



THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF FRANKLIN PARK
9857 SCHILLER BLVD FRANKLIN PARK, IL 60131
847.455.5858
WWW.FRANKLINPARKUMC.ORG

The First News

April 2011

Lenten Soup Suppers & Studies Continue

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Our Cluster Lenten Soup Suppers offer a simple supper of soup, bread, & dessert followed by a study led by the host pastor. Remaining Soup Suppers are:

Tuesday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m. hosted by Elmwood Park UMC, 3000 N 77th Ct.

Tuesday, April 12 at 6:30 pm at First UMC of Oak Park, 324 N. Oak Park Ave.

Tuesday, April 19 at 6:30 pm. Cosmopolitan, 1112 N. 9th Ave., Melrose Park

After worship on Sundays at about 10:45, Mary Lou Stefanski and Ruth Tressa are leading a discussion/study of the devotional guide, *Streams of Living Water*. Pick up a copy of the guide, read each week, and join as the group reflects together!

Quick Takes:

- Nobius meets April 2, May 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary
- Children's Sunday School meets on April 3 at 10:45; Kids will participate in worship on Palm Sunday;
- Invite friends to Easter Worship with Communion on April 24!
- We will celebrate the baptism of Kailee Gaffney-Williams on Sunday, May 1. Come support this new family!
- House of Praise and Worship will be sharing space (Prayer Chapel) beginning in May on Saturdays & Wednesdays

Holy Week Offers Worship, Music, Celebration

Palm Sunday offers us an opportunity to gather for a potluck brunch after worship and enjoy fellowship together. See the sign-up in back of the sanctuary or email the Pastor with the number coming and what you'll bring. Then Holy Week is like the home-stretch of our Lenten journey. We will gather for a **Maundy Thursday** worship service on April 21 in our sanctuary to commemorate Jesus last supper with his disciples, and his arrest. On **Good Friday**, a massed choir from cluster congregations will present selections from Dubois' "Seven Last Words" on Friday, April 22 at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 324 N. Oak Park Avenue in Oak Park. And don't miss **Easter Sunday** worship! We worship in our sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 24! Come and celebrate the joy of resurrection with communion, hymns, and readings! The worship service will be followed by a fellowship time. If you've missed a couple of Sundays, or more than just a couple, Easter is a great time to get back in the habit! Grace abounds—come and see!

This month as we make our 2011 pledges of giving to the church's mission, consider this: giving is not something we do because the church needs the money. That's not to say the church doesn't need money to pay the bills, but that's not the best reason to give and to pledge your giving. The best reason to give is because it's good for your spiritual health! Giving enables us to let go of some of that which possesses us, freeing us up to follow God with our whole selves!

Stewardship: What Would God Have Us Do?

Pledging is like making a promise when you're thinking clearly and you've considered carefully the direction God's calling you to go with regard to your financial resources. Pledging helps the Ad Council set a realistic budget. It also helps the person making the pledge to do a better job of budgeting their resources. The Bible teaches that our giving should be the "first fruits" of our labors, not the leftovers.

In the coming weeks, you will receive a statement of your giving thus far in 2011, along with a pledge letter, church budget for 2011, and a pledge card. On Sunday, May 1st, we will bring our pledges to the altar as part of our Walk of Faith. Please prayerfully consider what God would have you do with your financial resources, and prepare your heart to give your best for God's work.

Our Giving by the Numbers...

Monthly Giving for March 2011	\$ 3,305.00
Total Giving in 2011 to date	\$10,020.00

Standing in the Need of Prayer

Those in need of healing prayers:

Mary Lou Stefanski

Helen Winkel

Diane Pritchett and her family at the passing of her mother, Nettie Gunderson

Those in need of our continuing prayers:

Marilyn Oxby

Dorothy Schneider

Arvis Knutson

Signe Howell

Virginia Densborn

Edna Kirchhoff

Mary Pease

Margaret Jackson

Louse Spain

Please pray for the regions of our world embroiled in conflict and strife.

Please pray for the elections in our village and region, and for those who are running for office.



Celebrating Birthdays in April

4/3	Alison Horn	4/11	David Pritchett
4/3	Ruth Tressa	4/11	William Kirchhoff
4/3	Mike Pritchett	4/11	Daniel Kirchhoff
4/3	Tom Riordan	4/12	Kathy Nowicki
4/7	Daisy Riebeling	4/23	Norman Maggio
4/7	Dorothy Schneider	4/28	Sarah Pritchett
4/7	Shelley Boelter	4/9	Glenn & Sandra Hoiney
4/8	Ashima Singh	4/12	Robert & Judy Casey
4/8	Jenee Tarasuik	4/13	Hemanshu & Ashima Singh
4/8	Karen Kelly	4/14	Harold & Charline Elwardt
4/8	Ruth Mackeben	4/25	Dan & Doris Britton



Ad Council Special Meeting Update from the March 27, 2011 meeting

A special meeting of the Administrative Council was called by Chair Lisa Anthony on March 27, 2011 after worship, with the express purpose of considering several recommendations from the Trustees that required Ad Council action. Chair of Trustees, Jeri Lynn Fox discussed the replacement of the windows in Fellowship Hall. The current bid includes a warranty on the windows for ten (10) years. The windows will be replaced for an amount of \$39,500. Issues surrounding the purchase of these replacement windows were discussed among the members.

Action: As Chair of Trustees, Jeri Lynn Fox moved that the First United Methodist Church of Franklin Park seek a loan from the United Methodist Foundation of Northern Illinois the amount of \$10,000 to be repaid as soon as funds become available, but in no more than 60 monthly installments as financing for window replacement in the Fellowship Hall. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Action: As Chair of Trustees, Jeri Lynn Fox moved that the First United Methodist Church of Franklin Park seek a line of credit from Charter One Bank. Once issued, if issued, a majority vote of the Trustees or Ad Council would be required to make use of the line of credit. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Action: As Chair of Trustees, Jeri Lynn Fox moved that the First United Methodist Church of Franklin Park make use of the line of credit to be issued by Charter One Bank as financing for window replacement in the Fellowship Hall. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Jeri Lynn also discussed a request from House of Praise and Worship to space share in the building. They are a very small congregation and tentatively will be meeting on Wednesday evening and Saturday evenings from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Prayer Chapel. The space sharing covenant, effective from May 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, calls for monthly contributions of \$500 per month, with a security deposit of \$1,000. After discussion among the members present, the following action was taken.

Action: As Chair of Trustees, Jeri Lynn Fox moved that the First United Methodist Church of Franklin Park enter into a space sharing agreement with House of Praise and Worship, as detailed in the appended space-sharing covenant. **Motion passed with one abstention.**

The next meeting of Ad Council will be held on Sunday, April 10, at 10:45 a.m. (after worship).

United Methodist Women Plan Salad Luncheon

Say 'goodbye' to winter and prepare to celebrate spring by attending the UMW General meeting on Tuesday, April 5 at noon. Yes, it is election day and every inch of the church's floor space will be in use. Pastor Denise has invited us to meet at her home for a lunch of salads—no need to bring something—the lunch will be provided for us by Pastor Denise. We appreciate this offer of hospitality so we don't have to change our regular meeting date. Please keep the change of location in mind so that you park near the parsonage in the Elder Lane parking strip, avoiding the school and election traffic in the parking lot. Please come to the door near the garage on the Elder Lane side of the house. Our program will be presented by members who are actively participating in our reading program—come and receive recommendations for some interesting books to include in your future reading plans. Remember your seeds for Redbird Mission—see the box below and bring them along!

Aunt Libby Circle has its next meeting on Thursday, April 14 at 1 p.m. at Daisy's home.

Wesleyan Circle meets next on Thursday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Grace Lattanzio's house.

Susannah Circle meets on Tuesday, April 19 at 1 pm at Joy's home.

UMW Mission Team meets on April 28 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. Every team member is urged to attend as we plan for the future.

United Methodist Women are collecting vegetable and flower seeds for Red Bird Mission in Appalachia. Watch for sales on vegetable seeds and buy early. As a guide, if you can supply ten seed packets, please buy nine of vegetable seeds and one of flower seeds. Families use these donations primarily for food. Please place your donations in the boxes provided in the lobby. The goal for shipping seed packets is mid-April.



Make a Gift for Easter Flowers to Adorn the Sanctuary to Celebrate the Resurrection!



Gifts must be received by April 17 for inclusion
in Easter Sunday bulletin!

Please find enclosed my gift of \$5 toward Easter flowers for the sanctuary.

Name _____ Phone _____

In memory of/In Honor of (choose one) _____

(you may also order by calling the church office 847.455.5858 or emailing the pastor: revdlj@att.net)
Make checks payable to First UMC. Gifts in excess of cost will be donated to the church budget.

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 5:30 pm Nobius
3 9:30 am Worship w/ Communion 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:45 After Worship Study	4 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	5 Elections in Parlor noon UMW General Mtg @Pastors Denise/Randy's 6:30 Soup Supper— Elmwood Park	6	7 7 pm Nurture	8 7 pm Cub Scouts	9 1-5 pm Private Family Party in Susannah
10 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Ad Council in Susannah 10:45 After Worship Study	11	12 6:30 Soup Supper— First Oak Park	13 6:30 pm Confirmation	14 1 pm Aunt Libby @ Wilma's 7:30 Wesleyan @ Grace's	15	16
17 Palm Sunday 9:30 am Worship w/Communion 10:45 Potluck Brunch in Susannah	18 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	19 noon Susannah @ Lorraine's 6:30 pm Soup Supper— Cosmopolitan	20	21 7 pm Maundy Thursday service in our sanctuary	22 7 pm Good Friday @ First UMC-OP	23
24 Easter 9:30 am Worship w/Communion	25	26	27	28 9:30 am UMW Mission Team meeting	29	30 3-10 pm Outside Group—sanctuary

APRIL 2011

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REV. DENISE JANSSEN, PASTOR

Are you
GRADUATING

this spring ...

from **kindergarten, junior high,
high school, college, graduate
school, or a trade program?** Our
congregation will **recognize** our
graduates **with gifts and cake** on

Sunday, May 22.

Please share names of grads with
the Pastor or the church office

no later than May 8.