

# Announcements

May 4, 2008

We thank **Pastor Paul Axness** for serving as our pastor during Pastor Davis's sabbatical.

The Choir's 8:30 Offertory Anthem is, "*Come Away to the Skies*," by Richard Erickson.

**GRADES 8-12 YOUTH EVENT** - Ken and Verna White are hosting a "**Cuatro de Mayo Fiesta**" (4th of May) (day before Cinco de Mayo) which will include Youth Volleyball and FOOD at our home on Sunday May 4, 2008, 6:00-8:00 P.M. All confirmed youth and guests are welcome. Please RSVP to 252-0485 (food head count).

**Stewardship Update – Thank you for your generous financial support during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter!** Your first quarter statements are in your church mailboxes, and we are ahead of our pledged giving which allows us to continue to build the programs we offer and pay our bills in a timely manner. Since spring and summer are typically times when families take vacations or activities take them away on the weekends, we would like to give you the opportunity to participate in our *Simply Giving* program! 36 households are currently enrolled in this program which makes life easier for you and yields significant benefits for our church. Some benefits to you are: 1) The satisfaction of giving to God first; 2) Easier to fulfill stewardship commitments; 3) Strengthens participation and support in the church; 4) Allows you to contribute even when you're away; and, 5) More secure than bringing cash or checks to church. If you would like additional information regarding this program, please contact Linda Queck, 276-0134, or [steward@stjamesjohnston.org](mailto:steward@stjamesjohnston.org).

We will honor our graduating seniors on TODAY, May 4, at 9:30 A.M. in Ivuga Hall. Our seniors include: ***Madison Fiedler, Sam Grasso, Daniel Heldt, Audrey Henning, Lauren Stensrud, John Tayloe & Lindsey Tosch***. This reception will be hosted by our 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Sunday School Program** – Please join us for our annual Sunday School Program and Teacher Appreciation Day on May 18. Students in grades preschool through grade seven will share special music and their memory work. This will be our last day of Sunday School before summer break.

**Springtime Tea** – You are cordially invited to attend a Springtime Tea in the Ivuga Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 18, at 2:00 P.M. Sponsored by the Mary & Martha Women's Groups.

**Newsletters** – *May Sword & Shell* newsletters are in your church mailboxes. Please, take home and read today!

**We need you!** The Property Team needs your help on **Saturday, May 10, 8:00 – Noon**, for our annual Spring clean-up day! We have work for everyone...washing windows, raking leaves, planting shrubs, cleaning gutters, etc. We hope you can join us for 1 hour, 2 hours or the entire time! Questions, contact Randy Shoeman, 986-3088, or Linda Queck, 276-0134.

**Hymn Selection** - Now is the time to let the worship and music team know of your favorite hymns. They will be planning the hymns for summer worship. Let them know of your favorite hymns, and they will include them in worship. The hymn selection sheets are in the narthex.

**Des Moines Diversity Spring Chorus Concert** will be held Tuesday, May 6, 7:30 P.M. at Urbandale United Church of Christ, 3530 70<sup>th</sup> Street, Urbandale. This is their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and free to the public.

Find your shade of GREEN!” – Please join us for three evenings of learning to:

**LIVE GREEN: CARING FOR GOD’S CREATION**

**June 22-24, 2008**

**5:30 P.M.: Light Dinner**

**6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.: Activities**

**For ALL Ages!**

Have an interest in living green? caring for the earth? recycling? reducing? living more simply? gardening? energy efficiency? wildlife habitat? etc. Contact Denise at DeniseFriesth@mchsi.com or 276-9696 or other members of the Christian Education Team: Jill Boeschen, Doreen Christensen, Michelle Laughlin & Polly Pattison. If this is an interest of yours, please join us for a planning session on **Wednesday, May 7, at 6:30 P.M.**

**Announcements** – If you would like announcements posted in the weekly bulletin, please contact the Parish Steward at 276-0134 or [steward@stjamesjohnston.org](mailto:steward@stjamesjohnston.org), by Wednesday at Noon. Thank you!