

Craig Johns

From: Craig Radden Henderson [craighenderson@saintpaulucc.org]
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2014 11:00 AM
To: Craig Henderson
Subject: Update September 21, 2014

**Saint Paul United Church of Christ
 Denver, Iowa**

**Rev. Craig R. Henderson
 21 September 2014**

UPDATE

Invitations:

The word has gotten out through colorful postings, mailings to area churches, the *Denver Forum*, church bulletins, and by word-of-mouth, but if you haven't heard:

Women's Fellowship of St. Paul United Church of Christ,
 300 Washington St., in Denver, will be holding its

Annual Fall Luncheon

Sunday, Sept. 21st from 11:30am to 1:00pm

Menu will include delicious chicken breast, **BIGGEST** salad bar in the area, rolls, assortment of homemade desserts and beverages
 Adults \$7.50; 6-12 years \$4.00; 5 and under Free. All are welcome! Carry-outs are available

NOTE: You may also support the success of the luncheon by bringing a large salad to the meal. Though we most look forward to your presence, the church building will also be open on Saturday if you wish to bring it early to the kitchen. Thank you!

Our encounter with the various themes of a Season of Creation continues for the next two Sundays.

September 21 – River Sunday. Healing and renewal will be themes of this third week's worship; through the scripture we learn that these outcomes flow from God's healing spirit and the river of life. Water is vital to sustaining life – all of creation depends on it. In John's vision, the water of life quenches thirst, the tree of life provides nourishment, and its leaves heal the nations. This might sound contrary to the stories of pollution, hunger, and war that we see in the world. God's examples of healing and renewal inspire us to be agents of hope and change today. The Choir will open its season at worship with an anthem, "Peace Like a River." Janeece plans an offertory, "Like a River Glorious" and postlude, "Deep River" which promise to thoroughly envelop us in the River theme! And if that doesn't do it, we'll lift up our voices to a favorite, "Shall We Gather at the River" and receive inspiration from a beautiful John Ylvisaker hymn, "Drawn to the Light." Sharon and Sydney Buss will greet us at the door, and Sharon will also serve as lector in selected readings of Matthew 28:1-10 (Sundays are always Easter!); Genesis

8:20-22; 9:12-17; and Revelation 22:1-5. The sermon title I've chosen is "After the Flood: Why Pigs Squeal and Giraffes Shake?" (Does that help convince you to all come pray and then, if you're a carnivore, eat a chicken with us!) It will be a good time.

September 28 – Wilderness/Outback Sunday (focus Romans 8:18-27). Also, Least Coin Sunday. We've all experienced wilderness in our lives. Either a literal image, an experience in a physical place, near or far from home, or a spiritual experience where we feel separated from God. In Romans, Paul points to the Holy Spirit as our connection with God when we are in these wilderness places. The challenge for us today is to find union with God in both physical and spiritual experiences of wilderness – by caring for creation and caring for our spiritual lives. How might we let the wilderness renew us and deepen our connection with God?

Sunday Children's Hour

Children's Hour has resume at 9:00-10:00 AM. Those who are have completed Pre-School through 5th grade are welcome to join Jo Danielsen on most Sundays. She may occasionally be assisted by Deb Fowler or a youth assistant. On the few Sundays when choir/bell choir is rehearsing an anthem before worship (Jo's and Deb's participation is valued in our music ministries, too!), this younger class may be alternatively led by Vicki Henderson.

Also, a **Youth/Parent meeting** has been called for Sun. Sept. 21 at 9:00-9:30 AM (in the upstairs classroom) to share interests, plans, schedule preferences and commitments for youth gatherings and the idea of seeking a youth leader. Families in our congregation with youth age 11-up were notified. All stakeholders or interested members, particularly youth, are encouraged to lend their voices to this conversation.

Calendar-at-a-Glance

Sun. Sept. 21	9:00-10:00 AM	Children's Hour, PreK-5th grade (wilderness trek with Jo Danielsen, west of Denver)
	9:00-9:30 AM	Youth/Parent meeting regarding interests/plans for youth group (upstairs classroom)
	10:15 AM	Worship/Piano/Choir -- River Sunday
	11:30 AM-1:00 PM	Women's Fellowship Autumn Salad Luncheon
	3:30 PM	Ordination of Erik Breddin, St. Paul's UCC (rural CF). 8919 Burton Ave., Cedar Falls, IA.
Tues. Sept. 23	7:30 AM	Bible Study @ Denver Community Center
	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wed. Sept. 24	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:15 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sun. Sept. 28	9:00-10:00 AM	Children's Hour, PreK-5th grade
	10:15AM	Worship/Organ/Least Coin -- Wilderness/Outback Sunday
Tues. Sept. 30	7:30 AM	Bible Study @ Denver Community Center
Wed./Thurs. Oct. 1-2		Iowa Conference Pastoral Meeting (CCPE) in Urbandale, IA
Wed. Oct. 1	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:15 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Fri. Oct. 3	10:00 AM	Community Coffee @ Sunset Home
Sun. Oct. 5	9:00 AM	Children's Hour, PreK-5th grade
	9:00 AM	Bible Study -- First session of a Six-week Bible Study of <i>Exodus</i> (Study Guides provided)
	10:15 AM	Worship/World Communion Sunday/Choir/Neighbors in Need

Mon. Oct. 6 10:00 AM Bingo @ Sunset Home

Announcements

In our prayers:

Marie Bradfield
 Bob Brown, father of Amy Robbins
 Jim and Marilyn Butler
 Grace & Wilbert Foelske
 Rod Hennings
 Gary Konarske (TX), brother to Nancy Schneider
 Marlyn Meyer
 Frank Phillis
 Sara Quigley (Kirksville, MO), niece of Jess & Kathy Meyer
 Greg Robbins
 Doretta Seegers
 Sue Steinberg (recuperating from surgeries at Sunset Home)
 Leah Stumme, daughter of Larry and Eleanor Stumme of Denver
 Joanne Walters, Marilyn Butler's sister-in-law
 Laura Weber, of Raymond, IA, relative of Henry and Lynette Doepke
 Sally Wilson
 Roger Zekoff
 and all others of our members and wider circle friends in need of healing and wholeness.

Grace and Wilbert Foelske have requested to inform the Saint Paul Community they have been happily married for 60 years! On Saturday, Sept. 22 from 1:00-5:00 PM, an Open House is being held in their honor at Waverly Senior Center (next to the Kwik Star, as you enter Waverly from the East on Highway 3). Please stop by and wish them well! Congratulations!

Verna Place will be celebrating her 100th birthday on Tues. Oct. 14. While she eagerly anticipates this event, her stamina level would be most welcoming of a "drum roll" of brief personal visits from Saint Paul UCC members over the next month, so she can be fully present with all of her friends and well-wishers. Verna resides and receives letters or cards at the following address: c/o New Aldaya, 7511 University Ave., Cedar Falls, IA 50613.

Music Ministry at Saint Paul UCC

Our choir and bell choir seasons are being planned and prepared by directors, Janeece M. Downs and Diane Wikner, respectively. What a joy and blessing our choirs are to our community and spiritual life Saint Paul UCC! Adult Choir rehearsals are open to all singers (including teens/pre-teens), members or nonmembers. A love of singing is the requirement. We welcome new voices to join us! Choir meets on most Wednesdays in the fall and spring seasons, usually at 6:30-7:15PM.

Collection of Health and Hygiene Items

Thanks to all who donated items to Bremer County Community Partners (BCCP) to assist students with limited resources to meet health and hygiene needs. Lindsay Stack collected the many items deposited into our materials box in the narthex. They will be distributed soon and make a difference. Thanks also for cash donations received. You may still do this: BCCP, P.O. Box, Waverly, IA 50677. Or you may "note" BCCP in the memo field of a check made out to Saint Paul UCC, and we will forward those cash donations to Bremer County Community Partners.

Add a Smile! Additional toothpaste in the materials box from Sept. 15 through October will be collected

for Denver High School students as part of health and hygiene backpacks. We are resuming our "hygiene items" collection in partnership with St. Peter's Lutheran beginning in September. Toothpaste is an important item, and that will be our focus for both September and October. Kathy Meyer is our coordinator on this. Thanks!

Missions Team – Harvest Dinner/Potluck and Fall Silent Auction

Beginning Sun., Oct. 19, for three Sundays, members and friends can offer an item for the silent auction (may be displayed at the church). Examples may include homemade items such as woodwork, material crafts, art work, or, alternatively, theme baskets, donated items or services, or offers of special events (e.g., a homemade meal and game of cards at one's home) – really, your imagination sets the limit. On **Wed., Nov. 5, 6:00-8:00 PM** we will hold a dinner in Fellowship Hall, supplemented by potluck. We'll permit bids on the items until the bell rings at 7:20 and then we'll adjourn to the sanctuary for some special music. At the end of the evening of, successful bids will be announced and items can be claimed. Just good community fun! Funds and special offering will advance our UCC mission. Hold the date for your family's participation! If you'd like to help plan, please see Kathie Novy or Barb Schnathorst!

Flowers

Thanks to Jo Danielsen for bringing in the beautiful mum plant to adorn our chancel area in September. Mary Ann and Duane Fails collected and prepared the large vase of pampas grass and (Duane hauled in a large bucket of good Iowa dirt!) for our "Land Sunday" service last week. These efforts breath additional life into worship. If you wish to contribute a plant or harvest décor during the months of October or November, we'd welcome assistance. Contact the church! Thank you.

Ecumenical Bible Study

We meet at Denver Community Center on Tuesdays at 7:30AM (that's the opening time, so don't expect to arrive too early). We have great dialogue and good fun! Try us out, once or often.

Sept. 23 Matt 21:23-32

Sept. 30 Matt 30:33-46

Web Site: The church's website is available to all. You can find it at www.saintpaulucc.org. If you have suggestions or items to submit, contact Craig Johns, or respond to a Weekly Update.

Women's Fellowship

September 2014 Monthly Committee Members

*Mandy Vervaecke/Alice/Julia 984-5222

*Nancy Schneider 984-6363

Marilyn Butler 984-5543

Judy Buss 984-5450

Julie Buss 984-5125

Peg Abbas 406-0065

Tracy Thurm 240-4285

AuRae Heidemann 984-5322

Jodi Walther 984-6344

People willing to be called as substitutes

Wilma Olson 984-5876 Diane Wikner 984-5737

Peggy Rogers 984-6243 Peg Abbas 406-0065

Mary Ann Laube 984-5291 Brenda Beaty-Rater 984-5005

Marilyn Butler 984-5543 Velma Steege 984-5709

Kathy Meyer 984-5375 Sandy Buck 984-5123

Rev. Craig's cell # (319) 230-2263 -- call or text anytime!

e-mail: craighenderson@saintpaulucc.org

Pastor's study hours: Monday 8:00-1:00
 Tuesday 9AM-Noon, 1-5PM
 Wednesday 8AM-Noon
 Thursday 1:00-3:00
 or by appointment

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