

COMMUNIGRAM

VOLUME 39, ISSUE 16 SEPTEMBER 12, 2007

FROM THE DESK OF REV. MULBERRY

The adult education process at Community United Church of Christ is referred to as CODAC (Community Observes, Discerns, Acts, and Celebrates). The hope in this process is that we use our education to join with God for real life and action in the world. We learn together. We learn from each other.

This fall we will offer two different educational experiences.

1. Living the Questions

Every year our educational process focuses on one of our three identity statements as a just peace, open and affirming, progressive Christianity church. This year our educational process will fo-

cus on our identity as a progressive Christianity church.

The Center for Progressive Christianity developed a curriculum entitled "Living the Questions." This curriculum has assembled professional theologians, spiritual mentors, and Biblical scholars (e.g., Marcus Borg, Rita Nakashima Brock, Amy Jill-Levine, John Shelby Spong) to share their diverse insights and understandings on a variety of themes. The curriculum is not designed to provide final answers as much as challenge us with important questions for discernment to decide what's next for Christianity.

At least three different groups will offer three different themes for study: invitation to journey, reclaiming the world, and call to covenant. Each theme offers seven different sessions. Depending on the decisions of the facilitator and the will of each group, each session can last anywhere from an hour to two and a half hours. The length of sessions will depend on whether a meal, a tea ceremony, or light refreshments are offered.

Each group will meet once a month. Each group will have the same three ten-minute prayer services: one for the opening session, one for the halfway point, and one to close the group's time together.

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This Fall we
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experiences...

BIBLE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH

This Sunday, we will once again pass of the stories of our faith to our new Kindergarten students, and



our new Junior High students. We also present Bibles to those children and young people who have joined us since last Bible Sunday. This year, we are happy to present Bibles to the following children:

Will Eubig

Adrian Robinson

Anna Cattell

D.J. Cattell

Noah Dobson

Isabella Solis

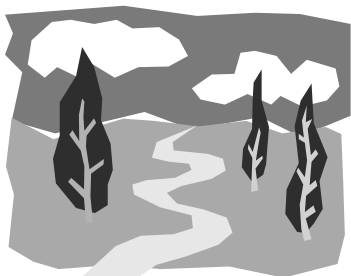
Coleman Solis

Katie Carnahan

(Continued from page 1)

One of the groups will meet during the day at Clark-Lindsey Village. Other groups will meet during the evening at the home of Ellen Kordik and Tom Watembach or the home of Jeanne and Tom Ward. Times and days will be announced. If you are interested in facilitating or participating in a group, ***please call the church office.*** Groups will begin in September and October.

Expectations will involve regular attendance and participation.



Mapping a Spiritual Path: Creating a Spiritual Rule Outside the Monastery

The other educational experience developed out of a sermon I gave earlier this year. There are many different ways to mentor and educate spiritual life. I offer this educational experience as one. Resources will be used from Joan Chittister, Roberta Bondi, Julian of Norwich, Hildegard of Bingen, and the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center.

On Sunday mornings beginning this Sunday, September 16, at 9:00 a.m., I will be leading an educational experience that will focus on developing spiritual practices in discernment, meditation, study, prayer, and fasting. Christian monasticism and spiritual practices were developed as a response to the Ro-

man Empire. Living in a time of Empire ourselves, how do we develop practices to affirm our Christian faith?

Two readings and a syllabus are available for the first class. Each reading for the class will be approximately two to three pages in length. Please contact Rev. Mulberry if you need the material for the first session.

Expectations will involve reading the material for study, meeting regularly with a spiritual partner, and study of your own spiritual history.

Shalom

Mike

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY



Sunday, October 7th is *World Wide Communion Sunday* and we will be celebrating with breads from other countries. We are looking for volunteers to bake or

buy a loaf of bread from another country. If you are interested and willing to help, please contact either Pat Syoen or Peg Wade.

CUCC CARES

Our sympathy is extended to:

- ⇒ Audrey Vallance following the death of her mother
- ⇒ Vicki Burkhalter following the death of her brother

CUCC's thoughts and prayers are with them and their families.



To the members of CUC:

Our family wants to thank you all for your support during our difficult pregnancy whether thoughts and prayers, dinners, flowers, cards, phone calls, personal visits, helping with TJ and the

horses or something I've forgotten to mention was your gift, we appreciate each and everyone of you and what you have given us, a loving church family!

Love, Joe & Diana, TJ & David

A CALL FOR HELP

If you have any old dish towels or dish cloths that you are not using anymore and would like to donate to the Church, you can leave them in either of the kitchens. Our supply has been depleted and we are in need.

Thank you,

Becky and Pat



SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF THIS WEEK!

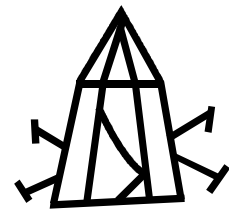
We had a wonderful turn out for Rally Day, with nearly 30 children attending with their families. We are ready to journey with Abraham and Sarah, as we learn about their faithful walk with God, and explore our own.



tent for singing and stories. We will continue to hear more about Sarah and Abraham, and find out if they ever have a baby. We'll laugh along with them!

Many thanks to those who will lead our children in the coming weeks: Our shepherds Jennifer Kelleher, Jim Carnahan and Colie Huppertz, and our teachers: Susan Requa, Patricia Brady, Jeanne Ward, Denise and Tony Oligney-Estill, Sophie Gerstenecker and Joe Omosagie. And of course, too

Patricia Donohue who greets the children each morning as they arrive.



That journey begins this week at 9:00 am as we gather under the

CUCC YOUTH GROUP



Youth Group last week was a blast. The banner was so gorgeous, I displayed it in the entryway. Check out our "journey." I still can't believe that 11 of us consumed 32 servings of ice cream. Many agree, we don't want to see or hear about Ice Cream for a very long time!

Looking forward to a great year. Please make it a point to be at youth group each week! We miss you when you're gone.

Sept. 16, 6-8 pm: Meet at Old Orchard Links in Savoy for a round of Mini Golf. You'll need to bring \$5 for the game; we'll supply the pizza and pop. If you have a friend you've wanted to

bring to Youth Group, this is the perfect opportunity!

Sept. 23: Our own Jennifer Little will be ordained at 3 pm. I'd like for us to be present to support her and celebrate with her.

Sept. 30: Expectations, communication, and surviving! 6-8 pm in the Tower Room

Looking forward to a great year...

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Women's Fellowship Program

Meets the second Thursday of the month

2007-2008

EXPLORING OUR MISSION:

FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE, EDUCATION, INSPIRATION

Chair	Jean Creswell
Vice-Chair	Becky Hanson
Treasurer	Marianna Janssen
Secretary	Jean Due
Representative to Church Women United	Becky Hanson
Courtesy and Concern	Ruth Fisher
Soup for TIMES Center	Janice Wilson

All women of the church are members of the Women's Fellowship and are encouraged to join us for fellowship and study. Call the church office or Jean Creswell, (359-1877) if transportation is needed.

September 14, 2007

Friday, 11:30 am at St. Mary's Parish Hall

Coordinator: Becky Hanson

Program: Potluck Salad Luncheon with Church Women United to honor early leaders in the organization including Mary Forbes and her mother

October 10, 2007

Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. at Clark Lindsey

Hostess: Ruth Fisher

Devotions and Program: The Rev. Mike Mulberry will speak on Immigration Issues and the new Sanctuary Policy

November 8, 2007

Thursday, 1:00 p.m. at Crisis Nursery

Hostess: Elizabeth Easley

Program: Kristin Yettke, Director, will conduct a tour and explain the Crisis Nursery program

December 8, 2007

Saturday, 1:00 p.m. at the home of the Rev. Karen Bush

Hostesses: Pat Barnhart and Tei Barnhart

Devotions: Jean Creswell

Program: Music by UCC Foundation members

No January meeting**February 14, 2008**

Thursday, 1:00 p.m. at Clark Lindsey

Hostess: Becky Hanson

Program: Valentine's Day Tea benefiting Women in Transition

March 13, 2008

Thursday, 1:00 p.m. at Clark Lindsey

Hostess: Frances Kurtz

Devotions: Marianna Janssen

Program: Jan Wilson will discuss Medical Tourism in Bangkok, Thailand

April 10, 2008

Saturday, at 12:00 noon Luncheon and Program at Clark Lindsey

Hostess: Jean Due

Devotions and Program: The Rev. Tom Norwalk, Conference Minister, will discuss Conference Issues

May 8, 2008

Thursday, 1:00 p.m. at Mary Ellen Schroeder's home

Hostess: Pat McQuillen

Devotions: Jean Due

Program: Margareth Etienne will speak on "Weighing the Value of Life: A Study of Infanticide in West Africa."

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
JUST PEACE, LGBTQ OPEN AND AFFIRMING

805 S. Sixth Street, Champaign, IL 61820
Phone: (217) 344-5091
FAX: (217) 344-5008

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Michael Mulberry

mike@community-ucc.org

Religious Education Director:

Rev. Tracy Heilman

tracy@community-ucc.org

REM Assistant: Judy Tiffin

judy@community-ucc.org

Choir Director: Robert Smith

smithrob@champaignschools.org

Organist: Linda Vaughn

lindavaughn@community-ucc.org

Facilities Manager: Robert Scaggs

bobscaggs@community-ucc.org

Office Manager: Cindy Dodd

info@community-ucc.org

Parish Nurse: Linda Morgan

Community Life Calendar Keeper:

Jennifer Kelleher

jlk208@gmail.com

Child Care Providers: Laura Czopek,

Jessica Bush, Julia Kara

UCC Campus Ministry Staff

Campus Minister: Rev. Karen Bush

karen@community-ucc.org

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The next Communigram will be mailed out on September 26.

Information for Any Scheduling at CUCC

To schedule any meetings or events to be located at CUCC please contact Jennifer Kelleher at jlk208@gmail.com.

Sunday Schedule

9:00 am Sunday School

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal

10:15 am Worship

11:30 am Coffee Hour

6:00 pm CUCC Youth Group