

May 13, 2009

VOLUME 61, NO. 9

News from a Rainbow Network Supporter Who Recently Traveled to Nicaragua



Lola Butcher, a Rainbow Network supporter and member of a Village Partner congregation, recently traveled to Nicaragua to observe Rainbow Network in action and to attend our celebration event marking the serving of 25,000,000 meals to the poorest of the poor in rural Nicaragua. Below is an excerpt from her travel blog:

As a young school teacher in rural Nicaragua several years ago, Aleyda Hernandez was fearful to speak up about a problem that the Rainbow Network had not yet addressed. Leaders in her community were meeting with Keith Jaspers, founder of the Rainbow Network, under a mango tree near her school. As the meeting ended, Aleyda's concern for her students overcame her worries about asking for too much.

"I got courage to speak, and I said to Mr. Keith: 'Some children in my classroom are passing out from hunger, and I want you to help us. Can you help us?'" Thus was born Rainbow Network's program of feeding centers for children in rural Nicaragua.

In April, Aleyda helped lead a celebration of 25 million meals served through that program. Check out <http://rainbownetwork.wordpress.com> to learn how Aleyda and many others are summoning the courage to fight poverty in one of the poorest countries in the western hemisphere.

The dedicated link to Lola's blog post is: <http://rainbownetwork.wordpress.com/2009/04/14/reflections-on-nicaragua-from-lola-butcher/> if you would like to link to her full story.



Youth Groups will conclude this program cycle in May and resume in September.

April was a fantastic month for the youth at NACC. We learned about responsibility while decorating for the Easter pancake breakfast, creating Earth Day shopping bags to be distributed at PriceCutter, and sewing teddy bears for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Thank you to everyone who helped make our teddy bear factory a success!

On **May 17, from 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.**, the youth group would like to **invite the entire congregation** to come to Fellowship Hall for our Celebration of Service. Students will be teaching about our character words, showing pictures of the fun we've had, discussing our service projects for the year, and best of all, serving ice cream sundaes. Please plan to attend our celebration as we reflect on the great learning and serving we've done this semester. **Robyn Hagerman, Education Chair**

Crosslines Report

On May 1st 37 families (96 people) were served at Crosslines by volunteers from NACC. Those who helped in distributing, shopping, or stocking shelves were Kay Haun, Mac McCullah, Kim Zimmerman, Hubert Lines, Larry Butterworth, Emogene Cassy, Myrna White, Katie Squires, Twajana Chas-teen, Nancy Davis, Phil Fortune, Norene Rinker, and Joan Young. Our pantry shelves are quite depleted; so, **for our June 5th ministry we need the following:** cereal, saltine crackers, macaroni & cheese, peanut butter, snacks such as packaged cookies, powdered gelatin and pudding, jelly, and canned meat, tuna, pork & beans, soup, fruit, green beans, peas, and corn. And we always need the large paper grocery sacks. Thanks to all of you who help our neighbors in need. **Joan Young**



Along the Avenue



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, May 31

After Each Service

To elect new elders, deacons
& officers

BOY SCOUT TROOP 24

GARAGE SALE

Saturday, May 16

7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

In the NACC Parking Lot



Garage Sale to Benefit Rare Breed

Teen Center Held at
Brentwood Christian Church

1900 E. Baratara

Saturday, May 23

C.W.F. 31st Annual Spring Salad Supper

Republic First Christian Church

443 N. Main St., Republic, Mo.

Tues., June 2, 6:00 p.m.



Speaker: Their Youth Pastor Rev. Julie Pappenfort
"Who Packs Your Parachute?"

Bring a salad & RSVP by May 29
to Linda Bossi (890-1079).

Disciples Mission Fund Report

Thank you for your gifts through Disciples Mission Fund. In 2008, Disciples congregations contributed a total of \$16,611,858 through DMF. We appreciate NACC's contributing \$19,210.50 through regular giving, special offerings, CWF, youth groups, and church schools.

Of these gifts, \$7,783.71 went to the Christian Church of Mid-America for ministries such as nurture and care of congregations and pastors, helping in securing pastoral leadership, youth camps and conferences, lay training events, new church development ministries, spiritual enrichment, CWF, and CMF retreats, and other services to congregations.

Congratulations to **Dr. John Mihalevich** who was recently awarded the distinguished service award by the University of Missouri Medical Alumni Organization. The award is given to alumni who have distinguished themselves through community service.

Congratulations also to **David Estes** on his new book, *A Bag of Gold*, a Western about two strong men dedicated to doing the right thing.

RESCHEDULED



Attention NACC Softball Team:

There will be a rain make-up game on Thursday, May 28, at 6:20 p.m. at Killian 3.

Report for Sunday, May 3, 2009

Worship Attendance	159
Church School Attendance	77
Homebound Served	4
"KFC" Buckets	\$135
Weekly Receipts	\$9,697

Report for Sunday, May 10, 2009

Worship Attendance	167
Church School Attendance	64
Homebound Served	4
Weekly Pledge Receipts	\$6,897

This Sunday, May 17

Sermon

"Love Ya, Man. . ."
Dr. Herb Knudsen

Scriptures:

First Lesson

Gospel

Worship Leader

Sunday, May 24

Sermon

"Then Do Me A Favor . . ."
Dr. Mike Weinman

Scriptures:

First Lesson

Gospel

Worship Leader

Report from the May 3 General Board Meeting



Forty-four members of the Board (plus three other NACC members) met Sunday evening for its regular bi-monthly meeting. The first part of every meeting is devoted to a half-hour of "Leadership Development Study." This month's very interesting focus was on the dynamics of "Congregational Size and Life Cycle" and led by Dr. Knudsen.

In addition to the exciting reports on the activities of our committees, the following actions were discussed during the business session and approved:

- * The minutes of the March 8, 2009 meeting as amended
- * A proposal from the Finance Committee on a new "Memorial Gifts" policy
- * The 2008 Audit Report and proposed changes/updates to Financial policies
- * An update report from the Constitution Review Committee on its surveys and studies; followed by an affirmation of its proposal of moving to a smaller General Board and toward a better utilization of church members' time and talents in enhanced committee/ministry assignments.
- * For forwarding to the Congregation Meeting on May 31, the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of candidates for church leadership next year
- * The 2009 distribution of income (\$26,850.85) from the Outreach Foundation
- * The Property Committee request for use of Property Foundation income in 2009 to underwrite costs of sanctuary and exterior repair work and painting (\$12,000)
- * The Personnel Committee proposal to hire Ms. Amanda Martin from Drury University as the 2009-2010 College Intern
- * The presentation for review and first reading (motions to be in July) of the newly revised NACC Personnel Handbook
- * A special task group from the board to conduct a mid-year budget review (Chris Fox, Robyn Hagerman, Tom Klein, Brad Wadle, and Chad Young)

If interested, further details about any of the above items are available from the church office. Minutes, once published, are also available to anyone in the congregation. *Board meetings are always open meetings and non-board members are welcome to be present.*



Pastoral Search Committee Report on Sunday, May 10

We are currently pursuing our pastoral search with four candidates. We have listened to or watched sermons of three of these candidates. We did two phone interviews last Sunday evening and have two more scheduled for tonight. Members of the committee are in the process of talking to references for each of the candidates. We are doing our best to listen prayerfully from each direction so we may hear God's choice for National Avenue.

While we are hopeful one of these candidates becomes the obvious choice, we are prepared also that we may not find our next pastor in these four. We have received three more profiles and have been studying them in preparation to move forward with one or more of them if need be.

I understand that it must be frustrating for just the committee to know identities and specific information about these candidates. Confidentiality is so important in the search and call process. We would love to discuss all of this with each and every one of you, but Herb would just keel over and we don't want that. All I can do is try to assure you these candidates are very strong candidates. I waver back and forth over which is my favorite. National Avenue has apparently still got *it* – we have some great pastors looking in our direction. Please contact me if you have any questions about our process. And please keep the whole committee and our candidates in your prayers as we continue on this important journey. **Jennifer Klein**

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PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY

Newsletter Deadline: Noon on the 2nd & 4th Mondays

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Organization
U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 1615
Springfield, Missouri 65804

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY, MAY 17

Worship services at 8:15 a.m. and
10:45 a.m. Sunday School is at 9:30
a.m.



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

The **PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE** will
meet in Room 213 at 5:30 p.m.

The **"ETHICS" CLASS** will begin at 5:30 p.m.
in the parlor.

Youth groups will meet upstairs at 5:30 p.m.
for their group dinner.

Youth groups will meet upstairs for groups
from 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 18

The **BOY SCOUT TROOP 24 FLAG
RETIREMENT CEREMONY** will be held at the
Montclair (1000 E. Montclair) from 6:30 - 7:15.

The **ELDERS MEETING** will be held in the
parlor from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 19

The **PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
MEETING** will be held at 5:30 p.m. in
Room 107.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

The **"ETHICS" CLASS** will meet in the parlor at
6:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Music
Room.

THURSDAY, MAY 21

The **NACC SOFTBALL GAME** will begin at
8:20 p.m. at E1.

SUNDAY, MAY 24

DR. MIKE WEINMAN will be preaching.

The **PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE** will meet
in Room 213 at 5:30 p.m.

The **"ETHICS" CLASS** will begin at 5:30 p.m. in
the parlor.