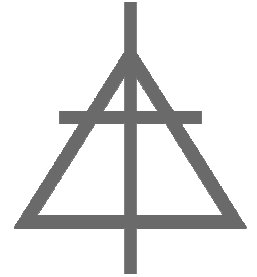


# The Echoes

June, 2010

A monthly publication of the  
East Martin Christian Reformed Church



## Our Pastor's Perspective

### Synod 2010

What's it like to sit at Synod? I've been to synod nine times now. I really don't mind going. In fact I do enjoy it—grant it, I like some parts better than others. Sure, it's a long time to sit. Typically the sessions begin at 8:00 a.m. and run until 9:00 p.m. But we do have our breaks (20 minute break mid-morning and mid afternoon and 1.5 hours for lunch and dinner). We are encouraged to walk then and talk together over coffee, juice and snack. Conversations flow as we meet and greet each other. Sometimes we'll talk about our deliberations, seeking a little clarity one on one, but more often we take a break and talk about our families and profession, our church and shared history. It was a good time to play "dutch bingo" finding our common roots. "Did you know \_\_\_\_?" "I had a teacher in middle school by that name." "Were you ever in \_\_\_\_?" "I remember you; we had a class together once." You may have had the same kind of conversations yourself in a different setting. We find our connection and our common history in this church called the Christian Reformed Church and best of all, we are related in Christ.

The work of Synod may have seemed tedious at times. Reports by various agencies and presenters seem to go on and on, but then we would remember that the report told of God's faithfulness and the ongoing work of the Spirit in people's lives and we would see his blessing and his presence through people and we would have a new reason to praise Him.

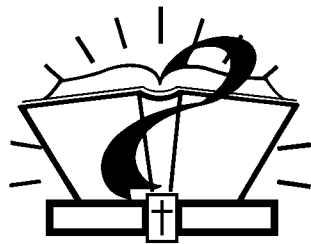
Speaking of praise, our worship times were the greatest. We would have devotions each morning and finish each session with prayer and those times were the best. Singing sent the spirit soaring, prayers drew us into the presence of God and Scripture focused our minds to seek God's purpose. We broke our discussion at various times to offer praise, thanksgiving and petition to the God whose guidance we need. We celebrated anniversaries, birthdays and home going of the saints.

Some of Synod's emphasis this time in messages and discussion was on the diversity of the CRC and how we can minister to that diversity. Then we were reminded that our purpose is not so much on how we do ministry **to** that diversity as it was to do ministry together **with** the variety of people God is putting together in our denomina-

tion. We minister **with** blacks and Hispanics, Korean and Native peoples, all in this denomination together. We need to make room for each other and then get on with our common ministry of telling the good news of Jesus everywhere. We need each other within our Classes and Denomination with the diversity of opinion so we can work together. That is how God has put us together for his purpose and the praise of his name. It is OK to be different. It is OK that someone else is different from you, for God is at work reconciling us to himself. Our God is a reconciling God. In our churches, in our classes, in our denomination God is bringing his people together and as we work together that brings him glory.

## Bibles for Africa

Each year Bible League International Volunteers send out a love letter to the members of their respective congregations. Hopefully you found your letter in your church mail box last week.



The people in Africa are seeking and waiting. Bible League Volunteers have chosen this needy part of the world on which to focus our efforts for scriptures. We are enabling Christians in Africa to be equipped with God's Word through evangelism and discipleship. As a result, God's Kingdom is growing. We are coming to the close of our fiscal year in August and then we will focus on another country.

Please consider carefully how much you can contribute to our brothers and sisters in Africa. Together we can bring people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and change lives forever!

Thank you,  
Your Key Contact, Darlene Leep

## In Contact With Council



Don Wubben opened the council meeting of June 8 by reading from I Corinthians 2:6-15 and opened with prayer.

The following were elected to make up the Executive Committee:

Chairman of Council – Don Wubben  
Chairman of Elders – Pastor Jake Weeda  
Clerk – Dan Jager  
Vice All – Glenn Leep  
Chairman of Deacons – Roger Anderson

District appointments:

A – DeKoekkoek  
Keith Smit, Nick VanDerHeide  
Jameson – Stan Leep  
Les Lynema, Jerry Bronkhorst  
Wayne Leep – Scholten  
Adrian VandenAkker, Scott Tuinstra  
Smit – VanDerHeide  
Glenn Leep, Russ Quick  
VanderKam – Wykstra  
Steve DeMann, Roger Anderson

Pastor's Report: Several visits were made; is preparing for Synod as delegate by reading the Agenda, is on the committee at Synod studying migrant workers.

The deacons offering schedule was presented and approved.

Committee liaisons are:

Worship Committee – Chuck Paufler  
Evangelism Committee – Keith Smit  
Building and Grounds – Scott Tuinstra  
Finance Committee – Les Lynema

Several visits were made by council members.

The Safe Church policy will be reviewed in August.

## Bill and Bonnie Snook

After being born in the Shelbyville area about four miles apart, Bill and his family moved to Grand Rapids and later to Grandville and then back to Shelbyville and entered 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Martin, Bonnie stayed in the Shelbyville/Martin area. They finally met in high school and started dating. They were married in 1958 at East Martin Christian Reformed Church and lived in Plainwell for approximately 2 years. Bill and Bonnie then moved back to Martin where they raised their family of 3 daughters and 1 son.

Kim (John) Brussee lives in Kalamazoo and has 1 daughter, Jessica (J.D.) Triemstra and 1 son, Marcus. Kathy (Doug) Kammeraad lives at Gun Lake and has 2 sons, Eric and Sean. Steve (Teresa) Snook lives in Mattawan and has 2 sons, Cory and Travis. Kristy (Sandy) Watson lives in East Grand Rapids and has 1 son, Nick.

Bonnie retired in 1999 from the U. S. Post Office in Martin after 30 years there.

Bill spent most of his working days as a draftsman and retired from Walker Parking Consultants in 2002.

Since retirement they have kept busy working in their yard and taking care of the flowers at the Thornapple Creek Golf Course in Kalamazoo. Bonnie enjoys reading, sewing and pontooning on Gun Lake. Bill also enjoys reading, pontooning on Gun Lake with Bonnie and golfing.

They spend February and March in Florida and have enjoyed many hours as "bleacher bums" watching the kids and grandkids participate in high school and college sports: baseball, basketball, golf, soccer, swimming and volleyball.

Bonnie has been a life-long member of East Martin CRC with Bill becoming a member in 1959. The Lord has blessed them immensely through their years together, through their family and extended family at EMCRC. They give Him the thanks, the praise, and the glory for it all.

## Senior Highlights



Casey DeMoore graduated from Kalamazoo Christian High, the last one of the DeMoore family to graduate from high school. He is moving to Kalamazoo and will be attending Kalamazoo Valley for welding classes.

Brittany Jameson played volleyball her first two years in high school and she likes photography. She selects drafting as her favorite subject. Brittany plans to attend Kalamazoo Valley Community College for two years and then transfer to Western Michigan University to obtain a business degree.

Shelby Quick graduated from Wayland High School on May 24. She started a full-time baby sitting job on the 26<sup>th</sup> and will be involved in that until July 4. She will begin Empire Cosmetology in Kalamazoo on July 6 and that will keep her busy for the next 11 months. After that she will start her hair dressing career with Aunt Susie at Shear Art.

Travis Smith graduated from Tri-Unity Christian High School. He will be working this summer and earning money for college. He will attend Grace Bible College in the fall in the Youth Ministries Program. Travis has also been invited to play on Graces' Soccer Team and is really looking forward to playing college soccer, and seeing where God leads him in Youth Ministries.

He wants to thank everyone at East Martin for all their encouragement and support.

Darrin Suk's hobbies reveal a young man unafraid of risk, danger, and challenge: bull riding and rodeo. Darrin is currently working at Peaceful Road Farms. He is passionate about riding bulls and working, whether at the farm or in the garage.

During her four years at South Christian High School, Leah Wubben has been involved in lots of extra curricular activities, too many if you ask her parents. Probably the most enjoyable have been the plays and musicals. South Christian does a play every fall and a musical each spring and Leah was in all 8. The plays were: "Anne of Avonlea", "Alice in Wonderland", "The Crucible", and "Pride and Prejudice". The musicals were "South Pacific", "Fiddler on the Roof", "The Sound of Music", and "Oklahoma".

She also was in Cross Country, Madrigals and Connections for 3 out of the 4 years. "Connections" is a group of students who offer to befriend the Special Needs kids who are able to take classes at South Christian – carry their books, show them their class rooms, eat lunch with them. The best part of this group is the prom at the end of the year! The kids get all dressed up in their formal dresses and suits and get served a fancy dinner by the Connections students who have befriended them throughout the year, then end the night with a dance. It's enjoyed by all who attend!

As a junior Leah was 1 of 20 who were selected to take the leadership class. These students had to meet with local businessmen and political leaders to learn leadership skills. These 20 students divided up into teams and had to come up with their own service mission. Leah's group participated with STREAMS OF HOPE which is an organization that works with children who come from unstable home lives.

Then along those same lines, as a senior she was 1 of 30 students who were on "CREW X", South's version of Homecoming Court. These students were required to have at least a 3.5 GPA, be involved in at least 10 extra curricular

activities and could have a minimal amount of discipline points.

After graduation Leah will be working more hours at the 68<sup>th</sup> Street McDonalds as she eagerly waits for September to start her classes at Davenport to pursue her nursing degree.



Many, many thanks for the prayers and concerns for Dylan Newbre and his parents, Michael and Becky. Dylan has been able to go home – please continue to pray for him.

Tom and Deb Rook, grandparents

Thank you to everyone for making our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary open house such a special day! Thanks for the many lovely cards sent and many good wishes expressed. We are truly blessed with so many dear friends here at East Martin.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord to us.

Wes and Darlene

## Update from Haiti

An interesting update about the work of the Christian Reformed Church in the aftermath of Haiti's earthquake: There has been an amazing outpouring of support from churches and individuals which resulted in \$9.1 million raised by the CRC for Haiti.



## Back to God Ministries

Praise God for the way He is using the Internet to bring people to Christ. A new Christian from China found one of our Back to

God Ministries Chinese websites and wrote: "I believe it was Jesus who led me to your site. It was your message that helped me to know Jesus. I am very thankful for your website and programs."

## Mexican Corn Bread

Mix first 3 ingredients together:  
 2 cans of creamed corn  
 2 packages of corn muffin mix  
 1 cup shortening

Brown: 1 lb. hamburger  
 1 lb sausage  
 1 large onion

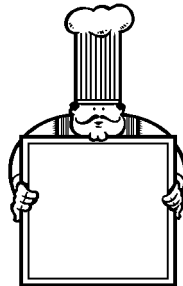
Mix:  
 Meat and 2 cans of 4 oz. green chilies

Add:  
 1 cup shredded cheese after browning meat

Pour half of the batter in a 9 x 13 greased pan. Pour meat mixture on top and then the remaining batter over all.

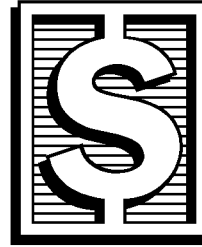
Bake in preheated 350 degree oven for 60 minutes.

Serve with salsa and sour cream. Serves 12.



\* \* \*

Bulletin Bloop: The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.



## Offerings For May

General Fund	\$14,959.82
Ministry Shares	5,261.80
Building Expansion Fund	2,006.00
Education Assistance	299.00
Faith Promise:	
DeYoung	280.00
Meyer	280.00
Shaarda	280.00
Nightingale	330.00
E. M. Missions	215.00
Jr. High Youth Group	200.00
East Martin Christian School	1,160.46
E. M. Christian High School	427.01
Guatemala	12,623.70
Calvin Seminary	269.00
Foods Resource Bank	906.62
Martin Resource Center	252.00
<b>Total Offerings</b>	<b>\$39,750.41</b>

### Totals to Date

General Fund – Ideal	\$150,000.00
General Fund – Actual	145,156.00
General Fund – Under	\$4,844.00
3% behind	
Ministry Shares – Ideal	\$73,985.64
Ministry Shares – Actual	48,099.20
Ministry Shares – Under	\$25,886.44
35% behind	
Remaining Building Debt	\$123,381.53

\* \* \*

Another Bulletin Bloop: Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

## Birthdays

2	John VanDerMeulen
3	Henry Damsteegt Harold Tuinstra
4	Betty DeJager Lily VanElderen
6	Jim Mejeur
7	Alyssa Lindsey
8	Andrew Lynema Travis Suk
10	Sara DeYoung
11	April Wubben
12	Eleanor DeKoekkoek Mitchell Westendorp
15	Alisha Korringa
17	Sam Katje Darlene Leep
18	Jennifer Tuinstra
19	Andrew Westendorp
20	Elijah Korringa
21	Ann Jameson Benjamin Tiemeyer Ellis Wykstra
23	Mina Haveman
24	Wilma VandenAkker
25	Joshua Damsteegt Keith Snyder Lee VanDorp
28	Jack Fenton
31	Jill Lynema Joan Lynema



## Anniversaries

9	David and Karen Misner
17	Matt and Ashley Double
22	Jim and Char DeMoore
24	Tom and Sara Lynema
26	Nate and Stacie Leep
27	Bruce and Joanne Mejeur

\* \* \*

The prospective father-in-law asked, "Young man, can you support a family?" The surprised Groom-to-be replied, "Well, no. I was just planning to support your daughter. The rest of you will have to fend for yourselves."

## Greeters

July 4: a.m., Wayne and Denise Leep, Glenn Leep; p.m. Marilois Leep, Joyce Kayim.  
July 11: a.m., Rob and Marlene Leep, Jerry Bronkhorst; p.m., Les and Rena Lynema.  
July 18: a.m., Geri and Sheri Van Elderen, Les Lynema; p.m., Randy and Mary Bouman.  
July 25: a.m., Joan Kammeraad, Betty DeJager, Dan Jager; p.m., Henry and Nancy Tuinstra.

## Ushers

July 4: Joel DeYoung, Roger Anderson, Travis Suk.  
July 11: Steve DeMann, Jerry Bronkhorst, Kevin DeKoekkoek.  
July 18: Kevin, Eric, Jeff Bouman,  
July 25: Ken DeMann, Glenn Leep, Nate Leep.

## Nursery

July 4: a.m., Joanne and Jackie Klaasen, Jennifer DeYoung; p.m., Kathy Westendorp, Brooke Leep.  
July 11: Jeanne and Kelsey DeMann, Kim and Stacie Haveman; p.m., Ashley Tiemeyer, Rose Van Elderen.  
July 18: a.m., Mina Van Elderen, Brenda VanDenBerg, Mary Lynema; p.m., Jenny Mejeur, Leah Wubben.  
July 25: a.m., Laura Westendorp, Mechelle Shaarda, Jill Lynema; p.m., Sue Tiemeyer, Alex Wubben.

## Library

July 4: a.m., Ida Westendorp; p.m., Angie Tiemeyer.  
July 11: a.m., Nancy Tuinstra; p.m., April Wubben.  
July 18: a.m., Carolyn VanderMeulen; p.m., Megan Westendorp.  
July 25: a.m., Betty DeJager; p.m., Jared Westendorp.