



Hope United Methodist Church

2506 Caton Farm Road
Joliet, IL 60435

www.hopeumc1.org

Ph. /Fax - 815-436-2209

September 2010

Preparing for Worship In September

September 5

Holy Communion

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139:6, 13-18

Philemon 1:21

Luke 14:25-33

Pastor Glenna preaching

September 12

Bible Sunday Rally Day

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalms 14

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

Pastor Glenna preaching

September 19

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Psalms 79:1-9

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

Pastor Glenna preaching

September 26

“Circle of Friends” leading worship

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

Word from Our Pastor



Dear Friends,

September is here, which signals many opportunities to reconnect with others as we begin our fall programs. Choir rehearsal resumes, along with Adult and children's Sunday school. Mid-week Bible studies, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, the Bag Ladies (a sewing group that produces school-bags and diapers for the Midwest Distribution Center), plus; food pantry mission, Crop Walk and learning activities available through the Joliet Area cluster ministries provide avenues where we can grow and act on our faith.

As one who has participated in study and mission groups during my years growing up in the church, I can share the benefits I have received. First, I made new friends, even though I had been a member of my church for over 18 years, participation in a Bible study group, choir, or mission allowed me to expand my circle of acquaintances beyond the pew. Second, I learned more about the Bible and how the Word of God applied to my life. Third, I grew in my faith as I began to witness God working in the world through my experiences. Fourth, I lost my fear of sharing stories with others. I could go on and on, my point is that becoming part of a study group, or mission group

CHURCH STAFF

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CHURCH OFFICERS

Church Council Chair - John Wietlispach

Staff-Parish - Greg Chapman

Finance - Dennis Mattix, Roger Hess

Education - TBD

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

builds relationships that support and care for one another as well as engaging our Christian life with the world we live in. So- take this as an invitation to try something new this year.

I want to highlight some changes for this year: There will be **two** Adult studies offered each Sunday. For you early birds, *Faithlink* will be offered at 8:30 in Fellowship Hall. Led by John Wietlispach, this class examines how our United Methodist beliefs apply to current issues and world events. Another Adult study will commence following worship at 11:00. Led by Pat Michalik, this group will meet for discussion and prayer. Suggestions for topics are: response and discussion of that morning's sermon message, the Biblical lessons read during worship, concerns we face living as a Christian in a global society. No sign-up is necessary for either class, "drop-ins" welcome; just bring yourself and an inquisitive mind.

May we continue to follow where the Holy Spirit is leading us to grow in our faith as we enter the fall season.

Blessings,

Pastor Glenna

Pastor Glenna

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Youth Sunday School

On September 19 the youngsters in grades 6 through 12 will begin meeting for their Sunday school time. At 11:00, after the fellowship time, we will convene in the choir room for about 45 minutes. We will be using the curriculum ***Psalms & Proverbs: Talksheets*** by Rick Bundschuh and Tom Finley. The first four lessons will be:

"Which way do I go?" (Choosing to go God's way) Psalm 1

"When things go wrong" (Trusting God) Psalm 3

"Valuable to God!" (God values us) Psalm 8

"How to be a full-on fool" (The fool ignores God) Psalm 14

Please encourage your student to attend as many sessions as possible. The discussions should become very interesting! It would be helpful if each person could bring their own Bible. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Pastor Sue.

The Deacon's Corner

Our Personal Bumper Sticker

Have you ever been on a long road trip where all you see are miles upon miles of corn or soy bean fields? Even the rare sighting of a horse or cow makes your heart and mind sing with excitement! That pretty much describes my experiences on Interstate 80E between Joliet and Streetsboro, Ohio.

On this latest trip, however, I passed the time by reading bumper stickers on the cars that passed me. "Clearly diagnosed as a responsible adult", on the back of a beige SUV, that zoomed past me at 20+ miles over the speed limit. Hmmmm..... The next message that caught my eye was on the rear of a black Jeep; next to the Christian fish symbol was this sticker: "Gun control means using both hands." Another mixed message, I'd say.

I wonder how much thought some people put into their decisions about what to share with the public; do these messages really portray what they want others to believe about them? "Ever stop to think & forget to start again?" may be an appropriate bumper stick for some.

As the endless corn fields stretched on, I found myself wondering what would I want MY bumper sticker to say about me? What printed words would be used to assess my actions and conversations? We have been told that just when we think no one is watching, someone most certainly is---and maybe taking notes! May it be our daily challenge and prayer request that our behavior---and our words---would be pleasing to God.

"Let my words and my thoughts be pleasing to you, LORD, because you are my mighty rock and my protector." (Psalm 19: 14 CEV)

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Bible Study

The fall Bible study will begin on Wednesday, September 15, at 7:15 p.m. or on Thursday, September 16, at 9:00 a.m. No materials are needed other than your Bible. This 10-week, video-based study of Christian spirituality introduces participants to spiritual "habits of the heart". *The Spiritual Life* centers around a question for each session:

- Where is the Spirit in Spirituality? (*Introduction to the Spiritual Life*)
- How much am I willing to risk? (*The Spiritual Habit of Courage*)
- What is most important to me? (*The Spiritual Habit of Loving*)
- Can I find balance in a whirlwind world? (*The Spiritual Habit of Centering*)
- What do I want to be when I grow up? (*The Spiritual Habit of Simplicity*)
- How do I keep my possessions from possessing me? (*The Spiritual Habit of Giving*)
- How do I get ahead? (*The Spiritual Habit of Serving*)
- Can I go deeper without going under? (*The Spiritual Habit of Trusting*)
- What can I do with my doubts? (*The Spiritual Habit of Questioning*)
- Can a change in me change the world? (*The Spiritual Habit of Engaging*)

Please plan on joining us. The signup sheets are in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Glenna or Pastor Sue.

The Circle of Friends



The Circle of Friends is a group of friends who share the love of God. Together they spread the Gospel of Christ through music...southern style! On Saturday, September 25 at 6:30 pm this quartet from northeastern Ohio will perform a concert at Grace UMC in Joliet. The freewill offering that will be collected during this time of lively worship will all go to support the Ridgewood Food Pantry. Donations of non-perishable food will also be appreciated. Come and be blessed by this special event!

The Circle of Friends--more news

This Southern Gospel quartet will provide the 9:30 worship service here at Hope UMC on Sunday morning, September. Come--and invite your friends---as we welcome these fellow United Methodists from Perry, Ohio. For more information about either event, contact Pastor Glenna or Pastor Sue.

<i>Those Who Serve</i>	Sept. 5 <i>Holy Communion</i>	Sept. 12 <i>Rally Day Bible Sunday Church Picnic</i>	Sept. 19	Sept. 26 <i>"Circle of Friends" leading worship</i>
Liturgist	Pastor Sue	Larry Wilkinson	Vic Genge	Arlene Hupach
Greeter	Shirley Zupancic	Harriet Luce	Betty Talbott	Dennis Mattix
Host(s)	TBD	Rally Day Picnic	Shirley Zupancic & Sue Wietlispach	Worship Committee
Acolytes	Sarah Baldwin Tori Larmon Dominic Larmon	Sarah Baldwin Tori Larmon Dominic Larmon	Sarah Baldwin Tori Larmon Dominic Larmon	Sarah Baldwin Tori Larmon Dominic Larmon
Children's Message	Pastor Glenna	Barb Denk	Pastor Sue	Wanda Mattix
Offering Counters	Carole Blackwell & Jill Genge	Carole Blackwell & Boomer Crotty	Carole Blackwell & Marlene Shain	Carole Blackwell & Carol Becker
Communion Steward	Jill Genge			



Birthdays This Month

September - Glenna Olumstad, Janis Shaw

September 7 – Judy Sohr

September 8 – Richard Craven

September 14 – Jill Genge, Jacqui Slaughter

September 18 – Vic Genge, Roger Hess

September 23 – Perri Larmon

September 24 – Becky Gilliam, Maya Bown

September 25 – Carol Becker



Wedding

Anniversaries

September 6 – Jim & Connie Vahle

September 8 – Glenna & Marty Olumstad

September 8 – Wayne & Jana Knight

September 27 – Pat & Dennis Michalik

Directory Updates:

- Sallie Skarda has new information:
7420 Longcommon Road
Portage, IN 46368
Cell - 815-280-3819 pghfan2@hotmail.com
- Vic Genge has a new cell phone number: 815-351-2073
- Donna Shelton has moved away so her page can be removed from your directory.
- Harriet Luce no longer has a cell phone.

Please update your directory

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 Fall Yard Sale!** This year's **Yard Sale** will be held on **Saturday, September 25**. See **Linda Hess** or **Trish Nash** to arrange a time to bring items in. **For quick sale, please bring items that are clean and in working condition.** See **Linda Hess** with questions.



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**.

Gift Basket Drawing – This is your opportunity to win a very nice gift basket! Tickets are available for a drawing to be held on **September 25**, during our **Fall Yard Sale**. Tickets are \$1/1 ticket, and \$5/6 tickets. See **Vic Genge** to purchase tickets. Proceeds to the **Building Fund**.



“Raise the Roof” Fundraiser for the **Building Fund** – Have fun at a **Chicago White Sox** game and help build our new addition at the same time! We are selling tickets to the **Chicago White Sox game on September 18 at 3:10 p.m.** Upper Deck tickets are **\$28**, and Lower Deck tickets are **\$39**. Car pools may be arranged for transportation. See **Vic** to make a reservation by the **September 5 deadline**. A reservation form is included in this newsletter, and are on the credenza in the narthex.

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

Have you ever wondered where your money goes? Come learn how to better manage your money and your life. Our **Cluster of United Methodist churches** is hosting **Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University** class to teach God's way of handling money. The class is Dave teaching on video followed by small-group discussion. To find out more check out: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu> , and then look up a class at Plainfield United Methodist Church, zip code 60544. You can sign up online. There will be a **FREE preview class on September 7, 2010 at 6:30 p.m., with class starting Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m.** *Scholarship help will be available, contact the Pastor.*



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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 **September** we are asking for donations of **One-Pound bags of rice**. Please place them in the blue bin in the narthex.



United Methodist Church Northern Illinois Conference

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

Our Neighbor's Need: A Prayer for Pakistan August 25, 2010



The dramatic flooding in Pakistan shows us that suffering knows no bounds. After three weeks of torrential downpours that have gone far beyond the usual monsoon rains, rivers have swelled to submerge more than 60,000 square miles, [an area larger than the state of Illinois](#).

Reports from the United Nations indicate that more than four million people—more than live in the city of Chicago—are homeless, with [eight million needing urgent assistance](#). As people trudge through the waters and abandon their ancestral homelands, the government is overwhelmed. The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Yusuf Galani, [has called this a new "partition,"](#) referring to the 1947 separation of India and Pakistan that left 12 million homeless and sparked four wars.

As a Church, we cannot look upon any suffering, whether close by us or far away, and remain silent.

Especially when this suffering is so great, our hearts cry out to God for the millions who are in need of basic necessities like water and food. We cannot overlook them. Even if their religion is different from our own—96% of Pakistan's population is Muslim—we are reminded that Christ Jesus used the parable of the Good Samaritan, a man some consider to be of a different religion, to illustrate who was a true neighbor. We care for all of God's people without exceptions. And we work and pray that relief may come swiftly to our neighbors.

Prayer

We pray for those who trudge through the waters, that they may find your strength.

We pray for those who cry out to you, that they may know that you always listen and cry with them.

We pray for those who wait, that the long lines may bring them the temporary relief that they need.

We pray that we may open our hearts to the One who sustains us all, even as we are called to act beyond what we ever imagined possible...

Amen.

Resources for local churches

[Give to UMCOR](#)

[United Methodist Committee on Relief](#)

[General Board of Global Ministries](#)