



Volume V10

Lovilia Circuit Writer

Pastor Jill Leveck



October 2006

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PASTOR'S COLUMN

This month at all three churches, we will enjoy the bounty of the harvest in the form of special suppers. The meals will be advertised in area newspapers, on posters and on the radio. But the real PR is word of mouth. Folks in our area know that we have great cooks and they will get quantity and quality for their money. The ads give day and time, but it's experience that brings people back year after year as well as the warm welcome they receive.

There is an analogy here for growing a church. Are we excited about being a part of the Bussey/Hamilton/Lovilia parish? Do we look forward to gathering as a part of the body of Christ? Does it show as we go about our daily lives? Does it make us

eager to see that the good news goes beyond the doors of the church?

In the book of Acts, we have recorded the beginnings of the church. It grew not with formal advertising but with the visible joy of its members, which was definitely contagious. Others wanted what they saw in the lives of those early Christians. That is what we're called to show by the way we live. **When was the last time you invited a friend or neighbor to worship with you?**



Reader's Corner

Quite a while ago, I put out the word that if you found a book that touched you or challenged your thinking, you should write a reader's corner so that all of us can check it out. Below is a response to that invitation.

There are few things quite so boring as being religious, but there is nothing quite so exciting as being a Christian. Life is too short to miss the real thing! In the book *Classic Christianity* Bob George shows us how to find that real thing.

Most folks have never discovered the difference between one and the other, so that there are those who sincerely try to live a life they do not have, substituting religion for God, Christianity for Christ and their own noble endeavors for energy, joy and the power of the Holy Spirit. In reality, they can only grasp at ritual, stubbornly defending the latter in the absence of the former, lest they be found with neither.

Drawing on his own struggles and years of teaching and counseling experience, Bob cuts straight to the heart of the issues that cause so many believers to start out in excited enthusiasm only to end up merely going through the motions of the Christian life.

In *Classic Christianity*, Bob shows us the way back to the life Jesus provided for us when He set us free from the bondage of the law, teaching us to live in the newness of life led by His Spirit. He answers such questions as:

*What does it mean to have Christ living in me?
How can I experience the joy of the Lord daily?*

If I'm a new creation, why do I still struggle with sin?

(Reader's Corner Continued from Page 1)

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him and him with Me. Revelation 3:20

Listen, open the door of your heart, and discover that Classic Christianity is a Person- the living Lord Jesus Christ.

- This Article Courtesy of Carolyn Decora

LUMC News

Birthdays & Anniversaries October

- 2 ■ Gary Lundstrom
- Thomas & Phyllis Dunkin (A)
- 13 ■ John Waters
- 14 ■ Justin Gilkerson
- Judy & Ronnie Conner (A)
- 17 ■ Max Bowman
- 18 ■ Warren Jones
- 19 ■ Bill Barnes
- 21 ■ Velma White
- 24 ■ Edith Barnes
- 27 ■ Jolinda Wilson

Work on Bathroom

A big thank you to Fred Kraber, Bill Barnes, John Hastings and Calvin Chamberlain for all that has been done so far on the renovation of our church bathroom. It is now handicapped accessible. While there is still more work to do, we are thankful for what has been accomplished and for the men who have given of their time and talents to bring it about.

HELP WANTED

Part time secretary. Approximately 2-4 hours a week.

Duties would include: Typing bulletins, notices, making calls, ordering supplies, etc.

Assist Pastor Jill when needed to free up more of her time.

Need personal computer, printer & internet access.

Could work from home, choose your own hours.

\$25.00 per week, paid monthly.

If interested please contact Pastor Jill Leveck

jkleveck@iowatelecom.net

Kids Club – New Time

Due to the difference in times our children arrive back in Lovilia after school each day, the Kids Club leaders have decided to change to a new time on Wednesday evenings. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 18 from 5:00-6:30PM for our first session of the Close Encounters Series.

A meal will be served each week. We will have stories, crafts and the chance for the youth (grades 1-5) to earn tickets with which they can purchase gifts from our Lose Encounters store.

Special invitations will be sent out to youth in the community. If you have neighbor children who would enjoy Kids Club, contact Pastor Jill with their names.

Right now, we are looking for folks to help with the lessons as well as those who are willing to provide and prepare a meal each week. If you would like to help in any way, contact Goldie Kraber, Nathan Chamberlain, Connie Barnes or pastor Jill.

Carillon Memorial

Our goal for the Carillon Memorial for the Church has been met. This project was started with the memorial donation from the Shirley Hugen family. The Hugen family wanted to fix the original bell but this was not feasible due to the condition of the bell tower. Therefore, the Trustees and Administrative Board began checking the carillon/electronic bell systems available and ordered one. Since the project was started, we have received other memorial donations from the Bertha Redding family, and the Tracy Barnes family as well as donations from the congregation and the United Methodist Women. We have received the carillon system and it is now ready to be installed.

The donation in memory of their grandmother, Tracy Barnes, was given in equal shares by Elaine Barnes Smith (daughter of Louise Barnes Osterman) and Pamela Thompson Higham, (daughter of Maxine Barnes Thompson). Pam's paternal grandparents were Rollie and Winnie Gullion Thompson. Rollie was killed in a train/car accident and Winnie then married John Cooper.

We want to thank everyone who helped make this become a reality. This will be a nice addition to the Church as well as to the community.

UMW Notes

225 ladies attended our annual Ottumwa District meeting in Knoxville on September 14th. Guest speaker, Dusty Kinsely, was born to missionary parents in China and lived there 16 years. She travels extensively and shared her many experiences with us. Her theme was PEACE.

The traveling quilts project for mission raised a total of over \$3000 as bidders bought the 3 quilts, a table runner and wall hanging. 55 units quilted squares for the project.

The love offering turned in that day was \$3255. Our offering was not included in this amount. This also goes to missions.

The unit has voted to give \$250 for the carillon project. The day group voted to send \$100 for scholarship to Adama Grace Kefas of Nigeria.

Guest day will be October 5th at 1 pm at the community building. Ladies of eight units have been invited. Guest speaker will be Ruth Dykstra with her program on bluebirds. Our ladies are asked to bring cookies or bars for refreshments.

Our fall soup supper will be held Wednesday, October 25th at the Community building. We will need all of you to help and thanks a head of time for your cooperation.

The rules for saving Campbell's labels have changed! Now they want the UPC codes. Entire labels are no longer of any value.

Talent Show

Folks of all ages had fun on Sunday, September 17th. Thank you to all who shared their talents with viewers from all over the parish and the Lovilia community. The ice cream social was a good way to lead into the evening of entertainment. Outreach committee - you've done it again! Thank you!

Finances

Our September offerings totaled \$2,146.85 and our budgeted expenses per month are \$2,076.51. This month's total will help us catch up a little bit after the summer. the total does not include our pledges to the carillon.

Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Day

On Sunday, October 15th we will honor our Sunday School teachers during worship. A nationally known award, Sunday School Teacher of the Year, is open to all Sunday School Teachers of young children. Last year, we had one nomination from our church.

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*



The family and friends of Beatrice Ivins, the family of Clifford Stillwell, Thelma Smith, Warren Jones, Margaret Conner, Donnie Tucker, John Waters, Curtis Davis, Dale Allison, Lois Walter, Philip Frye, Jack McConnell, Edith Barnes and Pastor Jill's parents.

Parish News

United Methodist Men – October 7th

It's time to get the saws in gear and get the wood cut for the PET Mobiles. All men who are interested should come to Ward Bonnett's house on Saturday, October 7th at 7:00AM for breakfast and then work.

Laity Sunday

On October 15th, lay persons in all three churches will lead the morning worship services. It will be a time you will not want to miss!

Lake Miami Wrap-Up

What a fun day we had! The weather was beautiful, the food delicious and Bob Ivins shared poems and prayers and personal reminiscences of his days on the road - cowboy style. The nail puzzle he handed out proved to be quite a challenge for some of us. Thank you Bob and thank you Libby for assisting your grandfather so effectively.

Charge Conference – Nov. 5th

The year the county-wide charge conference is in our own back yard. Hamilton will host about six churches at the Community building. Because it is so close, we need to get out and be a part of this yearly activity. Following a short worship experience, refreshments will be served while each church/parish has its time with the DS.

Crop Walk

Once again, men, women and children will walk to help alleviate the problem of hunger far away and close to home. If you would like to walk, contact Bill Barnes (L), Katie Burton (H), Jane McCombs, Cecilia Wilson or Renee Clark (B) for a sponsor form.

If you cannot walk but wish to help, pledge to someone who is walking or give your contribution to one of the above-mentioned folks. One fourth of the money raised will stay in our area.

We will leave from the Hamilton church at 2:00PM and walk to the Bussey Church. Refreshments will be served at walk's end.

Parish Youth Group

At our first meeting, the 9 youth present decided to walk in the CROP Walk on October 8th. They will be getting all of the pledges they can so, as a parish let's show them our support.

Our meeting in October will be Sunday, October 22 from 2:00-4:00PM at the Bussey Church. Look forward to a guest speaker and a good discussion. If you are 6th through 12th grade, come and bring a friend.

All Saints Sunday – Nov. 5th

As in the past, we will honor those from our fellowship who have died in the past year. Family members will receive special invitations to come and join us in honoring their loved ones.

Environmental Presentation

One of our parish young people, Nathan Chamberlain, attended a special camp this past summer at the University of Iowa. He has prepared a multi-media program about his experience that, in part, takes us behind the scenes at the university to see just where the power comes from.

Come to the Lovilia Church on Sunday, October 15th at 6:00PM for a learning adventure. Snacks and finger foods will be served following the presentation.

Project Christmas Child

Again this year our parish has the privilege of filling shoe boxes with toys etc. for children. Samaritan's Purse distributes them all over the world. Boxes are available in each of the churches. One member of our parish has offered to purchase 50 clear plastic shoe box size containers if we can fill them. I think we can. Let's shoot for 100 as a parish. This is a project that is the most fun to work on as a family.



Beyond the Local Church

Thanksgiving Ingathering

On Saturday, November 4th, folks from all around the district will gather in Mt. Pleasant to celebrate missions. There will be a craft and bake sale, a quilt auction, worship service and booths that provide information on where some of our mission dollars go. It's a great way to spend your Saturday morning. For further information contact Pastor Jill or Renee Clark.

Mission Minute

There is so much going on, so many opportunities for mission. For example, if you like to walk, you can get pledges and participate in the CROP Walk on October 8th. If you like to sew, you can make school bags for the Ingathering and get together with friends and fill them or contribute to Blanket Sunday. There are shoeboxes in all three churches that you can take and fill with goodies for boys or girls in different age groups.

Heifer Project is always an option and the Bussey Church has quite a competition going between the congregation and Sunday School classes and several families will benefit from their back-and-forth rivalry. We have so much; how can we not share?

Periodically our family receives an e-mail newsletter from Chuck and Amy Bemm who serve at Tenwek Hospital in Kenya, East Africa. Their communications twll of their work with a mission school for 100+ orphans as well as children of national missionaries. Recently a roof was put on one of the dormitories at the school. Along with their work at the hospital, they travel around to other orphanages sharing the message of Jesus while they minister to their physical needs. There is so much need in the world and so much that we can do both far away and close to home.





LOVILIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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LOVILIA, IA 50150

October Chances For Good Food:

-Saturday, October 14 - 5:00-7:00PM -
The Fall Supper at the Bussey Church.
Come and feast on turkey and dressing,
roast beef, mashed potatoes, vegetables,
salads, rolls and then top it off with
homemade pie.

-Saturday, October 21 - 5:00-7:00PM
Soup Supper for the Hamilton Church at
the Legion Hall in Bussey. Homemade
soups, beef burgers, salads and pie will
be on the menu and the winner of the
beautiful quilt will be announced that
evening.

-Wednesday, October 25 - 5:00-
7:00PM - Soup Supper at the
Community Building in Lovilia. Again,
everything will be homemade from the
selection of soups and beef burgers to
the bread and pies. Come and enjoy!



Check out the talent show picture
page!

You can also view ALL pictures
online at

lumc.webs.com/loviliatalent.htm

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