

# The United Methodist Mailbox

Welcoming all seekers...Building up believers...Sending out disciples

Volume 4, Issue 5

JUNE 2008

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## Worship in JUNE...

Saturday's at 5 p.m.

Sunday's at 9:30 a.m.

Can't be in worship?

Watch us on Cable 13 at 9:30 p.m. on Sunday  
and 10:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings.

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**REMEMBER...** Call the Church (643-4156) or Pastor Lee if you are going to be hospitalized and wish to have the Pastor visit. Due to privacy laws, hospitals cannot disclose information.

## JULY MAILBOX DEADLINE IS JUNE 25

Do you have an item for the next **Mailbox** newsletter? If so, submit your news by Wednesday, June 25 for the July newsletter. You can e-mail articles to the church at [sewardumc@windstream.net](mailto:sewardumc@windstream.net) or call Cindy Mavis, office administrator, at 643-4156.

## WORDS OF FAITH

I've been telling you a story about a friend of mine. Her name is Lorla. For much of her adult life she was a United Methodist Missionary in South America, Bolivia and Argentina. In July, I look forward to helping Lorla celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

A couple months ago, Lorla figured out how to "get on" on the internet. While she continues to send weekly letters – by snail mail- I hear from her now via e-mail, several times each week.

So, we've been exchanging words! Literally. This began when Lorla asked me what I thought were the five most important words of faith. Just the other day she wanted to now what I thought about the word courage. "Might that be a word of faith?" she asked.

Needless to say, our lists have grown way past five. Last Sunday, I said "trust" was at the top of my list. As I write this, I'm thinking about another word for Sunday. It will be Word Two. Before the summer is out, I'll complete the list in worship. I might even go beyond five.

But, what about you? What are some of your most important "words of faith?" Why don't you let me know? Exchange some words with me at [leejsewardumc@windstream.net](mailto:leejsewardumc@windstream.net).

Blessings,  
Pastor Lee

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

Please remember Seward UMC members and friends spending time in the hospital during May: **Ken Paulsen, Kelley Snover, Donna McMillen, Velma Imig, Frank Woosley.**

Congratulations to **Marian and Dale Fosler** upon their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations to **Rev. Al Smith**, former pastor of the Seward United Methodist Church, who is celebrating 50 years of ordination.

Sympathy is extended to **Lora Hassenplug** whose son, Maurice, passed away in May. Sympathy is extended to **Bruce Dickinson** upon the death of his cousin, Susan Andreson. Sympathy is extended to **Nancy Eitel** and family upon the death of Nancy's mother, Gladyce Kurtz on April 30. Sympathy is extended to the family of **Herold Copper** who died on May 4. Herold was the grandfather of **Wess Robotham**. Sympathy is extended to **Juanita Duffek** upon the death of her son, **Larry Duffek**. Larry died on May 5. Sympathy is extended to the family of **Margaret Alexander** who died on May 9.

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## LOCAL CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Chair persons for **JUNE** are:

Sue Imig (643-9747) and Janni Hanson (646-2060)

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**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN WORKDAY** is June 7 in the fellowship hall from 9-noon. We will work on infant, toddler and twin size quilts. Anyone interested in cutting, tying and sewing quilts is welcome to join us. Questions? Call Phyllis Hronik at 643-6077 or Marian Fosler at 643-2161.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO KANSAS CITY

A Middle School Youth Mission Trip to Kansas City is set for July 24-27. The youth will stay at Asbury United Methodist Church in Prairie Village. On Friday and Saturday, the mission team will experience the ministry of the Grand Avenue Temple United Methodist Church and its work with homeless men, women, and children in downtown Kansas City, Missouri. The trip is open to youth current grade six through eighth-grade. If you are interested, call Bruce Dickinson at 643-3457, or the church office, 643-4156, and speak with Pastor Lee.

## STEWARDSHIP GIVING STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN MAILED

If you have not received a statement of giving record from the church, please call the church office. Statements, reflecting stewardship giving from January through April, were mailed last week.

If you have questions about your statement, please call the church office at 643-4156.

**NEW MEMBER WEEKEND** New Members will be received into church membership on the weekend of June 7/8. If you would like to join the church on that weekend, contact the church office at 643-4156. Pastor Lee will be in touch.

## CHILDREN'S DAYTIME MINISTRY UPDATE

At its May 27 meeting, the Administrative Board heard a report from Terri Siebert, chairperson of the Children's Daytime Ministry Team. The team received approval from the Administrative Board to continue its work in developing an infant care ministry. The first floor children's rooms would be used to care for infants, birth to 18 months, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday. The team will work during the summer to add details to its plan before making another report to the Administrative Board on August 5. As part of its approval, the Administrative Board granted the Children's Daytime Ministry permission to hold several summer fundraisers.

The next meeting of the Children's Daytime Ministry Team will be Monday, June 16 at 7 p.m. If you have questions, you are welcome to attend the meeting or contact the Chairperson Terri Siebert, or another team member: Kelly Wergin, Pam Jackman, Judy Rojewski, Cindy Butzke, Laura Goracke, Carrie Fitzke, Jessie Siebert, Terri Siebert, Anne Hansen, Leanne Josoff, and Shannon Hunter.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FOURTH OF JULY FLOAT!**

Would you like to help with the Seward United Methodist Church Fourth of July float at the annual parade? If so, contact Katie Welch, 643-9754, or Carrie Fitzke, 643-9562.

### **NEBRASKA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The Nebraska Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church will be held in Lincoln, June 11-14, at the Cornhusker. Sarah Shively, SUMC associate lay leader, will represent the church along with Pastor Lee Johnson.

Pastor Lee also will attend the Kansas East Annual Conference held at Baker University in Baldwin City, Kansas from June 4-7.

### **MAY - BY THE NUMBERS**

Total Offering Received in May: \$18,010

Average Worship Attendance: 317

*Thank you for your faithful presence and financial stewardship.*

### **CONFERENCE & DISTRICT APPORTIONMENT UPDATE-2008**

	<b>As of May 10-2008</b>
<b>TOTAL PER ADOPTED BUDGET</b>	<b>\$57,314.30</b>
<b>Paid through 05-10-08</b>	<b>\$17,858.63</b>
<b>PERCENT PAID</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>STILL OWE ON 2008 APPORTIONMENTS</b>	<b>\$39,455.67</b>

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**  
**9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday**

**SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

Congratulations to Logan Gee, Alyssa McConnell, and Rebecca Nelson. All three 2008 graduates of Seward High School received scholarships from the Seward UMC on Senior Sunday, May 18. Also, congratulations to Ben Nelson who recently was selected to receive a Triple Your Dollars Scholarship from the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation. Ben is a student at Nebraska Wesleyan.

## **FOUNDATION**

A famous person was once asked what he thought was the most powerful force in the universe. He answered, "Compound Interest". Who was this famous person? Warren Buffet? Gill Gates? Charlie Munger? Nope. The famous person who considered compound interest the most powerful force in the universe was none other than the scientist who discovered nuclear energy, Albert Einstein!

One of the primary goals of the Seward United Methodist Foundation Board is to see that the monies entrusted to this group continue to grow. Of course, the primary method of growth is due to the generous contributions of our members to the endowment fund. Additionally, a certain percentage of the interest from the endowment fund investments is left in the endowment to "grow" the endowment. This is when the "most powerful force in the universe", according to Einstein, comes into play. A \$100 investment today will be worth \$162 in 10 years, \$265 in 20 years and an amazing \$1146 in 50 years.

The future members of our church, your children, grand children, and even your great grand children will be the beneficiaries of your generous contributions to the Foundation endowment fund today.

## **PRAYER CHAIN**

Did you know the Seward United Methodist Church has a Prayer Chain? If you would like others in the church to join you in praying for a specific need, members of the Prayer Chain stand by willing to do so. To begin the "chain of prayer," contact Irma Fleek at 643-3804, or call Pastor Lee at 643-4156.

## **OUTREACH/MISSION COMMITTEE**

During the month of June, the Outreach/Mission Committee will be asking the congregation to contribute items for Blue Valley Community Action Pantry.

At this time the pantry is in need of the following items: canned meat products(tuna, salmon, chicken, etc), canned fruits, laundry powder, dish washing detergent, and pastas such as spaghetti and macaroni.

Please consider adding some of these items on your grocery list next time you are shopping.

Bins will be provided in the hallway of the church for your convenience.

Thank you for sharing with those who are in need this summer.

## **JUNE MEETINGS**

Nurture/Education, Wednesday, June 4 at 7 p.m., Parlor

Foundation, Monday, June 9 at 7:30 p.m., Library  
Finance and Stewardship, Monday, June 9 at 8 p.m., Parlor  
Trustees, Thursday, June 7 at 7 p.m., Parlor  
Worship and Altar Guild, Wednesday, June 11, at 7 p.m., Parlor  
Finance, Trustees, Foundation Financial Officers, 8 p.m., Library  
Children's Daytime Ministry, June 16 at 7 p.m., Parlor

## **SENIOR HIGH MISSION TRIP WORSHIP, JUNE 8**

Eighteen senior high youth and seven adult sponsors left Saturday, May 31 for a week of a mission experience at the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. The group will return the weekend

of June 8, in time to share their experiences in worship that Sunday. Please remember the following youth and adult sponsors in your prayers: Blake Barry, Elle Bourke, Nathan Broeker, Evan Canning, Sydnie DeBoer, Chesany Eberle, Zac Golter, Alex Kenney, Aaron Knickerbocker, Ryan McGill, Becky Nelson, Morgan Prochaska, John Samuelson, Carson Shepherd, Kenny Stratton, Delton Werth, Shelby Yelden; (adults) Kris Bourke, Daina Cepure, Bruce Dickinson, Evelyn Hastings, Gary Knickerbocker, Jim Lee, and Karen Yelden.

## **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR JUNE**

The following adults are scheduled to teach Summer Sunday

School at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor during the month of June:

June 1 – "The Bible," Shannon Hunter and Laura Goracke

June 8 – "Christian Fellowship," Carol Albrecht and Gary Robotham

June 15 – "The Love of Fathers," Daina Cepure and Monica Zabka

June 22- "God's Rainbow," Linda and Lauren Shepherd

June 29 – "Jesus in Jerusalem...and Other Parades!" Pam Jackman and Sue Dickinson

## **THREE GREAT SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN!**

### ***Summer Sunday School!***

Following the Children's Time each Sunday at the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

Fellowship. Learning. Fun.

Held in the Parlor.

### ***June 23-27 – Vacation Bible School***

Surf's up for a Faith Party at the Beach!

9-11:30 a.m., for incoming kindergarteners through sixth grade.

Registration forms available in the church office.

Return completed forms to the office.

Amy Miller is the VBS coordinator. Contact her (643-9456) for information.

### ***July 7-11 – Summer Day Camp with Faith Lutheran***

The camp is for children completing first through sixth grade.

Registration forms available in the church office.

Completed forms should be returned to the church office.

Sue Dickinson is the Seward UMC coordinator for the camp.

Call Sue (643-3457) for more information.