



CIRCUIT RIDER

HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2506 Caton Farm Road Joliet, Illinois 60435

October 2009

Preparing for
Worship In October

October 4

Holy Communion

Job 1:1; 2:1-10; Psalm 26 or
Psalm 25; Hebrews 1:1-4;
2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

Pastor Glenna preaching

October 11

Pet Blessing

Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-
15; Hebrews 4:12-16;
Mark 10:17-31

Pastor Glenna preaching

October 18

Laity Sunday

*"Your World Turned
Upside Down"*

Mark 10:35-45

*Certified Lay Speaker
Boomer Crotty preaching*

September 27

Renewal of Wedding Vows

Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 34:1-8;
Hebrews 7:23-28;
Mark 10:46-52

Pastor Glenna preaching



Dear Friends,

Hope United Methodist Church is undergoing a time of discernment. A process in which our congregation seeks to understand our role and mission within the community where we reside, and also within the greater world community we share with others.

As Hope UMC celebrated 50 years of ministry throughout the year, as we celebrated its past history and achievements, we are aware of the need to continue to plan for the future ministries that are to take place in the coming years. This planning involves both the physical and spiritual life of the church.

Discernment is a term often used in seminary to describe the process of understanding God's call in one's life. Finding the place and ministry where God is leading you or in our case discovering how God is leading this congregation toward effective ministry.

As I was thinking about the decisions that will be made during our Annual Church

Conference in November; I thought about my own discernment process while in seminary. The time spent in prayer and meditation, the time spent searching the scriptures and the time spent in corporate worship.

Discernment is a time of transition and uncertainty. For some it is a time to face one's fears and place their trust in God's plan for one's life. Discernment calls upon us to be attentive and rely upon our faith to trust, accept and understand God's will for our lives and the life of this church. To hear and respond to God's direction as we live into being Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

I have mentioned in prior articles my fondness for hymns, the texts and melodies that reach my soul. Hymns played a large role in my discernment process. One particular favorite during my seminary years was:

Hymn # 451 UMH: Be Thou My Vision:

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art.

Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; Thou and thou only, first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Amen.

Pastor Glenna

Pastor Glenna

* * * * *

Work Day Participants

by Larry Wilkinson

The following volunteers deserve recognition for their participation in sprucing up our church and surrounding grounds for the 50th Anniversary celebration on September 13, 2009:

- ✚ Dorothy Chapman for ironing many tablecloths and preparing the dining room
- ✚ Frank Denk for a multitude of tasks
- ✚ Pastor Glenna for placing mulch in playground, weeding flower beds, etc
- ✚ Linda Hess for preparing the dining room & kitchen
- ✚ Roger Hess for a multitude of tasks
- ✚ Arlene Hupach for yard cleanup & removing trimmed tree branches
- ✚ Wanda Mattix for preparing the dining room & kitchen
- ✚ Russ Mitchell for burning our brush piles
- ✚ Lee Nyhart for weeding flower beds
- ✚ Marty Olumstad for pulling weeds around poles and signs
- ✚ Florence White for preparing the sanctuary
- ✚ Sue Wietlispach for pruning shrubbery and weeding flower beds
- ✚ Others who worked anonymously at other times
- ✚ and Dennis Mattix for relieving us of our work by supplying pizzas for lunch.

~Thank you all~

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 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.

Pastor Glenna will be on vacation from **Monday, October 12**, through **Sunday, October 18**. Call **Pastor Sharon Engert** of **Lockport Christ UMC** for emergency pastoral care at **630-697-1986**. Sunday, October 18 is **Laity Sunday**. **Certified Lay Speaker Boomer Crotty** will be bringing the message that morning.

Church Conference - We have a date for **Church Conference!** Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 7**, with **Staff-Parish** meeting at **5:15 p.m.**, followed by the **Church Conference at 6:00**. Annual Reports from Committee Chairs, Lay Speakers, and other Church Leaders (you know who you are!) are due in the office no later than **9:00 a.m., Monday, October 26**. Report forms can be downloaded from the NIC website. Call **Roberta** with questions or problems.

The Education Committee is looking for suggestions, ideas and volunteers in sponsoring a **Halloween Party** for the children again this year on **Saturday, October 31st**. Please contact **Jacqui Slaughter** at 815-353-3837 or any time after service. Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, Oct 8th at 6:30pm**.



A Blessing of the Animals - As we recognize our interconnectedness with all of God's creation, we also recognize the gift that God's creatures are to us. A chance to celebrate, remember, and honor the animals in our lives will take place on **Sunday, October 11 @ noon**. We will meet on the front lawn of the church for a short service where we will be blessing the animals among us. Each animal will have an opportunity to be blessed individually. If there is inclement weather we will move to Jesse Walker Fellowship Hall.

The office will be closed on **Wednesday, October 21**, while Roberta attends the Fall Workshop of **PAUMCS**, the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries, in Park Ridge. The full-day sessions will cover the UM Discipline, and Staying Safe in the Church Office.

<i>Those Who Serve</i>	October 4 <i>Holy Communion</i>	October 11 <i>Pet Blessing</i>	October 18 <i>Laity Sunday</i>	October 25 <i>Renewal of Wedding Vows</i>
Liturgist	Frank Denk	Becky Gilliam	Sam Wietlispach	Dennis Mattix
Greeter	Chris Denk	Annette Craven	Richard Craven	Shirley Zupancic
Host(s)	Barb Denk	C. Blackwell/M. Shain	Sharon Becker	Wanda Mattix
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			

Proposed Church Expansion Project

By Larry Wilkinson

The Building Group has met three times since being formed August 12, 2009. Excellent progress has been made and new sanctuary building details are being agreed upon by the five group members. The group will be prepared to present their recommendations to the church membership at our November 7, 2009, conference at which time they will vote on the expansion proposal.

The original congregation of our church planned eventually for the addition of a sanctuary to be constructed on the front of our building as evidenced on the original blueprints. Our church's ministry would be expanded and improved by providing additional classrooms and activities for youth inside and outside of our church. Youth are the future of our church.

Providence has located our present fellowship hall in the perfect location and with the ideal space required for two classrooms, a nursery, a kitchen pantry and a storage room which are sorely needed. During our 50th Anniversary service on September 13 I visited with a former pastor of our church who remembers when our present sanctuary was a multi-purpose room. He was interested in our proposed expansion plans and when they were explained to him said, "I hope you folks follow thru with them".

I have been asked by individuals outside our church if we have an activity hall that they could use for youth activities. I have to inform them that, at the present time, they would be limited to table games. We are missing an opportunity to acquaint others with our wonderful membership and church. They could possibly become future members of our congregation.

The present sanctuary could become our much larger multi-purpose room for:

- + fellowship
- + meetings
- + celebrations, parties
- + fund-raising dinners
- + vacation bible school activities
- + year-round indoor youth activities, ie; bag toss, shuffleboard, skipping rope, badminton, half-court basketball

Q. "Why go to the expense of construction of another sanctuary to provide additional rooms? Why not only construct the additional rooms needed on the front of the church?"

A. The nursery and two classrooms could be added in a small addition to the front of the church building, but:

- + the pantry would be a long way from the kitchen
- + the storeroom would be quite a distance from the fellowship hall where it is needed
- + the kitchen would not be expanded
- + additional sanctuary seating would not be provided
- + a small addition would not enhance our "curb appeal" as a new sanctuary likely would.

More Hope Notes . . .



Birthdays This Month

October 1 – Carol Cawvey
October 12 – Marty Kaspar, Don Benn
October 16 – Nola Owen
October 17 – Sallie Skarda
October 29 – Linda Hess



Wedding **Anniversaries**

October 22 – Roger & Linda Hess
October 22 – Brett & Peggy Chapman
October 29 – Greg & Dorothy Chapman

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**.

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**.

From the Finance Committee

Apportionments are paid and up to date. \$500 was given to the Ridgewood Food Pantry.

We are implementing a new form to help keep track of expenditures. The **Payment Vouchers** are in a file folder in the top clear plastic bin outside the office. When you purchase something for the church, please fill out a form and submit it to Vic with the receipt. *Also please write the total to be reimbursed on the form.* The voucher must be signed by you and the authorizing committee chair or the Pastor. Reimbursement checks will be written on the 15th and last of the month.

See **Vic** or **Pastor Glenna** with questions.

Thank you

Marty and I wish to thank everyone for the gift certificate to Red Lobster in honor of our 36th wedding anniversary. We had a wonderful dinner, thanks to the generosity of all of you. I also want to express my surprise and delight with the gift basket that was presented for my birthday. And no, I will not tell you how old I am, but will use a golfing term to describe my age as being somewhere on the “back nine” of fifty.

Blessings to all of you in the Hope UMC family.

Marty and Glenna

Holiday Helping Hands

This year Hope United Methodist Church is doing something a little different for the holidays! We will be preparing food baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas. They will be given to people in our community who are in need this year.

While many details are still pending, you may submit names of persons who would benefit from this project to Pastor Glenna. Leave a note in her mailbox or e-mail her at revglenna@aol.com.

More information will be made available in the next few weeks. See Pastor Glenna or Pat Michalik with questions or suggestions.

Fitzwilliam and Doris



Here is what I do when I visit Doris.
I climb up and get settled.
Then she pets me and talks to Joan.
We don't stay long because
I have others to see.
She is looking good (and so am I).