



CIRCUIT RIDER

HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2506 Caton Farm Road Joliet, Illinois 60435

July 2009

*Preparing for
Worship In July*

July 5

Holy Communion

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Psalm 48

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

Pastor Glenna preaching

July 12

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Psalm 24

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

Pastor Glenna preaching

July 19

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Psalm 89: 20-37

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Pastor Glenna preaching

July 26

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Psalm 14

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21

Pastor Glenna preaching



Dear Friends,

This month marks the beginning of our 3rd year together. The annual conference has appointed me to continue to serve at Hope church for another session. And- my desire is that I remain with you for several sessions in the future. A lot has transpired at Hope these past two years. Some changes have taken place, and we have grown together and emerged as a viable, stronger congregation. This strength reflects the commitment and dedication of many who work hard and offer their service in numerous ways. Every one of you has participated through the giving of your time, finances, witness and service. All these things, large and small contribute to our ongoing ministry and mission. Thank you to all for your ongoing faithfulness.

Speaking of thank you, I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your encouragement and support. Your presence at Ordination made that day even more special. To have so many come out and share in worship was an awesome experience.

I was overwhelmed by the numbers who made the long trip to Pheasant Run. Then, I was blown away a second time by your generosity upon my return to the pulpit. The two green stoles are beautiful, the wooden cross and flame, signed by the congregation and crafted by Larry Wilkinson will grace my office as well the birdhouse from the children. Thank you, Thank you, and Thank you. What more can one say? Your pastor is at a loss for words!

To borrow from Greg's sermon....Marty and I are truly *blessed* to be among such a caring group of people!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Glenna

Pastor Glenna

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Safe Sanctuaries

A Child Abuse Prevention Policy

Our congregation instituted this policy in 2006. Many committee chair persons and members have already participated in the class which explains the Safe Sanctuary Policy. Those persons have also signed a covenant agreement and have undergoing a back ground check.

Since 2006, we have been graced with new and active members who have taken part and help with our children's programs. Therefore, the Education Commission has identified a need for another class and is planning a session for those who have not yet participated and are not familiar with the policy.

Tracey Hunter and Pat Michalik will lead this class in August. It will be a one day session. Any one who has not participated, as well as those who like a refresher on the policy are welcome to attend.

Please watch for the announced date and time in the near future.

Sunday School Mission Project

by Pat Michalik

Pastor Glenna and I will be traveling to East Peoria, Illinois on Saturday, July 11 to deliver the birdhouses to Dayspring. That is the United Methodist Church serving a large Native American community in that area.

The children of that church would very much like us to bring down some pictures of our kids making the birdhouses. If you have any pictures from that day or VBS, please make a set of prints for us to take to them.

We are hoping to build a continuing relationship with this church through future visits and Volunteers In Mission work events. We will learn more about the opportunities to help and build fellowship when we visit.

If anyone would like to join us on our July 11 trip please see me or Pastor Glenna. We plan to meet at Hope at 9:00. Dayspring is expecting us at 11:00 and they would like to serve us a little lunch if they know how many are coming.

Hope Notes

Please keep bringing your **aluminum cans** to church. See **Linda Hess** with questions.

The church office is always in need of **used ink cartridges**. The office supply stores now **accept only name-brand (Dell, HP, and Epson) cartridges**. These cartridges can be redeemed at office supply stores for paper and other supplies we need to run our office. Please leave used cartridges in Roberta's mailbox.

A HUGE thank you to everyone that participated in the June 13th Yard Sale. Despite the Weather it was a success and we had a record number vendors! The June & September Yard Sales are labor intensive but are great fund raisers for Hope UMC. Profits were:

UMW Bake Sale 175.20.

Kitchen 280.00.

Yard Sale 945.00

Total of \$1,420.20!

The increased profits in the kitchen were due to an extremely generous donation of the food.

Also a big thank you to Jill Genge who stepped into the cashier position in Wanda Mattix's absence (prayers to Dennis feeling better). Wanda we missed you, and Jill you did a great job!

Thanks again to everyone for their help - we could not do it so well without everyone's help!!

Volunteers are needed **to clean our church**. Please continue to sign up on the Volunteer Schedule which is in the Housekeeping mailbox. The job description is also available in the mailbox. **Volunteers** are also needed to **mow the lawn**. The sign-up clipboard is located below the housekeeping board. See **Linda Hess**.

If you purchase your personal office supplies at **Staples**, please give the church phone number (815-436-2209) to the cashier when you check out so that a percentage of your purchase will come back to the church as part of their Rewards program. This is another way to help our church get what it needs without costing you anything! Thanks for your help.

HUMC is Going Green – one step at a time! All are invited to bring their own coffee mugs to keep at church. This will help us cut down on the foam cups going into landfills, as well as the cost of purchasing them. Everyone is responsible for washing, drying, and putting their cups away after use. See Linda Hess if you have questions.

Harriet Luce, co-president of United Methodist Women, extends her thanks to all those who baked for, and helped run, the Bake Sale at the Yard Sale. Your help was much appreciated!

<i>Those Who Serve</i>	July 5 <i>Holy Communion</i>	July 12	July 19	July 26
Liturgist	Becky Gilliam	Greg Chapman	Dennis Mattix	Pat Michalik
Greeter	Sheryl Dyer	LaDessa Chapman	Wanda Mattix	Russ Mitchell
Host(s)	Carole Blackwell & Marlene Shain	Dorothy Chapman	Arlene Hupach	Harriet Luce
Acolyte	Dominic Larmon	Dominic Larmon	Dominic Larmon	Dominic Larmon
Offering Counters	Carole Blackwell & Boomer Crotty	Carole Blackwell & TBA	Carole Blackwell & Harriet Luce	Carole Blackwell & Carol Becker
Communion Steward	Jill Genge			

More Hope Notes . . .

Music News

Our Choir is now on Summer Hiatus – this means that special music will be needed for the summer months. If you sing, play an instrument, or know someone who does who would like to share their talent with us, please see Cheryl Foster as soon as possible.

From the Finance Committee

Figures for May, 2009

<u>Offerings</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Variance</u>
\$8,748.00	\$10,892.00	(\$2,144.00)



Birthdays This Month

- July 1 – Rob Hunter
- July 5 – Connie Vahle
- July 8 – Joan Crotty
- July 9 – Donna Shelton
- July 12 – David Wietlispach
- July 14 – Marge Dernulc
- July 18 – Katelin Bulanda
- July 18 – Arlene Hupach
- July 20 – Pat Michalik
- July 25 – Theo Slaughter
- July 27 – Sue Wietlispach



Anniversaries

- July 12 – Lee & Virginia Nyhart
- July 14 – Frank & Barb Denk
- July 29 – Diane & Jeff Bown
- July 30 – Joan & Boomer Crotty

“Concerts on the Hill”

Cheryl Foster will be performing on July 9 and the Midwest Crossroads Chorus of Sweet Adelines International, including our very own **Arlene Hupach**, will be performing on August 27. See the article on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for more information

Upper Room

The **July/August** edition of **The Upper Room** is available in the narthex. Both regular-sized and large-print copies are on the credenza.

Reminder

If you utilize the church on Thursday afternoons, please leave the back door to Fellowship Hall unlocked for the A.A. group that meets on Thursday evenings. Questions or concerns? See Larry Wilkinson.

All-Church Outing

We will be dining out at **Steve’s Grill** in downtown Plainfield on **Saturday, July 25, at 5:00 p.m.** Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the clipboard in the narthex if you will be attending. **Steve’s Grill** provided us with pizza for the Movie and Pizza Night, and supplied hot dogs for other events here at the church.

New Baby

Congratulations to **Katelin (Breen) and Alex Bulanda** on the birth of their son, **Xander Marcus Bulanda**. Xander arrived at Provena St. Joseph Medical Center on **May 25**, weighing in at **eight pounds and nine ounces**. He was **20 inches long**. Mother and baby are doing fine. Xander’s family here at Hope includes grandparents **Trish and James Nash**; uncle **Ryan Nash**; and Great-grandma **Rosemary Breen**.

50th Anniversary Booklet

These 50-page booklets are now available reviewing the fifty year history of our church. Included are 82 photos of past and present congregation members at work, giving of themselves for the church, and at play enjoying many various activities. The booklets are available by mail for \$8.00 thru the church office or by contacting **Larry Wilkinson** or **Arlene Hupach**.

Mission Work Opportunity

Reynoldswood Christian Camp in Dixon, Illinois needs volunteers to complete various indoor and outdoor maintenance projects. Flexible arrangements. Tentative dates are the weeks of **July 12 and 26**. Please see **Greg Chapman** or **John Wietlispach** for more information.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“Living the United Methodist Way”

I was once again privileged to represent our church as Lay Member to the Northern Illinois Annual Conference. As usual, it was an inspirational and exciting experience and I look forward to sharing the information and ideas that I picked up while I was there.

The theme was “Living the United Methodist Way” which means following the example of John Wesley by stepping out of the comfort of our local church to proclaim Christ’s love through word and action in the community and for the world. We are challenged to reexamine the way in which we understand our faith and engage with the rest of the world.

The events included worship, ordination, celebrations, dialogue, legislation and Bible Study. We experienced our connection with the larger Church by voting on amendments to the United Methodist Constitution. We were led in Bible Study by Bishop Scott Jones from the Kansas Episcopal Area. We affirmed those commissioned and ordained (including our beloved Pastor Glenna) had heard a powerful sermon from Bishop Sally Dyck from the Minnesota Episcopal Area.

We witnessed a first for this Conference when both Bishop Hee-Soo Jung and Conference Lay Leader Arnold Riveria offered a joint report on the State of the Church. This is an example of how we are moving to involve more laity participation in the functions of the church that were previously handled by clergy. The focus of that report was claiming abundance rather than scarcity. This is an exciting time to be the Lay Leader in our church.

There was also a Memorial service for those who have passed in the last year. Bishop Jung preached a powerful sermon about world unity and the love of God for all people. We recognized the accomplishments of the retiring clergy at the Retiree’s Luncheon and they sure had some good stories to tell. Another inspiring event was the commissioning of the lay and clergy leaders who are leaving security behind as they answer the call to launch new faith communities. The United Methodist Church is on the move!

It was a very meaningful time and I greatly appreciate the opportunity to have attended. I have brought back some information for those who requested it and I have much more to share. My head is spinning with ideas!

Pat Michalik
Lay Member to Annual Conference

A Dog's Purpose

(From a 6-year old)

Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolf hound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife Lisa, and their little boy Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle.

I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn't do anything for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home.

As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for six-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away.

The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. We sat together for a while after Belker's Death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives. Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, 'I know why.' Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation.

He said, 'People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life -- like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?' The six-year-old continued, 'Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long.'

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly.

Remember, if a dog was the teacher, you would learn things like:

When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.

Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.

Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure Ecstasy.

Take naps. Stretch before rising.

Run, romp, and play daily.

Thrive on attention and let people touch you.

Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.

On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass.

On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.

When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.

Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.

Be loyal.

Never pretend to be something you're not.

If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.

When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently.

ENJOY EVERY MOMENT OF EVERY DAY!