

## News Highlights

### No-Talent Night

Help the youth raise funds for their summer mission trip to South Dakota and the Lakota Nation at this Saturday's "No-Talent Night." Tickets are \$10 for individuals and \$25 for families and may be purchased at the door. For that price, you get dinner (catered by Buona Beef) and a show featuring the eclectic talents of the youth and adults. You can also support the trip by renting a work team for chores around your house or yard; see page 5.

### United Methodist Women

Three UMW events will be held the week of May 9. The **UMW Thank Offering** will be collected at all worship services on the weekend of May 8-9. The **Mother-Child Dessert** is Monday, May 10 at 6:30 p.m.; all are invited to bring a dessert to share while you enjoy entertainment by the Hosanna Choir and Rainbow Dancers. The **UMW Garage Sale** is Saturday, May 15, and donations of gently-used housewares, toys, books, games, sporting goods, children's clothing, and furniture (no electronics or adult clothing) may be dropped off starting May 9.

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## Congregational Meetings

*On April 19, the following letter was sent to all members of our congregation from the Building Committee.*

In February of 2009, at a special all church conference, our Building committee was established with the responsibility of examining and recommending to the congregation a solution to the multiple and complex issues regarding our church structure at 20 N. Center. It was announced at Charge Conference in November 2009 that the Building Committee would bring to the congregation a recommendation in the Spring of 2010. We are now at that point. Following a year of doing research, the Building Committee is prepared to provide information to help us make an informed decision about the 20 N. Center physical plant.

At the heart of our building issues is the question: For the sake of Christ's mission through Community United Methodist Church and for future generations, do we keep our ministry hub at 20 N. Center or do we relocate to a new location in the Naperville area?

Through a series of meetings and focus groups beginning in early May we will move toward a congregational vote in late June. Please save the following dates and participate in this historic decision-making process.

- Step 1: Three congregational meetings will be held: **May 8 at 10 a.m.**, **May 8 at 2 p.m.** and **May 15 at 10 a.m.** We will ask everyone to sign up and attend ONE of these identical meetings where we will all learn about the complexity of the issues and be asking for your creative ideas. The Building Committee will offer four alternate scenarios to consider.
- Step 2: After the information from step 1 is compiled, we will hold 10-12 focus groups of 30-35 people each over a two week period in late May. You are asked to sign up to attend one of these groups, where we will discuss the issues and listen to one another. The sign-ups for these groups will be put out after May 15.
- Step 3: We have set **June 17 at 7 p.m.** for an official all-church conference where we will vote and decide the future of Community UM Church. As is our United Methodist custom, Rev. Diana Facemeyer, District Superintendent, will preside over this meeting.

Our goal in this process is to discern the will and higher purposes of God for Community UM Church. This process calls the best from us as disciples of Jesus Christ. We are called beyond self and our own preferences in order to say "Yes" to God's larger plans.

Please save these dates and join us in this historic decision. In the meantime, begin praying for this decision, seeking God's plan for us. Add this decision to your personal prayer list and pray every day for guidance.

We have the awesome privilege of living and serving Christ at this pivotal moment in the history of Community United Methodist Church. What an exciting opportunity! It is a moment that is filled with possibility! God has chosen us ... called us ... for this opportunity, time, and place. May we be faithful in this decision to Jesus Christ who calls us His own.

Your Brothers in Christ, Dale Zimmerman (Chair, CUMC Building Committee) and Mark Jacobs (Lead Pastor)

## Worship News

### Sermon Series

Our sermon series "Re-Think" continues through May.

✠ May 2, "Re-Think Church: Church as a Verb?," John 21:1-19, Acts 9:10-20

✠ 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. Come celebrate the wonderful things God is doing in the lives of our confirmands! In recognition of the importance of this event to our whole congregation, this will be a combined service held in the Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m.; there will be no service in Zucker Hall at this time.

## Joys and Concerns

### Our Sympathies

✠ To Ann Steele, after the death of her father.

✠ To Rob, Susan, Ripley, and Jordan Biggs, after the death of Rob's mother Jean Biggs on April 16.

### Our Troops and their Families

We are happy to report that Matthew McFee has returned from the Middle East. We continue to pray for our troops and their families: Matthew Burke, Ryan Gray, Nicholas Lopez, and Vincent Simonetti.

### A Message from the Snells

Bill and Nancy Snell recently retired to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and write: *We miss everybody but are slowly settling in to our new home, and the address is: 7591 W. F Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Bill: 630-926-1250. Nancy: 630-926-1235. Emails are the same as before, wsnell1997@gmail.com and nsnell1997@gmail.com. Company encouraged! LOVE to you and everyone...*

## Community Events

### Stephen Edwards in Concert, May 2

Community UMC's own Stephen Edwards will be among the performers at First Presbyterian of Deerfield's "Music Makers Concert Series" on Sunday, May 2, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Stephen joins the First Presbyterian Festival Choir and other guest artists for a program including the Rutter Requiem and pieces by Schutz and others. The concert is free and open to the public, and a free-will offering is taken to help defray costs. For more information, visit <http://www.firstpresbyterianchurchofdeerfield.org>

### Family Movie Night Goes Retro, May 8

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!

### 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.

### Graduate Recognition Sunday, June 6

At services on Saturday and Sunday, June 7 and 8, Community UMC will honor all graduates of high school, college, graduate school, and seminary. Please send a picture (digital, if you can) and a brief bio to the office. All information must be received no later than Wednesday, May 28. Drop off your bio and picture in the office, or e-mail to [info@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:info@communityunitedmethodist.org).

## Ministry Reports

### Children's Ministries

#### 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! Registration is now open to the general public. To get registration materials for both child participants and adult and youth volunteers, visit <http://tinyurl.com/yjl3xlc>.

#### Secret Angels – Caring for God's Creation and Changing the World

On April 24, children and parents from Community UMC, Wesley UMC, and First Congregational UCC came together to help change the world as a part of the UMC's Change the World initiative. On April 24 and 25, United Methodists throughout the United States were encouraged to come together in ministry and service with their communities. Check out stories of what else took place at [www.umc.org/changetheworld](http://www.umc.org/changetheworld).

The children were a part of Secret Angels, an interfaith children's service group sponsored by Community UMC. Before heading out into the neighborhood to pick up litter and trash, they learned important facts about the importance of caring for God's creation through participation in fun-filled games and great discussions. Thanks to everyone who braved the rainy weather to come make a difference in our community – you truly did help change the world, one piece of litter at a time!

#### Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, May 23

As a small way of saying "thank you" to the many volunteers who have lovingly given of their time as a teacher in our children's classes, we'd like to invite them to a lunch in their honor on Sunday, May 23 in Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 worship services. Families and children of volunteers are invited to come too! If you have volunteered as a children's Sunday School lead or assistant teacher, or a Children's Chapel lead or assistant, come join us for lunch. Please RSVP to Beth Elders ([belders@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:belders@communityunitedmethodist.org)) by May 16.

### College Outreach

C<sup>3</sup>'s next free home-cooked lunch for college students is Sunday, May 2 after the 11:00 services, in Fellowship Hall. The Appalachia Service Project will be our "Moment of Mission." The last lunch of the academic year will be June 6; Community UMC members can support this ministry by signing up outside the Sanctuary.

### Hunger

#### A Great Mother's Day Gift

With Easter falling when it did this year, the rapid approach of Mother's Day has, for many of us, come as a bit of a surprise. **Attention – Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9!** If you have selected and wrapped that perfect gift for the special mom(s) in your life, congratulations! But, if you are a bit behind in your shopping, read on.

The Hunger Commission is offering gift certificates for the PassAlong Perennial Plant Sale - 3PS - in the amount of your choice, a gift sure to put a smile on that special mom's face while helping feed hungry people near and far. Certificates can be for any amount you choose; plants range from \$4 to \$13, with most plants priced at \$7.

Minimal wrapping required! As a plus, this gift gives twice – when mom opens the envelope/package and then again as she selects a lovely flower at the plant sale on Saturday, June 5.

Contact Nancy Abernethy at (630)420-2170 or [nbabernethy@gmail.com](mailto:nbabernethy@gmail.com) to arrange your purchase. Hey, she'll even create a certificate on the spot if you see her around church. This is a "can't go wrong" gift, sure to please for years to come. After all, the plants *are* perennials!

### Missions

#### Kid's Club

On Wednesday, May 5, the Missions Committee will be volunteering at a program called Kids' Club, part of the Aurora Shalom Ministries. This is a program that helps economically disadvantaged youth. We will be providing and serving a dinner to approximately 70 people. If you would like to help out or learn more, please contact the church office or Allyson Buckland at (630)701-2026.

#### Feed My Starving Children

Help the Feed My Starving Children organization (<http://www.fmcs.org>) by joining an evening adult mission trip to their Aurora location to pack meals. Two trips are being organized by the Kairos Sunday School class, for the evenings of Thursday May 13 and Monday May 17, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Contact June Green at (630)820-2513 to sign up and get details about the requirements.

## Trinity UMC Work Day

Our sister church is Trinity UMC in Joliet. Last year we agreed to paint the exterior of their activities building, but winter weather caused a postponement. June 4 and 5 we will be painting their church. We are in need of a paint sprayer and a power washer and volunteers to help. Contact Dick Legg at (630)420-2738 Richard116@aol.com.

## Senior Outreach

On Sunday April 25, we celebrated eighteen Community members who will be 90 years old or older this year. Eight of them attended the 11:00 service and a reception that followed. Left to right in the photo below: Marjorie Fue, Pearl Thoman, Isabelle Bartel, Myrtle Bensema, Irene Schindel, George Bradshaw, Marguerite Carter, and Vince Hurd.



## Stewardship

### The Evolving Role of Stewardship At CUMC

Explaining the challenges involved in understanding Stewardship in our church can be illustrated by envisioning what happens when several people view the same impressionist painting – each person can come away with a different understanding. Following the lead of our pastors, let me say a bit about where we are and the direction we're headed.

- Stewardship, in its most basic form, involves God's ownership and our responsibility to care for His possessions. What we consider ours really doesn't belong to us – but we are responsible for it! All that has been created for us and God's other creatures here on Earth is first and foremost our job to help maintain and enhance in a loving, productive manner.
- Fundraising is not a primary responsibility of those leading a stewardship initiative; that role falls to the Finance Committee. By default, this church – and many others – has looked to the Stewardship Committee to fulfill that role. But that is not what the "SC" should be all about.
- Education and leadership – and to some extent publicity – regarding stewardship are primary responsibilities of those leading various stewardship initiatives. In effect, helping each of us integrate into our daily lives and routines positive acts - wherever we are and whatever we are doing - is at the heart of stewardship education.
- An example of stewardship involvement in the workplace might be reducing your use of disposable products or taking a moment to pick up a piece of trash in your path of travel. At home, encouraging the use by family members of tepid or cold water when washing your hands is a step in the right direction. At church, becoming directly or indirectly involved in PADS or helping out on All Church Workdays is a great way to practice stewardship. You get the picture!

If the examples of stewardship I have mentioned come at you from an unanticipated direction, good! That means steps are being made towards changing your understanding of the concept, and moving you in the direction of a greater and more productive involvement in God's world to help care for and "pay forward" our many material blessings.

### The Practice of Passionate Worship

The Stewardship Committee needs your prayers... literally. Daily prayer is an important aspect of being God's steward and a foundation of the practice of passionate worship, one of the five practices of a healthy church. Please share one of your favorite prayers – a special family grace, a morning meditation, or any other prayer that has been meaningful to you. You can e-mail it to Barb Dabrowski (jpdabrowski@hotmail.com) or Bill Abernethy (billabernethy@gmail.com) or drop it off in the office by May 16. We will collect them in our own Community UMC United in Prayer booklet that will be made available.

## Trustees

### Many Thanks

The Trustees want to thank the 27 energetic people who participated in the April 24th Caring for Community workday. Be sure to thank them because they saved the church \$1900 in maintenance and janitorial expense!

Everyone had bagels and coffee to fortify themselves and luckily, the rain held off until afternoon. Kelly Hill handled the child care so everyone could focus on their tasks. An amazing amount of indoor and outdoor work was accomplished!



Pictured are: Bob Schroeder, Is Dittrich, John Krazinski, Larry Kahler, Lynda Krazinski, Jim McCloud, Ed Cotner, Barb Dabrowski, Bill Abernethy, Jack Dabrowski, Nancy Abernethy, Eric Pfeiffer, Irwin Nejd, Jim Davidson, Carol Pfeiffer. Not pictured but working hard: Justin Deahr, Emily Deahr, Diana Deahr, George Groves, Tom Kupferer, Bill Denwood, Rich Fleming, Jim Chandler, Sylvia Kupferer, Ken Cox, Roger Barney, and Kelly Hill.

We'd also like to give a special thanks to **Tom and Sylvia Kupferer** for another project, the classy new seat cushions on the pews by the lower level elevator. Now people who are waiting for their friends or family can sit in style. What a great improvement!

## Youth

### Rent-A-Kid (and Adults)

During May, you can sign up to have a team of 3-4 students and 1-2 adults come to work for two hours at your house. You can have them work any day (it doesn't have to be in May, sign 'em to shovel snow if you want). \$150 per team. Look for the sign-up in the hall between services or call Nick at (630)770-5997 to set up a time. This is a fundraiser by the youth and adults who are going on this summer's work trip to South Dakota from 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.

## Calendar

### Hospitality Table Hosts

**May 2: The United Methodist Men** develop men's faith through mission and studies, such as the "Letters from Dad" study meeting on the first Tuesday of each month. Contact Jim Rainwaters ([rainman1947@comcast.net](mailto:rainman1947@comcast.net)) or George Groves ([gmgroves@live.com](mailto:gmgroves@live.com)) for more information about the UMM.

**May 9: Evangelism** builds community within Community UMC and also reaches out to the wider community. Melissa Hood ([mhood@communityunitedmethodist.org](mailto:mhood@communityunitedmethodist.org)) can give you more information about this ministry.

**May 16: The Community Swingers Women's Softball Team** is now holding practices every Tuesday at 6 p.m. The games will also be Tuesdays from mid-May through the end of July, and they'll need a cheering section. If you have questions, please contact Becky Klein-Collins at [bkleincollins@wowway.com](mailto:bkleincollins@wowway.com). Join us – it's a lot of fun!

### Every Week At Community

#### Sundays

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. Adult, Youth, and Children's Sunday School Classes
- 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
- 8:00 p.m. Women's Ensemble Rehearsal (alternate Tuesdays)

**Wednesdays**

- 12:00 p.m. Eclipsing Empire Small Group Study
- 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, May 1 to May 15****Sunday, May 2 (Fifth Sunday of Easter)**

- 12:00 p.m. C<sup>3</sup> College Student Lunch

**Tuesday, May 4**

- 7:00 p.m. "Letters from Dad" Men's Study
- 7:00 p.m. Church and Society Team
- 7:00 p.m. CUMC Jobs Club

**Wednesday, May 5**

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Retreat
- evening* Mission Trip to Aurora Kid's Club (page 3)

**Thursday, May 6**

- 7:00 p.m. Trustees

**Saturday, May 8**

- 10:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting (page 1)
- 2:00 p.m. Congregational Meeting (page 1)
- 6:00 p.m. Family Movie Night with "The Parent Trap" (page 2)

**Sunday, May 9 (Sixth Sunday of Easter)**

- United Methodist Women Thank Offering (page 1)
- No YF Today – Happy Mother's Day!

**Monday, May 10**

- 6:30 p.m. UMW Mother-Child Dessert (page 1)

**Tuesday, May 11**

- 10:30 a.m. The Reminiscence Service (for persons with Alzheimers' and other forms of dementia)
- 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee

**Wednesday, May 12**

- 6:00 p.m. Hunger Committee
- 6:30 p.m. Hearing Committee
- 7:00 p.m. Administrative Board

**Thursday, May 13**

- 10:00 a.m. Caring for Inactives
- 6:30 p.m. Mission Trip to Feed My Starving Children (page 3)
- 7:00 p.m. New Member Orientation (page 2)

**Saturday, May 15**

- 7:00 a.m. UMW Garage Sale (page 1)
- 10:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting (page 1)

**Sunday, May 16 (Sixth Sunday of Easter)**

- 11:00 a.m. Confirmation Sunday Combined Worship Service

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