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



## **Pastor's Reflections**

Are you ready? I think I am... although (God willing) I'd like a few more years. My *Five Wishes* is in the lock-box and my notes for the service are there too. I asked *Totally His* to learn the song *Always There* and told some of the kitchen crew I want pizza for the lunch. This past week I've been part of six funeral services, either as a mourner or as an officiant. As I listened to the Pastor or prepared for the service, I once again thought about how much

easier it is on the family if each of us make our beliefs and wishes known. So I'm using my Pastor's Reflection Column this month to urge you to **get ready**. Funerals remind us of our human condition and the brevity of our lives on earth but that being said - it is still hard to talk about death, especially our own. I urge you to talk to your Pastor, your children, your parents, a good friend and if you are unable to talk about your thoughts about your funeral or memorial service then at least jot down some notes - favorite songs and hymns, special scriptures or poems, even important memories

you want shared. *Five Wishes* is a tool to start talking about end of life decisions and is a gift you can give your family so that they have less decisions to make as they grieve. The Hitchcock Coalition on Aging and Elderly will present a *Five Wishes* workshop on September 18 at 7:00pm at the Hitchcock UMC. Call Darlys Kloss by 9/10 to register for this workshop. Followers of Christ - eternity with God awaits so use your time now to **get ready**.

*Peace,*  
*Pastor Lorah*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

It's an exciting time of year at Tulare United Church as Sunday School starts on 9-11-11 at 8:45 am. Teachers are ready, classrooms have been repainted and all we need now are the students. All 3 year olds to 12th graders are welcome so if you have grandchildren or neighbors who would like to attend please invite them even if they are not members. Becky Brooker is the Sunday School Superintendent and she'd appreciate a call about new students so we can have enough material on hand. Junior Youth Group and Senior Youth Group are also gearing up for the year and meeting times will be announced soon.

**OCTOBER 2, 2011**

**OCTOBER FEST**

**AT**

**TULARE UNITED CHURCH**

**5:00-7:00**

**GRILLED BRAT SANDWICH  
(FROM TULARE COUNTRY MEATS)  
WITH SAUERKRAUT AND  
OTHER TOPPINGS**

**POTATO CHIPS  
HOMEMADE PICKLES  
DESSERT**

**SUGGESTED DONATION \$5.00**

**"TOTALLY HIS" AND OTHER  
MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT**

**TUC BOARD MEETING  
AUGUST 17, 2011**

The TUC Board met in the Fellowship Hall at 8 PM. Those present: Dan Bottum, Ivan Teveldal, Erma Ames, Judy Wagner, and Pastor Lorah Houser Jankord. Absent: Eric Knock, Tasha Hull, and Diana Erickson. Pastor Lorah opened the meeting with prayer. The secretary presided over the meeting in the absence of Eric and Tasha. The minutes of the previous meeting and the treasurer’s report for July were reviewed. Motion by Dan, seconded by Erma, to approve both, motion carried.

Old Business: We discussed having a church directory made this fall/winter. A committee of Sandi McNeill, Doreen Binger, Dar Buchholz, and Dawn Woodward was appointed to investigate further and make suggestions to the board on how to proceed. We held a successful rummage sale in July, with leftover rummage being distributed to the Good Samaritan Center in Redfield, Safe Harbor in Aberdeen, and to the Ponca Creek UCC.

Ivan looked at the refrigerator in the parsonage, it is dripping water on the floor. He suggested we call Karl’s to have it taken care of. We discussed sponsoring a farewell for Barry and Diana Erickson as they will be moving to Salem. LaDean Stoner was appointed to fill the remainder of Diana’s term on the TUC Board.

New Business: Sunday School will begin on Sept. 11, a teacher is still needed for the preschool class. Becky Brooker is the Sunday School Superintendent. The Sunday School rooms and Fellowship Hall have been painted by Carl Sante & Jim Blaedorn, at a cost of \$295.84 plus paint. A projection screen will be ordered for the high school room. Donna Johnsen has been hard at work cleaning and “sprucing up” the church, so all will be ready for the new Sunday School year, so THANK YOU to Donna! An inquiry was made about having a nursery room available for preschool children during worship, after the children’s sermon was over. Parents would decide if they want their children to go there for care during the remainder of the church service. We will give the idea a try on a trial basis, talk to Karla Schultz if interested.

September 18 was set for a potluck dinner and general clean-up at the church. We will have the church and parsonage lawn sprayed this fall.

We discussed having an “Octoberfest” brat feed on Oct. 2 followed by a service by the Praise Band. Sheryl Kloss will be chairman of this committee and she will be calling others to assist her.

The UMC has a program called 50 Ways to Increase Worship Attendance. Board members received a copy and will be discussing it further at our next meeting.

Calendar of Coming Events: Aug 21-coffee & rolls, Communion. Aug 28-pulpit exchange with Pastor Tim Fugman. Aug 31-Brent Vernon concert @ TUC, SR Youth to provide refreshments after. Sept 7-Faith & Hope Circles meet. Sept 11-Sunday School begins, Cradle Roll. Sept 12-14 Pastor Lorah is at Placerville for Clergy Meeting. Sept 14-TUC Board meets at 8 PM.

Judy Wagner, Sec.

[www.tulareunitedchurch.com](http://www.tulareunitedchurch.com) for calendar of events

If you are unable to usher, video record or candle light when scheduled please find someone to take your place and let us know at the church office (596-4156) so we can correct the bulletin.

**September Musicians**

- September 4 Diane Tipton
- September 11 Tammy Nowell
- September 18 Tammy Nowell
- September 25 Karla Schultz

**Ushers For September**

- September 4 Tim & Jodi Jungwirth
- September 11 Dawn Woodward & Rich Jankord
- September 18 Dwight & Ann Bottum
- September 25 Eric & Roxanne Knock

*Welcome Guests... those who signed our guest book in August:*

- Crystal Mays, Dalton Roach, Bryana Roach and Mark Wedemann
- Shannon Williams
- Jeannine Anderson
- Rev. Tim & Donanne Fugman
- Marlie Vanden Borne and many others at the Brent Vernon Concert

*Thank you for being here and please come again.*

Christian Concert  
 September 25, 2011  
 Local Talent  
 At the Redfield HS Auditorium  
 Sponsored by RAMA

Congratulations to the 4-H members of Tulare United Church who participated in Achievement Days.  
 In Spink County – Cooper Binger, Bailey Binger, Ashlyn Otto and Shane Binger . Patrick Artz and Austin Binger were part of the Wilbur Ellis Farm Olympics Team that placed 2nd.  
 In Beadle County – Wyatt Brooker  
 Good Luck at the South Dakota State Fair

**TUC Women**  
**\* First Wednesday \* September 7 \***  
**Faith Circle will meet at 2:00**  
**Hope Circle will meet at 7:00**  
 Both Circle groups share a devotion or lesson and a light “lunch”. All women of the church are welcome to join in these times of fellowship and learning...just pick the one that works best for your schedule and come.



Thank you to Brent Vernon and Will for coming and sharing your music and testimony to God’s work in your life on August 31, 2011 . We were blessed by your presence.

September 18, 211  
 7:00 at  
 First Congregational UCC, Redfield  
**Missionary Couple to Present Program**  
 Rev. Douglas & Dr. Elizabeth Searles  
 Will give a presentation on their experiences in ministry to the Roma people (formerly known as gypsies) in Poland. There will be a free will offering which goes to Global Ministries.

**Candlelighters for September**

September 4 - ushers

September 11 Sean Domke & Wyatt Brooker

September 18 Danielle Nowell & Trajan Fliehe

September 25 Cassidy Johnson & Wyatt Johnson

**September Video Recorders**

Sept 4 volunteer

Sept 11 Cassie Bottum

Sept 18 Molly Koester

Sept 25 Ashley Binger

↓↓↓ This is a great program. Rich and I took it when we offered it in Redfield last winter and we highly recommend it. If you can't make it to these classes in Huron and you're interested in a class—talk to me and we can try and schedule it closer. *Pastor Lorah* ↓↓↓

## Financial Peace University

### The Great Recovery

Saturdays: 9:00 – 11:00 am at First UMC  
 Begins: September 10<sup>th</sup> – 13 Week course  
 Led by: Brian and Tonya Whitmore  
 Cost: \$90 for complete kit

The Great Recovery is a grassroots movement spread by people who are tired of looking to Washington for answers. The truth is that the government can't fix this economy. It'll be restored one family at a time, as each of us takes a stand to return to God and grandma's way of handling money.

Together, we'll bring this country back on track—one family, one church, one community at a time. Brian and Tonya Whitmore will lead Financial Peace University by Dave Ramsey on Saturday mornings beginning Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 11:00 with childcare provided.

Cost is \$90 for the kit which includes all materials needed- books, workbooks and cds of each lesson to listen to the message at home or in the car. Sign up for a class and get on track to financial security by calling the First United Methodist Church office at 352-8604 or signing up at the church in Huron.

To see short clip of Dave Ramsey talking about the Great Recovery go to: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWbWUWNA8YE&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWbWUWNA8YE&feature=player_embedded)



**Mabel Marzahn**

6-17-1912  
 To  
 8-26-2011

Blessed are the dead who die in Christ. "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deed follow them.  
 Revelation 14:13

### Divorced, Widowed, Separated Support Group

Beginning September 9, this 10-week program will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Huron.

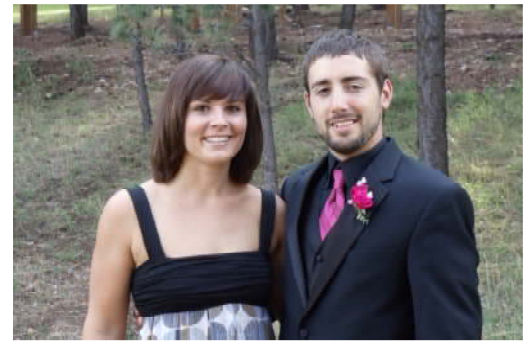
*Sometimes we wonder, "What did I do to deserve this?" or "Why did God have to do this to me?" Here is a wonderful explanation! A daughter is telling her Mother how everything is going wrong, she's failing algebra, her boyfriend broke up with her and her best friend is moving away. Meanwhile, her Mother is baking a cake and asks her daughter if she would like a snack, and the daughter says, "Absolutely Mom, I love your cake."  
 "Here, have some cooking oil," her Mother offers.  
 "Yuck" says her daughter.  
 "How about a couple raw eggs?" "Gross, Mom!"  
 "Would you like some flour then? Or maybe baking soda?"  
 "Mom, those are all yucky!"  
 To which the mother replies: "Yes, all those things seem bad all by themselves. But when they are put together in the right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake!"  
 God works the same way. Many times we wonder why He would let us go through such bad and difficult times. But God knows that when He puts these things all in His order, they always work for good! We just have to trust Him and, eventually, they will all make something wonderful!  
 God is crazy about you. He sends you flowers every spring and a sunrise every morning. Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen. He can live anywhere in the universe, and He chose your heart.*

★ **the Great RECOVERY** ★ IT STARTS WITH *you*

More Info: \_\_\_\_\_

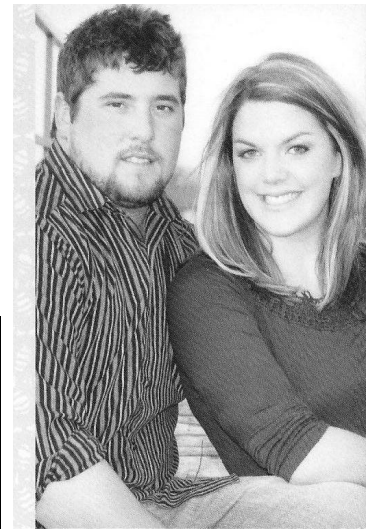
★ THE GREAT RECOVERY.com ★

Neighbors, co-workers, church family and friends came to Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, August 31, 2011 after the Brent Vernon Concert to say "see you later" to Barry and Diana Erickson. They have promised it is not "good-by" as they plan to be back in the area often. Their new address is: 341 W Washington Avenue, Salem, SD 57058. Barry and Diana have both served on the church board, been part of dinner theatres, Hope Circle, financially supported T.U.C., and been active in care and maintenance of the building. They will be missed!



Congratulations to Tyler Voorhees and Ashley Oldenkamp as they are married in Spearfish on September 17, 2011. Tyler has been a member here since his confirmation in May 1999 and he is the son of Janelle Domke and grandson of Dwayne and LaDean Stoner.

Members of Tulare United Church that get married receive a Couple Devotional Bible—New International Version. This gift from their church family is a way we encourage their Christian home.



**September 11, 2011—Last Day to bring supplies for  
Emergency Clean-Up Buckets  
and Health Care Kits.**

They will be assembled and taken to the Ingathering in Mitchell on Saturday, September 17, 2011. Lists of items still needed are in the entryway at Tulare United Church. 4 emergency buckets have already been taken to Pierre.

Monetary donations are also needed and the **Harvest Table Offering** on September 11 will be toward this cause.

Keep up with what's going on at the Hitchcock-Tulare Public School by registering for the "Listserv". There is a sign-up on the first page of the [www.hitchcock-tulare.k12.sd.us](http://www.hitchcock-tulare.k12.sd.us) web site. If you want more information please contact Jeff Clark.

We celebrate with Cody Stoner and Shelby Akin who were married September 2, 2011 in Sioux Falls. Cody is the son of Barb Stoner and Allen Stoner and grandson of Dwayne and LaDean Stoner. Cody joined Tulare United Church in 2000 when he was confirmed. May God bless your family.

The following article was an opinion piece in the *Aberdeen American News* and is reprinted with permission from the writer, Dr. Martin Albl, a religious studies teacher at Presentation College.

### **Does A Christian need to go to church?**

Most students in my religious studies classes consider themselves to be Christians. Of these, however most do not attend church on a regular basis. When asked, "Does a person need to go to church in order to be a Christian?" a good 90 percent answer "No."

Let's consider some of the reasoning behind this prevalent attitude.

One typical response: "I feel closer to God when I'm out in nature than when I'm in a stuffy church." For a Christian, there is some truth in that answer. God is indeed present everywhere, and we often can feel his presence strongly when contemplating the wonders of his creation.

But the drawback of this "nature religion" is simply that it doesn't go anywhere. We get a warm, fuzzy feeling about God, but then what? The warm fuzzy does not teach us anything, nor does it demand anything of us. In this religion, God is nothing more than an occasional dispenser of warm fuzzies.

Another typical response: "I don't have to go to church in order to be a good person, In fact, many people who do attend church every Sunday are not especially good people—they just want to impress others with how 'holy' they are."

Again, there is some truth to this statement. There are in fact good, decent people who do not regularly attend church, and, yes, some regulars attend for less than noble reasons. But this response has a presupposition that is simply not true: that "good person" and "Christian" are synonymous.

As we just discussed, the terms are not identical.. Many people equate the term "Christian" with the term "nice." Although it's true that Christians should be nice, this way of thinking makes the term confusing, and ultimately meaningless. If "Christian" is to be more than a vague term, it must denote a person who has certain beliefs and practices centered on Christ. We can agree or disagree about those beliefs, but at least we'll be clear on what the term means.

And so the question becomes, "Is regular attendance at a church one of those definite Christian beliefs and practices?" Now to answer that question, we must first address a more fundamental issue: How do we know what the basic Christian beliefs and practices are in the first place?

Virtually all Christians agree on one authority: the Bible. What does the Bible say on this question of whether a Christian needs to attend church? The New Testament simply presupposes, without question, that a Christian is a member of a church community.

When a person becomes a believer in the New Testament, that person is immediately baptized into a church community and becomes part of the Body of Christ. There, the person is taught the faith, receives the sacraments, and is supported by fellow believers. The New Testament can no more imagine a Christian without a church community than a fish without water. The body of Christ is quite simply the environment that a Christian needs to survive in the world.

If we can define "Christian" in any way we please, then church is indeed optional. If we wish to follow what the Bible actually says, however, we'll get a different answer.

GOD SAVES SOULS AND WE \*\*\*SAVE\*\*\*RECYCLE\*\*\*REUSE\*\*\*THESE ITEMS AT TULARE UNITED CHURCH:

- \* ALUMINUM CANS -JUNIOR YOUTH SAVES AND SELLS THESES AS A FUNDRAISER
- \* POP TABS - WE DONATE THESE TO THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE IN SIOUX FALLS
- \* USED INK CARTRIDGES - WE DONATE THESE AT THE UMC INGATHERING
- \* USED STAMPS - WE DONATE THESE
- \* PAPER - WE TAKE THIS TO RECYLE IN REDFIELD ( A JOINT LIONS AND SDDC PROJECT)
- \* SOUP LABELS AND MILK LIDS - WE DONATE THESE TO THE SCHOOL

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### September Sundays at TUC

**September 4**

10:00 Worship

**September 11**

8:45 Sunday School

10:00 Worship with Teacher

Appreciation, "Rock the Babies" and

Bible Presentation to 3rd graders

**September 18**

8:45 Sunday School

10:00 Worship with Gideon's Report

11:00 Potluck and "Work Day"

**September 25**

8:45 Sunday School

10:00 Worship

TULARE UNITED CHURCH IS AFFILIATED EQUALLY WITH BOTH THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST DENOMINATIONS. WE ARE A "UNITED" AND "UNITING" CHURCH. ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!



CHURCH BUILDING  
DEDICATED: 1999

ESTABLISHED: 1997

TULARE UNITED  
CHURCH