

COVENANT CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
 (Disciples of Christ)  
 2700 72nd Street  
 Urbandale, IA 50322

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 Des Moines, Iowa  
 Permit 1586

ADDRESS SERVICE  
 REQUESTED

<b>Financial Notes</b>	
Sept. 23, 2012	\$1,095.00
Total Deposit	\$1,095.00
Sept. 30, 2012	\$1,754.25
Total Deposit	\$1,754.25
Oct. 7, 2012	\$7,260.88
Total Deposit	\$7,260.88
Oct. 14, 2012	\$923.00
Total Deposit	\$923.00
Oct. 21, 2012	\$2,314.83
Total Deposit	\$2,314.83
<b>Visitors</b>	
Virginia McCurdy	
Bill Hagen	
Kathryn Nichols	
Howard & Janet Williams	
Gary & Joanne Astor	
Terry & Deb Lewis	
<b>Attendance</b>	
Sunday, Sept. 23	Worship 51
Sunday, Sept. 30	Worship 53
Sunday, Oct. 14	Worship 39


**How to Reach Us**  
 Church Phone 515-276-3781  
 FAX 515-253-0174  
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 blundy@covenant-christian.org  
 church@covenant-christian.org  
 www.covenant-christian.org

**www.uppermidwestcc.org**  
 Christian Church in the Upper Midwest  
**www.disciples.org**

**The next newsletter will be mailed on  
 Wednesday, November 21, 2012  
 Articles to be submitted by  
 Monday, November 19.**

Volume 4 Issue 11  
 October 24, 2012

covenant  
 christian  
 church  
 sunday  
 worship  
 10:00 a.m.

  
 2700 72nd  
 street  
 urbandale, iowa  
 50322

church phone  
 276-3781  
 www.covenant-  
 christian.org

**what changes? what stays the same? what's next?**

It's been about two months since our "Recovering Our Roots Revival" and I wonder if people are wondering about these questions about change, stability and next steps. I thought I'd share some reflections around what changes, what stays the same, and what's next.

**what changes? The by-laws and size of the board** The biggest change agreed to at our August gathering was an adaption of a stream-lined by-laws which includes a much smaller board. This hasn't meant much change to the day-to-day workings of the church. But it will mean that fewer people have to spend time at board meetings, hopefully freeing them up for ministry on one of four Journey Teams.

**Journey Teams** Instead of having 7-8 committees or divisions, we now have 4 Journey Teams. The work of these teams corresponds nicely to our mission and vision to share the journey up, in and out, all supported by the physical plant. Much of the work of worship, fellowship, education etc. remains, but is re-assigned to teams. What is immediately obvious, is that we have more people directly involved in the planning and implementing of ministry: about an average of 8 people per team!

**what stays the same? Worship and daily church activities** Neither worship nor the daily activities and ministry of the church has drastically changed. While the various ministry teams will hopefully come up with innovations and adaptations to meet the changing needs of a changing world, mostly worship and offerings remain consistently meaningful and unchanged.

**what's next? semper reformanda** "The church is always to be reformed" according to Martin Luther and other reformers. With Reformation Day close at hand, this seems to be a good reminder and obvious next step: continue to be formed and reformed by the Holy Spirit.

We are spiritual seekers working to grow in our love of God,  
 deepening our connection to each other and  
 sharing with the world our passion for justice and peace.

... **journey out.** . . . sharing with the world our  
 passion for justice and peace.

... **journey in.** . . . deepening our connection  
 to each other.

**Children and Family Urban Ministries**

Thank you to all who participated in the October 3rd CFUM supper. We served 97 adults and children. Your purchase, preparation, and serving are all appreciated!

**IHN Week is November 4th - 11th**

We will again partner with UCC to help them host up to three families for the week. There are opportunities to sign up to set up/tear down rooms, cook a meal, serve a meal, wash laundry, provide transportation or stay as an overnight host. Please contact Dana Schock at 515-334-5647 or [mrmrsshock@msn.com](mailto:mrmrsshock@msn.com) if you are interested.

**Make a Difference Day**

Make a Difference Day is Saturday, October 27th. Help Covenant make a difference by signing up to work at the Merle Hay Road Johnston Hy-Vee on Saturday, October 27th, collecting donations for Sack Saturday which is an extension of the Des Moines Area Religious Council's Emergency Food Pantry and Red Barrel Programs. We will work in 2 hour shifts from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. to collect monetary donations or to help customers purchase a prepackaged brown bag of grocery items needed by the area food pantry. Please contact Dana Schock at 515-334-5647 or [mrmrsshock@msn.com](mailto:mrmrsshock@msn.com) for open time slots.

**Thanksgiving Offering**

**Disciples Educational Institutions Nurture Leaders: 2012 Thanksgiving Offering**

Disciples have a long, remarkable history of post-secondary and theological education. Gifts from the Disciples Mission Fund Thanksgiving Offering continue a Disciples tradition of helping emerging leaders find their vision, voice and vocation, supporting all of our 14 colleges or universities, 3 seminaries and 4 seminary foundations/divinity houses in our common ministry of education. Your gifts to the Thanksgiving Offering help provide a nurturing environment where students form their vision of the future, find their voice in the exchange of ideas, and prepare for their vocation. Attention to the spiritual formation of the individual during this hinge-point time is critically important, and is a ministry that our schools share in common with our churches. An envelope is enclosed for the Thanksgiving Offering. Please prayerfully consider a donation.

... **journey up.** . . . to grow in our love of God.

**Congregational Timeline**

What's Next? While the theological answer to this question is "**reform**" (see cover article), here's the nuts and bolts answer to what's next:

- We are currently developing a Budget for 2013.
- We are planning **Stewardship Sunday, November 11, 2012**
- Stewardship Sunday will include an opportunity to pledge time and support to the work of ministry teams.
- We are drafting Team Leaders for each of the four Journey Teams.
- We are seeking officers to serve on the newly structured board: Chair, Vice-Chair, Previous Chair, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Secretary and Member-at-large.
- We continue to modify the by-laws for congregational approval in January.

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

Jayde Hildebrand  
 Paul Ratashak  
 Shirlee Holmes

**NOTES & NEWS**

- Thanks to everyone for a wonderful wedding shower for **Megan Wharff and Nicholas Kavanaugh**
- Thanks to **Ed McAtee** and the cast and crew of "Route 66" for a great show at Covenant!
- Congratulations to **Teresa Hindley** on the birth of her grandson, Harrison Edward born on October 7 to her son Travis and his wife, Monica King.
- You are invited to the **50th birthday** celebration for **Paul Witmer, December 7, 7-10 p.m.** (open house) at church.

**Display your Covenant Christian Church Spirit!**



It has been suggested to the Outreach Committee that members of the congregation might like to purchase a t-shirt to proudly display our new Journey In, Journey Out, and Journey Up theme. These t-shirts could be worn at events where congregation members are working together in the community for outreach functions. You could wear the shirt when helping with Interfaith Hospitality Network, Children and Family Urban Ministries, while packaging as a team for Meals for the Heartland, or collecting donations for the DMARC Red Barrel program. They're pretty neat just to wear out and about too!  
 Youth and Adult T-shirts are approximately \$12-14. (100% pre-shrunk cotton)  
 Polo shirts are moisture wicking polyester in Royal Blue with the Journey logo on the left pocket Adult Polo shirts are approximately \$27-30. If you would like to purchase a t-shirt or a performance polo then please contact Dana Schock at 515-334-5647 or [mrmrsshock@msn.com](mailto:mrmrsshock@msn.com).  
**Orders will be taken through October 30th.**



**November**

**BIRTHDAYS**

Kaylan Avaux	11/1	Helen Crew	11/2
Pat Murray	11/3	Christine Young-Denny	11/4
Esmè Young	11/5	Russ Lundy	11/6
Derek Roberts	11/7	Jerry Bane	11/10
Dee McCaleb	11/15	Bob Avaux	11/21
Calvin Young	11/22	Lillie McCurdy	11/25
Betty Lou Lundy	11/29		

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Tom & Linda Small 11/27