

Communigram



COMMUNITY
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

*A Just Peace, Progressive,
LGBT Open and Affirming Congregation*



From the Desk of Rev. Mulberry...

Jo even write about this past Sunday's Organic and Sustainable Feast seems to diminish it somehow. Wow! We had over 100 people show up to pick strawberries, take tours of the cheese making process (I almost got nipped by a goat!), do some cheese tasting and wine tasting, and feast! How wonderful it was to see our children playing, adults connecting, and people enjoying homemade goat cheese cheesecake with wild mulberries! My mother was the only one in our household who did not think wild mulberries were a good thing.

We have so many people to thank. Wes Jarrell and Leslie Cooperband, who own Prairie Fruits Farm, offered us all so much hospitality. Laurence Mate, local leader of the Slow Food Movement and Prairie Table, who shared the possibility of this idea over a year ago and was one of our cooks for the day, helped coordinate so much of this event. Many thanks go to Jeanne Ward, Pat Syoen, and Susan Schnuer for promoting and organizing the event. Thank you to all who loaded, delivered, and reloaded all the tables and chairs for our event. Finally, I am so thankful to all of you for your participation in such an incredible invitation to

feast with local, organic agriculture!

I have also asked Leslie for a listing of all the cooks and farms involved and will publish those so we might all express our gratitude and share in their continuing work for our community.

Many of you have asked about the grant we received from the Valparaiso University Project on the Education and Formation of People in Faith. The grant was for about \$4500 and allowed us to make this feast affordable to everyone. The Valparaiso Project is funded by Lilly Endowment Inc., a private family foundation in Indianapolis. The mission of the Valparaiso Project is to develop resources that speak to the spiritual hunger of their contemporaries with the substantive wisdom of the Christian faith, especially as this wisdom takes shape in Christian practices. The Project accomplishes its mission by conducting seminars, commissioning books, developing interactive resources for adults and youth, and supporting innovative strategies to strengthen participation in Christian practices in a variety of life settings.

The extent of our grant does not end with this feast. Come this

fall, Laurence Mate will be taking people on a tour through the Urbana Market, help us buy produce, and then return to the church for some cooking classes. Our hope is that Laurence's classes will help us think more organically and locally. The original cost for the classes was \$10 per person. Through the grant, we can do up to 20 people at \$3 per person.

Later in the fall we will be offering scholarships for Community Supported Agriculture shares from local, organic farms. The cost ranges from about \$410 to \$450. With the Valparaiso Project grant, we will be able to offer six shares (split up however people wish to split them up) at a cost of \$100 to \$150.

Susan Schnuer and Jack Paxton have also talked about leading another Just Eating class! So this ministry continues to shape us as we shape our community. My spiritual hunger was well fed at an incredible feast on Sunday. I will be interested to see if folks think we can make this a yearly event!

Shalom,

Mike



Moderator Musings

The Just Eating Feast was clearly a successful event from my viewpoint. I am glad that so many people made it out and that the weather was beautiful for it. As we move forward in this justice endeavor, I pray that we see the meaning in these events and the impact on people that food production has.



The community is clearly in an energetic time (even though it is Summer)!

At the Administrative Committee meeting, we officially blessed the leadership of the two task groups that were created at the last Congregational meeting.

The Administrative Committee met on June 5 for a good meeting. We were presented with the wonderful work that Sophie Gerstenecker and Mike have done on creating an up-to-date marriage policy. Clearly I am biased, but the marriage policy is looking really great. The committee also agreed to continue our 510 East Daniel lease with the University. The University was very gracious and modified the new lease to be a one year term with two one year renewal options. Scott Bush was instrumental in discussing our desire to have more flexibility with that property in the coming years.

Eileen Gebbie is the task leader for the Visioning/Discernment process and Howie Guenther is the task leader for the process to define our Building Options. Besides these two task groups, we are also forming a nimble group of five to propose our church structure/polity for the future. At this time, I am waiting on a few people's 'yes' responses before publicizing the group. I am certain that you will be hearing much more from each of these three groups in the coming months! Please open up to them about your desires and dreams for the church.

Peace,

David Gerstenecker

Call for Building Options Task Group Members

Would you like to participate in the evaluation of alternatives for the future development of the CUCC facilities? If so, then please join the Build-

ing Options Task Group! We plan to start meeting soon, and welcome anyone to become involved. We also plan to hold open meetings, so even if you'd prefer not be a formal member of the Group, you will certainly

have ample opportunity to provide input.

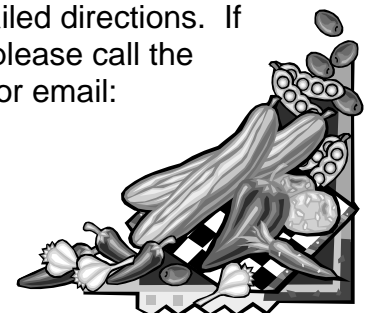
Contact the church office (344-5091) or info@community-ucc.org.

Volunteer Opportunities!

The Agricultural Shares Program began May 3rd

Drivers are needed every Wednesday during the growing season (May 3rd to November 15th). Shares are picked up between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. and delivered to Women in Transition, and A Women's Place. It takes less an hour for pick-up and deliveries. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the Office Door. You

will be provided with detailed directions. If you have any questions please call the Church office: 344-5091 or email: info@community-ucc.org



Calendar

6/15, Thursday ~ 9:00 am-3:00 pm Art's Camp;
9:00 am Bulletin Deadline; **8:00 pm** AA (FH)

6/16, Friday ~ 9:00 am-3:00 pm Art's Camp;
5:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal; **8:00 pm** CUCC vs
Vineyard Yellow, Dexter Field

6/17, Saturday ~ 9:00 am Women's Book Club
Espresso Royale by Krannert; **Noon** Wedding

6/18, Sunday ~ 8:45 am Choir Rehearsal (S);
9:30 am Worship ~ Childcare is provided during
the worship service; **10:30 am** Coffee Hour (P);
No Youth Group so that you can enjoy your fa-
thers!

6/19, Monday ~ 9:00 am-3:00 pm Art's Camp

6/20, Tuesday ~ 9:00 am-3:00 pm Art's Camp

6/21, Wednesday ~ '06 Women's Even "Dream
on Sisters" in Indianapolis; **9:00 am-3:00 pm**
Art's Camp; **Noon** Prayer Protest;

6/22, Thursday ~ '06 Women's Even "Dream on
Sisters" in Indianapolis; **9:00 am-3:00 pm** Art's
Camp; **9:00 am** Bulletin Deadline; **8:00 pm** AA
(FH)

6/23, Friday ~ '06 Women's Even "Dream on
Sisters" in Indianapolis; **9:00 am-3:00 pm** Art's
Camp; **6:00 pm** CUCC vs Vineyard Green,
Dodd's Field 7

6/24, Saturday ~ '06 Women's Even "Dream on
Sisters" in Indianapolis; **9:00 am** Women's Book
Club Espresso Royale by Krannert; ~ **7:00 pm**
Art's Camp Performance

6/25, Sunday ~ '06 Women's Even "Dream on
Sisters" in Indianapolis; **7:00 am** Youth Group
leave for Work Trip to Alderson, WV; **8:45 am**
Choir Rehearsal (S); **9:30 am** Worship with Arts
Camp ~ Childcare is provided during the worship
service; **10:30 am** Coffee Hour (P) **No Youth
Group**

6/26, Monday ~ 10:00 am Communigram Dead-
line; **7 pm** Devil's Highway

6/28, Wednesday ~ Noon Prayer Protest

6/29, Thursday ~ 9:00 am Bulletin Deadline;
8:00 pm AA (FH)

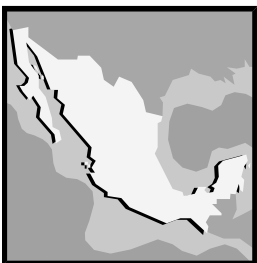
Key: FH=Fellowship Hall, CR=Conference Room, S=Sanctuary, P=Parlor, L=Library, TR=Tower Room, R1...5=Lower Level Classrooms

Monday Morning Vacation

Summer is here and so that Rev. Mike Mulberry might enjoy more time with his family he will be taking the next seven Mon-

day mornings as vacation time. The church office will still be open at 9 am.

The Devil's Highway Study beginning Monday, June 26



Beginning on Monday, June 26, we will begin our study of The Devil's Highway: A True Story by Luis Urrea. The

Devil's Highway refers to old track through some of the most inhospitable climates of the Arizona desert on the Mexican border, where temperatures are regularly well above 100 degrees and any person would need two gallons of water a day to survive. It is the true story of a group of 26 men who crossed the border from Mexico illegally in May,

2001, and got lost along The Devil's Highway. Twelve men managed to survive. Urrea not only chronicles their descent into hell on earth, but the economic and cultural forces that drove them to attempt such a risky trek in search of a better life. Caught as pawns between governments and tempted by smugglers who seek only to profit from others' despair, these men were willing to take that risk, with disastrous consequences. The Devil's Highway has received positive reviews with the Detroit Free Press saying, "It's a beautiful book about a horrible trip."

Recommended by the immigration resolution passed by the Illi-

nois Conference at its recent annual meeting, the book offers an anecdotal understanding of our current immigration situation. Rev. Tom Montgomery-Fate has written a beautiful review of the book for the Boston Globe at http://www.boston.com/ae/books/articles/2004/04/25/to_hell_and_back/.

The class will go for four weeks on Mondays, beginning June 26, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Please contact Rev. Mulberry if you are interested. Rev. Mulberry has already ordered five copies to be held back at Pages for All Ages in Savoy.

Community Cares

Our prayers are with...
Mary Forbes, her family, and our church community as we grieve the loss of Richard Forbes.

Jean Due, who recently broke both of her wrists

Kellee Weinhold, who lost her grandfather this last weekend.

Bryan Duffield, who lost his grandmother this past week.

A special fund has been established...

in memory of Alice McClure (Caryl Henkel's mother) that would allow the Religious Education Director to draw funds to be used for special projects for either the Sunday School or the Youth Group. As an R.E. Director for many years she had often mentioned how handy such a fund would be and would be thrilled to be able to provide one for our wonderful Education/ Youth program. If you would like to donate to this fund, make your check out to Community United Church of Christ and mark your check "Alice McClure Education Fund" in the memo line.

Celebrating the birth of...

Frasier, born to Beth Robischon and Bruce Smith

Celebrating the Holy Baptism of...

Jerry Hoganson Gammie, Annemily Gammie Hoganson, and Edith Gammie Hoganson on Sunday, June 11, 2006. They are the children of Charles Gammie and Kristin Hoganson.

An 80th Birthday Celebration...

for Elizabeth Easley is planned for Sunday, July 2. Elizabeth Easley will celebrate her 80th birthday on Monday July 3, 2006.

Lynn Carter and Christy Brinkley would like to invite everyone who attends church at Crystal Lake Park on Sunday, July 2, to celebrate this special event with her after worship. A birthday cake will be served and some of her family will be in attendance during worship on that Sunday. Please plan to stay after worship and wish her Happy Birthday on July 2, 2006.



Thank You

To my friends at CUCC,
Thank you for all of the support you gave to me and to the campus ministry during my years in Champaign. It truly meant a lot to me to have a church home, and I will miss you.

Sincerely,
Lindsey Gehrig

Coffee Hosts

June



18 ~ Becky and Brian Duffield

25 ~ Iris and Burt Swanson

July

2 ~ Outdoor Service

9 ~ Curt and Jan Wilson

16~ Martha Seif and Becky and Jack Hanson

23 ~ Paul and Rebecca Eubig

30 ~ Iris and Burt Swanson

Nursery News

Summer in the Nursery

During the summer months, we will have a rotation of Nursery Care Providers. You will be seeing Jessica Bush, Julia Kara, Abe Mulberry and Raymond Smith caring for our littlest ones on any given Sunday. Each of these young people have experience taking care of children; some have

younger siblings that they have taken care of, some have completed babysitting courses, some have been serving in our Nursery. Each Sunday, there will also be an Adult Volunteer in the Nursery.

The Nursery will be staffed from 8:45 am (for Choir Rehearsal) until 10:45 am. While in the Nursery,

our children will have the opportunity to play, color, read and be read to, and enjoy a snack.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please speak with any member of the Religious Education Task Force, or with Tracy.

Summer Nursery Schedule

	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Adult Volunteer</u>
June 18:	Jessica Bush Abe Mulberry	Charles Gammie/ Kristin Hoganson
June 25:	Abe Mulberry	Deirdre McGlone/Stig Lanesskog
July 2	No Nursery Care as we Worship in the Park	
July 9:	Abe Mulberry Julia Kara	Todd/Sarah Isaacs
July 16	Jessica Bush Abe Mulberry	Sophie Gerstenecker
July 23	Jessica Bush Abe Mulberry	Becky Hanson
July 30	Jessica Bush Julia Kara	We need a volunteer



Big Kids News

Yoga in the Big Kid's Room

We continue to offer The Big Kid's Room (for children entering Kindergarten through 2nd grade) following the the room. During the summer months, light to see them stretching like snakes, like warriors, and exploding like volcanoes! It is also a delight to see them fully relaxed and meditating.



Room (for children entering Kindergarten Children's Time. David Robertson staffs our big kids are learning Yoga! It is a de-roaring like lions, standing tall and strong

We are still trying to find an instructor who will teach the class. In the meantime, Tracy is trying to lead the yoga with the help of a video. Luckily, Dianna Black is able to bring her expertise to the class sometimes also!



Sponsors Introduce More New Members

From Stig Lanesskog

Trent Moore grew up on a farm in the small town of Niantic, which is between Decatur and Springfield. For the first twenty years of his life he was a member of the Disciples of Christ Christian Church in Niantic where he was baptized. Trent then attended the U of I where he got his degree in Technical Systems Management. Next he accepted a position in Hawaii where he met his wife Angela. They lived in Hawaii for two years and then moved back to Central Illinois landing in Monticello. Trent will be starting a new job in the coming weeks as an Agricultural Design Engineer for a small company in Gifford Illinois. Angela and Trent initially

came to the church because they attended a UCC service in Northern Illinois and enjoyed the progressive nature of the church. After attending a few services at Community UCC they decided that this was the kind of church they wanted to become members of.

From Deirdre Lanesskog

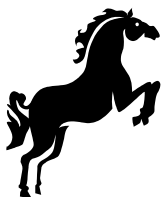
Angela Moore was born and raised a Cornhusker in a small town in rural Nebraska. She grew up working in the corn fields and did every kind of field work imaginable such as detasseling, pollinating, roguing, and cutting thistles. After graduating from high school, she attended the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Angela graduated with a double major in Organizational Communication and Sociology with an em-

phasis in Spanish. She concentrated on intercultural communication classes because she wanted to see the world. Shortly after graduating Angela was able to do just that. She accepted the Safety Coordinator position for Hawaii with Pioneer Hi-Bred. Angela served the Pioneer parent seed locations on Kauai and Oahu. While living on Kauai, she met her husband Trent who worked at the Pioneer Hi-Bred research station. They enjoyed many beautiful sunsets on the beach, but eventually decided to move back to the Midwest. Angela now works for Monsanto (Dekalb) as a Research Assistant for the Trait Integration department in Flatville. She has enjoyed living here in Illinois and She's thankful for joining the Community United Church of Christ.

Summer Camps

The Illinois Conference of the UCC has a variety of Summer Camps that are still open. Pilgrim Park is located in Princeton, IL. Tower Hill is located on the shores of Lake Michigan. Camp brochures are available on the table outside the church office.

Of special interest, are the camps that will be staffed by folks from Community! Sophie Gerstenecker will be a Counselor at **Riding Camp, August 6-12**. A week specially designed for the horse enthusiast. Campers go to a nearby stable to participate in proper grooming techniques, trail rides, barrel rolls and other fun horsing around activities. Weekly activities also include swimming, campfires, Bible study, canoeing, hiking, games, crafts, and the



ropes course. This camp is open to those in 6th-9th grade. Jessica Bush has attended this camp in the past; ask her for more details!

Rev. Mike is a co-director of **Peace Camp, July 23-28**. Karl and Travis Duffield will be counselors, with Jake and Abe Mulberry and Paul Kordik as campers. Campers will learn to understand and appreciate what it takes to make peace –with self, others and different cultures. They will also have opportunities to enjoy sports, games, arts and drama – all focused on learning to make peace.



Our church offers Camp Scholarships of \$50 towards the cost of these camps. If you are interested, please see Tracy.

A Message From the Rev. Dr. Jane Fidler Hoffman

If you ever wonder where your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, Blanket Sunday, and CROP Walk really go or where church's efforts to put together health/personal hygiene kits are used, **read below** about our immediate response through Church World Service to those displaced by the Indonesian volcano. Imagine: 10,000 kits! Keep up the great work! *(By the way, women attending the Mix in 06 will be assembling health kits in Indianapolis in June so you may give contributions to anyone attending, including me! **See what's included in this health kit below.***

Blessings,

Jane Rev. Dr. Jane Fidler Hoffman
Illinois Conference Minister

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM

INDONESIA VOLCANO: SITUATION REPORT

May 22, 2006

SITUATION: The area around Mount Merapi in central Java, Indonesia, continues to remain under alert following last week's volcanic eruptions that threaten the safety of hundreds of nearby residents and has caused the evacuation of more than 5,000 people.

Though initial shots of hot ash and gas that marked eruptions early last week have not been repeated, the area near the volcanic mountain remains under highest alert and officials have said the area remains dangerous.

A 3.7-mile zone around the mountain has been declared off-limits - though many residents remain within the zone and have refused to leave.

A 3 million-cubic-yard lava "dome" still poses a threat and could collapse, according to scientists.

RESPONSE: On Sunday, Church World Service Indonesia began distributing 435 health kits to internally displaced persons in Merapi. The distribution took place at the Boyolali Selo camp, Central Java, and occurred in the villages of Trogolele and Jakrah village, as well as in two shelters in nearby schools.

CWS plans to distribute an additional 10,000 packages of hygiene kit and 2,000 blankets.



Health Kit

- One hand towel
- One washcloth
- One comb
- One metal nail file or nail clipper with file
- One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- One toothbrush (in original packaging)
- One tube of toothpaste (4-7 ounces)

- Six Band-Aids

Seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure. Or, if you prefer, a **donation** of \$12 will allow Church World Service to provide a Health Kit.

Processing/Shipping: \$2.00 per Kit

Please have items at the church by Wednesday morning, June 21.

Prayer Protest Continues!

Each Wednesday at noon for the past two years members and friends have met at the northeast front entrance of the Church to provide campus ministry

folk with "Gorp" or "Trail Mix" containing Words of Compassion for those suffering in Iraq. Bring your sack lunch and join us in distributing "food for thought" and some lively conver-

sation. If you are interested in providing "gorp" or "trail mix" please drop it off in the church office. You could also make a monetary contribution to help with the cost of the mix.

Community Youth Group News



Youth will continue meeting this summer on Sundays from 6-8 pm in the Tower Room excluding June 18 & 25th and July 2. All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us!
Youth Group Resumes Sunday, July 9!

Youth Group Work Trip



Are you ready? The time is fast approaching! On Sunday, June 25th, work trip participants will gather at the church at 6:45 am to load up the van. We'll head out at 7:00 am and begin our journey to Alderson, West Virginia! We need to be at the Community Center for a 7:30 pm Orientation Session.



We've collected \$60 towards our work supplies. We hope to purchase the needed items (safety goggles, dust



masks, work gloves and hammers) in Alderson. Thanks to those who have contributed towards the supply fund, and to everyone who attended the 12th Night Feast, who bid at the Silent Auction, and who have encouraged and supported us in so many ways.

On Sunday, June 18th, the work trip participants will be commissioned during the worship service. Please pray for Emily Ward, Jeff and Paul Offenbecher, Laurence and Sam Mate, David Burns, Julia Kara, Nathan Smith, Raymond Smith, Jessica Bush and Tracy Heilman as they travel to West Virginia, and partner with the families of Alderson.

A number of Christian ministers and laypeople from a variety of mainstream denominations will walk 2,500 miles across the country, from Phoenix, Arizona to Washington, DC. The walk started on April 16, 2006 (Easter Sunday) and will be traveling through our area on July 22, 23, and 24. They will be carrying copies of The Phoenix Affirmations - a set of twelve theological values that clearly articulate Christianity from a progressive Christian standpoint. *Among the affirmations are some of what they believe to be some of Jesus' core values:* openness to other faiths; care for the earth

Hospitality Needed for

and its ecosystems; valuing artistic expression in all its forms; authentic inclusiveness of all people - including God's lesbian/gay/ bisexual/transgender (lgbt) community; opposing the commingling of Church and State; promoting the values of rest and recreation, prayer and reflection; embracing both faith and science in the pursuit of truth.

This movement was founded by UCC teacher and pastor, Rev. Eric Elnes, and has received great acclaim from former CUCC member, Lanie Dickel. Elnes began CrossWalk as a response to multimedia giants Clear Channel and Viacom refusing to



allow billboards that advertised God's inclusive love. In contrast, Rev. Steve Shoemaker already has the group scheduled for his radio program, "Keeping the Faith" on WILL AM-580 when the group rolls through town in July.

So hospitality (food and lodging) is needed for nine different people who will be in our area that weekend. Please help us give voice to this important Christian movement.



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OF CHRIST

*A Just Peace, Progressive,
LGBT Open and Affirming Congregation*



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Parish Nurse: Linda Morgan

Community Life Calendar Keeper:

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Ombuds Person: Deborah Townsend

dtown34@sbcglobal.net

Child Care Providers: Laurie Lyter, Jessica

Bush, David Robertson

UCC CAMPUS MINISTRY STAFF

Campus Minister: Rev. Karen Bush

Karen@community-ucc.org

Communigram

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Urbana, IL
Permit No. 18

The next Communigram will be mailed out on June 28.

Summer Sunday Schedule

8:45 am ~ Choir Rehearsal

Sunday School Resumes in September

9:30 am ~ Worship

Childcare is provided during the Worship Service

10:30 am ~ Coffee Hour

6-8 pm ~ Youth Group

Don't Miss Community UCC's

Outdoor Service at Crystal Lake Park

Sunday, July 2 at 9:30 am Worship

(Pavilion Reserved in Case of Rain)



What to Bring:

- ⇒ Lawn Chairs or Blankets
- ⇒ Your Own Picnic Lunch (following worship)
- ⇒ We have the Pavilion reserved until 2 pm

