



# The Cross & The Flame

With open hearts & open minds...

## THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH



PASTOR ETHAN LARSON



Next year the Viroqua UMC will be celebrating 165 years as a congregation. While the Viroqua Church is in their third building it is located at the same site as when it was established in 1848, the same year that Wisconsin became a state. Liberty Pole will be 139 years old in 2013 having begun ministering to the Liberty Pole area in 1874.

These two congregations are two of the oldest in the area and I hope, and I pray, will continue to be beacon lights of the Gospel for as many years to come. The truth is that if we as the Church do not continue to proclaim salvation in the name of Jesus we have no business meeting and worshipping God.

In our United Methodist Book of Discipline we have several Articles, both in the Articles of Religion of the Methodist Church (beginning on page 59) and the Confession of Faith of the Evangelical United Brethren Church (beginning on page 66), that speak to the uniqueness of

message for the whole world. Articles II, IX and XX of the Articles of Religion state that salvation is in Jesus Christ; that this salvation is for all of humanity and that there is no other means whereby any person can be saved.

In the Confession of Faith we have similar statements in Articles II, VII, VIII and IX. In Article V of the Confession we are given the purpose of the Holy Spirit the Church exists for the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers and the redemption of the world.

I know that many of you may be thinking these are old documents, they were accepted in 1968 at the Uniting Conference of the United Methodist Church, the 1946 Union of the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the 1939 Uniting Conference of the Methodist Church. From there they go back to the 1784 document that John Wesley sent for the organization of the

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Methodists in the new United States since we were no longer under the King of England either as a nation or as a Church.

These Articles actually go back much further than 229 years. They trace their heritage to the Ecumenical Councils of the early Church and to the Apostles and their teachings as contained in the Scriptures.

The Church (as the Body of Christ) has existed death and resurrection, about 1,980 years. The purpose of the Church and the responsibility and authority to proclaim, evangelize and teach for the salvation of the whole of humanity has not been rescinded. We have no more nor no less contact with men and women of other religions than did Peter, James, John and Paul when they traversed the world of their day, and as such we have no less a calling than did they.

As they traveled and taught the Gospel they were not always heard by crowds happy to hear them yet they had a love for people and a de- as Matthew 28:19-20:

%oV @ ^ | ^ ~ [ | ^ Á \* [ Á æ } á Á { æ \ ^ Á 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. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of c @ ^ Á æ \* ^ É +

Our two congregations have a wonderful history; a major part of that history has been to tell our neighbors, families and friends the Good News of Jesus Christ. It is our calling as the Church, it is our mission as the Church and it is what defines our existence and purpose.

Pastor Ethan

### Advanced Lay Servant Ministries How to Prepare, Present and Critique a Sermon

Dates: November 10 & 17  
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Place: Lake Mills United Methodist Church

271 East Prospect Street  
Lake Mills, WI 53551

For more information contact  
the Lake Mills UMC  
at 920-648-2614

*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 minds and open doors.

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#### **OFFICE HOURS**

9:00am to 1:00pm

Monday .Friday

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Viroqua United Methodist Church  
 Financial Report  
 For  
 July 2012

As reported by  
 Gregory Cheever, Treasurer



|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Checking Account:</b> |              |
| Beginning Balance.....   | \$ 1,343.79  |
| Deposits.....            | \$ 19,050.62 |
| Disbursements.....       | \$ 16,203.25 |
| Ending Balance.....      | \$ 4,191.16  |
| Savings Balance          | \$ 6,021.91  |

**UMCOR Giving**           \$ 6,671.00  
**UMCOR disbursed**       \$ 6,671.00

Paul Webster Support to-date:   \$ 871.00 of \$1,048 or 83.12%  
 Tshalla Mwengo Support to-date: \$ 200.00 of \$ 200 or 100%

Community Missions:   \$674.49



**Budget Performance**

**A LOOK  
 at the  
 BUDGET**

|                                  | <u>Month</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> |          | <u>YTD Budget</u> |         |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|---------|
| <b>Budget Income</b>             | \$ 10,524.68 | \$ 71,800.86      | 100.00%  | \$ 82,760.02      | 100.00% |
| <b>Expenses:</b>                 |              |                   |          |                   |         |
| <b>A. Pastor Support</b>         | \$ 3,927.49  | \$ 28,462.32      | 39.64%   | \$ 29,078.91      | 35.08%  |
| <b>B. Staff Salaries</b>         | 2,403.00     | 17,313.68         | 24.11%   | 16,924.60         | 20.57%  |
| <b>90.41% C. Apportionments</b>  | 1,250.00     | 10,620.00         | 14.79%   | 10,885.00         | 13.13%  |
| <b>D. Education</b>              | 129.81       | 643.64            | .90%     | 909.79            | 1.10%   |
| <b>E. Worship</b>                | 147.54       | 1,201.57          | 1.67%    | 1,554.42          | 1.88%   |
| <b>F. History</b>                | 0.00         | 0.00              | 0.00%    | 87.50             | .11%    |
| <b>H. Care &amp; Nuture</b>      | 36.00        | 163.55            | 0.23%    | 221.55            | .27%    |
| <b>J. Radio</b>                  | 240.00       | 1,560.00          | 2.17%    | 1,820.00          | 2.20%   |
| <b>K. Church Admin.</b>          | 354.93       | 2,666.59          | 3.71%    | 2,339.68          | 2.82%   |
| <b>L. Property/Maint.</b>        | 1,772.62     | 18,513.08         | 25.78%   | 18,151.35         | 21.90%  |
| <b>M. Admin. Council</b>         | 0.00         | 189.50            | 0.26%    | 379.12            | .46%    |
| <b>N. Missions</b>               | 0.00         | 65.00             | 0.09%    | 408.10            | .49%    |
| <b>Total</b>                     | \$ 10,261.39 | \$ 81,398.93      | 113.37%  | \$ 82,760.02      |         |
| <b>Surplus/&lt;Shortfall&gt;</b> | \$ 263.29    | <\$ 9,731.55>     | <13.55%> | -0-               |         |

**FREE INTERPRETATION SUBSCRIPTION**

Want to know how The United Methodist Church works to promote a safe, just and more equitable world? Subscribe today to *Interpretation* magazine.

*Interpretation*, the UMC's top-ranked publication, is a vital resource for United Methodist news and information, including stories on how churches can advocate for social and economic justice.

You can receive free email subscription to *Interpretation* magazine—just contact the church office and tell us your name and the email address where you want to receive *Interpretation*. If you would prefer to read a printed copy, you can check one out from the church library, or ask the church office about receiving a copy of your own in the mail.



*HAPPY BIRTHDAY*

- David Peterson 1st
- Sandra Marohl 7th
- Gerald Schroeder 7th
- Orvin Gardner 9th
- Mallory Hanson 9th
- Jim Porter 9th
- Kristen Parrott 12th
- Pete Gilman 15th
- Steven Thompson 16th
- Ryan Bjerkos 20th
- Luther Hendrickson 21st
- Orvis Primmer 22nd
- Cyndy Hubbard 23rd
- Layne Hanson 25th



- Joshua & Valerie Lind 3rd
- Layne & Janette Hanson 6th
- Tom & Sheryl Steele 12th
- Leland & Alice Diehl 25th

**Liberty Pole UMC Service Assistants**

**Ushers/Greeters**

- September 2nd Steve & Tamie Thompson
- September 9th Steve & Tamie Thompson
- September 16th Alex & Myron Hornby
- September 23rd Alex & Myron Hornby
- September 30th Youth

**Liturgist**

Brian Funk

**Viroqua UMC Service Assistants**

**Ushers**

- September 2nd John Eumurian & Dan Casper
- September 9th Gloria Freillinger & Betty Ross
- September 16th Erma & Trygve Overbo
- September 23rd Veryl & Lorraine Gerdl
- September 30th Chuck & Kathie Stelzner

**Greeters**

- September 2nd Anabel McGarry
- September 9th David Peterson
- September 16th Angie Hanson
- September 23rd Shirley Gilman
- September 30th Rick Schneiderman

**Liturgist**

Sonja Bjerkos

**Mission Committee  
Meeting Report  
August 20, 2012**

Members present were Pastor Larson, Lorna & David Peterson, Jean Knutson, Rick Scheiderman, Kathy & Chuck Stelzner.

The Mission Committee served the meal at the Fortney Hotel on Aug.19th @ 5:00 p.m.

We have collected the \$200.00 for the Tshalla Mwengo Mission.

We have collected \$874.00 for our missionary, Paul Webster.

It helps a lot with our mission pledge.

We have started the VHS food pantry as there is a need for school supplies also.

David and I have made two trips to the school already.

Our next meeting is Sept. 17th @ 1:00 p.m.



You are Invited to a Regional Celebration to Welcome Bishop Jung to Wisconsin!

There will be a Welcome Celebration held in the Capital Coulee Region:

Saturday, October 6, 2012  
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
Dodgeville UMC,  
327 N Iowa Street, Dodgeville 53533

The celebration will begin with a time of worship and a time for Bishop Jung to share about himself and his vision for the future as he begins his service as a bishop in Wisconsin. The rest of the time will be spent meeting, and enjoying food and fellowship.

Please join in the celebration!

Care and Nurture  
Committee Meeting Report  
August 14, 2012

We met at 1:00 p.m. with the following members present: Pastor Ethan, David Peterson, John Eumurian, Gloria Freilinger, Joanne Hornby, Harry Fox and Mary Fox.

David opened the meeting with a devotion.

In review, pastor reported attendance at the 8:00 a.m. service ranged from 5 to 30, averaging in the low 20s, mostly people who do not come to the 10:30 a.m. service. Mary has sent quite a few cards during the summer months. G-Nita had a good attendance of many young people.

It was reported that the conversation in the coffee area adjoining the sanctuary is heard in the sanctuary while some are trying to meditate before the service begins. Hopefully this will be remedied when new dividers are installed.

The new membership list is in progress. Letters were sent out to some who had attended infrequently or not at all and a few have been answered.

Pastors Ethan and Laverne are working on a program about their Africa trip and we are trying to work out a time that will not conflict with a Packers game.

A recognition for those who have been married 50 years or more was discussed and we may tie it in with Valentines Day.

Our next meeting will be September 18th at 1:00 p.m. John closed the meeting with a prayer.

Summer vacation is almost over and that means the choir will be practicing and singing again. Time surely goes by rapidly. The first practice will be Sept. 5 at 6 p.m. and the first Sunday to sing will be Sept. 9. I am hoping for more new members this fall. We are planning to sing a Christmas cantata Dec. 23, the Sunday before Christmas, during the Sunday morning services at Liberty Pole and Viroqua. It is an easy cantata with only five easy songs to learn. Hope to see you in the choir loft and to hear a joyful noise to the Lord. Lynn

## Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development

For the last several months, I have been writing a second newsletter article focusing on a different Church Committee each month. With the Fall Season coming quickly upon us I felt that the next Committee I needed to address was the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development.

This Committee used to be simply called the Nominations Committee, then it was changed to Lay Development Committee and the current name is the rather long name that I have used. The idea behind the changes in name has been to more fully describe the role and function of the Committee. It is supposed to be more than the Committee whose job is to fill slots on a nominations form for Charge Conference. It is to help provide not only the names for Charge Conference to consider, but also to help provide training and preparation for the members of the Church who would like to take part in leadership, but have little to no experience.

This year the Nominations Committees from each Church will begin meeting in September with the plan of completing their task for Charge Conference by early November. This means a lot of phone calls as well as one or two meetings for each Committee.

This Committee has one aspect that makes it different from every other Committee in the local Church; its Chairperson is always the Pastor. While the Pastor sits on every Committee he or she cannot make motions as other committee members can (except that if they are elected to serve on the Board of Trustees they can function as any other member of that Committee).

The Book of Discipline charges the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development to identify, develop, deploy, evaluate, and monitor leadership development in the Church. The Committee is to keep their mind on the needs of the congregation all year around, not just in the months leading up to Charge Conference.

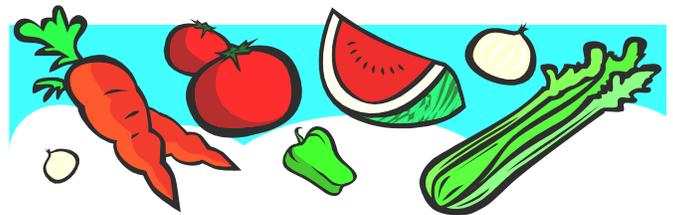
This means that even though the Committee may not meet every month its members should be paying attention to several items related to their task as a committee:

- ◁ The changing leadership needs of the Church.
- ◁ The Ministry focus of the Church.
- ◁ The gifts of the various members of the church . both spiritual gifts and natural talents and abilities.

This Fall whether you are on this Committee or another Committee in the Church please be in prayer for the members of the Committees of both- Churches. They may call upon you to serve in your Church in a role that you had not considered. Listen to them, ask questions and then seek to hear what God is telling you about your role in the Church.

When each of us joined the United Methodist Church and our own Churches at Liberty Pole and Viroqua we promised to serve God in the Church through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness. Help your Church grow and become more fully the Body of Christ that Jesus has called it to be by following through on your pledge made to God, to the Church and to your fellow members.

Pastor Ethan



Anyone with surplus garden produce can bring it to church. Any fresh

offering will be used for our Paul Webster Mission

### Viroqua UMW

A quiet summer for the UMW. Sunday morning coffee was moved from the chapel to the overflow room.

Shirley Gilman, Annabel McGarry, Joanne Hornby and Lynn Whitney served cookies after the Sunday worship, August 12, at the Bethel Home.

Thank you, ladies.

Mark your calendar for September meetings.

- Sept. 6th            12:30 p.m.    Ex. Council Meeting
- 1:30 p.m.     UMW Program  
   World Thank Offering  
   Hostess: Lorraine Gerdl
- Sept. 29th        District Annual Celebration -  
                         Lancaster UMC  
                         Speaker: Barb Serta - Harbor House
- Oct. 3rd            9:30 a.m.     UMW Ex. Council  
   Meeting
- Oct. 4th            1:30 p.m.     Lydia Circle  
   Hostess: Barb Casper
- Oct. 19th &      Conference Annual Gathering  
20th     Sun Prairie UMC
- Oct. 27th        District Day of Enrichment Peace  
   UMC Richland Center

### BACK TO SCHOOL: TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR KID READY FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

Chances are your kids have been running around wild and free (or at least freer) this summer. That can make for a tough transition when it comes time to go back to school. We checked in with some experts for tips on how to make the bittersweet fall transition sweeter on parents and kids.

Get kids acquainted with their new school  
Transition to bedtime

Create a bedtime routine

Describe school around their routines

Hear them out

Instead of telling your anxious kids not to worry about school, make sure they know they have a voice and are being heard. "Work with them to find a solution. You really want to minimize conflict and maximize problem-solving,"

Feed them right

### Greeters Wanted!

*I t g g v " q p g " c p q v j g t " y k v j " c " j q n { " m k u u í " \* K K " E*

Do you know how to smile and say hello? Then your church needs you to join the elite corps of Sunday Morning greeters! The greeter is often the first person that a visitor sees in our church, and our first chance to let people know that we care about them. So the greeter is an important part of our efforts to welcome everyone with open hearts, open minds, and open doors.

C u " c " i t g g v g t . " { q w t " l q d " y k n n " d g " v q " u j c t g ô " v i s i t o r k u v ø u  
and members alike ô and letting them know that we are happy to have them with us. \* D w v " f q p ø v " c e v  
v j g " õ j q n { A hearty handshake has become more conventional in our modern era.)

You will also be available to answer questions from newcomers, and to offer any assistance and directions that people may need.

If you can help out by becoming a greeter, or want to learn more about what the job entails, please contact Barb Casper (637-3854) at Viroqua or Delores Hornby at the Liberty Pole Church.

VUMC MEMORIAL &  
DESIGNATED FUNDS FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR JULY 2012

Important HealthFlex  
Reminder

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| The beginning Balance on July 1, 2012  | \$17,338.71        |
| Income for July  | <u>\$16,142.15</u> |
|  | \$33,480.86        |
| Expenses for July  | <u>-108.00</u>     |
| Balance on Hand July 31,2012   | \$33,372.86        |
| Designated & Undesignated Account Balances:  |                    |
| Undesignated Memorials   | \$ 3,246.41        |
| IG Nite  | 233.42             |
| Library  | 939.10             |
| Choir Music  | 109.09             |
| Missions   | 611.56             |
| Care & Nurture   | 95.00              |
| Howard Ross Memorials  | 1,358.43           |
| Trustees Fund  | 18,279.69          |
| Organ Amplifier  | 175.00             |
| Members Pledge   | 4,680.00           |
| M.Y.F.   | 2,444.49           |
| M.Y.F. Camping   | 1,200.67           |
| Total Designated & Undesignated Funds  | <u>\$33,372.86</u> |
| Endowment Funds:   |                    |
| Trustees Fund Balance July 31,2012   | \$238,101.05       |
| UMC Endowment Fund Balance July 31, 2012   | \$104,825.41       |
| The above two funds have had a Year To Date return of + 4.67%                      |                    |
| (Portions of these two funds are restricted in their use by request of the donors) |                    |
| Respectfully Submitted<br>by<br>Veryl Gerdt Financial Secretary                    |                    |

Active participants in the Wisconsin Conference group health insurance program through HealthFlex/United Healthcare are reminded to complete the HealthQuotient (HQ) by September 30. **This provision of the health insurance program does not apply to retirees in the Medicare supplement program.** It is important for participants to take the HQ to avoid having higher deductibles in 2013 (\$250 extra single, \$500 extra family). Both a participant and his/her enrolled spouse need to take the HQ to avoid a higher deductible. If you or your spouse completed the HQ before August 1, it must be filled out again between August 1 and September 30, 2012, for you to retain the standard deductible in 2013.

Rev. Steve Zekoff

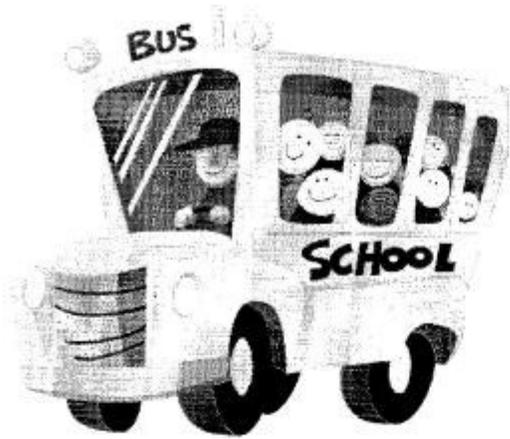
Conference Benefits Officer

608-837-7320

Toll Free: 888-240-7328, ext. 222

szekoff@wisconsinumc.org





# Sunbeam Daycare September 2012

221 S. Center St  
Viroqua, WI 54665  
608-606-3485

GOOD LUCK TO ALL OUR KIDS WHO WILL BE HEADING OFF TO  
SCHOOL THIS MONTH!!

## September Birthdays

Reggie on the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Ella on the 9<sup>th</sup>  
Zach on the 18<sup>th</sup>  
Ross on the 30<sup>th</sup>

## September Themes

Getting to Know our Classroom/Class Rules  
Magnificent ME  
My Personal Prints  
Mannerly ME

Tia and Kathy have been meeting with a technical consultant from Young Star this summer. YoungStar is a program of the Department of Children and Families created to improve the quality of child care for Wisconsin children. Our consultant helped us evaluate our daycare and set goals for improvement. We are working to improve our programming. You will be seeing changes in this area as we move forward.



*For updates please check our website,  
[www.viroquaumc.org/daycare/index.html](http://www.viroquaumc.org/daycare/index.html)*



**LIBERTY POLE CHURCH  
HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED**

FLEXIBLE HOURS (clean when it fits into your schedule - no set hours)

START DATE - SEPTEMBER 2012

WEEKLY GENERAL CLEANING

NO SNOW SHOVELING

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR  
JOB DESCRIPTION AND TO APPLY @  
637-3551

**Liberty Pole**

**Mowing Schedule**

**2012**



August 26th - Sept. 1st Kevin Robson

September 2nd - 8th Tom Zitzner

Thank You! Thank You!

To everyone who helped with the mowing at the Liberty Pole UMC.

Even though we had a very dry summer and some of you didn't need to mow we sure appreciate your readiness to do so.

**LP UMW**

Met on 8-8-12

A slate of new officers elected for 2013.

- < President - Barbara Robson
- < Vice President - Stacy Matson
- < Secretary - Tamie Thompson
- < Treasure - Lynn Zitzner.

Time to get ready for the Annual Chicken Noodle Dinner preparation was topic of evening & plans made. It will be on Sunday, October 7th. Serving from 11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. Prices remain the same as last year. Adult \$8.00; age 6 to 10, \$4.00; and 5 and under, \$1.50. Take out available. Reminder on what to furnish as follows: 7 chicken breasts, include the broth you cooked them in; 2 pies; 10 lbs. of peeled cubed potatoes or large bag of cabbage slaw and \$1.00 for buns.

Note: September Meeting Date Change 9-19-12 @ 5:30 p.m. Fall cleaning of the church will take place at this meeting. Everyone welcome, serving hostesses for this meeting will be Lynn Zitzner & Alice Diehl.

September Hotel Fortney will be served by Tamie Thompson family. 2012 dates are filled. Alice needs volunteers for 2013, only 6 Sundays. District Annual Meeting will be 9-29-12 at UMC in Lancaster. This is a Saturday. If you need a ride, please contact Barb or Beverly. If you are driving and have room for a passenger let Barb know.

**LIBERTY POLE  
FINANCIAL SUMMARY  
July 2012**

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Monthly Receipts                       | \$4,183.35  |
| Monthly Disbursements                  | \$6,116.26  |
| Year-to-Date Receipts                  | \$31,173.57 |
| Year-to-Date Disbursements             | \$31,225.62 |
| Balance on Hand on 7/31/12             | \$1,483.86  |
| Conference Apportionments Pd. To Date  | \$2,948.00  |
| Missions/Special Gifts                 | \$265.00    |
| Conference Apportionments for the Year | \$8,844.00  |

**LP Administrative Board  
Meeting Minutes  
August 7th, 2012**

Present: Barb Robson, Pastor Ethan, Fae Zitzner, Bill and Sandy Marohl, Joyce and Brian Funk, Steve and Tamie Thompson and Ramona Thompson.

Meeting was called to order by Sandy, opening prayer by Pastor Ethan.

Secretary and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Discussed entrance to church. After much discussion motion by Fae, second by Barb to install railings and leave the steps as they are. Motion carried.

We will be scheduling a work day the first part of September to work on the following projects: Redo railroad tie steps, stain ramp, install railing and install confirmation pictures. Look for more information at a later date.

Brian will also get estimates for new roof.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

We will be hiring a new housekeeper to start in September. Need to get a job description for this position. Anyone that is interested contact the board for more information.

Discussed having the treasurer job to be a paid position. At least reimburse for paper and printing reports. Will discuss later.

Pastor Ethan will be gone Sept 3 to Sept 7 at Atlanta for Continuing Education. Pastor Schick and Karen Bankes will be covering for emergencies.

Charge Conference will be at LP this year. Tentative date is Sunday Dec. 2nd with Noon potluck.

Bill received a letter from Tom Fortney Attorney at Law regarding Clayton Weber Estate. LP Church will be a beneficiary of 10% of his estate. LP will receive this when the estate is settled and property sales are finalized.

Sunday School will be during the church service again this year. Please consider teaching or assisting. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.



**The Liberty Pole Sunday School**

We will again be having class during church service this year. The children will stay upstairs until after the Children's Sermon, then adjourn downstairs to their classes until the end of service. Sunday School will begin September 23rd. There will be no Sunday School October 7th due to the Chicken Dinner.

We need teachers! Our goal is to have enough teachers to rotate responsibilities so they will only miss one sermon a month. The lessons are self-explanatory with minimum preparation. If you are interested in teaching or helping, there will be a Liberty Pole Sunday School teacher/helper meeting September 5th at 7:00pm at the Liberty Pole Church to go over lessons and through supplies.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Deb Deaver

637- 6582

[deadeb03@yahoo.com](mailto:deadeb03@yahoo.com)

## Viroqua Administrative Council Minutes

The Ad Council meeting was held on August 21 with the following members present: Kathy Hanson, Pastor Ethan, David Peterson, Betty Ross, Veryel Gerd, Orvis Primmer, Cavan Fang, Greg Cheever, Janet Welch and Sonja Bjerkos.

Kathy opened the meeting with a reading from the *Upper Room* "At The Feet of Jesus", which encouraged us to take time to focus on the reasons we do the work we do and not get caught up in the task itself all the time. Minutes from the June meeting were reviewed and approved. Janet gave the UMW report. The difficulty accessing the lift was mentioned again. Betty Ross greeted attendees outside last Sunday and suggested that we try to have someone available outside weekly to assist members and guests who need assistance with the lift door. Cavan presented the Worship Committee report:

The Worship Committee met on August 9.

Ethan will be away on November 4, which will be UMW Sunday. November's service of Communion will be rescheduled to another week.

Advent is coming! We are hoping that the choir will perform a Christmas Cantata in church on December 23. Please contact Lynn Whitney if you are interested in helping sing in the special cantata choir. We are trying to obtain Chrismons (Christian symbol ornaments) for our Sanctuary Christmas tree, because we would like the decorations to be more overtly Christ-centered than what we currently have. Please contact us if you know of a source for good quality, durable Chrismons: whether you are able to make a set of Chrismons for the church yourself, or you can recommend a local artist who could be hired to make some, or you know a mail order source. If we commission Chrismons from a local artist, then we may offer members and friends the opportunity to sponsor a Chrismon in honor/memory of a loved one. Also, please contact the church if you are interested in donating the Sanctuary tree this year.

We are no longer having the Sunday morning nursery on a regular basis, since the parents of the current toddler population want (or at least are willing) to keep their kids in church. On an as-needed basis--a volunteer will ask the parents if they want to send their children downstairs, and open up the nursery for that day if so. Many thanks to all the volunteers who have helped with the Sunday nursery over the past few years.

Thank you to all of you who wear your nametags. Yes, we are aware that you already know everyone at church, and that everyone already knows you with or without a nametag. However, the nametags are not for our own benefit, but to be welcoming to visitors and newcomers. To paraphrase Matthew 9:12, "Those who are long-time members have no need of your nametag, but those who are visitors..." So, please keep wearing them, and contact the office if you don't have a nametag.

The Worship Committee will meet again on September 20.

The Trustees report was given by Orvis Primmer. The new carpet has been installed and we will probably want to consider replacing or recovering our kneeling pads next year, as they are green. Kathy mentioned that daycare has had to deal with some bats this summer. Orvis believes they have all been eradicated.

Memorials and Dedicated Funds report: Veryel reported a transfer of \$15,900 from the Schaefer Endowment to the Trustees Fund to cover approved building improvements.

Continued from page 12

David Peterson gave the Care and Nurture and Missions Committee reports. Mary Fox and Gloria Freilinger are doing a great job sending greeting cards to church members and visitors.

He encouraged all church members to be “greeters” and welcome guests to our services. We will begin using the pew attendance sheets at the early service. The Mission Committee served the Fortney meal on August 19. Working on the official church membership list.

Kathy gave the Education Committee Report: Please see her minutes on page 14.

Sonja presented the Finance Committee report:

The Finance Committee met on August 21 with the following members present: Pastor Ethan, Sonja Bjerkos, Betty Ross, Orvis Primmer, Veryel Gerdl, Greg Cheever, Cavan Fang, Tony Rubasch, and Kathy Hanson.

Pastor Ethan opened the meeting with a prayer. Veryel presented the Memorials & Designated Funds report and the Capital Campaign Report. There hasn't been much activity in these accounts other than the transfer to the Trustees Fund for approved church maintenance and repairs. The net return through July 31 is +4.67%, up slightly from June. Greg gave the treasurer's report. While spending continues to stay very close to budgeted amounts, giving remains lower than budgeted. We are hopeful that with the Head Start payment, which is expected in September, and traditionally higher giving in December we can “catch up” our income to our expenses. Greg prepared the budget worksheets requested at last month's meeting and Sonja will distribute those to committee chairs at the Ad Council meeting. All committees should have their budgets turned in to Greg or Sonja by October 1 so they can be reviewed, approved and sent to the Charge Conference on December 2.

Ethan has been asked if the church would again consider hosting the Lifeline Screening. The event would be held on November 28. Attendance at the last screening was over 100 people. Since the church is already open during the day for daycare, committee members unanimously approved the request. There was a discussion on the newsletter deadline date, which has been set at the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Some committees don't meet until the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month. The committees that would be affected are Education, Finance and Ad Council. We decided that most months this wouldn't cause a problem, so no change will be recommended.

The meeting closed at 8:30 with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Sonja Bjerkos



## Christian Education Committee Meeting Minutes August 20, 2012

Present: Janette Hanson, Linda Weilnau, Joanne Hornby, Glenn Kristamey, Parrott, Pastor Larson, Kathy Hanson

Opening: We each shared an experience we have had this summer.

Approve minutes: Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Reports:

Sunday School: Sunday School will begin on September 23, the Sunday following 7

Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 4. The start of SS will be sent out.

Kristen suggested a training session for teachers. Kathy will work with Pastor something through the circuit.

Youth: No activity.

Daycare: The Daycare has had a busy summer. Tia Clancy is the lead teacher and Kathy have been meeting with a technical consultant from Young Star, a program of Children and Families created to improve the quality of child care for children. The consultant helped us evaluate our daycare and set goals for improvement working to improve our programming.

Confirmation: There will not be a confirmation class this year. If we wait a year we will have more kids in it.

Old business:

Macinnis Scholarship: recipients of the scholarship were Krista Matheys and Skildum. They will each receive \$250 once they register for the second semester year. The new procedure for choosing the scholarship recipients is in place and we intend

VBS: VBS was held July 16 and was a big success! It was a joint Liberty Pole venture and the theme was Bug Zone. 35 children were enrolled. Teachers were Hanson, Renae Diehl, Priscilla Metz, and Kathy Hanson. Helpers were Jennifer Wa Hanson. Thanks to everyone for a great time!

New business:

Acolytes: Janette will prepare the list again this fall. There will be 2 acolytes scheduled Sunday during Advent and Lent when we have more candles. We will have the reminder cards to see if we can improve this program.

Nursery: The Nursery during the church service has been discontinued for now.

Education Committee Membership/Leadership: The group agreed that Janette is doing a great job as leader of the committee. Linda will be leaving the committee and possibly will be thinking about potential members in the next few months.

Other: Discussion was held concerning how to get new people involved on committees. We agreed that a variety of methods for publicizing and recruiting people is a good idea. Bring this up at Ad Council.

Next meeting: Monday, October 15, 2012 5:30 pm (Potluck)

THE VIROQUA UMC  
MISSIONS COMMITTEE  
WISH LIST FOR  
THE VIROQUA SCHOOL OF THE HOMELESS  
STUDENT FOOD PANTRY



**FOOD** (that does not need to be refrigerated)

- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Cans of ready to heat/eat (like ravioli, spaghetti, beans, Easy Mac, etc.)
- Cans of meat, tuna, chicken
- Canned vegetables
- Granola bars or breakfast bars
- Juice boxes
- Single serve fruit cups
- Full size or individual boxes of cereal
- Crackers
- Packages of seeds or nuts



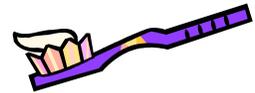
**SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

- Notebooks
- Loose leaf paper
- Pencils/pens
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Scissors
- Manual pencil sharpeners
- Glue sticks
- Presentation boards



**PERSONAL HYGIENE**

- Deodorant
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Feminine hygiene products
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Bar soap or body wash
- Facial tissue
- Toilet paper



**MONEY**

If you choose to make a monetary contribution, it may be made directly to the school or we can do the shopping for you and include the items with all other contributions when we deliver them to the school pantry. We will try to buy in bulk at discounted prices to get the most for our dollars.

Thank You



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

PHONE: 608-337-3551  
FAX: 608-337-193  
E-mail: info@ViroquaUMC.org  
Website: www.ViroquaUMC.org

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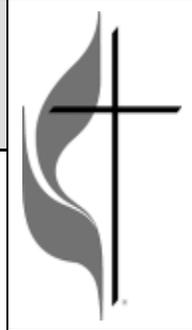
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Return Service Requested

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## THE CROSS & THE FLAME

LIBERTY POLE & VIROQUA UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES (UMC)



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Welcoming Bishop Jung to Wisconsin

Housekeeper needed

Greeters wanted

### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Viroqua United Methodist Church .

8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Liberty Pole UMC . 9:15 A.M.

Viroqua UMC . Adults-9:00 A.M., Children-9:30 A.M.