



THE CROSS & THE FLAME

VIROQUA AND LIBERTY POLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES



August 2010

P.O. Box 127, Viroqua, WI 54665

FROM THE PASTOR

Obedience?

By Pastor Ethan Larson

Looking at the Scriptures for the month of August, I saw that we will have a chance to look at three of the prophets of Israel; Hosea, Jeremiah and Isaiah. These three men were called by God to proclaim God's word to the people of Israel and Judah, which had by their time become two separate nations. Sometimes the things they had to say and do sound a bit odd to us, Hosea taking an adulteress wife and giving his children names that were to be signs to the people God had called to be his own.

Isaiah sees the Kingdom of Judah, through his prophetic gifts, as coming back from exile even before they have been taken captive and transported to foreign lands. He also sees the "Suffering Servant" of whom he speaks, in what many people feel are the greatest prophetic words of the Old Testament, 52:13-53:12. the passage where Jesus' arrest, beating and crucifixion are foretold and where the servant sees what was accomplished by the suffering of his soul "And be satisfied".

Jeremiah, the only prophet with two books in the Old Testament, is often referred to as the "Weeping Prophet"; his second book is known as Lamentations. Jeremiah spoke of the disasters coming upon Judah, Israel, the northern kingdom having already been taken into captivity by the Assyrians. Because of his prophecies of the destruction of the kingdom and the city, he had few friends and at times was imprisoned by the rulers of Judah. One of his prison cells was a broken cistern that was partially filled with mud and other refuse that would leak or crawl in the cracks. Jeremiah loved his people, but he loved God more—as we are called to do—and he obeyed God whenever called upon.

Jeremiah, like Hosea and Isaiah and the other prophets had the unenviable task of trying to bring people back to God. The people of Israel and Judah were little different from us. They liked to have their own way and do their own thing. The



Pastor Larson

problem for the people of Israel and Judah was that God promised to protect them and keep them safe only as long as they were obedient.

As individuals, as a church and nation we are called to be obedient to God.

While we as a nation are not God's "Chosen People" we, as Christians, are God's people, adopted through the sacrificial death and shed blood of Jesus Christ. We, like the people of Judah and Israel, are called to "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." *Matthew 28:19-20*

As individuals, as a Church and nation, we are called to be obedient to God. As parents we teach our children, as a part of the family of God we are to teach our family, friends and neighbors, both by our words and also by our actions.

Pastor Ethan

TABLE OF CONTENTS
Calendar, pg. 4
Daycare News, pg. 5
Liberty Pole UMC News, pg. 7
Financial Summary, pg. 6
Committee Reports, pg. 6



**THE PENNY DRIVE
RAISED IN EXCESS
OF \$4,000.00**

Thanks from the East Angola Task Force

The East Angola Task Force thanks all of the churches and circuits that participated in raising funds for East Angola. Some churches made cash donations, others participated in the Pennies for Orphanage Books. The penny drive raised in excess of \$4,000.00 and was actually quite close to \$5,000.00. We are thankful for your donations.

We are submitting an application for new advance numbers and hope to have them in place soon. This will make giving to East An-

gola Conference projects easier.

It appears that we will be traveling to the East Angola Conference August 5-14. One visa application has been approved and another is pending. We hope to have the third approved by the time we leave. The new team will be Sam Royappa, Deborah Thompson and Lamarr Gibson. We will take the computers and donations with us. We will keep you posted.

I wonder if the Pennies for Angola project could be continued through the year until next Annual

Conference. It seems to be a great way to raise funds for East Angola because it does not take a huge amount of money from anyone, but the pennies add up! Please consider continuing this donation effort.

Finally, if you are interested in participating on the East Angola Task Force or one of the East Angola projects, please contact Lamarr Gibson or Deborah Thompson.

Blessings,
Lamarr

Welcome to Isla Vattoria Larson



*Isla Vattoria Larson
Baptized July 4 at the
Viroqua UMC*

Both the Liberty Pole and Viroqua United Methodist Churches were happy to celebrate the arrival of Isla Vattoria Larson who was born this June to Stephanie Larson. A celebration of Baptism was held on July 4 at the Viroqua UMC with Pastor Ethan Larson officiating. Family and friends joined the Viroqua congregation in welcoming Isla to the church.

A baby shower was held on Thursday July 8 at the Liberty Pole Church. This was a joint venture with friends from both churches coming together in fellowship and support for Stephanie and Isla. The Baby Shower was well attended with lots of potluck food supplied by attendees. Friends brought gifts and a fun time was had by all.

A big thank you to everyone involved and again,

WELCOME ISLA VATTORIA!!



The Cross & The Flame is published monthly by the Viroqua and Liberty Pole United Methodist Churches for our congregation and friends. We welcome you with open hearts, open arms and open doors.

VIROQUA UMC/OFFICE

221 S. Center Ave.

Viroqua, WI 54665

Phone: 608-637-3551

Fax: 608-637-8193

Email: info@ViroquaUMC.org

www.ViroquaUMC.org

OFFICE HOURS

8:30–11:30 a.m.

Monday–Friday

LIBERTY POLE UMC

S6759 St. Hwy. 27

Viroqua, WI 54665

Phone: 608-675-3630

STAFF

Ethan Larson, *Pastor*

Cell Phone: 608-606-4637

Parsonage Phone: 608-637-7614

Email: pastor@ViroquaUMC.org

Ruth Hapanionek, *Secretary*

A Stewardship Message For Your Church

Did you know...that even in the midst of such an uncertain time in the stock market, over 30 people have given \$219,345.00 in stock gifts to 13 different churches and ministries through June 30th of this year? By making these gifts through the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation, 100% of the proceeds have been used for ministry - **no taxes and no commissions or selling fees were paid.**

If you have appreciated stock you've owned for at least a year and a day, you can use these

shares of stock to make a gift to your church or another United Methodist ministry with NO selling fee or commission. You will also avoid paying any capital gains taxes, which allows you to make a larger gift than giving cash.

If your stock is held electronically with a broker, we can usually liquidate the shares to make a generous gift within 24-48 hours of receiving it from your broker in our account. If your stock is held in certificate form, we can assist you in liquidating it for no selling fee or commission.

If you feel called to give a gift of stock, please call our office toll free at 1-888-903-9863 to let us know what you intend to give. Or mail or fax us (608-837-2492) a copy of your completed Stock processing Form at

<http://www.wumf.org/assets/ProcessingStockGifts.pdf>

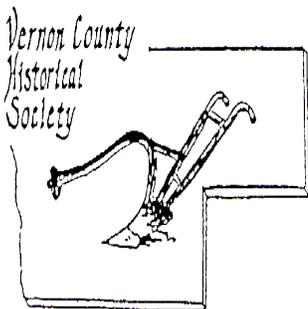
When your stock is liquidated, a check for 100% of the proceeds will be sent to the church or ministry you designate and you will receive a receipt listing your charitable deduction for tax purposes. It's really that easy. Call us today!

**Wisconsin United
Methodist Foundation**
750 Windsor St suite 305
PO Box 620
Sun Prairie WI 53590-0620
1-888-903-9863 or
wumf@wumf.org



Vernon County Historical Society Cemetery Walk

BY JUNE PEDRETTI



The Vernon County Historical Society will hold a Cemetery Walk in the St. Charles Cemetery, Genoa on August 8, 2010 at 4pm sharp.

Descendants of some of the old families will tell some of the history of eight people and of Father Kremer who did so much for Genoa.

Refreshments will be served.

If it rains, the speeches will be given in the St. Charles school. Donations are \$5.

For further information, contact June Pedretti at 634-4488.

Cemetery Walk,
St. Charles, Genoa
August 8, 2010 at 4:00pm

Viroqua UMC Needs Roof & Lift Repairs

The Viroqua UMC currently has some major repairs to carry out on the church and parsonage. Current estimates show a figure of approximately \$21,000 for roof repairs and \$8,000 to fix the lift. Adding these to the current organ estimates, the Viroqua Church would be very grateful to anyone wishing to contribute towards the cost of these necessary repairs by making a donation. Please contact

the church office or a member of the Trustee's Committee for further information or to make a contribution.

Both the Viroqua and Liberty Pole Churches would also like to remind members about the importance of stewardship and continued giving during the summer months when many are on vacation. As always, our Churches are

very grateful for those who contribute regularly, however, summer pledges for July were down and this has a major impact on the ministry of each Church. Please prayerfully consider how and when you give this summer.

THANK YOU!



**Donations accepted for
major repairs**

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 1

10:30am **Open Air Worship and Picnic,**
Bigley Park, Viroqua,
Music by **The Dischords**

Monday, August 2

5:30pm Education Committee (V) with potluck

Tuesday August 3

7:30pm Liberty Pole Administrative Council Meeting

Sunday, August 8

9:00am LP UMC Worship Service
10:30am Viroqua UMC Worship Service

Tuesday, August 10

1:00pm Care & Nurture Committee (V)
6:30pm Viroqua Trustees

Wednesday, August 11

1:15pm Prayer Group - Viroqua

Thursday, August 12

1:00pm Finance Committee - Viroqua

Sunday, August 15

9:00am LP UMC Worship Service
10:30am Viroqua UMC Worship Service
5:00pm LP serves meal at Fortney Hotel

Monday, August 16

4:00pm Missions Committee - Viroqua

Tuesday, August 17

7:00pm Viroqua Administrative Council Meeting

Wednesday, August 18

1:15pm Prayer Group - Viroqua

Friday, August 20

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Sunday, August 22

9:00am LP UMC Worship Service
10:30am Viroqua UMC Worship Service

Wednesday, August 25

1:15pm Prayer Group - Viroqua

Sunday, August 29

9:00am LP UMC Worship Service
10:30am Viroqua UMC Worship Service

Viroqua UMC Service Assistants

Ushers

August 1: Gloria Freilinger & Joanne Hornby
August 8: Trygve & Erma Overbo
August 15: Linda & Melissa Weinhau
August 22: Greg & Mary Cheever
August 29: The Mulvaney-Kemp Family

Greeters

August 1: Annabel McGarry
August 8: Phyllis Kalnins
August 15: Angie Hanson
August 22: Betty Ross
August 29: John Eumurian

Liturgist

Cavan Fang

Liberty Pole UMC Service Assistants

Ushers/Greeters

August 1 & 8: Myron & Deb Hornby
August 15 & 22: Barb & Wayne Robson
August 29: Liberty Pole Youth

Liturgist

Tamie Thompson

SUNBEAM DAYCARE NEWS

By KATHY HANSON, DIRECTOR

August Themes

Fun in the Sun

Ocean Life

Wild West



Special Days

13th—SACK LUNCH DAY

18th—Wear COWBOY CLOTHES

25th—Wear FAVORITE COLOR

27th—SACK LUNCH DAY

Notes

A reminder that our calendar year begins on September 1st. An enrollment fee of \$15 (\$30 per family) is due at that time. Sick days/vacation days start over on that date also. We have been using the sick days/vacation days interchangeably and there are a total of seven (7) for the year.

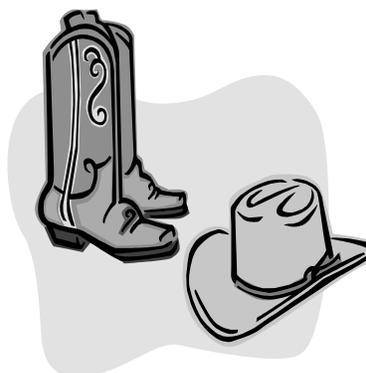
- **Keep saving those Milk- Moola bottle tops. They help!**
Donation containers are found in the hallway by the day care or upstairs near the chapel.
- Be sure your child has a change of clothes at the day care. Sometimes we need cooler or warmer clothes depending on the weather. Sometimes we get dirty or wet.
- Mondays & Thursdays will be park days during the summer - weather permitting.

Sunbeam Daycare Welcomes Donations:

- Food
- Toys
- Garbage Bags
- Paper towels
- Craft supplies

For updates please check our website,
www.viroquaumc.org/daycare/index.html

Community Events



AUGUST 22, 2010

7am-11am

Community Arena

858 Nelson Parkway

Viroqua, WI 54665

ROPE 'EM UP AND COME ON IN FOR

Bethel Home and Services

COWBOY BREAKFAST

ADULTS - \$7.00

CHILDREN (12 and under free) - \$4.00

Under 5 - FREE

MENU:

Pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage links, strawberry topping, salsa, orange juice, coffee and milk.

YA'LL COME!

12th Annual Bethel Home & Services Golf Outing

Monday, August 16, 2010 at the Viroqua Hills Golf Course

12:00-1:00pm Registration

1:00pm sharp—Shot Gun Start, 4-Person Scramble, Best Ball Format

6:00pm Dinner & Awards Banquet & Silent Auction

Summary of Viroqua Finance Meeting Held On July 15, 2010

The Finance Meeting was held on July 15. Those in attendance were Cavan Fang, Jerry Schroeder, Bob Starr, Hazel Hendrickson, Veryl Gerdl and Orvis Primmer.

Financial Review: Committee reviewed financials for June 2010. We have \$6,641.15 in checking and \$5005.09 in the money market. Outstanding bills total just over \$1,000.00 at present. Liberty Pole has made a payment of \$2,666.81 on the outstanding amount due to Viroqua for parsonage utilities and secretary payroll. New Hope and Retreat

will begin sharing cost of parsonage utilities at the beginning of the month.

Wills/Memorials: Veryl reviewed the Wills/Memorials financials. A new safe was purchased. It is working well and has much more space than the old safe.

Misc: Summer pledges are down for July. We will put reminders to parishioners in the newsletter and weekly bulletins reminding them to give while on vacation.

Stewardship: Discussion on topics and themes for this year's cam-

paign. Greg Cheever is chairperson this year. He will be asked for ideas he may have for our pledge drive.

Ad Council: A special Ad Council meeting will be scheduled soon. Trustees need approval from Ad Council to install a new steel roof on the parsonage. The cost will be around \$20,000.00. Orvis would like to give the company the go ahead soon. Trustee Committee has already approved the cost. The Finance committee approved the expense.

Elevator: The elevator needs to

be repaired. The drive roller bearings need to be replaced in both lifts. The cost is \$7,988.00. Trustee Committee has already approved this expense and the Finance Committee endorsed the Trustees and approved.

Organ Committee: The organ committee is traveling to Rochester to look at other organs that have been repaired there. They will know more when they return. Several bids have been received.

BY HAZEL HENDRICKSON

FINANCIAL SUMMARY—JUNE 2010	Viroqua UMC	Liberty Pole UMC
Monthly Income	\$16,062.65	\$3,627.00
Monthly Expenses	\$17,434.12	\$5,906.01
Year-to-Date Income	\$93,194.39	\$26,061.71
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$82,836.09	\$32,439.83
Beginning Balance (checkbook)	\$8,012.62	
Ending Balance (checkbook)	\$6,641.15	\$-681.09
Liberty Pole shared expense	\$1,135.86	
Conference Apportionment Paid to Date	\$7,365.00	\$1,100.00
Missions and Special Gifts Paid to Date	\$6,670.67	\$800.00
Savings	\$5,005.09	

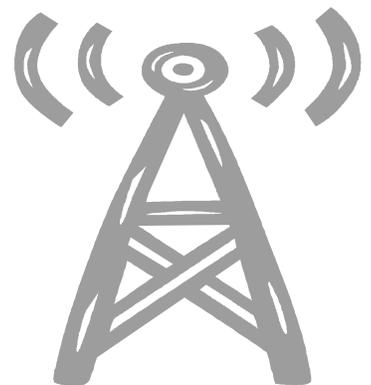
Radio and Bulletin Sponsorship

“.....Thank You to all who have sponsored either the WVRQ radio broadcast or weekly worship bulletins....”

The Liberty Pole and Viroqua United Methodist Churches would like to say “Thank You” to all who have sponsored either the WVRQ radio broadcasts or the weekly worship bulletins so far this year. This is a tangible way to honor or remember special people or events while helping your church

ministry at the same time.

Although many of the upcoming weeks are already sponsored, there are still openings available. Should you wish to sponsor either a broadcast or worship bulletin, please contact the office for further details.



Liberty Pole News



ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD:
 There will be an Administrative Board Meeting on Tuesday August 3 at 7:30pm.

LIBERTY POLE UMW:

The UMW will meet on Wednesday August 11 at 5:30pm. Hostesses will be Deb Deaver and Dolores Hornby. Paying in will be Tamie Thompson, Diane Schultz, Deb Hornby and Angie Hornby. The program will be the Esther Circle.

SATURDAY AUGUST 7

GRILL OUT



at the Nelson Agricenter,
 Viroqua

Salad Luncheon For Missions at Liberty Pole

The Liberty Pole UMC will be holding a Salad Luncheon on Sunday August 15 following worship.

Bring your favorite salad to pass and enjoy lunch and fellowship together.

Should you feel led, a goodwill offering can be made to support our missionary commit-

ment to Paul Webster in Zambia.

Invite your family and friends to come join us –**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!**



Salad Luncheon
 August 15, 2010
 Liberty Pole UMC

Turn Your Old Cell Phone Into A Bible

Who knows why, but at our house, there's a basket with a stack of old cell phones. They seem like they have some sort of value, so we don't throw them away, but they're not doing anyone much good in the basket.

Thankfully, the Family Life Radio *Mobiles Missions Cell Phone Drive* is coming soon turning our old cell phones into a tool for the gospel.

Starting August 2, **MyFLR.org** will have a list of drop-off locations to bring your phone to before the end of the drive on August 13. We'll send the collected phones to a processing center which in turn donates to Wycliffe Bible Translators Ministry. In this case, the funds will go directly to support a project in China, ministering to speakers of the Dong dialect. Wycliffe is among the

most trusted Christian ministries and I have a basket that would be more useful without a bunch of cell phones in it. If you have an old cell phone or two lying around, why not turn them into something productive with *Mobiles 4 Missions* bringing help and hope to the people of China.

BY DAN GIBSON



Local drop-off:
Creative Outlet
124 Main St
Richland center

Viroqua and Liberty Pole United Methodist Churches
Post Office Box 127
Viroqua, WI 54665

PHONE: 608-637-3551
FAX: 608-637-8193
E-mail: info@ViroquaUMC.org
Website: www.ViroquaUMC.org
info@ViroquaUMC.org

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Viroqua, Wisconsin
54665
Permit Number 11

DATE SENSITIVE

Return Service Requested

THE CROSS & THE FLAME

LIBERTY POLE & VIROQUA UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES (UMC)



August 2010 EVENTS

Sunday, August 1

Open Air Worship & Picnic 10:30am
Bigley Park, Viroqua

Sunday, August 8

Sunday Worship

Sunday, August 15

Sunday Worship

Sunday, August 22

Sunday Worship

Sunday, August 29

Sunday Worship

CALL 608-637-3551 FOR DETAILS.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Liberty Pole United Methodist Church— 9:00 A.M.

Viroqua United Methodist Church— 10:30 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Liberty Pole UMC— Resumes in the Fall.

Viroqua UMC— Resumes in the Fall.