

# Tidings

an edition of  
The United Methodist Reporter

Two sections • Section A • 037710 • June 29, 2007 • Volume 154, Number 8

## Community

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

## WORSHIP

### SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE DON'T FORGET

**July Sundays in the Park—8:30 AM**  
**Central Park** (weather permitting)  
10:30 a.m. Concurrent Services  
Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary  
On Center/contemporary Worship  
in the Tent  
Holy Communion served on the  
first Sunday of the month

### Saturday, June 30

5 p.m.  
Chapel

### Sunday, July 1

8:30

*Sunday in the Park*  
Central Park

10:30

*Holy Communion*  
Sanctuary

The Rev. Tom Babler  
preaching

Text: Luke 9:51–62  
Facing Forward

*OnCenter*  
*Contemporary Worship*

Haeran Kim, preaching  
Luke 9: 51–62

### Saturday, July 7

5 p.m.  
Chapel

### Sunday, July 8

8:30

*Sunday in the Park*  
Central Park

10:30

Sanctuary

Haeran Kim, preaching  
Text: Luke 10: 1–11, 15–20

10:30 a.m.

*OnCenter*  
*Contemporary Worship*

Kate Walker, preaching  
II Kings 2: 1–15

### Sunday School

10:30 a.m. only

Child care at all services

## Staff Note

### Reflections and Projections

A couple of issues ago, there was a lovely article written by Rich Fleming, recognizing my 15 year tenure at CUMC. Thank you to those who congratulated me on this milestone. It truly has been the fastest 15 years of my work life and I think this is because of the CUMC members and staff I've been privileged to know and work with. I do not refer to myself as "senior" staff . . . makes me feel older . . . but I now hold the honor of being the staff member who has served in ministry full time, for the longest time. There have been comings and goings of staff members; new programs; new ministries; building projects; new initiatives . . . lots and lots of changes. While frequently hard to cope with, change is necessary and it can be good.

At a recent meeting I attended, the question was posed, "Where do you see CUMC in five years?" There was a significant silence. I ventured forth with my opinion, stating I saw CUMC reaching out to those in the surrounding community who were seeking for answers, and/or those who attended church and had drifted away, and were now looking to return to a church. There were nods of agreement around the table.

I think we have to look at this question—"Where do we see ourselves in five years?"—and think about one year increments—in 2008—how can CUMC touch Naperville? How can CUMC meet a need in Naperville other churches don't meet? Do present programs reach out to the Naperville community? If CUMC shut its doors—would it be missed in the Naperville community?

*What ministries are successful at introducing people to Christ or help Christians grow as disciples? Are we keeping our ministry successes a secret?*

keeping our ministry successes a secret?

People like winning teams—they follow them, they join, they support them, they cheer for them and they rally behind them. What are our winning ministries and how can we share them with the Naperville community? Are we sharing with friends and neighbors?

The United Methodist Church as a denomination has not been growing. In fact, membership is declining. The denomination has had an advertising campaign for the past few years called Igniting Ministry, with TV ads running on cable stations, and catchy newspaper ads. The UMC touts "Open doors, open arms, open minds" yet change is difficult to accept. Adhering to this phrase puts a great deal of responsibility on those who are ready to receive those who are seeking.

I believe CUMC is poised to move ahead with enthusiasm and eagerness and anticipation while keeping the vision of being an outgoing congregation offering

An inviting witness to Christ  
A welcoming fellowship in Christ  
A serving ministry for Christ



## Facilities study committee update

by Rich Fleming

The Facilities Study Committee, which was commissioned one year ago by the Administrative Board, is entering into the evaluation phase of its study project.

To date much data has been collected by our consultants, the Aspen and Wilde Design Groups, through congregational input into the Healthy Church index survey, nineteen programming meetings and a facility questionnaire. A significant number of CUMC members have had an opportunity to share their ideas, concerns and dreams regarding our current church facilities and how well they will meet the needs of future church ministries and growth.

Several weeks ago the Aspen and Wilde Design Groups reviewed with the Facilities Committee some initial design considerations of what a new building expansion and current building renovation might look like. These designs include some of the following general facility considerations; more storage, youth ministry space, better classroom space, central hospitality area, welcoming exterior, large multi-purpose area, better office space and an acoustical analysis in classrooms, Fellowship Hall and the sanctuary. The Facilities Committee gave considerable feedback to our consultants and asked them to return with some different options.

Additionally, the Facilities Committee is considering other means of meeting future ministry needs. One of the concepts being

explored is the use of space at North Central College. The old Baptist church, just east of Central Park, is being renovated into a modern and intimate theater which possibly could serve as the future home of OnCenter and Community Players. However, no decisions have been made. In the meantime plans are moving forward to request the city of Naperville to allow us to continue usage of the tent beyond October 1 of this year. The Facilities Committee continues to investigate all options from church renovation, new building additions, leasing of new space and combinations of all the above.

When and if the Facilities Study Committee believes we have developed a plan and idea which makes sense for CUMC and its future ministries, then informational meetings will be held. No contracts will be signed or commitments made without broad congregational input.

The Facilities Study Committee serves as your representative in this process. If you have any questions or hear rumors that require clarification I urge you to contact one of the Committee members. They are: Rich Fleming-Chairperson, Jim McCloud, Ed Cotner, Becky Klein-Collins, Martha Sanders, Gwen Burke, Dean Craig, Ed Green, David Hollander, Bob Atcheson, Lauralyn Theodore and Tom Babler. We value the opinions and input of all church members.

## Summer fun with CUMC friends!

An all-church picnic will be held 12:00 pm Sunday, July 15. This will be a great time to eat, have fun and enjoy getting to know your fellow church members a bit better. Plan on bringing chairs, blankets and a favorite picnic dish to share. Chicken, drinks and table service will be provided. Be prepared to participate in games for all ages. Lunch will be served at 12:30, followed by a sing-along, games and opportunities for fellowship, concluding at 3:00 pm.

Save the date and bring the entire family—and maybe friends!



## PADS at CUMC—On summer hiatus

The 2006–2007 PADS program required an all-church effort to house and feed three meals to our Sunday overnight guests, 20 to 50 in number.

Food and supplies were provided by the many generous persons who signed up on the donut hall posters. Our Fellowship Hall site was serviced and staffed by the following volunteers.

Line pickup: John Bajusz, Is Dittrich, Dana Fink, Bruce Richmond and Dale Zimmerman.

Room set: Carol and Pat Terrazzano, coordinators; Gwen, Jack and Brenden Burke; Nan, Neville, Christopher and Lauren Diamond; Greg, Nicole and Spencer Hubert and Josselin Garcia; Allison and Robert Terrazzano.

Dinner: Judy Allen and Barb Dabrowski coordinators; Emily Allen, Pat Bull, Jack Dabrowski, John and Nancy DiCiurcio, Joanne, Ken and Alex Guettler, Dick Legg, Cindy O'Drobinak, Smiley Nejd, Hailey Paulson, Tom Paylo and Rita Ryan.

Late evening: John Klein-Collins and Elmer Schirmer.

Midnight: Jim Rainwaters, coordinator: Gordon and Miriam Ferguson, Phil Rogers, Ev Rainwaters.

3:00 AM: Tom Babler, Coordinator: Tom Hyingstrom, Ray Mayfield and Bob Schroeder.

Breakfast and Clean up: Kay and Ron VanBuskirk, coordinators: Roger Barney, Barbara and Buzz Brassfield, Cindy Bunting, Shane Fitzgerald, Valerie Geisendorfer, Sue Mack, Jeff Ray, Linda and Wayne Rhodes, Agnes Schaller and Rosemary Zimmerman.

Linen and blanket laundry: Roger Barney, Chuck and Sue Borcher, Mary Carter, Kelly Hill, Penny Hyingstrom, Carrol Lankenau, Katie Lapham, Ev and Jim Rainwaters, Bruce Richmond, Joe Roche, Nancy Schroeder, and Jennifer Weddle.

Linen shelving: Vince Hurd and Betsy Roche.

PM Site Supervisors: Chuck Borcher, Jeff Cowan, Tom Paylo, Jim Rainwaters, Nancy Schroeder, Scott Shallcross.

AM Site Supervisors: Nancy Abernethy, Ken Cox, Larry Kahler, Dick Legg and Bob Schroeder.

Line Repairs: Is Dittrich and Marty Schwab.

CUMC PADS Coordinator: Nancy Schroeder.

Coming in August: Volunteer opportunities for our 2007–2008 service year!

## CUMC recognized by Conference

At the recently held Northern Illinois annual conference, Community United Methodist Church was given not one, but two certificates, acknowledging the church's dedication to mission. For many years, CUMC has been given the Otterbein Award, recognizing churches who have given the largest financial gifts to the Mission of the UMC. This year, CUMC has also been acknowledged with the John Wesley certificate, recognizing the Church who has given the largest financial gift per capita to the Mission Program.



## Saying Goodbye

A reception was held June 17, 2007 honoring Jim Best's ministry as Director of Youth. Jim was greeted by many during the reception, and a gift and book of letters was presented to him by Staff Parish Chair, Marty Cann.



## You are invited . . .

by Bonnie Valiant, Chair

I am again inviting you to join me in thinking about Community United Methodist Church. I am inviting you to think about the church, stewardship, and community.

There is a lot of talk about "creating community," "building community," "being community," and "giving to community." Because the word community is part of our church's name, it is used over and over and over but how often are we uncertain what is really meant when the word is used? What does "community" look like? Are we living "community"? What "community" is being created at 20 N. Center? Hmmmmm!

Historically CUMC is known for its preaching, Christian education programs, mission work, and music. It is full of hard working members, great leaders, diverse attitudes, interesting ministries, and much, much more. A "community" has been created and it has continued to enlarge our community building," and now the church is looking at the creation of a future "community" at 20 N. Center.

Stewardship is an important part of a community because everyone needs to give of their money, time, and talents for the community to continue. In the Book of Acts, we get a glimpse of how the early Christians lived—how they shared their resources, shared their leadership, and lived in their community. Two thousand years later, we still need to think about how to share our resources, our leadership, and how to live in our community.

Big questions and no easy answers—BUT—if you accept my invitation to think about CUMC, I believe that our "community" will be full of life, full of love, full of service, and will truly be a vibrant part of God's greater "community."

## MAD Camp

It's not too late to register your child for this summer's MAD Camp (music, art, and drama camp)! Come join the fun as children from 3rd–7th grades participate in "The Bible in Broadway," a musical theater experience featuring music from *Children of Eden*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *Godspell*. The camp takes place from 9 a.m.–2:00 p.m. July 9th–13th, with a final performance at 7:00 p.m. on the 13th. Registration forms are located in the church office and on the Christian Education table outside the sanctuary. For more information, please contact Beth Elders ([belders@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:belders@communityunitedmethodist.org)) or Stephen Edwards ([sedwards@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:sedwards@communityunitedmethodist.org)) or call the church office.

## Youth summer happenings

Movies and Bibles and Work trips...OH MY! It's going to be quite a summer.

In case you haven't met me yet, I'm **Kate Walker**, Interim Youth Director Extraordinaire. I am much looking forward to playing and learning this summer.

**Meet-to-Eat Fellowship for Sr. High** makes a return this summer on Monday nights. Youth gather for fun and a pot-luck dinner at a different house each week.

**Jr. High** is also meeting for fellowship on Wednesday nights at the church. Dine-In movies will offer a pot-luck supper and a movie. Clips from each week's Dine-In movie will make a repeat performance on Sunday afternoons for Reel Talk.

Reel Talk will be a Bible study for Jr. High where we connect God's word and popular movies to help us explore Christ in our lives.

For **Sr. High** students looking for a Bible study, "I Am Who?" meets on Wednesday afternoons. "Who is God? What does "life in Christ" mean? How does it shape who I am?" are just a few of the questions this study will explore.

And of course August brings the **Sr. High Work Trip** to Sikeston Missouri. The Sikeston trip is August 5–11, and we'll be working on a drug rehabilitation clinic. Registration is due July 8.

If you'd like more information on any of these activities or if you have questions about the youth ministry, check out the youth newsletter, or join us for the Summer Parents Meeting on July 5.

	Schedule:
Meet-to-Eat	Mondays—6–8pm—offsite
I Am Who?	Wednesdays—3:30–5:00pm—youth room
Dine-In Movies	Wednesdays—6:30–9:00pm—youth room
Reel Talk Sundays	2:00–3:30pm—youth room
Parents Meeting	Thursday July 5—7:00pm—Open Circle room
Work Trip	August 5-11—Sikeston Missouri



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

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

*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.

## Our Community

Extends sympathy to Rich Gardner and his family on the death of Ann Gardner who died June 10, 2007.

### 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, and Brad Woltman.

### Celebrates with

Jim and Prudy Sheldon who celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary.