

The Visitor

November 2009

St. Paul United Church of Christ



Stewardship is Heart-Work!

Stewardship season continues this month as we challenge ourselves to new levels of heart-work with the sacrificial giving of our time, spiritual gifts, prayer, presence and financial blessings. During the month we will hear the stories of persons whose heart-work has helped St. Paul grow throughout the years, and examine ways that we can all participate in St. Paul's future ministry.

You can help us to continue growing by prayerfully giving consideration to:

- Increasing your financial commitment to St. Paul UCC. Our goal for the year is to increase our total pledge dollars to \$210,000, which is an increase of 5%.
- Share more of your time and spirituals gifts as stewardship at St. Paul.
- Pray regularly for the people and mission of St. Paul UCC.
- Commit to regular worship attendance.
- Remember St. Paul in your estate planning by leaving a gift for the future.

For more information about this year's Stewardship Campaign, please call Bill Bishop, Stewardship Chairperson, at 847-381-4443.



Congregational Meeting



A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 22, immediately following the morning worship service. Please plan to attend so that we will have the quorum needed.

Information about the FY 2010 budget will be discussed and presented for congregational approval. Questions? Call Kirby Drayer, Council Vice-President, at 847-776-7598 or Pastor Jeanne at 847-381-0460.

A Message from Pastor Jeanne



Thanksgiving Message

A Whale of a Tale for Thanksgiving

There's a wonderful story told in the Readers Digest of a call received by the Marin Marine Mammal Center near San Francisco from a local fisherman. A humpback whale was tangled in nets near the Farallon Islands, by the Golden Gate bridge. A crew of rescuers found the 40 – 50 foot long female wrapped in about 20 ropes connected to a dozen or so 100-pound crab traps that anchored her in place and weighed her tail down, winding around her flippers so she couldn't move. She was hogtied and just barely keeping her blowhole above water.

Typically the crew works from an inflatable Zodiac because one flipper or tail splash is a dangerous thing. However, there were so many ropes so tightly wound that divers got into the water, body to body with the whale who, instead of thrashing or startling, remained very still. Jim Moskito's knife cut the thick nylon ropes that had dug into her flesh, which must have hurt as he pulled them free, but she remained calm. Another diver, Tim Young, reached into the slippery, toothless mouth to cut through more ropes, with his arm shoulder deep in baleen and eye to eye with the whale. She opened her mouth as he worked. The divers prayed she would remain quiet and not try to dive, which would tangle them in the web of ropes and pull them down with her.

An hour later, the last rope from her tail fell into the deep and she sunk down under the waves. "Where did she go?" shouted Moskito. Suddenly the 50 ton female was surfacing fast straight towards him. "Hey, I just saved you!" he shouted. She stopped a foot away and gently nudged him in the chest. Then she swam in circles around the divers for 15 minutes, rolling up next to each one individually to nuzzle them. It's as if she knew that they had saved her life. Young, who's had more than his share of adrenaline adventures, said, "I spent 26 years in the military doing high-risk rescues. Nothing's been more gratifying than this rescue. Nothing." One of the divers said, "You hate to anthropomorphize too much, but she was doing little dives and the guys were rubbing shoulders with her." Moskito said, "It felt to me like she was thanking us, knowing that she was free and that we had helped."

I choose to believe that the whale was saying thank you. These giants of the deep, who sing to one another and protect their young, who have been known to protect some sailors and attack others on whaling ships, are the leviathans of the Bible at play in the sea. What an example this amazing sentient being is!

Dear God, in this time of thanks giving we are grateful to those angels who come to our aid when ropes and traps of our world entangle us. Help us be still and calm as they speak the truth that makes us free, even if it hurts. Give us grace to recognize that we are richly blessed and help us be a blessing to others. Thank you for your son, who set us free once and for all, and who saved our lives forever. Amen.

Happy Thanksgiving -

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Jeanne".



People You Should Know



St. Paul members and friends first met Kathleen Bolger when she shared her wonderful gift of singing with us during the summer sermon series! Kathleen hails from Long Island, NY, and came into the Midwest via her college days at Carnegie-Mellon University. She recently moved to Barrington from Chicago. She works for Reuters News Agency and has become quite involved at St. Paul in the Chancel Choir and Hand-bells, and the Thursday evening Disciple Class.



Carl Petersen visited St. Paul for the first time when he attended a memorial service for a friend. He found the experience very welcoming and he then decided to visit some more! Carl resides at The Garlands in Barrington and was a 50+ year member of the Village Presbyterian Church in Northbrook. Carl is retired from the world of finance and currently enjoys traveling.



Linda and Terry Immel came to the Chicagoland area from Arizona with Linda's job transfer at Sysmex. Terry is an ordained Disciples of Christ minister and recently retired after serving an interim position at Hope UCC in Wheaton, IL. They maintain a home in Wymus, Mexico, and are looking to retire there someday.



Search & Discovery Class

Interested in learning more about St. Paul and the United Church of Christ? St. Paul UCC will hold a Search and Discovery Class on Sunday, November 15, at 11 AM in the church library.

If you have been visiting St. Paul as a guest, or have been a long-time member of the congregation, this class is for you! The class is open to everyone who wants to explore what it means to be a part of St. Paul and part of a congregation in the United Church of Christ. You will learn about St. Paul UCC's mission and

ministries, and will also learn something about yourself by completing a spiritual gifts inventory to help you discover the special gifts you have for ministry.

If your exploration moves you to decide that you would like to join the membership of St. Paul UCC (or perhaps reaffirm your membership!) the induction ceremony will be held in worship on Sunday, December 6.

For more information or to register for the class, please call Charlotte Drayer, class coordinator, at 847-776-7598 or Pastor Jana at 847-381-0460.



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
 Bob Ludovice
 Marlene Ficenec
 Grace Kampert
 Rodie Wright
 Wayne Duke
 Ruth Vorel
 Barbara Whistle, Sally Price's sister
 Tyler, Helen Mollenkamp's grandson
 Hazel, friend of Ruth & Virgil Hanson
 Grant, nephew of Nancy & Ron Hamelberg
 Kim Hanson, Ruth & Virgil Hanson's daughter
 Kyle Carlson and Dan McCloud, Shelley Carlson's daughters
 The McNamaras, friends of Lorel Cunningham
 Those involved in war
 Capt. Keith Katzenberger, Marion Miller's grandson in Iraq
 The Family of Burnell Dietrich, Burt Wendt's brother-in-law
 The Martinez Family
 The Tompkins Family

Nancy Klehm
 Joan Greenwood
 Susan Carsello
 Esther Wendt
 Marge Gilly
 Sue Hempenius
 Kenneth Holtzee
 Emery Cole, Joan Greenwood's son-in-law
 Africa Rainey, Karen Harding's wife
 Cheryl Hill, friend of Lynn Minton
 Andrew, Tiffany France's friend
 Theresa Summers, Dawn Hamelberg's mother

Those serving their country in the military

Joys:

Africa Rainey passed her LCPC examination
 Matt Motley is a National Merit Scholar
 Mark & Chris Schmidt's first grandchild
 Wonderful testimonies during worship

Amy & Eric Bachmann's 14th anniversary
 Kathleen Bolger meeting her 100 year-old aunt
 Children in our midst

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

Betty Bielke
 Grace Kampert
 Walter Moeller

Gladys Johnson
 Pauline Lahti
 Esther Wendt

Helen Kalland
 Ruth Lindbergh
 Henrietta Sturm

Daisiane Gumtow 11/1
 Alec Krabbe 11/7
 Jennifer Baron
 Rudi Geissler 11/8
 Wayne Duke 11/9
 Paul Thompson 11/12
 Linnae Babick 11/13
 Marge Gilly
 Maggie Minton

This
 Month's
 Birthdays



Rick Jurs 11/16
 Karen Kalkbrenner 11/19
 Dawn Bibbs-Morrissey 11/21
 Jaclyn Kottke
 Marion Hubbard 11/24
 Lillian Ankele 11/25
 Daniel Baron 11/27
 Barbara Turner 11/29

If you would like to arrange a cake to celebrate a birthday during coffee fellowship, please notify Sally Price at 847-359-1358 by the Wednesday prior to the celebration. Thanks!

MISSIONS

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Life-link Gift Giving

St. Paul will once again participate in the Bensenville Life-Link Gift program. Life-link is a 104 year, not-for-profit, charitable health and human service organization related to the United Church of Christ. It is located in Bensenville, Illinois. To learn more about Life-link please visit their website at www.lifelink.org

The gift giving program provides toys and warm clothes for children and youth who are clients of Life-link. Beginning in late November, we will have the names of 50 kids for whom gifts are needed. You choose one or more names of children, and then shop for the items that are listed with their name. Please make sure to include at least one piece of

warm clothing (sweater, sweat shirt, jeans, coat, etc) for each child. Unwrapped gifts are to be returned to St. Paul no later than Monday, December 14. Thanks!



Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Community Meal held on Wednesday, October 21, a great success! Approximately 90 persons attended and enjoyed a spaghetti meal.

The Community Meal is a mission started by Atonement Lutheran Church to help those who are in need of a meal. St. Paul hosted the dinner to help Atonement during their building construction.

Thanks to all who brought dessert, set-up the tables, made dinner, washed dishes and offered welcome to all of our guests.



CROPWALK

Thanks to all of you – walkers, sponsors, cookie bakers, chili makers, kitchen helpers, Pastor Jeanne and Marty Gregory – for participating in the CROP Hunger Walk on October 18. Your concern for those in need is greatly appreciated. CROP collection totals will be announced at a later date. Thanks again, everyone.

Rick Jurs
St. Paul CROP Chair



Once again the St. Paul Kids have decorated grocery bags for this year's Share the Harvest food collection, happening on Ingathering Sunday, November 22.

SHARE THE HARVEST

The bags will be available for you to pick up in the Narthex and Memorial Hall beginning Sunday, November 8. Each bag will contain a list of much-needed foods for local food pantries.

Please take one or more bags to fill with items, and return them to the chancel area of the sanctuary on Sunday, November 22. Thanks!

Happy Thanksgiving



This year's mitten tree to collect hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for clients of Bensenville Life-link will be up and ready to be filled on Ingathering Sunday, November 22. The tree will be located in Memorial Hall.

Let's cover the tree completely this year! Items will be collected through the Holiday Season and then sent to Life-link after the New Year.

For more information about Bensenville Life-link please visit their website at: <http://www.lifelink.org>



ONE MORNING IN BETHLEHEM

Camp Christmas 2009 is on its way! This wonderful day of learning and fun for kids ages 4 yrs– 5th grade will be held on Saturday, December 12, 9 AM–1 PM.

This year's theme is One Morning in Bethlehem. The kids will take a journey to the ancient city of Jesus' birth to learn about some of the things that may have been happening in the town. We will make cookies, create lots of crafts, hear the Nativity story and play all kinds of great games!

Registration forms are available in the Narthex and Memorial Hall. Fee for the day is \$20 per child; \$40 family maximum. Registration is limited so you will want to get your kids and grandkids registered early!



Children's Nativity



Women's Fellowship will meet on Thursday, November 5, at noon for a pot-luck in Memorial Hall. All women of St. Paul and their friends are invited. Gentlemen are welcomed, too!

The afternoon's program will be Helpful Hints from Sally Price and Lots of Laughs by Jean Ward. Please call Marion Miller at 847-381-1647 for more for more information.



Living the Questions is a video discussion group that meets every month at either St. Paul UCC or Community Church of Barrington. Participants listen to

current theologians talk about a current issue in our world and then talk about their thoughts and feelings about the issue.

The next class will meet at St. Paul on Sunday, November 29, at noon, in the Tent Shop of the Education Wing. All adults and their friends are invited. For information about the class please call Pastor Jeanne at 847-381-0460.

A Men's Retreat is being planned at Tower Hill Camp for the weekend of November 13-15. All men of St. Paul UCC and their friends are invited.

Please call Pete Ducharme for details about the weekend program and cost at 847-526-4307.

REEL People, St. Paul's video discussion group, will meet at the home of Pete and Lauri Ducharme on Friday, November 20, at 7 PM. The video selection for the evening is "My First Mister." Please view the movie prior to the meeting.

All adults of St. Paul and their friends are invited to join in the evening of fun and fellowship. Please bring an appetizer and a drink selection to share.

For more information please call the Ducharmes at 847-526-4307.



There's something for



Meet for Breakfast

Women's Breakfast Bunch will meet for a delicious breakfast on Saturday, November 14, at 9 AM, at the home of Ruth Gregory. For directions please call Ruth at 847-381-4382.

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.



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Upcoming Events

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY
Friday, November 6, 10:45 AM
Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church
410 N. First St, Cary

Church Women United of the Barrington Area invites you to gather together to celebrate World Community Day. This year's theme is "Piecing Earth Together" and will focus on the environment and how we are called to work together to be good stewards of the earth. Guest speaker for the event is Karen Hewitson, from the United Methodist Women's "Green Team."

Board games will be collected for the Illinois Youth Center, Warrenville. *MayaWorks* will display fair-trade items for purchase. Please bring a sandwich and a piece of fruit to share for lunch. Drinks and dessert provided. For information please call Marion Miller at 847-381-1647.



*"Blessing and glory and
wisdom and thanksgiving and
honor and power and might
be to our God,
forever and ever! Amen."*

Revelation 7:12, NRSV

Community Thanksgiving Dinner
November 26, Noon

St. Michael's Episcopal Church is holding its annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner for anyone who would like to share a meal on this special holiday. The meal is free and includes all of the traditional trimmings.

RSVP by November 22 at 847-381-2323.

Looking Toward Advent



Advent Season begins in worship on Sunday, November 29, with the Advent Sermon series, *Through the Eyes of Children*. Throughout the season Pastors Jeanne and Jana will help worshippers to explore the traditional themes of Advent—hope, peace, joy and love—by crafting sermons each week that incorporate very thought-provoking children's books.

During worship persons are needed to help with the Advent candle lighting each week. This involves the lighting of the candle for the week and a short reading. Sign-up for candle lighting is located on the bulleting board in Memorial Hall.

Other activities for Advent include the Hanging of the Greens, Bensenville Life-link Gift Program and the Mitten Tree warm wear collection. Please see related articles throughout *The Visitor* for more details.



Church Council News

The Church Council met on Tuesday, September 22. The following are highlights of the meeting:

*Bill Bishop reported that the plan for the Outreach team would include a focus on reaching people through our website and personal contact.

*Bill Bishop reported that the stewardship goal for the year was a 5% increase in giving and a 7% increase in number of pledges.

*Lauri Ducharme reported the education programs are growing and a vital source of welcoming.

*Walt Hempenius reported on various building needs, including the need for upgrades on the boiler. The council voted to upgrade the system.

*Dorrit Bern reported that bids are now being taken for several contracts involving snow removal and other grounds needs.

*Faye Sinnott reported that expenses and contributions are well managed at this time. Budgets for FY2010 are being submitted.

*Pastor Jeanne reported that St. Paul's involvement with the community is growing and that we are hosting a meal for those in need in the community.

*Pastor Jana reported on the growth of adult ministries opportunities.

*Dorrit Bern presented the staff contracts to the council for approval and council voted to approve.

*Dee McCarthy reported on the success of the recent Social Fellowship activities.

*Kirby Drayer reported that the elevator committee needed to pay the architect for work done in the village approval process. Council voted to approve the expenditure.

For more information about the Council meeting, or if you have questions about any Council matter, please call Kirby Drayer, Council Vice-President, at 847-776-7598 or Pastor Jeanne at 847-381-0460.

*Did you know...
that you could help St. Paul save a little money by lifting a shovel of snow and helping to keep the walks clean this winter?
Let us know that you can help!*

An Abundance of Thanks



Operating Funds

Weekly Actual Giving
Sept 27—Oct 18: \$19,906

Average Weekly Giving:
\$4,976

FINANCE



FINANCE

St. Paul Ministry Support



Greeters

November 1 Ruth & Mike Vorel
 November 8 Mary & George Krabbe
 November 15 Jennifer Rose
 November 22 Auli Hartikainen
 November 29 Rick Jurs

Ushers

November 1	Marion Miller Burt Wendt	Dorothy Lange Susan Robertson
November 8	Mary Krabbe David Holtermann	Ralph Gaulke Bonnie Smith
November 15	Dick Price Bill Bishop	Rose Chen Phil Harvey
November 22	Dee McCarthy Kirk Murdock	Hudson Motley Paul Thompson
November 29	Ron Hamelberg Rose Chen	Rick Jurs Marty Gregory

Coffee Hosts

November 1 Your Name Here
 November 8 Your Name Here
 November 15 Your Name Here
 November 22 Your Name Here
 November 29 Your Name Here



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

Advent Season Poinsettia Order

The time has come to sponsor poinsettias for the altar during Advent Season. Please indicate which size poinsettia and the number of plants you wish to sponsor. Please return form and payment to the offering plate or office by November 15.



Order Your Poinsettias

I would like to order:

_____ \$10 ea. 4-5 Flowers per Plant

_____ \$20 ea. 9+ Flowers per Plant

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

In recognition of: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

HANGING OF THE GREENS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28 9 AM


The annual Hanging of the Greens day to decorate for the Advent Season will be held on Saturday, November 28, at 9 AM. Please meet in the sanctuary to help make the church look its festive best! For more information please call Marty Gregory, Church Sexton, at 847-381-4283.



Hanging of the Greens

November



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 AM Worship/ Communion/ Stewardship/ Pastor Jana	2	3 2:30 PM Bible Study LBW	4 Noon Bible Study 6 PM Bells Confirmation 7 PM Chancel Choir 8 PM Praise Team	5 Noon Women's Fellowship 6 PM Judo Club 7 PM Disciple Class	6	7 10:30 AM Judo Club
8 9:30 AM Mission Sunday/ Stewardship/ Pastor Jana	9 6 PM Judo Club 7 PM Christian Believer Class	10 2:30 PM Bible Study LBW	11 Noon Bible Study 6 PM Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir 8 PM Praise Team	12 8 AM BAMA 6 PM Judo Club 7 PM Disciple Class Finance Mtg	13 <i>Articles due for next issue of The Visitor.</i>	14 9 AM Women's Breakfast Bunch 10:30 AM Judo Club
15 9:30 AM Praise Sunday/ Stewardship/ Pastor Jeanne 11 AM Worship Team	16 6 PM Judo Club 7 PM Christian Believer Class	17 9 AM Life-line Screenings 2:30 PM Bible Study LBW 7 PM Council Mtg	18 Noon Bible Study 6 PM Bells Confirmation 7 PM Chancel Choir 8 PM Praise Team	19 6 PM Judo Club 7 PM Disciple Class	20 7 PM REEL People	21 10:30 AM Judo Club
22 9:30 AM Worship/ Friends Sunday/ Ingathering/ Pastor Jeanne Congregational Mtg after Worship	23 6 PM Judo Club	24 2:30 PM Bible Study LBW	25 Noon Bible Study 6 PM Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir 8 PM Praise Team	26 Thanksgiving Office Closed 	27 Office Closed	28 9 AM Hanging of the Greens 10:30 AM Judo Club
29 9:30 AM Worship/1st Advent/ Pastor Jeanne Noon Living the Questions @ St. Paul	30 6 PM Judo Club 7 PM Christian Believer Class					

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

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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—Associate Pastor
ichwalisz@aol.com

Martin Gregory—Church Sexton

Renee Kruper—Music Director

Susan King—Office Manager

Tiffany France—Youth Director

Church email
stpauluccchurch@yahoo.com

Worship/Church School 9:30 AM
Every Sunday

