



**St. John's Chapel
United Church
of Christ**

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Worship - 10:30 AM

Pastor
Rev. Becky Hebert

Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Robert M. Dohm

Council President
Tona Griggs

Vice President
Dennis Gromer

Board of Christian
Education Chair
Joyce Burton

Board of Service
Ministries Chair
Elaine Tebbenkamp

Our Mission Statement:

St. John's Chapel UCC is called to love unconditionally, seek justice, foster spiritual growth, and embrace diversity of thought and body as taught by Jesus Christ.



THE MESSENGER

Pastoral Reflections

by Pastor Becky Hebert

July 2009
Volume 46
Number 7

I knew I'd best not leave you "cliff hanging" for a whole month. So I am taking the time to write before leaving for Mackinac Island and General Synod in Grand Rapids, MI.

Sally Quinn, who had been an atheist all her life, has gone back for her second walk on the labyrinth – this time alone. Since her son Quinn had been born with a hole in his heart, she concentrated on him. As she entered the labyrinth, she walked deliberately toward the center, holding an image in her mind of a healthy and normal Quinn at the beach. When she got to the center of the labyrinth, she sat down and opened herself to whatever experience she might have. As she sat there the California fog lifted, rays of sunlight warming her back. Then she saw it—the most stately of pine trees. It stood alone surrounded by live oaks. The pine tree was tall, full and its branches seemed to enfold her saying, "Yes, I'm different but I'm as beautiful if not more so than the other trees." Tears streamed down her face as she looked at that gorgeous tree and saw her gorgeous little boy—despite all the physical and mental problems to come.

A year later she again returned to the labyrinth for a walk. This time she walked while her son was being put through a series of cognitive tests. This time she held an image of her son doing well on the test. Several weeks later the hospital called with the results of the test. He had done poorly on almost all the tests. "There was one amazing thing though," said the doctor. "Quinn scored higher on the last test than anyone else we've ever given it to."

"What was that?" Sally asked.

"The maze," he said.

Sally knew that with that one strong cognitive skill her son would not be lost—and Sally Quinn, who had never "gotten it" when came to religion—"got it" loud and clear. Together she and her son had been found. She had never had an understanding of the sacred or the divine. Now she did, because she had experienced it.

Labyrinths have long been used in place of pilgrimages and sacred journeys. So even though I cannot package you all up and take you to General Synod (on a definitely sacred journey) with me, you can walk the labyrinth as your summer pilgrimage. Write down something that is an obstacle in your life. Hold an image of the outcome for which you hope. Carry it with you into the circle. Lay it on the altar (take a rock with you to hold it down) and sit with it—with God. There may you find comfort from your pain, healing for your brokenness, serenity in the midst of chaos, a quenching for your thirst, and fulfillment from your hunger. May you who are challenged find strength and patience for the journey. But most of all, may you catch a glimpse of the image God holds for your life.

Blessing and Love,
Pastor Becky

COUNCIL MINUTES

June 11, 2009

Roll Call: Members present: Christy Graham, Steve Fortner, Tona Griggs, Shirley Datema, Jim May, Mary Lou Datema. Absent: Dennis Gromer, Judith Bartell, Nancy Anderson. Nancy Anderson was available via speakerphone.

Secretary's Minutes: (Mary Lou Datema) Minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and approved.

Vice-President: (Dennis Gromer) no report

Financial Secretary: (Shirley Datema) Shirley reported total deposits of \$15,511.25 for the month of May. This includes \$9,234.25 in offerings. Average weekly offering for May was \$1846.85, as compared to an average weekly offering of \$2681.50 for the month of May last year, a decrease of \$834.65. Average Sunday attendance for May was 89, a decrease of 11 from the same month last year. Offering is down this year to date a total of \$851.50.

Treasurer's Report: (Steve Fortner) Total income for the month of May was \$15,511.25. Total spending was \$13,535.42. The checking account balance at the end of May was \$5,786.67 and the money market balance was \$53,201.21.

Board of Christian Education: (Christy Graham) Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of July 13-17.

Stewardship: (Nancy Anderson) This group is scheduled to meet in the fall.

Visioning Committee: (Nancy Anderson) Will meet in August.

Pastor's Report: (Pastor Becky) Pastor Becky reported a need for more weeding to be done around the church. Jim May offered to help with this. A variety of plants are still needed to finish landscaping. They may be purchased from Wickmans or from anyplace else as well. The Board of Service Ministries will be reading and discussing the book Christianity for the Rest of Us by Diana Butler Bass. Pastor Becky reports the Worship Committee is excited about a new summer format for worship to begin on July 5. Communion will be that day, and will be offered by intinction. We are still looking for a new fountain for the courtyard, using Memorial Funds from Ellie Datema's memorial. Mary Lou agreed to explore fountain prices.

Pastor Becky has developed a basic introductory course on walking the labyrinth, and will ask the

News Leader to run another article about it. It is also now listed on the World Wide Labyrinth Locator online at www.labyrinthlocator.com. Thanks to Adam Cunningham for the new labyrinth pictures on the website.

A special choir from MSU, Quest, will be with us at worship on June 21 and will have a free concert in the afternoon that day at 2:00.

Pastor Becky gave council an update on prayer concerns in our church family.

Old business: Personnel policies were reviewed by council and a few minor changes were made. Council also reviewed the music director's job description and Mary Lou will finalize that. The pastor-parish relations committee had a very successful meeting on June 4. The semi-annual meeting is scheduled for July 12, with a carry-in dinner.

Steve Fortner has looked into the possibility of either a loan or a line of credit for the church. He checked with both Bancorp and the UCC. The UCC offers both loans and lines of credit for the purpose of building and building maintenance needs; Bancorp can offer a line of credit to be used for any purpose. We can open the line of credit but not use it until we feel it is necessary. A motion was made and seconded that rather than try to secure a loan, as was approved at the December congregational meeting, that we look into the line of credit instead. This will be further discussed at the semi-annual meeting on July 12.

Council reviewed a letter that was drafted to send to Wickmans outlining our expectations regarding the work that still needs to be done to our satisfaction.

New business: Only one person came for the workday on May 30. We may schedule another work day right before Rally Day, if it is needed. It may work better during the summer to have willing workers do what they can as they have time available.

Council will meet on the second Thursday in July, and then will go back to meetings on the second Tuesday of the month, beginning in August.

Church Opener for July: Nancy Anderson

The meeting was adjourned with the Lords' Prayer at 8:50.

Mary Lou Datema, secretary



Thank You
Notes

**WOMEN'S GUILD
Minutes of June 11, 2009**

Thank you for all the cards, calls and "kindnesses" after my accident. It really brightened my days. Thank you, especially to the Woman's Guild for the lovely prayer shawl. I kept it around me at night while I had to sleep in the recliner.

Thank you again.
Nancy Anderson

David and I would like to say a special Thank You. We have no words to express how we feel. The prayers, cards thoughts and financial help have been greatly appreciated.

David & Debbie Rahmoeller

Karl & Jeanne Kruger want to thank fellow church members for all the good thoughts and prayers as well as the many cards and visits. They have certainly helped Karl in his recovery and have meant so much to both of us.

Thank you for your gift of \$146.66 for our seminaries received during the months of January through March 2009. Through this gift you are providing critical support for Chicago, United and Eden Seminaries. Thank you for making this support a priority in your church and a reality for our seminaries!

Ann S. Moyer
Executive Director

Thank you for your congregation's recent gift of \$83.33 to our campus ministry @ The House. Your continuing support is important and greatly appreciated.

Best wishes,
Rev. Howard C. Cavner
Campus Minister

DEADLINE:
The Messenger
Items Due

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

The Women's Guild met June 11 at noon for their annual luncheon at Twin Oaks with 16 members and 2 visitors present.

Esther Steinhauer gave the devotion titled "Hand". Our prayer was given by Pastor Becky.

A prayer shawl made by Loy Swanson will be given to Judith Bartell. We all gathered around the shawl for a prayer. We enjoyed our luncheon and Patsy gave us some suggestions for future meetings.

Virginia Blumenstock
Secretary



Women's Guild Prayer Shawl Ministry

Women's Guild is participating in a Prayer Shawl ministry. We invite anyone who can knit or crochet to join us. The shawls are given, with a blessing, to church members who need our love and support. There is a basket on the Narthex floor for donations of new yarn and a sample shawl. Please call Loy Swanson at 881-8801 for simple instructions.

ADDRESS CHANGES



DIRECTORY ADDRESS CHANGES
Each time the post office notifies us of an address change, it costs 50¢. Please help the church save money by notifying the office of any address changes before the Post Office does. Thank you!



Altar
Flowers

FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP
Please note: Price Cutter Floral can provide a pair of two altar arrangements for \$40, including delivery to the church. The flower chart is on the easel in the narthex. When you sign up, please note whether you wish to order them through the church or get the flowers on your own. If you order flowers through the church, please make a check to the church and write "Flowers" on the memo line and enclose in an envelope marked "Flowers".



Congratulations are in order for three St. John's Chapel members who were nominated as Outstanding Volunteers of the Ozarks by the "Gift of Time" organization. Tona Griggs was nominated by St. John's Chapel for her volunteer work with the church and other entities and John & Perdie Scafe were nominated by National Active and Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 11 for their volunteer work.


They, along with 63 other nominees, were honored at a luncheon Thursday, June 18 at the Ramada Oasis Convention Center.

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Charles & Jane Dunham who are the proud Great-Grandparents of Zoi Nicole Stephenson, daughter of Allyson & Dustin Stephenson of Springfield. She weighed 7'10" and is 21" long.

<p>Sunday, July 5 Communion</p>	 <p>SERVICES THIS MONTH</p>
<p>Sunday, July 12 Bring Crosslines Food Semi-Annual Meeting & Carry-In Dinner</p>	
<p>Sunday, July 19 Guest Speaker: Samantha Hogenson from The House at MSU</p>	
<p>Sunday, July 26 Guest Speaker</p>	

	<p>The church will be opened in The month of July by: Nancy Anderson</p>
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CROSSLINES REPORT

During our June 9th Crosslines Day, groceries and milk were given to **70 families for a total of 171 people** (the numbers are increasing!). Our Crosslines pantry can use more of the following: *spaghetti sauce and spaghetti, peanut butter, jelly, soup, Ramen noodles, crackers, jello and pudding, dried beans, cornbread mix, canned luncheon loaf, tuna, pork 'n' beans, canned vegetables and fruit, soap, shampoo, toilet paper, and bags.*

Please bring food items by Sunday, July 12th, as our next Crosslines Day is July 14th. Sincere appreciation is extended to all who help provide for our monthly Crosslines Day!

**CHAPEL ENDOWMENT
FUND DONATIONS**

If you wish your memorial to go to the Endowment Fund, please make sure to write your wish in the memo line of your check. If you do not specify, the funds will be placed in the general memorial fund.

Fund List — Memorial, Endowment, Christian Education, Evangelism, Music Scholarship, Building and Grounds, and Unrestricted.

YOU CAN HELP BY SAVING the following items for various worthwhile causes. Collection containers are on the narthex tables. Best Choice UPC bar codes, Campbell Soup labels, General Mills Box Tops for Education, and printer cartridges. (Board of Service Ministries earns money for publicity.)

Summer Worship Services

The Worship Committee has decided to offer a summer worship style that will allow more time for singing hymns—sort of like what we do during Advent with our "Favorite Christmas Hymn Service." So again you are asked to **submit some of your favorite hymns** to be included in these services. In addition to favorite traditional hymns, we are looking at scattering in some new hymns for us to learn. Children, youth and young adults who have favorites from among the new hymns gaining popularity are asked to submit these. This way we are hoping to meet the needs and desires of a wide age span. Would it be fair to only consider the desires of some and not others? The kick-off date for these summer service is July 5, 2009.

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 1 | Krista Adams
Hillary Golding
Kim Cunningham
Pete Graham | 20 | Frankie Crable |
| 2 | Clint Williamson | 21 | Plyllis Bender |
| 3 | Grace Harper | 24 | Ashley Blackwell |
| 4 | Lisa Hutchinson
Alice Shoemaker | 25 | Kelsey Bartell |
| 5 | Irene Reed 80 | 26 | Caroline Pohlman |
| 9 | Maddy Kruse | 27 | Jim Barry
Joe Carpenter
Jordan Hendee |
| 10 | Clayton Bartell
Blake Daume
John Welde | 28 | Doris McMinn
Tim Thompson
Kenneth Webber 82 |
| 12 | Finley Brunner
Debbie Rahmoeller | 29 | Stephanie Long
Abby Ventrillo |
| 17 | Chris Bartell | 30 | Carrie Aho
Jim Datema |
| 18 | Churck Andrews
Bradley Hamm
Abby Hutchinson | 31 | Joshua Datema
Jake Russell |

Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------|
| 2 | Charles & Marsha Schatz | 28 | Mike & Jeri Shean 36 |
| 9 | Karl & Jeanne Kruger 43 | 30 | Jack & Michele Peacher 43 |
| 10 | Jerry & Vi Graham 49 | 31 | Wes & Amanda Summers |
| 18 | Paul & Jami Blackwell | | |
| 25 | Dr. Ed & Beth Williamson | | |

Special recognition is noted for birthdays over 80 years and anniversaries over 25 years.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

will meet at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church on Tuesday, July 23 at 6:30. All volunteers and anyone wishing to volunteer please attend this meeting at 815 E. Farm Rd 182. Directions: from UCC make a left/South turn; till you get to E. Briar St.; turn Right/West; at S. National Ave. turn left/South; (name changes to S. Farm Rd 163); at E. Farm Rd. 182 turn right/West (name changes to E. Plainview Rd)

SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Will be held after church on Sunday, July 12th. There will be a carry-in lunch.

WOMEN'S GUILD



Women's
Guild

The Women's Guild will meet on Thursday, July 9th at 1:00 pm. All women are invited to join us.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2009

MONTH	2008 INCOME	2008 EXPENSES	2009 INCOME	2009 EXPENSES	2009 BUDGET
January	\$12,843.28	\$14,105.78	\$8,721.00	\$12,589.53	\$13,973.18
February	\$10,352.93	\$11,486.45	\$13,122.09	\$11,840.50	\$12,519.18
March	\$18,535.07	\$16,499.27	\$10,678.00	\$13,803.93	\$15,300.68
April	\$15,517.71	\$13,557.35	\$13,066.90	\$11,570.28	\$12,469.18
May	\$16,555.88	\$29,607.56	\$15,511.25	\$13,535.42	\$12,601.68
June	\$13,100.00	\$16,269.75			\$14,798.18
July	\$12,217.89	\$13,664.47			\$11,969.18
August	\$14,110.42	\$12,599.08			\$12,001.68
September	\$9,886.00	\$14,575.30			\$14,698.18
October	\$12,814.48	\$13,423.81			\$13,169.18
November	\$15,640.00	\$11,683.90			\$13,022.53
December	\$22,717.17	\$21,175.19			\$13,559.18

OTHER FUNDS

Money Market \$53,201.21
 Building Fund CD \$3,467.58
 Regular Checking \$5,786.67

TOTAL CASH: \$62,455.46

2009 YTD Non-Budgeted Spending

Labyrinth \$13,537.90
 Building & Repairs \$34,917.30

NOTE: Income and Expenses include the total income and expenses for the month.

Please remember to bring your pledged giving up-to-date.

A review of the budget vs. actual may be obtained from the church office, if desired.



INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S GROUP

Will meet on Sunday, July 12th at 1 PM.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Board of Service Ministries** will meet on Monday, July 7 at 7:00 pm.
- Council** will meet on Thursday, July 9 at 6:30 pm.
- Board of Christian Education** will meet Tuesday, July 28 at 6:30 pm.
- Endowment Board Meeting** will be Wednesday, July 15 at 6:30 pm in the work room.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Will meet Tuesday, July 21 at 7 pm for a swim party & carry-in dinner at Mary Lou's



DISCERNMENT PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH.

You are invited to come to the church to pray for discernment on where God is calling us as a congregation. The group is presently learning about and doing Centering Prayer as its means of discerning the call of our congregation. We will have prayer time on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at noon. The prayer meeting times for this month are Tuesday, July 14th and 28th.

July 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5 10:30 am New Summer Service Begins Communion	6 7 pm Bd. of Service Ministers	7	8	9 1 pm Women's Guild 6:30 pm Council	10	11
12 Bring Crosslines Food 1 pm Independent Women's Group Semi-Annual Congregational Meet-	13 VBS Starts at Prince of Peace 6-8 pm	14 Crosslines Fish Day VBS	15 VBS	16 VBS	17 VBS	18
19 4:15 pm The Kitchen Guest Speaker: Samantha Horgenson from The	20 The Messenger Items Due	21 4:30 pm Friendship Circle Swin Party at Mary Lou Datema's—Supper around 6 pm	22	23	24	25
26 Guest Speaker	27	28 6:30 pm Bd. of Christian Ed.	29	30	31	

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April

