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# COUNTRYSIDE NEWS

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Volume 1 Issue 12

A Publication of Countryside Cooperative Ministry

September 2003

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

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## COOPERATIVE COOKBOOK

Recipes are now being collected for our Countryside Cooperative Cookbook. We are hoping to have at least 100 recipes, but need the help of everyone to make that happen.

Our book should be a really nice collection from all six churches. Recipe sheets are available at each church. (One recipe per sheet please.) If you would like to have the recipe sheet in Microsoft Word format on the computer contact the Cooperative Office and Cheryl

can e-mail one to you or an out of area relative who would like to submit a recipe.

The ladies from each church who are gathering the recipes

are: Zion - Marilyn Birkland & Marsha Farnham, Faith - Joan Peterson, Fulton - Jean Birkland, UCC - Barb Loehr,

Calvary - Joyce Gordon and Trinity - Sue Fatka. Please turn in your recipes to them by September 15.

The book should be back by

*(Continued on page 2a)*



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## LEGACY



**Remember and rekindle our legacy from God, our holy calling.**

A recent newspaper story told of a young man whose first armed robbery attempt was at age 14. He went downhill from there. Drugs, theft, credit card fraud, and jail time marked his life. But he finally finished school and became a lawyer. Here was power to wrestle with a

complex legacy and turn it to good. The story gets better. This man is now an assistant to the district attorney because of the D.A.'s own faith. When asked about hiring a former felon-turned-lawyer, the D.A. said, "To be honest with you, if I'm going to live out my personal and religious beliefs, then I've got to be able to give somebody a chance to prove themselves

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## Countryside Cooperative Ministry Council

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

## Countryside Cooperative Ministry Executive Committee

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

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When you are making a success of something, it's not work. It's a way of life. You enjoy yourself because you are making your contributions to the world.

—Andy Granatelli  
Professional race-car driver

Nothing is particularly hard if you divide it into small jobs.

—Henry Ford

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# STEPHEN MINISTRY



On Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of September the Stephen Ministry training will begin for a group of lay people from our cooperative congregations. This training for caring ministry was developed by Stephen Ministries in St. Louis. Using it, congregations all over the world have implemented lasting programs of lay caring ministry.

Over the next few months our Stephen Minister trainees will receive extensive training in Christian caring skills. Some of the areas these people will cover in the training sequence include

listening effectively, dealing with feelings, confidentiality, using the resources of Christianity, being assertive, and a number of topics dealing with specific life crises. Throughout, the training will emphasize the theology of caring for the whole person.

Following the training sequence, these men and women will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers to carry out ministries of caring within our cooperative congregations and community, with people experiencing such problems in life as hospitaliza-

tion, grief, depression, loneliness, and many other life crises. Working under Cindy's guidance and supervision, the Stephen Ministers will extend the capacity of our congregation to care.

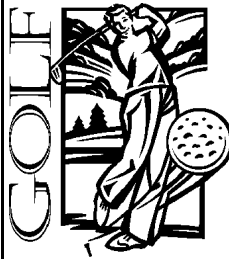
In the next edition of our Countryside Cooperative newsletter we will be listing the people who will be attending this Stephen Ministry training and committing to two years as Stephen Ministers. In the time being we ask you to please keep the people who will be training and our Stephen Ministry in your thoughts and prayers.

If you have any questions about Stephen Ministry training and care giving, please feel free to call Cindy at her office (352-3612) or the Countryside Cooperative Office (352-3645).

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## Cooperative Cookbook

early December. A social service agency of the church will receive the profits from the Countryside Cooperative Cookbooks. Below is an order form for you to place in the offering plate or give to your recipe collector to help us know how many books to order. This order form does not obligate you to purchase that number, but it will help us place our initial order. The cooperation of everyone is greatly appreciated. It will be fun to see the collection of delicious recipes we can create.



## Countryside Cooperative Ministry Men's Golf Tournament

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Countryside Cooperative Ministry Men's Golf Tournament will be held on September 28th with a 12:00 noon shotgun time.

All men are invited to attend. This is a fun event, so even if you are not a golfer, plan on

attending.

If you would like to sign up, please contact the Cooperative Office at 352-3645. If you would like more information, contact Paul Johnson.

You cannot live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you.

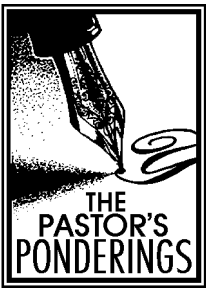
—John Wooden

## NEED A VISIT?

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

### MY ORDER FOR COOKBOOKS

Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ copies for me  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



Lisa Smith, one of the students I confirmed while pastor at Frederika, spoke at the ELCA National Youth

Gathering in Atlanta, Georgia. It was amazing to see and hear her.

Listening to Lisa speak was a deeply moving experience. She spoke about how small groups of friends, from junior high

through today, who took their faith seriously had provided a safe place for her to grow and become the woman of faith she is today.

I had an opportunity to visit with Lisa and to ask her what had been the most important factors in her becoming a person of faith. Those factors are: a mother who took her faith seriously and expected the same from her children; a small group of friends who shared the faith; opportunities to be a leader in congregational ministries; and her experience in the camps and schools of the ELCA.

*The challenge is before us: How do we stop this trend and become more successful in passing the faith on to the next generations?*

Rollie Martinson, who is a professor at

Luther Seminary, has done a great deal of work studying how the faith is passed on from generation to generation. Rollie and others who work in this area

have identified eight factors that are critical in passing on the faith from one generation to the next. These are:

1. Faith integrated into family identity and practice.
2. Three or more adult mentors of vital faith.
3. Three or more months service in the name of Jesus Christ.
4. Apprenticed early into leadership in their church.
5. Engaging, meaningful church experience in which youth are valued.
6. Excellent senior high/young adult ministry.
7. Encouraged by strong Christian friend(s).
8. Support within an engaging Christian community during a personal crisis.

These factors have been very important in passing on the faith to Lisa. She is an excellent example of a young adult who has not left the church, but who continues to grow in her faith.

If you look at demographics that track participation in church, it is clear that we have essentially lost a generation and are in the process of losing another. The challenge is before us: How do we stop this trend and become more successful in passing the faith on to the next generations?

Shannon and Beth are learning what passing on the faith involves and how we can be more effective in passing our faith from generation to generation. They will also be developing a program that will help us be more intentional in creating people of faith like Lisa.

Please pray for Shannon and Beth, the Cooperative staff and all of us as we strive to pass on the faith to the next generation.

—Pastor Jim

## COOPERATIVE PICNIC



Photo courtesy of Rob Crick, guest of Calvary Presbyterian Church

July 27 the Countryside Cooperative service and picnic was held. We had 105 members join us for church and almost everyone stayed and enjoyed a wonderful potluck dinner. Good food, good company, and good conversation was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Calvary of Barnum for the wonderful ice cream. Please join us next year!

*(Continued from page 1b)*

### Legacy

regardless of their past.” Here are two men who are not held back by shame. They trust that the Spirit has power to call us to work for good in God’s world. Such faith touches lives, even those of newspaper readers.

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

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**Cooperative Phone Numbers:**

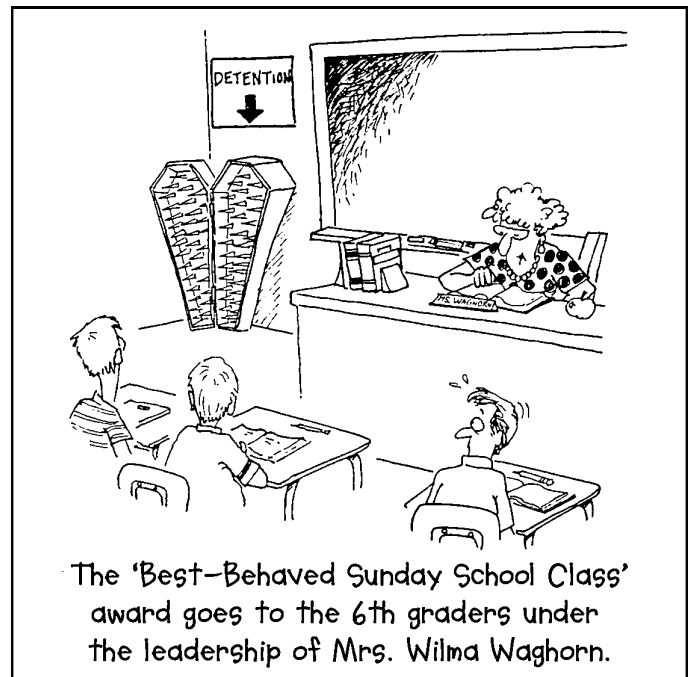
Cooperative Office		352-3645
Rev. Jim Davis	Office	352-3932
	Home	352-5261
Rod Meyer	Office	846-6277
	Home	354-5224
Rev. Wahlgren	Office	352-3645
	Home	352-5245
Stephen Ministry	Office	352-3612
	Home	352-3798

**Cooperative Email Addresses:**

Cooperative Office:	ziongowr@wccta.net
Rev. Jim Davis:	elca506@wccta.net
Rod Meyer:	rodmeier@lvcta.com
Stephen Ministry:	stephencoop@hotmail.com

**Cooperative Worship Times**

Calvary, Barnum	10:30 a.m.
Faith, Harcourt	9:00 a.m.
Fulton, Roelyn	9:15 a.m.
Trinity, Boxholm	10:30 a.m.
UCC/Cong., Moorland	8:00 a.m.
Zion, Gowrie	10:30 a.m.
4 1st and 3rd Saturdays	5:00 p.m.



If you have an article or pictures that you would like to submit for the Cooperative newsletter, please send them to the Cooperative office and we will **try** to put them in as time and space permit.