

first Edition

A bi-weekly publication of the First United Methodist Church



Iowa City, IA 52245

Vol. 36, Issue 15, July 20, 2011
Looking Ahead in Worship...

July 24, 2011
6th Sunday After Pentecost
Services at 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 am

Scripture

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Sermon

The Kingdom of Heaven is . . .
Rev. Dr. Barrie Tittle

Conversations with the Pastors

Topic: Homosexuality and Faith
in Tension

Music Ministry

@ 8:00 a.m. Cornerstone Service &
@ 10:30 a.m. Koinonia Service

One Day at a Time

by Marijohn Wilkin and Kris Kristofferson

Rufus Kuhn, vocal and guitar;
Kathy Marshall-Kuhn, guitar

@ 9:15 a.m. Sanctuary Service

Glory in the Cross

In Christ Alone

Fill My Cup Lord

Ryan Cole, Jesse Helgerson, Wendy Ostrem

July 31, 2011

7th Sunday After Pentecost
Services at 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 am

Scripture & Sermon

Guest Speaker / Musician:
Toby Waldowski

Conversations with the Pastors

Topic: Spiritual Fitness and Sabbath
Taking

Music Ministry

@ 8:00 a.m. Cornerstone Service &

@ 10:30 a.m. Koinonia Service

Toby Waldowski, guest pianist

@ 9:15 a.m. Sanctuary Service

House of God

There's a Spirit of Love in this Place

Draw the Circle Wide

Ryan Cole, Ron Conkin, Jesse Helgerson,
Wendy Ostrem, Suzanne Smith

Fall Children's Sunday School Informational Meeting

If you have been keeping up with your church news these past few weeks you will know that I have taken on responsibility of our Children's Discipleship programs here at the church. I am very excited about this change and have been working over the past few weeks to learn from some of you about where our Sunday School program has been, what you like about it, and how it is we would all like to see it grow and change.

Though there were not many of us there, I would like to extend a word of thanks to all of you who participated in our listening session after church last month and to those of you who have met with me one on one. Your participation has been extremely



Cont. on pg. 2

July Crisis Center Food Donation Challenge

Only one Sunday left to bring in your non-parishable food items for the *Thanksgiving in July* food drive for the Iowa City Crisis Center Food Pantry. Pastor Barrie has challenged us to put our faith into action by bringing in two food items on each Sunday in July before July 30. Assuming each of the 300 people who attend worship on an average summer Sunday, we are hoping to donate a total of 2,400 food items to the food drive. Over the past three weeks, we have collected 1,191 items; 1,209 short of our goal.

Please remember to bring in donations this Sunday to help us help our neighbors who are hungry.



Sunday School... continued from page 1

helpful. For those of you who were unable to join us, no worries! I hope that you will join us as we move forward and work on our education and fellowship programming for children, youth, and families for the upcoming school year.

On that note, there are three things in particular that I am excited to share with you. First and foremost, over the next month we will be working to prepare a revised Sunday School program. Second, some of the volunteers who work with the Junior and Senior High Youth Groups will be working with me on preparing our new group (called CHAOS) for tweens and teens in grades 5-8. And last but not least, I will be working out a few All-Family events for the congregation as well.

Because there is so much going on, I will be hosting two different events to let you all know about the future of Children Ministry and Youth Ministry here at FUMC.

For those who would like to participate in the leadership of the Sunday School program, I will be hosting an informational meeting regarding the 2011-12 Sunday School Year on Thursday, July 28 from 6:30-8:00pm in Fellowship Hall. All who are interested in teaching or helping are invited to attend. Please note: even if you do not have a lot of time to commit or if you are unsure about whether you will have enough time to volunteer every week, please come!

Then, on Sunday August 7, I will be leading the Conversation with the Pastors during the 9:15 hour during which I will discuss the future of Children and Youth Ministries at FUMC. Anyone and everyone is invited.

Needless to say this is an exciting time for our church and I am excited to see where it is that God is calling us to go!

Peace!
Pastor Jonathan

9:15 am Conversational Worship



The next topics for our new conversational format will be:

- July 24 *Homosexuality and Faith in Tension*
- July 31 *Spiritual Fitness and Sabbath Taking*
- August 7 *The Future of Youth and Children's Ministries at First UMC*

Come take part in the dialogue with Pastors Barrie and Jonathan on these Sundays in the Sanctuary!

SIX FLAGS GREAT AMERICA!

From August 3-5, the Youth Group will take a trip to Six Flags in Chicago! We'll be staying with Keegan's family! Cost is \$75 and includes meals (not snacks), your ticket, and gas. This will be our last summer event before fall!

Start signing up today!



Sign-up by July 31

SixFlags
GREAT AMERICA

ChAOS

a new faith community for tweens grades 5-6

coming this fall sundays 5-7pm

Youth Drop-in Around Town

Join your Youth Leaders around town for a couple hours of "catching up" this summer!

Thursdays 2-4pm

- Jul 21 Morrison Park, Coralville
- Jul 28 Heyn's Ice Cream
- Aug 11 Frisbee on the Pentecrest
- Aug 18 Java House on Mormom Trek



COMMON FUND IS EMPTY

It is your past generosity that has kept this “fund of last resort” available to folks in crisis in our community. This is a hard time; many children who have meals at school do not in the summer, etc.

In studying the last two years’ contributions, the committee concluded that almost all money donated came from Consultation of Religious Communities member congregations. This generosity has enabled many families to get through times of crisis. Thank you for believing and helping.

Last year, we did not have a “lean time” in early summer as we had other years. This year, Common Fund has been very low in June; there have been two Mondays when there were no funds to allocate.



If there is any way you can help a little more now, it would be appreciated. PO Box 2025, Iowa City, Iowa, 52244-2025. Common Fund Committee

NEW BOOKS IN LIBRARY

Pastor Barrie attended a week long Academy for Spiritual formation event the week of July 11-15 at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. One of the presenters for the week was Dr. Gregory Clapper the Professor of Religion and Philosophy at the University of Indianapolis. He has authored numerous articles and publications including three books:

As if the Heart Mattered: a Wesleyan spirituality

When the World Breaks Your Heart: Spiritual Ways of Living with Tragedy

Living Your Heart's Desire: God's Call and Your Vocation

These three books have been given by Dr. Clapper to our church Library and may be checked out for your use.

St Mary's Catholic Church Worship Schedule Change

We have been informed that our neighbor's Sunday morning Worship Schedule will be changing in August. Their



current schedule is 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:00 am and they will be changing in August to 7:30 am, 9:30 am and 11:30 am.

Newsletter Submissions

The First Edition needs your help! We would like to hear from you.

Next Newsletter Deadline: July 28

- Share your thoughts and reflections on a recent sermon, scripture reading, or Sunday School class discussion.
- Let us know about your awesome summer vacation.
- Show off your story writing or photography skills.
- Invite others to an event or to start a group.
- Thank someone for the hard-work they have done.
- Wish a church member a happy birthday or anniversary.



Help us make the First Edition as useful and interesting as it can be!

Please send your submissions to Liz-Swanton@icfirstchurch.org.

WESLEY FOUNDATION PROGRAMS 2011-2012

The following are the programs at the Wesley Foundation this next School year. You are invited to keep the ministry of our Wesley Foundation in your prayers and to volunteer to assist with any of these programs. Especially needed are food donations and persons to be cooks for the Midnight Breakfast (see below).



1. **5,000 Cups of Coffee.** Share your hopes and dreams for your life and the world. Teach us what's important for you. We will buy you a cup of coffee and listen to what you have to tell us. No bait and switch, just a listening ear.
2. **Free Midnight Breakfast, Friday, August 26, 2011, 11pm - 1am at the Wesley Foundation.** Free Breakfast for Students to welcome you for another year at the University of Iowa.
3. **Wednesday Night Bible Study from 9-10pm at the Wesley Foundation.** Join Paul Shultz in the Study Room at the Wesley Center for meaningful conversation, food, and prayers. Every week we will consider the lectionary scripture for Sunday, share insights and question.
4. **Speaking of Spirituality, Thursdays, 6-7:30 p.m., Sanctuary Restaurant, 405 S. Gilbert.** Meet at the Sanctuary Restaurant for conversation about spirituality in today's world. Topical. Meaningful. Playful. Friendly. Pizza provided. Buy your own beverage. Begins August 25th. Leader: Marsha Acord.
5. **Evening of Faith, Thursday's from 10-11pm, at the Wesley Foundation.** Thursday nights, we gather in order to expand the conversation of faith. The hour will include music, panel discussion, and a story exploring various aspects of the life of faith: compassion, belief or nonbelief, community, failure and forgiveness, etc. The conversation will draw on all traditions as we seek to understand ourselves better.
6. **LGBTQA Spiritual Conversations, Mondays, 4-5 p.m., LGBT Resource Center, 125 Grand Avenue Court.** Meet for conversations of faith, bible studies, spiritual resources. Contact: Marsha Acord.
7. **Prayer in a Cup, Tuesdays, 12:30-1:20 p.m., Wesley Foundation Chapel.** Use Joyce Rupp's creative guide for learning how to pray based on different images of an ordinary cup. Simple. Reflective. Connecting. Bring your own cup. Begins August 30th for 6 weeks. Leader: Marsha Acord.
8. **Interfaith Service Group, monthly service projects and dialogue.** Make a difference with the University of Iowa Interfaith Service Group. Work together on service projects and build relationships with people of different faith traditions and personal philosophies. Advisor: Marsha Acord.

Donations Needed for *ToGather Together*

ToGather Together is a faith community project that helps provide school supplies for children who cannot afford it. The Consultation of Religious Communities (CRC) is sponsoring this much needed event and will be distributing the supplies to children in need all over the district. **We are in urgent needs of monetary donations for this to be successful.**

Please consider helping with this effort. Checks can be mailed directly to ToGather Together, PO Box 2025, Iowa City, IA 52244-2025 or to FUMC with ToGather Together on the memo line.

Thank you for your help!

Witness and Outreach Ministry



Wesley Programs... continued from page 4

- 9. **Serve Free Lunch, 2nd Tuesday in September, October, November, February and April.** The second Tuesday of the month the student community at the Wesley Center serves the Free Lunch meal in the basement of our building (120 N. Dubuque street). We need help at anytime throughout the day: preparation (10:30 am), serving (noon), clean-up (1 pm). Any time you can spare to help us with this important work is welcome.
- 10. **7pm Sunday Nights with First UMC at the Wesley Foundation.** Come for Music, Food, Conversation, and Inspiration with Pastor Jonathan Fell on Sundays August 28, September 18, October 16, November 13, and December 11.
- 11. **Luncheon with Faculty, Staff, and Clergy, one per semester.** United Methodist Faculty and Staff will be invited to a luncheon at the Wesley Center to meet with local clergy and to have conversation around topics that bridge academia and faith.
- 12. **Fall Spiritual Retreat, September 30 – October 2, 2011.**

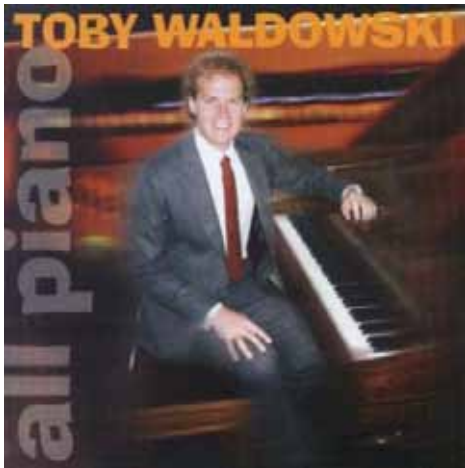


FLAMES SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

Games at Coralville
Creekside Ballpark
Diamonds 1-3

July 22 @ 8:00 pm
August 5 @ 6:00 pm
August 12 @ 6:00 pm
August 19 TBA
August 26 TBA

Go Flames!

Toby Waldowski

A Ministry
of
Music & Testimony

IN
SERVICES



Sunday, July 31

8:00 & 10:30 AM

First United Methodist Church

AFFINITY GROUP NEWS

What is an Affinity Group? It is a group of people who collectively pursue a common interest. And, at First United Methodist Church, there are several such groups covering a variety of interests.

Please consider joining one of these Affinity Groups.

Group Theme

- Senior Friendship & Support Group
- Bicycling Affinity Group
- Bluegrass
- Books And Bagels
- Doers of the Word
- Dorcias Group
- Environmental Action
- Families with Children
- Films For Fun 'N Faith
- Flames Softball Team

Contact Person

- Sage River (sage-river@icfirstchurch.org or 354-5484)
- Jan and Jim Down (jjdownic@mchsi.com or 354-1820)
- Maynard Smith (maynards@q.com or 337-9901)
- Betty Mitchell (354-1225) or Nancy Johns (njohns@q.com)
- Sue Mullins (339-0984) or Linda Fink (338-2860)
- Bernie Mulford (337-6680)
- Mark Madsen (mark-madsen@uiowa.edu)
- Tricia Ross (351-0823)
- Lou Crist (338-5014)
- Jane Driscoll (JDRISCOL@aol.com)



Take time to pray - Our Church Family

We Celebrate With:

- Emily and Andrew Phillips, and their daughter, Madison Paige, was baptized on July 10. We pray God's blessings upon Madison as we welcome her into our church family and into the body of Christ.
- We share in the joy of Monica Tucker and Jarod Tylee who were married in our Sanctuary on Saturday, July 16, and we pray God's blessings upon them as they begin their lives together.
- We also share in the joy of Julie Raab and Bryon Artman who were married in our Sanctuary Sunday, July 17, and we pray God's blessings upon them as they begin their lives together.

We Pray For:

- Recently discharged: Wyonna Hartwig, Bernie Mulford, Jean Kendall
- All those in need of continued healing including:
 - Ann Bagford as she continues her recovery at home,
 - Sergeant Collin Raaz, dear friend of the Sue & Sam Mullins family, who was critically injured while serving in Afghanistan, and will be recovering in Maryland,
 - Dr. Jim Skarda, his wife, Jennifer, and their children Jonathan and Juliann, as Jim undergoes treatment for cancer,
 - Allen & Danette Frauenholtz's niece, Adrienne Smith, who is being treated for Hodgkin's Lymphoma,
 - Tim Harrington-Tabor's brother, John, who is suffering from bi-polar disorder,
 - Allison Johnson, daughter of Cinda & Bill Tanner, as she is being treated for breast cancer,
 - Vicki Burketta, friend to many in the congregation, whose cancer has returned,
 - Cathy Nelson, co-worker of Judy Best, whose son, James, became lost in the Colorado mountains, while hiking,
 - Sharon Campbell, who is suffering from an aggressive bone cancer; Sharon is the aunt of Sherry Mars,
 - Ron Krueger, friend of Connie & Jim Olson, as Ron undergoes treatment for lung cancer,
 - Michael Flynn, friend of Cindy Cobb, as he is treated for Stage IV cancer,
 - Ginnie Woodard, who has been diagnosed with adenocarcinoma; she is a friend of Matt Downen,
 - Barbra Johnson, friend of Jan Vaught Brezina, as she undergoes chemo and radiation for breast cancer in Kansas City,
 - Steve Wade, brother of Terri Wade, who is receiving chemotherapy for Stage III colon cancer,
 - Conan Dalton, brother-in-law of Jennifer Ballard, who has an inoperable brain tumor,
 - Norma & Orrie Rew at home, and all those in our congregation who are homebound or residing in nursing homes or extended care facilities.
- Those serving in our military:
 - Todd Royar, who has been deployed to Afghanistan,
 - Nathan Bontrager, son of Carol Bontrager, serving in Afghanistan,
 - Joshua Klinzman, grandson of Derrill & Irene, deployed to Afghanistan,
 - Martin Roemerman, serving in Afghanistan; Martin is the husband of Angie, and father of Kaitlyn, Dan, Meredith, and Anna,
 - Chris Rew, son of Terry & Sue Rew, who is deployed to Afghanistan by the National Guard,
 - Jeremy Hahn, nephew of Judi and Jeff Barta, who is serving in Afghanistan,
 - Nathan Platz, son of Bob & Kristy Walker, now stationed in Italy,
 - Joseph Russell, son of Mary Lou Russell, serving in South Korea,
 - Alan G. Kellogg, son of Gary & Catherine Kellogg, now serving in Iraq,
 - Chris Miller, son of Harvey & Maxine Miller, who is serving by Army Special Operations,
- The healing of breaking and broken relationships,
- For those struggling with mental illness that they may receive the medical care they need,
- The mission, ministries and staff of First United Methodist Church,
- Bishop Julius Calvin Trimble, East Central District Superintendent David Crow, Field Outreach Minister Jill Sanders, the Iowa Annual Conference, and Hillcrest Family Services and Gary Gansemer and Maria Wiblin.
- All those who have been impacted by violence, oil spills, earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, and other natural disasters throughout the world,
- Peace with justice for the world.

7/10/2011 PRESENCE

8:00	61
9:15	63
<u>10:30</u>	<u>206</u>
Total	330

7/17/2011 PRESENCE

8:00	51
9:15	89
<u>10:30</u>	<u>202</u>
Total	342

Thanksgiving Ingathering 32 years of giving



As families prepare their children for the school year and back to school supplies go on sale, may you consider purchasing extra items needed for School Kits for the Thanksgiving Ingathering to be held in Mt. Pleasant on

November 5, 2011. These items may be placed in the Narthax in the blue tub below the easel displaying the poster before October 3.

We are in need of:

- Wide Ruled 8 ½ x 11 notebooks (at least 70 pages)
- 30 cm metric ruler (plastic or wood)
- Box of 24 crayons
- 2 ½ inch pink erasers
- Blunt, small scissors
- Handheld pencil sharpeners
- Unsharpened pencils with erasers (no advertising or logs please)



May we continue to share our time and generous offerings to those less fortunate and provide tools for these deserving children.

Thank you for your help and generosity in this major event in our church.

As always, God bless you,
Sandy Willingham
Coordinator for Mission Education & Interp.
337-7549



Sign Up for Altar Flowers

Altar flowers certainly make a beautiful addition to our worship experience at First United Methodist! Let us help you celebrate a special occasion by signing up to have an arrangement made for display at church. Simply choose a date that works for you and sign up on the Floral Calendar located in the Alley Entrance, or call the church office. You will place the order for your arrangement with the florist of your choosing; and they can deliver the flowers to the church on the Friday before your chosen Sunday. To avoid obscuring the cross on the altar; an ideal arrangement size is no more than 26" in height. You are welcome to take your arrangement home after the last service or allow the office staff to enjoy it the remainder of the week. If you have questions, please contact the office staff.

Please consider the gift of flowers to FUMC!



HONOR LOVED ONES VIA RADIO SPONSORSHIP



The cost to sponsor the radio broadcast is \$85. Please send a check made payable to First United Methodist Church, noting what date you are signed up to sponsor the radio broadcast. The sign-up calendar can be found right below the flower calendar in the alley entryway or you may call the church office at 337-2857.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

July 20

Bill Means
Sara Nichols
Kieler Brown

July 21

Henrietta Miller
James Kessler
Dwight Seegmiller
Max Rustan
Thomas Wilcox
Joshua Kwok

July 22

Patrick McKay
Daniel Roemerman
Harry Westergaard

July 23

Marian Foster
Tom Kappes
Kay Barron
Mary Slezak

July 24

Harry Ostrander
Mike Hodge
Lucy Karnell
Scott Kendall
Ken Singletary
Joshua Serovy
Lindsey Fickel

July 25

Roger Sweeting
Harriet Reynolds
Heather Houghton
Noah Danielson
Maddy Hix

July 26

Marlys Breese
Stephanie Moss
Eli Wilkinson

July 27

Chuck Palmberg
Tyler Hendrickson
Maddie Brown

July 28

Joseph Schuessler

July 31

Virginia Means
Nate Disterhoft
Gwen Hall

August 1

Robert Roghair

August 2

Joan Houghton
John Rossie
Cheryl Vahl
Kevin Hartwig
Caitlin Lenz
Emily Niemiec



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