



Tidings

an edition of
The United Methodist Reporter

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Community

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

WORSHIP

Chapel worship 5:00 pm—Saturday
Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
8:30 and 11:00—Sunday
On Center/contemporary Worship
in the Tent—11:00—Sunday
Holy Communion served
on the first Sunday of the month

Sunday School
Sunday School at 9:30 am
Child care—At all services

ADVENT THEME:
AWAITING THE LIGHT

Saturday, December 15
5:00 pm Chapel
Beth Elders preaching
Title: Who Me?
Scripture: Luke 1:47-55
Isaiah 35:1-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

Sunday, December 16
8:30 am and 11:00 am
Sanctuary

Beth Elders, preaching
Title: Who Me?
Scripture: Luke 1:47-55
Isaiah 35:1-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

On Center
Contemporary Worship
Lessons and Carols
Scripture: Matthew 11:2-11

Saturday, December 22
5:00 pm Chapel
Rev. Haeran Kim preaching
Scripture Matthew 1:18-25

Sunday, December 23
Rev. Tom Babler, preaching

On Center
Contemporary Worship
Rev. Haeran Kim, preaching
Scripture Matthew 1:18-25

ADVENT COMMUNION
Wednesday Mornings 7:00 a.m.
December 12-December 19
Services of Word and Sacrament will
be offered each Wednesday morning
during Advent. These services, held in
the Chapel from 7:00-7:30 a.m., include
the lighting of the Advent Wreath, witness
to the Word and Holy Communion

Pastor's Note

COMMUNITY WITH KENYA

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." Acts 16:9

For us in Community Church, it has been in the voice of Yema Luhahi that we have heard the call to come to Kenya and help.

Yema and Lahi are our United Methodist missionaries with whom we have been in partnership for fourteen years. They serve at Kenya Methodist University, Meru, Kenya. Yema, having established the Department of Nursing at the university, carries on the work of HIV/AIDS Education and Training in the community. Through this work, the prevalence of HIV infection in the population around Meru has been dramatically reduced. But much more work must be done to alleviate the suffering caused by AIDS.

Yema has called for our help.

The need is to expand an old Potato [Storage] House on the campus that has been converted into a Health Center. That center has outgrown the facility and now Yema would like to add rooms for child health and HIV/AIDS treatment. The total cost of the expansion is \$20,000.

Our Mission Committee has heard the call and in turn has invited us all to contribute to this project through our annual Christmas Offering. One third of our special Christmas giving will be directed to the Kenya Methodist University Health Center.

And more, our Mission Committee has worked to connect "Community with Kenya." Over the past several years a number of members from our congregation have gone as Volunteers in Mission to visit and serve with the Luhahis in Kenya. In January, the latest delegation of Volunteers in Mission from Community Church will go to Kenya to deliver our Christmas offering to Yema at the center. I will be among this group that also includes Ed Burton, Laury Hartman and Marty Schwab.

We leave January 24, 2008 for twelve days. It will be our privilege to serve as messengers from Community to the people of Meru. Returning, it will be our responsibility to serve as messengers from Kenya to Community Church. In both directions we pray to be ambassadors of the Gospel that promises healing and oneness in Christ Jesus.

Faithful ministry is always a two-way street. John Cogswell, a Coordinator of Volunteers in Mission, states this reality in these words:

We go to the Third World to be sensitized to the issues that we face. It's strange. We go to teach, and are strangely taught. We go to help and are helped. We go to convert, and it is we who get converted. But isn't that just like our God.



Lessons and Carols at OnCenter

This year OnCenter Lessons And Carols will feature Lessons from the Advent Season with music selections performed by all different music ensembles from the church. This will be a Church wide event, featuring Sine Nomine, OnCenter Band, If, Cindy Lytle, a solo by Stephen Edwards, and much more. All are cordially to join OnCenter on December 16 at 11:00 in the tent.

More Community UMC News On Back Page



Christmas Concert
December 16

Featuring the
Worship and Music Ministry of

Community United Methodist Church
*Children's Choirs, Children's Dance Ensemble,
Youth Choir, Youth and Adult Handbell Choirs,
Horn Ensemble, Women's Ensemble, OnCenter Band,
Adult Choirs, Brass Quartet and Harp*

Pre-Concert Activities with Apple Cider / 5 p.m.
Concert / 5:30 p.m.

Our Community

Extends sympathy to Rosemary Zimmerman and family on the death of her brother-in-law and uncle of June Green, who died Monday, November 26.

To Mary Jacobs and family on the death of her aunt, Betty Folmar, on November 25 in Texas.

To Joanne Guettler and her family after the death of Burt Stover, Joanne's father, on December 1 in Michigan. Burt is the grandfather of Alek and Analiese.

To the family and friends of Jim Hartwig, who died on Thursday, November 22.

Celebrate with Kelly and Bart Hill on the birth of Braeden Edward Hill November 21. Braden is the brother of Riley and Griffen.

Continues to pray for our troops and their families: John Aitchison, Dave Cobbel, Christopher Coyle, Blake Crosby, John Ferrin, Alex Palmer, Tyler Paulus, Bryce Pope, Vincent Simonetti, Betsy Weiner, and Brad Woltman and Andrew Russell.

Building Community Without Borders:

Living a Compassionate Life

World Peace Day Interfaith Prayer Service
Tuesday, January 1st, 7:00 pm

First Congregational Church, 25 East Benton St., Naperville

This year's inter-faith service will feature Dr. Annanda Gruge, a representative of Buddha's Light International Association and former UN diplomat from Sri Lanka. People of all faiths are invited.

What is a Nogapalooza? Come, and experience!

Stop by the church office, and enjoy a glass of eggnog/punch and homemade (by the staff!) Christmas cookies with the CUMC staff, Monday, December 17, 2007 between 1-3:00 pm. The whole staff looks forward to extending Christmas greetings to all.

CUMC Mission Month

The 2007 CUMC Mission Month last October lifted up the mission stories of 23 persons who shared their experiences with 15 Sunday classes for a total of 345 presenter-classes (several individuals spoke more than once). The experiences and messages shared were related to programs CUMC people support through their Second Mile gifts. Speakers came from *Protestants for the Common Good*, *PADS DuPage County*, *Child Serv*, and *People's Resource Center*; the other 19 presenters are CUMC members.

One new component of Mission Month this year was the opportunity to actively volunteer in a UMC mission program. On October 27, eight CUMC members participated in the Rockford Urban Ministries (RUM) — painting Christ the Carpenter Church's food pantry and serving kitchen used to help provide basic food needs for the surrounding neighborhood and helping with Kid's Club at Centennial United Methodist Church.

Another new component was a CUMC "mission knowledge" contest. Few people completed the short questionnaire that was distributed in Sunday worship bulletins and Tidings, but three persons did submit the correct answer for all questions. Through a drawing, Jen Weddle has the privilege to choose a UMC mission project to receive \$200.



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

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Pastors

The Rev. Tom Babler / The Rev. Haeran Kim

Christian Education Director Contemporary Worship Director

Beth Elders

Joel Janis

Lay Ministry

Mary Jacobs

Youth Director

Music Ministries and Worship

Kate Walker

Planning Director

Administration

Stephen Edwards

Lauralyn Theodore

Missionaries

Dr. Lahi and Yema Luhahi, *Kenya*

The Rev. Nkemba and Mbwizu Ndjungu, *Senegal*

A Stephen Ministry Church

As 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.

Longest Night Service – Wednesday, 12/19, 7:00 p.m.

A quiet, meditative, healing service of music, Scripture, and prayer.

Christmas Eve Services – Monday, 12/24

5:00 Family Christmas Eve service *An interactive and child friendly service featuring traditional Christmas carols interwoven with dramatic skits and a retelling of the Nativity Story.*

7:00 Contemporary Service *Revel in a worship experience that explores contemporary thought about this epic night. Featuring today's Christian music, drama and multimedia.*

11:00 Candle Lighting and Communion *Celebrate the dawning of Christmas day with candles and carols. This inspirational service features heartwarming vocal and instrumental music.*

What some people do in retirement . . .

a report from Louise Huffman

For those of you who did not know I was going back to the Ice. I retired from teaching on June 3rd and took a full time job with ANDRILL (ANtartic geologic DRilling) as their Coordinator of Education Outreach on June 6th. It was a whirlwind few months as I learned a new job, worked to become competent in understanding the geologic science, and made plans to travel to the coldest place in the world to live and work for 2 1/2 months! Crazy? Yes! But I'm loving every minute of it.

I'm responsible for 8 educators from 4 different countries. They are a terrific group of teachers — and awfully nice people. All of them are immersed on a science discipline team for half of their day; then half of their day is spent working on their proposed projects to transfer the science to classrooms; and the third half is spent in meetings with the science team and in a geoscience course I designed and the scientists are teaching. Did I say 3 halves? Well...it almost is! We work at least 12-16 hours a day, 7 days a week — and the science team works 24 hours a day in two shifts. It is such a short window of time to do the research that it is *all out* while we are here.

So what the heck are we doing here? We set up a 60 foot tall drill rig on 24 feet of ice shelf — hot water-drill a hole through the ice, through the sea water column and then with diamond bits, we drill into the sediment below the sea floor. (the engineering of this drill is a beautiful thing—they have created a one-of-a-kind set up and are generating interest worldwide because their recovery rates are better than just about anyone else's—and they are doing it in one of the most difficult places! You can read more about the drill at <http://www.andrill.org/technology/rig> . We are now pulling up core from over 100 mbsf (meters below sea floor) with about a 97-98% recovery rate which is outstanding. We hope to drill about 1000 mbsf before it warms up too much and we have to move off of the sea ice at the end of November. (that 40 ton drill rig is perched on ice that may crack some later in the season! BTW--the total drill system is 90 tons!)

By studying the different layers in the rock cores, the scientists can learn about past climates and how the ice sheets advanced and retreated over geologic time (*millions of years*). The more we learn about these processes,



the better we will be able to understand what is happening with our climate today and be able to make more accurate predictions for the future. So I guess you could say we are "drilling back to the future!"

So, let me tell you a little about McMurdo Station. It is one of three Antarctic bases, and it's the largest. We are closest to the land mass of New Zealand, so that is where we deploy from It's much like a small town, except everything revolves around getting the science done — science is why everyone is here. Besides all of the science teams, there are hundreds of jobs here, so if anyone wants an adventure, apply to be a support person! There are chefs, janitors, recreation directors, fork lift operators, plumbers, electricians — and the list goes on and on.

McMurdo has a first class science lab, a hospital, a fire-house, a chapel, a gym, a gerbil wheel gym (treadmills), a laundry, a library, a coffee house/wine bar, two other bars, a greenhouse AND a bowling alley to name a few. People who come down here to work a season have amazing stories. The guy who cleans the toilets is the person who did all of the special effects on "Lord of the Rings!" I sat with man at dinner the other night who works in vehicle maintenance — but he has a PhD in physics. It's an interesting group of people and everyone has a story! (excerpts from an email dated in October)



Here's what we look like . . .

In the last issue of Tidings, the following new members were profiled. If you see them in church, be sure to welcome them as part of the CUMC family.



Roger, Alana and Steve Shuma



Dan and Alex Schaeffel, Lauren, Audrey and Katherine



Jim, Jill and James Morrow



John, April and Xander Oh



John, April and Xander Oh

