

First Congregational Church, UCC

2201 7th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265 * 309.762.0787

* All Members, Ministers * Rev. Allen Mothershed, Senior Pastor

* Rev. Jacqueline Perry, Associate Pastor

Saturday Worship 5:30p.m., Lower Level

Sunday Worship 10:00a.m.

Fellowship Hour 11:00a.m., Lower Level

July 22, 2009



THANKS to Our
VBS Volunteers!

WOW! What a week! Full of energy, a great band, and God's love! I would like to thank everyone who volunteered or donated toward Vacation Bible School this past week. It was a week filled with God sightings! We had children who are used to being at First Congregational Church, and children who are not. We averaged 57 children each night. God is truly great! Thank you to those who helped by being a volunteer. From **First Congregational Church**, we had **Stacey Miller, Nicole Dahl, Jessica Carlson, Annmarie Ulrich, Mike Walters, Jill Colgan, Marianne Whitmer, Sherri Moorhusen, Pastor Jackie, Pastor Allen, John and Nancy Ulrich, Mike Bealer, Arno and Vivian Panicucci, Jen Cavins, Sonja Miller, Shannon and Louie Gruhlke, Susan Ehmsen, Denise Browning, Denise Holtz, Dawn Tidwell, Amy Wichman, Nancy Michl, Layne Poremski, Kayla Miller, Amanda Miller, Rebecca Miller, Lexie Holst, Ashley, Annette Marchant, Louise Stoelting, Sandy and Neil Fuller, Charlie and Chris Owen, Jean Herzfeldt, Justin Watts, Linda Gimble, Kristin Dowell, and Susan Owen**. A big thank you to **Deb Carlson** for being the "everything" person for me. She was the one to decorate the sanctuary for us! From **Hope UCC**, we had **Kathy Hobson, Connie Leader, Sarah Hilman, Kathy Lewis, Pastor Parker, Abby Toye, Marcella Parks, Penny, Betty Blunt, Marilyn Kittle, Joann Olson, Mary Tallitsch, Becky Morse, Marge Gottwalt, Karen and Nikki**.

Besides all the volunteers, I thank everyone who found it in their heart (and budget) to be able to donate something this year. All of those items mean a lot, and make for a very special time for the children.

Finally, thank you to those who played host family this week. The band members loved their homes, and I really appreciate the help. I pray that you had a great week with them, too! Thank you to the families of **Amy and Jim Wichman, Jen and Mike Cavins, Beth and Bryan Bealer, Jason and Stacey Miller, and Barb and Dan Howette**.

I am so sorry if I have forgotten anyone! I thank you all from the bottom of my heart!

Heidi Hulme, VBS Director

www.FCCMoline.org

E-mail: FCCMoline@netexpress.net

Devotional

Chautauqua

By the time you read this, I should be starting my week at the Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, New York. I will be joining eight other Fellows in this year's New Clergy Program--I could not be more excited to start! The program grant will cover fully my expenses for the week including gate pass, parking, housing, meals, program resources and the full Chautauqua lecture, workshop and cultural program.

Each week of Chautauqua has a theme. The theme for week five (the last week of July) is "What Makes Us Moral? An Abraham Perspective". My colleagues (new clergy representing Islam, Judaism, and Christianity) will consider the roles of religion, culture, ritual and tradition on the question of what makes us human—Is it also what makes us moral? What role does empathy play and how we regard the "other". I look forward to opening up to other faiths while coming back to my own faith with a larger vision and sharing what I learn with the congregation.

The Chautauqua Institution Abrahamic Community Program intends to foster new insight into God and into our life together. Our conversations will have the goal to maintain a good balance between loyalty to our own faith and allegiance to the human family.

What does interfaith conversation have to do with our church? My goals include looking at the issues through the lens of preaching. This winter, a teenager came to me and said, "I want to pray for the world, but I don't know how." I want to learn how. The young people in confirmation have earnest questions regarding how we are to view people of other faiths. They experience friends and classmates of other faiths in our culturally diverse schools and cities, and want real answers...me too.

The Quad Cities are blessed to have faith leaders and congregations who seek to get past stereotypes through interfaith talks such as the peace symposium hosted by the Tri City Jewish Center in Rock Island last month. I share Kathy Harris' view of that evening (see below) and I hope we can learn even more about our own relationships within the church from these wider conversations in the QC and the world. I will be out of the office from July 24-August 10. See you after a time of learning and vacation!

Peace, Pastor Jackie

Reflection

Ever since 9/11 and our government's reaction to it, I have been seeking answers to my questions and concerns. I have been following news reports and news talk shows per my usual practice. I have read several books (both non-fiction and fiction) about the middle east. This year, two events have greatly helped me to see how I fit into the picture. First, the Wednesday FCC book study group read and discussed the best seller, The Faith Club. This book is a record of a Jew, a Muslim, and a Christian (all New Yorkers) trying to come to an understanding of their faiths after 9/11. It has had a huge impact on my thinking and I keep going back to it.

Recently, the Peace Forum at the Tri-City Jewish Center was the second event. The program was in the synagogue portion of the center. Its beautiful simplicity was a perfect setting for the evening and it was easy to feel God's presence. As the four men addressed us they each spoke of differences and sameness among the faiths. I made notes on each to consider later. This quote from Iman Baig sums up the evening for me. "We come together with differences, but by understanding and addressing the differences we can be closer together-live together -bring peace together, not by compromising, but trying our level best to accommodate each other." Rabbi Samuel added "*The worst sin is self-righteousness. It is the opposite of humility, which is so very hard to accomplish.*"

In, addition other feelings from the evening remain with me. How fortunate we are to have these four particular religious leaders working together for understanding in the QCA. How *un*fortunate that less than a hand full of young people (and I mean younger than 45!) were there to hear and see that practicing tolerance can be a beautiful and liberating thing. Future programs are planned. Please take the opportunity to be enlightened and perhaps deeply moved.

Kathy Harris

Worship, Education, & Youth

Summer Choir Opportunities

You're invited to be a part of the "Dew Drop Inn" Summer Chancel Choir. July 26 and August 30 will be a chance for any and all to learn a simple anthem at 9:30a.m., then sing at the 10:00a.m. service. Join us at the "Dew Drop Inn" located in the choir room upstairs. Feel free to see **Paul Renaud** for advance copies of the music.

Are You Being Called? We Need 5 Teachers!

This year in Vacation Bible School, the children were taught a new Bible point every day. When they heard this Bible point, they were invited to yell "FEAR NOT!!" I invite you to FEAR NOT! And I invite you to FEAR NOT, and volunteer to teach Church School. I am still looking for 3 teachers. Please see **Heidi** if you are interested in helping lead, or have any questions.

Summer Wednesday Morning Bible Group Lunches Meet at 11:30a.m.

August 5 City Limits, 4514 9th St., Rock Island
August 19 Johnny's Italian Steakhouse, 1300 River Drive, Moline



Coffee fellowship is being served
by Youth Board in July

Would you like a ride to worship?

If you would like the church van to bring you to 10:00a.m. worship, please call the church office by Friday at 309.762.0787. Driver for July is **Gordon Panicucci**.



CALENDAR

August 15 - 9:00a.m.-1:30p.m. Feed My Starving Children, Aurora, Illinois

September 6 - Last 10:00a.m. Worship Service

September 13 - First day of Church School, Multigenerational

New Music Ensemble Rehearses for Two Upcoming Sundays

Coming up on Sunday, August 2, you won't want to miss the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Beginning early at 9:50a.m. with a congregational song practice, the worship format will be similar to last year's Summer Saturday Nights Live! worship services, with lots of new music and a simplified outline. The final practice for this service will be on Wednesday, July 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. If you missed last week's practice but still want to sing, please **TELL CHLOE** that you plan to come on the 29th, so she can have enough music ready 309.762.0787.



Summer Worship Times: Sunday 10:00a.m. & Saturday 5:30p.m.

Prayer List , Women's Connections, & Giving Report

Please Pray For...

The World

Please pray for African countries: Sudan, Uganda

From the *Ecumenical Prayer Cycle* (the National Council of Churches)

Those Serving in the Military

Matt & Kelly Walters, Vance Johnson, Leon & Sara Starberg, military, family members of Leon & Karen Starberg

Joel Price, combat medic in Afghanistan, nephew of Kathie Heaps

Family & Friends of Private William Long, murdered at a Little Rock, AK recruiting center

Friends & Family

Carter McKinley, medical, nephew of Laura Hozak

Clarice Johnson, medical

Peg Smithers, hospital

Ruth Brink

Marjorie Parker, Lighthouse

Jan Bjurstrom

Robert Glass, son of Sandy Glass

Richard Laws

Sydney Sophia Mowen

Karla Lohman, friend of Kristin Dowell

LaVerne Dunham, friend of Kristin Dowell, uncle of Scott Maranda

Bryan Glass, son of Sandy Glass

Marvin Anderson, grandfather of Denise Browning

Catherine Jasper, Rosewood

All those in assisted or skilled care facilities

For those going through surgery and their recovery

The Community

The still suffering alcoholic

The Church

New Church UCC, Peoria

Parkview UCC, Peoria

****Please contact the church office when it is time to remove names from the Prayer Request list.**

Women's Connections Events



August 23 Workshop for napkin folding & scarf tying at 1:00p.m. in the Parlor

September 15 Trip to Abraham Lincoln Museum in Springfield.

October 19 See & learn about tiffany stained glass windows in St. Luke's Methodist Church in Dubuque, Iowa

November 8 Sunny Moorhusen's Famous Pie Baking Class

December 5 Christmas Tea

Giving Report as of June 30, 2009

2009 Budget Pledge Goal	\$463,960
2009 Actual Pledges	\$458,106
2009 Pledging Units	265
Monthly Budget Pledge Income Goal	\$ 38,663
Monthly Actual Pledge Income Goal	\$ 38,176
June Actual Pledge Income	\$ 32,495

This report reflects giving only to the general operating fund. Additional gifts directed to specific ministries are not included here. Please contact the church office if there are any questions.



June 2009
\$5.00

A Message from Your Parish Nurse...

Peace and Good Health to You

New Guidelines in Aspirin Therapy

Is an aspirin a day right for you? Last month, new guidelines for aspirin therapy were released by the U.S. Preventative Services Task force. The task force looks at all the literature that's come out in individual research studies and compares the studies across age groups, ethnicities, and genders to make recommendations for preventing disease.

Historically, the American Heart Association has suggested aspirin therapy for individuals even with a low risk of developing heart disease within the next 10 years (given the individuals didn't have any contraindications to taking aspirin such as easy bleeding, ulcers, and allergies).

Then, a study came out that specifically looked at the benefits of aspirin in women. We know from a study published a number of years ago that use of a daily aspirin reduced the risk of a first heart attack by about a third in otherwise healthy men. However, in that study there was an increased risk of hemorrhagic stroke (bleeding within the brain). In the study that came out on women, a reduction in heart attacks wasn't seen; however, there was a reduction in strokes. Based on this research, the new guidelines are different for men and women. Aspirin is recommended for men to prevent heart attack and for women to prevent stroke.

The new recommendations call for low-dose 81 mg ("baby") aspirin. And, when setting the recommendations, the task force looked at the risk of taking aspirin compared to the risks (for example, hemorrhagic stroke, irritation to the stomach, and bleeding in the stomach or stomach lining). The new recommendations include:

Men ages 45 to 79 even if low risk, should consider taking aspirin.

Women ages 55 to 79 should consider aspirin for stroke risk.

For men younger than 44 and women younger than 54, it's unlikely that the benefits of aspirin will outweigh the risks unless there are already existing cardiovascular risks.

Many follow the philosophy that "if a little is good, more is better." Is this true with aspirin? A summary of the study by Dr. Nina Radford says NO. We increase our risk of stomach bleeding when we take too much aspirin, so we should definitely stick to the 81 mg aspirin and not substitute the full-dose aspirin of 325 mg. When shopping for aspirin,

Dr. Radford encourages us to forgo buying the full-dose aspirin and cutting it up into smaller pieces as a cost-saving measure, and to simply buy the basic generic 81 mg aspirin. The baby aspirin that's promoted as the "heart aspirin" is simply a marketing campaign that will result in paying more for the packaging.

Before beginning any new medication therapy, it is important to discuss it with your doctor.

For more information: www.cooperaerobics.com/Newletters/Wellness-Insider/2009

American Cancer Society Relay for Life

Friday, July 31, through Saturday, August 1, Black Hawk College track, 6600 34th Ave., Moline
This year marks the beginning of the celebration of 25 years of Relay for Life. The Rock Island County Relay for Life is a 12-hour overnight event to raise money for cancer research and support. Team members take turns walking around the track to honor those who have survived cancer, to remember those who have lost their battle with cancer and for the hope to one day find a cure. For more information or to start your own team, contact Stacey Dutton at Stacey.dutton@cancer.org.

For more information or to register, call Trinity's My Nurse at 309.779.2000 or 877. 242.8899



Miscellaneous

Meal Team

Would you be willing to help out by preparing, freezing, or purchasing a meal? Occasionally, after surgery, some of our church family are quickly discharged with minimal, if any, help at home. It would be such a blessing for them to have one or two meals to help get through the first week. Please sign up in the library to help participate on the "meal team".



Clothing Drive The Christian Hospitality Committee is sponsoring a student and adult work-wear drive to benefit persons in our church neighborhood. We are accepting donations of good, clean clothing and backpacks for adults and children. New clothing items are also welcome. These items can be dropped off in the church library. Distribution will be August 29. Any questions, please call **Sonja Miller** at 309.496.9947.

Our Flamingos Would Like to be Out in the Sun!

We are in business SEVEN days a week! The cost to flamingo is a donation to the First Congregational Youth Group. To "step things up a bit", the youth will be doing RANDOM FLAMINGOING. This means that anyone can get flamingoed by the youth, at the choice of the youth, unless you have purchased insurance. We will offer insurance for a cost of \$25 for three months. GUARD YOURSELF! Otherwise, celebrate an anniversary, birthday, retirement, or graduation with a beautifully decorated front lawn. FLAMINGO THOSE YOU LOVE! Contact **Heidi** at 309.762.0787 or heidi.hulme@netexpress.net.



Have you forgotten about your island?

Remember to keep your island weeded and pruned so it looks inviting! We are so grateful for your commitment to keep our church grounds looking so good!!

Special Message from Outdoor Ministries

In response to this year's economic difficulties, the Outdoor Ministry System is suspending, for all sponsored events, the late registration fee that would normally be imposed if registration for summer camps was not completed 30 days prior to the camp's opening date.

Registration will continue until two weeks before the camp, but no late fee will be charged.

Registration materials and camp information for the summer programs is available at: www.il-odm.org



The Great Escape Theaters are offering their final free film of the summer. Doors open at 9:00a.m. If you are interested, please meet at the Great Escape Theater in Moline. The last movie will be *Space Chimps (G)* on July 28 & 29.

Does the sight of weeds drive you crazy?

Then you are just who we've been looking for! We need someone who is willing to do some weeding and pruning on our church grounds (other than the islands). If you would be willing to do this for your church, please let **Shannon** in the church office know. Thank you!

Women's Connections

Approximately ten ladies enjoyed lunch followed by **Larry Shellenberger's** excellent tour of John Bloom's art at the Figge on July 11. **Jackie Perry** expanded our knowledge by conducting exercises to show the spirituality in his art. The next connection will be a napkin folding/scarf tying workshop on August 23 at 1:00p.m. in the parlor. Look for a sign up sheet toward the end of this month in the library.

Other Items of Interest

Communication and Working with the Church Office

We are providing a series of articles designed to make it easier for boards and committees to work with the office. If we all have a common understanding of how our communication processes work, then everything should flow more smoothly and fewer people will be surprised or frustrated. If you have ideas for how to make it even better, we would love to hear from you. This information will also be provided on our website.

Board and/or Committee's Meeting Minutes

Each month all boards and committees meet at their appointed time. The secretary of each board/committee records the minutes of that meeting. Ideally, the minutes should be typed up and forwarded to the board/committee members within two weeks of the meeting. This is most appropriate because if there are action items to be accomplished before the next meeting, the board/committee members have the minutes as their "reminder" to get those action items done.

Once the minutes are approved at the next meeting, the secretary should forward a copy of the *approved* minutes to the church office for record keeping. The church office would like to implement this procedure because all members of the congregation should be able to view those minutes in order to be informed. The plan would be to set up binders in the library for each board/committee and to house each month's minutes in those binders.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding minutes of boards and committees, please do not hesitate to contact **Shannon Gruhlke** at 309.762.0787.



Communion Sabbath August 1 & 2



When you come to worship on August 1 and 2, we ask you to remember those in our community who also need physical nourishment by bringing non-perishable food items for the local food pantries.

Church Bridge August 4

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of Church Bridge on Tuesday, August 4 at 1:00p.m. in the Parlor. Everyone is welcome! We play until 3:30p.m. Call **Ginny Larsen** at 309.797.8371 with any questions.



Foot Clinic August 20

Next Trinity Foot Clinic will be on Thursday, August 20 in the dining rooms. Please call the church office to make a reservation by Monday, August 17.

You will find this newsletter on our website: www.FCCMoline.org

Missions

Summer Multigenerational Mission Trip August 15

We still have eight openings for the one day trip to Feed My Starving Children in Aurora, IL. We will leave early on Saturday, August 15 and be returning that evening. Please sign up in the library or contact **Heidi Hulme**.



Meal Site Dates for 2009

Sign up in the library and pick up a guide for serving at the Churches United meal site. The next opportunity is **November 19 at Mt. Zion**. See **Pastor Jackie** if you have any questions. Here are dates for 2009:

Mt. Zion, East Moline
December 17

Summer Food Drive

Please consider making a special food donation to the Christian Friendliness and Churches United food pantries to help during this time. Our special focus for the summer is “kid-friendly” breakfast and lunch items—cold cereal (whole grain, low sugar options please for added nutritional value), canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly, macaroni and cheese, or other canned pasta meals. Monetary donations to purchase food from the Riverbend Area Food Bank are also welcome.



Mission Trip Testimonial...

Although it would only be two days of working, from the outset we knew that we would be doing good at White Rock Conservancy. We helped Oak Savannah to continue growing, and gardened at the Conservancy's office. The Oak Savannah was the more difficult task. To give the oak trees enough sunlight, the invading trees had to be cut down. Dragging the branches into piles was sometimes an uphill battle, but several of the youth made the best of the situation by walking on the piles to compact them. On the last day, we went canoeing. All in all, it was quite a successful and fun mission trip.

Debbie Newcomb



Winnie's Place Needs List

9' x 6' foot area rugs for the living rooms. Menard's has edged pieces of carpeting for \$34.99 – basically any color will work. We can even use the neutrals, greens, blues, and yellows...we need about five of these and we also need to replace them every so often...

27" television sets

Gift card for a fabric store, we are going to make some curtains. We need about 28 yards of fabric.

3 volt 123 size Lithium batteries

Twin size mattress pads

Both infant's and children's fever reducers

Toasters

Coffee pots

Straw brooms and dust pans

Gift cards for Wal-Mart, Hy-Vee and Fareway

Gift card for Lowes – we need some lawn treatment items as well as furnace filters

Illinois and Iowa bus tickets (Illinois bus tickets can be purchased at most grocery stores)

13 gallon trash bags

Small hair dryers

Ethnic hair products

Electric can opener

Dish clothes and kitchen towels

You can drop any of these items off at the church library. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

Calendar

Saturday, July 25

5:30 pm Worship, Large Dining Room

Sunday, July 26, Quad City Brass

9:00 am Organ & QCBQ Rehearsal, Sanctuary

9:15 am QCBQ & Other Instruments
Rehearsal, Sanctuary

9:30 am Chancel Choir & Instruments
Rehearsal, Choir Room

10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary, Nelson Baptism

11:00 am Fellowship, Café, Lower Level

Monday, July 27

6:30 pm Mary Kay Meeting, Parlor

Tuesday, July 28

4:00 pm Prenatal Class, Parlor

7:00 pm Diaconate Meeting, Parlor

7:00 pm Banjoleers, Music Room

Wednesday, July 29

6:00 pm Yoga, Large Dining Room

6:30 pm Music Ensemble Rehearsal

Thursday, July 30

10:00 am Prayer Group, Parlor

6:00 pm Sheltered Reality Rehearsal,
Sanctuary

Saturday, August 1, Communion Service

10:00 am Habitat for Humanity, Library

5:30 pm Worship, Large Dining Room

6:30 pm Choir Karaoke Party at Duckett's

Sunday, August 2, Communion Service

10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary

11:00 am Fellowship, Café, Lower Level

Monday, August 3

6:00 pm Personnel Meeting, Pastor Allen's
Office

6:30 pm Mary Kay Meeting, Parlor

Tuesday, August 4

9:00 am Retired Folks, Village Inn, 53rd St.,
Moline

1:00 pm Church Bridge, Parlor

1:00 pm Quilters, Dining Rooms

4:00 pm Prenatal Class, Parlor

5:30 pm Executive Board Meeting, Pastor
Allen's Office

7:00 pm Music Board Meeting, Parlor

7:00 pm Christian Education Board Meeting,
Board Room

7:00 pm Banjoleers, Music Room

Wednesday, August 5

9:30 am Quilters, Dining Rooms

10:30 am Newsletter Mailing, Library

11:30 am Bible Study Lunch, City Limits, Rock
Island

6:00 pm Yoga, Large Dining Room

7:00 pm Campanella Ringers Rehearsal, Bell
Room

Thursday, August 6

9:30 am Card Ministry, Library

10:00 am Prayer Group, Parlor

Saturday, August 8

5:30 pm Worship, Large Dining Room

Sunday, August 9

10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary

11:00 am Fellowship, Café, Lower Level

Monday, August 10

6:30 pm Mary Kay Meeting, Parlor

Tuesday, August 11

1:00 pm Embroiders Guild, Dining Rooms

4:00 pm Prenatal Class, Parlor

6:00 pm Church Life & Growth Meeting, Jr.
High Room

6:00 pm Mission Board Meeting, Parlor

6:00 pm Christian Hospitality Meeting,
Library

7:00 pm Church Council Meeting, Board
Room

7:00 pm Banjoleers, Music Room

**Pastor Jackie
Continuing Ed./Vacation
July 24-August 10**

**Heidi on Vacation
July 22-30**

Newsletter Article

DEADLINES:

Fridays 5:00p.m.

July 31

August 14

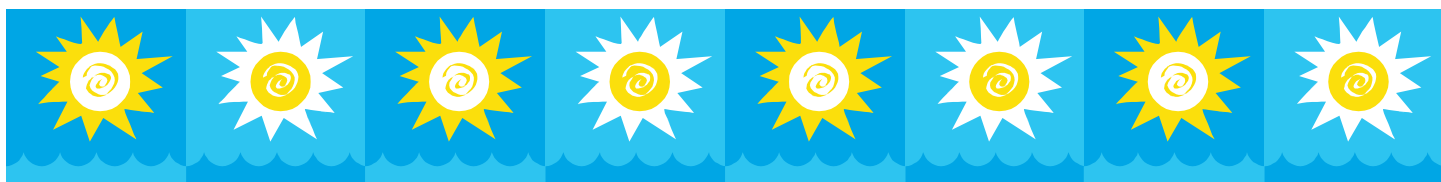
August 28

**DATES ARE FINAL, SO BE
SURE TO GET YOUR ARTICLES
IN TO THE OFFICE ON TIME!**

**First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ**
2201 Seventh Avenue
Moline, Illinois 61265

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We want to be good stewards of the church's financial resources.
If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please contact
Coral at 309.762.0787 or cminge@netexpress.net. Thank you!



Mission Statement of
First Congregational Church
Seeking, Serving, and Sharing Christ