



THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF FRANKLIN PARK
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847.455.5858
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The First News

October 2009

Dedication of Rebuilt Ramp October 18

Inside this issue:

Prayer List	2	Following worship on Sunday, October 18 at 10:45 a.m., we will gather for a time of thanksgiving and dedication of our rebuilt ramp at the Emerson Street entrance of our building. We'll have an opportunity to thank Mike Zito, for whom this was an Eagle Scout project, other Boy Scouts/leaders who worked on
Stewardship Report		
Knot Much		
Birthdays/Anniversaries	3	the project, and our Conference Committee on Disabilities who provided grant funds in support of the project. A reception will follow in the Susannah Room.
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From the Pastor's Desk...

Rev. Denise Janssen

As a congregation, we will remind ourselves of the global nature of Christ's church and of our call to care for those we often overlook during worship in October. Here's a preview:

World Communion Sunday is on October 4, when we will celebrate the world-wide nature of the Church in worship at 9:30 a.m. Invite your friends and neighbors to join in this fun, multicultural service of worship and communion. The global church is all around us, right here in Franklin Park!

Children's Sabbath, a focus on our special responsibility to the children of the world, will be observed in worship on Sunday, October 18 at 9:30 a.m. This is a special focus of our Conference UMW, and members of our UMW will lead in worship as we "create change for children today!"

Our congregation will also host a special series on money management for our community:

Money Matters 101 is a three-hour Saturday morning seminar for people who would like to better understand how to manage their money. The last year has been incredibly challenging for many people in our community (and around the world) as we all have sought to make sense of financial matters in changing economic times. This seminar will be open to our church and the public. Watch for November dates and times of this seminar, and invite your family, friends, and neighbors!

Please join me in praying for God to open our minds and hearts as we open our doors to ALL!

Did you know...?

giving to our Second Mile Campaign totals \$1,254 this year to date toward total pledges of \$2,211 made for 2009. Can you help pay off the parsonage roof loan with a special one-time gift, or a monthly or weekly gift to our Second Mile Campaign through the end of 2009? Your gifts decrease the total interest paid and free up funds for programs/outreach!

Knot Much Resumes Sunday, Oct 28 at 11 a.m.

Knot Much returns on October 28 at a new time—11 a.m.—for a fun time of festive fall creations made from cupcakes and led by Kara Lehnhardt, a friend of Joyce Demetros. These cupcake creations aren't just frosted or decorated—we will use cupcakes as a base to make creations that actually look like fall items such as pumpkins, cornucopias, and spiders. This session will be held in the Susannah Room. Please indicate your attendance plans in advance on the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary, noting whether you prefer to bring three cupcakes with you or if you prefer to have three cupcakes provided for you (at a nominal cost of 3/\$1).

Stewardship Update

Watch the weekly bulletin for more current reports of our financial stewardship as a congregation. Your faithfulness in giving is deeply appreciated!

Our Giving by the Numbers...

Monthly Giving for September 2009 (as of 9/20/2009)	\$3,731.00
Monthly Giving last September (as of 9/21/2008)	\$2,631.00
Total Giving in 2009 to this point	\$45,704.70
Total Giving last year to this point	\$48,868.96

Standing in the Need of Prayer

Those in need of healing prayers:

Sylvia Chavez Barb Horn Hemanshu Singh
Dorothy Schneider on her husband Roy's passing

Those in need of our continuing prayers:

Marilyn Oxy Edna Kirchhoff Pat Fritze
Margaret Jackson Virginia Densborn Arvis Knutson
Signe Howell Betty Moore Elois May

Also remember in prayer those searching for employment, those who are struggling financially, and people who lack health insurance and access to adequate health care in these difficult financial times.



Celebrating October Birthdays & Anniversaries

10/1 Doris Britton	10/27 Cassadi Revere
10/4 Karsen Idelman	10/29 LaDawn Ferris
10/6 Craig Short	10/31 Edna Kirchhoff
10/10 Ryan Horn	<u>Anniversaries</u>
10/10 Steven Shragal	10/1 Fred & Ruth Mackeben
10/13 Brian Revere	10/8 Manoj & Archana Das
10/19 Mike Anthony	10/17 Michael & Diane Pritchett
10/20 Emily Gallano	10/20 Sumit & Maddie Wishard
10/21 Robert Kasser	10/30 Bill & Joyce Demetros
10/26 Adrianna Bickley	



United Methodist Women Observe Thanks Offering

The October meeting of United Methodist Women will be held at noon on Tuesday, October 6 with a luncheon hosted by Aunt Libby Circle. The program, presented by Ruth Tressa, will focus on the Thank Offering, a collection of coins and monies saved by members throughout the year as they become aware of blessings received and reasons for gratitude. Hopefully members have kept their blue boxes in an obvious place as a constant reminder to contribute coins of thankfulness!

Children’s Sabbath, one of the UMW Northern Illinois Conference sponsored projects, will be observed in worship on Sunday, October 18th. UMW members lead this time for grown-ups to reflect on the gift of children and to recommit to their responsibilities with regard to the children in our lives.

The Northern Illinois Conference UMW Annual Meeting will be Saturday, October 25. Location and registration details will be available at the general meeting.

Are you participating in the Reading Program? There is still time for you to read—it’s only 4 books (one from each subject area). Both you and our UMW receive special recognition! See Doris Abel for more information—and don’t forget to submit your Reading Program report to Doris!

News from the Circles...

UMW Mission Team meets for planning on October 1 at 9:30 a.m. and again on October 29 at 9:30 a.m. Co-President Charline Elwardt leads business meetings through the end of 2009.

Aunt Libby Circle meets October 8 at 1 p.m. at Daisy Riebeling’s home.

Wesleyan Circle gathers October 8 at 7:30 p.m. at Charline Elwardt’s home.

Susannah Circle meets on October 20 at noon at Lona Guyer’s home.

OCTOBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:30 am UMW Mission Team mtg.	2	3
4 9:30 am World Communion Sunday Worship 10:30 am Coffee Hour	5	6 noon UMW Meeting 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	7	8 1 pm Aunt Libby Circle @ Daisy's 7:30 pm Wesleyan Circle @ Elwardt's	9	10
11 9:30 am Worship with Scott Hotelling preaching	12	13 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	14 6 pm SPRC 7 pm Ad Council	15	16	17 5:30 pm Nobius
18 9:30 Children's Sabbath Worship 10:45 am Ramp Dedication and Reception in Susannah	19	20 noon Susannah Circle @ Lona's	21 6:30 pm Nurture Committee	22	23	24
25 9:30 am Worship Children's Halloween Party 11 am Knot Much (cupcake creations)	26	27	28	29 9:30 am UMW Mission Team mtg.	30	31

Ad Council Update from the September 16, 2009 meeting

This update is provided in lieu of minutes to keep members aware of Ad Council's work on their behalf. Please thank them for their work, and encourage and support your Ad Council members. Attending: Lisa, Taylor, Bill, Andrea, Diane, Mary Lou, Lona, Pastor Denise & Guest: Abbi

Finance

- received treasurer's report and eight-month report of expenses and income; spending under budget to accommodate giving which is slightly under pledged amount and less than expenses
- stewardship report (see article elsewhere in this newsletter); noted need for fall special offerings
- reviewed endowed fund balances, noting Daum funds have recovered substantially but are still slightly below the principal amount—no interest available for expenditure at this time

Trustees

- downspouts and flat roof repairs will be completed before winter; Pastor will obtain additional estimates for parsonage shower repairs; having Sears out for warranty repairs to icemaker and will have them look at clothes dryer (which is not drying consistently)
- Pastor noted new parsonage water meter means monthly readings, not estimates (bills have been estimated monthly since parsonage purchase); received bill of \$1,242.90 for the use over estimates
- approved building use request for Anthony/Tirlich wedding (Bill/Taylor), Girl Scouts meetings for 2009-10; Pastor showed space to a Prayer Ministry for potential sharing (seems unlikely-distance)

Nurture

- Bill reported on Block Party, Worship on the Lawn, Church Conference, Sunday School, Bill Mallonee concert, Children's Sabbath, Ramp Dedication, Knot Much, Confirmation (see Nurture Calendar)

SPRC

- Mary Lou noted that the musician position description is completed; ads have been posted on the Conference website & other free listings; she and Pastor conducting staff evaluation conversations

Pastor's Report

- provided report in writing (filed and posted outside church office with minutes)
- presenting workshops for conference Youth Vision event; meeting with another Boy Scout re: Eagle projects; painted sandwich board for drive-by PR—need another one (or 2); took 2 weeks vacation

Old Business

- Task force met re: use of last year's UMF grant—CPUs, financial workshop series, etc. this fall

New Business

- Pastor proposed our congregation take the lead in planning a Franklin Park Day of Caring (community service projects, etc) meeting with community leaders to gain support, will bring proposal to a future meeting
- noted reports due for Church Conference (some wait until end of year)
- noted Eagle Scout project possibility (before May 2010) and more in the works

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. (Mary Lou/Diane)

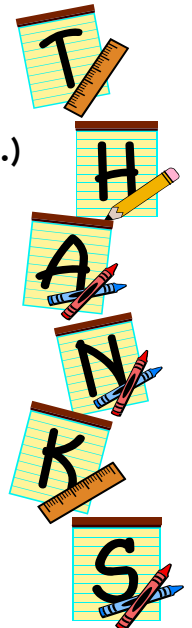
The next Ad Council meeting is Wednesday, October 14 at 7 p.m. (SPRC at 6 p.m.)

Miscellanea...

Expressions of Gratitude—

... to all who helped with set-up/clean-up, food, & activities at our Block Party—especially to those who extended themselves to get to know these new friends.

... to all who participated in our Church Conference, to those who shared food and helped with set-up or clean-up of the potluck meal.



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REV. DENISE JANSSEN, PASTOR

Save the Date!

Invite your neighbors & friends as we give
thanks together at the Franklin Park

**Ecumenical
Thanksgiving
Worship
Tuesday, November 24
at 7 p.m.!**
Location TBA