

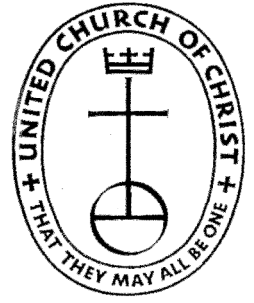
the Pilgrim Visitor

Congregational United Church of Christ

300 Maiden St. Mineral Point, WI 53565 * (608) 987-2025

www.mpucc.com

September 2009



From the Pastor:

“For the times they are a changin’”

September 13

September 13

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September 13

Mark your calendars, put a note on the refrigerator, tattoo the date on your shoulder – **September 13** worship times change. Plymouth in Dodgeville will now have early worship, starting at 9:00a.m. Congregational UCC in Mineral Point will begin worship at 10:30a.m. We’re nearing the one year anniversary of the yoking. Going in to the agreement we pledged to change worship times the Sunday after Labor Day in 2009. That’s what we’re doing.

This will be another time of transition. We will need to be patient with one another and patient with the situation until we settle in to our new schedule. (For instance, if I show up at the wrong church at 9:00a.m., sing a hymn, and I’ll be there in a few minutes!). Maybe the direction from the first chapter of the letter of James will be helpful here. James suggests, “let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger, for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness.”

Ultimately worship times are secondary to our primary purpose. Our primary purpose is to worship God and to celebrate the presence of Christ in Christian community. As someone who worships at both 9:00a.m. and 10:30 a.m., I can tell you that God is able to attend both time slots.

I will see you September 13th. Same place, **different time!!**

Peace,

Pastor Todd

Nursery Facelift

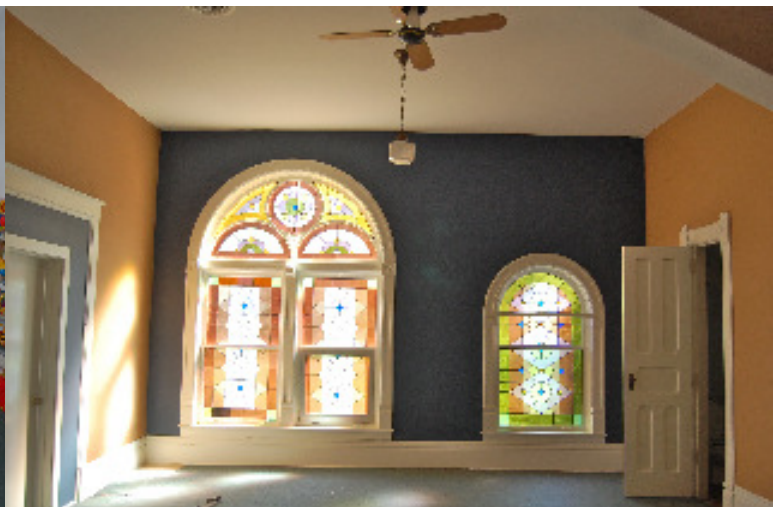
Over the winter council decided to give the nursery a facelift after the recommendation of Sara Smith-Lippert. Sara spearheaded a similar project at Plymouth that turned out terrific. Ann Gorgen worked with Sara and together created a plan for the room. They wanted a safe and sanitary space, toys that spark creativity, and to keep clutter to a minimum. Money was available through a memorial donation. Paint was then selected with the help of local experts. That's when God intervened and a partnership was formed. The Family Resource Center of Iowa County (which is where Ann Gorgen is employed) began the search for a new playgroup space. They are currently in the Metropolitan Art Building in Dodgeville and as non-profits do, they were struggling to pay rent. The church agreed to take in the playgroups and share the space. The church will provide a newly painted gorgeous room and the Family Resource Center will provide the new furniture and toys. WIN-WIN! The playgroups that will meet in the nursery happen on Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00, a great way to utilize the church during the week! Playgroups are for parents and children to come socialize, play, sing, craft and enjoy a book together. Playgroups are lead by Ann Gorgen. All services provided by the Family Resource Center are free. Many folks credit the playgroups for new found friendships, a place to socialize especially when you are new in town, and perfect for kids to interact with other kids.

Several people stepped up to help paint. They came without explanation, without expectations, they came with brushes and rollers and climbed high on to ladders! They are: Ann Gorgen, Sara Smith Lippert, Kayce Basye, Fritz Aschliman, Chuck Tennesen, Karen Tennesen, Chuck Steudel, Sarah Berg, Tyra Leonard, Grady Gorgen and Gunnar Gorgen. Mark Mitchell has been the handy man for the project and has been at the church every day helping. Approximately 60 hours of labor have been put into the nursery facelift thus far. Amazing!

The project will be complete by Sept 13th, the first day of Sunday School. Next steps are installing carpet, moving in the Family Resource Center and then decorating. Stop in to see the progress! You will surely be in awe over the paint. There is a magical feeling in the room, the presence of God and the gifts of volunteerism are like the beaming light through the stained glass windows.



Before



After

Mission & Partnership Notes August 2009

Partnership: We continue to plan for the arrival of our German Partner guests, who will be in Mineral Point October 10-14. Thirteen visitors will arrive on Saturday evening, they will join us for Sunday worship and fellowship afterwards. An initial itinerary is in planning for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday for day trips. A send off will be planned to transition the guests to their Madison area hosts on Weds evening. Please contact Karen C if you would like more information, or would like to be part of one or more of the hosting events. All members of our congregation and community are welcome to take part in this activity.

Thank you: An acknowledgement of our donation to Heifer Project International was received for the \$459.29 contributed, Well Done!

Iowa County Homeless Shelter: We have been in discussion to consider a shelter location in Mineral Point. Currently, a shelter is operating in Dodgeville. The consideration would be to offer volunteer help to keep the shelter clean prior to change over of occupants, and perhaps provide donation to help fund monthly expenses, we have agreed this is a worthwhile Project that we would want to help with. All occupants are screened and monitored by Southwest CAP.

WINTER WEAR / WECARE: collection boxes continue to be located in the Chapel: one for your gently used winter coats and apparel to be distributed in the fall by the Winter Wear project, the other box for your infant/toddler/children/adult clothing and accessories, or household items for WE CARE. They are distributed via the CAP office.

Iowa County Food Pantry: Please continue to drop off non perishable food and household personal care or cleaning supplies in the basket located in the Chapel. As you likely know, demand has continued to be high.

Food Resource Project: Our projects, a soybean crop at the Robert and Jill White farm and two feeder animals at the Mary Dunn farm continue. Please consider a donation to defray the costs of these projects to help maximize our final outcome to go to the Food Resource Bank. FRB funds go to help farmers in many underdeveloped countries learn basic farming techniques and get them started with their own farming projects.

Website

The Congregational UCC website is a work in progress. Is there something you would like to see on the site? Have you searched for specific information, but were unable to find it? Do you have information to share with the rest of the community? With your help, the website (www.mpucc.com) can be a wealth of information for both the church and the community. Please send any suggestions or information to Heather at mpucchrist@gmail.com

Congregational United Church of Christ Council Meeting

Date: August 12, 2009

Members Present: Nancy Schmit, Todd Lippert, Greg Wilson, Jim Bennett, Karen Tennessen, Kandy Keuler, Fritz Aschliman, Jim Bennett

Absent: Lisa Howard, Marla Martin

Guest: Karen Crawford

Greg Wilson called the meeting to order.

Todd gave the opening prayer.

Our Guest

Karen Crawford stopped by to give us a garden project update. Rollie Sardeson has been asked to take a look at the wall, and provide us with some direction on repair and replacement as well as cost estimates. An initial plan was presented by the garden planner. It needs some tweeking, but at least the process has started.

Financial Report and Bills Payable

There was no financial report this month. Marla is on vacation.

July Council Minutes

July council minutes were reviewed. Jim moved to accept the minutes. Karen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously. Kandy moved and Fritz seconded a motion to approve the June Council minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

Pastor's Report

Todd reported that the Family Resource Center has lost its space in Dodgeville, and would like to have a presence in Mineral Point. This would be a great opportunity for our church to partner with this organization. Families will meet once a week for playtime and networking in our nursery. Ann Gorgen is in charge. We will also benefit from sharing storage facilities, toys, and books. The council agreed that this would be an ideal church-community partnership and a worthy use of our facilities. Nancy moved and Karen seconded a motion to allow the Family Resource Center to meet in the Nursery. There will be no charge at this time, although we are requesting a \$100 deposit. Terms of the partnership will be reviewed periodically. The council gave unanimous approval to the partnership.

We also discussed the Website and the calendar. Please let Heather know if there is something you want to see on our Website.

Todd is on vacation August 31 - September 6. The church time change is September 13.

General Discussion

We've been discussing Youth Group funding over several months. We decided that beginning with the 2010 budget, the Youth Group will have a line item in the church budget. We have appropriated \$2,200 for the Youth Group in 2010. That is equal to the amount they received from the Pasty Sales in 2009. Kandy is going to check on insurance liability issues and provide a report at next month's meeting. Fritz made a motion to approve \$2,200 for the Youth Group budget in 2010 and Kandy seconded the motion. The council approved unanimously.

Building and Grounds

No report.

Mission/Partnership

No report. Check out Mission/Partnership column in the newsletter.

Congregational United Church of Christ Council Meeting, con't

Worship Committee

Did not meet in August. It has been a while since we've met, so we plan to touch base in September.

Christian Education reported by Karen Tennesen

Karen reported a meeting is scheduled to review Sunday school materials on August 19 at 7 p.m. All interested teachers and helpers should attend.

Finance reported by Nancy Schmit

The Finance Committee met with Fritz and Jim Smeja to get an update on the Window repair and restoration. Once the rose window is completed we will stop repairs in 2009 and complete the remainder of the windows in 2010.

Nancy gave the council an update on the cash flow for the building campaign.

- As of July, we owe the bank \$23,728 on our loan.
- The pledge past due amount as of June 2009 is \$15,000.
- We anticipate another \$30,000 payment for window repairs in 2009.
- Given the current cash flow, we anticipate that we will be in the black in December of 2010. The campaign ends on December 31, 2011. Projected cash at that time is \$83,936.

Mark Your Calendars

Tentative dates have been selected for:

Harvest Auction – Wednesday, October 21

Beef Dinner – November 10

A potluck with German Host Families, German Guests, and the Council is October 14.

Our Next Council Meeting is September 9

The council unanimously agreed to conclude the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by Nancy Schmit

Visiting Card List

Mae Kinsman
Sienna Crest Asst Living
210 Copper St
Mineral Point, WI 53565
987-7456

Patty Ivey
Marquette Manor; Rm 213A
8140 Township Line Rd
Indianapolis, IN 46260

Merton & Alice Baker
975 N 5th Ave #107
St Charles, IL 60174
(630) 524-5248

Bob & Evelyn Ivey
730 Center St
Mineral Point, WI 53565
987-2116

Marge Johnson
Mineral Point Care Center
109 N Iowa St
Mineral Point, WI 53565

Schedule change

Beginning September 2, Heather will work Wednesday's and Friday's. Typically, Heather is in Dodgeville on Wednesday and Mineral Point on Friday, but that is subject to change depending on the needs of the churches.

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship 9:00 am Childcare provided		1	2	3	4	5
Pastor Todd on vacation 8/31-9/7						
6 Communion	7	8	9 Finance/MP 6:30pm Council 7:30pm	10	11	12
13 Sunday school 9:30 Worship at 10:30	14 AWF 1:30	15	16	17	18	19 Pasty Sale
20 Sunday school 9:30 Worship at 10:30	21	22 October newsletter deadline	23	24	25	26 Cornish Festival Dinner
27 Sunday school 9:30 Worship at 10:30	28	29	30	<u>October 1</u> Yoke Council at Cong UCC 7pm		

Ushers & greeters	*September 6	Virginia Noble	Dorothy Noble	Chris Heins	Jessie Potterton
	September 13	Paul Berg	Sarah Berg	Patty Johnston	
	September 20	Duane Fitzsimmons	Barb Fitzsimmons	Linda Griffiths	
	September 27	Fritz Aschliman	Wanda Aschliman	Patty Johnson	

Lay Reader	September 6	Linda Griffith
	September 13	Tom Schmit
	September 20	Karen Tennessen
	September 27	Kandy Keuler

Phone: 608-987-2025
E-mail: mpucchrist@gmail.com
Website: www.mpucc.com

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Mineral Point, WI 53565



You are welcome here

CUCC- MP Staff

Pastor

Rev. Todd Smith Lippert
office 987-2025
home 935-0001
Email tslippert@mhtc.net

Our mission at the Congregational United Church of Christ is to celebrate God's love. As disciples of Jesus Christ we celebrate that love by responding to the needs of our congregation, community and the world through worship, education, fellowship, and service to all.

Office Administrator

Heather Dampf
Office 987-2025
Email mpucc@gmail.com

E-Newsletter

If you are not receiving information from the church via e-mail, please send your email address to the church office at mpucchrist@gmail.com Thank you!

Maintenance

Don Huxtable
Council Chair
Greg Wilson

*October Newsletter deadline
Tuesday, September 22*