

**Special points of interest:**

- Women's Fellowship Fall Rally
- Recycling Clothes & Linens
- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Stewardship Committee Update

## CROP Hunger Walk (Communities Responding to Overcoming Hunger)

St. Luke Union Church is excited to be hosting the 2010 CROP Hunger Walk Sunday, October 3rd, 2010 at Tipton Park, Bloomington.



Registration is at 1:30 p.m. Ceremony and Walk is at 2:00 p.m.

Together we walk to take a stand against hunger in our world.

Sponsored through

Church World Service, we will raise awareness and funds for international relief, education, development, local food pantries and other hunger-fighting initiatives.

25% of the money raised will stay in McLean County, split

between Western Avenue Food Pantry and the Center for Hope Food Pantry.

Doug Ferrier is our recruiter so watch for our display and sign up.

Bring friends!

We are looking for walkers, volunteers to help, monetary and food snack donations.

Please join us!

**CAN WE COUNT ON YOU?**

### Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ

You are cordially invited to join us for the Installation Worship Service and Celebration of our newly elected called Conference Minister, the Rev. Dr. Jorge Luis Morales.

We hope you will join us at Elmhurst college

Sunday, October 3rd at 3 p.m in the Frick Center, 190 S Prospect Ave, Elmhurst, IL.

This is an opportunity to celebrate together as a community of faith.

*Rev. Tom Norwalk*

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## Women's Fellowship Fall Rally

Attention all women of St. Luke Union Church! You are cordially invited to the Women's Fellowship Fall Rally which takes place Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

The program for the evening will be Mr. Thomas Fulop, Social Service Director with the Salvation Army discussing the new Day Center.

The Day Center has taken over the responsibilities that the Compassion Center once had.

He will discuss what

services the Day Center provides as well as a brief history of the Salvation Army.

While there is no cost for this event, we ask that you consider bringing a donation for the Day Center.

Items that are needed are bath towels, shampoos, lotions, soaps, toothpaste and toothbrushes, razors and shaving cream.

Paper products like paper towels and napkins are also needed.

We will be having election of officers at this meeting, as well as a discussion on whether or not to continue serving luncheons for outside (non-church related) groups.

We would welcome any thoughts you have.

There will be apple pie, ice cream and door prizes, as well as some wonderful fellowship.



**Women's Fellowship**

## Money Matters As of July 31, 2010

GENERAL FUND	JAN-JUL BUDGET	JAN-JUL ACTUAL
Receipts	\$145,510	\$137,490
Disbursements	\$146,991	\$138,300

Giving is less than planned and expenses are less than budget. Are you current with your pledge? A more complete report is available on the Details Board in the Fellowship Hall.

## Thank You



We wish to thank you for the prayers for our sister Marjorie Gordish.

Thank you also for the

sympathy cards received after her death. A special thank you to the women's association for preparing lunch for family

and friends after her funeral.

*Doris Koppersmith  
and Maurine Asbury*

## Recycling Clothes & Linens

By Laurie B. Vial, Energy Consultant

Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.

A friend of mine recently decided to drastically pare down her wardrobe and brought me several garbage bags of clothes to try on.

I kept about 15 items.

She took the rest home to donate to a charity in her neighborhood.

As parents begin back-to-school preparation it's a good time to remind readers to try to keep out-grown clothes out of the landfill.

Our church holds a large group sale twice a year.

An absolutely huge amount of clothing changes hands.

The last few hours features a bag sale and those in the community on limited income use this time to buy clothing - especially for children.

What doesn't sell is donated to charity.

The group sale helps us make money for special projects and it also helps the community.

When you donate clothing



to charities the best of the best goes on a hanger on the sales floor, other items that are not quite perfect are shipped to other countries in need of clothing.

Items that are not good enough for either purpose are sold to recyclers.

The recyclers often shred them and turn them into industrial cleaning pads and other items.

Old blue jeans are turned into green insulation products.

If you have linens such as towels, sheets and blankets that you no longer need, donate them to an animal shelter.

They always have a demand for these items and welcome and appreciate them.

Try tearing up some of your T-shirts and similar items and using them for rags to cut down on the use of paper towels.

Rags can be washed and

used over and over again.

And for the more creative among you, clothing can be repurposed into a new use.

Dad's dress shirt can become a kindergarten painting smock.

Blue jeans can be sewn into a beach bag or purse.

Clothing can be cut into smaller pieces for quilts or patchwork vests or wall hangings.

Crafters can find endless uses for pieces of fabrics - the possibilities are endless.

Save the landfills for items we can't possible reuse, repurpose or recycle and maybe someday soon we'll hardly have a need for them at all.

Let's all strive to be good stewards of God's earth.

*Laurie Vial*

Laurie's weekly column is published by Presbytery each Monday - [www.greatriverspby.org/GoGreen](http://www.greatriverspby.org/GoGreen)

To contact Laurie - [greenenergy@greatriverspby.org](mailto:greenenergy@greatriverspby.org) or (309) 242-8571.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Birthdays -

Alex Moore - 2  
Sandra Kelley - 3  
Rebecca Hepner - 5  
Karin Hunt - 7  
Todd Stille - 7  
Betty Potts - 8  
David Ferrier - 9  
David Colee - 10  
John Delanois - 12  
Denny Redick - 12  
Lucas Trower - 12  
James Ferrier - 13  
Kim Schultz - 13  
Zachary Scott Bork - 14  
Eleanor Larrick - 17

Alex Herren - 19  
Priscilla Harper - 20  
Julianne Schultz - 21  
Holly Campbell - 22  
Sean Baker - 25  
Betsy Larson - 25  
Andrew Claugherly - 27  
Sandra Colee - 29  
Debra Grant - 29  
Jake Stille - 30

### Anniversaries -

Don & Linda Kearfott - 3  
Mick & Caroline Fleming - 8  
Matthew & Christine Kubiak - 9  
Ron & Norma Scott - 12  
Matt & Traci Wright - 13  
Larry & Becky Blum - 14  
Brian & Stacy Clark - 15  
Kevin & Rebecca Schaefer - 24  
Michael & Dede Verplaetse - 26  
Jim & Louise Moore - 27  
Joel & Amie Keeton - 28  
Robert & Joyce Pomrenke - 29



## Home Bible Class

The Home Bible Class will meet on Thursday, September 9th, in the Fellowship Hall at 1:30 p.m.

We will study Chapter 7 "The Cup of God's Wrath" in our study guide

## Thank You

We want to thank all of you at St. Luke Union Church for your prayers, cards and concerns.

Carol's brother, Ray Pearson, passed away on

entitled "Jeremiah Demanding Love."

Ref: *Jeremiah 25: 15-38.*

All the ladies of the church and friends are invited to attend this class.

July 20, 2010 after a lengthy illness.

*Chuck and Carol Parlette*

### Fall Group & Bake Sale

Hard to believe that summer is turning into fall right before our eyes.

That also means that the fall group and bake sale is near.

The Group & Bake Sale is scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

Be watching for opportunities to help - many hands will be needed to set things up, sell the items and then take down.

Drop off begins Monday, October 11 through noon on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> to give plenty of time to sort and price things.

## Moderator's Notes

By the time you receive this newsletter summer will be over.

The weather and the calendar may not indicate that summer is over; but, in my mind, summer is over when students return to school.

For the Paterson family, it means the start of the semester at Illinois State University, the start of classes in Unit 5, and Megan's return to Texas A&M University.

Yes, our summer is over.

Congratulations to all involved in making Vacation Bible School a success.

It was wonderful to see so many enthusiastic children participating in VBS and in the Sunday morning service.

The energy in the sanctuary the first week of August was amazing.

It was also great to see so many volunteers assist with VBS.

One of traits of St. Luke Union Church that makes it a special place is the diversity of folks who donate their time to help.

If you attended any of the VBS programs, you know that the volunteers included our youth, parents of young children, young adults, and let's just say some more senior members of our church.

I never cease to be amazed with the intergenerational nature of our church.

We work well together no matter our age.

There are exciting changes coming in our approach to stewardship.

These changes are introduced in another part of this newsletter.

One of those changes involves our budgeting process.

The Vision & Ministry Council will be developing a preliminary budget in September.

This will enable us to work with the Stewardship Ministry Team in seeking funding from the congregation for our highest priorities in 2011.

I want to commend Dan Staver for his leadership of the Stewardship Ministry Team.

I have been promising you a new church mission statement to review.

You will be hearing about this mission statement and seeing it in church bulletins and elsewhere.

The Vision & Ministry Council approved the new mission statement pending comment from the congregation.

We invite you to send us your comments and suggested revisions by September 12th.

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St. Luke Union Church  
Mission Statement

*We are an active, caring community proclaiming the Word of God.*

*We seek to know God's will as individuals and as a church, to be transformed by the Holy Spirit, to practice Christian discipleship, and to demonstrate Christ's unconditional grace and love for all.*

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If you want to send your comments and revisions to me, you can send them to: patersonbrent@hotmail.com or put them in my mailbox in the church office.

*Brent Patterson*

## From Our Pastor . . .

Many people have been a part of a team in their life time.

Some played on a sport team in high school or even in college.

Others participated in organizations that required individuals to work as a team to accomplish certain goals.

These organizations would include 4H, FFA, marching band or Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Families need to work as a team to achieve healthy living and successful lives.

Here are some things that you can do as a family to reach this goal.

### 1. **Plant a family garden.**

Work together to maintain the plants and when it's time to harvest your vegetables, eat the fruits of your labors.

### 2. **Cook and eat as a family.**

It's no fun for the chef to do all the cooking and cleaning.

Take turns planning the meals and give

everyone a job.

Eating a meal together as a family is an opportunity to connect with each other.

Be open to visitors as it is a wonderful way to get to know your children's friends.

### 3. **Start a family prayer wall.**

Purchase a chalk board or a white board and make it available for each family member to include prayers of joys and concerns.

### 4. **Pray together as a family.**

Sharing in time of prayer outside of grace before a meal or prayers before bedtime can give parents and children an opportunity to listen to each other and then become empathetic to each family member's joys and concerns.

### 5. **Find ways to include fun family exercise:**

Take a hike in the woods, get your bikes out and explore the Constitution Trail, rent kayaks, or go to the pool and swim.

### 6. **Create a healthy food environment: stock your refrigerator, freezer and pantry with healthy, low fat, high fiber foods.**

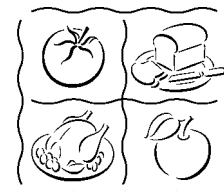
Have fruits and vegetables washed and ready to eat, so when family members reach for a snack they have nutritious food readily available.

When families work together as a team they can become closer as a family, eat healthier meals and snacks, exercise more frequently, and be lead in the lives that God has desired for them.

When teams work together they are always successful, when families work together love and joy abound.

Peace of Christ,

*Pastor Andy and Sandi Gifford*



## Healthy Living Tips

## Stewardship Committee Update



Greetings from the Stewardship Committee!

Over the past few months the Stewardship Committee has reformed, been reinvigorated, and has met to discuss our 2010/2011 Stewardship plans.

We are very excited about the opportunities we have been talking about in our monthly meetings.

Some of the ideas we have generated include –

- Developing a vision for Stewardship that supports the mission of St. Luke Union Church
- Build the committee’s knowledge of Endowments, Memorials, Wills, Life Insurance, Advance Directives, Estates, and other vehicles for

giving at St. Luke Union Church

- Educating the congregation on Wills, Funeral Planning, and Advance Directives
- Establishing an endowment policy to begin educating and using endowments
- Provide the congregation giving information about St. Luke Union Church by generating an “average” giving chart
- Outline our 2011 Stewardship Campaign, incorporating the budgets from each ministry team into a more focused campaign
- Discussed options to make giving easier by leveraging technology through automated debiting with your bank

The Stewardship Committee includes the following members: Ed Desmond, Dave Stille, Jeremy Rambo, Lillian Paulsen, Lynne Wright, Sherrie Taylor, Pastor Andy, and Dan Staver.

We have faith our committee will learn, share, and contribute to the mission of St. Luke Union Church in 2010 and well beyond.

If you have an idea you would like to share with the Stewardship Committee or one of the above ideas stands out to you, please reach out to any committee member to let us know your thoughts.

### Pastor Andy’s Trivia Question

Did you guess the answer to last month’s trivia question?

**What is the name and site from the Bible of the two times when God held the waters back so the Israelites could walk through a body of water on dry ground?**

**Answer:**

Red Sea ~

~ Exodus 4:21-31

Jordan River ~

~ Joshua 3:14-17

**September Question:**

Which is the longest Psalm in the Bible?

**INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT WILLS AND ESTATES, ADVANCE DIRECTIVES, AND FUNERAL PLANNING?**

The Stewardship Committee is in the process of finalizing an educational event for the congregation on the following topics - Wills and Estates, Advance Directives, and Funeral Planning.

Please mark your calendar for September 21st at 6:30 p.m. if you are interested in attending.

The presentations will occur at St. Luke Union Church.

Hope to see you there!

St. Luke Union Church

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We are an active, caring community proclaiming the Word of God. We seek to know God's will as individuals and as a church, to be transformed by the Holy Spirit, to practice Christian discipleship, and to demonstrate Christ's unconditional grace and love for all.

*September 2010*