

Community  
United Methodist Church  
Open Hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

### WORSHIP

**Good Friday, April 6**  
7:30 p.m.

**First Congregation Church**

The Rev. Elizabeth Bowes  
of Wesley UMC preaching

**Saturday, April 7**

7:30 p.m.

**Easter Vigil**

Renewal of Baptism  
and Holy Communion

**Easter Sunday, April 8**  
6 a.m.

(TENT)

**Easter Sunrise Service**  
8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

**Traditional Worship**

(SANCTUARY)

Easter Proclamation  
and Holy Communion

**'The Defiant Conjunction'**

The Rev. Tom Babler  
preaching

Text: Luke 24:1-12

11 a.m.

**OnCenter**

**Contemporary Worship**

(TENT)

**'What difference does  
Easter make?'**

The Rev. Haeran Kim  
preaching

Text: Luke 24:1-12

**Saturday, April 14**  
5 p.m.

**Worship in the Chapel**

**Sunday, April 15**  
8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

**Traditional Worship**

(SANCTUARY)

**'Believe'**

Jim Best preaching  
Text: John 20:19-31

11 a.m.

**OnCenter**

**Contemporary Worship**

(TENT)

TBA

**Child care at all services**

### Pastor's Note

## Every heartbeat: A miracle

My Savior, when I stand before thy congregation this day, hold thou my heart in thy hand. (*Minister's Prayer Book*)

**T**he preceding line is from an old prayer book I have been using for some time. But I have been praying these words quite literally in recent days.

On March 9, late on that Friday night after the Illinois-Indiana basketball game, I experienced a repeat episode of atrial fibrillation. Like the first time last Thanksgiving Day, my heart suddenly and noticeably jumped out of rhythm. A-fib — Heart Hospital lingo — is an electrical problem. For some unknown reason, the electrical signals in the upper chambers of my heart get confused causing the atria to beat rapidly and erratically. This condition is not life-threatening, but it is debilitating. The irregular blood flow can be a cause of blood clots and, possibly, stroke.

This was a discouraging setback for me. I had hoped the Thanksgiving episode was an isolated incident and that the prescribed medication would prevent a recurrence. Not so.

This time I was in the hospital five days. And like the first time, I had to undergo cardioversion — electric shock treatment — to get my heart back in rhythm.

Now I am on a new medication. The challenge is to balance the medicine and balance my life to keep my heart in sync. Through these days of Lent I have cut back some on my work schedule. I am taking one step at a time. Someone said wisely that I need to find the "new normal." Such changes are not easy for me.

I am so grateful for the personal prayers and words of wisdom and messages of encouragement offered by so many in our congregation. I have received them as gifts of mercy and healing. THANK YOU!

The heart truly is a seat for both physical and spiritual rhythm. I have been struck by the many references to our "heart" in scripture, prayer and hymns: "Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace." And from my doctors and recent experiences I am realizing again that every heart beat is truly a miracle.

When my racing heart was shocked, it stopped for a beat — flat line — and then it "knew" to start again in perfect rhythm. A miracle.

Our daughter, **Sarah**, and her husband, **Michael**, are expecting their second child. In the very first image of this little person, the most prominent feature is the heart: beating beautifully. A miracle every second, more or less, from beginning to end.

I have been checking my pulse, giving thanks, listening, praying, struggling to learn new ways and taking hope in the words repeated often by my Grandma, "Bless your heart."



By  
**The Rev.  
Tom Babler**  
Senior  
Pastor

## Easter weekend will offer vigil and sunrise worship

**E**aster is Sunday, April 8. Special observances will lead Community UMC (CUMC) into this holiest of days.

• **The Good Friday Service** takes place at 7:30 p.m., April 6, at First Congregational Church, across Center Street from Community UMC. One of the oldest of the many traditional services of the Christian Church for Holy Week, this service will close with the death and burial of Christ.

• **An Easter Vigil** begins at 7:30 p.m. in CUMC's sanctuary on Saturday, April 7. There will be no 5 p.m. worship service on April 7.

• **Easter Sunday** morning begins with the sunrise service in the tent at 6 a.m. United Methodist Men is preparing the service and a breakfast to follow.

Other services on Easter morning will follow the normal schedule: 8:30 and 11 a.m. in the sanctuary and 11 a.m. OnCenter contemporary service in the tent.

In CUMC's traditional services, brass along with the combined Sanctuary Choir, Women's Ensemble, Sine Nominé, Liturgical Dancers and hand bells will herald the resurrection.

OnCenter contemporary worship will celebrate with a special service of music, drama and a multimedia presentation.

### Easter weekend activities for children and families

#### • Pretzels & Prayer: Children's Lenten Workshop

Children in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to join us Saturday, April 7, the day before Easter, from 10 a.m. to noon for creative fun and exploration about prayer. Make homemade pretzels courtesy of Auntie Anne's!, learn the prayer-centered history of pretzels, and discover other ways to pray: body, musical and memorized.

#### • Sunday School

To allow our children to worship with their families and celebrate the joy of Easter together and to allow our Sunday school teachers to do the same, there will be no Sunday school during the 11 a.m. worship services. Nursery care will be provided.

### Cotner to join Stephen Ministry leaders

On April 15, **Carol Cotner** will go to St. Louis for a week of intensive Stephen Leader training. This year marks 13 years since Community UMC (CUMC) first became a Stephen Ministry congregation.

After her training, Carol will join CUMC's Stephen Minister leadership team of **the Rev. Tom Babler, Mary Jacobs, Rich Kaffka** and **Gail Laurent**. During her week of leadership training, Carol will learn more about process versus results, a major component of Stephen Ministry. She'll also learn about recruiting, training, leadership skills, confidentiality and listening.

Carol's unique perspective of serving as a Stephen Minister prior to becoming a Stephen Leader will be an asset for her and our team. She is preparing for her leader's training by rereading resource books from her Stephen Ministry training. She said she is finding more in this reading, looking at it with a different perspective that she's eager to share with our Stephen Ministry group.

We are grateful for the continuing dedication of our Stephen Ministers and look forward to the work of our newest Stephen Leader in our ministry. Join us in praying for Carol and our Stephen Ministry team.

## Welcome new members

Dan and Sylvia Prokop



**D**AN AND SYLVIA PROKOP live on George Lane. They are returning to Community UMC where their three children, Matt, 26, Melissa, 22, and Sarah, 19, were all baptized. Dan is retired from Lucent and recently laid off as operations manager at Shedit. Sylvia is a medical transcriptionist at OAD Orthopaedics in Warrenville. They joined by reaffirmation of faith. Their sponsors are **Jim and Judy Allen**.



Carole and Rob Chapdelaine

**C**AROLE AND ROB CHAPDELAINE, who joined Community UMC by reaffirmation of faith, live on Emerald Green Drive in Warrenville. Between them they have four grown children, two boys and two girls, and three granddaughters. The Chapdelaines are both retired, although Carole has a small home business. Their sponsors are **Daisie and Don McFee**.

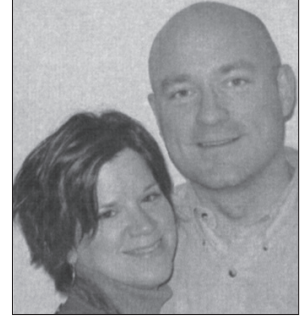


Cindy O'Drobinak

**C**INDY O'DROBINAK, her husband, **Larry**, and daughter, **Bailey**, live on Champagne Court. Cindy is employed by U.S. Equities Realty in Chicago as a portfolio manager for commercial real estate. Larry is CFO of Equis, a brokerage company in Chicago. Bailey is a sixth grader at Jefferson Junior High. Cindy joined by reaffirmation of faith. Her sponsors are **Kay and Keith Selin**.

Laura Medlin and Tim Forrest

**L**AURA MEDLIN AND TIM FORREST live on Enclave Circle in Bolingbrook. They will be married in May in Atlanta. Tim is a Branch Manager for Marquette Finance in Burr Ridge and a Major in the Army Reserve. Laura is an attorney in Chicago. Tim has a 12-year-old son, **Josh**. Laura joined by transfer from Peachtree Road UMC in Atlanta. Tim transferred from Piedmont Baptist Church in Marietta. Their sponsors are **Carrie Kuefler and Jeff Ray**.



### New members classes begin April 29

Community UMC's next new members classes begin on April 29 for persons who will join on May 20. For more information, contact one of the pastors, Mary Jacobs or the church office, (630) 355-1483.

### Community Swingers women's softball starts April 17

Now is the time to find your old mitts and bats and begin warming up your arms and other muscles for the softball season. This is an opportunity for some good fellowship and good ball playing for interested women, 18 years of age and older. The initial meeting and practice will be Tuesday, April 17, at 6 p.m. at the playground at the back of Mill St. School, approximately two blocks north of Ogden on Mill St.

Practice will continue for four Tuesdays. Then May 8 or 15 the games begin with other churches in our league. Games will be played on Tuesday evenings at the Calvary Church School fields on Hwy. 59 south of 75th street.

For more details, call **Ruth Hamm**, (630) 357-1275.

## CUMC to send volunteers to Mississippi in May

By Ron Van Buskirk

Last year 30 people from four Naperville United Methodist churches traveled to Pass Christian, Miss., to help reconstruct the area devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Pass Christian, known to the locals as the Pass, was badly affected.

Katrina hit the coast on Aug. 29, 2005. Six months later, when the Naperville United Methodist Church team arrived, the Pass was 90% cleaned of debris. That left repair and reconstruction of the damaged buildings.

The four Community UMC (CUMC) volunteers worked on the house that belonged to **Joe and Judy**. Their house had been completely renovated the month before Katrina.

Volunteers that had worked there before we arrived had removed most of the drywall. We finished removing the rest of the drywall and with the help of other volunteers started installing new drywall. We were unable to finish,

but hoped that other volunteers would come after we left and finish the job. Joe and Judy were planning to move in before the end of May.

We left on May 6 hoping that their plans would come true. In December, Joe and Judy sent a Christmas card to **the Rev. Tom Babler** with a note saying they still were not in their home, but hoped that in a few months they would.

Since Katrina hit land in 2005 there have been more than 55,000 United Methodists that have volunteered to aid in the reconstruction. In May of this year, CUMC is planning a volunteer mission to continue helping to rebuild Pass Christian. Volunteers will depart Sunday, May 6, and return on Saturday, May 12.

If you feel called to volunteer, at the end of the week it will be perfectly clear why God has called you to help the people of Pass Christian.

For more information or to volunteer for the team, contact me at (630) 420-8172 or e-mail [ronald@vanbuskirk.us](mailto:ronald@vanbuskirk.us).

## 'Inherit the Wind' will be presented April 20, 21, 27, 28

Community Players production this month is "Inherit the Wind," a play by Jerome Lawrence and Robert Lee. Directed by **Ed Green**, assisted by **Beth Buffington**, the play is inspired by the events of the 1925 Scopes Monkey Trial, where a Tennessee law prohibiting the teaching of evolution is challenged.

**Dale Zimmerman** plays the irascible Henry Drummond, who comes to Hillsboro to defend young Bertram Cates, played by **Dan Hall**, who has challenged Tennes-

see law by teaching evolution. Matthew Harrison Brady, three-time former presidential candidate, played by **David Hollander**, comes to town to prosecute the "sinner."

Performances are set for Fridays, April 20, 27, and Saturday, April 21, at 8 p.m. A matinee performance will be Saturday, April 28, at 2 p.m.

In each performance, Community Players will welcome a special guest to join the jury.

Tickets are \$10 each, reserved by pew, or \$5 for students 12 and under. Contact **Ken Cox** at (630) 983-8707 for ticket reservations, or pick yours up on Sunday mornings in the donut hallway at Community UMC.

### Book Circle to discuss *Traveling Mercies*

The Book Circle will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 18, at the home of **Judy Allen**, 1364 Deep Run Road, Naperville. **Mary Babler** and **Judy Smith** will co-lead *Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith* by Anne Lamott.

Call Judy Allen at (630) 355-0470 if you plan to attend.

### Thank you

Thanks to all my Community United Methodist Church friends for their messages of encouragement, calls and visits during my recent convalescence.

I look forward to being back with you soon.

Gratefully,  
**Barbara Brassfield**



**Our purpose is to be a dynamic community of thinking and caring United Methodist Christians.**

20 N. Center St., Naperville, IL 60540  
(630) 355-1483 • [www.communityunitedmethodist.org](http://www.communityunitedmethodist.org)

<b>Pastors</b>	
The Rev. Tom Babler /	The Rev. Haeran Kim
<b>Christian Education Director</b>	<b>Contemporary Worship Director</b>
Beth Elders	Joel Janis
<b>Lay Ministry</b>	<b>Youth Director</b>
Mary Jacobs	Jim Best
<b>Music Ministries and Worship Planning Director</b>	<b>Administration</b>
Stephen Edwards	Lauralyn Theodore

**Missionaries**

Dr. Lahi and Yema Luhahi, *Kenya*  
The Rev. Nkemba and Mbwizu Ndjungu, *Senegal*

*A Stephen Ministry Church*

**A**s a congregation with open hearts, open minds and open doors, we fervently live into the words of John Wesley: "If thou lovest God and all humankind, I ask no more: Give me thine hand."

Our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, economic condition, physical or mental ability.