

# welcome to the online version of our newsletter

## Visitors

Saldana Family  
Tom & Linda Small

## Attendance

|                      |         |    |
|----------------------|---------|----|
| Sunday, September 13 | Worship | 60 |
| Sunday, September 20 | Worship | 48 |

## Financial Notes

|                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| September 6, 2009  |            |
| Total Deposit      | \$3,398.50 |
| September 13, 2009 |            |
| Total Deposit      | \$5,098.50 |
| Needed per week    | -\$3,132   |

## How to Reach Us

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Christian Church in the Upper Midwest

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Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



# the COMPASS

“Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths.” Jeremiah 6:16

## **Two Important Announcements!**

### Audio/Visual Fund Raiser!

We've received an "Awesome Two Thumbs Up" from the Congregation in response to the new speakers we've installed in our Worship Hall. Ah, but there's more to come!

The Board has approved a Fund Raiser to complete the next 2 enhancements; the Audio Mixing Board and Roll-up Visual Screen. Cost is \$8,000 to \$10,000 and is not currently available in our Savings. So, let's raise the funds on our own! Beginning this past September 20<sup>th</sup> and running through October 25<sup>th</sup>, we ask you to prayerfully consider a contribution towards this project. We're hopeful we can respond to this need and then some! We'll dedicate any leftover funds from this project and deposit them into our Savings for ADA Improvements. Please make out your personal check to Covenant Christian Church and note on the "Memo" line: Audio/Visual Fund Raiser.

Thank you, Technology Committee

### Treasurer's Update

The Executive Committee convened 08/26/09 to review 2009 financials.

The results were: Our Approved Budget is \$162,841 and Final Pledges totaled \$115,925. The variance of \$46,916 we agreed at budget approval would be our "leap of faith." Why? In past 5 years, we've experienced unknown giving that has greatly reduced the variance and in one year overcame the variance. God is good! This year, the unknown income "leap of faith" has yet to materialize. Perhaps it's the times we live in? Without the unknown income, we've made appropriate transfers from our Savings to cover expenses. Our Savings is sufficient to complete 2009 and begin 2010 with a modest balance. Our August reporting is encouraging. Excluding unknown income, we currently project a year-end variance of \$31,684. The variance could be reduced 32% by year end. God is Good!

Treasure, Dave Wharff

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**Openness** is a core value at Covenant Christian Church. How can we demonstrate our **openness**? How can the community see our **openness**? When people are welcomed to worship on Sunday morning, it is usually with the phrase, "...where **everyone** is invited to **come, journey together.**" Do we mean everyone? No matter who you are or where you've been on life's journey? **Openness** can also be a demonstration of faith. That is, we are not just open to people, we are open to God's presence and action in our lives. **Openness** could radically transform the shape of our congregation, if we dare let it. This is who we are called to be. Open.

...journey up.

### "Building the Body of Christ: From Gifts to Fruits"

An invitation is issued to you to make a faithful response to be more like the person God intended each of us to be! We are already stewards to a degree – but the challenge is to GROW as stewards.

A four-Sunday program of Consecrating Stewards is planned for October, 18, October 25, and November 1. On Sunday, November 1, when we gather for worship, we will commit and consecrate our gifts of time, talents, and financial resources for next year by completing our covenant forms and pledge cards.

Sunday, November 22, will be a time of celebration and Thanksgiving with a congregational meeting and fellowship luncheon.

The theme during this time will be "Building the Body of Christ: From Gifts to Fruits."

October 18<sup>th</sup> – "Graced by the Spirit – Receiving Gifts of the Spirit" (I Corinthians 12:7-11)

October 25<sup>th</sup> – "Led by the Spirit – Exercising Gifts of the Spirit" (Romans 12:4-8)

November 1<sup>st</sup> – "Empowered by the Spirit – Living with Fruits of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22-26)

I invite you to begin NOW prayerfully considering how you will accept the challenge to grow as a steward.

Karen Vroman  
2009 Stewardship Committee Chair

...journey in.

#### IN OUR RAYERS

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Jayde Hildebrand | Paul Ratashak |
| Jean Ward        | David Etzel   |
| Jo Hardcastle    | Vicki Stinson |
| Howard Sohn      | Donna Adamson |

#### NOTES AND NEWS

- **Covenant Book Club** will meet **Monday, Oct. 5, 7:00 p.m.** Book to discuss is *Durable Goods* by Elizabeth Berg.
- Congratulations to **Leah Denny, Scott Lair** and **Grant Lair** on receiving their Bibles on Sept. 13.
- **Vicki Stinson**, daughter of **Ruth Hollings**, is resting at her mother's home after hip surgery.
- The board would like to invite you to join them in celebrating the marriage of **David Twombly** and **Larry Hoch** with a cake reception following worship on **Sunday, October 4.**

...journey out.

### Support Reconciliation Ministry

You can support the Reconciliation Ministry by giving to the 2009 Special Offering on September 27 and October 4.

**The Reconciliation Mission Commission allocates the vast majority of the funds it receives into supporting the anti-racism training in our general ministries, higher education institutions and regions. 100% of this offering is spent for the Reconciliation Ministry of the church.**

**The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has a history dating from the 1960s of sharing our resources to address the racism of our society and the racism within our own church. We have called this process the Reconciliation Mission.**

We receive this offering in the fall and use the funds throughout the year to give grants to the anti-racism initiative to organize to dismantle racism and to offer grants to address the effects of racism.



#### Birthdays & Anniversaries October

##### BIRTHDAYS

|                 |       |                  |       |
|-----------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| Derek Nash      | 10/2  | Don Cavanaugh    | 10/3  |
| Corby Roberts   | 10/3  | Dale Schnoor     | 10/5  |
| Paul Cartwright | 10/9  | Max Pauley       | 10/11 |
| Joe Nash        | 10/12 | Deanna Hart      | 10/13 |
| Howard Sohn     | 10/13 | Gwen Graham      | 10/15 |
| Gale Holmes     | 10/16 | Shirlee Holmes   | 10/18 |
| Anne Twombly    | 10/21 | Tori Hodges      | 10/22 |
| John Isaacson   | 10/26 | Julie McClatchey | 10/31 |
| Paul Ratashak   | 10/31 |                  |       |

##### ANNIVERSARIES

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Chris & Jill Sterling       | 10/7  |
| Jay Sohn & Julie McClatchey | 10/19 |

#### Visiting Missionary

**John Campbell-Nelson**

**Wednesday, October 7**

**6:30-8:30 p.m.**

**College Avenue Christian Church  
Presentation & Dessert**

Please plan to come and listen to John as he shares his experiences through his ministry in Indonesia.