



Hope United Methodist Church

2506 Caton Farm Road
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www.hopeumc1.org
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June 2010

Preparing for Worship In June

June 6

Holy Communion

1 Kings 17:8-24

Psalm 146

Galatians 1:11-24

Luke 7:11-17

Pastor Glenna preaching

June 13

"Your Face Is Going To Freeze Like That!"

1 Kings 21:1-21a

Psalm 5:1-8

Galatians 2:15-21

Luke 7:36-8:3

Pastor Sue preaching

June 20

1 Kings 19:1-15a

Psalm 42

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 8:26-39

Pastor Glenna preaching

June 27

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Luke 9:51-62

Pastor Glenna preaching

Word from Our Pastor



Dear Friends,

As we enter into the summer months of June, July and August, it's hard not to notice a dramatic change with our church calendar. Summer months translate into "vacation months." The choir takes a well deserved rest from weekly rehearsals, Faithlink, our weekly adult Sunday school goes on hiatus until September, the Bag Ladies have packed away their sewing machines, and our short-term weekday Bible studies take a break until the pastors choose a new Biblical topic in the fall.

This "vacation" concept got me thinking about other vacations persons engage in. And one of those is the concept of taking a "vacation from God." There are many who believe that the church literally goes on vacation during the summer, and since "regular" church schedules change, it's a signal that we can take time off from regular church attendance as well. That somehow, we do not need to be connected with God on a regular basis. That we can take time away and just pick up our relationship with God where we left off come September.

Let me share a common story:

A couple had been attending church fairly regularly. One Sunday the husband of the family

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Pastor

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Music Director

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Secretary

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Children's Sunday School

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CHURCH OFFICERS

Church Council Chair - John Wietlispach

Staff-Parish - Greg Chapman

Finance - Dennis Mattix, Roger Hess

Education - Jacqui Slaughter

Board of Trustees - Larry Wilkinson

Building Committee - Larry Wilkinson

Financial Secretary - Trish Nash

Treasurer - Vic Genge

Bldg. Maint. Treasurer - Linda Hess

Membership - Harriet Luce

Lay Leader - Pat Michalik

Lay Member to Conference -

John Wietlispach

UMW - Florence White, Harriet Luce

UMM - Vic Genge, Roger Hess

Aurora District Lay Leader - Greg Chapman

informed the pastor that they were taking a "vacation from God" - a "break from God" - he went on to say that this "break" would last approximately 6 months - no more - and they would be back. The pastor inquired, "Why would you need a vacation from God?" He said "we just need some more time for ourselves - for our family - and to catch up on things. But don't worry - even though you won't see us in church for six months, when we come back we'll be here faithfully."

So - what do you believe happened, and are you surprised? They were never seen in church again. Six months later, or years later.

The question raised for us this month, and for the next two months is: Are you planning on taking any vacations from God - like from reading scripture, or from worshiping with others, or from faithful giving and tithing, or from engagement in mission work? Why do these breaks seem so easy for us to take initially? And then, why are they so hard to come back to?

It's through our regular attendance and engagement with the practice of spiritual disciplines that our souls are fed and filled. This is what provides our lives with inner peace and joy. So why would anyone want to take "a break"?

Perhaps those who take "a break from God" are lacking a relationship with God; that church attendance and participation is an obligation rather than a choice and a privilege of being called a disciple of Jesus Christ.

So - while you take your literal vacation - don't take a spiritual vacation. Stay faithful to the gifts God has given you. Yes - Rest - change your pace - and change your scenery, but don't change your longing for God. God desires our relationship and wants us to be engaged in that relationship. And we're so much more fulfilled when we do!

Peace in All Things,

Pastor Glenna

Pastor Glenna

The Deacon's Corner

Rev. Sue Ritts, Deacon

Spring Cleaning

Perhaps you have seen the shows on television lately about people who have let collecting "precious junk" overtake their lives to the point where they have become prisoners in their own homes. These folks have difficulty making logical decisions about which things are really necessary to keep. There seems to be safety and security in holding on to objects that remind them of better, happier, or safer times.

On one level, I can understand the dilemma of trying to decide what to keep--what to donate---what to throw away. Being a practiced packrat, living in a house in Ohio for almost 20 years--and accumulating items from a teaching career and several relatives--all led to some intense hours of decision making. Once the purging of the household was completed I felt great, but the process was quite painful!

I wonder what relics we keep around in our spiritual houses long after they have served their purpose. Do we still believe there is only one way to pray? Are we convinced that the "old" music is more "holy" than the more contemporary music? Do we have trouble understanding why the young ones don't behave in church the way we were taught? Does the phrase "we've never done it that way" creep into planning and visioning for the church?

One of the mindsets with which I frequently struggle is the tendency to think and behave in ways that allow me to feel more comfortable. Planning new and daring activities forces me out of my comfort zone, and I experience twinges of anxiety and fear. Yet when I trust God's lead and guidance, I realize wondrous and exciting things can--and do--happen. As this church family embraces new visions and dreams of a new and expanded facility, let us also discard those musty, outdated opinions and expectations that we have been hoarding so that we can move boldly into our discipleship to Jesus Christ.

We will have many opportunities to "Rethink Church" by intentionally reaching out into the community rather than waiting for the community to come to the church. For many of us this switch in mindset will not come easily, but God provides the vision, the opportunities, as well as the faith to "do a new thing" as Hope UMC nurtures new generations with the love of Christ. Working together we can create a place of worship and mission that is not cluttered with useless barriers that might keep Hope UMC from being a vital presence and energy serving in the community.

It is time to do our usual spring cleaning. Let each one of us discard the old and musty things to make room for the new and exciting adventures that God has for us to experience.



Notes of Hope



WE, HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, ARE A DIVERSE COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS IN JESUS CHRIST, WHO WORSHIP, WORK AND PLAY TOGETHER . . .

It's time to check the attic, garage, crawl space, and storage unit for items for our **All-Church Spring Yard Sale!** This year's Yard Sale will be held on **Saturday, June 5**. Items may be brought to church on **Sunday mornings** and on **Thursdays from 11 a.m. till 2 p.m.**, and must be checked in by either **Linda Hess** or **Trish Nash**. *Please do not bring dirty or broken items – they will be returned to the owner.* 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.

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. See **Linda Hess**.

If you wish to place flowers on the altar in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact **Roberta** in the church office to arrange the date and the dedication for the bulletin. You may also make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one in lieu of flowers.

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.

A New Photo Directory Is In The Works! Hope Church will be assembling a new **Photo Directory** starting this month. It will be self-generated; we are not using any outside company to take the pictures (no pressure to buy!) **Trish Nash** will be leading the project, with **Linda Hess** serving as our photographer.

***ARE COMMITTED TO GROWING AND SHARING
IN OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE BIBLE . . .***

Vacation Bible School is coming! This year's **Vacation Bible School** will be held **June 14-18**. Our theme this year is **"Hero Headquarters."** Registration forms are on the credenza in the narthex.

New Acolytes Commissioned - On May 23, nine of our young people were commissioned to begin serving as acolytes. Their training included basic instructions on the elements of a typical worship service, staff and volunteers who regularly share their gifts, and some basic information about the liturgical (church) year. The first acolyte training class included **Sarah Baldwin, Maya Bown, Michael Mattix, Tami Mattix, Vince Mattix, Justin Moore, Dominic Larmon, Tori Larmon, and Jonathon Slaughter**.

Many thanks to Dominic Larmon for sharing the picture story of his adventures at **Camp Reynoldswood in 2009**. **Chris Denk** shared his computer skills and time developing the slideshow program to show in church on May 9. Information about the many camp offerings is available in the church office or by contacting **Sue Ritts**.

Children's Sunday School Lessons for June 2010

<i>Session and Date:</i>	<i>Children Will Learn:</i>	<i>Bible in the Session:</i>
June 6 and 13	Abraham to Canaan	Genesis 12:1-9
June 27 and July 4	Joseph and His Brothers	Genesis 37, 41-45

AND SPREADING GOD'S LOVE BY REACHING OUT TO THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE.

Boomer's Kids - Please continue to bring school supplies for **Boomer's kids**. We will be collecting year-round to help supply the needs of the kids all though the school year.

The Joliet Cluster is continuing to support the **Ridgewood United Community Pantry**, an outreach ministry of **Trinity United Methodist Church**. In **June** we are asking for donations of **One-Pound Bags of Rice**. Please place them in the blue bin in the narthex.

<i>Those Who Serve</i>	June 6 <i>Holy Communion</i>	June 13	June 20	June 27
Liturgist	Becky Gilliam	Larry Wilkinson	Vic Genge	Carrie Becker
Greeter	Diane Bown	JoAnn Hall	Betty Talbott	Wanda Mattix
Host(s)	Lori Mattix	Jill Genge	Trish Nash Rosemary Breen	Sue Wietlispach
Acolytes	Maya Bown Sarah Baldwin Tori Larmon Dominic Larmon Jonathon Slaughter	Maya Bown Sarah Baldwin Tori Larmon Dominic Larmon Jonathon Slaughter	Maya Bown Sarah Baldwin Tori Larmon Dominic Larmon Jonathon Slaughter	Maya Bown Sarah Baldwin Tori Larmon Dominic Larmon Jonathon Slaughter
Children's Message	Pastor Glenna	Pastor Sue	VBS Celebration Service	Cheryl Foster
Offering Counters	Carole Blackwell & Carol Becker	Carole Blackwell & Jill Genge	Carole Blackwell & Boomer Crotty	Carole Blackwell & Marlene Shain
Communion Steward	Jill Genge			



Birthdays This Month

June 17 – Rusty Mitchell
June 21 – Sharon Becker

Wedding Anniversaries

June 21 – John & Sharon Becker

Share Your Soles

A big thank you to all who donated shoes, helped clean and pack and deliver the shoes. A group of us delivered the shoes to the Share Your Soles Alsip facility on Saturday May 15. In addition to the shoes we delivered a check for \$200 from HUMC and a big thank to Mona Purdy for her efforts to put shoes on those people who don't have any.

Rainbow Covenant

At the May 4 Church Council meeting \$500 from the Easter offering was designated to go towards the Rainbow Covenant. We designated the money as follows:

\$100 Missionaries in Viet Nam
\$100 Children's Fund
\$100 SCR-Keagy Fund
\$100 Nothing But Nets
\$100 Child Serv

Thanks to all for your caring and generosity.
Missions Committee

Church Contributions

by Larry Wilkinson

Contributions to the Hope United Methodist Church are most welcome anytime.

But contributions to the Current Expense Fund and Maintenance Funds must be kept separate from contributions to the Building (Appeal) Fund. They cannot be made on the same check or in the same envelope due to:

- > Expense/Maintenance Fund and the Building Fund are in separate banks.
- > The two funds are recorded in separate ledgers.
- > The funds are tallied by different groups of individuals.

Separate contribution envelopes exist and can be found on the back pockets of the pews. Please use the contribution envelopes titled "BUILDING FUND" for only those contributions to the proposed building to prevent errors in recording your purpose for the contribution.

Thank you.