

## MEMORIES FROM BOB & CAROL TIMMER

Aside from the coming, in which we cruised over the old viaduct over the railroad tracks into a small town Carol and the children had never seen before, and the going, in which our family in three cars were sobbing as Rock Valley faded in the background, we have very fond memories of our almost 8 years at Trinity CRC.

We remember faithful brothers and sisters in the Lord that enfolded our family and made Rock Valley a home. You were such generous, gracious, Christ-like people.

We remember the music, the gifted musicians, soloists and RV men's choir members who enhanced the congregation's singing. We remember Cornie Visser's daughter signing songs sung by Andy Visser. What an experience.

We remember Miss Dekkers who signed for our deaf members. I wondered during the message if she corrected my flubs on the fly or let those who couldn't hear, know that I'm not perfect after all.

We remember the things that kept us from taking ourselves too seriously, things like the 2 liter bottle of Mountain Dew for my "glass" of water one Sunday morning or the Minnesota Twins homer hanky draped over the pulpit Bible when they were playing my Detroit Tigers.

We remember Doug Kooima mimicking me at our farewell by wearing an old basketball on his head. It was hilarious, so much fun.

Carol and I remember the time when a large group of members came rushing into our bedroom early in the morning to celebrate my birthday. As we heard them coming up the stairs, a decision had to be made; try to beat them to the door in my underwear or stay in bed and pull the blankets up. I never would have made it to the door.

There was the ebb and flow of life that make up an experience like ours as Pastor and family in the Lord's church at Trinity. There were times of joy and happiness: baptisms, professions of faith, marriages, and worship, our children with their good friends, our relationship with other pastors in the community, how our children were so involved in Church and Rock Valley Christian and Western Christian schools, the feeling of being your friends rather than just your pastor. There were times of heartbreak and loss: the death of children, the struggles in the community, the farm crisis during the 80's, some difficult situations at the Classical level.

God's blessings on your plans. Carol and I are looking forward to celebrating with you in September!

Shalom,

Bob and Carol Timmer

