

Celebrate Easter Sunday at NACC!

We'll begin our morning with our 8:15 a.m. worship service and the Chancel Choir will be singing at both services. The youth will be serving up a delicious pancake breakfast in Fellowship Hall from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. The menu will include pancakes, sausage, and fruit. The cost is \$5.00 and \$2.50 for children under the age of ten. Our 10:45 a.m. worship service will follow. There will be no youth groups that evening. **Youth:** You should meet in Fellowship Hall at 8:45 a.m. to get ready to serve beverages, clean tables, and flip flapjacks.

Thank You For Giving!

Dear DMF Partners:

When we look around, the news reports are full of bad news. News that is filled with layoff notices, reduced spending, rising foreclosures, and corporate bankruptcies. And yet, in the midst of it all, there seems to be a message, a voice calling us to wholeness in the midst of fragmentation.

It seems the church has a witness to some good news! We have a word to speak about wealth, peril, and obligation. We have good news about treasure and heart being of one accord. We have good news about serving God first and offering our first fruits. We have a word about commitment and perseverance and God's providence.

Your congregation's gifts to **Disciples Mission Fund** work together through partners to bring a measure of wholeness to a fragmented world. Your gifts combined with the legacy gifts through the Christian Church Foundation are transforming lives, modeling faithfulness, and training leaders.

In 2008, your gifts built a house in Beaumont, Texas through Disciples Volunteering and Disciples Women. Your gifts are planning the General Assembly in Indianapolis this summer where we are going to have meaningful conversation, inspirational worship, and information resource groups. Your gifts are helping children on the streets have a safe place to learn, study and grow.

As a pastor, I never knew that in the early 20th century, our churches agreed to partner together and give from their operating budgets to support the common mission fund of the whole church - in 1941 we covenanted as church to offer 10% of our operating budgets to the common fund of the church - then Unified Promotion - today Disciples Mission Fund. Thank you for your continuing partnership. With you by our side, we can fulfill everything that God is calling us to do.

Blessings, **Todd Adams, Assoc. General Minister and Vice President**

In future issues you will find greater detail as to how these gifts were used in 2008.

**Sign Up Now for the
Next Mission Trip**

The next mission trip to Pearlinton, Miss. is being planned for **May 17-24**. Anyone can participate, you only need a willing attitude and a desire to help. If interested, call Scott Zimmerman at 576-0071.

It's Almost Time for the 2009 NEOLA Camps

It's time to start thinking about summer church camps! Camps start as early as June 7 and some run through September 6. Registration forms will be coming in to the church office soon, but if you want to get a jump on registering, you can download the information at www.olaccma.org.

**Good Friday Community Service
April 10 from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Grace United Methodist Church**

**United Students for
Fair Trade Banquet
Thursday, April 16
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
NACC Fellowship Hall**

**Stewardship Workshop:
"Giving to God:
from Principles to Practice"
Sunday, April 26
from 3:30 - 6:00 p.m.
In Our Fellowship Hall**

This Ozark Lakes Area workshop will build on the principles from the first workshop that was held in the spring of 2008, which sought to present "The Big Picture of Stewardship" which laid a foundation of core biblical principles. The keynote speaker will be **Ed Varnum**. "Ed believes that the present economy makes it more important than ever for the church to teach biblical stewardship with both clarity and conviction. It is vital that we cast a vision greater than any current crisis, with guidance on how to live out God's call to faithful stewardship." There is no cost to attend, just notify church office (869-9176) if you plan to attend.

Condolences . . .

. . . to **Ellie Harris** and her family in the passing of her brother-in-law on April 3 in Emporia, Kansas.

. . . to **Debbie Radford** and her family in the passing of her sister-in-law **Darnella Abrams** on April 3.

. . . to **Larry Butterfield** in the passing of his sister on April 6 in Blackwell, Oklahoma.

Registration Opens for Two Key Events in May

During a discussion at the recent General Board meeting, ideas were shared about issues still needing attention during the interim ministry, as we now prepare for the calling of our new Senior Minister. The Interim Steering Committee was charged with planning events that will continue healing, promote deeper understanding of congregational life, and provide occasions that promote community and fellowship. The following two programs are in response to those issues. We encourage all NACC members to be active participants. You can register either by calling the church office (869-9176), signing-up on the hallway registration board, or so noting your interest on the attendance pew cards during worship.

I. A return of the popular “Dinners of Eight” program: May-August!

This is a series of “round robin” dinners that provide an awesome and fun opportunity for getting better acquainted with others in the church while enjoying wonderful meals together. Each couple (husband/wife, partners, two friends, whatever combination of two you want) will attend a total of four separate dinners and be with a new group of people at each meal. You will host one meal in your home or place of choice (e.g. a picnic) at which you’ll provide the main course (meats and vegetable), beverages, and utensils. The other participants will be assigned the dessert, the salad and bread, and the appetizer to complement the main course. At the end of the four meal rotation, you will have provided one of each course and met twelve other couples (twenty-four persons). If you know you can’t do all four months, then sign-up to be a substitute couple for situations where the hostess can only find a common date for three of the couples that month and one has to drop out for that month’s dinner. There’s lots of flexibility, fun, and good food! It’s a win/win program!!

II. A four-part seminar on “Ethics in Congregational Life”

Ethics involves examining issues which relate to how one lives one’s life responsibly both in relation to God as well as the life we lead together in community. What are the norms and models for moral decision-making? Being a faith community? Relating to key ethical and justice issues in society? Finding reconciliation and forgiveness for breaches of ethics?

Our Interim Minister Dr. Herb Knudsen and Minister Elder Dr. Peter Browning (also a Professor of Religion at Drury) will team teach this seminar. Identical sessions will be held on Sunday evenings (5:30-7:00 pm) May 3, 17, 24, 31 and Wednesday evenings (6:00-7:30 pm) May 6, 13, 20, 27 in order to provide times which will complement other programming options in May. Check the weekly [Update](#) for more descriptive information about each session or speak with either teacher. The seminar’s weekly focus will be:

1. Healthy Congregational Relationships and the [Ethical Guidelines for Congregational Conduct](#)
2. Healthy Pastors, Healthy Relationships with Parishioners, and the [Ministerial Code of Ethics](#)
3. Discussing Moral/Social Issues – most contemporary case:
human sexuality and homosexuality
4. In breaches or disagreements over ethics, what’s: Reconciliation? Forgiveness? Social Justice?

NATIONAL AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

1515 South National Avenue

Springfield, Missouri 65804

(417) 869-9176 — (417) 869-7256 FAX

Web Page: www.natlave.com

E-Mail: natlave@sbcglobal.net

Pastor's E-Mail: natlaveherb@sbcglobal.net

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FRIDAY, APRIL 10 - GOOD FRIDAY

A **COMMUNITY SERVICE** will be held at Grace United Methodist Church at noon.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12 - EASTER

Worship services at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. (Chancel Choir will sing at both worship services). Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m.

The youth groups will serve an **EASTER PANCAKE BREAKFAST** in Fellowship Hall from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Youth meet at 8:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall to get ready.

Choir rehearsal will be held in the music room at 10:15 a.m.

There will be **NO YOUTH GROUPS** tonight.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

MARY MARTHA CIRCLE will meet at the church at 9:30 a.m. to car pool to the home of the Knudsens for a brunch.

The **INTERIM STEERING COMMITTEE** will meet at 6:00 p.m. at Qdoba at Kansas Expressway and Republic Road.

ABIGAIL CIRCLE will meet in the parlor at 7:00 pm.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

There will be **NO CHANCEL CHOIR OR BELL CHOIR PRACTICE** tonight.

The **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE** will meet at 7:00 p.m. in Room 107.