



Paw Prints & Woolklippings



August 2011

*The Joint Newsletter of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Fort Dodge, Iowa
and the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Webster City, Iowa*

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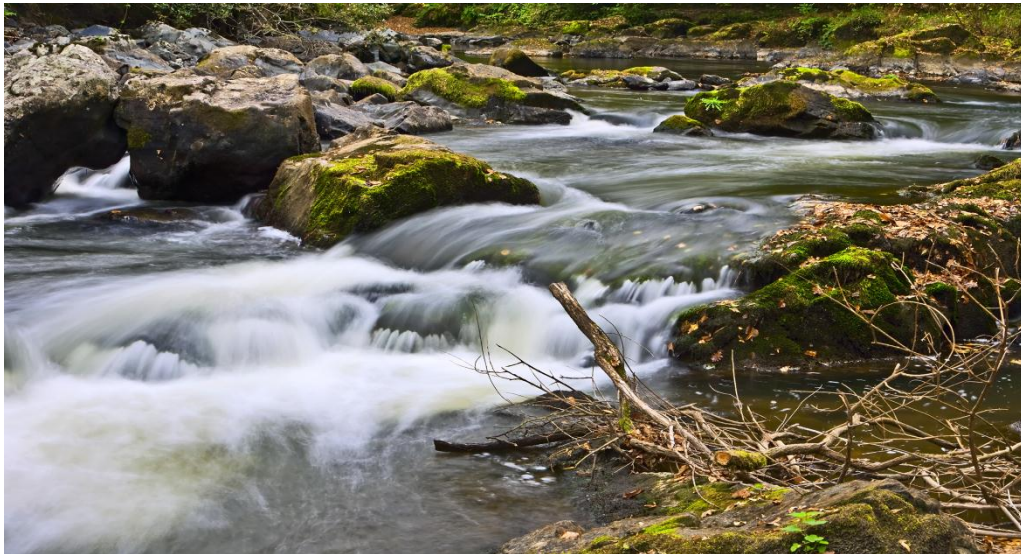
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~DAY BY DAY~

Something Has To Change



"One group DESTROYED a whole ecosystem!" --- a ten year old girl from Ankeny named Annika snapped at me, her tone heavy with unbelieving disappointment.

Annika and I were part of the recent late July, week-long, diocesan summer camp held in Monticello, Iowa, and we had sort of hit it off. She was just returning to our cabin with her group from a mock oil spill clean up activity, one of a number of learning opportunities designed to help young campers gain a better understanding of the ecological messes we make in our world and how we then attempt to clean them up.

There were a number of groups involved in this project and one of them, quite mistakenly, poured out a bucket of pristine water that was supposed to be used in the clean-up effort.

It was an honest, but costly, mistake. For now the oiled drenched body of water they had been tasked to purify was a total loss. Or, as Annika put it, "DESTROYED!"

Only 3% of the world's water is fresh. And of that 3%, only 1% is available for our use. Iowa, the only state bordered by two rivers, has some of our nation's most serious water quality problems.

In the Corn Belt, Iowa ranks at the top in fertilizer pollution. Iowa streams' concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus - fertilizer ingredients that speed the natural death of rivers and lakes - are among the highest in the world, according to an Iowa State University study.

In some tributaries of the Raccoon River, the main water source for 300,000 people, nitrates are found at levels several times the drinking-water limit.

"Something has to change," said L.D. McMullen, general manager of Des Moines Water Works.

Annika would like to second that. So, for her sake, and the sake of future generations, let us both pray and work to preserve and protect God's world. Otherwise, we will be left to live in the mess we create.

Love and prayers! Fr. Richard ~



On Being Good Stewards of the Land

By Christine Schiltz

Many people love to garden. I know I do. Someone recently requested ideas for eliminating or reducing garden pests without using toxic chemicals. Here are a few ideas for you to consider:

- Planting onions under the fruit trees discourages the worms from getting into the trees and into the fruit.
- Also if one is in the country, guineas, and ducks love cleaning up the insects and worms in the ground that attack apple and fruit trees.
- White geraniums planted in among the cabbages keep the cabbage worms away.
- Horseradish in the corners of the garden keeps away potato bugs, later dig the horseradish.
- Sprinkling a hand full of fine soil on the cabbages keep the moths from laying their eggs on the cabbage.
- As for the ants, an aardvark would be happy to tackle that problem; however if none is available, a line of cinnamon keeps ants from coming into the house if placed in their point of entry.
- Planting nasturtiums among the tomatoes, keeps the earth moist, and tomatoes remain green. Not only do the nasturtiums present a beautiful picture, but the flowers are good to eat and make a pleasant addition to the summer salad.
- Soaking the seeds in warm water and garlic the night before planting gives seeds and early start and keeps the bugs away. If the vegetable garden is planted after the 21 of June, the bugs have come and gone and the plants catch up to those planted much earlier.
- Planting the vegetables in four by four squares prevents weeds from invading the garden.

Happy gardening! Christine

The Season of Creation Begins September 11

As we move into fall, we are going to temporarily interrupt the Season of Pentecost, which celebrates the Holy Spirit and place our focus on a new season of the Church Year, *The Season of Creation*, which celebrates God the Creator. This new season invites us to grow in our appreciation of the wonders of the world we inhabit and the mysteries of abundant life we share with all God's creatures.

The international movement within the portion of the Church Year for the has been gaining steam over the last have felt a growing urgency to direct domination) of creation.

Thus, this season is primarily designed creation, encouraging us to work to that are, in some cases, the result of



wider Christian church to set apart a purpose of celebrating God's creation couple of decades, as people of faith attention to the gift (as opposed to the

to call us all to be better stewards of overcome the threats to our planet human neglect and selfishness.

For four consecutive Sundays at both St. Mark's and Good Shepherd, beginning September 11, our liturgy will speak to us of the forests, the rivers, and the fields, which praise the Creator in their own way. Our Biblical readings, our preaching, and our common prayers will all proclaim God's vibrant presence in all of Creation, and challenge us to be partners with Christ in the healing of Creation. Our Season of Creation will culminate on October 2, with the Blessing of the Animals' service.

The Season of Creation challenges us to re-orient our relationship with creation. While the challenge may have been provoked by the current ecological crisis and a growing awareness of our place in the web of creation, the origins of our re-orientation lie deep in our Christian tradition, especially our Biblical heritage. We are challenged to return to our biblical roots to rediscover our intimate connections with creation. We return to see ourselves again as part of the very Earth from which we are made.

Farm Picnic in Renwick

The Tom and Candice Martin gregations to come out to and fellowship on Sunday, later than 9:45 a.m., since we service at 10:00 a.m. sharp. picnic will begin! Please Beverages and the meat Martin's address is 1555 If you need to call, you can 0085. For directions, go to want to save wear and tear carpool whenever possible. to carpool should meet at St. leave at 9:00 a.m. We are so for their gracious invitation turnout!



family invites both con- their farm for worship, food, August 14. Try to arrive no want to begin our worship After the Eucharist, the bring a side dish or a dessert. course are provided. The Buchanan Avenue, Renwick. reach Candice at 515-890- www.mapquest.com. As we on our cars, we should try to Those making arrangements Mark's by 8:45 a.m. We will grateful to the Martin family and hope we have a great



Paw Prints from St. Mark's

Parish Briefs

- **Diocesan Summer Youth Camp:** Father Richard participated in this annual one week event as a member of the Ministry Leadership Team. Over 60 young people from our diocese, elementary-aged through high school, took part and enjoyed the usual things one associates with church summer camp: hiking, swimming, crafts, religious services and instruction, singing, and campfires. The theme of the camp was God's Creation and everyone who participated gained a renewed understanding of and respect for the beauty of God's world, and our responsibility to protect it.
- **Summer Snack and Game Night:** On July 27, eleven people showed up to St. Mark's for food and games. Holly Scherff produced a delicious sausage and pancake meal before the games began. The next Snack & Game Night will be August 24 at 6:00 p.m. Come and join the fun!
- **New Arrival:** Anthony and Olivia Slama welcomed their first child, daughter Kyrie Morgan, on Monday, July 25. Born at Trinity Regional Medical Center at 10:20 a.m., Kyrie weighed 6½ pounds, and measured 19 inches. All three members of the Slama family attended church on July 31st and the congregation took a moment to offer "Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child."
- **St. Mark's Book Club:** Although considerable interest has been expressed in the Book Club, we've decided to postpone the start of the club until fall. With so many summer activities, attendance has been limited. Cooler weather should be a help, too.
- **August Vestry Retreat:** On Sunday, August 28, the Vestry is invited to come to Fr. Richard's home following the 9:00 a.m. service for food and discussion about parish life. This meeting is in accord with the established tradition at St. Mark's of having two Vestry retreats each year, one early in the year after the election of the new Vestry and the second in the late summer prior to the beginning of the fall schedule. These gathering allow members of the Vestry to both build relationships and establish priorities for mission and ministry within the parish.
- **Kris Christy-Hogan Returns from Leave of Absence:** After living nearly 5 months in St. Louis caring for her mother, Kris, and her husband, Mike, have returned to Fort Dodge. While her immediate plan is to settle back into her home, Kris will soon reappear in the parish office to join Pam Coles in carrying out a wide range of secretarial and financial duties so vital to our congregation. We are so grateful to have two such wonderful and capable people sharing these responsibilities for us!
- **Fall Women's Bible Study:** Candice Martin is facilitating a Bible study on the Book of Esther, beginning on Saturday, September 17, at 10:00 a.m., in the Community Room. A nine week course, this Beth Moore DVD based study is engaging, fun, and thought-provoking. There will be food to enjoy and the study will last a bit over two hours. A sign up sheet for those interested in the study will be available on Sunday morning, so please indicate your interest by signing up. Participant workbooks are available for \$20.00. Come and enjoy!

Thank You St. Marks!

Dear Fr. Richard and Members of St. Mark's Episcopal Vestry,

Thank you so much for all your gracious hospitality for the use of your building for the funeral of Ruth Bode on July 21. We sincerely appreciate your neighborliness in lending us your facility while our church is undergoing renovation.

Your partners in Christ's mission, Pastor Matthew Martens and Grace Lutheran Church



"WOOLKLIPPINGS" FROM GOOD SHEPHERD



Good Shepherd's Garage Sale

Friday, August 5 (2:00 - 6:00 pm)

&

Saturday, August 6 (8:00 - Noon)

We need everyone to help us with the sale, so please let Angie know if you are available. She can be reached at 515-832-2580. Also, we could use plastic bags and cardboard boxes for the sale - people appreciate having something to use to lug their items home. Special thanks to The Garage Sale Committee (*Joan Haberman, Larry Bucknam, Angie Martin-Schwarze, Kelly Ubben and Tom McLaughlin*)

Congregational Shorts

- **New Library Director Chosen:** We are so pleased (and proud) one of our own, Angie Martin-Schwarze, has been selected to lead Kendall Young Library. With an extensive educational and employment background in Library Science, Angie is well suited for her new role -- knowledgeable, dedicated, and passionate! Having secured this new job, Angie and family will be part of our Good Shepherd community for years to come. For this alone, we are very thankful! Congratulations, Angie!
- **Cinema Fun @ Your Library: *Movie: Waiting for Superman.*** Filmmaker Davis Guggenheim reminds us that education "statistics" have names: Anthony, Francisco, Bianca, Daisy, and Emily, whose stories make up the engrossing foundation of *Waiting for Superman*. As he follows a handful of promising kids through a system that inhibits, rather than encourages, academic growth, Guggenheim undertakes an exhaustive review of public education, surveying "drop-out factories" and "academic sinkholes," methodically dissecting the system and its seemingly intractable problems. The movie screens at 6:00 p.m. on August 16, and is free.
- **Church Sign Needs A Facelift:** Iowa weather is no friend to exterior paint, as our wooden church sign is clearly showing. If you have a little time and can wield a paint brush, please consider volunteering to refresh our sign. Paint, brushes, sandpaper, and scrapers are in the "old" kitchen.
- **August 14 Lay Service:** For those unable to attend the Parish Picnic in Renwick in Mid-August, an 11:00 a.m. Ministry of the Word service will be provided at Good Shepherd. Cathy Moglebust will officiate.
- **The Bishop's Committee will meet on August 21.** If you have any business to bring before the church board, please be in touch with Michelle Haberman, our Bishop's Warden.
- **Amy Mechaelsen has moved from Ames to Ankeny.** Her new Address is 150 NE 41st St., Apt. 115, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-8126.

ST. MARK'S
HOUSEKEEPING DUTIES
AUGUST 2011

	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>LR/CB</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>	<u>Coffee Servers</u>
AUGUST 7	Callan Anderson	Celeste Rice	Cheri Cerwick	Tom & Pam Anderson
AUGUST 14	Brody O'Tool	John Daniel	NO SERVICE @ CHURCH – PICNIC @ MARTIN FARM	
AUGUST 21	Celeste Rice	John Duro	Mary Duro	Elaine Weidlein & Lisa Neet
AUGUST 28	Anna Bacon	Holly Scherff	Joanne Tjelmeland	Ellie Finch

Funeral Committee: Mary Duro, Chairman; Jane Martin; Anna Bacon; Volunteer

Birthdays

August	8 – Tom Martin	16 – John Daniel
	9 – Lana Wendland	17 – Mary Duro

Happy Birthday

GOOD SHEPHERD
HOUSEKEEPING DUTIES
AUGUST 2011

	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>LR/CB</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeters</u>
AUGUST 7	Katie Haberman	Deb Leksell	Steve Haberman	Michelle Haberman
AUGUST 14	CHURCH PICNIC -- <i>Cathy Moglebust is officiating a lay service <u>at the church</u>. Attenders will assume liturgical roles.</i>			
AUGUST 21	Joel Haberman	Robbie Katschke	Nan Bucknam	Ranae Anderson
AUGUST 28	Zac Katschke	Barb Flowerday	Angie Martin-Schwarze	Joan Haberman

Altar Guild – Judy McLaughlin

Coffee Servers – Tom and Judy McLaughlin

BIRTHDAYS

August 6 – McKinnon Finn
19 – Mona Zahn

26 – Jake Haberman
Khaina Chitavong
29 – Samantha Conley

Happy Birthday