



# CIRCUIT RIDER

HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2506 Caton Farm Road Joliet, Illinois 60435

March 2009

## Worship In March

### March 1

*Holy Communion*

*First Sunday in Lent*

Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10;  
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

*Pastor Glenna preaching*

### March 8

*Second Sunday in Lent*

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm  
22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25;  
Mark 8:31-38

*Pastor Glenna preaching*

### March 15

*Third Sunday in Lent*

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19;  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

*Pastor Glenna preaching*

### March 22

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3,  
17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10;  
John 3:14-21

*Pastor Glenna preaching*

### March 29

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12;  
Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

*Pastor Glenna preaching*



Dear Friends,

March 1 is the first Sunday of Lent. Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." This season is a time for the church to journey together toward Easter and to remember our baptism. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians. However, Lent is not about being miserable and sad in anticipation of Good Friday. Lent is to be a time of inner reflection and drawing closer to God through prayer, fasting, worship, study and self-awareness.

As we prepare for Lent, I invite you to actively participate by taking an inward and outward journey. I invite you to take time to prepare for Easter by making a commitment to discipline and growth for the next few weeks.

Listed below are examples of Inward and Personal Disciplines, and Outward and Social Disciplines by Daniel  
*(Continued on next page)*

Benedict, of The General Board of Discipleship. You may use these disciplines as a reminder of your journey to grow in love as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

May God's blessings be upon you as we journey together this Lenten season.

*Pastor Glenna*

Pastor Glenna

### My Preparation for Easter:

*(Check the ones you desire or feel prompted to do; circle the ones you then decide to do).*

#### **Inward and Personal Disciplines:**

- Spend time in solitude each day.
- Read a book for inner growth.
- Read twice through the Gospel Mark
- Begin to keep a journal of prayer concerns, questions, reading.
- Focus on thanksgiving, rather than on asking, in prayer.
- Give myself a gift of three hours to do something I always say I don't have time to do.
- Find a way to go to bed earlier or sleep in so I get enough rest.
- Make a list of people with whom I need to be reconciled. Pray for them and let Jesus guide me in my thinking and feeling toward them.
- Take control of my life by \_\_\_\_\_.
- Go to all of the Holy Week services as an act of love and waiting with Jesus.
- Take one hour to inventory my priorities and plan how I will reorder them.
- Give up a grudge or a rehearsal of a past event.
- Forgive someone who has hurt me.
- Dance my prayers to a favorite tape or CD.
- Other promptings:

#### **Outward and Social Disciplines**

- Take on some loving task:
- Plan to visit a "shut-in" neighbor or church member weekly.
- Write a letter of affirmation once a week to a person who has touched my life.
- Listen and respond to Christ's call to a ministry of service:
- Go to coffee or dinner with someone I want to know better.
- Begin to recycle waste from my home and workplace.
- Give blood and recall the cross.
- Say "NO" to something that is a waste of money and time.
- Pray to God to help me resist racial prejudice and to give me courage in opposing it.
- Decide to become a member of the church and speak to a pastor or lay leader.
- Rebuke the spirit of criticism and my own tongue out of control.
- Find a way to live out the baptismal promise to "resist evil, injustice, and oppression" in the power and liberty God gives us by \_\_\_\_\_
- Other outward and social promptings:

#### **As a way of being accountable, I will either:**

- Share my intentions for Lent with my Bible Study or Adult Sunday School group at its next gathering, or
- Share my plan with at least one other person and share with that person my experience of Lent during Holy Week.

(signed) \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Keep this for reference during the coming weeks.

## 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.

*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 in the mailbox. Call **Linda Hess** for more information.

*The Joliet Cluster* continues to support the **Ridgewood United Community Pantry**, an outreach ministry of **Trinity United Methodist Church**, located in the Ridgewood neighborhood of Joliet. In **March**, we will be gathering **spaghetti, plastic jars of mayonnaise, and pasta sauce**. Please place them in the blue bin in the narthex, and many thanks for your assistance.

*The United Methodist Men* will have a **Quilt drawing on March 7, 2009**, the day of our Corned Beef Dinner. Tickets are on sale now for the drawing. See Linda or Roger Hess to buy one ticket for \$1.00, or six tickets for \$5.00. The proceeds will be designated for current expenses. The quilt is hanging at the back of the sanctuary.

*Cash donations needed* - Our church has pledged to purchase **1 table for Trinity UMC**. The table is for use with their food pantry and for their summer school for children from June - August. The cost for each table is **\$304.00 plus shipping**. The church is looking for a total of 11 tables, and our Joliet Cluster decided to help with their effort by each church pledging to fund one table or at least contributing toward a table. At our last Church Council meeting, it was approved that our mission was to raise enough funds to purchase one table. **Checks should be made out to Hope UMC with "Table Fund" noted in the memo section**. I thank you for your continued support of the Ridgewood United Community Pantry. Blessings, Pastor Glenna

*Save this date*, March 1, 2009 for the free Joliet Junior College Planetarium show "**Our Place In Space**," at 2:00 p.m. This exciting program is for the family and young children. Many endangered animals explore the cause of day and night, the importance of the sun, and other celestial objects. The doors of the Planetarium open at 1:45 p.m. and will be closed once the chamber is filled. Seating is limited to 51 people. The Planetarium is located in F-building Main Campus, 1215 Houbolt Road. Some may wish to have lunch or dinner with others in our church family before or after the program.

**Education Committee** – VBS 2009 "Camp Edge" is just around the corner. Bring your special talents and/or aspirations to help our children learn about God; and, have a lot of fun, too! If you have any time available to volunteer during the mornings of June 15<sup>th</sup> through June 19<sup>th</sup>, please see Carrie Becker. Carrie is also collecting shoe boxes (with lids) for one of our many projects.

Our Sunday school children have chosen the Native American Project for their mission for Lent. More details on this exciting mission to be announced during service in March.

**Ash Wednesday**, marking the start of the **Lenten Season**, will be observed here at Hope UMC on **Wednesday, February 25, with a service at 7:30 p.m.** The Imposition of Ashes will be offered during the service. This marking of the sign of the cross in ash on our foreheads reminds us of our frailty and of God's power and love in providing salvation to anyone who accepts it. We hope to see you there.

The **Audit Committee** is requesting that all reports from anyone responsible for handling money deposited in any church bank account be turned in to **Roger Hess** by **Sunday, March 15**. *See Roger if you have any questions.*

<i>Those Who Serve</i>	March 1 <i>First Sunday in Lent</i>	March 8 <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i>	March 15 <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i>	March 22 <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>	March 29 <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>
Liturgist	Becky Gilliam	Frank Denk	Pat Michalik	Roger Hess	Vic Genge
Greeter	Marty Olumstad	Annette Craven	The Moore Family	Linda Hess	Marty Olumstad
Host	Judy Sohr	Barb Denk	Carole Blackwell	Sharon Becker	Jacqui Slaughter
Acolyte	Dominic Larmon	Dominic Larmon	Dominic Larmon	Dominic Larmon	Dominic Larmon
Offering Counters	Carole Blackwell & Harriet Luce	Carole Blackwell & Carol Becker	Carole Blackwell & Boomer Crotty	Carole Blackwell & TBA	Carole Blackwell & Harriet Luce
Communion Steward	Jill Genge				



## **Birthdays This Month**

March 1 – Roberta Drake  
 March 10 – Suzanne Kaspar  
 March 18 – Wanda Mattix  
 March 19 – Anthony Craven  
 March 20 – Kali Ferguson  
 March 21 – Joal Ott  
 March 25 – Joann Hall  
 March 27 – Earl Gilliam  
 March 30 – Andre Hunter



## **Wedding Anniversaries**

March 15 – Vic & Jill Genge  
 March 21 – Joal & Sally Ott

## Keeping In Touch

On Tuesday Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Pastor Glenna, Nancy, Nola and Linda took lunch and paid a visit to Sherm and Mary Hill. We all were very happy to see them and they were happy to see us. We all had a great time. They love to hear from people. They are planning on putting their house up for sale this spring and moving to Missouri, where their son and daughter are. Give them a call or even better go see them. It is only about a 20 minute drive to their house.



### New Education Commission Chair Jacqui Slaughter

As announced previously in worship, we have a new chairperson for the Education Committee. Pastor Glenna and the members of the committee are overjoyed that Jacqui has accepted this important responsibility.

A native of the area and lifelong resident, Jacqui graduated from Plainfield High School in 1987. Four years later she earned her Associates Degree at Joliet Junior College. Today with a devoted husband and four sons, ages 19, 8, 5, and 20 months, Jacqui balances family needs with her own career of seventeen years as Billing Manager for a local supply company.

We are honored that Jacqui has decided to devote a portion of her time to chair this committee. When asked which pastimes or hobbies she enjoys in her free time, she laughed and replied "What free time?" Then after some thought she replied "My family and the Church."

As to her long term goals in life, Jacqui replied "To live happy and healthy and I keep working at this everyday." When asked where she would like to be in five or ten years, Jacqui replied "Here." While she loves to read, especially science fiction, her feet are firmly planted in the needs of today. She brings a plethora of knowledge and experience from business, strategic planning, writing policies and procedures and good people skills are all part of her achievements at work.

The Education Committee believes that with her family, her business acumen and ability to work with others, Jacqui will demonstrate a positive force as the chair.

Once again the Good Lord has answered the prayers of his people.



Jacqui Slaughter



# ***Spring Forward***

*Daylight Saving Time begins March 8, so move your clocks AHEAD one hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 7.*

## Trustees' Work Day

The Trustees of Hope United Methodist Church announce their Spring Work Day, Saturday, May 9, from 8:30 a.m. till we're done. All are invited to bring work gloves, rakes, lots of elbow grease and a willing spirit. Also mark your calendars for fall. We will prepare our buildings and grounds for winter on October 3. See Larry Wilkinson or Roger Hess if you have questions.

## Lent/Holy Week Calendar

February 25 – Ash Wednesday Service - 7:30 p.m.

April 5 – Palm Sunday Service – 9:30 a.m.

April 9 – Maundy Thursday Service – 7:00 p.m.

April 12 – Easter Morning Brunch – 8:00 a.m.

Easter Morning Service – 9:30 a.m.

This year we will have a special treat at our Easter Morning Brunch – Roger and Linda Hess will be making pancakes, hot and fresh! Be sure to be here!

## Easter Flowers

This year all are invited to bring their favorite Spring Flowers to the church to adorn the altar on Easter. Flowers should be brought to the Maundy Thursday Service and left in Fellowship Hall, or bring them on Good Friday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Flowers will be placed for the Easter Service, and may be taken home afterwards. Forms will be included in bulletins to dedicate your flowers as we get closer to Easter. See Harriet Luce with questions.

## Yard Sale Date Set

This year's first All-Church Yard Sale will on Saturday, June 13, from 8:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. See Trish Nash with questions, offers to work, or to rent a table.



**Happy  
St. Paddy's!**

