



The Tidings

Ministerial Moments

September
2013

Hard to believe it's September already. Almost time for the pig to go back up.

I have come back refreshed from my Sabbatical, though if the first week was any sign, a bit out of practice. I thank all of you who took part in the services, especially those that helped plan the services and who gave the messages each week. I am very pleased that attendance was at good levels even though we were missing some people due to sickness and traveling.

As you know, Ron and I spent two of our six weeks in New Mexico. In Albuquerque, we took the gondola ride up Sandia Peak and also saw the new Petroglyph National Monument. In town, we saw the Museum of Nuclear Science which included models of Fat Man and Little Boy, the bombs which were dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima at the end of WWII, but also other ways in which Nuclear Science has been used, such as in medicine.

We also saw the Hispanic Cultural Museum and Pueblo Cultural Museums. In the Hispanic Museum was a special display of quilted and embroidered pictures telling the story of life in Chile under the dictator Pinochet. We don't think of folk art having much impact, but it was the stories of the women of Chile told through embroidery, music and dance which brought attention to the world the atrocities of his dictatorship and eventually brought him down. For those who don't remember, a great many fathers, husbands, and sons went missing during that time, never to be heard from again. Many families are still seeking answers regarding what happened to their loved ones.

One of the ways the women told their story was through a song and a dance. The dance was traditionally done by a man and woman, but in this case the woman danced alone, symbolizing that the man in her life was missing. The song told the story.

The pueblo cultural center is on the site of what used to be an Indian boarding school and honors the culture of 8 or 9 different pueblos of Northern New Mexico.

The second week we spent at Ghost Ranch. Ghost Ranch was at one time a dude ranch and is where Georgia O'Keefe came to stay in the summer of 1929. She came every summer after that until her husband died and then she moved there. In her later years, she had a home in nearby Abiquiqu for winters. In the distance one can see the mountain Peralta. Georgia O'Keefe said that God promised her that mountain if she painted it often enough. Peralta is not on Ghost Ranch, but her ashes are scattered there.

Around 1955, the owners of Ghost Ranch gave the 20-30,000 acre property to the Presbyterian Church USA. The camp is open with classes year round, or just to go visit.

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Greeter and Ushers for September

September 1 - Dale & Sharon Reese, Lorrie Lehman, Linda Jones

September 8 - Albert & Caroline Galle

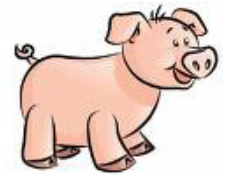
September 15 - Carol Mercer, Susie Stewart and Sunday School

September 22 - David & Evelyn Schneidewind, David & Mindy Schneidewind

Sept. 29 - John Barrett, Ginny, Carla Hellsten



October Wurstmarkt - Saturday October 5



It's that time again . . . What time you say.. It's Wurstmarkt time!!

Pick up your apron, dust off those pie pans, get your potato peeler oiled and stretch those legs. Come one come all to the help at the Wurstmarkt.

The Funds and Fellowship are in need of workers and lots of those wonderful pies and cakes.

If you have any questions please contact Susan Oyler or Bobbi Duffie. See you at the Wurstmarkt!!

Miscellaneous Items

- * Due to health concerns, Dale is currently unable to clean the church. We believe we have one person to take care of the lawn in his absence. Please contact Pastor Gail if you know of someone who will be willing to do this work. Pay is negotiable.
- * Susie Stewart has also asked for a respite from the Sunday School. Please speak to Pastor Gail, Carol Mercer, or Susie if you are interested.
- Delegates are still needed for the Conference Annual Meeting October 25-26 at the Shrine. Pre-Annual Meetings are September 22 at Marion at 2:30-5:00PM, September 29 at Carlinsville at 2:30 – 5:00PM and September 26 at Trenton at 7:00-9:30PM. Please contact Pastor Gail or Kevin McDonald if you are interested.

THANK YOU to Justin Dressel for taking care of the lawn in Dale's absence and **THANK YOU** to Dwayne, Kevin and Ron for their work on correcting the drain problem on the parsonage side of the church.



Neighbors in Need Offering

The Neighbors in Need offering is one of the five offerings collected every year for special ministries of the UCC. Neighbors in Need is usually collected on the first Sunday of October, World Communion Sunday. Two-thirds of this offering goes to a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. It also supports our American Indian Ministries, particularly the Dakota, Lakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hockak in North & South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. In addition, there is one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis. Watch for more information in the weeks to come regarding this offering.

Marissa Chamber of Commerce Events

by Ron Geisel

As a member of the Marissa Chamber of Commerce I feel that Friedens should take an active part in some of its events. Tootin' Around Marissa, the annual bike ride sponsored by the CC on October 12th, needs some volunteers to help direct traffic from about 9 am till 11 am. If you are willing to help, please contact Kathy Write at 618-317-4304. The Toast of Marissa is coming November 9th. If you wish to volunteer please contact me at 295-2812. Also raffle tickets will be still be \$1 apiece or 6 for \$5, however, there will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prize this year. The organization that sells the most tickets also is rewarded.

September Anniversaries

Alan & Susan Oyler	2
Mervin & Ruth Erb	3
David & Evelyn Schneidewind	6
Jeremy & Jessica Dressel	10
Ryan & Crystal Cathcart	11

September Birthday's

Jessica Dressel	5
John Fauth	6
Dean Robert	9
Nicole Sinn	10
Marlene Karsten	11
Pete Dressel	11
Robert Lehman	11
Imogene Lehman	12
Todd Erb	13
Donna Galle	15
Brandon Schmierbach	17
Melanie Rahlfs	21
Crystal Cathcart	27
Justin Raban	30



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The New Mexico state dinosaur was found there. They have since found an older one. There is also quite a bit of archaeology, which is the class Ron took. They currently have two digs in operation. The one Ron worked on was near Lake Abiquiqu. They would leave for the dig at 8:30 in the morning and come back about 2:30. In the evening they worked on cataloging from earlier digs.

I took a course in creative spirituality. Our instructors were Philip and Ali Newell who have been directors at Iona Community in Scotland. Our first hour and half was lecture, then break, then guided meditation going into individual meditation, followed by discussion. The evening session was music a couple of evenings, dance, and lastly a Peace Walk and Reconciliation ceremony. One evening we had a Navajo woman and her husband speak to us about Native American Spirituality.

New Mexico and Arizona have always been special places for me. Ghost Ranch is beautiful and one of those places where one feels especially close to God. Our room was in a group on top of the mesa looking out onto the valley floor where most of the activities took place. The first night, we all sat out on the porch and watched the moon rise. The moon came up, was peeking between two clouds and then rose above them like a shiny new quarter. It wasn't a big moon like a harvest moon, but it was as bright as I remember seeing a moon. I looked forward to seeing the stars later in the week, but we had cloud cover the rest of the time. One night there was quite a lightening show and people sat out on the porch to watch it and take pictures also, until the downpour.

This was monsoon season and there was more rain than I remember ever encountering in New Mexico. People who had lived there said they didn't remember as much rain as this year either. What I learned though, is that in New Mexico, most of the rain comes in the late afternoon or evening. It starts gently, grows to a downpour, and then is over in about an hour. That is part of why they have flashfloods. It all comes at once.

Each afternoon was free time, to visit, rest, hike, swim, etc. I took one tour by van of the places O'Keefe had painted. There is also a tour to several movie sites. The first movie I know of being filmed there was "And Now Miguel" from the 1950s. More recent movies include the City Slickers movies and "Cowboys & Aliens". The cabin from City Slickers is still there. Ron took a hike into Box Canyon. At 4, each afternoon was a lecture if you wanted to go. I especially liked the one about photography and spirituality. There were many art classes offered as well as music. About 8 people took folk harp; only 3 had played before. By the end of the week they were able to play a concert of recognizable tunes. If we ever get to go back, I want to take "Real art for non-artists". Ron's archaeology team was wishing he could stay a second week and I know he would like to go back also.

I brought the boys back an authentic Indian drum made from an Aspen tree and cowhide (I think). Grandpa and Hope decided it should be kept at our house. In addition to the requisite t-shirts, I also got them some toy dinosaurs which roar (softly), and some wood dinosaur puzzles. As many of you know, Nathan enters Kindergarten this year and Skyler starts pre-school. Ron has graduated from retirement to professional grandpa. Marissa will never be the same.

I understand Marissa School System got another Bronze award from US News & World Report. Congratulations! Best of luck and prayers for all students, teachers, and school personnel in Marissa and surrounding districts.

Blessings

~ Pastor Gail ~



SEPTEMBER 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Labor Sunday	2 Labor Day	3 Evangelical Daughters Mtg 6:30 pm Pot-luck	4 Choir 7:00 pm	5	6 Rosh Hashanah	7
8 Choir's 1st Day Back Biddleborn Schlatzfest	9 Blood Drive 2—6 pm	10 Council Mtg 7:00 pm	11 Choir 7:00 pm	12	13	14 Yom Kippur
15 Dupo Installation of Rev. Mushaney @ 3 pm	16	17 Region 8 Meeting, Lebanon @ 7 pm	18 Choir 7:00 pm	19	20	21
22 Pre-Annual Meeting @ Marion 2:30-5 pm	23	24	25 Choir 7:00 pm	26 Pre-Annual Meeting @ Trenton 7-9:30 pm	27	28
29 Pre-Annual Meeting @ Carlinville 2:30-5 pm	30	Saturday October 5—Wurstmarkt Sunday October 6—World Communion Sunday & Neighbors in Need Offering				



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

FROM 2:00-6:00 P.M.



If you can't give blood, please help us out!
There will be a sign-up sheet in the vestibule.
Please sign up your help is needed!



Friedens United Church of Christ

820 North Main

Marissa, IL 62257