



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

The First News

June 2010

Railroad Daze Fundraiser set for June 4, 5, 6!

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Franklin Park's Railroad Daze festival (and our church's fundraising booth at it) are almost upon us! There are still opportunities to help in the booth (call the Pastor to volunteer). Our congregation is blessed with many generous souls who have already volunteered—won't you help raise money for mission?!



Special Church Conference Planned for July 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Our DS Rev. James Preston will lead our congregation in a special church conference on July 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the Susannah Room on the lower level. The express purpose of this meeting (and the only business we can do) is: consideration to approve appropriation of a portion of the Daum Fund for the church's charitable needs and purposes. A new Illinois law, passed in June 2009, allows appropriate of both proceeds and principal of endowed funds, regardless of the donors' restrictions, in extraordinary circumstances through a good faith process of prudent consideration and deliberation by a non-profit. At a Listening Meeting in March, handouts about the new law and advice from the Conference Chancellor (attorney) were provided and continue to be available from the office.

Quick Takes:

- After worship study group, "Reading the Bible: What? So what? Now what?" continues in June in Susannah
- Nobius is June 12, 5:30 p.m. (no Nobius in July & Aug)
- Northern Illinois Annual Conference meets at Pheasant Run in St. Charles June 13-16 (more info on bulletin board)
- Money Matters, with tips & insights on money, credit, spending, held on June 26 from 9:30—noon
- Sunday Worship moves to the air-conditioned Susannah Room for July and August, beginning July 4th!
- Community Vacation Bible School is coming up on July 26-29 on our lawn—save the dates & volunteer now!

Youth, Adults Invited to Louisville Mission Trip

Save the dates, August 5-9, for a mission and service opportunity for youth and adults from our congregation in Louisville, Kentucky. More details will be available in the July newsletter—make plans now to serve God and others with your hands and feet alongside your brothers and sisters in Christ!

Celebration of Freedom Offering Taken July 4!

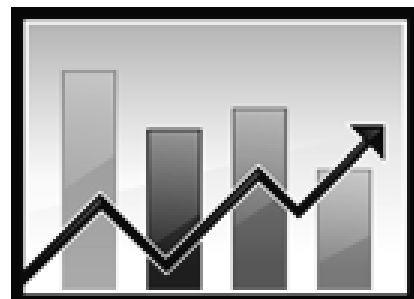
Independence Day is a celebration of freedom in this nation. But freedom isn't something only Americans know. Whatever the nation of our birth or citizenship, as Christians we experience the great blessing of freedom in Christ. This year, July 4th falls on a Sunday. We'll be celebrating freedom in worship that day in a variety of fun ways. Plan to join the celebration on Sunday, July 4!

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 4 and throughout July, if you're away on the holiday weekend. Our nation is 234 years old this year—perhaps you'll consider a gift that recognizes this number in some way: ten cents for every year would be \$23.40; twenty-five cents/year = \$58.50; a dollar/year = \$234. 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 received will go to help pay the church insurance, due in July.

Stewardship Report

Our Giving by the Numbers...

Monthly Giving for May 2010 (4 of 5 weeks)	\$ 3,730.00
Total Giving in 2010 to date (5/23/2010)	\$20,853.33



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:

Carol Michaels Mary Pease Virginia Densborn

Those in need of our continuing prayers:

Marilyn Oxby Dorothy Schneider Arvis Knutson Pat Fritze
 Margaret Jackson Signe Howell Edna Kirchhoff

the family of Elois May, who died May 12

Please remember to pray for the graduate(s) you raised your hand to support in prayer as they transition... maybe even send them a note!

Maggie Horn Jenee Tarasuik Herbert Das Stanley Das
 Christine Kuhlman Allison Shragal Kristine Shragal



Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries in June

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



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 “empties” box on the bookshelf in the narthex. Thanks!

Ad Council Update from the May 12, 2010 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 were approved (Mary LouJeri Lynn).

Finance

- stewardship report (see article on the facing page); Pastor gave an update on pledges to date
- adding “Celebration of Freedom” offering on July 4th as an additional effort to pay insurance
- received treasurer's report of expenses and income to date in 2010; deficit spending continues

Trustees

- Pastor brought a bid from Conference insurance, Assurance, for 8% less with higher coverage limits
- mold testing in the affected area near Fellowship Hall was discussed; two bids sought
- tuckpointing estimate received for \$4,800; need to do \$2,800 now; postponed decision to June
- Pastor replaced toilet seats in parsonage, and secured a \$19.99 deal on cable internet for 6 mos
- Pastor will try out weed control products on parsonage lawn for Andrea to apply on church lawn
- Railroad Daze was discussed - securing volunteers, product, and forklift/truck to deliver to site; Pastor Randy will preach on June 6 so Pastor Denise can focus on this fundraiser

Nurture (see nurture calendar posted with minutes); set dates for VBS 7/26-29 here; set dates for youth trip 8/5-9 in Louisville KY; Tuesday Evening Vespers @6:30 on the lawn in the summer; Graduate Recognition 5/23; discussing outdoor worship, block party, replacing signs

Pastor's Report

- provided report in writing (filed and posted outside church office with minutes)
- Pastor applied for conference health care grant (\$3,900); working with DS to schedule special church conference and mtg w/Ad Council; planning mission trip and VBS; visioning Vespers service;
- Pastor will be away for Annual Conference 6/13-16, and leading camp 6/27-7/3 (no Sundays missed with either); Pastor will miss a Sunday for the mission trip—Scott Hotaling will preach/play

The next meeting of Ad Council will be held on Wednesday, June 9, at 7 p.m.

Special meeting with District Superintendent Rev. James Preston will be Thursday, June 17, at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday Summer Vespers Services Offered in July/August

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 on the weekends this July and August, Tuesday Vespers at 6:30 p.m. on the lawn in the Memorial Garden offers you 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.

Tuesday Vespers Services will be 30-40 minutes of this simple and ancient worship form. We'll meet on the lawn, weather-permitting (the parlor will be our alternate location in case of rain). Bring your own lawn chair and bring your friends! Come and worship God with your church family in the beauty of creation! More details are forthcoming in July.



From the Pastor's Desk...

Rev. Denise Janssen

As we recognized graduates in worship on Sunday, May 23, many members of our congregation raised their hands and took special responsibility to pray for each of those graduating. We said we would pray for these new graduates as they moved through this time of transition from one level of school to another, or from going to school to searching for or starting a job. Transitions can be stressful—we've all been there! Sometimes just a little support can be a great gift our congregation can offer to these members and friends.

I sometimes hear members of our congregation say things like "we don't have any young people in our congregation." At graduate recognition this year and in years past, it was so obvious that this statement is not true. It is a lie that needs to die. But it can also become a self-fulfilling statement if we keep saying it. There are dozens of children, youth, and young adults in our congregation. They are baptized members, just like you. They love God and want to live out their faith and do good in the world, just like you.

And, as you may have observed, young people sometimes live out their faith in ways that are different from the ways you do. Different is not bad, it just is. When we see something different, our best strategy is to get curious about it. For example, not seeing young people in worship may mean we need to ask how we need to change—perhaps what other forms of worship or times or places we need to offer worship, so that our young people can be there. Young people need companions on their journey of faith—not someone to show them the right way to do it, but people to walk alongside as they figure it out. Are you willing to go out of your way just a little in order to be a friend to one who is just starting out?

June 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6—Railroad Daze 9:30 am Worship Pastor Randy, preaching 10:30 Coffee Hour	7	8	9 7 pm Ad Council	10	11 Railroad Daze	12 5:30 pm Nobius
13—Annual Conf 2 p.m. 9:30 am Worship w/Communion 10:50 After Worship Study	14	15	16	17 6:30 pm Special Ad Council meeting with DS	18	19
20 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour	21	22	23	24 7 pm Nurture (NOW)	25	26 9:30 am Money Matters
27 9:30 am Worship	28	29	30			

JUNE 2010

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REV. DENISE JANSSEN, PASTOR

Save the Dates!

Volunteer to help plan or staff our

**Community
Vacation
Bible School
July 26-29!**

Contact the Pastor or Taylor
Anthony to learn more!