

Special points of interest:

June, July, August 2008

- Pastor Search/Nominating Committee
- Operation Paperback - Recycled Reading for Our Troops
- Christian Education
- Secure the Call Foundation

Our Graduates

Hayley Harroun - U High

Catheryne Thomas - Millikin
(Granddaughter of Evelyne Thomas)

Alex Kraft - U High
(Son of Nancy and Tab Kraft and Grandson of Evelyne Thomas)

Amanda Trower - U of I

Kathy Otto - McCormick Seminary

Christina Parlette - U High
(Granddaughter of Chuck and Carol Parlette and John Waters)

Zach Staver - BHS

Mark Steadman - NCHS
(Grandson of Jim and Louise Moore)



Funk's Grove Worship, Picnic and Potluck

Please join us for worship at Funk's Grove on Sunday June 8th at 10:30am.

We will have our annual picnic/potluck immediately after the service.

Please bring a dish to

pass and your own table service.

The Agape Committee will provide coffee, iced tea and lemonade.

Power cords will be available for those who wish to bring their food in crock pots.

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Pastor Search/Nominating Committee

The Pastor Search/Nominating Committee received 79 responses to the *Leadership Expectations Survey*.

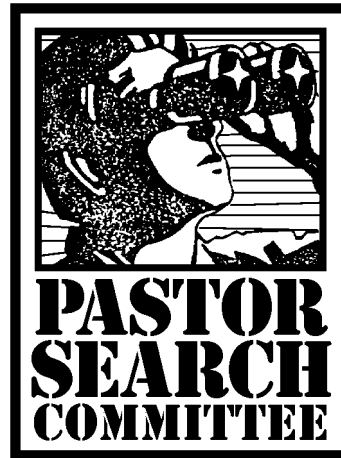
We would like to thank all who responded, as this is an important tool for assisting us in deciding what our congregation wants in a new Pastor.

The responses have been tabulated and we are using the results to complete our Church Information Forms.

We are diligently working on completing the Church Information Forms for the Presbyterian Church and the United Church of Christ.

Compiling the results of

the Leadership Expectations Survey is just one step in this process.



The Committee is hard at work compiling other data that is needed as well, such as demographic data, accomplishments of the Church, how we fulfill our mission, responsibilities of the new Pastor, and several

others.

Once the forms have been completed, we will send them to Presbytery and the UCC.

These forms assist them with “matching” candidates for our congregation.

This process will take a while - weeks and possibly months.

Patience is one virtue we will all need to practice during this process.

Please continue to keep the Committee in your prayers as we continue in the journey to find our new pastor.

Charlene A. Beringer,

Pastor Search Committee

Charlene Beringer

Yvonne Harrison

Margaret Hawkins

Matthew Kubiak

Dottie Metcalf

Megan Paterson

Kevin Schaefer

Brian Trower

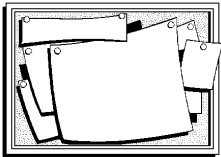
Lin Walton

Our Elders



Charlene Beringer	454-5189 (h) 888-5360 (w)
Lori Blankenship	531-7244 (c)
Karlene Bledsoe	823-8868 (h) 438-2912 (w)
Rod Hawkins	726-1637 (h) 763-3118 (w)
John Otto	862-3110 (h) 268-2407 (w)
Brent Paterson	664-5596 (h) 438-5451 (w)
Lillian Paulsen	663-2390 (h)
Rebecca Schaefer	724-8250 (h) 662-4090 (w)
Dan Staver	664-6347 (h) 763-2800 (w)
Diane Swanson	454-3720 (h)
Mike Walton	661-1346 (h) 661-6467 (w)

Bulletin Board Update



As you may have noticed, the church's bulletin boards have been given a face lift.

To help keep them tidy and functional, we are asking if you have any

information that needs to be posted, to place it in the container on the back table in the office.

We will post it in the appropriate place on the bulletin board so that the

information is communicated.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Operation Paperback - Recycled Reading for Our Troops

After the group sale, when Charlene and Terry were letting us know what organizations we helped you would have heard that paperback books were donated to Operation Paperback.

You might be asking what is Operation paperback?

Operation Paperback is a non-profit, grassroots program that was founded in 1999.

They collect gently used paperback books and send them to American troops deployed overseas.

Many of our troops are serving far from home and living in facilities that provide few of the comforts of home.

I personally couldn't imagine not having access to books, which is why I have personally decided to help collect books for Operation Paperback.

I am asking for any gently used paperback books such as action, bestsellers, biographies and memoirs, fantasy, history, horror mysteries, science-fiction and true crime.

However, no there is a request for NO romance novels.

If you have books you would like to donate please let me know.

Thanks,

Sarah Franks
829-2660 or
sarah.franks@mcleancountyil.gov



Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting June 1st immediately following the service to ratify the new Constitution.

Printed copies of the Constitution are available in the office.

NOTE:

The deadline for the next issue of *New Directions* is Wednesday, August 13, 2008.

Christian Education

The Adult Sunday School class will meet during the summer.

They will be finishing the study on the disciples and then will begin Diana Bass's *Christianity for the Rest of Us*.

I have read other books by Diana Bass and she has some intriguing ideas.

Be sure to join the class and see what she means by *Christianity for the Rest of Us!*

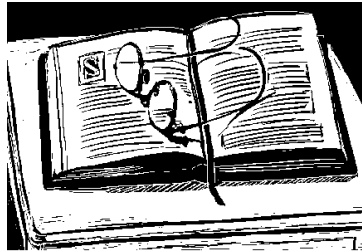
SNAC will meet during the summer on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month for fellowship activities.

Some of the youth will be helping with VBS.

We will also be planning for our trip to Knoxville Tennessee for the UCC summer youth event July 24th to 27th.

VBS is coming up quickly - June 8th to 12th.

There should be plenty of excitement in the **Power Lab**.



Please consider joining the fun.

If you feel called to be part of the VBS staff we would love to have you.

Contact either Amie Keeton or Kathy Otto to volunteer.

During the service on June 15th, we will honor our 2008 high school and college graduates.

To be sure that we don't miss anyone, please contact the church office and make sure we have the name of your favorite graduate!

Speaking of graduations, I wish to thank Karen Walters and Kerry Modendricker for making the long trip to Chicago for my graduation from McCormick Theological Seminary.

John and I would not have made it through the last three years without the support of this congregation and want to thank everyone.

We are truly blessed to be part of this church family!

Kathy Otto

Thank You

Thank you so much to all of our church family for your prayers and support during the illness and death of our mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

The family of Madeline Kesner

Jim, Judy, Doug, Sanae, David & Daniel Ferrier



Money Matters

As of April 30, 2008

	JAN/APR	JAN/APR
GENERAL FUND	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Receipts	\$76,107	\$78,560
Disbursements	\$74,277	\$83,243
	JAN/APR	JAN/APR
5 YEAR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN	ACTUAL	PLEDGE
Receipts	\$7,395	\$11,933

Giving for both the General Fund and the 5 Year Capital Campaign continues to be below pledge amounts. More detailed financial information is available on the Details Board.

Vision and Ministry Council

The Vision and Ministry Council is meeting as a “committee of the whole” to review pastor profiles for a new Interim Pastor.



Birthdays

June

Christine Kubiak - 4
 Ron Scott - 4
 Mathew Clark - 6
 Mary Scott - 6
 Laurie Larsen - 7
 Lucille Mason - 10
 Steven Harroun - 15
 Spencer Shipley - 15
 Rebecca Schaefer - 19
 Bill Kummer - 20
 Joe Harroun - 21
 Rod Hawkins - 23
 Lori Harroun - 25
 Judy Norton - 26
 John Boerner - 27
 Chuck Parlette - 29

July

Don Davis - 1
 Linda Kerfott - 1
 Jennifer Belletete - 2
 Yvonne Harrison - 3
 Keegan Johnson - 3
 Diann Kamp - 7
 James Darnell - 8
 Ed Desmond - 8
 Margie Marquardt - 9
 Glenn Stille - 9
 Summer Shipley - 11
 Hayley Harroun - 13
 Betty Hering - 14
 Norm Larsen - 14
 Amanda Trower - 15
 Wayne Warner - 15
 Jack Moore - 16
 Kirk Cruze - 17
 Theresa Kelley - 17
 Tammy Desmond - 18
 Jacob Blankenship - 19
 Sam Pittmon - 19
 Mindy Stille - 20
 Evelyne Thomas - 20
 Lois Martin - 23
 Roger Parmenter - 24
 Erwin Manzke - 25
 Olivia Trower - 25
 Miriam Brown - 27
 Anna DeBruine - 27
 Gib Knapp - 27
 Frances Sprague - 29
 Scott Bork - 30
 Jane Little - 31
 Jim Moore - 31

August

Phillip Blankenship - 3
 Jane Farmer - 3
 Stephan Hall - 3
 Rachel Dean - 4
 Megan Murray - 9
 Austin Swanson - 10
 Gene Wright - 14
 Ray Schildt - 15
 Ruth Dravis - 16
 Nate Harroun - 17
 Deborah Moret - 17
 Kevin Schaefer - 17
 Maurine Asbury - 18
 Craig Stille - 20
 Dylan Walsh - 23
 Hallie Hoffarth - 26
 Mindy Feicke - 28
 Laura Hinthorn - 28
 Glenn McClure - 29
 Chuck Yurieci - 29
 Jeff DeBruine - 30
 Sharon Stille - 30
 Dan Staver - 31



Secure the Call Foundation

Last month a coalition of law enforcement Agencies and non-profits across the United States came together to collect and redistribute used cell phones to any community member who needs a 911 phone in the event of an emergency.

The coalition is led by “Secure the Call Foundation,” a nationwide non-profit organization.

Secure the Call Foundation takes the phones, inspects them, cleans them, charges their batteries and then reprograms them to be used as free 911 emergency phones.

Any phone that can be turned on can access 911 services even without a carrier service plan.

The phones are distributed to domestic violence shelters, senior centers, neighborhood watch groups, school crossing guards and other agencies with an immediate need for 911 access.

These free 911 emergency cell phones are available to individuals and organizations nationwide.

Last month Secure the Call

held a press conference asking for community support.



The response to the conference was immediate and substantial.

Many citizens need a phone.

There are more requests for phones than currently available.

Bring in any unneeded cell phones and batteries only, no chargers or accessories.

For additional information on the program, prepaid mailing labels or to download a tax receipt for your donation, please visit the website at www.donatemycellphone.org or call (886) 883-6628.

Saying Goodbye

It's hard to say Goodbye!

Our life and journey in faith has been rich and full of both laughter and tears.

We have come to have great affection for one another.

We have held each other tight and reminded each other that we would be alright.

We affirmed each and every Sunday that this ministry on the corner of Regency and Washington Street, was strong and vital and important, and it has been good.

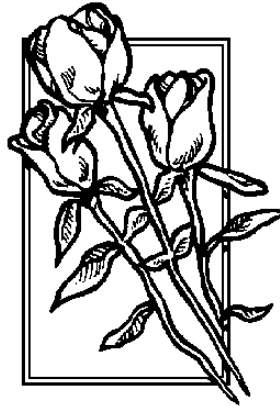
God has been good.

Now God is calling me to a new adventure just as God is calling each of you.

I have heard God's call and accepted this new position with some anxiety and excitement, but also with a great deal of sadness, knowing that our ministry together will be forever changed once I leave.

Just as I have cherished the pastoral relationship we have had, I also cherish for St. Luke Union Church the opportunity to form a new pastoral relationship with those who will fill the

position of pastor in the future.



For this reason, I ask you to respect the professional boundaries of ministry and not ask me to officiate for weddings, funerals, baptisms, to make pastoral calls, or to provide counsel regarding personal situations or the life of the congregation.

After your new pastor has been called and been here for sufficient time (at least one year) to have assumed the mantle of pastoral leadership, and if he or she and the council wishes to invite me to participate on occasion in the life of the church, I will gladly do so in support of your new pastor.

Please let him or her take the initiative.

I want only the best for this congregation and will do all that I can to insure the future health of your

ministry and not to weaken the ministry of your pastor.

Please continue to honor our respect and affection for one another by honoring these guidelines.

Just as Sarah and Abraham set out on a journey, not knowing exactly what God had in mind, I also set out and so do you.

This journey is not defined and there is definitely no road map . . . there are, however, a lot of sign markers and guideposts along the way.

Through study, prayer, worship, service and giving we will be guided.

God speed to all.

Blessings,

Pastor Beth

J U N E

Potluck for Pastor Beth (June)

Please join us on Sunday, June 1st, immediately after the Congregational Meeting for a potluck dinner.

We will celebrate the time that Pastor Beth has spent with us and wish her well

in her new Interim Ministry in Springfield.

Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service.

Beverages will be provided.



You've Gotta Eat!!! (June)

Come one, come all and join us for a Cookout of hot dogs and hamburgers with the participants of Vacation Bible School.

Thursday, June 12th at 5:00 p.m. we will be having our monthly "Theme" dinner. The Agape Committee will provide the

hot dogs, hamburgers, buns and condiments.

If you would like to bring a dish to pass or anything to go with the "Theme," please feel free to do so.

For those unable to bring a dish to pass, the dinner will cost \$4.00.



Home Bible Class (June)

The Home Bible Class will meet on Thursday, June 12th at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The study will be from our study guide "Above and Beyond," Lesson #6

entitled *Love That Goes Above and Beyond the Call of Duty*.

Mary Jane Trower will be the hostess.



Ice Cream Social (July)



We will be celebrating summer with an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 20th from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Home-made ice cream and beverages will be provided.

Please bring a cake, pie, brownies, or anything yummy that goes with ice cream to share.

Agape Committee

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You've Gotta Eat!!! (July)

Is it too hot to cook?

Are you hungry for something light and tasty?

Come and join us for You've Gotta Eat!!!

We will be having a Salad Supper.

Thursday, July 10th at 5:00 p.m., we will be having our monthly "Theme" dinner.

The Agape Committee will provide the bread, crackers and beverages.

If you would like to bring a dish to pass or anything to go with the "Theme,"

please feel free to do so.

For those unable to bring a dish to pass, the dinner will cost \$4.00.



Home Bible Class (July)

The Home Bible Class will meet on Thursday, July 10th at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room.

The study will be from our study guide, "Above and Beyond," Lesson #7,

entitled *Back from the Brink*.

Hostesses will be Vi Fenstermaker and Leanna Peters.



You're Invited!

Please join us for an open house send-off for our grandson, Keith Jean-Baptiste before his deployment to Iraq.

Saturday, July 12th, 2008

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SLUC Fellowship Hall

All Church Birthday Party (August)

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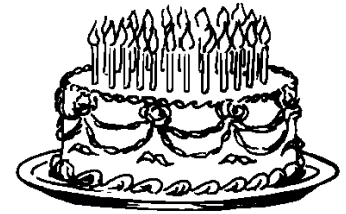
Please join us during Fellowship Hour to celebrate all birthdays on Sunday, August 17th.

We will be hosting a birthday party for everyone in the church.

Each month will have a decorated designated table.

Come and see who shares your birthday month.

We will be serving cupcakes, donuts, and beverages to celebrate.



You've Gotta Eat!!! (August)

Are you carving an old-fashioned Salad Bar?

We have the solution for you.

Come and join us and build a salad at our Salad Bar.

Thursday, August 8th at

5:00 p.m., we will be having our monthly "Theme" dinner.

The Agape Committee will provide the mixed greens and salad dressing.

If you would like to bring a dish to pass or your favorite salad topping,

please feel free to do so.

For those unable to bring a dish to pass, the dinner will cost \$4.00.

Home Bible Class (August)

The Home Bible Class will meet on Thursday, August 11th at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room.

The study will be from our study guide, "Above and Beyond," Lesson #8, .

entitled *In God We Trust?*.

Hostesses will be Clara Greiner and Evelyne Thomas.



Our study continues...

Anniversaries

June

Joe and Lori Harroun	June 2
Doug and Sanae Ferrier	June 8
Ryan and Megan Murray	June 9
Scott and Sarah Luna	June 15
Glenn and Sharon Stille	June 22
Ed and Tammy Desmond	June 29
Chuck and Carol Parlette	June 29



July

Jim and Pamela McClure	July 1
Delmar and Terry Small	July 2
Denny and Bonnie Redick	July 6
Jim and Beth Wagner	July 7
Kim and Kathryn Johnson	July 12
John and Kathy Otto	July 22

August

Ray and Karin Hunt	August 3
Dan and Carla Staver	August 18
Dick and Yvonne Harrison	August 27
Gene and Lynne Wright	August 27
Don and Mary Davis	August 31

New Address

Dave and Katherine Hurst
 830 West 40th Street, Apt 107
 Baltimore, Maryland 21211
 (410) 243-5903

Action Planning Team

Did you know we have an Action Planning Team?

We're working on several areas that were identified as areas that need attention.

This was determined by the extensive study done by Norma Roberts and the Mission Study Task Force.

Remember those surveys you filled out over the past several months, as well as the Healthy Congregation meetings?

This is the result of those and is the next step in planning our direction for the future.

The four areas being studied are:

- Leadership - both clergy and lay leadership (convened by John Otto)
- Clarity of Vision - who we are as a church and where do we feel God is calling us (convened by Evelyne Thomas)
- Communication and Community Building - (convened by Rod Hawkins)

- Structural Questions - responsibility and accountability issues (convened by Ruth Trower)

Please contact one of the members of this team if you have questions or suggestions on any of these issues.

After the work of the four groups studying these issues is completed, we will be holding small "focus group" meetings and will invite all members to attend one of these groups to hear results and to discuss and offer feedback and suggestions.

After these are completed, a final report will be compiled and offered to the congregation for approval.

In this way, everyone has an opportunity to be involved in determining the direction we want to go in the future.

This seems like a long process, but is vitally important to strengthening our church and finding a pastor who will be a good fit for us.



St. Luke Union Church

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Bloomington, IL 61701

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Summer