

The
**Exeter—Friend
Parish Letter**

July, 2010

Online calendar at

<http://calendar.yahoo.com/nebraskadoc2003>

click “month”

Tim’s Column

When I was a kid there were certain games that we played only during the summer, in those long hours of daylight between supper and dark. Hide and Seek, Red Rover, Red Light Green Light, Mother May I, for whatever reason these games were reserved for the evening, and every kid in the neighborhood would gather to play. This wasn’t peculiar to one neighborhood or town, either. When we moved from Ottumwa to Blakesburg, the “rules” were the same. It was the same even when we moved to Denver. The period between supper and dark was a special time, to be enjoyed in special ways.

I miss that. This summer Ginny and I have made it a goal to set aside a little more time to simply have fun. Because summer is a special time we’re trying to enjoy it in some special ways. So far we’ve attended a car race at McCool Junction—Ginny’s first!, an outdoor concert in Lincoln, and a Blue River Community Band concert in Crete (they’re very good, by the way). When we’re in Michigan we plan to attend the concerts put on by the Gaylord Community Band. We also plan to take up kayaking!

I hope you’ll set aside a little time this summer to do some special things, because it is a special time and the child in all of us needs to get out and play a little. I don’t think I could survive Red Rover any more, but maybe we could all get together to play Red Light Green Light!

Happenings in the Parish

July 4th Plans

Some things will be a little “different” on July 4th. Exeter will have church at 9am, as usual. Since the town of Friend will be in the middle of our 4th of July celebration it’s been decided to hold a community worship service in the park. This service will start after the parade, at about 11:15am. Bring a chair, dress in cool, comfortable clothes, and come to the park to worship with your neighbors and friends.

The Pastors Vacation Schedule

Ginny and Tim will be on vacation from July 6th-July 20th. We’ve had to change our plans due to Ginny’s upcoming hip replacement. Instead of hiking in Rocky Mountain National Park we will travel to our place in Michigan. While we are away Pastor Baptista will be available for emergencies at the Friend Church. His number is 947-3481 or 947-2871. Karla Sheffy will cover Exeter. Her number is.

Gwen Hurst-Anderson will preach and preside at communion on July 11th. Steve Carrigan will preach in Exeter on the 18th. Friend’s preacher will be announced. We are not reachable by phone in Michigan and seldom check email.

The pastors are also attending a continuing education event from July 26-29.

Vacation Bible School 2010!

Our **Vacation Bible School** will be held July 19-22 at our church. The theme will be, “Galactic Blast!”. As always we’ll be teaming up with our friends from the United Methodist Church. VBS runs from 7pm-8:30 each evening. Family members are invited to come for refreshments and a short program on Thursday the 22nd. Thanks to Amy Milton and Erin Hamilton for stepping up to coordinate VBS this summer. We know it’s going to be great. If you have any young people, preschool through grade 6, in your family or neighborhood, let them know we’d love for them to join us!

Women's Fellowship

The Exeter women will hold a special meeting on Thursday, July 1 at 9am. Come for coffee, refreshments, fellowship, and "show and tell". Are you growing anything special in your garden this year? Bring some along to show us. Do you have a special summer project? Tell us about it. Do you have some exciting plans, or have you been on a special trip? We'd love to hear about it. Whatever you're doing this summer, come and "show and tell" us all about it.

The Friend Women are enjoying their summer morning meetings. It's a nice way to start a summer's day. Why not come join them on July 6th at 9am?

Rachel Circle meets at 7pm on Monday, July 12th.

The Friend Council will not meet in July.

It's Picnic Time!

Summer is, of course, a great time for cookouts and picnics. On July 11th the Exeter church will have its annual summer picnic at Elva McBride's house. Brats, burgers, and hot dogs will be provided. Folks are asked to bring buns, desserts, side dishes, and drinks. Elva would like to get a nose count so that she can know how much meat to order. Let her know! This is always fun, and it will be even better with you there!

Joys and Concerns

Exeter Care Center

Esther Deterding
Alberta Weber
Bob Vlcek

Friend Manor

Irma Havel
June Krebs
Ed&Alma Kohout
Zelda Bullock

Bob Vlcek is recovering from a broken hip. He is at Exeter Care Center.

Gwenda Cogswell is home and she's able to get "out and about" some. We enjoyed seeing her at church .

Pat Schoenhals is still having some problems and will have another procedure on June 28th. Keep her and her family in your prayers.

Amber Steider will deploy to Iraq on July 8th.

Travis Yound was named to the West All-Star Basketball Team.

Ginny will have her surgery on August 17th.

Also Keep in Your Prayers: Bonnie Moses, Kay Minderman, Doug Nelsen, Curly Willms, Lenna Weber, Karen Pelz, Beverly Swanson, Dee Tesar, Brad Jones (Tim and Ginny's nephew), Jack and Sue Scavo, all our troops and their families, all our vacation travelers.

"Warm God of Summer" by Ruth Burgess

***Warm God of Summer,
Strewer of petals,
Ripener of fruits***

***Delight in us,
Revel in us,
Mellow us in joy.***

--from "Friends and Enemies", published by Wild Goose Publications

Ginny's Column

With all the recent rains and flooding I've been rereading the story of Noah and the Ark. After Noah leaves the Ark he builds an altar and sacrifices to God. The Bible then records God's words: **"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease"**.

The seasons of the year fulfill God's promise. The cold, snowy, icy weather of our winter is a gift to us from our Creator; the heat, humidity, and blazing sun of summer is likewise a gift.

The Different seasons bring divergent energy levels to our lives. I'm always moving around in winter, mainly trying to keep warm. But now? Reading a good book, watching TV, just looking at birds outside—these activities seem proper for the day so of heat and humidity.

I would encourage all of us to offer prayers of thanksgiving to our God for the four seasons we experience here, along with requests that God show us how to live in accord with the different paces of the seasons. "Summertime and the living is easy", isn't just a long lyric, it's a way of life for us, a time to rest and re-create during these lazy days. Blessed be our summers.

Serving in July

Exeter

Greeter

04 Dan and Marci Manwarren

11 Mike Motis Family

18 Phil Swartz Family

25 Butch and Barb Jansen

Acolyte

04 Butch Jansen

11 Tavian Motis

18 Kelsey Swartz

25 Barb Jansen

Friend

Greeter/Usher

04 Worship in Park

11 Erin Hamilton&Gladys Weber

18 Paul&Arlene Ramp

25 Connie Semler&Gloria Riley

Acolyte

04 Worship in Park

11 Madison Johnson

18&25 TBA

Friend Facts&Figures

May 30 Attendance: 17

Offering: \$255

June 6 Attendance: 32

Offering: \$1613

June 13 Attendance: 28

Offering: \$676

June 20 Attendance: 25

Offering: N/A