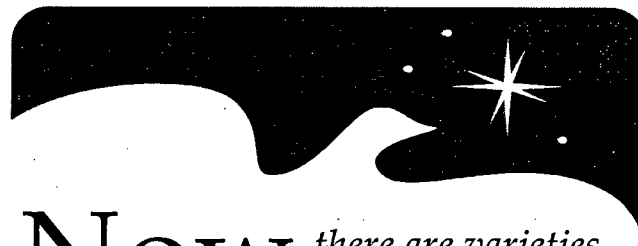


UNITED CHURCH OF  
**CHRIST**

Gaylord, Minnesota

Annual Reports  
2012



**Now** *there are varieties  
of gifts, but the same*

**SPIRIT.**

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4

**“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”**

**1 Corinthians 4 - 7**



# United Church of Christ

## Gaylord, Minnesota

### ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2012

January 20, 2013

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**In First Corinthians (12:1-11), Paul reminds us that "each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." What works of wonder can we accomplish as individuals and as local churches that turn despair into hope, hatred into love, and violence into healing? Do you feel equal to the task? If not, what do you need?**

**What unseen power lies within us that we do not recognize? What are your gifts? What gifts do you discern within your congregation, and how is God calling you to transform the world around you?**

**UCC Seasons of the Spirit. Speak, for your servant is listening. . .**

## 2012 Pastor's Report

Dear Members and Friends of Gaylord United Church of Christ – UCC,

We can be grateful to our God for guiding and blessing us in sharing and celebrating Christ's love this past year. This was both a fulfilling and challenging year – from sharing a number of special outreach and educational events.... to enhancing our Worship music and space.... to expanding our vision for how we do and share our distinct Gaylord UCC ministry.

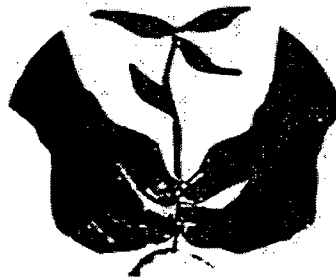
We have a vital and unique witness to share in the Gaylord area! Let's continue to make our household of faith a place of wide and warm hospitality, living out our UCC slogan, "no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here"! I would lift up the efforts of Church Council this past year in offering several Congregational presentations for member participation, awareness and input of what "new things" we might do for our ministry. As we step out in faith in 2013, all of us are asked to give support, even if that is only by way of prayer, for our new and steadfast ministries!

Our "Shared Ministry" with New Ulm UCC continues to be a benefit to both churches – with the sharing of new ideas, as well as supporting and enhancing our financial stewardship. I am grateful for the extra flexibility and support that each church has shown as I seek to balance my pastoral duties and commitment to both churches.

A special thanks to Cindy Johnson for her ongoing service as Administrative Assistant and to Ruby and Ewald Keller for their dedication as our Custodians. Also thanks to our gifted music leadership – Sue Keithahn, Stacy Pauly and Sandy Wentzloff.

Please take the time to read the reports of our church and to give thanks for the good news of UCC Gaylord! And thanks again to everyone's ongoing faithfulness in time, talent and treasure!!

In God's Grace,  
Rev. Hank Campbell



## President's Report to the Congregation

Dear Members and Friends,

I am amazed that the year has gone by so fast. It has been a blessing to serve a spiritual and dedicated congregation.

As of this writing, we are still looking for someone to serve as Vice-President this year. If you are interested in being Vice-President, please contact me.

I want to start with some thank yous:

- To Pauline for agreeing to be President of the Council for the coming year. I know she will do a great job.
- To the Council for all of their hard work this past year.
- To Hank for leading us on our spiritual journey.
- To everyone, especially Ewald and Ruby, for keeping our church in such pristine shape.
- To Cindy for all she does and making sure things run smoothly and staying patient waiting for my articles.
- Sandy, Sue, Stacy, and the whole choir as you continue to be a major part of our worship. Also thank you to Sue for stepping in as choir director.
- To Phil for serving as the Church Treasurer.
- To everyone who works so hard on the various committees to keep us moving in the right direction.

Our shared ministry with New Ulm has continued to work very well. This partnership has been good for New Ulm and Gaylord and I am thankful for that.

We were able to sell the 7<sup>th</sup> Street house, which while we may have hoped for a higher sale price, I am grateful that we no longer have that expense.

We have invested a lot of time this year in trying to decide how we should move forward and evolve in these changing times. The Council as well as the Congregation has continued to ask the question "What is God calling us to do?" This is an ongoing process and something that we as a church will continue to strive for.

I have enjoyed the daily devotional emails from the National UCC website that come to my email inbox every morning. If you are interested and have access to email, here is the link:

<http://www.ucc.org/feed-your-spirit/daily-devotional/>

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Council Chair this past year. It has been an uplifting experience.

Mark Pauly, Council President

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## Archives Committee Annual Report

The Archives Committee continued its duties of preserving and filing of church bulletins, Parish Papers, obituaries, records of Annual Reports, financial statements and other material that need to be stored for future reference.

We sorted photographs of church activities and filed them in acid free boxes. During the week of Memorial Day and Veteran's Day we put on display the Service Flags from WWI and WWII. These flags have the names embroidered on them of the men from our church who served our country during those wars. Early church record books were also put on display at that time. We continue to work on the Centennial memorabilia scrap book.

The Archives Committee will welcome anyone who has an interest in joining us to help with the preserving of our church history. We think you will find it an interesting and rewarding endeavor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gloria Sinell, Jane Peterson and Barb Sneltjes

## **Board of Christian Education 2012 Report**

The Board of Christian Education had another busy year as we worked with a few new families joining the church, trying to integrate as many students as possible. Attendance at Sunday School is irregular for many students as their families juggle work schedules and increased weekend commitments.

Gail Estenson, Deb Meyer, and Phil Keithahn served as the primary Sunday School teachers for the 2012 calendar year. Liz Reishus, Stacy Pauly, Sandy Pomplun, and others served as substitutes when needed during the year.

Christian Education worked together during the Lenten season serving an evening meal prior to a worship service. Christian Ed also helped the youth of the church lead the Sunrise Service and Easter morning breakfast. Abby Tourtellott led the worship service with Anthony Pomplun providing a dramatic reading. Most youth assisted with the service. The sunrise breakfast continued to popular again this year. Thanks to all who attended!

Many students enjoyed a youth lock-in on a winter weekend. Church members were able to bring friends for an overnight of activities, food, and fun. While boys were the predominant attendees, a small group of girls were able to hold their own during the night.

Several students participated in a Kids Against Hunger event in the spring in New Ulm. Pastor Hank had our youth join several New Ulm students for this Sunday afternoon event.

Christian Education partnered with American Lutheran for Vacation Bible School again this year. The services of Green Lake Bible Camp were employed again. This has been a popular coupling for our students.

Christian Ed worked with many students during Eggstravaganza in August at a fund raising booth to fund future activities. The students sold cold beverages and candy and raised about \$300 at the booth.

For this fall's "Apple Event" many Sunday School students gathered to prepare apple crisp, apple cookies, and pumpkin cookies to serve at coffee hour as well as to serve for the Election Day Luncheon.

The church ushered in the Advent Season with the traditional Hanging of the Greens. Jason Meyer, Sam Thies, and Cole Bruhn led the service. All the youth participated in decorating the sanctuary. Women's Fellowship served the luncheon to a near record crowd. Attendance among community members was above average at this service. Sandy Wentzloff provided very special music and the choir was outstanding. This was truly a special evening.

The Christmas season continued with the Children's Christmas service and the annual Birthday Party for Jesus.... complete with piñatas, candy, and fun.

Sue Keithahn, Chair; Sandy Pomplun, Council Rep; Denise Tourtellott; Liz Reishus

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## **Camp Committee Report 2012**

Pilgrim Point Camp continues to be a very special place to many of our members, friends and youth of our church. Many have participated in camps like a Weekend Retreat, Family Camp, Junior and Senior High Camp and Women's Retreat. This has been possible because of the money raised during coffee hour and the Lenten suppers and a generous donation from a church member several years ago. There have also been many donations of time, materials and food that have helped defray the cost of coffee hour and the Lenten suppers. Thank you for your support of this camp ministry.

On December 31, 2012 our Money Market account balance was \$9,776.77.

Respectfully submitted, Cindy Johnson, Deb Meyer, Karen Peterson.

## Congregational Care & Outreach Annual Report 2012

The CC&O Committee participated in a number of events this year. These included hosting an Easter Party for the Head Start students and their parents. We had a wonderful time playing games, singing songs and eating the snacks donated by our members. The Evans Family Concert-Minus One Plus Two was very well attended and enjoyed by all. The Storybook Gift and Hispanic Friendship Sunday was a special day where we shared a book that was read in English and Spanish and followed by serving chicken and pork tamales made by Maria Mendoza. It was nice having a group of new children and their families that attended and participated in this service. We sponsored a float in the Gaylord Eggstravaganza Parade. A special thanks to Howard Armstrong for providing the lawnmower and the Tourtellott family for all their help with this project. We also hosted a presentation on the Dakota Indians that was very interesting and informative.

We are thankful for the assistance of Harriet Troidahl for continuing our church card ministry. We also participated in the church Lenten Suppers.

It takes the efforts of the entire congregation to successfully plan and host events, and we thank everyone who shares their time and talents with us. Please don't hesitate to volunteer if you see an area you like to participate in. Your suggestions and input are always welcome and appreciated. The members of the CC & O greatly appreciate the many volunteers who worked on the activities listed above as well as their donations of time, talent, and money.

2012 Members of CC&O:

Kevin Thies, Kathy Tourtellott, Diane Mosel,  
Darrel Mosel, and Jan Walsh

## Deacon Board Annual Report - 2012

Pastor Hank continues to serve both congregations in New Ulm and Gaylord very well.

During this past year the Deacons served communion, prepared the sanctuary for worship, arranged for acolytes, helped serve a Lenten supper, and provided pulpit supply as needed with Pastor's help. We interviewed the confirmands, provided a reception and gift for a High School graduate and helped ensure music accompaniment when needed. We continue to use gluten-free bread for communion. A new revision of the duties and responsibilities was completed and approved. Lay readers were supplied or recruited with the help of Pastor Hank.

Confirmands accepted into church membership this year were: Alex Evers, Dylan Pauly, Ethan Pomplun. We recognized one senior, Abby Tourtellott.

We had a joint Worship Service with New Ulm UCC at the Fran and Howard Armstrong farm on September 16. Following the service we had a potluck lunch, hay rides through the woods and got to press homemade apple cider. Thanks to the Armstrongs for hosting this fun event!!

The Deacons appreciate all the folks that have *pitched in* when needed this past year. Thanks to our accompanists... Sandy Wentzloff, Sue Keithahn, Stacy Pauly and others that have filled in when needed! Sylvia Turbett continues to keep our brass polished and in beautiful condition. Ruby and Ewald continue to do a marvelous job in so many ways! THANKS!

Respectfully Submitted, Aggie Schue, Jim Peterson, Harriet Troidahl, Dale Johnson and Gail Estenson.

## MISSION BOARD ANNUAL REPORT - 2012

The Mission Board continues its efforts to encourage congregational participation in denominational offerings, promote special appeals through monthly From The Heart Offerings, and find volunteers for Meals on Wheels in October and January. We also collect food for the food shelf, school supplies for the Backpack Project, and items and wrapping paper for Santa's Helpers.

Because of generous donations at mid-week Lenten services, contributions to the jar, and donations given for produce grown by our members, we were able to award scholarship money to our young college members. Megan Meyer, Andrew Thies, and Abby Tourtellott were each awarded \$325.

Special offerings and From the Heart offerings in 2012 totaled:

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| One Great Hour of Sharing | \$ 165.00 |
| Strengthen the Church     | \$ 75.00  |
| Neighbors in Need         | \$ 57.00  |
| Christmas Fund            | \$ 184.00 |
| Food Shelf                | \$ 629.00 |
| Hurricane Sandy           | \$ 100.00 |
| Salvation Army            | \$ 137.75 |
| Santa's Helpers           | \$ 275.00 |

We also collected over 200 lbs of food for the Food Shelf this year.

We keep food and gas vouchers and a small supply of food in the church office to give to individuals who come to church in need of immediate help.

For your continued generosity, we thank each of you who contributed in any way to these offerings. God bless all of you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stacy Pauly, Chair  
Deb Meyer, Council Rep.  
Marian Pfarr-Saxton  
Sylvia Turbett



**'...just as you did it to one of  
the least of these...'**



## Priscilla Circle 2012 Annual Report

Priscilla Circle members meet once a month, September through May (with the exception of January) on the third Thursday, in the Fireside Room at 2 p.m. for activities, socializing and a light lunch or dessert.

In 2012 we made tray favors for Oak Terrace in the spring and again in the fall. We continue to make baby quilts to sell at the Ice Cream Social and to give to those in need. With money from the sale of quilts and dishcloths, we donated money to Habitat for Humanity, Heifer Project, St. Peter's Regional Treatment Center, Salvation Army, Sibley County Food Shelf and Santa's Helpers. We also paid for the bedding plants for all of the church planters.

We served Fellowship Hour, brought cookies for the Hanging of the Greens, provided bars for World Day of Prayer and helped serve a Lenten Supper with Women's Fellowship. Our Spring outing with Women's Fellowship was a very enjoyable trip to Mankato to Drummer's Garden Center followed by lunch in Saint Peter at Whiskey River.

All women and friends of the church are welcome to join us.

Sylvia Turbett, Chair  
Gloria Sinell, Secretary  
Fran Armstrong, Treasurer  
Liz Kuphal, Activities Director

## Women's Groups



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP REPORT

Women's Fellowship meets the second Monday of each month at noon in the Fireside Room. All women of the congregation are invited to bring your lunch and enjoy our gatherings.

During 2012, Women's Fellowship members enjoyed participating in the following:

- ~ Taking down the Christmas decorations following Epiphany.
- ~ Helping serve a Soup Supper during Lent.
- ~ A spring trip to Drummer's in Mankato followed by lunch at Whiskey River in St. Peter in June.
- ~ Organizing and working at the annual Eggstravaganza Pie Social in August.
- ~ Organizing and serving at the Election Day Soup/Sandwich Luncheon in November.
- ~ Advent decorating of the Narthex and Fellowship Hall with a catered meal for all who helped...very well attended.
- ~ Providing sandwiches and helping to serve treats following the Hanging of the Greens service.
- ~ Donating \$1,000 to the General Fund.
- ~ Donating \$1,000 toward the purchase of the Clavinova.
- ~ Purchasing a new coffee pot and microwave.
- ~ Made curtains for nursery windows.
- ~ Honored Karen Peterson at a meeting, thanking her for her work in the church and Women's Fellowship.

We served for four memorial services during 2012. Arlen Sneltsjes, Marie Berg, Clayton Johnson and Meredith Johnson.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Estenson, Secretary

## Board of Trustees Annual Report/2012

The most significant facility repair project of the year was the replacement of the heat exchangers in the three boilers in the education building. The heat exchangers failed because of mineral build-up on the inside. Unfortunately this type of failure is not covered by the warranty. To prevent this from happening again several modifications were made to the system. The whole system was flushed and switched over to soft water. A strainer, micro-bubble eliminator and a dirt separator were added to the system. Chemicals were also added to the water to prevent mineral build-up.

Another project completed during the year was landscaping around the air conditioner compressors on the north side of the building. The shrubs for this project were purchased with money received in memory of Arlen Sneltsjes. A big thank you goes to Dale Johnson for helping on this project.

Upgrades to the sound system included the installation of a volume control in the nursery, a new microphone on the pulpit, connection to the Clavinova including a volume control foot pedal, and a re-balancing of the entire system. Another big thank you goes to Gail and Dick Estenson for the gift of a new hands-free microphone for the pastor.

A number of windows were refinished on the interior, including those in the narthex, fellowship hall and across from the offices. In addition the kitchen carts next to the dishwasher were repainted, as was the toilet partition in the church men's room.

The trustees would like to thank Ruby and Ewald Keller for their continued outstanding service in keeping our facilities clean and in order.

Respectfully submitted, Chuck Klimmek, Co-Chair; Kevin Thies, Co-Chair; Dick Estenson  
Mike Walsh

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### Shared Ministry Committee - Mutual Ministry (PRC)

Some of the basic areas of responsibility for the Shared Ministry Committee - Mutual Ministry include:

- To encourage good relations between the Pastor and the Congregation.
- To review time usage and involvements of the Pastor and evaluate the ministries of both the Pastor and the Congregation.
- To teach about the work of both the Pastor and the Congregation.
- To help resolve any conflicts between Pastor and Congregation members or between members.
- To maintain appropriate confidentiality.

In 2012 the Shared Ministry committee met three times, twice with New Ulm and once with just Gaylord. Those serving on the Shared Ministry Committee are: Beth Wilson, Deb Meyer, Pauline Marlinski and Mark Pauly. Church Council is responsible for selecting members for this committee.



Working Together

## STATISTICAL RECORDS FOR 2012

Members Listed as of January 1, 2012..... 102 Members

### Additions:

(3) Confirmation

(2) Affirmation or Transfer In

Total Additions ..... + 5 Members

### Subtractions:

(4) Deaths

(0) Transfer Out

Total Subtractions ..... - 4 Members

Members Listed as of December 31, 2012 ..... 103 Members

\* \* \* \* \*

(3) Confirmation: Alex Evers, Dylan Pauly, Ethan Pomplun

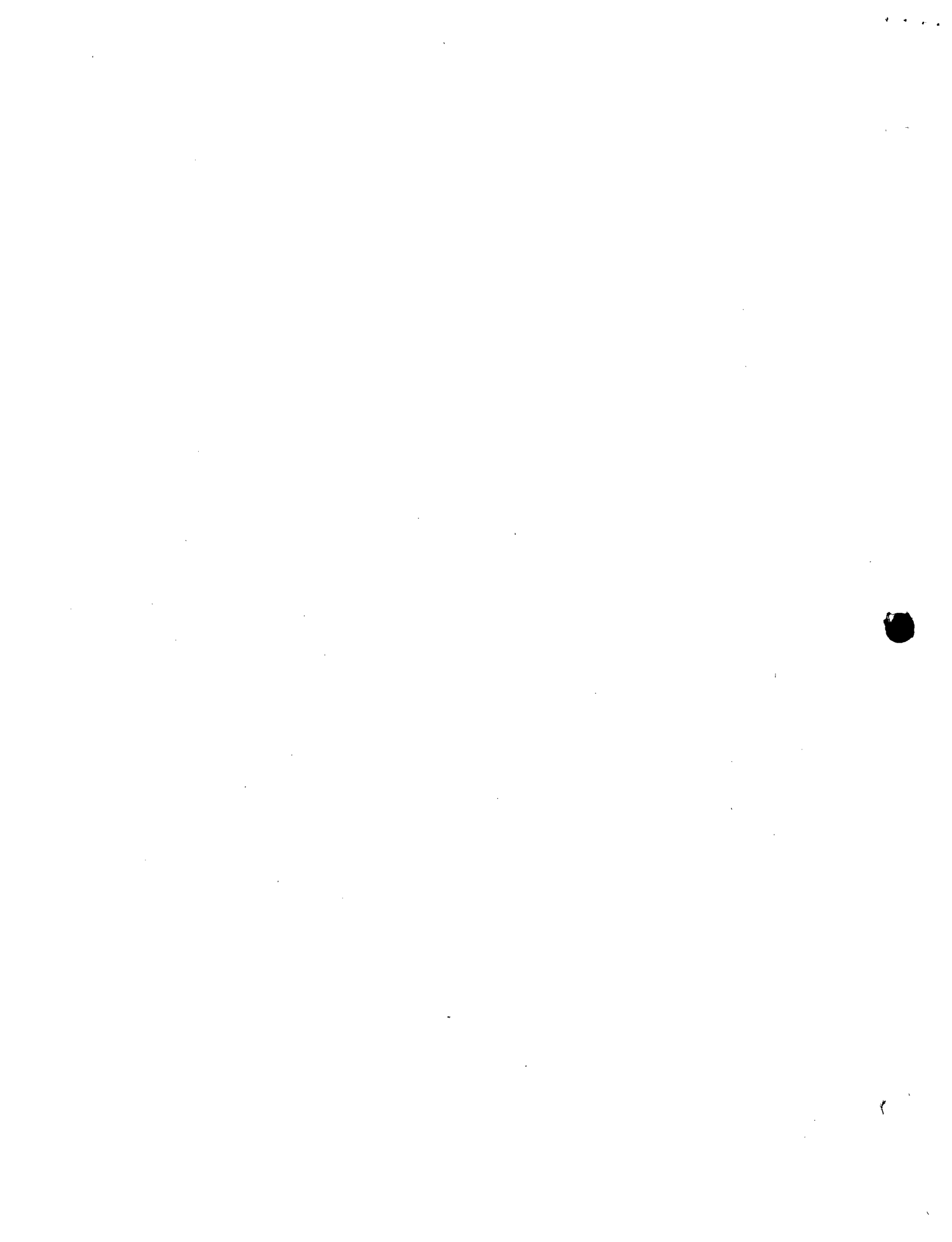
(2) Affirmation or Transfer In: Donna and Paul Wagenius

(1) Wedding: Kati Klimmek/Jesse Miller

(2) Baptisms: Shaylee Exsted and Krystal Exsted

### (4) Deaths/Funerals - Official Member of the Congregation:

|                  |                 |                   |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Arlen Sneltjes   | Death: 1/22/12  | Funeral: 1/27/12  |
| Clayton Johnson  | Death: 2/16/12  | Funeral: 3/30/12  |
| Marie Berg       | Death: 3/4/12   | Funeral: 3/8/12   |
| Meredith Johnson | Death: 11/28/12 | Funeral: 12/22/12 |



# 2013 Gaylord United Church of Christ -- Officers, Boards, Committees

(Office term expires at the Annual Meeting in January of the year listed.)

The symbol \* designates a nominee for election. Others carry over their terms.

**President**

\*Pauline Marlinski    237-2066    2014

**Shared Ministry Committee - Mutual Ministry (PRC)**  
(Selected by Church Council)

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

**Vice President**

\*    2014

**Treasurer**

\*Phil Keithahn    237-5850    2014

**Archives Committee (3)**

\*Jane Peterson    237-5326    2014  
\*Gloria Sinell    237-2931    2014  
\*Barb Sneltjes    237-2208    2014

**Secretary**

\*Beth Wilson    237-5510    2014

**Stewardship and Finance Committee (4)**

Phil Keithahn    237-5850    2014  
Gail Estenson    237-2588    2016  
Mark Pauly    964-2928    2014  
Diane Mosel    237-5235    2014

**Men's Fellowship Co-Chairs (3)**

\*Howard Armstrong    237-3247    2014  
\*  
\*

**Board of Deacons (5)**

Dale Johnson    237-2500    2015  
Harriet Troidahl    237-2816    2015  
\*Gail Estenson    237-2588    2017  
\*Sue Keithahn    237-5850    2017  
\* youth

**Flower Committee (3)**

\*Fran Armstrong    237-3247    2014  
\*Liz Kuphal    237-2160    2014  
\*Liz Reishus    507-327-4371    2014

**Board of Trustees (4)**

Dick Estenson    237-2588    2015  
Mike Walsh    507-381-8383    2015  
\*Jeff Meyer    507-381-3765    2017  
\*Paul Wagenius    507-276-5950    2017

**Camp Committee (3)**

\*Cindy Johnson    237-2500    2014  
\*Deb Meyer    320-894-5041    2014  
\*  
\*youth

**Ushers/Greeters Chair**

\*Ewald Keller    237-2237    2014

**Board of Missions (4)**

Marion Pfarr-Saxton    237-2156    2014  
Sylvia Turbett    237-5209    2014  
Stacy Pauly    507-964-2928    2016  
Deb Meyer    320-894-5041    2016

**Memorial Committee**

\*Eunice Gasow    237-2434    2014  
\*Harriet Troidahl    237-2816    2014

**Library Committee (4)**

\*Cindy Johnson    237-2500    2014  
\*Deb Meyer    320-894-5041    2014  
\*Sandy Pomplun    237-2592    2014  
\*Gloria Sinell    237-2931    2014

**Board of Education (5)**

Denise Tourtellott    237-2107    2015  
Liz Reishus    507-327-4371    2015  
\*Michelle Exsted    320-296-4910    2017  
\*Shannon Hruska    237-6166    2017  
\* youth

**Women's Fellowship**

\*    2014

**Nursery Attendant**

\*    2014

**Board of Congregational Care & Outreach (5)**

Kevin Thies    237-2247    2014  
Darrel Mosel    237-5235    2014  
Kathy Tourtellott    237-2107    2014  
Diane Mosel    237-5235    2016  
Jan Walsh    507-381-7663    2016

