we will go to Hell if we do not tithe. The tithe, which is a scriptural mandate, was not instituted for God's benefit because He already has all the money He needs. He does not need our money.

So why does He ask us to give 10% to Him? **Tithing was created for our benefit.** It is to teach us how to keep God first in our lives and how to be unselfish people. Unselfish people make better husbands, wives, friends, relatives, employees, and employers. God is trying to teach us how to prosper over time.

Many people have observed that after they stopped tithing, their finances seemed to get worse. In the Book of Malachi, God promises that if you do not rob Him of your tithing, He will rebuke your devourers and protect you.

If you cannot live off 90% of your income, then you cannot live off 100%. It does not require a miracle for you to get through the month. I think that if you sit down and look at your budget, you will see that you can make it while giving at least 10%. Read the Bible and take from it what you will, and if you tithe, **do it out of love for God, not guilt.**

I do not beat people up for not tithing because Jesus certainly did not, but let me encourage you to keep tithing.

Is it right to count my church tithes on my tax returns?

- You gave the money to the church. You were biblically obedient in that. The Bible also tells us to be good managers of our money. It does not diminish the sanctity of your gift to take the tax deduction. It is a way to manage the rest of the money. **Take the deduction.** Later when you get your income tax refund, remember that this is money that you've already tithed, although you're certainly welcome to devote some or all of it back to the Lord as additional thanks for His blessings.

I'm making more money now. How should I increase my giving above the tithe?

- When things are going well, it's easy to accidentally spend all the extra income, so I would recommend that you budget what to do with it. For example, Sharon and I set up a budget based on my salary. This budget includes giving, spending, and saving - just as I advise others to do. Then, everything else we make is divided among extra giving, extra investing, and some blow money.

I received this in an email... What do you young couples/families think?

"It would be fun for young families to have a family night. We used to do that when I was a kid at Crandon Settlement. We met at the church and sang, had talent shows, played games. I know Bonilla still does that. Each month a family is in charge and they plan the activity and food if they want to. They go sledding, roller skating, bowling, have meals, like when you pick things off of a menu with weird names and you end up getting spaghetti with only a toothpick to eat it with. (You know that kind of fun stuff). They go caroling, could watch a movie and it is always a family affair. That is something I think that maybe the young families we see in church would enjoy doing. No babysitters needed, it's for families. Maybe a speaker once in awhile on finances or child development. I don't know - I just think we need to do something for the young families we do see in church."

You can now keep up with **Tulare United Church** through Facebook, Twitter, our web site (www.tulareunitedchurch.com), the sign in front of the church, the weekly bulletins, the monthly newsletter, by calling 596-4156, by talking to your neighbors, the Main Street sign in Tulare, or by coming to church!



Thank You

TO: the family that donated the beef. Of the seven boxes of meat, six have been given out with the help of the Good Samaritan Center. Many families that have not had good meat in many months

enjoyed the blessing that this gift provided!

TO: the couple that donated the Eden Pure heater for the church. Pastor Lorah's office and the front Sunday School room are now nice and warm.

TO: Clayton & Sheryl Kloss for the pictures, plaques and cross for the Sunday School rooms. They are sure to inspire all who use the rooms.

Thank you all for your generosity.



April 9, 2011
Spring Fever Fair
 Food, Vendors, Crafts
 In TUC Fellowship Hall
 Tell your Friends!

Ashley Binger & Kristen Binger packaging food at "Kids Against Hunger". The Senior Youth worked with Holly Hoffman, from Eureka who was recently on



THANK YOU!
 Tulare United Church - UCC & UMC
 raised:
\$259 and 45 non-perishables

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need.
 Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING
 tackindesigner.org
 February 6, 2011

Tracy Bender
 Tracy Bender
 President and CEO
 Souper Bowl of Caring

Over 9.1 million dollars were raised to "tackle hunger" by almost 11,000 groups on "Souper Bowl of Caring" Sunday. Our Senior Youth Group kidnapped Pastor Lorah and wouldn't release her to lead the service until a suitable ransom (offering) had been made. The financial offering they collected was split between "Kids Against Hunger" and the Good Samaritan Center. All soup and other food was given to the Good Samaritan Center. Thank You! from the Senior Youth Group.

Tulare United Church
P.O. Box 109
Tulare, SD 57476-0109

March Sundays at TUC

March 6 Transfiguration Sunday

8:45 Sunday School
10:00 Worship with Communion and Ray
Ernster providing Special Music

March 13 (set clocks ahead)

8:45 Sunday School
9:30 Coffee & Rolls hosted by Senior Youth
10:00 Worship with Totally His

March 20

8:45 Sunday School
10:00 Worship with Communion

March 27

8:45 Sunday School
10:00 Worship with Penny Ihnen & Onnilee
Siebrecht providing Special Music
Youth Bells Ring and Sunday School
Sings

Tulare United Church is affiliated equally with both the United Meth-
odist Church and United Church of Christ denominations. We are a
“united” and “uniting” church. All are welcome here!



Tulare United Church
Established: 1997
Church Building
Dedicated: 1999