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## FROM YOUR ASSOCIATION MINISTER

The Wisconsin Conference offers “The Parish Paper”...ideas and insights for active congregations. It often appears in the All Church Mailing. The February 08 issue was entitled “Shepherding New Ideas Through Change-Resistance Minefields.” It was an interesting article outlining three skills that would assist lay leaders in providing leadership that recognizes the resistance and works to overcome it. They suggest that the skills are interconnected:

Understand the People  
Understand the Key Principle of Change  
Understand the Process of Change

It’s worth taking a look at. Change happens, and will happen, and we’ll have to figure about a way to live with it. No doubt for most of us, resistance to change is rooted in anxiety, in fear that change will be disruptive, it will shake our confidence in our institution and that we will be unable to function effectively in a new and different situation. These three skills help us take a deep breath and open ourselves to new learning. However, new learning doesn’t always calm the anxiety. We in the church do have a place to go; a place to go that helps us deal with the fear and anxiety in any setting. Open your bible and you’ll find more often than not, the words “Fear Not,” trust in something beyond yourself. Knowing where to place and fear and anxiety and can open us to change in ways beyond skill development. Change is coming, it is constant and it can be frightening. But remember who says to us, “Fear Not.”

With Great Hope,

Bob

### DISTRICT MEETINGS AT REST IN MARCH

There will be no District Meeting in March due to Holy Week and Easter.

We will gather again in April:  
District IV Evansville April 15 9:00 a.m.  
District I Dodgeville April 16 8:00 a.m.  
District III Portage April 23 Noon  
District II Madison April 23 8 a.m.

**IN OUR PRAYERS** (Please add these petitions to your daily prayers)

Jackie Mitchell, as she recovers from cancer treatments  
Robert Sichta and the Congregation in Barneveld as he is installed

### Our “In-Care” Students studying to be ordained:

Carla Babiarz Patricia Campbell  
Mary Gafner Gayle Tucker  
Kerri Parker Dennis Ureche  
Julia Weaver Sara Wilcox  
Craig Jan-McMahon  
Twink Jan-McMahon  
Carolyn Kennedy

### For Our Congregations at:

Potosi – Terri Hanson, Pastor  
Reeseville - Lois Rosko, Pastor  
Sauk City – Bill Kapp, Pastor

## REMINDER: SPRING ASSOCIATION MEETING – APRIL 26 AT MONTICELLO ZWINGLI

The Spring Meeting of the Southwest Association will be held on April 26 at Zwingli UCC in Monticello., beginning with registration at 9 a.m. The theme of the day will be Congregational Renewal and Development with the Keynote speaker being the Rev. Joanne Thomson, Associate Conference Minister for Mission, Stewardship and Renewal.

### WISCONSIN CONFERENCE PROGRAM OFFERED

The Conference has a number of excellent programs to offer this spring and summer.

Contact the website [www.wcucc.org](http://www.wcucc.org) for further information.

The Plunge Retreat for High School & College, April 11-13, Pilgrim Center  
Spring Training for anyone interested in the Teaching Ministry, Saturday, April 5, 9-3:30, Pilgrim UCC, Fond du Lac  
National Youth Event, July 23-28, U of TN, Knoxville – contact Lisa Hart at [lhart@wcucc.org](mailto:lhart@wcucc.org)

SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOLUME XXVI I, ISSUE 3,  
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**OUR CHURCHES WIDER MISSION  
ALMOST 100% IN 2007**

The congregations of the Southwest Association contributed 99.86% of their \$520,898 goal coming in at \$520,166. Here are the 43 100% congregations for 2007:

Baraboo First Congregational  
Barneveld Congregational  
Belleville First  
Brodhead Congregational  
Columbus Olivet  
Darlington Immanuel  
Dodgeville Plymouth  
Edgerton Congregational  
Emerald Grove  
Endeavor Trinity  
Evansville Congregational  
Fitchburg Memorial  
Fort Atkinson First Congregational  
Grand Marsh  
Janesville First Congregational  
Lake Mills First Congregational  
Lowell  
Madison First Congregational  
Madison Community of Hope  
Madison Lake Edge  
Madison Orchard Ridge  
Madison Plymouth  
Mazomanie UCC  
McFarland UCC  
Middleton Community  
Mineral Point Congregational  
Monroe St. Johns  
Monticello Wash. Ref.  
Monticello Zwingli  
Mt. Vernon Zwingli  
New Glarus Swiss  
Paoli Zwingli  
Platteville First Congregational  
Platteville Mt. Zion  
Portage Trinity  
Potosi Davies Memorial  
Reeseville First  
Sauk City First  
Stueben Congregational  
Verona Salem  
South Wayne St. Pauls  
Whitewater Congregational  
Windsor UCC

**CONGREGATIONS SEEKING:**

Darlington Immanuel – Sue Strickler, Interim  
Mineral Point – Beryl Melcher, Interim

**CHECK OUT THE ASSOCIATION  
WEB SITE**

The Division on Lay Life and Leadership has taken the Association website as their project and have done a great job. We now have a new page where people can sign up to receive Nancy's Association E-News. You can go to the home page and follow the link or just copy this one, <http://www.swwisconsinucc.org/ecommunications.htm>

If you wish to receive the Association Newsletter, Shalom, by e-mail or would like to start on or improve your church's website, check this link so they can let us know of your interest. Contact Nancy Potter for suggestions and critique.