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# Name?

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Volume 1 Issue 1

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September 2002

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Calvary, Barnum; Faith, Harcourt; Fulton, Roelyn; Trinity, Boxholm; UCC/Congregational, Moorland; Zion, Gowrie

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## REV. SNYDER ACCEPTS CALL TO FERTILE LUTHERAN

Dear Members of the  
Cooperative Council and  
Members of the 6 Churches;

It is with a deep sense of appreciation of the CCM that I now give my resignation as one of the pastors in the Cooperative. Having such an appreciation of you, it is hard to give my resignation. However, I have received a "Letter of Call" from Fertile Lutheran Church, Fertile, Iowa and have been given the feeling and assurance that this is where our Lord intends for me to be next.

With me moving, it will free

up monies for specialists to be called (hired) to the CCM. Rightfully so, one of the areas of concern would be youth ministry. My prayers would be for that to happen as soon as possible. Of course there remains a concern that worship will continue and increase. There are several possibilities how this can happen. It is not for me to say since I will not be a part of it.

To answer some questions that have been spoken, I feel free to answer some at this time.

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## Countryside Cooperative Ministry Council

Byron Chalstrom, UCC/Cong.  
Loretta Daisy, Fulton  
Larry Fatka, Trinity  
Marc Greenfield, Faith  
Steve Julius, Calvary  
Larry Krakau, Trinity  
Steve Lane, Zion  
Shannon Miller, Zion  
Ned Palmer, Zion  
John Samuelson, Faith  
Richard Silvey, UCC/Cong.  
Everett Underwood, Fulton  
Ron Walrod, Calvary

## Countryside Cooperative Ministry Executive Committee

Byron Chalstrom, President  
Shannon Miller, Vice-president  
Steve Lane, Treasurer  
Loretta Daisy, Secretary  
Rev. Jim Davis, Administrative  
Pastor

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## NAME FOR NEWSLETTER

We are in need of a name for this newsletter. Do you have any ideas?

This will be a monthly newsletter of Countryside Cooperative Ministry. It will contain information about Cooperative happenings that may be of interest to you. We encourage members of the Cooperative to feel free to join other congregations for worship, educational events, social events and other events hosted by Cooperative congregations.

If you have items you would like considered for placement in the Cooperative Newsletter, please have them to the Cooperative office by the 15th of each month.

If you have suggestions for the format of this newsletter, contact the Cooperative office.

Suggestions for a name may be submitted to the Cooperative office. Who knows, there may even be lunch in it for the person who submits the name that is chosen.

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### Baseball in heaven?

The good news is that there is baseball in heaven.

The bad news is that you're playing tomorrow.

The really bad news is that you're on the visiting team.

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## DARE TO LIVE FOR GOD: WITNESS AND SERVE!

**Dare to Live for God: Witness and Serve!** is the theme of the Twin River Valley Conference biennial global mission event. St. Olaf will host the event on Sunday, September 29 from 1:30 – 6:30 p.m. A light meal will be served as part of the event.

Rev. Jonathan Frerichs will be the keynote speaker. Rev. Frerichs is the Communications Director for Lutheran World

Relief. Lutheran World Relief does mission work, on our behalf, in more than 50 countries throughout the world.

This is an exciting opportunity to hear more about mission efforts throughout the world and meet people who are involved in global missions. Please consider attending. If you would like more information, contact Pastor Jim (352-3932).

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1. I am not being forced out. I leave at my own will and my own timing. Of course, I know of the overall plans of the cooperative and that coincides with my plans in timing. I am grateful to God that the forming of the cooperative has gone so well and I will continue to pray for you and to keep up in being informed of your progress.
2. I am not angry with anyone. I am not running away from anything. I leave because I feel called to do so. That call is from God to a single congregation about the size of Moorland UCC, Fulton

- Lutheran, and Calvary Presbyterian.
3. In the 2002 ELCA Yearbook, Fertile Lutheran Church has a Baptized membership of 225 and an attendance of 101. Along with that, they are open to possibilities of forming relationships with other congregations.
  4. I leave the Countryside Cooperative Ministries in the capable hands of Pastors Davis and Meyer. I am sure that the Holy Spirit will lead the next person or persons to complement the staff here.

God's Peace and Love to each of you,

Marlin E. Snyder, Pastor

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## FAREWELL BRUNCH FOR SNYDERS

Fulton Lutheran Church, Roelyn will be hosting a farewell brunch for Pastor Snyder on Sunday, September 15. Worship will be at Fulton at 9:30 a.m. followed by brunch. Brunch will be served until approximately noon. Members of the Countryside Cooperative are invited to attend worship and/or lunch.

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## GRIEF CLASS

Loss of someone close to you can be a devastating event, and the process of grief can take a long time to negotiate. There are however, ways to approach grieving that are healthier than others.

Rod will offer a two-hour session on grief at several different sites. The class will cover how to help yourself through the grieving process, and how to help someone else through his/her grief. It covers basic, helpful information (What do I say? How long is too long to grieve?) and will offer other resources for you to take with you and share.

The schedule for the class will be as follows:

Monday, September 23<sup>th</sup> at ZION from 7-9 p.m.

Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at FAITH from 7-9 p.m.

Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at FULTON from 7-9 p.m.

Please feel free to attend at whatever location works best in your schedule. There is one 20 minute break scheduled in each session.

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## CROP WALK

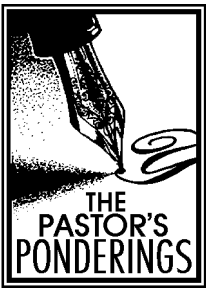
There will be a Crop Walk in Fort Dodge on October 6 at 1:30 p.m.

Cropwalkers provide food, medicine, shelter and other necessities for millions of poor

people throughout the world.

Please join us in making a difference locally and globally.

Watch your bulletins or contact the Cooperative office for more information.



I have mixed feelings about Pastor Snyder's resignation.

On the one hand, I am excited for both Pastor and

Gretchen. They have faithfully served Fulton and the UCC/ Congregational congregations these past ten years. Pastor has proclaimed the good news of God's love for us in Jesus Christ, celebrated the sacraments, provided care for the sick and bereaved and offered leadership in considering different forms of ministry. There is much to be celebrated. I am also excited about their new call in Fertile. It sounds like there is a good match between Pastor Snyder and this congregation and that the mission of the church will benefit from this relationship.

**Remember, that in the midst of all the change, God's grace will continue to be our anchor.**

I have also been told that the parsonage was built by Terry Branstad and is a large, beautiful home.

On the other hand, I sad that we will soon say good-bye to Pastor Snyder. I have appreciated the opportunity to come to know him better. I am touched by his sincerity and humility. Even more important than being a faithful pastor, Marlin is a faithful follower of Jesus Christ. Marlin has served our northern congregations and the Cooperative faithfully and I will miss what he brings to the Cooperative.

I am also grateful for Pastor Snyder's vision for cooperative ministry. For many years, Pastor Snyder faithfully met with a

Future Ministry Committee and tended conversations that would ultimately lead to the creation of the Countryside Cooperative Ministry. He also modeled what we are about as he led congregations in our northern tier in ecumenical worship and ministry. The emergence of the Cooperative Ministry was dependent upon many years of cultivation by faithful leaders.

Thank you for your faithful service and leadership, Pastor Snyder and Gretchen, and may God go with you as you continue your journey.

The Cooperative Council is prayerfully considering what the next step in our journey will be. We are attempting to discern what form of staffing will best serve our mission. We are

looking at the possibility of both lay staff and additional clergy. We want to make

wise decisions so we will be very deliberate as we consider where God is leading us. We welcome your concerns and suggestions as we enter this new phase of Cooperative Ministry. Feel free to contact Cooperative Council members or the Cooperative office (352-3645) with concerns and suggestions.

I pray for your patience and support as we move through this time of transition. There will be many changes yet to come. Remember, that in the midst of all the change, God's grace will continue to be our anchor.

May God bless all of us as we strive to be faithful to the mission to which we have been called.

Pastor Jim

## COMMUNION WORKSHOP

A communion workshop will be offered for anyone desiring to learn more about communion. This workshop will be a good refresher course for adults and children who already commune. It is also an opportunity for children who do not yet commune to learn more about communion and take an important step toward receiving communion. The focus of the workshop will be on the holy community that is created as we gather around the gifts of bread and wine.

The workshop will be offered at Zion on Sunday, October 13 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. A light lunch will be served.

If you have questions about the workshop, please contact Pastor Jim.

If you plan to attend the workshop, it would be appreciated if you would sign up before October 6 so we can plan for lunch. You may sign up by calling the Cooperative office at 352-3645.



## NEED A VISIT?

If you or anyone you know of could use a pastoral visit, please contact the Cooperative office at 352-3645 so a visit can be scheduled.

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**Countrywide Cooperative Ministry**  
Box 63  
Gowrie, IA 50543

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**Cooperative Phone Numbers:**

Cooperative Office		352-3645
Rev. Jim Davis	Office	352-3645
	Home	352-3932
Rod Meyer	Office	846-6227
	Home	354-5224

**Cooperative Email Addresses:**

Cooperative Office: [ziongowr@wccta.net](mailto:ziongowr@wccta.net)  
Rev. Jim Davis: [elca506@wccta.net](mailto:elca506@wccta.net)  
Rod Meyer: [rodmeyer@mail.lvcta.com](mailto:rodmeyer@mail.lvcta.com)

**Cooperative Worship Times**

Calvary, Barnum	10:30 a.m.
Faith, Harcourt	10:30 a.m.
Fulton, Roelyn	9:15 a.m.
Trinity, Boxholm	9:00 a.m.
UCC/Cong., Moorland	8:00 a.m.
Zion, Gowrie (Starting 9/8)	10:30 a.m.
1st and 3rd Saturdays	5:00 p.m.