

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

COMMUNIGRAM

VOLUME 40, ISSUE 10 SEPTEMBER 25, 2008

MODERATOR'S MUSINGS

Times of transition are hard. We have been experiencing this for the past several months. I continue to be amazed at how well we come together as a church, during this time. I have come to realize that it is because of the great people in our congregation that we can continue to thrive.

I want to thank so many of the individuals who have gone "above and beyond" over the past few months. Because there are so many, I can not name them all, and that is the reason we making it through this challenging time. I do want to thank a few key people. Peg Wade and the members of the Worship committee for filling the pulpit and ensuring that our Sunday services run smoothly. Jennifer Kelleher and the Personnel committee for working on our contracts and personnel challenges. Peg Wade (again!) and the members of the interim pastor search committee for tirelessly attempting to identify a person to help us through our transition. And finally, my fellow members of the Church Life Board.

All of you are the reason that I am proud to be part of Community United Church of Christ and I know that our best times together are ahead of us.

Take care,

Stig Lanesskog

WORSHIP AT COMMUNITY UCC

October 12 - Linda Morgan is Preaching

October 26 - Rev. Karen Bush is Preaching

PASTORAL CARE AT CUCC

Once again, the gracious Rev. Karen Bush will be watching over us. Karen will not have specific office hours, but please feel free to call her or email her and she will be happy to set up a time to meet with you individually. Her email address is ks-bush@illinois.edu and her phone numbers are 217-398-1173 (home) and 217-0417-1109 (cell phone).

The **Deadline** for the Next **Communigram** is **October 24th at Noon**, it will be sent out on the 28th.

THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP - SMALL CHANGE

"Let me light my lamp, says the star, and never debate if it will help to remove the darkness." – Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore

For months now, the Financial Resources Development Team has been asking you to think about your spiritual journey and how being a part of our congregation helps you on that journey. As we now move as a community into the autumn and the time of our annual Stewardship Campaign, the Financial Resources Development Team would like you to start thinking about some small change that we can all make together.

Small change, when defined as the choices we make, is not always easy, but it is a lot easier than big change or massive overhauls. Small change, when defined as the coins we place in the offering plate, does not amount to much on its own, but when added to the small change of others it can remake the world. We are looking for some small change, because if we all make a little and give a little it will create big change.

From those members or friends who did not pledge last year for whatever reason, the small change we would like from you is a pledge. From those who did pledge last year, please consider increasing your pledge by just a few dollars more. We don't want you to sell the farm, cash in your child's college fund, or spend yourself in debtors' prison, but thoughtfully consider what impact a regular monetary commitment of few dollars more each week can make to the life and work of our church.

Last year, we had 68 pledges. Imagine what we could do if we had 75 pledges. With 75 pledge units giving just one dollar a week more than last year, we would have another \$3,900; that's enough to cover the expenses of our Church School Program and then some. With 75 pledge units, giving \$5 more a week than last year, we would have another \$19,500; that's enough to take our church from survival mode to opportunity mode. For the price of a gourmet coffee, we can go from a church that pays its bills to a church that is going places, but only if we do it as a Community United.

The theme of this year's stewardship campaign is "Community United, where we are invested in our name." Over the course of the next few weeks, please consider the place that our community has in your life and the small changes that you can make to help us reach our potential as a community.

Stewardship Sunday will be November 9th.

We hope to see you there,

Michelle Franke, Vicky Robertson, and Kellee Weinhold

Financial Resources Development Team

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." Peter 4:10

PARKING LOT SALE SUCCESS!

Thanks to the monumental effort put forth by our fantastic Congregation, the first ever CUCC Parking Lot Sale was a roaring success; making over \$2000. Before the day was even over, plans were already being made for next year's bigger and better sale.

Small items of furniture such as tables and bookcases were especially popular as were adult winter coats. When you are cleaning out your closets and basements in the coming year, please keep the items in mind for the Second Annual Sale next August.

See you next year,

Michelle Franke, Vicky Robertson, and Kellee Weinhold

Financial Resources Development Team

GET THE SCOOP!

ADULT EDUCATION NEWS - LIVING THE QUESTIONS

If you would enjoy education and conversation about topics in progressive Christianity, we have a good opportunity for you! The first of 3 groups using the "Living the Questions" curriculum will be starting back up again on Monday, October 13th at the home of Tom and Jeanne Ward at 7:00 p.m. This group will be meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month. (The other 2 groups will be meeting at alternate times and locations, TBA.) The format of the classes is that we use a combination of readings (homework optional) and a short DVD segment on a given topic or question facing progressive Christians. The materials provides a jumping off point for further conversation and discussion about the topic. Last year's groups found the materials to be very interesting and full of discussion-potential. Please contact the Wards if you'd like more information or to let us know you'd like to join us on the 13th (344-1619, jeawa@comcast.net).

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! NEW MEMBER CLASS!

After a brief hiatus due to the transitions within our church, the God Is Still Speaking Task Force is delighted to bring you the fall class for people who may be interested in membership at Community U.C.C. We plan to meet on Saturday morning, October 18th, from 9 a.m. until 12:00 noon. (Yes, it is a football weekend, but not until evening!) Refreshments will be provided, and childcare will be available if you let us know that you need it. The purpose of the class will be to inform you about the United Church of Christ as a whole, about the values, practices, and beliefs of our local church, of the relatively new structure by which we organize and run our church, and of course to answer questions that you may have. There is no pressure to join the church, but if you should decide after taking the orientation class that you would like to officially become a member here, we will then meet to talk about the specifics of that process. And of course, we are ever seeking to make our circle of Community wider, by having you become a part of it! Please contact the church office to let them know that you plan to attend, and whether or not you will need childcare. Contact CUCC office at 344-5091 or info@community-ucc.org.

BOOK CLUB

Do you like to read? Come meet with us for coffee, conversation and fun! The Women's Book Group will be meeting most Saturday mornings at 9:00 at **Pages for All Ages**.

As a change from the past, we will focus on only one book per month. For our more challenging books, we may divide them up into chapters to talk about each week. However, we will for sure have a significant conversation about the book in question on the last Saturday of the month (with possibly some exceptions on holiday months - we'll have to talk a little more about that.) We'll talk about information about the author and have discussion questions to guide our conversations. On the weeks that are not our "significant conversation" weeks, we can talk about parts of the book we've read so far, other books we've read that we think others may enjoy, the state of the world, and of course, our lives in general.

We have a list of books to get us through April so you can get started reading! We've tried to pick books from a variety of authors and genres, so hopefully you'll find something you like, and if not, suggest something for May!

September - The Pale Blue Eye by Louis Bayard

October - Three Cups of Tea by Mortenson and Relin

November - Pigtopia by Kitty Fitzgerald

December - (keeping it light during the busy holidays) - The Stupidest Angel by Christopher Moore

January - Georgie by Malachy Doyle

February - Suite Francaise (historical fiction - Nazi Occupation of Paris in the 40's- author has a pretty fascinating story herself) by Irene Nemirovsky

March - I Am the Messenger by Zusak (who wrote The Book Thief which so many of us liked)

April - Mango Shaped Space by Wendy Maas

Come join us whenever you can! For more information or questions, contact Jeanne Ward (344-1619)

CAMPUS NEWS

Dear CUCC Church Family,

Would you like the opportunity to get to know the students in the campus ministry more personally and up close?

Well.... guess what? We would like to get to know you too!

Sunday mornings are wonderful but often just too full to have that chance to really talk and get to know one another one on one.

If you would like to have our gang over for a Sunday-after-church-simple-we-are-glad-to-sit-on-the-floor-church sometime, know we would love to come. Just let **Karen** or **Carl Duffield** know.

If you would like to "**adopt**" a **student** friend to go to coffee sometime and get acquainted, please know many of us would like the same chance to get to know you away from the herd. Let Karen or Carl Duffield know on this too.

Thank you~

SET (Student Executive Team)

WEEKLY CAMPUS MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Mon 9:30 pm ~ Campus Ministry Choir

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays ~ Rev. Bush's Drop In Hours.

Wednesdays 9 pm ~ Sanctuary Meditation Time

Thursday 2-4 pm ~ Open House

Fridays 5 pm ~ Chapel

Fridays 6 pm ~ Campus Ministry Community Supper

Fridays 6:45 ~ Revolving Friday Program

For further program or other information please email

COMING UP!

This coming Saturday-- All Church Work Morning at CUCC - 9 am-noon

Camping At Shades State Park-- Friday 10/3

Student-led Sunday Worship at CUCC - Sunday 10/19

Danville and Southern Illinois Church Visit to share about Campus Ministry - 10/26

All students welcome!

OCTOBER 2008

Community United Church of Christ Events Calendar

The glory of Christianity is to conquer by forgiveness.

~ William Blake

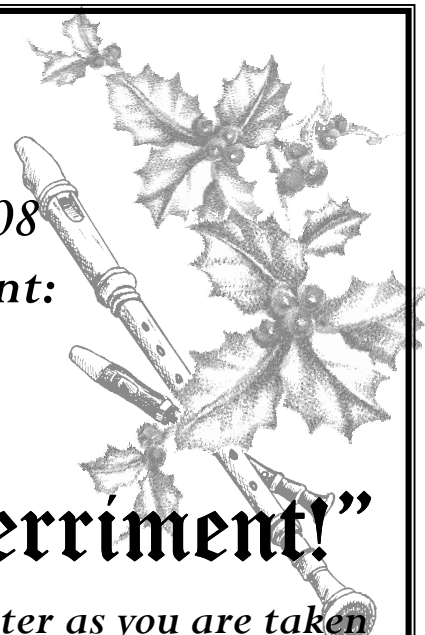
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5*<u>Sunday Schedule</u> 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10:15 am Worship 11:30 am Coffee Hour 6:00 pm CUCC Youth Group 7:30 pm AA Free Blood Pressure Checks World Communion Sunday</p>	<p>CUCC Office Hours Monday-Thursday 9 am-3 pm</p>	<p>1 Noon Bulletin Deadline 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>2 10 am International Group 7 pm Breathing Space 8 pm AA</p>	<p>3 5 pm Campus Ministry Chapel</p>	<p>4 9 am women's Book Group</p>	
<p>6 9 pm Campus Ministry Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>7 6 pm Operation Snowball 6:30 Overeaters Anonymous 7:15 am Centering Prayer</p>	<p>8 Noon Bulletin Deadline 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9 10 am International Group 1 pm Women's Fellowship 6 pm Identify Teams and Ministry Groups meet ~ 7 pm Chairs of Ministry Groups meet with CLB Co- coordinators ~ 7:30 pm Church Life Board meeting</p>	<p>10 5 pm Campus Ministry Chapel</p>	<p>11 9 am women's Book Group</p>	
<p>12 *See Schedule Above</p>	<p>13 9 pm Campus Ministry Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>14 6 pm Operation Snowball 6:30 Overeaters Anonymous 7:15 am Centering Prayer</p>	<p>15 Noon Bulletin Deadline 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>16 10 am International Group 7 pm Breathing Space 8 pm AA 8 pm AA</p>	<p>17 5 pm Campus Ministry Chapel</p>	<p>18 9 am women's Book Group</p>
<p>19 *See Schedule Above</p>	<p>20 9 pm Campus Ministry Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>21 6 pm Operation Snowball 6:30 Overeaters Anonymous 7:15 am Centering Prayer</p>	<p>22 Noon Bulletin Deadline 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>23 10 am International Group 7 pm Breathing Space 8 pm AA Communiongram Deadline</p>	<p>24 5 pm Campus Ministry Chapel</p>	<p>25 9 am women's Book Group</p>
<p>26 *See Schedule Above</p>	<p>27 9 pm Campus Ministry Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>28 6 pm Operation Snowball 6:30 Overeaters Anonymous 7:15 am Centering Prayer</p>	<p>29 Noon Bulletin Deadline 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30 10 am International Group</p>	<p>31 5 pm Campus Ministry Chapel</p>	



*on Saturday, December 13TH, 2008
The CUCC Choir will present:*

**“Madrigals, Morsels,
and Merriment!”**

Enjoy the sound of singing, tasty treats and laughter as you are taken back to the time of the Renaissance Period with colorful costumes, dialogue and skits. More details and ticket information will follow soon. You won't want to miss this and you may want to make plans now to bring your friends!



Help Needed

The church with **United Meals on Wheels** needs your help. They are looking for someone to give of their time to be on the committee that meets annually and/or help deliver meals. If you are interested or have any questions, please call or talk to Rebecca Hanson at 344-3977. Thanks!



Dear CUCC Family,
Thank you for your prayers, cards, emails and words of support during this last summer after the loss of my brother Richard and during his illness. Your support meant so much to our family. We are grateful to be part of CUCC.
Sincerely
Anna Mehl, Mark Althouse and the Family of Richard Mehl

BAKERS NEEDED!

The Worship Leadership team is looking for talented bread bakers or buyers to donate "Breads of the World" for World Communion Sunday on October 5th. If you are interested in offering bread, please let Mike Allen know via email (mrallen2@illinois.edu) by Monday, September 29th. Please include the country and/or ethnicity of your choice if known. Please label your bread "for communion" and drop it off in the kitchen during the week or by 9:30 on Sunday morning.



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805 S. Sixth Street, Champaign, IL 61820

Phone: (217) 344-5091 ~ FAX: (217) 344-5008

Has your address
changed?



Keep us
posted!

Return Service Requested

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

Label

The next Communigram will be mailed out on October 28th

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

SUNDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE

9:00 am Sunday School

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal

10:15 am Worship

After the Children's Time, children
up to 4 years old are welcome in the nursery.

11:30 am Coffee Hour

6:00 pm CUCC Youth Group



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.

Church Staff

Choir Director: Robert Smith
smithrob@champaignschools.org

Organist: Linda Vaughn
lindavaughn@community-ucc.org

Office Manager: Katie Eden
info@community-ucc.org

Faith Community Nurses: Linda
Morgan, Jennifer Kelleher, Faith Rob-
erts

**Community Life Calendar
Keeper:**

Jennifer Kelleher
jlk208@gmail.com

Child Care Providers: Laura
Czopek, Elena Houseal, Julia Kara,
Jessica Bush

UCC Campus Ministry Staff
Campus Minister: Rev. Karen Bush
karen@community-ucc.org