



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

# The First News

May 2010

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

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Railroad Daze is the biggest event the Franklin Park community hosts all year, and our congregation is a part of it! In the midst of the carnival rides and musical performances, our church has found a place — and it's even kind of an important one. Through our beverage booth, selling soda and water this year, our congregation provides a drink for parched souls who attend the event—and we raise money for mission in the process. In the past, after expenses, roughly \$3,500 was raised! While recently we haven't netted quite that much, we will be increasing our sale price this year—reflective of increasing product costs— with hopes of increasing the dollars raised for mission.

A successful fundraiser like our Railroad Daze beverage booth doesn't happen without the hard work of lots of volunteers who staff the both in two- or three-hour shifts, those who move the soda and water from storage to the booth, and everyone who makes sure there's plenty of ice and other supplies to keep the operation running smoothly. Plus, this year our booth will also be open an extra day, on Sunday, along with the other vendors. Your help is more important than ever as we seek to raise important dollars for our church's mission!

Please indicate your interest in helping in the booth on the sign-up sheet on the table outside the sanctuary, with a call to the pastor or the church office, or by emailing the pastor. We need you! Please consider how you can help!

### Quick Takes:

- After worship study group, "Reading the Bible: What? So what? Now what?" continues through May
- Nobius meets May 22 and June 12 at 5:30 p.m.
- On Sunday, May 23 after worship, we will dedicate the Memorial Garden created by soon-to-be Eagle Scout Scott Maas with the help of his troop
- Graduates of all levels will be recognized in worship on May 23— please let the Pastor know about graduations of church members by May 9 so we can honor them



**Sunday, May 23 is Pentecost or 'Birthday of the Church' Sunday — and we're planning a special celebration in worship! One way you can participate is by wearing something RED to worship that day. The red we wear on Pentecost reminds us of the fire associated with the coming of the Holy Spirit. Come and join in the fun!**

## **Stewardship Report: Thank You, Faithful Pledgers!**

Thank you to everyone who pledged for 2010 since our Walk of Faith on Sunday, March 28! To date, we have received 16 pledges totaling \$24,673. Only one pledge was lower than last year, and the difference was less than \$50. Total net increase in pledges in 2010 is just over \$1,700 so far.

By indicating your intentions to give to the church this year, filling out a pledge card, you take an important step of faith. Making a pledge is a spiritual act! Yes, gifts are welcome without a pledge, although your willingness to make a pledge also helps your church's lay leaders plan and be good stewards of our congregations financial resources.

If you have not had an opportunity to turn in your pledge card yet, please remember to do so. Extra pledge cards are available at church on the bulletin board outside the office.

### **Stewardship Report**

#### **Our Giving by the Numbers...**

Monthly Giving for April 2010	\$ 4,989.63
Total Giving in 2010 to date	\$17,123.33

## **Standing in the Need of Prayer**

### **Those in need of healing prayers:**

Carol Michaels      Elois May      Mary Pease

### **Those in need of our continuing prayers:**

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

### **Please pray for our graduates as they celebrate and move forward:**

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



## Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries in May

5/7	Erwin Hermanson	5/27	Tony Tarasuik
5/7	Kyle Boelter	5/29	Sandra Hoiney
5/7	Heather Kelley DeBaun	_____	
5/8	Ann Hurmence	5/6	John & Susan Shragal
5/11	Harold Elwardt	5/6	Sanjai & Malini Massey
5/11	Luke Pritchett	5/16	Don & Joan Clark
5/15	Archana Das	5/19	Darrick & Stephanie Chen
5/20	Ina Gale	5/21	James & Carrie Branam
5/20	Barbara Horn	5/21	DeLyle & Virginia Densborn
5/23	Sal Stanfa	5/22	Harnand & Pamela Singh



## Ad Council Update from the April 14, 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 as corrected (Bill/Jeri Lynn).

### Finance

- stewardship report (see article elsewhere in this newsletter); Harnand reported on pledges to date
- received treasurer's report of expenses and income to date in 2010; deficit spending continues

### Trustees

- reviewed Nicor savings this winter; considered other future cost-saving measures on utilities
- motion to take \$527.80 in additional expenses for memorial garden project from Memorials fund (Andrea/Jeri Lynn); passed
- insurance company mandated repairs near completion; will be complete by May 1, except for area beside stage in FH; bids for repairs in this area, including tuckpointing, will be secured by May mtg
- discussed Railroad Daze booth; event has been extended to 3 days; we need to increase to \$1.50 to make it worth doing; pastor will lead this effort and secure a guest preacher for June 6 (she will be present for worship); motion to do Railroad Daze booth this year (Andrea/Mohini) passed

Nurture (see nurture calendar posted with minutes); reported that new committee meets 4/23; youth group will meet 5/2 to set dates and choose a site for summer mission trip

### Pastor's Report

- provided report in writing (filed and posted outside church office with minutes)
- Pastor is meeting with conference insurance broker re: potential cost savings over Church Mutual; Native American Awareness Sunday 4/25 with guest preacher; Emily Fox baptism in April; grad recognition 5/23; potential mid-week vespers worship service in July/August in lieu of Nobius

### New Business

- reviewed the Conference Chancellor's guidance re: appropriating endowed funds; set dates to invite DS to discuss hopes and plans for the future, including another special church conference

**The next meeting of Ad Council will be held on Wednesday, May 12, at 7 pm.**

## United Methodist Women Observe Call to Prayer & Self-Denial

The UMW will observe our Call to Prayer and Self-Denial at the General Meeting on Tuesday, May 4th at noon in the Susannah Room, led by Ruth Tressa, co-president. Hostesses for the luncheon will be the Wesleyan Circle, and we hope all members will make a special effort to attend the last meeting before our summer break. We miss the smiling faces of those who are absent due to illness and for other reasons—we'd love to see you again! Transportation can be arranged—contact your circle chair. The Call to Prayer and Self-Denial invites your donations, either in your “blue box” or in a small envelope (make checks payable to “United Methodist Women” with “call to prayer” in the memo.

The UMW Card Party originally scheduled for May has been postponed until Fall. We will discuss this and other fundraiser options at our next General Meeting—please come with suggestions and preferences in mind, acknowledging that some cannot walk far or stand very long.

Finally, please remember Elois May in your prayers as she remains at Loyola Medical Center with complications following heart valve surgery.

**Aunt Libby Circle** has planned an outing on Thursday, May 13 (contact Ruth Tressa)

**Wesleyan Circle** meets next on Thursday, May 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Charline Elwardt's house.

**Susannah Circle** meets on Tuesday, May 18 at noon at Ethel Pollitt's home.

### From the Pastor's Desk...

Rev. Denise Janssen

Last month at Ad Council, I asked members to consider the ways people outside the church meet the needs that being a part of a congregation serves in the lives of people who participate. I gave as an example the “scouting family” of our local Boy Scout troop that I've seen serve this role in the lives of some of the families that participate there. When someone is in need, the “scouting family” rallies to support the person—at the time of a death in a family, or a debilitating injury, or even a job loss. While working on the Memorial Garden with the scouts, a young man described bringing his girlfriend to meet this scouting family for the first time—for him, a more important meeting than when she was introduced to his biological family. It meant a lot to him that the scouting family welcomed her and included her.

As this young man described what his scouting family meant to him, I started to think about the places in our world where people outside the church function like church for one another. The scouting family is far from the only group that functions in this way like “church”. People need the kind of companions on life's journey that church members often are for one another, even in our world where electronic interactions are so much more common than face-to-face friendships. So I challenged the Ad Council members, and I challenge you, too: consider where “church” is happening all around us. What can we learn from these groups about being “church”? I look forward to hearing about what you observe, and what you think we can learn!

# May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>30</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:50 After Worship Study	<b>31</b> Memorial Day - Office Closed					<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour 10:50 After Worship Study	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> noon UMW Meeting 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Aunt Libby Circle outing 7:30 Wesleyan @ Charline's	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Mother's Day 9:30 am Worship with Communion 10:50 After Worship Study	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7 pm Ad Council	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7 pm Cub Scout Pack Night (FH)	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:50 After Worship Study	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> noon Susannah Circle @ Ethel's	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9:30 Money Matters 5:30 pm Nobius
<b>23</b> Pentecost 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Memorial Garden dedication 10:45 Coffee Hour with cake reception for grads and scouts	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7 pm Nurture (NOW)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>

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REV. DENISE JANSSEN, PASTOR

## **Save the Date!**

Plan to help out in our church's  
beverage booth at

# **Railroad Daze**

## **June 4, 5, 6!**

Contact the church office to  
volunteer for your favorite  
two-hour shift!