

Vine Reporter

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June 2011

June Events - Mark Your Calendars!



Pentecost • June 12th

Pentecost is the fiery, windy, inspirational holiday of the church. Please wear red, orange and/or yellow in honor of heaven's fire, the Holy Spirit.



Youth Group Mission Trip

Vine Church's Youth Group is just weeks away from traveling to Perryville, Arkansas to visit the Heifer Project's ranch. From **June 11th - 18th**, youth will participate in Heifer's Global Passport program, where they will "experience the turmoil of a community forced to rely on the generosity of its neighbors after suddenly losing everything."

On **Sunday, June 5th**, Pastor Renae will give a blessing to the youth and adult sponsors during worship. During worship on **Sunday, June 26th**, the youth will share with the congregation about their mission experience.

Honoring Fathers Sunday, June 19th

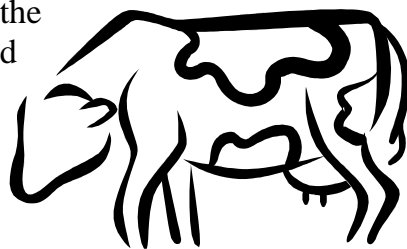
Please bring a framed photo of your father to worship service on *Father's Day*, **Sunday, June 19th**. Stand the frames up on the altar with your name on the back. **Celebrate Fathers!**



Prairieland Dairy Day Open House • Saturday, June 25th

Everyone is welcome to the Open House at Prairieland Dairy, from **10:00 am - 4:00 pm** on **Saturday, June 25th**. Church members are invited to attend a field trip anytime during the open house.

If you would like to carpool, please sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. There are many fun activities planned for the day! The Dairy is located at **13000 Pella Road in Firth**. Visit www.prairielanddairy.com for all the information.



New Look, Fresh Face!



If you haven't heard about or checked out the newly redesigned web site for Vine, please take the time to do so!

In the works for some time, the entire "look" has been overhauled and now includes a changeable message from Pastor Renae, a real-time church calendar, current events, worship times, and a detailed map of the church's location.

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Our church is God's house and we are the stewards who are called to take care of it. We are beginning this Sanctuary renovation because we see the vision. Because we know that when people visit this church that we are the hosts and they are the guests. Visitors can see and smell a dying church. And we are not a dying church. We are in a new birth stage and birth is always messy. But it is new life and full of joy. We are not only going to renovate this sanctuary but we are going to give it the "wow factor," so when we come back into this space to worship, we will look around and say, "WOW!" The money will come. . . don't be afraid. Everything is possible. Where there is vision, the money follows.

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

Sanctuary Renovation Update

Yes, we are making progress, even though it hasn't generated any dust and demolition yet. Here's what's been happening:

We received bids from two general contractors: Dickey & Burham, Inc. and Clark Contracting. Both bids were significantly higher than the original estimate provided by our architect, Davis Design, and the Steering Committee has been working through pricing issues, looking for ways to reduce that increase without sacrificing design elements or features of the project.

We are very pleased to report that we have engaged Clark Contracting to be our general contractor. As many of you know, the owner is Clark Hoover, a former member of Vine. We have great confidence in Clark and we know that he will help us achieve a successful outcome.

From the start, the Committee was almost certain that the floor tiles in the sanctuary contained asbestos, so we knew we had to have them removed by a qualified company. What we discovered as we got further into the general contractor negotiations was that owners typically handle all these arrangements, rather than the contractors. And, before any work was done either on the tile removal or the renovation, we needed to have a formal analysis completed of any materials in the work area that might contain hazardous substances. The testing is complete and we have identified a company to handle the asbestos removal.

The Steering Committee has been meeting regularly. John Bender took the lead in securing a bid for a new audio-visual system, and the Committee met with the contractor and John to review the plans. We have also had meetings with

Clark Hoover and with Davis Design. One of the results of our discussions was a decision by the Steering Committee to terminate our contract with Davis Design. At this point in the project, this action will not cause any further delay.

As I write this, Barry Hemmerling and Bruce Baker are working on securing a construction loan through the Cornerstone Fund of the UCC. Jeanne Scott has joined Diane Robie and David Taylor in researching and applying for grant funds. Clark Hoover is researching options for portions of the renovation before meeting with the Committee again to review details.

This entire process has taken much longer than any of us hoped or expected, and the members of the Steering Committee thank you for your patience.

~ Joan Humphrey, Chair, Steering Committee for Sanctuary Renovation



Greenfield's Fundraiser Results

Many thanks to all who ate at Greenfield's on April 26th in support of the Sanctuary Renovation - the church recently received a **\$200 check!**

The Steering Committee has thanked Greenfield's as well, not only for allowing the fundraiser, but for rounding up the amount earned to reach that \$200 figure.



Pastor Renae Builds On Faith

Weather Doesn't Dampen Spirits of Women Pastors on Habitat Build

Wet and tired, but happy, clergy women from several Lincoln churches came together to lead by example on Tuesday, May 24th. In what looks to be a first of its kind gathering for a Habitat build, the women pastors staffed a special interdenominational volunteer crew for the "**Lincoln Clergy Women Build Day.**"

The clergy day was part of the 2011 Lincoln/Lancaster County Habitat for Humanity **Women Build Project**, a national program sponsored annually by Lowe's Home Improvement, and this year also by Mary Kay Cosmetics and Schneider Electric. Twelve pastors participated in some way, representing Methodist, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, Lutheran, Disciples of Christ, Episcopalian, and Christ Unity churches.



Pastor Renae conceived of the Clergy Women Build Day, along with Vine member Julie Anderson, who also project managed. Despite the prediction of bad weather, Pastor Renae and the morning crew braved the elements to work on the construction site at 3919 Garfield, alongside homeowner, Molly Sukup. Habitat families put in up to 400 hours of "sweat equity" working with Habitat volunteer construction crews.

While rain forced the crew to build frames in the Habitat warehouse in the afternoon, it did not affect Pastor Renae's sense of humor. Drenched as she came in from the job site, she quipped, "Holy water," referring to the rain that forced the group inside. The mood was light with laughter ringing out between hammer pounds, but all agreed on the seriousness of the purpose, to help eliminate unsafe poverty housing for the working poor.



Vine members Bruce Baker, Jim Owens, and Jeff Brown contributed their time and talents to provide many of the lunches served to the build day volunteers, joining the pastors for a congenial lunch break. "We're very proud of Renae and we're here to support her," Bruce said.

From the Trustees

We are continuing to close the gap on our budget deficit and thank church members for keeping pledges up to date. We have also benefited from some recent savings on our utility bills through increased efficiency.

With spring finally here, you will begin to see lots of projects come to life. Work on the new roof over the Fellowship Hall will begin next month. Jeff Brown and Ivan Lichty have begun to remove the old church sign, the yard has been cleaned-up, A/C units are being readied for use, the sprinkler system will soon be in use and both minor and major facilities improvements are being accomplished.

The *Vision for Vine* project currently has more than \$88,000 in pledges and grants to help pay project costs. Also, committee members continue to work hard to identify additional funding sources. As you read this, our new-and-improved church web site should be online. Please check it out and add it to your bookmarks. Trustees next meeting is on **Monday, June 13th.**

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~ **Congratulations** to Tyler Unruh, a member of Boy Scout Troop #8, who received his Eagle Scout award during ceremonies on April 10th here at Vine. Tyler's service project involved an energy audit, followed by energy and lighting efficiency retrofits and upgrades for the church, including caulking, weather-stripping and fluorescent light fixture retrofitting. **What a wonderful service he has provided for Vine Church!** We are grateful to Tyler and congratulate him on his achievement and well-deserved award.

We also congratulate Bud and Cathy Geistlinger's grandson, Sean Landkamer, of Milford. Sean's Eagle Scout award was received in February for his service project achievement in the development of a community playground in Milford and coordinating the playground equipment.

We extend our hearty congratulations to these fine young men for their community services and accomplishments. Both young men are senior graduates of their respective high schools this year.



# Ministry, Mission and Fellowship

**Board of Evangelism:** Fellowship Hour hosts are needed for *several* summer Sundays. Remember that juice is provided and you do not have to wash the cups and glasses. Just bring and serve a simple treat. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. May hosts were the **Boards of Evangelism, Worship and Christian Education**, and the **Willis Moreland Family**. Thank you!

*Thinking about football and Halloween?* The Board of Evangelism is! A **Husker pre-game party** is planned for the first Big Ten game on **Saturday, October 1st**.

**Trunk and Treat** will be held **Sunday, October 30th**. Church members will decorate their car trunks and hand-out treats to neighborhood children. Be thinking about how you can be a part of these two ministries.

Kitchen cleaning was done in May by the Board of Evangelism. Thank you to Judy Shutts, Anicia Brown, and Cheryl Svoboda.

**Wanted - Knitters & Crocheters** - several weeks ago, Pastor Renae and I discussed **Prayer Shawls** to use for Vine healing outreach. I now have an example and directions! If you enjoy knitting or crocheting and would like to help with this easy project, please see me on Sunday or call me, **Carol Rystrom**, at **402-488-3492**. There will be a sample in the Narthex. Your help is very much appreciated!

**Summer music sign-up!** Please sign up in Fellowship Hall for a Sunday if you are interested in providing music during the worship service. All musical talents are welcomed! Call Abby Workman at 402-525-3581 with any questions.

**Secret Sister:** would you like to join in on the **fun** of the *Secret Sister* program? This program was started by the *Board of Women's Ministries* to promote fellowship among women of the church. If you would like to participate, your responsibility would be to remember your secret sister as often as you would like, but a minimum of once a month. Thoughtful ways to do this are through prayer, greeting cards, flowers from your garden, or any creative ideas that you have. To participate, please fill out an information form and return it in the envelope, both which are located on the shelves in Fellowship Hall. **Forms are due Sunday, June 12th.**

**Evening Discussion Group Potluck Picnic** - will be **Monday, June 20th**, beginning at **6:00 pm**, at the **home of Lorene Behrends**. Spouses and children are welcome to join in on the festivities! Dessert, rolls, and beverages provided. Please bring a potluck meal item to share.

**Summer is a Great Time to:** Have Pastor and her family to your home and enjoy some time together! Please call the church office to set up a time to have her over to your home or meet her someplace for iced tea.

**People's City Mission** - On **Monday, May 23rd**, Vine Volunteers served the evening meal at the People's City Mission. Members of the crew were: Nancy Hassler, Judy Keller, Cindy Klein, Diane Knox, Mary Owens, and Betty Roth. The next opportunity to help will be **Monday, June 27th**, and new volunteers are always welcome. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

**SCRIP Talk:** Summer is almost here! That means Father's Day, weddings, and family vacations/reunions. Remember to check out the SCRIP inventory to see how it can help with those gifts. Many of you use SCRIP for several of your everyday purchases such as groceries, prescriptions, and driving through for lunch or dinner. We really appreciate all of the families that use SCRIP regularly and would encourage others to try it. We also would like to encourage Vine boards or committees to plan ahead and submit a completed request for funds prior to making a purchase or beginning a project you would like SCRIP to help fund. If you have any questions, please ask any SCRIP committee member or stop by the table on Sunday.



# CONGREGATION NEWS

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

## Happy Birthday!

4 – Brittney Loschen  
5 – Wade Remmenga  
5 – Debbie Johnson  
7 – Lindy Mullin  
7 – Val Leipold  
7 – Mike Simms  
7 – Jodi Evans  
9 – Shannon Fast  
11 – Peg Hamor  
11 – John Evans  
11 – Becky Wright  
14 – Jo Eberly  
14 – Jacob Beatty  
17 – Colt Sievers  
17 – Lynn Nimetz  
18 – Colin Kerrigan  
19 – Kathy Loschen



19 – Tawny Anderson  
19 – Aleya Cuttlers  
20 – Jerry Jordan  
20 – Jerry Williams  
21 – Earl Heironymus  
22 – Dolores Wenz  
22 – Brianna Loschen  
23 – Beau Packett  
24 – Kathy Bennetch  
24 – Morgan Cardwell  
24 – Kole Scheneman  
25 – Mona Beatty  
26 – Claire Holmquist  
27 – Michael Opoku  
28 – Jarred Francisco  
30 – Phyllis Hergenrader  
30 – Julia Holmquist



**Confirmed  
in Christ  
May 1, 2011**

- Keely Jean Anderson
- Emily Jo Hernandez
- Brittney Carissa Loschen
- Ariana Josephine Niimi
- Ella Jean VanHuff

**Congratulations!  
May 7, 2011**



**Jayde Knox and Deanna Petrzilka**  
were married at Country Pines, with  
Pastor Renae officiating.



**Thank you** - to Norma Klein and Arlene Delisi for contributing more cookies for *Cookies for Voters* on May 3rd and to Jill Kuhel for restocking the cookie plates throughout the day. The election workers reported many positive comments from the voters!

**Many thanks:** for all the beautiful Easter cards from everyone and for the lovely Easter lily! We enjoy hearing from everyone and hope to see everyone soon. - Mason and Frieda Bowes

**Thank you** - to all Vine members, especially the Board of Worship, for *Music Appreciation Sunday* and the cupcake reception. The gift of SCRIP will be so helpful when I am wanting to purchase more music! Thanks to Russ and the choirs for their support and friendship also. Sincerely, Joy Maag

**Thank you to our many Vine friends:** who sent cards in honor of our 50th wedding anniversary. We appreciate all the "best wishes" and "congratulatory notes" from so many of you. Thanks to all for remembering and honoring us. ~ Lanny and Nancy Goering

**Celebrate Women** - **many thanks** to all Vine members who attended the Board of Women's Ministries annual "Celebrate Women" banquet. Your attendance and support is very much appreciated. We hope everyone enjoyed our *Purse-onality* program. Our **thanks** would not be complete without acknowledging the men of Vine who served our meal: Bruce Baker, John Bender, John Delisi, Lanny Goering, DeLoyd Larsen, Glenn Nierman, Wade Remmenga, Steve Ress, Roger Svatos, Paul Svoboda, and Dave Taylor. *Your continued support of our activities and functions is very much appreciated!*

**Spring Cleaning:** Trustees held a successful spring clean-up day Saturday, April 30th. Winter debris was raked and removed from our grounds, mulch was placed in flower beds, windows were washed, and the Fellowship Hall was thoroughly cleaned. A **big thank-you** goes to Jeff Brown, Ivan Lichty, Roger Svatos, Paul and Cheryl Svoboda, Colleen Brugman, Phil Mullin, Rick Otto, Mark Jeter, Wade Remmenga, Jill Kuhel, Cindy Dempsey, Laura Williams, John Bender and anyone else we didn't get recorded on the sign-in.