



THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF FRANKLIN PARK
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The First News

June 2011

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Quick Takes:

- Our Ad Council has decided that we will not run the beverage booth at Railroad Daze this year.
- Nobius takes a hiatus for the summer while Tuesday Evening Vespers offers an alternative worship opportunity.
- Community Garden will be planted soon—please let the Pastor know if you'd like to help!
- New leaders for our congregation were elected at our special church conference on Sunday, May 15 following worship. Thank you to all who serve God in this way!

Tuesday Vespers Services Offered in June, July, August in the Meditation Garden

Summer is often a time when we like to get away on weekends to enjoy things like family reunions, vacations, summer cottages, and other recreation activities. Since Sunday worship is a primary point of connection with our congregation for many of us, this can sometimes mean that we feel somewhat disconnected from our church family in the summer. And maybe a little disconnected from God, too.

If you're away or have conflicting activities on weekends this summer, Tuesday Vespers offers an alternative worship opportunity to help you stay connected with your church family and with God this summer. The word 'vespers' literally means 'evening', and the idea of a Vespers Service is as old as the church—for centuries people have gathered at the end of the day for a simple worship service of music, prayer, scripture, and sharing. Beginning on Tuesday, June 14 through August 9, we will gather at 6:30 p.m. on the lawn in the Meditation Garden for a 30-40 minute service in this ancient form. We'll meet outdoors, weather permitting (the parlor is our rain location).



Please bring your own lawn chair and bring your friends! Come and worship God with your church family in the beauty of creation!

Celebration of Freedom Offering Taken July 3!

Independence Day is a celebration of freedom in this nation. But freedom isn't something only Americans know. Whatever the nation of our birth or citizenship, as Christians we experience the great blessing of freedom in Christ. This year, we'll be celebrating freedom in a variety of fun ways in our worship service—plan to join the celebration on Sunday, July 3!

In addition, you are invited to participate in a special offering in gratitude for freedom! The "Celebration of Freedom" offering will be taken on Sunday, July 3 and throughout July, if you're away on the holiday weekend. Our nation is 235 years old this year—perhaps you'll consider a gift that recognizes this number in some way: ten cents for every year would be \$23.50; twenty-five cents/year = \$58.75; a dollar/year = \$235. Maybe you would base your gift on your own age (58 years you've enjoyed freedom = \$58). Put "Celebration of Freedom" on the memo line of your check, or note it on your envelope. You decide on the gift that's right for you, but please plan to participate in this special offering in July! All funds will go to missions, helping meet our Rainbow Covenant.

Stewardship Report

Our Giving by the Numbers...

Monthly Giving for May 2011 (4 of 5 weeks)	\$ 3,350.00
Total Giving in 2011 to date (5/22/2010)	\$20,799.00



Summer vacation season is here! Please don't let your giving take a vacation, too!

Standing in the Need of Prayer

Those in need of healing prayers:

Bob Diederich the family of Signe Howell on her passing (May 14)

Those in need of our continuing prayers:

Marilyn Oxby Dorothy Schneider Arvis Knutson

Virginia Densborn Edna Kirchhoff Mary Pease

Margaret Jackson Louse Spain

Please remember to pray for our graduates as they experience the opportunities and challenges that come with this kind of change.

Joshua Nowicki Allie Horn Alex Kasza Ryan Horn



Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries in June

6/1	Justin Das	6/15	Brian Branam Robert Dockendorf
6/2	Rev. Denise Janssen Fred Mackeben	6/19	Arthur Goetz
6/3	Scott Hotaling	6/24	Mel Jameson
6/4	Katy Oxby	6/26	Harold Nimmer
6/6	Mary Pease	6/28	Jean Powell
6/9	Kara Kirchhoff Susan Shragal	6/18	Ken & Carol Michaels
6/10	Rev. Randy Creath Jason Sharp	6/19	Dan & Lisa Anthony
		6/21	Jorge & Debbie Casas
6/13	Tina May Dockendorf	6/25	Robert & Christine Clark



Did you know...?

our church gets cash for your empty printer ink cartridges. We recycle and Empties4Cash sends the church cash rebates. Donate in the "ink cartridge" drawer of the storage unit on the table beneath the banner in the narthex. Thanks!

Ad Council Update from the May 22, 2011 meeting

This update is provided to keep members aware of Ad Council's work. Please thank your elected lay leadership for their work, and encourage and support them! Minutes approved (Andrea/Lona).

Finance

- stewardship report (see article on the facing page); Pastor gave an update on pledges to date
- new chair Bill asked for volunteers to be trained as Counters: Jeri Lynn, Andrea, Abbi, Lona
- motion naming signers on accounts: Irene, Andrea, Jeri Lynn, Mary Lou; passed (Andrea/Mary Lou)
- received treasurer's report of expenses and income to date in 2011

Trustees

- nominated Andrea as chair (Bill/Lona); elected unanimously
- Window replacement in Fellowship Hall nearly complete; polyurethaning trim
- Community Garden project moving forward; Village will help with sod removal and tilling
- Pastor is arranging for cleaning and painting in school areas over the summer
- Pastor seeking bids for various projects throughout the building (additional windows, electrical upgrades, fire system upgrades, door/glass upgrades in Fellowship Hall; will bring estimates/plan
- motion to repair/remodel both parsonage bathrooms at a cost of \$4,965; passed (Bill/Mary Lou)
- discussed Parlor renovations, taking into account its new uses; more info needed; will refer to 2010 confirmation class ideas/plans

Nurture (see nurture calendar posted with minutes); Tuesday Vespers @6:30 on the lawn from 6/14-8/9; scheduled outdoor worship, block party, pet blessing; replacing signs on Grand Ave

SPRC - first meeting of newly elected members 6/12 after worship in Pastor's office

Pastor's Report

- provided report in writing (filed and posted outside church office with minutes)

New Business - approved on consensus a proposal from the Pastor that we work toward being a Rainbow Covenant congregation (pay apportionments in full and give to mission in six specific areas)

The next meeting of Ad Council will be held on Sunday, June 26, after worship.

June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Turnaround Church Boot Camp
5 9:30 am Worship w/communion 10:30 Coffee Hour (Turnaround Church Boot Camp)	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 9:30 am Worship 10:45 SPRC	13	14 6:30 Vespers	15	16	17	18
19 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour	20	21 6:30 Vespers	22	23	24	25
26 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Ad Council	27	28 6:30 Vespers	29	30 7 pm Nurture (NOW)		

JUNE 2011

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REV. DENISE JANSSEN, PASTOR

Mark your Calendars!

**Tuesday
Evening
Vespers**

begin

June 14!

**Come join us Tuesdays at
6:30 p.m. on the lawn!**