

The Visitor

August 2009

St. Paul United Church of Christ

Be On The Lookout! VBS is Coming!



Vacation Bible School will be held at St. Paul August 3-7, 9 AM—Noon each day. The kids will be learning about *ubuntu*—God's love for us and how God expects for us to accept and show love to others. All of this will happen in Africa! You are welcome to join the fun each morning for the opening session in the sanctuary.

Please remember that the parking lot of St. Paul will be closed during the hours of 9 AM—Noon each day of the week so the kids can have outdoor games. VBS staff will be provided parking passes for the First Church of Christ, Scientist, as in past years. There is also ample parking in front of the church and down North Avenue for those who need to visit the church office during the week.

The VBS Ice Cream Social will be held on Friday, August 7, at 7 PM. The festivities begin in the sanctuary, where you will have a chance to hear the VBS kids perform some of the songs they have learned throughout the week.

All members of St. Paul and their friends are invited to The Ice Cream Social! There will be plenty of ice cream and toppings for everyone. Please invite your friends to come and enjoy this fun-filled evening.

If you would like to donate any items needed for the event—vanilla ice cream, toppings, nuts or whip cream—Please contact Pastor Jana at 847-381-0460.



Ice Cream Social

Soul Food

This past week has been a non-stop preparation for Megan's wedding, and what a whirlwind it has been! Frenetic and fun, nerve-wracking and nirvana all rolled together. Of course the best part is having both girls home, staying up late to talk, and laughing until we cry over silly things. That truly feeds my soul, and I realize that in spite of my vocation, sometimes I just don't get enough soul food.

One of the all-too common problems in our society is that we stuff ourselves with food because we're not getting fed emotionally, or we are so stressed out that we eat as a coping mechanism. Stressed, spelled backwards, is desserts, which is my personal justification for grabbing a chocolate bar in the midst of crisis. Eating is our default strategy when we're hungry for things other than food. Psychologists say that's why we, as a nation, are so overweight; we are eating in an unconscious attempt to fill a void that calories can't touch. Not even the best chocolate chip cookies in the world can fill emotional emptiness or spiritual starvation, or relieve pain, depression or boredom. For that we need soul food—the manna that relieves our deep fears and satisfies our innermost longing.

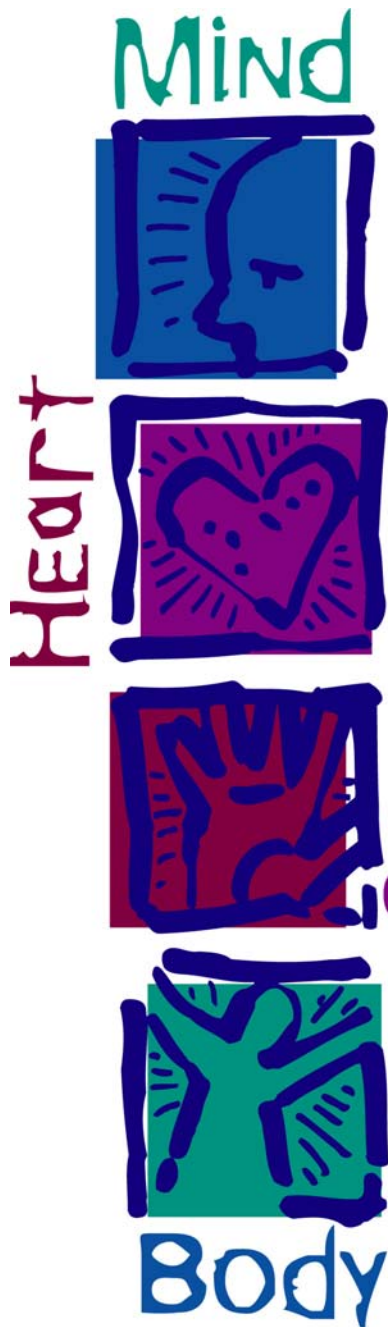
Loneliness is the #1 complaint in our culture, which can be blamed on a host of things from relocating away from family for a better job, to Tweeting rather than talking. In less than two years, four teenagers in our community's high school have committed suicide. We're not just hungry, we're starving to death.

What can we do to feed our souls?

- *Pick up the phone and call a friend you haven't talked to in a while, and have a delicious conversation.
- *Grab your church phone book and plan a dinner, and savor being with your sisters and brothers.
- *Turn off the TV and your computer, grab your sweetheart and ask about the best or worst thing that's happened in their life in the last month and really listen. Communication is the meat and potatoes of a good relationship.
- *Make amends with that friend or relative that gives you indigestion. There's nothing like a dollop of forgiveness to take pounds off of a heavy heart, and that means for giving ourselves, too, for whatever we did or didn't do to cause another pain.

Find the center of your own soul—the still-point from which you connect to all things—and visit that place often in meditation, in prayer, in silence, and drink in God's sweet truth. Or plan a wedding, and spend long hours with the children you welcomed into the world, and are now blessing and releasing into the arms of Love. What a feast!

Peace and Joy,



St. Paul Ministry Support

Greeters

August 2	Susan Robertson
August 9	Cathy Pezdirtz
August 16	Bonnie Smith
August 23	Dee McCarthy
August 30	Nancy & Ron Hamelberg



Ushers

August 2	Dick Price	Dorothy Lange
	Burt Wendt	Susan Robertson
August 9	Mary Krabbe	Ralph Gaulke
	David Holtermann	Bonnie Smith
August 16	Karen Kalkbrenner	Barb Neal
	Rose Chen	Phil Harvey
August 23	Dee McCarthy	Kirk Murdock
	Hudson Motley	Paul Thompson
August 30	Ron Hamelberg	Rick Jurs
	Beverly Caliento	Bill Bishop

Coffee Hosts

August 2	OPEN
August 9	OPEN
August 16	OPEN
August 23	OPEN
August 30	OPEN



Coffee Fellowship

Help is always needed for Sunday Servers. Please call:

Martha Duke for ushering	847-381-9096
Marion Miller for greeting	847-381-1647
Sally & Dick Price for coffee hosting	847-359-1358

Did you know that you can check-out books, DVD's and other materials from the St. Paul UCC Library on Sunday mornings?

There is a large selection available for children and adults in the library in the Christian Education wing, in the library nook in Memorial Hall and there are even some titles for adults located in the Narthex.

Please take advantage of our wonderful library!

MANNA Gift Cards

You can help St. Paul UCC by purchasing MANNA Gift Cards. Women's Fellowship receives a percentage of the cost of each gift card sold to help the ministries of St. Paul. Some cards return as much as 14%!

The Gift Cards do not only have to be used as gifts for someone else. You can purchase cards to use each time you buy groceries, eat at your favorite restaurant, purchase gasoline or shop at your favorite department store.

This month's orders are due by Sunday, August 2. An order form is provided for you in this newsletter or online at our website:

www.stpauluccbarrington.org

For more information about the program, please call Marion Miller at 847-381-1647.





Prayer List

We are grateful for health and joy restored through God's abundant grace and powerful love. Please keep these people in your thoughts and prayers this month as they go through challenging times.

Concerns:

Rudi Geissler at Clare Oaks, Bartlett	Nancy Klehm
Bob Ludovice	Joan Greenwood
Marlene Ficene	JP, a friend
Grace Kampert	Barbara Whistle, Sally Price's sister
Susan Carsello	Lori, Shelley Carlson's daughter
Bill Marty, friend of Dorrit Bern	Kathy Shannon, Shelley Carlson's niece
Emery Cole, Joan Greenwood's son-in-law	Carl Stuart, Pastor Jeanne's friend, at Lexington
Manny James, Marlene Ficene's friend	Those grieving in the Burr Oak Cemetery disturbance
Theresa Summers, Dawn Hamelberg's mother	Those serving their country in the military
Those involved in war	
The Family of Rene Capo, Mike Minton's friend	
The Family of Neal Matthew, Tammy Vorel's friend	
The Family of Mike Holden's mother	

Joys:

Dee McCarthy is going to be a grandma	The wedding of Lauri & Pete Ducharme's son, Matt
Good health report for Ed Ficene	Baptisms of Jackson & Katelyn Cavaliero
Family visiting over the summer	The wedding of Shelley Carlson's grandson
Karen Harding & Africa Rainey are expecting a baby boy	
Eric & Amy Bachmann are expecting a baby in December	

Please remember our members who are home-bound. Prayers, visits, calls and cards are appreciated so much.

Betty Bielke	Gladys Johnson	Helen Kalland
Grace Kampert	Pauline Lahti	Ruth Lindbergh
Walter Moeller	Esther Wendt	Henrietta Sturm

George Krabbe	8/3
Barb Neal	
George Schmidt	8/6
Beverly Caliento	8/7
Tony Mann	
Harry Overton	8/8
Bill Roessler	8/9
Katja Stonebraker	8/10
Walt Hempenius	8/11
Elizabeth Rieke	8/13

This
Month's
Birthdays



Sharon Leach	8/16
Al Ward	8/18
Burt Wendt	8/21
Ralph Merritt	8/24
Don Rubino	8/26
David Chidley	
Lorraine Thompson	
Gladys Johnson	8/28
Hazel Willey	8/30

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

St. Paul UCC held its annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 26. The following are highlights of the meeting business from the day.

President Mike Minton, in regard to the mission statement of *welcoming all people and transforming all of our lives through Christ's gospel*, noted the nurturing and challenging aspects of what we do at St. Paul UCC. As a small church he noted that we accomplish things that are done by much larger churches. Regarding the welcoming of all people his understanding was that Christ touched and ministered to the people who needed him most, and we, in spreading Christ's gospel, need to open our hearts and particularly reach out and welcome those who may be different than we are in whatever way.

Pastor Jeanne Hanson gave a wish list for St. Paul UCC that included members inviting friends; members praying for one another and our church; an Open and Affirming declaration; an elevator; more compassionate care and outreach to our seniors and shut-ins; expansion of the Missions Team; and the expression of more gratitude for what we are doing right, rather than focusing on what we are doing wrong.

The calling of Pastor Jana Chwalisz to be the associate pastor at St. Paul UCC was recommended by Council. The congregation voted unanimously to issue the call. Pastor Jana will have her ecclesiastical council for ordination approval on August 23.

The changes to the Constitution and By-laws, which were explained in a previous newsletter, were approved after much discussion and the amendment of 6 modifications to the documents. As of the July meeting of the Council, the ministry chairpersons will be members of the church council (For more explanation of the discussion please call the church office at 847-381-0460 for a copy of the meeting minutes.)

Fred Schick was nominated for and elected to the position of Church Treasurer. Bill Roessler was nominated for and elected to the position of Financial Secretary. Tom Rylatt was nominated for and elected to the position of Church Moderator. Diane Moeller was nominated for and elected to an open position on the HR Ministry.



Ron Hamelberg reported on the Elevator Project. A vote to dispose of a section of St. Paul UCC property which is directly under Lake-Cook Road was approved.

A vote to return to a calendar year format versus a fiscal year format for ease in financial issues and stewardship was approved. St. Paul will function under a 2009 budget extension for the remainder of this year, with the new budget year beginning January 1, 2010.

A brief overview of the budget revealed that actual income for 2009 was \$311,000 which includes the Reber Memorial gift. Actual expenses through May were \$271,000.

RALLY DAY



Rally Day, the day the fall schedule kicks-off in church is Sunday, September 13. St. Paul UCC will celebrate this day with rousing worship and an all-church birthday party!

Worship starts the new sermon series about the beginnings of the church—how it was formed, the doctrinal decisions, how the church has changed throughout the years. In addition to the inspiring message, the Chancel Choir will be on hand to provide uplifting music.

***Journeys* Sunday morning Christian Education program for kids ages preschool—5th grade will kick-off its fall season with a unit about friendship and how God wants us to be faithful friends to one another. St. Paul UCC Youth Group, FOG, will begin its fall season that day too!**



After worship, everyone is invited to join in the fun of an all-church birthday party. Tables will be decorated for each month of the year and persons sit at the table of their birth month. You will get to know old friends better and make new ones who share in the month of your birth! The lunch is potluck—everyone bringing something to share—and birthday cake will be provided for each month!

If you can help decorate the tables for your birthday month, please contact Diane France, Worship Chairperson, at 847-359-5257.

Be looking for an invitation to the party in your mail sometime soon! Please RSVP to the church office so we can plan accordingly!

Living the Questions



There's something for you...

If you have you been wanting to participate in an adult Bible/theology discussion group but find the time commitment for Disciple Bible Study intimidating, then *Living the Questions* is for you! This study is an invitation to journey with friends and think theologically about the questions we experience regarding our world and our lives.

St. Paul UCC and Community Church of Barrington will start a joint venture this fall called "Learning Lunches." One Sunday per month participants will meet at St. Paul or Community Church to share a brown bag lunch and discuss one of the timely topics in the *Living the Questions* Study.

The orientation for the class will be held on Sunday, September 6 at noon. If you are interested in participating please call Pastor Jeanne or Pastor Jana at 847-381-0460.

Women's Breakfast Bunch will meet at St. Paul UCC for a delicious breakfast on Saturday, August 8, at 9 AM. Breakfast will be held in Memorial Hall.

All women of St. Paul and their friends are invited and encouraged to attend. For more information please call Martha Duke at 847-381-9096.



If you are interested in discovering The Bible in new and unique ways, then Disciple Bible Study is for you! This year we will be studying with friends from Pastor Zina's church, Community Church of Barrington.

Don't miss your opportunity to participate in this life-changing experience this year. You will read 85% of The Bible and participate in some wonderful discussions which help you claim your own theology.

The Level One class needs 12 participants. If that number is achieved, class will be held on Thursday evenings, 7 PM, beginning in September. All members and friends are encouraged to join the class. Please fill out the registration form found in the Sunday bulletins or for more information, please call Pastor Jana at 847-381-0460.

MISSIONS

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Crop Walk 2009

Save the date of Sunday, October 18, 2009 for the annual Barrington-area CROP Walk. This event raises money to fight hunger world-wide and in our local communities. This year the Walk will kick-off at St. Paul UCC!

Last year St. Paul walkers collected \$2,566 toward the community-wide total of \$65, 386. Your help is needed again this year to help Barrington-area churches and organizations raise fund to support the mission of Church World Service and several local food assistance programs.

Please be watching the bulletins and newsletters, and be listening to announcements to learn how you can help the CROP effort. You can be a walker or a sponsor—or BOTH! Your participation will be greatly appreciated by those in need of assistance.

Rick Jurs
St. Paul CROP Chair



Do you have recommendations?

As we develop plans and budgets for FY 2010, are there “out of the ordinary” items that you would like to be considered for inclusion? email Faye Sinnott, Finance Chairperson, at fsinnott@gmail.com



Please help St. Paul conserve energy and financial resources by remembering to turn off the lights in the classrooms, the kitchen, the sanctuary and the bathrooms before you leave the building! Thanks!



Operating Funds

**Weekly Actual Giving
July 1—19: \$11, 834**

**Average Weekly Giving:
\$3945**

FINANCE

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 11 AM Judo Club
2 9:30 AM Worship/ Communion/ Rev. Terry Immel	3 9 AM—Noon VBS	4 2:30 PM Bible Study Lake Barrington Woods (LBW)	5	6	7 7 PM Ice Cream Social	8 9 AM Women's Breakfast Bunch 11 AM Judo Club
9 9:30 AM Mission Sunday/ Lay Speakers	10 6 PM Judo Club	11 2:30 PM Bible Study LBW 7 PM CE Mtg	12 7 PM Yoga	13 6 PM Judo Club 7 PM Finance Mtg	14	15 11 AM Judo Club
16 9:30 AM Worship/Praise Sunday/ Pastor Jeanne	17 Articles due for next Visitor Issue 6 PM Judo Club	18 2:30 PM Bible Study LBW	19 7 PM Yoga	20 6 PM Judo Club	21	22 11AM Judo Club
23 9:30 AM Worship/ Friends & Family/ Pastor Jana	24 6 PM Judo Club	25 2:30 PM Bible Study LBW 7 PM Council Mtg	26 7 PM Yoga	27 6 PM Judo Club	28	29 11PM Judo Club
30 9:30 AM Worship/ Family & Friends/Pastor Jana						

Our Mission: Welcoming all people and transforming all of our lives through Christ's gospel

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Inside this issue:

St. Paul United Church of Christ
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St. Paul UCC Visitor

Contact us anytime at:

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Jeanne K. Hanson—Senior Pastor
jeanniehan@aol.com

Jana Chwalisz—Assistant Pastor
ichwalisz@aol.com

Martin Gregory—Church Sexton

Renee Kruper—Music Director

Tiffany France—Youth Director

Church email
stpauluccchurch@yahoo.com

Worship/Church School 9:30 AM
Every Sunday

