



Tidings from Community United Methodist Church

June , 2008

Please enjoy all the news from CUMC. The topics below show how the news is organized.

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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. For our regularly updated monthly calendar, please [click here](#).

Pastor's Note

MOVING TO MEILEY-SWALLOW

Our Special Church Conference June 11 approved the resolution to lease space in North Central's Meiley-Swallow Hall and move our On Center service to the newly renovated theater there. This vote came after a good-spirited and open discussion in a conference of 200 that was surrounded by prayer.

Though the vote was divided, there is wide consensus on several core values—

- love of Community Church and a strong desire for unity in this congregation
- support for the On Center service and desire for its growth
- care to keep and build connections between On Center worshippers and the life and ministry of the whole congregation
- commitment to be faithful stewards of our God-given resources

With these strong positives and with awareness of the concerns of those who opposed the resolution, we must now move forward. There are many logistical issues to be addressed and many who are giving good thought and much effort to these new arrangements:

- the new worship set-up in a new location
- moving persons back and forth between our two Sunday sites
- providing for childcare and Sunday School for the children of On Center

And there are spiritual matters that must be engaged by us all:

- healing within our congregation
- being one church though we are many members committed to various ministries and involved in different expressions of worship
- looking beyond ourselves to reach out to others for the sake of the Gospel and of making disciples of Jesus Christ
- growing in our Christian stewardship and financial commitment to support our mission and ministries and now this new lease venture

I truly believe that God is with us in this deliberation and decision. Though sometimes we have felt divided and disturbed in these discussions, we have been talking about what matters most:

- Who are we as the Church?
- What is our purpose and mission?
- Whom are we to serve?
- How and where do we faithfully worship God?

Only good can come from such a discussion. And I see that the good is coming, and that the good is from God. It is not just On Center that is moving one block south, but our whole Church has an opportunity to move forward in this moment.

Let's go!

Gratefully and Hopefully,

Tom Babler
Sr. Pastor

Worship News

Chapel worship, 5:00 pm—Saturday

Saturday, June 21 – Jeff Haake preaching
Saturday, June 29 - Rev. Haeran Kim preaching

Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary, 8:30 and 10:30—Sunday

Sunday, June 22 – Rev. Tom Babler preaching
Sunday, June 29 - Rev. Haeran Kim preaching

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

Sunday, June 22 - Rev. Haeran Kim preaching
Sunday, June 29 - Rev. Tom Babler, 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.

Community UMC's Summer Schedule which began June 8.

- Sunday worship services will be at 8:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary and Tent.
- Community UMC will hold Summer in the Park in July. The 8:30 a.m. worship service will be held in Central Park, just south of the church.
- Children's Sunday School will be offered during 10:30 worship. Classes for 2- and 3-year olds will be in room 207, and for age 4 through 5th grade in Fellowship Hall.
- Teachers are needed for children's Sunday School. Two teachers are needed in each of our two big classrooms each week. All curriculum and prep work for crafts is provided; teachers simply lead the discussion and activities. Please sign up on the lists posted outside all children's classrooms.
- The school-year schedule will resume August 24.

CUMC's Joys and Concerns

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

Upcoming Special Events, Fellowship and Spirituality

Evangelism

The Evangelism team is thrilled at the involvement of the congregation and the coming together at the events of the past few months as we continue to build community in community.

The usher/greeter/grusher workshop on April 15 was enthusiastically attended and so many great ideas came about under the leadership of NIC Lay Leader, Roger Curless.

Look for follow-up training sessions to be offered in the fall to take those ideas and implement them!

A special thank you to Pat Atcheson and Jim Rainwaters who embraced the concept of greeters at the Center Street entrance to meet and greet folks as they enter the church. What a welcoming effort this is! If you would like to join them in this welcoming ministry, contact Judy Burton or Mary Jacobs to get on the Sunday schedule!

The Community with Kenya evening was such a success. The evangelism team and the missions team joined together in hosting a time for fellowship and sharing a meal together followed by a wonderful presentation by our Kenya volunteers in mission.

The "wear your nametag to church" campaign was such fun for everyone... best of all we are seeing lots of nametags on Sunday mornings...what a welcoming sight!

CUMC's monthly college luncheons have been such a success and the recent cook out was no exception. The food and the fellowship not only brings so many of our college students together but gives so many of us a chance to get to know them. Thanks to those of you who contribute in so many ways to this project. The students so appreciate our hospitality.

The evangelism team simply offers the opportunities for all of us to serve, for all of us to build community within our community and for us to invite community to community. It is everyone who makes it happen.

June 1 - Meet FRANK Part One - Invite a **F**riend to church.....*"On Christmas Eve, we always bring a family to the 11 PM worship service with us, sharing a meal together first and then coming to worship together. The invitations extended have never been declined, but are always so appreciated."*

June 8 - Meet FRANK Part Two - Invite a **R**elative to church.....*"We have enjoyed inviting our parents to the Community Players productions."*

June 15 - Meet FRANK Part Three..... Invite an **A**ssociate to church.....*"Every year I post flyers around work about the Pass-Along Plant Sale, plays, concerts, special services, inviting my colleagues to some of our Community ministries."*

June 22 - Meet FRANK Part 4 - Invite a **N**eighbor to church.....*"A neighbor and I were having a casual conversation as our children played. Our faith came up in the conversation. My friend expressed interest in having her children attend church. I invited her to attend my church. Her children are involved in sports, which conflict with worship time, so it is difficult for her to attend. I try not to be pushy by continuing to ask her to attend; however, when the opportunity arises, I talk to her about what we are doing at church in a non-threatening, casual way and pass along invitations to her for family-friendly church functions."*

June 29 - Meet FRANK Part 5 Invite a **K**id to church.....*"When our children were in choir, student-led activities, musical programs and church plays, we invited our children's friends to join us at any of these church programs. The response to our invitations and time spent in our church has always been enthusiastically received."*

The Community Swingers

The ladies are on a roll! Our record is now 3 and 1. Come see us go for four in a row. Tuesdays at Calvary church on Rte 59, 6:30 pm. Look for the lavender shirts and don't forget a lawn chair.

Social Concerns and 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 korbdb@yahoo.com.

Music

This summer, the Music Department is going to do something fun and crazy. We are going to put together an ensemble of people with the names Mary, Beth (Elizabeth, Beth, Liz, etc) and Bob. We would love for you to participate in this group! We will have two rehearsals in the choir room on July 6 and July 13 immediately following worship in the park...then we will sing at the 10:30 sanctuary worship service on Sunday, July 13.

We are looking forward to having as many Mary, Beth and Bobs participate as there are in the church. If you know a Mary, Beth or Bob, please invite them to be a part of this exciting group.
I look forward to seeing all of you on July 6!!!

Missions



Mission Trip - On June 20th, I'll have the opportunity to join about 20 other people from the First United Methodist Church in Claremore, OK on a mission trip. We will be headed to Costa Rica where we will stay in a Methodist compound in Alejuela, a suburb of San Jose, located not far from the airport. The Methodist compound is situated within the suburb of Alejuela, but the church is on the far outskirts next to coffee fields and hay meadows. We will be working on the church and holding a Bible school for the children. If we have time, we'll also be taking a side trip to tour a coffee plantation and a rain forest next to a volcano. This trip will be very special, as my sister, dad, and aunt will all be going. In addition, it will be a great time to practice my Spanish! I'll look forward to sharing more when I return. – Cindy Lytle

Youth

Youth Director Search

The search committee is continuing the interviewing process in search for a new Youth Director at CUMC. We are reviewing resumes and currently have two potential candidates involved in the interviewing process. As progress is made we'll keep you informed.

Emily Buffington is spending 10 weeks in Ecuador this summer studying Spanish with 26 other Augustana College students. She will spend the first few days of the trip in Quito where she will be introduced to the diverse culture of Ecuador. Then, Emily will spend eight weeks in Cuenca. Here she will take three classes at a local school where she will learn about the culture and history of Ecuador as well as dance, music, and art. In Cuenca she will live with a host family and go on short trips including a five day trip to the jungle. The last 10 days of the trip will be spent traveling around Peru.

Emily is excited to improve her Spanish speaking and experience an unfamiliar culture. To keep in touch with family and friends over the summer, Emily has made a Travel Blog where she will post stories and receive notes from Blog readers.

If you would like to receive updates about how she is doing and leave notes, email Emily at emily.buffington@gmail.com and she will send you an invitation to view her Travel Blog! She would love to hear from you!!

2008 Youth Work Trip Update

This year, the youth will be travelling to Washington DC to work with an organization called Youth Works. We will be leaving on Saturday, August 2, and returning on Sunday August 10. Final details on where we will be staying are still under coordination. There are still 6-8 youth spaces available for this trip. Anyone interested in participating in this trip can contact the church office or Dave Jenkins through the church. Information about Youth Works can be found at: www.youthworks.com

Christian Education for Adults

Disciple I and III will be offered this fall. Register your interest on the sign-up sheets outside the Sanctuary and in the Tent, or by contacting Beth Elders in the office.

Regular Weekly Meeting Schedule

Check church calendar at www.communityunitedmethodist.org – “calendar” – lower right hand corner.

Hunger Commission - -

Hunger takes no summer vacation. In fact, summer is worse for children because there are no subsidized or free school lunches. Few of us can imagine how it feels to be too hungry to run out to play, but we know that malnutrition affects mental growth as well as physical and emotional. Why not purchase a few extra dried or canned items for a hungry child each time you go to the grocery. Instead of choosing one summer Sunday for a special food drive, Hunger Commission is hoping you will make regular food donations part of your summer plan. Just take them to the 1st floor food bin, and we'll get them to the hungry. Thank you.

Special Events at CUMC

In July, 2008, calligraphers – from around the world – will be meeting in Naperville, at North Central College for their International Conference of Lettering Arts. During the week of July 19-25, participants at the conference will also be meeting in CUMC classrooms.

Prior to the actual conference, a special event is being held June 21, 2008, from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. CUMC members are invited to make paper and participate in an international collaboration relating to trees, for an exhibit entitled *Treewhispers* (www.treewhispers.com). The Chicago Calligraphy Collective invites you to a papermaking "Open House."

It's time to get your hands wet!. This interactive event will allow all participants to make paper and share stories, poetry and art relating to trees.

All the materials will be provided; we just need *you* to share in the fun, learn the process and then teach it to others! Paper made on this day will be included in the installation of *Treewhispers* at the *Letters Mingle Souls* at Meiley-Swallow Hall on the North Central College campus.

Artists, writers, papermakers, students, professional and novice—elders and wee ones are invited to share their stories and their art on paper made from recycled tree pulp reminiscent of tree rings. Thousands of paper rounds are needed to create a "forest". Come and join in the fun! For more information, please contact:

Lisa@chicagocalligraphy2008.org.

Finance

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

UNDERSTANDING THE OPERATING BUDGET - THE FIRST MILE

INCOME

- Pledged Envelopes 85% _____ Pledges for the year
- Unpledged Giving 12%_____ Members who regularly give but do not pledge for a variety of reasons
- Loose Offerings 1%_____ Mostly the Sunday plate collections
- Rentals 1%_____ Various non-profit organizations use some rooms
- Interest 1%_____ Short term money is invested in our Money Market
Longer term in CD's

EXPENSES

- Apportionment 13%_____ Our church's portion of the Northern Illinois Conference budget
52% goes to Mission and Evangelism – Local and global
28% goes to the Episcopal Fund and Annual Conference expense
20% goes to Senior and Associate Pastoral Support
- Salaries and Benefits 61%_____ Salaries, Pensions, Medical, Education, Housing Allowance
- Office 4%_____ Postage, Printing, Equipment Contracts, Computer
- Programs 4%_____ On Center, Stewardship, Music, Stephen Ministry, Youth

Committees 3%____ Christian Education, Visual Arts, Worship, Communication,
Evangelism, Library

Trustees 15%____ 28% Custodian and Supplies
11% Repairs
11% Maintenance
Organ, Elevator, Roof Top Units, Alarm System, Snow & Lawn
30% Utilities
Telephone, Disposal, Gas, Electric, Water, 707 Sara
10% Insurance
10% 707 Sara Lane Mortgage

NOTE: These percentages are typical over the years. They do not reflect this year or any years actual figures

The Finance Committee

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