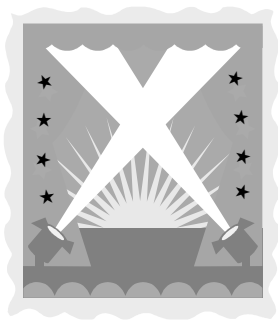


# Vine Reporter

## August Events - Mark Your Calendars!



### Calling All Talent! ★ Sunday, August 21st

What's your talent? Join your church family for a fun-filled evening of dinner and entertainment. The evening will begin with **dinner at 5:30 pm**, followed by the **talent show at 6:30 pm**.

All church members are encouraged to perform a talent that is seven (7) minutes or less. Songs, skits and talents are requested to be funny, happy or joyful. Admission cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children, with all proceeds going to the sanctuary renovation project. **Invite your friends and neighbors!**

### Folk Music and Sundaes Sunday Sunday, August 28th

Come join us for a fun Sunday of folk music and ice cream sundaes! A folk music worship service planned by Russ Workman and Pastor Renae begins at **9:30 am** in Fellowship Hall. Folk music will be performed by *The Ethnic Singers*.



Group members are Mike Janis from Millard, Karen Workman-Milstead from Auburn, and Russ Workman. Karen and Russ are siblings, and all members are former music teachers.

After worship, a short concert will follow, and the morning will conclude with **make-your-own** ice cream sundaes served by the Board of Worship.

**Don't miss it!**

### Youth Camp Out Wednesday, August 10th

All youth are invited to the camp out at Pastor Renae's farm, located in rural Firth. Bring your sleeping bag and tent to pitch camp near the farm pond. *A list of suggested items to bring can be found in the youth section on page 3 of this newsletter.*

Please meet at **7:30 pm** in the **church parking lot** to carpool. We will return to Lincoln at 10:30 am the following day.



### Germans from Russia Museum Tour Monday, August 22nd

Bring your family and friends and join Pastor Renae at **1:30 pm** for the museum tour. The museum is located at **631 D Street**. Please meet on-location.



The people of Israel were on a journey; wandering through the wilderness until they finally reached the Promised Land. We, the people of Vine, are on a journey; we have just begun a journey of wandering through the wilderness of renovation. We will reach the Promised Land. But, until then... let us enjoy one another's company as we travel. Worshiping in the Fellowship Hall has been fun. When we arrive at church we look through the narthex windows and see what progress is evolving in the sanctuary. We will be doing fundraisers to help pay for the renovation and I encourage you to support the projects whole heartedly. Let's enjoy the journey and look forward to reaching the Promised Land together.

See you in Church! **Love and Peace, Pastor Renae**

## Sanctuary Renovation Update

If you have not seen the church sanctuary lately, you will be surprised at all of the good work that is taking place. The pews have been removed for refinishing and to be stored. The organ pipes have been removed to be cleaned of all dust and stored until renovation completion. The old floor tile is being removed with dry ice and hard labor as I type this article. If you have not already given a donation and/or pledge to help with the cost of this project, I encourage you to do so.

A listening post was held on Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup> to update the congregation on the renovation, and the costs and pledges that have come in so far. Many questions were answered and fundraisers are planned to help cover costs of the total project.

**Samantha Mussman**, one of our young members who attended the listening post, wrote: *"I took the opportunity at the end of the listening post*



*to say a few words about the excitement that this project stirs in my soul. Many years from now, after all of this has long been completed and the finished project has had time to be enjoyed by future generations, I am going to be able to say that I witnessed all of the hard work, love, and faith that was put into making Vine a beautiful, warm, and welcoming church. I am looking forward to growing old within the walls of Vine; getting married, letting my children run happily over its floors and engaging in fellowship with my church family. If we can all just have faith, look beyond the numbers, and be excited about what all of this change will mean to the prosperity of the church that we love, then all will be well."*

I have been enjoying watching young and old join together in the work it takes and the many dollars it requires to make our church sanctuary accessible to all, updated and renewed.

~ Pastor Renae

## How You Can Help and Support the Renovation

**Help the renovation fund!** Save your UPC symbols from *Best Choice*, *Always Save*, and *Clearly Organic (Best Choice)* products purchased from any **Super Saver** or **Russ's** stores, or the **Alps** or **Save Best** stores, located on North 27<sup>th</sup> Street. We will earn \$30 from 1,000 UPC symbols and another \$30 with a certificate from the company when we turn in the first 1,000. We already have 110 to get us started! It only takes a minute to save the symbols and every little bit helps the renovation fund.

**Place the labels in the container in the Fellowship Hall or give them to Cheryl Svoboda.**

**Fundraising Brainstorm Meeting:** at **11:00 am on Sunday, August 7th**, please come to share any ideas you have to help raise money for our sanctuary renovation. You are welcome to share your ideas in advance with those on the committee: Clip Higgins, Jill Kuhel, Joan Humphrey, or Pastor Renae.



**Camp out details:** on **Wednesday, August 10th**, please meet at **7:30 pm** in the church parking lot to carpool. Bring the following items: water guns, water balloons, swimsuits, a pair of shoes that can get muddy, a couple of changes of clothing, tent, sleeping bag, pillow, flashlight, mosquito/insect repellent, snacks, and a cooler of beverages. Eat supper before you arrive. We plan to build a fire and make s'mores. If

anyone needs to sleep inside or to use the restroom, youth can utilize Pastor's basement for sleeping and the bathroom. Please plan to depart Pastor's farm at 10:00 am on Thursday, August 11th and **arrive in Lincoln about 10:30 am.**

**Things to Remember:**

- Youth Group meets **August 7th**, from **7:00 - 8:30 pm** at the church - to work on skits for the Talent Show fundraiser.
- **Talent Show** is **Sunday, August 21st**, with dinner at 5:30 pm and the show at 6:30 pm. Cost is \$8.00.
- Lifelight Music Festival in South Dakota – **September 2nd and 3rd**. More details to come!

**Go Huskers!**  
**Picnic Planning Session**  
**Sunday, August 14th**

After worship on **Sunday, August 14th**, there will be a **planning session** for Vine's **Husker Pre-game Picnic** scheduled for **Saturday, October 1st**.

This fun event needs lots of willing workers. Please come to share your ideas and help make this a special event for Vine members and our church neighbors!

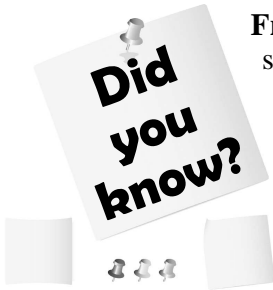


**From the Vine Foundation**

At its June 21, 2011 meeting, the Foundation Board of Directors voted to approve a grant request from the Vine Church Board of Trustees for \$11,898.00. The grant covered the cost of the recent new roof over Fellowship Hall. The Board also elected Jim Owens as the new Chair, and welcomed new board members Don Hopkins and Danny Wright.

The Board of Directors, on behalf of all the members of the Vine Foundation (members of Vine Church), express our deep gratitude for the generous gifts that make grants such as this possible. Bequests and gifts to any fund within the Vine Foundation will financially support the goals of that fund for years into the future. Should you wish to contribute, and should you wish to do so by check, please make out your check to the Vine Foundation, and specify in the *memo field* any of the five funds within the Foundation you may wish to support:

- **General Endowment Fund** (*mission, program & leadership at Vine*)
- **Rasche Myers Outreach Fund** (*ministry in the community*)
- **Margaret Myers Fund** (*annual proceeds to Vine's Board of Trustees*)
- **Capital Needs Fund** (*for Vine's building and grounds*)
- **Youth Fund** (*ministry to Vine's youth*)



**Friendship Home** is an emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence. Pastor Renae is mobilizing clergy women of Lincoln to "**adopt a room**" at one of the Friendship Home shelters. The clergy women will fix up, paint, and decorate the room, giving it a home-like feel. On August 1st, Pastor Renae will visit the room to be "adopted."

please RSVP to Pastor Renae.

**Rev. Norman Brooks** will lead worship on **Sunday, August 14th**, while Pastor Renae is attending her parents' 50th wedding anniversary party. Congratulations to Norman, who celebrated his 65th ordination anniversary this summer. We look forward to hearing his words of wisdom!

**Vine to Host Cotner College Presentation** by Bill McConell on renewing congregations. The presentation is scheduled for **Monday, August 8th**, from **10:00 am - 12:00 pm**. Vine members who would like to attend,

**New Confirmation Class** for 7th and 8th graders to begin next month. If you or someone you know has a youth of this age, please take the opportunity to have them join the class. The confirmation classes are led by Pastor Renae and give young people the spiritual foundation they need.



# Ministry, Mission and Fellowship

**New Bell Choir Director** - A big thank you to **Margaret Schaefer**, who accepted the Bell Choir Director position! She asks everyone to help with bell table set-up and take-down due to the heavy nature of the work. Her talents are much appreciated.

**Joyful Noise Bell Choir** - Despite the warm weather, its time to think of upcoming activities! The Joyful Noise Bell Choir will start their fall season on **Wednesday, August 31st**, at **6:30 pm** in the *New Hope Chapel*. Bring your calendars/planners and help plan the year. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

**Blessing for the Taylors** - Join us in blessing **Dave and Donna Taylor** on **Sunday, August 14th**, during the **9:30 am worship**. This will be their last Sunday with us before they move to Colorado to be near their daughters and grandchildren. Come with fun memories to share and warm wishes for their new home. We will miss them very much and look forward to their visits back to Vine!

**New Contact Information** - for **Nancy Larsen**, as follows: CountryHouse Lincoln II, 6616 South 84th, Rm. 18, Lincoln, 68516. *Visitors and cards are most welcome!*

**Thank you** - to the **June and July Fellowship Hour hosts**: Board of Evangelism (twice), Roger Svatos, Carol Rystrom (twice), Diane Knox, Julie Anderson, Judy Shutts, Jeff and Anica Brown, Bill and Trish Kenagy, Nancy Goering, Jill Kuhel, Mary Johnson and Mary Owens, and the Sanctuary Renovation Committee. All of the August dates are filled! There are lots of openings this fall. If you have any questions about hosting duties, please call **Cheryl Svoboda** at **402-423-0307**.

**People's City Mission** - The Vine Volunteer Crew serving the evening meal at the *People's City Mission* on July 25th included Anica Brown, Colleen Brugman, Judy Keller, Cindy Klein, Diane Knox, Mary Owens, and Betty Roth. Next opportunity to serve will be **Monday, August 22nd**.

**Joplin Mission Trip** - Cole Moreland has sparked a plan for us to take a mission trip to Joplin, MO to help with rebuilding after the tornado. Pastor Renae has contacted the UCC mission organizers and discovered that they are not yet ready to have mission teams. Once they are ready, we will select a date and let you know. *Please pray about this mission and start to ponder going on this trip.*

**Junk Jaunt Mission Team** - Vine is in the process of recruiting church members to go to Burwell on either August 26th, 27th, or 28th, or September 9th, 10th, or 11th (team's choice) to help sort and display items for Kaleo's Junk Jaunt sale. The team will stay in the staff cabin at Kaleo and will attend worship on Sunday morning at Burwell's UCC church. **A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.** For more information, contact George Robie at 402-488-3142.

**Renovation Project 'Harvest/Holiday Extravaganza' Fundraiser** - to the congregation, we invite all members to think of what they can do in support of this event on **Saturday, October 22nd**. We will keep you updated as time goes on. If you have any questions, please contact Arlene Delisi, 402-474-2646, Mona Beatty, 402-474-4054, Jean Jordan, 402-474-4787 or Lorene Behrends, 402-421-3015. Thanks for your help in whatever way you can.

**Calling all 'Bakers'** - Ladies, gentlemen, girls and boys, let's get started on thinking about what we are going to bake for the **October 22nd Extravaganza!** We need lots of baked good, and you are all great bakers. Please contact Lorene Behrends, 402-421-3015

**SCRIP Talk** - Remember to have SCRIP on hand for quick trips to the store, drive-thru food, and entertainment. What a convenient way to pay for meals at restaurants while on vacation. And don't forget the usual day-to-day needs such as groceries and medications. Stop at our table in the dining room after church to stock up. With advanced notice, we can special order SCRIP we don't normally carry. Join the other Vine members who regularly support our mission. We thank you.



## Board of Missions Report

At the Sunday, July 10th meeting of the Board of Missions, the second quarter gifts to Vine's Mission Partners were approved. Those, plus our first quarter totals, give us year-to-date figures of:

OCWM (State, National UCC)	\$8,892.46
CUE Seminaries	\$1,033.45
People's City Mission	\$624.88
Eastridge Food Pantry	\$240.34
Center for People in Need	\$240.34
Matt Talbot Kitchens	\$204.29
Multicultural Centers	\$192.28

We also forwarded the following special offerings to the Nebraska Conference UCC:

Tornado and Storm Relief Aid	\$250.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$998.00
Strengthen the Church	\$578.00

Thank you for your generous gifts to Vine's Board of Missions and to the wider United Church of Christ. Your gifts do the work of Vine Church throughout our city, state and nation.

**Congratulations**

A big **congratulations** to new grandparents **Steve and Margaret Schaefer**, who welcomed their granddaughter on Monday, July 18th.

**Kylie Alyssa Schaefer** weighed 7 lbs, 1/2 oz and was 19 inches long. Proud parents are Brian and Melissa Schaefer, and grandparents Don and Susan Janssen.

## Peace & Justice Ministries Report

The remaining two members of the Peace & Justice Ministries, Clip Higgins and Bruce Baker, concluded that the best use for \$1,200.00 of the accumulated funds from gifts and recycling aluminum cans would be to help support the Sanctuary Renovation Project. Many of the renovations to our sanctuary, sound system, entryways, and restrooms are, in fact, responses to justice concerns. We made this contribution in memory and honor of long-time Peace & Justice members and loved ones Janice Higgins and Dan Williams.

All of us who have been a part of the Peace & Justice Ministries at Vine Church over the years want to acknowledge with gratitude all of you who have helped make this contribution possible with your donation of aluminum cans. We simply could not have done it without you. Thank you.

### September Explorers' Bible Study

Anyone interested in knowing more about the Bible passages to be part of the following Sunday worship services is invited to come to the next gathering of the *Explorers' Bible Study Group* set for **Tuesday, September 13th, 1:00 - 2:30 pm** at the church.

Tom Guenther is the facilitator/coordinator of each session, and individual questions and group discussions are given top priority. It's a great way to gain more insight into particular passages from the lectionary. It's also a great way to get to know other congregation members and friends.

Best of all...it's free. Hope to see you there!

## CONGREGATION NEWS

New Members • Baptisms • Birthdays  
Weddings • Memorials • Special Announcements

### Happy Birthday!

2 – Dick Yost  
2 – Wendie Bryan  
2 – Kyle Karthaus  
3 – Jamie Walls  
4 – Don Hergert  
4 – Steven Robb  
4 – Jeff Clarkson  
5 – Alan Fast  
5 – Khloe Cuttlers  
6 – Gary Karthaus  
7 – Janelle Breed  
7 – Scott Powers  
8 – Loena Matthews



11 – Sarah Karthaus  
12 – Gary Scott  
12 – Pat Remmenga  
13 – Izac Martin  
15 – Nancy Larsen  
15 – Paul Svoboda  
15 – Jill Kuhel  
15 – Cashel Martin  
17 – Eloise Wilson  
18 – Jon Wright  
19 – Warren Beckman  
20 – Betty Roth  
20 – Ashley Poppema  
22 – Bill Leipold

22 – Colleen Brugman  
24 – Nancy Hassler  
24 – Aaron Fast  
26 – Kelsey Cutsor  
27 – Mary Kahm  
29 – Ken Gilson  
31 – Nakia Watermeier  
31 – Charleigh Cox



*In Loving Memory*

**Mason Matthew Bowes**  
Aug. 12, 1927 ~ July 2, 2011