



## Tidings from Community United Methodist Church

April 15, 2008

Please enjoy all the news from CUMC. The topics below show how the news is organized. You may **Control-Click** on a title to jump to a topic of special interest to you.

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For more information about Community United Methodist Church please call the church office at 630-355-1483 or visit [www.communityunitedmethodist.org](http://www.communityunitedmethodist.org). For our regularly updated monthly calendar, please [click here](#).

### Pastor's Note

#### PASTOR'S NOTE

*How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who brings good tidings  
-Isaiah 52:7*

For over fifty years this congregation has received its church news in a publication we've called "Tidings." The name comes from Isaiah 52:7.

While we will continue to bring the Tidings to Community Church, the medium will change. This is the first edition of what will be called e-Tidings. This first copy will be printed and mailed through postal delivery to the entire congregation, but following editions will be sent by e-mail to all who wish to receive it in electronic form and who submit their e-mail address to the Church Office. Those who do not want the e-mail version may continue to receive a printed and mailed copy by request.

Additional special communications, both printed and electronic, are planned to supplement the monthly e-Tidings. These changes are being made in an effort to improve communication within our church family. To that end I address the following:

On Sunday March 30 we offered a Combined Worship in our 8:30 and 11:00 services. Our purpose was to bring the congregation together in a different setting by combining elements of On Center contemporary worship and Sanctuary traditional worship. This was a special service planned for a special Sunday—i.e. the Sunday after Easter sometimes called "Low Sunday." I am grateful to Stephen Edwards and Joel Janis for the considerable work they invested in this effort.

The response to the combined worship service is widely varied. One large concern that has been raised is about communication. The intention and description of the services that day were not clearly publicized beforehand. We acknowledge this lack of communication.

Amid the apprehensions and questions, I want to be clear. As your pastor, I am committed to continuing our traditional Sunday services in the sanctuary. And I am committed to keeping and supporting our On Center service in a time and space that will allow it to continue to grow. I do not favor blending these services into one, nor the elimination of one style or the other.

I believe that we are called to be faithful to our tradition but also open to the new thing God is doing among us in On Center. I pray that we will somehow be able to hold both of these distinctive dimensions together in our common mission to serve God and the changing world around us. To do so we face daunting challenges in relation to our facilities and finances.

I ask for your earnest prayers. Together let us seek God's strength and guidance to go forward.

In Faith and Hope,

Tom Babler  
Sr. Pastor

### Worship News

**Chapel worship, 5:00 pm—Saturday**

**Saturday, April 20** – Rev. Tom Babler, preaching

**Saturday, April 26** – Youth-led worship

### **Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary, 8:30 and 11:00—Sunday**

**Sunday, April 20** - Rev. Tom Babler preaching  
**Sunday, April 27** - Youth-led worship  
**Sunday, May 4** - Rev. Haeran Kim preaching  
**Sunday, May 11** - Rev. Tom Babler preaching

### **On Center/Contemporary Worship in the Tent, 11:00—Sunday**

**Sunday, April 20** - Rev. Haeran Kim preaching  
**Sunday, April 27** - Youth-led worship  
**Sunday, May 4** - Rev. Tom Babler preaching  
**Sunday, May 11** - Rev. Haeran Kim preaching

Holy Communion served on the first Sunday of the month

Sunday School at 9:30 am

Child care—At all services

### **CUMC prayer gathering – Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in the Chapel**

Each Wednesday for a short service of prayer and song in the chapel.

### **CUMC's Joys and Concerns**

**We pray with:** John and Michelle Vass and their families after the death of John's father, John Vass, on Friday, February 22 in Michigan.

with Frank and Diane Lubarski after the death of Frank's mother, Helen Lubarski, on March 1 in Lemont, Illinois.

with the family of Paul Sutton, a former member of Community UMC and professor at North Central College. A memorial service was held at Community UMC on March 15.

with the family of Bonnie Fisher after the death of her uncle, Case Kortenhoven, on April 4 in Michigan.

with Marianna McCauley and family on the death of her husband Tom, April 7, 2008. A memorial service was held April 11, 2008.

with Wanda Boebel and family on the death of her husband Don April 8, 2008. The funeral was held at CUMC on April 14.

**We pray for our troops:** Blake Crosby, Christopher Coyle, John Ferrin, Joseph Pitonyak, Bryce Pope, Andrew Dean Russell, and Vincent Simonetti.

**We celebrate with** Tom and Jamie Denklauf on the birth of their son, Brayden Thomas Kenklau on March 20. Proud grandparents are Art and Sandie Denklauf.

with Matthew and Kelly Groves on the birth of their daughter, Lily Kathleen Groves, on March 25. Proud grandparents are George and Chris Groves.

with Beth and Shawn Hagemeyer on the birth of Abigail Leigh Hagemeyer on April 9

### **Upcoming Special Events, Fellowship and Spirituality**

#### **April 10, 16 and 17 - Hunger Commission Potting**

The Hunger Commission and friends will be potting baby plants for the June 7 PassAlong Plant Sale in the 105 Benton garage, on April 9, 10, 16, and 17, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. No experience necessary, and all are welcome. Visit [www.communityunitedmethodist.org/PlantSale2008.html](http://www.communityunitedmethodist.org/PlantSale2008.html) for more information.

#### **April 13 - Sunday Book Discussion Group**

The group will discuss Pamala Gien's *The Syringa Tree*, at their April 13 meeting at the home of Bob and Ruth Kinsman. Marty Schwab will lead the discussion

#### **April 15 – Ministry of Hospitality Dinner and workshop**

One of the most important positions in the church is that of a greeter and/or usher. Often this individual is the first person visitors to CUMC encounter. All CUMC members and friends are cordially invited to participate in this workshop. A light supper will be held at 6:00 pm, followed by the workshop led by NIC lay leader Roger Curless. The evening will conclude by 9:00 pm. Call the church office (630.355.1483) or respond to [info@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:info@communityunitedmethodist.org) to RSVP.

#### **April 15 (and every Tuesday through July) – Women's Softball – Join us!**

**Time for Community Swingers!** Ladies, are you ready for some softball? Come play on CUMC's ladies softball team. We begin practice on Tuesday, April 15, 6 pm at Mill Street School, 1300 N. Mill Street. Practices will be on Tuesdays through mid May. The games will also be Tuesdays from mid May through July. If you have questions, please contact Becky Klein-Collins at 630-355-1251, [bkleincollins@wowway.com](mailto:bkleincollins@wowway.com). Join us -- it's a lot of fun!

#### **April 16 – United Methodist Women – Book Circle**

At 7:30 p.m. the book circle will discuss *The Syringa Tree* by Pamela Gien. Pat Shanower will lead the discussion and Judy Allen at 1364 Deep Run Road will be the hostess. Call Judy at (630)355-0470 if attending or need directions.

#### **April 21 – Community with Kenya – 6:00 pm**

"A potluck, stories and DVD about Kenya and our trip. It will be inspiring and beautiful, just like Kenya. Please come and enjoy." says Laury Hartman. An evening to enjoy each other and to hear from CUMC's Volunteers in Mission. Plan to bring a dish to pass – fried chicken will be provided.



### May 9, 10, 16 & 17 - Community Players

Community Players first presented ARSENIC AND OLD LACE twenty-five years ago. This is the first time Community UMC's theater group has revived a production. Those who have seen this wonderful play already know why the cast is so excited. Those who have never met the Brewsters and all of the other amusing characters in ARSENIC AND OLD LACE, will also have an evening of surprises and laughter.

The cast includes Nate Burke, Ken Cox, Bryan Craig, Dean Craig, Ed Green, Eddie Green, David Green, Dave Jenkins, Stephanie Hild, Garth Lawson, Jill Morrow, Jim Morrow, Pam Smith, Graham Wills, and Dale Zimmerman. The play will be directed by Oliver Taylor, who played Mortimer Brewster in 1983.

Plan to attend one (or more) of the performances at 8:00P.M. on May 9, 10, 16, or 17, 2008, in the sanctuary of Community United Methodist Church at 20 North Center Street in Naperville, IL. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children (12 and under.) Phone Ken Cox at 1-630-983-8707 to reserve your tickets - sales start April 13

### May 10 – UMW Garage Sale

The annual spring sale is nearly here. While spring cleaning think about what could be contributed to this event - gently-used housewares, toys, games, books, small appliances, furniture, sports equipment, and children's clothing (no adult clothing, please). Watch for the drop-off locations and dates.

### Social Concerns and Missions

**Are you a Health Professional?** Health Volunteers Training Friday evening- Sunday noon May 2-4 in Chatham, IL. Workshops such as: water purification, parasites, dental teams, women's health issues for Medical VIM teams. <http://www.gbgm-umc.org/northcentralvim/rxconnexion.html> or [almavisS@wowway.com](mailto:almavisS@wowway.com) for details.

**Sunday, April 20, is Native American Sunday.** Please be generous. Our offerings are used to nurture mission with Native Americans and provide scholarships for United Methodist Native American seminarians. For more information, visit: <http://communityunitedmethodist.org/missions/content/specialsundays.html>, or check out the Mission's bulletin board outside of the church's main office.

**Approximately \$7700 was raised at our Easter collection** to support Samaritan Interfaith, UMCOR USA, and Kenya Methodist University Health Care. Thank you to all who supported these worthwhile charities.

**Please visit** <http://communityunitedmethodist.org/missions/mission.html> to learn more about mission activities at CUMC and find updates about CUMC's Volunteers in Missions.

**If you would like** to be on Missions email list and receive up to date information on mission progress and activities at CUMC please email Dave Korb at [korbd@yahoo.com](mailto:korbd@yahoo.com).

### Music

Sine Nomine has begun work on a Worship Musical called "God's Renown". This musical explores what it truly means to worship a Holy and Worthy God with all of who we are and who God created us to be.

We would like to congratulate Beth Hagemeyer on the birth of her daughter, Abigail; and thank Joline Bastounes for taking over the Hosanna Choir through the end of the year.

There are so many directors of our Music and Worship program who work so hard to bring about quality music and dance in genuine worship. Thank you so much to all the Music and Worship Staff for their hard work and dedication...Amy, Mary, Sandie, Joline, Ellen, Dottie, Kevin, Eldora, Donna, Lorna and Beth.

### Youth

**Confirmands**, their parents, and their mentors are invited to join us on April 21<sup>st</sup> for the "Community With Kenya" presentation (see above for details). Confirmation class on that evening will begin at 7:30, immediately following the dinner and presentation.

**APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>: the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation classes** will be worshipping with Congregation Beth Shalom at their Friday evening Shabbat services. All Confirmands, their mentors, and parents should meet at church at 6:30 to carpool to the service. Questions – please contact Beth Elders.

**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY IS MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>.** Come celebrate the journeys of faith of our 9<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation class, as they make their public profession of faith and commitment during the 11:00 Sanctuary service. Then, join us downstairs in fellowship hall for a reception to honor them and take part in an exciting Rent-A-Confirmand Silent Auction (more details to follow...)

### Children's News

**F.L.A.M.E** (Fun-Loving Acolytes of the Methodist Experience), CUMC's Acolytes, will be meeting on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Acolytes – please contact Beth Elders if you can't make it!

2008 United Vacation Bible School, "Beach Party: Surfin' Through the Scriptures" is taking place June 23-26<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-3:30 p.m.

**REGISTRATION HAS NOW BEGUN – RESERVE YOUR CHILD'S PLACE TODAY!** (Registration opens to the general public on April 28<sup>th</sup> and closes on May 12<sup>th</sup>.) Registration forms are available in the church office or outside the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings.



**Adult volunteers** are also needed; the success UVBS depends on our volunteers. Volunteer registration is also included on the forms outside the church office and Sanctuary. For more information about this year's UVBS, please contact Beth Elders ([belders@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:belders@communityunitedmethodist.org)).

#### **Children's Sunday School Teacher Recruitment**

Children's Sunday School Teacher Recruitment for the 2008-2009 academic year has begun! We invite EVERYONE who has a passion for children to join us in helping give our children a firm foundation of faith (no previous teaching experience is required). Please contact Beth Elders for more information or to sign up to help!

## Christian Education for Adults

### **Short-term Disciple Bible Study**

The ongoing 8-week Short-Term Disciple Bible Study class "Invitation to the Old Testament" invites us to hear the story of God as contained in the Old Testament and then connect it to our lives of faith. The class meets Wednesday mornings from 9:00-10:00 am in room 101. Class capacity is almost reached, yet there are still a few openings. Come join us! For more information, please contact Beth Elders (belders@communityunitedmethodist.org).

### **"Claiming the Promise"**

Rev. Haeran Kim will lead a small-group study of Mary Jo Osterman's "Claiming the Promise." This seven-week class examines the Bible and homosexuality within the context of what it means to be Christians claiming God's promise that all persons are heirs of God. It will meet at noon Tuesdays from April 15 to May 27. For information, contact Rev. Kim or the office.

## Regular Weekly Meeting Schedule

Check church calendar at [www.communityunitedmethodist.org](http://www.communityunitedmethodist.org) – "calendar" – lower right hand corner.

## Saying goodbye and hello

Stan Stanczyk has served as church treasurer for the past five years. April 24, 2008 will be Stan's last day of employment. He has been offered an opportunity to continue his education, and unfortunately by doing this, is unable to continue at CUMC. Robert Brinck has been hired as CUMC treasurer. Mr. Brinck brings high credentials to the position. His email at CUMC will be [rbrinck@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:rbrinck@communityunitedmethodist.org)

## Hunger Commission - - It's Time To PassAlong

Green leaves are poking their heads up in the garden. It's finally almost spring! The Hunger Commission, however, is thinking June, Saturday, June 7, to be exact. That's the day of our thirteenth annual PassAlong Perennial Plant Sale.

We have already ordered more than 1,600 plants from professional nurseries and they are planted and receiving tender loving care from our members. We always hope every year to get donations from your gardens to make our sale even more personal (and profitable). In the last twelve years we made \$88,598 in profit that all went to hunger causes in the US and the world.

If you have perennials in your garden that need thinning or dividing, please consider sharing them with us. We have lots of pots and soilless dirt. All you need to do is stick your clumps in a bag with a slip telling us the variety and put them up against the wall of the Benton garage. We want to get all the plants potted before May 6 so that their root structures will be developed, and they will be ready to plant in our customer's gardens. Give Nancy Abernethy a phone call (420-2170) to let her know that you have dropped off perennials so that we can plant them in a timely manner. If you would like to join one of the planting parties in the parsonage garage, please call and get details. We have a wonderful time. The Hunger Commission

## Youth Director Search Update

Recently CUMC's youth director search committee interviewed 2 exceptional candidates (from over 70+ resumes) via phone. Upon the completion of the phone interviews, the committee decided to invite both candidates to come to Community UMC to meet with the youth for a mock youth fellowship gathering. Similar to previous candidates, the candidates are asked to prepare a brief lesson and allow for a question and answer time between the candidate and the youth. One candidate will be joining us on Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. ALL Sr. High youth are invited to join us from 12:15-1:00 for lunch (provided by CUMC) and have a time to meet the candidate from 1:00-2:00. Jr. High Youth Fellowship will occur from 2:00-3:30, when the candidate will meet with the Jr. High youth. Sr. High Youth Fellowship will meet at its traditional 4:30 time to prepare for youth-led worship (coming up on the 27<sup>th</sup>). For more information about the youth director search, please contact Evie Burke.

## Library News

The church library is a member of the Center for Evangelical United Brethren Heritage, a group devoted to celebrating the history of the old EUB Church and its predecessor denominations, the Evangelical Association and the United Brethren in Christ. Community UMC was a member of the Evangelical Association and the EUB Church from its founding in 1837 to the merger with the Methodist Church in 1968. The Center publishes a newsletter called the Telescope-Messenger, and the current issue contains a lead article by Bill Naumann and his wife Helen, or Herbie, as she was generally known, about Herbie's grandfather, Solomon Gamertsfelder, a member of our congregation and a professor at North Central from 1895 until 1923. He died in 1925. If you look around the walls of the sanctuary near the corner entrance, you will find dedicatory tablets celebrating the Gamertsfelder family. The Naumanns were member of our church until Bill's retirement from North Central's faculty about 10 years ago.

Bill, along with former CUMC members Dr. James Stein and Rev. Dwight Busacca, are members of the Center's advisory committee. They are currently involved in planning a conference, "Forty Years after Dallas: the EUB Heritage of United Methodism," scheduled to meet in Dayton, Ohio in September, 2008. Bill will be delivering a paper on Evangelical theology at the conference. In 1996 Leo Waynick and I represented Community Church at a similar event which celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the EUB Church.

The newsletter containing Bill Naumann's article will be available in the library for anyone interested in reading it. Forrest Rice, Church Librarian

## Summer Activity

Science Adventures will be holding Summer Science Day Camps at CUMC the weeks of July 28, August 4 and August 11. Information and registration is available at [www.scienceadventures.com](http://www.scienceadventures.com) or by calling 1.888.458.1812