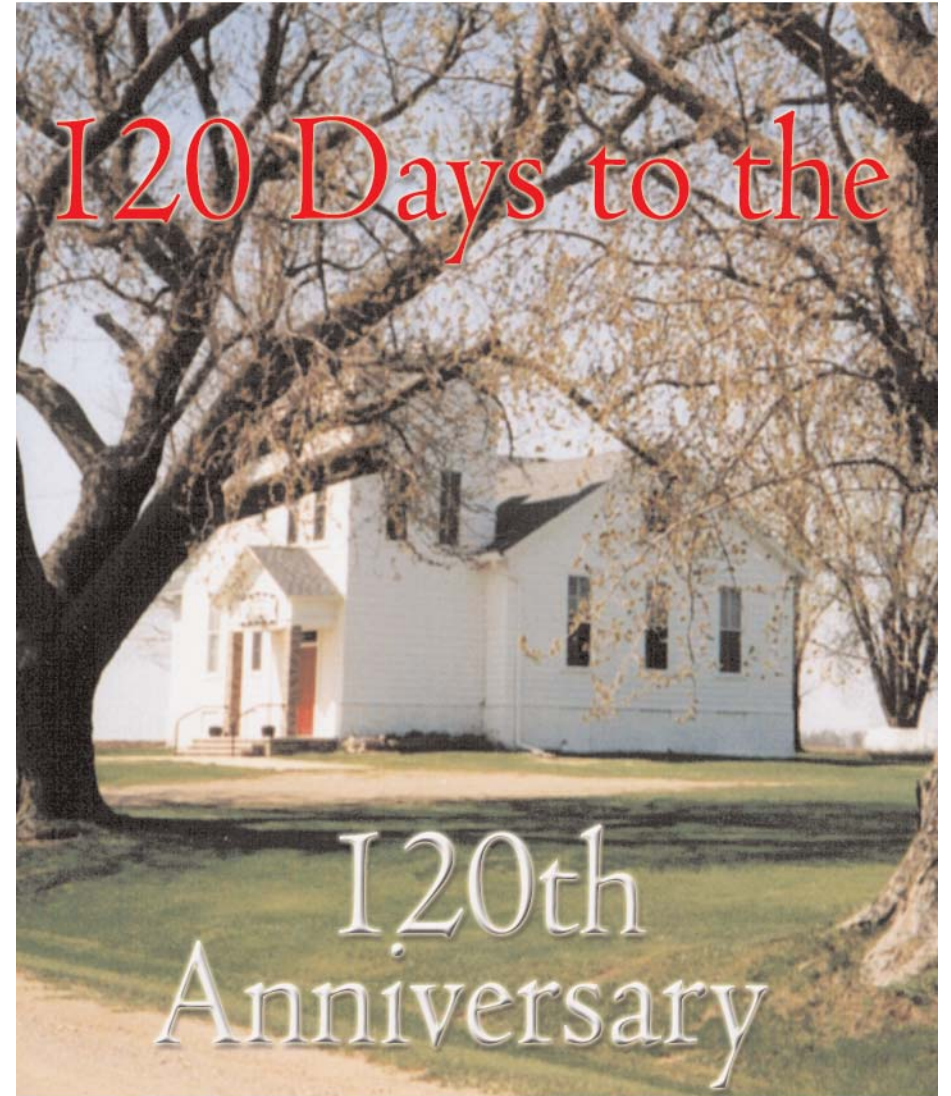


They will beat their swords into plowshares -- Isaiah 2:4

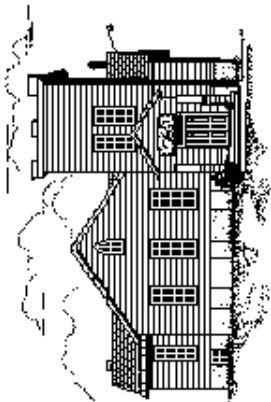
Sheldon Church of the Brethren

PLOWSHARE



Peacefully. Simply. Together.

July-August 2008



Sheldon Church of the Brethren
3011 Marsh Avenue
Sheldon, Iowa 51201
(712)324-3842

Address Services Requested



"The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." So Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran." Genesis 12:1-4 (NIV)

Going Where Sent

I get sort of impatient sometimes.

I'm the sort of guy that can't stand cliffhangers at the end of weekly television shows, so I wait and buy the season compilation DVD box sets and watch the entire thing beginning to end. I hate waiting in line at the gas station, so I keep driving until I find a place that has an open pump, even if it's more expensive. If my pizza takes more than twenty minutes to get from Godfather's to my door, I'm outraged. There is nothing I hate more than a movie ending that leaves you waiting for the sequel. I want everything now. I hate waiting.

I'm sure that I could blame the society that I was raised in. No one has patience anymore. In an era of instantly accessible information on the internet and overnight shipping that costs pennies, it's hard to imagine that there was a time when people had to wait for anything. Sometimes I worry the church is promoting this "BUY IT NOW" attitude. "Become a Christian," we say, "and God'll bless you right now. He'll give you a nice car or a big house. He'll make your children beautiful and they'll get into Harvard. All you have to do... is have faith."

Faith. Is that really all I need to get that BMW I've always wanted? Sign me up! It's a tempting message. One that appeals to me, because of its immediacy, it's "get it now" attitude.

Faith Journey

Continued Page 7

Thought provided by CJ Wurpts, a Northwestern College, Orange City, IA., student who periodically directs our worship services.

On the Front: Church plans underway for a special anniversary

On Saturday, November 3, 1888, the Sheldon Church of the Brethren was formally organized. In the summer of 1894 the first church building was built for \$1,251.02. The church is now planning for its 120th anniversary on November 2, 2008. We thank worshipper Sally Young for this picture.

Ideas Needed For Our 120th Anniversary Celebration and the Denomination's 300th

Suggestions are being taken by the church to help promote the church's 120th anniversary on Sunday, Nov. 2, 2008. For the denomination's 300th anniversary celebration this year, churches are being asked to do 300 things to commemorate it. (their example: plant 300 trees, etc.)!

Submit your ideas to Church Moderator Linda Adams, or other members of the congregation. Your ideas will be passed to the appropriate planning committee.

Your comments and suggestions can be submitted by email to event planners, or by logging onto the church's website at www.sheldonbrethren.org. Find the Guest Services link within the Peacefully, Simply, and Together sections, then click on Guest Services, and then select choose Ideas, and fill out the available form. To submit it, click on the OK button. You can also submit your ideas and suggestions by email. To email Church of the Brethren 300th year anniversary celebration ideas, please email them to 300@sheldonbrethren.org or to submit ideas or suggestions for the Sheldon church's 120th year celebration, please email those ideas to 120@sheldonbrethren.org.

The church appreciates your comments and help in planning for these very special celebrations!

New Copier For Church

Notice something brighter and clearer about this publication?

The church purchased a new Brother Multi-Function Copier, Printer, Scanner, and Fax machine in June. The Fax can not be used because no telephone line is hooked to it.

This will greatly enhance various church publications including the *Plowshare*, weekly church bulletins, children's sermons, and other outreach materials.

Faith Journey

Continued from Page 2

So when I read Genesis 12:1-4, I have to admit, I'm a little embarrassed. We see God promise Abram prosperity, and then throughout the next 12 chapters of Genesis we see Abram live a life of faith. Years and years go by, and Abram is still a nomadic wanderer who lives in a tent. Still, he remains faithful. Towards the end of life, we see Abram (now Abraham) buying a parcel of land on which to bury his wife in Genesis 23. And this is all of the "promised land" that Abraham sees.

Questions to consider:

1.) Why do we have faith in God? Is it for the payoff, whether it be immediate prosperity or the promise of Heaven? Or is there something more to it?

2.) Four generations (and hundreds of years) later, we see in Genesis 49:26 that there are still only seventy people that are Abraham's descendents, a far smaller number than Abram might have expected. What do you think about this?

Pathways

Jared Cox Accepts Position At Boise State University

Jared Cox, son of Ross and Sandi Cox, Ashton, has accepted a position at Boise State University, Boise, Idaho, to head the school's director of intramural activities beginning mid-August. He recently signed his 10-month annual contract.

Jared received his master's degree in May from Illinois State University in management of those types of programs.

Boise State University has an enrollment of 20,000 students, and is growing, according to Jared. Boise State University is a Division I National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) school. He said most of the buildings on the campus are relatively new. Boise is the capital city of Idaho. It has a population of 200,000.

Jared will be in charge of a number of students who will oversee all non-athletic sports activities on the campus through the school's academic year.

Pray For Healing

A number of people affiliated with our church have had some rough times with various health issues. We ask special prayers of continued healing for these individuals including: Jerry Rolston, Clarence Evans, Jan Rolston, and Rev. Don Lenderink.

Addresses to Remember:

Harriet Rolston
641 8th Ave
Sheldon, IA 51201

Jeannette Grove
521 East Main St. Apt. 102
Laurens, IA 50554-1556

These people would love to receive mail. Your letters will add sunshine to their days and help them know that you care.



Sheldon Church of the Brethren

News. Inspiration. About Ourselves.

online

www.sheldonbrethren.org

Sheldon Church of the Brethren's email address: pastor@sheldonbrethren.org

Church of the Brethren:
Northern Plains District:
Living Peace:
Kinship Community Inc.

www.brethren.org
www.npcob.org
www.lpcob.org
www.kcimentors.org

Sunday, November 2, 2008

120th Anniversary

Day's Activities

9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship
11:30 A.M.	Catered Noon Meal
1:00 P.M.	Afternoon Program

The next edition of the church's Plowshare will have more details on what the day's activities will be. Up-to-date information may be found by going to:

<http://120.sheldonbrethren.org>



PLOWSHARE JULY-AUGUST 2008

The Plowshare is a bimonthly outreach publication of the Sheldon, Ia., Church of the Brethren. News items, pictures, and other contributions can be submitted for consideration to Alan Cox. Those materials can be sent by mail to 903 Morningside, Boyden, Iowa 51234. Materials can also be sent by email to plowshare@sheldonbrethren.org or by calling 712-725-2459.



In March, 1884, the W. C. and T. L. Kimmel families, from Lanark, IL, settled on Grant Township farms. Four years later, the Tobias Myers' family, also, from Illinois, located in the same area.

These three families, on Nov. 3, 1888, formally organized the beginning of the Sheldon Church of the Brethren in the little old schoolhouse with about 12 members present. The schoolhouse, at that time, was located across the road north of the present day church.

With Brother Tobias Myers as the minister in charge, the members met weekly in various places: W.C. Kimmel's barn, in the side shed of W.C. Kimmel's tenant house, T.L. Kimmel's buggy shed, or the schoolhouse.

On March 27, 1892, a regular Sunday School was organized with Tobias Myers as superintendent. The Sunday School grew rapidly and at one time was considered one of the best in the northwest part of the state. A stimulating practice following the lesson period was that a person would ask a biblical question to be answered the following Sunday. An active library was maintained for many years. In 1917, when the new rooms were added to the church, the Sunday School was completely departmentalized.

Regular meetings of the Sunday School, as well as the church services, were held in the school house and other available places until the summer of 1894 when the first church building was built at the cost of \$1,251.02 (see above picture). It was dedicated in August of 1894. Fifty-

four church people, as well as Sheldon businessmen, subscribed funds to build this structure located at the present site, one mile west of Sheldon on Hwy 18 and two miles north. It was built on a donated corner of W.C. Kimmel's farm.

In 1907, the Christian Workers Society was formed as a Sunday evening group. This was replaced with a youth fellowship known as CBYF. The first Vacation Bible School was held in 1922.

For several years the women met once a month in their homes for worship, Bible study, and work. They made quilts and comforters for the needy. In September of 1924, they asked to become a regular branch of the church. The request was granted, and Rebecca Heagley, Florence Kimmel's mother, became the first president. For many years, our ladies have had hand-made rugs for sale.

In 1917, the church enlarged the building. Adequate Sunday School rooms were added, also, a complete basement and tower room. Stucco embedded with rock crystals was used for the outside. The expanded building, at a cost of \$6,500, was dedicated debt-free on December 25, 1917. In 1941, the stucco was removed and replaced with white siding.

In 1947, Rev. J.E. Rolston formulated the plan to buy the 80-acre farm across the road to the northeast of the church. It was to be operated by the men of the church and the income was to help support the church's work. The house would become the parsonage. This house was the little old schoolhouse that had been moved (from across the church) by the congregation years earlier. When it was moved, another schoolhouse was built in its place. This farm has produced well and has continued to give solid financial support to our church program through the years. The farm is managed by church trustees. Should the church ever cease to exist, the farm will become the property of the General Brotherhood Board of the Church of the Brethren.

In the summer of 1978, a 12' x 26' addition was added to the south side of the parsonage, under the able direction of Larry Rolston. This was done just prior to the arrival of the Hendricks' family.

As we continue in the second century of the life of our church, may God continue to guide and bless us in service to our members, to our community, to our Brotherhood of the Church of the Brethren, to our world, and most of all, to our Heavenly Father!

The Church's One Foundation

...Keeping It Strong In 2008!

July - 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
No Sunday School June - Labor Day						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Speaker: Rev. David Loveall Communion 120 Days before anniversary Sunday of the church						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Speaker: Dyan Sterk						Birthday - Molly Dagael
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Speaker: CJ Wurpts						
27	28	29	30	31		
Speaker: Don Adkins Anniversary - Steve & Molly Dagal						



Sheldon Church of the Brethren

Worship - 9:30 a.m. Christian Education 11 a.m. www.sheldonbrethren.org
3011 Marsh Ave, Sheldon, Ia. 51201 712-324-3842

August - 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Speaker: Rev. David Loveall Communion No Sunday School June - Labor Day						Anniversary - Alan & Marcene Cox
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Speaker: Rev. Lucinda Douglas		Birthday - Sandi Cox			Birthday - Linda Adams; Donna Brinkman	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Speaker:	Anniversary - Ron & Donna Brinkman					Birthday - Nancy Diers
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Speaker: Lois Grove (District Moderator)					Anniversary - Doug & Nancy Osterbuhr	
31		<h2 style="margin: 0;">Sheldon Church of the Brethren</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">Worship - 9:30 a.m. Christian Education 11 a.m. www.sheldonbrethren.org 3011 Marsh Ave, Sheldon, Ia. 51201 712-324-3842</p>				
Speaker: Don Adkins						