

## News Highlights

### “Bleacher Bums”

The Community Players’ spring show, “Bleacher Bums,” will be performed on Friday April 16, Saturday April 17, and Friday April 23 at 8:00 p.m., and Saturday April 24 at 2:00 p.m. All performances are in the Community UMC sanctuary. Tickets are \$10 for adults and are now on sale by calling Ken Cox at (630)983-8707. Seating is general admission, but groups can arrange reserved seating in advance. The youth will be providing concessions at the shows in exchange for donations to support their summer work trip.

### NCC Pancake Brunch, April 18

North Central College’s International Student’s Club will hold their annual Pancake Brunch on Sunday, April 18 in Fellowship Hall after services. Come enjoy a variety of pancakes from Europe, Asia, and the Americas, served with special jams, syrups, and fruit salad – all-you-can-eat for just \$5. All college students are invited to attend the brunch for free, courtesy of the Community College Connection.

### Heritage Sunday and Celebration of Wisdom

Community UMC will celebrate persons who are age 90 or older at all worship services on April 24 and 25. We will include a special bulletin insert with their photographs and a small part of their amazing life stories. We hope you can join us in recognizing their lives and contributions.

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## Pastor’s Note

Last week I had the pleasure of attending the spring renewal lectures at my alma mater the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. I had a few hours to kill in between lectures, so I sat in the library and looked through some preaching journals. In one article, the author wrote about his childhood experiences attending the Easter Sunday sunrise service. He wrote about his family rising before dawn to join others in their congregation to greet the risen Christ through worship on a hill in a nearby park.

Some years it was wet, some years it even snowed in that local park; still they gathered before dawn because it was their tradition and desire to fully experience Easter by recreating the conditions, as best they could, of that first Easter morning. After the park, they would all head over to the church and have breakfast together. He went on to say that as a child, the thing that bothered him the most about this celebration of Easter was the early alarm clock and the cold damp park. He enjoyed the hot breakfast with family and friends the most.

Now, as a grown man called to pastor a church, what bothers him the most when he pauses to think about those worship services is the attempt to “recreate” the past. He wondered how much of our Easter celebration and our practices of faith are too focused on recreating the past; too centered on what has happened instead of what is happening and what can happen. It is an intriguing thought.

We know that with God all things are possible and that we are called to be Easter people. We are invited to be “hope filled” people who have experienced resurrection with Jesus rising up to meet life anew. This rising doesn’t just occur at the end of our lives, it doesn’t just happen once or once a year. Challenges and struggles are overcome everyday. Opportunities to grow in our love for God and neighbor arrive with each and every sunrise! Each day we are blessed to experience is one more day to rise up, reevaluate, refocus, reconnect and rethink who we are, whose we are, and what we are called to do as God’s children; reenergized by the love of God.

Over the next few weeks, in worship we will do just that– rethink. I am looking forward to seeing you in worship and meeting your family and friends. These are exciting days at Community United Methodist Church; don’t miss a moment!

See you in church,  
Melissa



## Worship News

### Sermon Series

Our sermon series “Re-Think” continues through May.

- ✚ April 18, “Re-Connected,” John 20:24-31
- ✚ April 25, “Re-Focused,” Luke 24:36-45 (Heritage Sunday and celebration of persons age 90 and more)
- ✚ May 2, “Re-Think Church: Church as a Verb?,” John 21:1-19, Acts 9:1-20
- ✚ May 9, “Re-Think Church: Open Doors to No Doors,” Mark 7:1-8, Acts 9:36-42

### Confirmation Sunday, May 16

Our eighth-grade class will be confirmed on Sunday, May 16. Please join us to welcome and congratulate these new members of Community UMC as they confirm their commitment to Christian discipleship and faith. A reception will be held in Fellowship Hall after the service. In recognition of the importance of this event to our whole congregation, this will be a One Community service held in the Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m.; there will be no separate service in Zucker Hall at this time.

## Joys and Concerns

### Our Sympathies

- ✚ To Forrest Rice and his family, following the death of Forrest’s father on Friday, April 9.

### Our Troops and their Families

We continue to pray for our troops and their families: Matthew Burke, Ryan Gray, Nicholas Lopez, Matthew McFee, and Vincent Simonetti.

## Community Events

### Community Swingers Practices Begin

Practices for CUMC’s ladies softball team begin April 20, and will be held every Tuesday at 6 p.m. The games will also be Tuesdays from mid-May through the end of July. There’s still room for people on the team – all skill and experience levels are welcome. If you have questions, please contact Becky Klein-Collins at (630)355-1251 or bkleincollins@wowway.com. Join us – it’s a lot of fun!

### Family Movie Night Goes Retro

Watch the 1961 version of “The Parent Trap” at the next Family Movie Night, Saturday May 8, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Bring your family, your blankets, and your dinner and enjoy a free evening of family fun. Snacks and beverages are provided. This is a family-friendly event for families of all ages and types, so invite your friends!

### Jobs Club

Transitioning between jobs, underemployed or discontentedly working? The CUMC Jobs Club just might be the networking opportunity you need to kick start your job search! The club meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month. For information, contact Larry Kahler at (630)606-0962 or larrymkahler@comcast.net.

### New Member Orientation, May 13

The next adult New Members Orientation session will be held on Thursday, May 13 at 7:00 pm in the parlor. This session will offer prospective new members an opportunity to learn more about Community Church and our United Methodist denomination and will be led by our pastors, Mark Jacobs and Melissa Hood. Childcare will be provided. If you know anyone who might be interested in this orientation, please invite them to attend and notify the church office of their interest.

### The Wider Community

**Harvest 2020 prayer services** will be held at new church plants in the Northern Illinois Conference, April 15 through April 20; **Mark Braverman** will discuss his new book, “Fatal Embrace: Christians, Jews, and the Search for Peace in the Holy Land” on April 16 at Wesley UMC in Naperville; “**Creation Care 2010**” is April 17 at First UMC of Downers Grove; **Philip Gulley** will hold a book-signing and question-and-answer session for his latest work, *If the Church Were Christian*, on April 23 at First UMC of Arlington Heights; “**Believe Out Loud**,” a Rethink Church event sponsored by Northern Illinois Reconciling United Methodists, will provide information about ending exclusion in churches on April 24 at Downers Grove UMC. For more information on these events, visit <http://www.communityunitedmethodist.org/news/news.html>.

## Earth Day

April 22 is Earth Day, recognized by the United Methodist Church on the closest Sunday (April 25) as the Festival of God's Creation. In November 2009 the UMC Council of Bishops adopted "God's Renewed Creation: Call to Hope and Action," a document that is the first official statement on environmental issues since 1986. You can obtain this resolution from [www.hopeandaction.org](http://www.hopeandaction.org), along with the pastoral letter and an adult study guide.

### Spring Cleaning at Community UMC, April 24

Given our recent denominational actions on the environment, it is appropriate that Community UMC will be holding several events on April 24 to help make our church and our community a nicer place to live.

**The Caring for Community all church workday** is 8:30 a.m. to noon. It's a great place to meet new people and see your friends. Everyone is invited; there are opportunities for all ages. Child care is available. Come for coffee and a bagel and then roll up your sleeves. We'll be cleaning up the 20 N. Center church property, washing windows, and other outdoor fun. If you think of something to add to the list or if you want to volunteer, contact Bill Denwood at [wdenwood@comcast.net](mailto:wdenwood@comcast.net) or Jim McCloud at [j-mccloud@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j-mccloud@sbcglobal.net), or sign up near the hospitality table. Your help is important and appreciated!

**All "Friends of the Flowerbeds"** are also encouraged to use this day to spruce up your adopted flowerbeds after winter. The growing weather has been great so far, evidenced by the hundreds of thriving plants for the PassAlong Plant Sale found next to the church, and your plants would love some attention. Thanks for your continued support and love of growing things!

#### **The Secret Angels will help make God's earth a better place, too!**

Elementary-age children and their families will meet in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. for some fun earth-friendly activities, then break into small groups to pick up litter and trash in central Naperville. (In case of rain, we'll have some indoor service activities.) We should be done around 11:00 a.m. This is a family-friendly service project, and all ages are invited to help. Invite your friends to come and help care for God's creation! Secret Angels is an ecumenical mission and service group for children in kindergarten through fifth grade, sponsored by Community UMC, First Congregational UCC, and Wesley UMC. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Beth Elders, [belders@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:belders@communityunitedmethodist.org) or (630)355-1483.



### Earthday at North Central College, April 24

**North Central College also celebrates Earth Day on April 24.** Visit the residential/recreational center at 440 S. Brainard Street between noon and 2:00 p.m. to learn how and why many green investments pay you back. Being eco-smart can bring green to your home in more ways than one! The event is free and open to the public, with entertainment, presentations, and green products and services for sale. It also has [free electronics recycling](#). Visit <http://ncec.us/earthday2010> for more information.

### Reuse and Recycle for Missions, Year-Round

**While doing your own spring cleaning**, remember that many items can be used for missions.

- Clothing, shoes, bedding, and other items can be bagged and placed in the **green donation bin** in the church parking lot at any time. These items are taken to the Unique Thrift Shop, which pays DuPage PADS for the potential merchandise for their store. The main organization works with many companies that purchase unsold items in bulk for use in commercial rags or for distribution in Third World nations. The bin is thus a win-win-win situation: you can donate clothes at a place you come to regularly, DuPage PADS gets funds, and nothing ends up in a landfill but is instead recycled.
- The United Methodist Women will soon be accepting items for the **May 15 garage sale**. Proceeds from the sale help the UMW meet their yearly pledge to world-wide mission activities that help women and children. Gently-used children's clothing, books, toys, games, housewares, appliances, sporting goods, and furniture (no adult clothing or electronics, please) will be accepted starting on Mother's Day, May 9. Volunteers are needed to help with setup, pricing, sales, and cleanup; contact Nancy Abernethy if you can help or for more information.
- **Got pots?** Plastic plant pots from nurseries, in any sizes, can be dropped off at the 105 Benton garage. They will be used by the Hunger Commission to grow plants for the PassAlong Perennial Plant Sale on June 5.
- Community UMC currently has **drop-off locations** in the front hallway for used stamps, UPC labels from Campbell's soup, used (and washed) medicine bottles, and pull-tabs from aluminum cans, all to help mission projects.

## Ministry Reports

### Christian Education

#### Spring Movie Series

"Images of Christ in the Movies" continues through April. Each week we will gather at 5:30 p.m. for a light supper, then view and discuss the film starting at 6:00 p.m. Visit the news page on the church web site for more information on the films.

- April 17: "Taxi Driver," hosted by Elmer and Mari Schrimmer, 7 S 348 Baltusrol Ln. in Naperville.
- April 24: "Dead Man Walking," hosted by Phil Rogers and Anne McElaney, 201 Long Leaf Drive in Naperville.

#### United Vacation Bible School

UVBS 2010 is June 21 to 24, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Each day at Hero Headquarters children will learn what it means to be a hero for God and be introduced to unnamed Bible heroes who were not super or powerful, yet whose small acts were used by God to do wonderful things! Everyone will be challenged to be heroes who do the unexpected, take action, step out on faith, save the day, and stand for truth.

Registration is now open to the general public. To get your registration materials (and samples of this year's program), visit <http://tinyurl.com/yjl3xlc>. VBS needs some heroes of its own – adult and older youth volunteers make the program possible. You will receive \$5 off your total registration cost for each volunteer registration form included with your child's registration.

#### Eclipsing Empire: Paul, Rome, and the Kingdom of God

Join preeminent New Testament scholars Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan on location in Turkey as they trace the Apostle Paul's footsteps throughout the Roman Empire. This 12-session DVD and web-based study explores fresh insights into Paul's message of the Kingdom of God, its challenge to Roman imperial theology, and the apostle's radical relevance for today. Come be a part of this transformative and thought-provoking adult small group study.

The study will meet on Wednesday afternoons from noon to 1:30 p.m., April 14 through June 30 in room 101 and is facilitated by Al Streyffeler and Darrell Voitik. The cost is \$12 per participant (scholarships are available and cost should not prohibit participation). Study materials are available through the church web site. For more information or to register for the class, please contact Al Streyffeler at [almaviss@aol.com](mailto:almaviss@aol.com) or (630)355-2082.

### Missions

#### Offering of Letters for Hunger

Did you know that 13% of the people in the U.S. live in poverty, and more than 14% of households are hungry or at risk of hunger? The numbers are worse for children – nearly 1 in 4 children live in such households, with more than 14 million living in poverty. The goal of ending childhood hunger in the U.S. by 2015 has been set by the president and others. Bread for the World (<http://www.bread.org>) is working toward this goal by improving program access and participation for low-income children, especially in the school breakfast and summer feeding programs; and by protecting and strengthening a few key tax credits that will expire in 2010, namely the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit. These child nutrition programs will be re-authorized by Congress early this year. Your Hunger Commission and Bread for the World are asking for an offering of letters to Congress to help end childhood hunger in the United States. Hand-written, mailed letters are the most effective, but e-mail is an alternative. To identify and write your congressional representatives, visit <http://www.bread.org/take-action>.

#### Northern Illinois Food Bank

The NI Food Bank is in need of volunteers for spring and summer. There are cars leaving from the CUMC parking lot on the second and fourth Thursday of every month to go to the food bank to help sort and pack food. If you can donate an afternoon of your time, from 12 noon - 5:00 p.m., please contact Joanne Jaynes at (630)357-4019.

#### Missions Reminders

We are collecting items for **UMCOR birthing and layette kits** for Haiti through April; **pots and plants** for the PassAlong Perennial Plant Sale may be dropped off any time; and on May 5, the Missions Committee will be **servicing dinner at Kid's Club**, part of Aurora Shalom Ministries. For more information on these events, see the March 31 e-Tidings or the church web site.

## Trustees

### Sound System Update

At the request of members of our congregation, the Trustees have been discussing concerns about the sound system in the CUMC sanctuary. Sylvia Kupferer and Nancy Whittington have agreed to take responsibility for working with our members who are experiencing problems with hearing in the sanctuary and of proposing ways to approach the problem. Members of our congregation who are hearing impaired or who wish to be involved in problem solving are asked to contact Sylvia Kupferer at (630) 983-1397 or [coppersmithy@hotmail.com](mailto:coppersmithy@hotmail.com). See the May 31 e-Tidings for more information.

## United Methodist Women

**The Evening Outreach Circle** will meet on April 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mari Schirmer, 7 S 348 Baltusrol Lane, Naperville. We will continue our study of Sudan. All are welcome. Let Mari know if you can attend, (630)355-8532 or [ehsremle@aol.com](mailto:ehsremle@aol.com).

**The Book Circle** will have a mystery night on April 21 at 7:30 p.m. Cindy Bunting will lead the discussion of Sarah Paretsky's "Indemnity Only." Lynda Krazinski at 833 Kinston Court is the hostess for the evening. Please call Lynda if you plan to attend.

**The next UMW general meeting** is Monday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m. We will have a speaker teaching us how to make baskets and other container gardens as we look forward to Spring. All are welcome.

## Music

Community UMC's bell choirs are recruiting for the fall season. Bell-ringing is easy to learn and a wonderful way to offer your gifts in worship. Open Circle Ringers rehearse Mondays at 6:30 p.m.; Carillon Bells rehearse Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.; and Tower Bells, our youth (and friends) choir, rehearse Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. If you are interested in learning more about the bell choirs, stop by any rehearsal or contact Stephen Edwards, Director of Music Ministries and Worship Planning, at [sedwards@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:sedwards@communityunitedmethodist.org).

## Youth

### Mission Trip and No-Talent Night Fundraiser

The youth mission trip is to Rosebud, SD, July 10 to 17 to work with Tree of Life Ministries and the Lakota Nation. There is still time to sign up, but permission slips and fees are due by *May 2*. Contact Nick Giannasi at the church office or [ngiannasi@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:ngiannasi@communityunitedmethodist.org) for information.

To raise funds to cover the cost of the youth summer mission trip, the youth will hold a **talent show** on May 1. Come enjoy dinner and a show, featuring the varied talents of Community UMC's youth and adults, at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Tickets are on sale outside worship services, \$10 for individuals and \$25 for families. You can also sign up to demonstrate your own talent. Contact Nick Giannasi for more information.

## Calendar

### Hospitality Table

**April 18: The Red Bag Ministry** contacts our first-time visitors, dropping off a reusable shopping bag filled with information about the church. Contact Mary Jacobs if you would like to help with this outreach ministry.

**April 25: Acolytes** are part of the IGNITE ministry for youth in fourth and fifth grades, and serve in the weekly worship services. Contact Nick Giannasi for information about IGNITE and other youth programs.

### Every Week At Community

#### Sundays

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. Adult, Youth, and Children's Sunday School Classes; Confirmation Class
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Services at 20 N. Center and 201 E. Franklin
- 5:00 p.m. JHYF
- 7:00 p.m. PADS shelter

#### Mondays

- 5:15 p.m. Covenant Groups
- 5:30 p.m. Rainbow Dancers
- 6:30 p.m. Open Circle Ringers
- 7:00 p.m. Knitting Circle

**Tuesdays**

- 9:15 a.m. Women's Book Study
- 7:00 p.m. SHYFt Group at Starbucks (Chicago and Washington)
- 8:00 p.m. Women's Ensemble Rehearsal (alternate Tuesdays)

**Wednesdays**

- 12:00 p.m. Eclipsing Empire Study (page 3)
- 4:30 p.m. Hosanna Choir; Carillon Bells
- 5:30 p.m. Tower Bells

**Thursdays**

- 9:30 a.m. UMW Studio Workshop
- 6:30 p.m. OnCenter Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Saturdays**

- 5:00 p.m. Worship Service

**Day by Day Calendar, April 16 to April 30****Friday, April 16**

- 8:00 p.m. Community Players presents "Bleacher Bums" (page 1)

**Saturday, April 17**

- 10:30 a.m. Building Committee
- 5:30 p.m. Spring Movie Series "Taxi Driver" hosted by the Schirmers (page 4)
- 8:00 p.m. Community Players presents "Bleacher Bums" (page 1)

**Sunday, April 18 (Third Sunday of Easter)**

- 12:00 p.m. NCC Pancake Brunch (page 1)
- 5:00 p.m. Discussion of "The Blind Side"
- 7:00 p.m. SHYFt Evening at the Greens'

**Monday, April 19**

- 7:00 p.m. College Outreach

**Tuesday, April 20**

- 7:00 p.m. CUMC Jobs Club
- 7:00 p.m. Women's Ensemble

**Wednesday, April 21**

- 9:30 a.m. Senior Worship and Fellowship Service
- 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministries

**Thursday, April 22**

- 6:30 p.m. Building Committee
- 7:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee

**Friday, April 23**

- 8:00 p.m. Community Players presents "Bleacher Bums" (page 1)

**Saturday, April 24**

- 8:30 a.m. Caring For Community Work Day (page 3)
- 9:30 a.m. Secret Angels (page 3)
- 2:00 p.m. Community Players presents "Bleacher Bums" (page 1)
- 6:00 p.m. Spring Film Series – "Dead Man Walking" hosted by Phil Rogers and Anne McElaney (page 4)

**Sunday, April 25 (Fourth Sunday of Easter)**

- 5:00 p.m. Discussion of "The Blind Side"
- 5:00 p.m. JHYF/SHYFt Group Outing for Broomball

**Monday, April 26**

- 7:00 p.m. United Methodist Women General Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Children and Family Ministries

**Tuesday, April 27**

- 7:30 p.m. Community of Parents

**Wednesday, April 28**

- 7:00 p.m. Mission Committee

**Thursday, April 29**

- 11:00 a.m. UVBS Planning Meeting

Visit [www.communityunitedmethodist.org](http://www.communityunitedmethodist.org) and click on the "Calendar" link for the full church calendar.