



## Jezi te di bay timoun yo manje

By Jim Gorman

The outpouring of generosity toward the half-island of Haiti has been moving for both the givers and receivers of aid. Sometimes the little organizations are more flexible in getting aid to the small towns and parishes where there has already been an established connection.

You've heard of our connection to the city of Mirebalais across the mountains from Port-au-Prince. That connection was made by the Southeast Association of the Wisconsin Conference of the UCC. Ralph Schultz has written of that last connection last month.

Another connection is through Margaret Trost and the "WhatIf?" foundation. I've know Margaret since she was about 10 years old. She is the daughter of the former Conference Minister Frederick Trost and he was the senior minister at St. Pauls Church when I was his assistant.

Margaret's husband Rich died suddenly in 1999 because of an asthma complication when he was 36 and Margaret was 34. She was left with a 5 year old son who is the spitting image of his father. She spent the next months in a grief that moved her to toward the meaning and purpose of life and death. In the midst of her grief came an invitation from singer-songwriter Bryan Sirchio to go to Haiti. And she has been going ever since.

She has grown close to the St. Clare church on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince in the massive shanty town of Cité Soleil. She also developed a warm friendship with the parish priest there, Father Gérard Jean-Juste (Father Gerry). The parish is called "St. Clare Church of the Poor" and the patron Saint of the parish is, St. Jude, which as you may know is the patron Saint of "unfortunate circumstances" or, as I learned it as a boy, the Patron Saint of lost causes.

At the end of her book *On That Day Everybody Ate*, she describes a touching conversation with Fr. Gerry.

It came during St. Clare's neighborhood meal that the WhatIf? foundation supports. It was the last Sunday of one of her trips. The children ran into the room and slid into their seats on the benches. Fr. Gerry greeted them in his red-and-white-striped apron. He squeezed into one of the benches and began a chant in Creole.

"Jezi te di bay timoun yo manje." Over an over again to the delight of the children. After the room quieted down and the children began to eat, Margaret asked Fr. Gerry what they were singing.

Oh, they love this chant. They're crying out, 'Jesus said to feed the children. Jesus said to feed the children.'... 'We're feeding the children and God is so happy and so are the children. Look at them?'

And then during another quiet moment, Fr. Gerry turned to Margaret and said,

It's greater giving than receiving, Margaret, don't you think? A person would rather be a giver. But sometimes you're born in a country where you're put in a position to receive. Others are born in a country in a better position to give. Both the giver and receiver need each other. The giver can sleep at night because she has the satisfaction that comes with giving. The receiver can sleep at night, too, because his belly is full.

Father Gerry passed away last May at the age of 63. He is with St. Jude.

## ***Minister of Visitation***

*Rev. Ralph Schultz*

We couldn't watch the news on TV, January 12<sup>th</sup>, have our radios on, nor read the following days' newspapers, without being deeply affected by the earthquake in Haiti. If there were any country in the world, that could ill afford such a natural disaster, it would be Haiti.

Through our own Dick Anderson, the educator and Pete Van Horn, the engineer/construction person, working together to establish a vocational school in Haiti, that country has been brought close to home for us. Our SE WI Association of the UCC, has had a relationship with the Haitian Council of Churches through CONASPEH, with numbers of our SD Association people traveling there annually to learn, partner, and bring specific skills, along with monies and supplies.

Many have or will write a check, or in some heart-felt manner affirm our Haitian partnership, in light of this devastation. Our hearts agonize at the sight of people's bodies being burned, as burial space is full, arms or legs barely moving due to their crushed building, or news that the nursing students, being taught by our UCC missionary, Kim Bentrott, were killed as their school collapsed, shortly after Kim said, "see you next week."

Alongside such horror, we are forced to deal with the words of Televangelist Pat Robertson, who knows why the 7.0 earthquake occurred, in Haiti.

Robertson claims that the Haitian slaves, back in 1791, made a pact, with the devil, in exchange for victory over the French. Ever since that moment, the nation has been cursed, according to his way of thinking. Cursed by whom? Cursed to what end? I seem to recall, that when 9/11 occurred, we were hearing similar rationales, not from Mr. Robertson, but others.

I believe in a God who does not look around every corner, to see if we are misbehaving. I believe in a God who rejoices in our love of God, neighbor and self and whose lives are an expression of that love. I believe in a God who grieves along with every person in Haiti, for the loss of their family member, neighbor or friend. Each of these is a child of God, just as we are.

The God I was taught about in seminary is a God whose very nature is goodness, love, grace and forgiveness, when that is necessary. The heavy emphasis on law in the Old Testament, is replaced by the unconditional love

of Jesus Christ, as God's messenger, the One who was obedient to God, even to the point of death on the cross. Resurrection is the last Word in Christ's story.

The people of Haiti will survive, as they have before. They will pull together, work through their terrible grief and build upon their faith in God, which has always been their source of strength and hope. Amidst the rubble and decaying bodies, we see on TV, Haitians walking along the streets singing their songs of faith, or gathering in whatever open space is available, in prayer, acknowledging their God and their desire to go on.

We rejoiced as we heard that Pete Van Horn was safe and carrying on his mission in Haiti. Our prayers continue with him and also with Dick Anderson, as he continues his educational mission in Haiti.

### ***A Note:***

The role of the Minister of Visitation is to visit anyone in the hospital, those who are in a nursing home, and all who are homebound.

Sometimes I wonder.. is there anyone who has "fallen through the cracks" and should be visited? If you are aware of anyone whose health has changed and is no longer able to attend Sunday worship, please let me know. We would like to visit such people and add them to our list, so they continue to be an important part of our church.

Please call the church office at 262-547-2424.

### ***Hospital Visits***

To make sure you receive a visit in the hospital, please list your church as Evangelical & Reformed (E & R) UCC, when filling out forms.

### ***Sunday School***

**The R.O.C.K.**

We are currently in the process of looking for a new staff person to replace Teri Launius who left with her family for Oklahoma in mid-December. Toni Perez with other volunteers are filling in, but can only do that for a few more weeks. We will keep you posted about our progress in finding a Christian Education Staff Person.

## From the President's Pew- Winter 2009



*Brian Van Buren, Council President*

### Budget Meeting Opening Remarks

Good morning and welcome to the 144<sup>th</sup> annual E&R budget

meeting:

My name is Brian Van Buren, council president and as we look forward to the 2010 budget it reminds me of my position as council president, a position that has been exciting, challenging, yet has also created a mindset for perseverance and patience. These ideas not only apply to me but to **our CHURCH** as a whole for 2010!

2010 will be an exciting time since it will be our turn – with a **sense of urgency** to meet the challenge that the congregations and leaders before us have met dozens of times since 1866; to meet the budget and costs of this church! We need to meet these goals with perseverance and patience, and even though we are farther than we were a year ago, budget wise, we still have to battle a recession and any other hidden costs of our brand new building.

Another exciting opportunity that awaits us is starting in January. Council with the help of Dick Anderson and Pastor Gorman will be leading us in discussion on our mission/vision and budget (major idea out of our forums) so that we can re-energize our congregation. Let's face it, the dust has settled. This is our new congregation. We cannot hold on to the "old ways" of the old church because those norms no longer apply.

One goal of this retreat is to re-examine our mission/vision and bring forth from paper to life a plan that re-emphasizes and re-energizes our congregation to spread the works of God among us; to further re-emphasize and re-energize our commitment to Waukesha; to use a systematic and successful approach to not just welcoming a visitor and asking them to sign into a pad, but also to welcome them into our congregation. Or, in what other ways can we reach out not only to ourselves but to the community, such as our wonderful relations with La Vina and Pastor Mario, as well as Grey Mare preschool.

A third challenge this year is that I personally ask you to re-examine **your time** commitments and join a committee, council, come to a pastoral relations forum

and/or share ideas for a new fundraiser or something that deals with church. Our congregation needs more and new ideas that can bring us together such as Family Fun Times.

With any leadership, there are always those who do not believe or are naysayers. A major goal as Council President has been to solidify and open up all communications within the church. Gossip does not move us forward. Since last year we have improved Pastoral Relations, we have offered a Pastoral Relations forum, from which spewed the idea of the survey, which hopefully you have filled out. There is always room at Council meeting as well. In other words, communicate at all levels so we can move forward NOW! Besides, how can we possibly even begin to welcome in new members if we do not have OUR HOUSE in order?

The last challenge is that we have to manage the budget and make appropriate cuts without, for example, handicapping our outstanding education program. Thus a major focus will be to hire a new Director of Religious Education director as soon as possible!

In addition, I am calling for the music committee to meet NOW, and create a series of music programs, or fests between now and summer so as to create fundraisers that can create enough monies to attract a music/choir director, since we have lost some members due to the fact that we do not have either and also since we will start to put in the best organ pipes in town in the sanctuary in 2010!

Before we talk about the budget I would like to publicly thank Sue Kultz and Bill Bloede for all their efforts over the past year on all monies; and for their efforts over the years: Don Kaiser and Al Stippich!

In regards to the Budget- the salary reduction was actually proposed by both Pastors Gorman and Schultz, therefore we will have a 5% budget reduction in salaries so as to meet a \$10,000 shortfall. It is my goal as Council president and with a SENSE of urgency that we do not have to go through with this again. I publicly thank both Pastors for their sacrifice. That sacrifice motivates me as a congregation member to meet our budget so we do not have to go through with this again.

### TWO MAJOR GOALS FOR 2010:

- 1) **We meet our stewardship pledge**
- 2) **We meet our This Far By Faith pledge.**

It is also a manifest goal that we do not use this reduction in salaries as a bench mark or starting point for salaries next year—that we start at the 2008 line item for salaries.

Finally, many might be saying—well we have the investments and income funds to fall back on—No we do not! First off, we cannot go there since that money is used to pay off our mortgage and a lot of that money we cannot take out anyway since there are dates attached to disbursement. As your Council President I would never push for that anyways. It is our turn to meet the recession and budget concerns head-on. I ask all members to re-dedicate yourself in whatever manner to re-energize our church for 2010. If we lay back and “let someone else” take care of the issues and get complacent, we will have a Pearl Harbor in our hands.

Brian VB

P.S. I would like to personally thank Arlene Murphy and her family for donating our beautiful fireplace. It adds a great deal to our church and has been a wonderful spot for reflecting and small meetings. Thanks again Arlene!!

Also, just a quick note in regard to our wonderful coffee hours we have each Sunday after worship. The congregation really enjoys this time for fellowship not to mention the fact that the coffee hour is totally supporting itself. Thanks to all who donate their time, talent and goodies!

### **Circle of Friends Quilt Group**

*Heidi Pagel*

Circle of Friends Quilt group wishes to extend an invitation to any member who enjoys fellowship and or quilting. We are a small group of women who enjoy sewing and would love to expand our small committee to include anyone even if you have no sewing experience. We currently are working on “I Spy Quilts” (for children) that we are offering for sale to raise funds to purchase quilting materials. Our mission project this year will be constructing twin size “Nickel Quilts” for the Women’s Center here in Waukesha. We are very excited about both of our projects. If you would like to see the quilts we have for sale, please visit our E & R Library. They will be on display there along with our book bags and custom note cards. All are great gifts for any occasion. The Circle of Friends meets every first Monday of the month at 10 am in the church basement. Our next meeting will be on February 8th. If you should

have any questions, please contact Heidi Pagel, Ruth Ann Krause, or Anna Maile.

### **Sarah Circle**

*Janet Perkins, Secretary*

There wasn’t a meeting in January. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday February 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. We will be making Valentines for Oak Hill. Guests are welcome.

### **German Visitors next July**

We are welcoming a group of visitors from our partner church in Paderborn, Germany next July. There will be about 10 to 15 adults and youth coming for a week to ten days. We will need hosts who are willing to share their homes with these folks and get them to activities. More information will follow.

### **Women’s Retreat**

*Pat Kruse, President*

Please mark your calendars! The Women’s Retreat will be Saturday, **February 6, 2010** starting at 10:00 am. with lunch and fellowship at 12:30 to end the day. Our speaker this year is Rachel Inouye. Rachel is a member of Elmbrook Church and will be speaking on “Words, Words, Words, the Power of Words.” Please watch for more information to come.

### **Loaves & Fishes**

*Jim Harris*

On January 17, 2010 the E & R UCC Church prepared and served meals to 60 people (0 children) at the Loaves & Fishes dinner at the HOPE CENTER building on East Ave. Loaves & Fishes provides assistance for low income, homeless and unemployed individuals and families. It is an Ecumenical project sponsored by area churches. Each Sunday a meal is served by one of the churches. Evening meals are served by THE HOPE CENTER Monday, Wednesday and Friday. (On Wednesday, 3 times a year, the E & R UCC Church serves the meal that was prepared by the HOPE CENTER) Meals are served by the SALVATION ARMY Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. The people in need can obtain a meal each day of the week.

We served ham, potatoes, gravy, green beans, peaches, (bread provided by Marty & Janett Maier), butter, milk, cheese, coffee, ice cream and (cakes provided by Vi Stevens, Carla Oman, Linda Imig, Lois Lewis, June Ehlke and Barb Golding).

Our crew consisted of: Jim Harris, Vi Stevens Dan & Kris Dekarske, Linda Imig, Glen & June Ehlke, Barb Golding, Carla Oman, Alyssa & Travis Knutson, Tracy, Alex & Emily Tran, Sue & Harry Manzke and Harold & Lois Lewis.

I wish to thank all of you that gave of your time and talents to provide a little happiness in other peoples lives. Our next servings are May 23 and September 5, 2010. Any one wishing to be part of the crew please contact Jim Harris at 547-5115.

### **Spaghetti Dinner**

It's not too early to start thinking about the **SPAGHETTI DINNER!** This year's dinner will be held on Sunday, March 7th from 4-7pm. Dinner will be prepared by Mia's. There will be raffle and auction items. Tickets can be purchased in advance starting February 14th after church, or they can be purchased the day of the dinner at the door. Youth 7th grade and older and adults are needed to help with the dinner. Confirmation students can receive points for volunteering, but we strongly encourage confirmation students and older youth to volunteer as much time as they can to help our church. Help from Youth and their parents is needed Sunday, March 7th at noon to help set up. Youth volunteers are also needed for the dinner on Sunday from 3:30-7:30. Additional adult cleanup help is needed at the end of the dinner. We ask that volunteers wear red, white or green shirts, dark pants and no open toed shoes or flip flops. Youth, their parents and any adults can sign up on the sign up sheets located on the Family Fun table or contact Sue Sterner. Sign up today!



### **Youth News**

Our summer plans to go on a mission trip to Honduras are cancelled at this point. Some adults had expressed serious reservations about going given the latest news

accounts about the dangers of travel in third world countries. Maybe another year.

Lock-In January 29 will take a look at possible Youth Service projects. YouthWorks.com was a good resource for mission trips. Some of us are looking at possibilities and we will go over some of those at the Lock-In.

Another possibility might be a work camp at Pilgrim Center getting it ready for the summer program.

We are recycling used cartridges for money for the youth. There is a green box on the south entrance closet shelf to put cartridges in. Recently a filled box was sent to Empties4Cash with \$68 received toward the Youth Group account.

### **News from the Women's Guild**

*Sue Manzke, Pres. Women's Guild*

Our next Women's Guild meeting will be held Monday February 1st We welcome all ladies of the Church. If you are interested in coming but don't have transportation, please call the Church office at 547-2424 and we will make every effort possible to get a ride for you.

### **Women's Guild Pie & Cookie Sale**

*Jeannine Prager*

Once again the Rotary Club has offered us a space at their Pancake Festival at the Expo Arena on Northview Road, Saturday, February 20, 2010.

This will be our 17<sup>th</sup> year and we hope that everyone who can...will help make it another successful year. For those who are not pie bakers—cookies, donations or pie ingredients (such as fillings, apples, etc.) would be greatly appreciated.

February 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> we will have pie pans, containers and a sign-up sheet on a table near the sanctuary at church.

Homemade pies (no cream nor meringue, please), and cookies may be brought to the church Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> between 2 and 4 PM, or to the Expo Arena on Saturday morning February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Anyone wishing to purchase pie(s) or cookies at church that Friday may do so between 2 and 4 PM Advance orders are welcome.

Note: As a courtesy to the Rotary, we will have advance pancake tickets available at the sign-up table on February 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. It is all-you-can-eat pancakes for \$5.00 (will be \$6.00 at the Expo on the 20<sup>th</sup>). Children 5 and under are FREE.

If you have any questions (or pie requests), pies picked up, or to reserve advance pancake tickets, please contact Jeannine Prager at 262-542-1895 or the church office at 262-547-2424

### **Salvation Army Bell Ringers**

*Virgil G. Emery*

I would like to thank the people that rang the Salvation Army Bells this Christmas Season.

They are:

Jim Harris, Harry Manzke, Gordy Austin, JoEllen Meidenbauer, Bill Kuhtz, Burt & Elaine Winchell, Pastor Gorman, Heidi Pagel, Barb & Dale Burnell, Dick Anderson, Larry & Alex Lawrence, Emily & Fayne Haase, Debbie & Arlen Meidenbauer, Sue Sterner, Joe Inzeo & Jan Schaefer, Marv & Mary Sue Eichstaedt.

Thank you and Happy New Year!

### **Keeping Our Ministries Strong**

Our regular offerings to support the ongoing ministries of our church need to continue being our first priority in giving. We ask everyone to keep their regular (**current**) giving strong.

Budgeted Income Jan.-December: \$271,750.00

Actual Income Jan.-December:247.551.05

### **Other Churches Visited**

Members of our congregation visit other churches and bring back bulletins. This is a great way for us to see how other churches express their life in print.

Al & Virginia Schowalter attended church on Christmas Eve at the First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

On December 27, 2009 and January 3, 2010 Jitts and JoAn Lawrence attended church, with their family, at First Congregation in Waukesha.

Jean Morris spent the Christmas Holidays with her son David and his family. They attended Christmas Eve Services and a service the Sunday after Christmas at St. Andrew By the Sea United Methodist Church in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

Roy & JoEllen Meidenbauer attended an Interdenominational Service at Palmetto Palms RV Resort in Florida on Christmas Eve.

Joy, Jackie (daughter), her boyfriend (Jason), and Rueck Ruecktenwald were in North Carolina for Christmas. They attended Christmas Eve and Sunday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> services at Fletcher United Methodist Church. This is Joy's parents church. Joy's dad sings in the choir.

### **E & R Weather Watch Closing(s)**

Please tune into Weather Watch 12/wisn.com for any church closing announcements.

### **Rotating Coffee Hour Hosts**

February 7: Board of Education  
February 14: Gathering Grounds  
February 21: Women's Retreat  
February 28: Trustees

### **Thank You's**

A thank you from Joanne Otto to Pastor Jim for his visits and prayers while I was in the hospital. Also, I want to thank Ralph for his visits and prayers. Thank you to Shirley Maile for the beautiful flowers. Thank you for all of the cards and prayers from all of the great people in our church and the visits from Judy Wendt and Jim Harris and for all of the calls and cards. I am truly blessed.

The Don Kaiser family wants to thank Reverend Gorman and Reverend Schultz for the many visits and prayers during Don's long hospitalization and also the many cards and prayers of the congregation.

We received a call from Delores Jacoby thanking Pastor Jim and Rev. Schultz for their many visits. Also,

thank you to the ladies of the church for their prayers and cards.

We received a thank you letter from the Food Pantry thanking E & R for the wonderful donation of \$1,000. Our generous support will ensure that they can meet the growing need.

A thank you letter was received from the Hope Center for the checks of \$2,200 and \$879.91.

Another letter of thanks was received from St. Joseph's Medical Center and Dental Clinic for the check of \$300 from the Anna Hanson Fund.

We also received a thank you letter from Hebron House for the \$450.00 check we sent them.

### ***Noticed a friend hasn't been in church recently??***

Is there someone you have missed seeing in church recently?? Why not give them a call or send them a card...let them know you miss seeing them.

### ***In Loving memory***

We remember with a sweet sadness the life of Bob Boeck who passed away on January 18, 2010.

### ***Memorials Given in Loving Memory of:***

#### **Don Kaiser**

Donald & Judith Suleski  
Harry & Sue Manzke  
Nancy & Glenn Koehn

#### **Harvey Zimdars**

Clyde & Katherine Robinson

#### **Mae Lass**

Jeannine Prager

## **EVANGELICAL & REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 14, 2009**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian Van Buren, Pastor Gorman, Glenn Koehn, Joe Inzeo, Dan DeKarske, Scott Donovan, Mike Suchecki, Dick Anderson, Toni Perez,

Sue Manzke, Rosemary Riemer, Paula Hillman and Shirley Maile.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ruth Ann Krause, Shelby Perez and Neal Brey.

GUESTS: Sue Kuhtz and Dewayne Johnson.

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Brian Van Buren and opened with a prayer by Pastor Gorman.

The November 9, 2009 minutes were reviewed. Under the Trustees Report, it should have stated that the back flow preventor needs to be replaced on the sprinkler system. A motion was made by Dick Anderson and seconded by Toni Perez to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion carried.

#### **Treasurer's Report: Sue Kuhtz**

Sue reviewed the report and stated that we are \$16,000 short of projected budget. After some discussion, Sue was asked to get a breakdown of the amount spent on janitor supplies. Pastor Jim also requested an amount of \$200 be given to Waukesha West High School. A discussion was held about the internet and it was stated that the internet was the FAX line.. It was suggested that office expense costs be looked into. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Sue Manzke. The motion was seconded by Rosemary Riemer. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Sue Manzke and seconded by Dan DeKarske that a report of the Anna Hanson Fund should be done and show how the \$6,000 will be distributed. The motion carried.

#### **Pastor's Report**

A discussion was held on the Christmas Parade Hot Chocolate/Cookie distribution. Pastor stated some donations were received from the parade watchers and many thanks were given. Mark Maile and Collette Berg donated the Hot Chocolate. This is the second year this has been done and is very well received.

#### **Elder's Report**

On January 9, 2010 there will be a church renewal workshop, being held in Madison. Ruth Ann Krause, Sue Kuhtz, Sandy Anderson-Payne, Dick Anderson, Heidi Pagel, Pastor Jim and possibly another council member will be attending.

Rosemary Riemer stated that the Worship & Arts Group will be splitting their funds out of their accounts as follows: 1/3 to the Youth Group, 1/3 to the Sunday School and 1/3 to Family Fun Times.

Dewayne Johnson presented a Personnel update. Replacement for Teri Launius – moving forward immediately with trying to find a replacement for Teri. We will start advertizing.

Dewayne moved that we compensate Sue Manzke for the time paid as independent contractor in November and December that she served as Church Secretary, with the funds coming from the salary portion of the budget. The motion was seconded by Rosemary Riemer. Dewayne also advised that negotiations with the former secretary and legal counselor will be done. The motion carried. Dewayne stated Personnel will be moving forward to hire a new church secretary.

#### Trustees Report – Glenn Koehn

Fire testing on the annual schedule here was checked today. Snow removal off the roofs was done. Purchased salt. New cross was hung in the sanctuary.

Pastor Mario made a request regarding a sign to be placed on Wisconsin Avenue advertising the La Vinia Church Service. 6” pipes will be put into the ground that the sign will fit in to keep it stable. The sign can be lifted out at any time. The sign would be 3’ X 5’ or it can be square. Scott Donovan made a motion to accept this sign. The motion was seconded by Joe Inzeo. The motion carried.

#### Deacon’s Report – None

Youth Report - Spaghetti Supper is scheduled for March 7, 2010

#### New Business

Paula Hillmann brought up the subject of Terrorism Risk Insurance Act. Toni Perez made a motion to include this insurance. The motion was seconded by Joe Inzeo. The motion carried.

Mike Suchecki brought up the subject of Defibulator Training, that will be held in the future.

Budget Meeting Review – Have meeting regarding Stewardship Pledges and Budget on Faith.

What are the actual figures? Pastor Gorman stated we are far away from “Dooms Day”  
It was announced that Bill Bloede has resigned from the Budget/Finance/Investment Committee.

#### Council 2010 - Nominating Committee Report -

Every position that is opened should have 2 candidates. Some people feel very crushed when they are not elected. Need to have 1 more candidate running than needed. For all who do not get elected could be asked to serve on some committee.

Council Retreat will be January 16, 2010 from 9:00 A.M. to Noon. Discussion on Mission & Vision.

Sue Kuhtz suggested that we should address replacing Bill Bloede as head of investments. Should talk with Mark Mattiacci, our Investment Counselor, with Edward Jones. Brian will talk with Bill Bloede.

A motion was made by Toni Perez and seconded by Sue Manzke to adjourn this meeting. The motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the joining of hands and the recitation of the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Maile  
Recording Secretary

### ***Upcoming Events in the Community***

February 11<sup>th</sup> Jazz Express, a Dorothy Goff Frisch Concert, 7:30 p.m., Shattuck Music Center; \$10 Adults, \$5 students and seniors 60 and older

February 14<sup>th</sup> John Chappell Stowe, organ recital, 3 p.m. Shattuck Music Center

February 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> “Dancing at Lughnasa” by the Carroll Players, 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Otteson Theatre; \$10 adults, \$5 seniors/Carroll parents/Carroll alumni, free for students with a valid ID

February 21<sup>st</sup>-March 20<sup>th</sup> T.L. Solein, oil paintings. Phil Krejcarek and Kate Loehrer, “Installation Project



with Recycled Materials,” photographs, Humphrey Art Center. Opening reception: Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Joys and Concerns**

At the time of Joys and Concerns during our time of prayer each Sunday, most folks offer up those who are experiencing difficult times. But we wonder if our folks can be prepared to offer up joys as well as concerns. A birth of a child, a new job after a long time of being laid off, recovery from illness and the like. Be thinking of joys as well as concerns as we move into the new year.

A big congratulations to Mandy Books on the birth of her daughter Sophia Josephine who was born on December 21, 2009.

## Haiti earthquake appeal

*The United Church of Christ has launched an emergency appeal for Haiti after a major earthquake struck the country. Thousands of people are feared dead and countless have been left homeless.*



**Donate Now to  
Provide  
Emergency Relief  
In Haiti**

The United Church of Christ has launched an emergency appeal for Haiti after a major earthquake struck the country. Thousands of people are feared dead and countless have been left homeless.

The quake, measuring 7.0 on the Richter Scale, struck 10 miles southwest of the capital just before 5pm local time yesterday, January 12.

It is still too early to know the full extent of the damage, but **One Great Hour of Sharing** is expecting very high loss of life, widespread destruction of homes, schools and other buildings, and major damage to key water, electricity and road systems.

Global Ministries personnel, Kim, Patrick and Solomon Bentrrott have reported in that they are safe.

**One Great Hour of Sharing** funds are being rushed to our Haitian partners to support their initial emergency response. As damage assessments are

made and plans for relief, recovery and rehabilitation are developed, additional support will be shared. The need is massive.

How You Can Help:

1. Pray for the people of Haiti their leaders and emergency and humanitarian aid workers.
2. Please help the people of Haiti by sending gifts payable to your congregation marked for "OGHS – Haiti Earthquake Relief" with the request they be sent through your Conference office on to Wider Church Ministries.