

# Tidings

an edition of  
The United Methodist Reporter

Two sections • Section A • 037710 • June 1, 2007 • Volume 154, Number 4

## Community

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

## WORSHIP

**Saturday, June 2**  
5 p.m.

**Sunday, June 3**  
8:30 & 11 a.m.  
*Trinity Sunday*  
*Holy Communion*  
*Haeran Kim, preaching*

11 a.m.  
*OnCenter*  
*Holy Communion*  
The Rev. Tom Babler  
preaching  
Text: I still have many  
things to say to you, but  
you cannot bear them now.

**Saturday, June 9**  
5 p.m.

*Worship in the Chapel*

**Sunday, June 10**  
8:30 & 10:30 a.m.  
*(Note: Change of time for  
summer schedule)*  
Beth Elders preaching  
Text: I Kings 17: 8–24 &  
Luke 7: 11–17

10:30 a.m.  
*OnCenter*  
*Contemporary Worship*  
Jim Best preaching  
Psalm 146  
Title—Praise the Lord!

### Sunday School

- 9:30 a.m. (All ages)
- 11 a.m. (Elementary only)
- **Beginning 6/10—Sunday School at 10:30 only**

### Child care at all services

#### Change of Worship Time

Beginning June 10, 2007, worship times will be 8:30 and 10:30 with Summer Sunday School occurring in Fellowship Hall at 10:30.

The 8:30 am worship service in July will be held at Central Park—“Sundays in the Park” (weather permitting).

## Transition Plans for Youth Ministry

With Jim Best’s announcement that he is seeking a new position (see article), we have been developing plans for transition of leadership in the youth ministry of Community Church. The following is an outline and update on the plan approved by the Committee on Staff-Parish Relations.

First, we are pleased to announce that the Staff-Parish Committee has hired **Kate Walker** to serve as our Interim Youth Director from June 18 through the end of August. Kate will work part-time and will guide our summer youth program and lead the Youth Mission Work Trip in August.

Kate Walker is a United Methodist from Louisiana. A graduate of Centenary College of Louisiana, Kate has leadership experience in youth ministry and a passion for connecting youth to Christ and to the Church. She served as Interim Youth Director at First UMC, Shreveport, LA, and has recently completed a Christian Education Internship in The United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay, Whitefish Bay, WI. Currently she is a student in the Master of Divinity program at Garrett-Evangelical Seminary, Evanston, IL where her concentration is in Christian Education.

We look forward of Kate’s leadership in this transition period. She will be meeting with Jim Best and be introduced to our youth prior to her June 18 start date. We are also enlisting a number of adult volunteers to support our Interim Director and to assist in the summer program and work trip.

The Staff-Parish Committee is now forming the committee to conduct the search for our new Youth Director. We are glad that **Evie**

*We look forward to  
Kate’s leadership in  
this transition period.*

for reviewing and re-casting the vision for our youth ministry. Focus discussions will be held with groups of youth and youth ministry leaders within and beyond our congregation. Our intention through these discussions will be to restate the purpose and direction of our youth ministry.

After completing the vision work, the Committee will conduct a search for the new Director who will lead us in the next step of our ministry.

This transition process will be guided both by a sense of urgency and by the need to take time for considering the various possibilities present in this time of change. We will find a new Director as soon as possible, and we will provide for interim leadership until that person is in place.

One other important piece in our transition plan is to offer our farewell blessings to **Jim Best** and to celebrate his story. Jim received his call to ministry in his home church—Community UMC. Responding to that call, he served as our Youth Director for seven years. During his tenure, he earned his Master of Divinity degree from Garrett-Evangelical Seminary.

We will gather for a Farewell Reception to be held at 11:30 a.m. Sunday June 17 following the morning services. This will be an opportunity for us to offer our thanks and best wishes as Jim goes to a new place of service. Meanwhile, we are asking for God to bless and guide Jim and our young people as we move together through this ending and new beginning.

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



## Jim Best seeks new position

Jim Best, CUMC’s youth director since 2001 reported to the youth and their parents that he is being called to look for a new position within the Northern Illinois Conference. The announcement was made to the congregation May 6 during worship.

In the letter, Jim wrote “There are two main reasons for this decision, the first being my feeling that my strengths lie in the building of a youth ministry from scratch and my feeling that I am called to find a church with a struggling program and help it grow. The second reason is for my own growth to work at a different location from my home congregation. I was informed at Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary that the ordination committee would not look favorably on my only having served at my home church and that if I was going to seek ordination, I should consider moving to a new church.”

As noted in the Pastor’s Note, Community UMC will have the opportunity to express their appreciation for Jim’s service to the church and its youth on June 17, 2007 following the worship services.



## Responding to world hunger

by Phil Rogers

Responding to the sorrows of world hunger is a daunting task for any group. But Nancy Abernethy and others at Community United Methodist Church knew it wasn’t impossible.

That’s because they have already done something that wasn’t believed to be possible, growing perennial plants from infancy to full bloom in Naperville, where the growing season hadn’t been considered long enough.

Darrell Voitik, a CUMC member, dared to question that bit of conventional wisdom. He issued a challenge to Abernethy, the chairman of CUMC’s Hunger Commission, and it has resulted in the annual Pass-Along Perennial Plant Sale.

The 12<sup>th</sup> edition is scheduled for Saturday, June 2, outside the church.

“This all started with Darrell,” Abernethy said. “He had gone back to school and received a horticulture degree. He came up to me one day and said, ‘I think you can grow perennials in Naperville, which nobody is doing.’ He said that if we were willing to try it, he would fund it, because it might fail.”

Turns out that was the only thing Voitik was wrong about. His idea and expertise, mixed with the care of Abernethy and dozens of others, was a recipe for success. About 400 plants were sold

in 1996, and the total has grown to more than 2,000 annually in recent years. This year’s sale will include about 125 different varieties of perennials.

Last year’s sale generated \$12,378 in revenue. After expenses, it generated \$8,744 for donations to food and water causes around the world. It brought the total contributed from the plant sale to almost \$80,000 overall.

“I can’t imagine being a mother who doesn’t have food to give her children,” Abernethy said. “That’s the ultimate horror to me. It feels so satisfying to me to know that this money is used so wisely. We really pay attention to where we direct it.”

The 2006 plant sale funded donations to the Northern Illinois Food Bank as well as the Food Resource Bank, an initiative of farmers in Mendota who use some of their land to grow food for hunger causes. It also sent money to the Congo for the raising of chickens, with the intent of improving the protein in children’s diets, and to food and water projects in Senegal, Sudan, Brazil, Panama, Bolivia, Zimbabwe and Indonesia.

The best part about the project is that the resources to fight hunger, like the plants themselves, are showing signs they might just bloom perennially.

## Hunger action this month

Urge your senators and representative to improve our nation's farm policy so that it strengthens U.S. rural communities and better serves hungry people in the United States, farmers of modest means, and farmers in developing countries struggling to sell their crops and feed their families.

### Points to make:

- \* Our current farm policy does little to help farmers and other rural residents of modest means, while providing large payments to those farmers with large farms growing certain crops.
- \* Our current farm policy hurts farmers and rural communities in developing countries by helping to keep global prices of certain commodities artificially low.
- \* Improvements in the farm bill are needed to help the 35 million people who live in U.S. households that struggle to put food on the table.

U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20520  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  
Capitol Switchboard: (202) 224-3121

## Our Community

### Continues to pray for . . .

- our troops and their families: John Aitchison, Dave Cobbel, Christopher Coyle, Ryan Gray, Joshua Moore, Joe O'Neill, Bryce Pope, Vincent Simonetti, Betsy Weiner, and Brad Woltman.

### Celebrates the marriage of . . .

- Christopher and Bridgette DuChane married at CUMC May 12th.

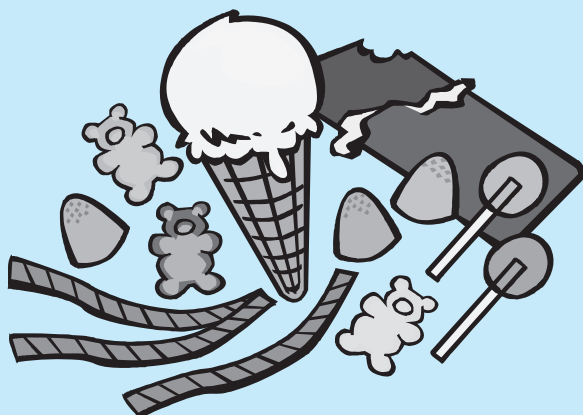
## Come One, Come All!

CUMC has been given the distinct opportunity to host an Ice Cream Social at "Ruth Hamm Night" on June 28 at 7:45 pm this summer in Central Park. This year the profits will be donated to our Youth Work Trip to Missouri. This is a great opportunity to honor CUMC's very own Ruth Hamm for her 50 years of dedication to Naperville's Municipal Band and support youth and missions!

The Ice Cream Social is more than just ice cream; it is in fact pies, popcorn, ice cream, brownies, cookies and beverages. Which mean lots of people power, lots of time, and lots of pies! We need your help in anyway possible. In the next few weeks in the bulletin there will be sign up slips that can be dropped off at the "Ice Cream Social Table" outside of the sanctuary.

Understandably summer is an extremely busy time; that is why we are also asking for your prayers. Prayer can move mountains; and though this night may not be a mountain, it is a large undertaking and its proceeds will mean so much to the youth and the people they will be serving. Thank you all for your support!

If you have questions or comments please contact: Bethany Sierawski—Bethany@wideopenwest.com



## Welcome new CUMC members

### Lacey Marcucci

lives on the north side of Naperville. She has a 5-year-old daughter named Anna Marie. Lacey grew up in Naperville, but recently moved back from Wisconsin. She has lived in lots of different states, and is now finally back home. Lacey is joining by reaffirmation of faith. Her sponsors are Garth and Kay Lawson. Phone: 420-0977.



### Ed and Dana Kubiak

reside at 2416 Skylane Drive in Naperville, within the Stillwater subdivision, and have lived in the area for thirty years. Ed is a builder/land developer and enjoys baseball, golf, and traveling. Dana is a local real estate broker and enjoys cooking, traveling, and spending time with her family. Most of their time is spent with their new son, Edward Russell, born April 11, 2007. Dana is joining by transfer from Friendship UMC in Bolingbrook, and Ed is being received from St. Scholastica Roman Catholic Church in Woodridge. Their sponsors are Carrie Kuefler and Jeff Ray. Phone: (630)922-8244.



### Cathy, David, and Tanya Hunt

live in the Remington Crossing subdivision in Aurora. Cathy teaches Family and Consumer Science at Traugher Junior High in Oswego. She enjoys rollerblading, walking, walking her dog, cooking, reading, waterskiing and boating. David graduated from University of Wisconsin, Platteville in 2007; Tanya received an associate degree from Waubesa Community College and will be going to NIU in the fall. Cathy is joining by transfer from Bethany of Fox Valley UMC, Aurora; David and Tanya are joining by profession of faith and confirmation. Their sponsor is Christine Monzo. Phone: (630)820-3833.



Community UMC's next new members classes begin on September 9, 2007 for new members joining on September 30. For more information, contact one of the pastors, Mary Jacobs, or the church office.

## CUMC alley cats bowl for PADS fundraiser

Seven PADS volunteers formed the CUMC Alley Cats, joining 90 others in the 3rd annual PADS Bowlarama held at the Fox Bowl in Wheaton on Saturday, May 5.

Barb and Jack Dabrowski (dinner), Scott Shallcross (PM Supervisor), Jim Rainwaters (midnight) Phil Rogers (3 AM) and Larry Kahler and Bob Schroeder (AM supervisors) bowled for this major fundraiser with CUMC contributing \$700.

Ev Rainwaters and Nancy Schroeder were the small, but enthusiastic gallery.

Because the automatic pinsetters repeatedly jammed on our alley, the "Cats" finished their third game after all other bowlers had left. But—did they have fun?—just ask them, especially the 180 scorers. If interested in joining us next year, talk to Nancy Schroeder.





*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)

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

Missionaries
<p>Dr. Lahi and Yema Luhahi, <i>Kenya</i> The Rev. Nkemba and Mbwizu Ndjungu, <i>Senegal</i></p>

*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.