



THE UNITED METHODIST MESSENGER

Pastor's Pen

It's springtime!

Praise the Lord, Hallelujah! After a long winter, I imagine we are all excited and ready for the warmth of the sun. As we enter this season of Lent, I want to share with you our intentions of "Goin' On A Road Trip". Our journey continues on April 3rd and our third stop will be the city of "Resuscitation." As adventurous travelers, our next stop will be a place called "Revival Station" on April 10th. Our trip continues to "Humility" on April 17th and ends at our final destination of "Resurrection" on April 24th. This journey is one of trust as we discover the terrain of our beliefs and seek to gather in worship, grow spiritually and serve faithfully.

When we reach our final destination we will be able to sing and say loudly and boldly, "I know that My Redeemer Lives!" Our road trip will be over. It will be finished! Then we will be ready to celebrate the fact that on this road trip, on this side of the Resurrection, we know that Easter Sunday morning confirms that Christ is risen and because He lives, we live also!

Go out. Invite your neighbors, friends, the community and those you meet on the street to join us on this road trip and share the excitement. Then like the women in biblical days, who traveled with Jesus and stopped at his tomb with both fear and great joy we will know that there are stops and challenges on the road, but that the *Risen Savior* is with us and in us! Please join us on our journey!

Pastor Harlene

6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service by Confirmands

7:15 a.m. Early Breakfast

8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Easter Worship Services

Sycamore United
Methodist Church
160 Johnson Avenue
Sycamore, Illinois 60178

Phone: 815-895-9113
Fax: 815-895-1042
www.sycamoreumc.org

Saturday Celebration
5:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship
8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School
10:15 a.m.

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April 2011 Worship Schedule

April 2– Saturday Celebration at 5:00PM

Cotton Patch Gospel

April 3– Sunday Worship at 8:30 & 10:00AM

Pastor Bill Landis

Scripture: Romans 8: 6-11

Message: "Spiritual Resuscitation"

April 9– Saturday Celebration at 5:00 PM and

April 10– Sunday Worship at 8:30 & 10:00AM

SUMC Choir & Dance Team Spring Chorale Celebration

Revive! Twenty– Eleven

April 16– Saturday Celebration at 5:00PM

April 17– Sunday Worship at 8:30 & 10:00AM

Pastor Harlene Harden

Palm Sunday

Scripture: I Corinthians 11: 23-26

Message: Humility

April 21– Maundy Thursday at 7:00PM

Pastor Harlene Harden

Scripture: I Corinthians 11: 23-26

Message: Ordinary

April 22– Good Friday at 7:00PM

Senior High Youth

April 23– Saturday Celebration at 5:00PM and

April 24– Sunday Worship at 8:30 & 10:00AM

Pastor Bill Landis

Scripture: Colossians 3: 1-4

Gospel: Matthew 28: 1-10

Message: Life in the Resurrection 2 One

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service 6:30AM

Confirmation Class of 2011

April 30– Saturday Celebration at 5:00PM

Pastor Harlene Harden

May 1– Sunday Worship at 8:30 & 10:00AM

Pastor Bill Landis

Confirmation Sunday



Lorraine Kingsnorth

Robert L. Newby

Leroy Greathouse

James Robinson

Judy Walitzer

Ruth Brown

John McCormick

Jean Irwin

Jo Klingenberg

Jen Maurer

Helen Bannon

Martin Gilbert

Evan Davis

Bruce Madden

Mozelle Janes & family

Sharon Wilson



Pray for our Military

Men & Women

PVT Tom Fleenor

*PVT2 Nels Lindgren

*LT Robert Ortman

MSgt. Bianna Yeager

SPC Scott Maratto

SPC Timothy Stewart

LCPL Brett Gulke

PVT Ben Bushno

Derrick R. Wells

SGT Shaune Clark

SGT. Neil Smith

*SPC Mitchell Stewart

LCPL Matthew Einhorn

Cpt. Garrett Slack

LCPL Kyle Keneway

PFC John Harris

David Whitehead

Eathon Larson

*SGT Dustin Bell

*SGT Andrew Sheehan

PV2 Jennifer Link

Jason Abitua

PVT Ben Bushno

*SPC Christopher Isabel

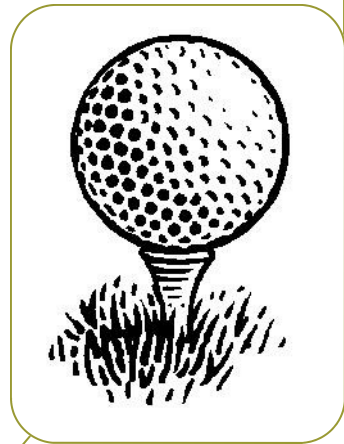
CPT John C. Whitehead

*SPC. Matthew "Scott" Stewart

*indicates deployed personnel

Best Ball Golf Tournament

Mark your calendars for JUNE 17th for the 11th Annual Methodist Best Ball Golf Tournament (June 27 rain date). Either golf or plan on coming to the dinner. If you would like to donate a prize to be given away at the BBQ dinner, or if you have any questions call Dick Graham (815) 751 7977.



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, APRIL 02, 2011
9:00 A.M. - NOON

FREE FAMILY HEALTH FAIR
 Sycamore United Methodist Church
 160 Johnson Ave. Sycamore, IL



Health Care

*Health, Fitness, & Fun
 Information for all ages*

Blood Pressure Checks
 Body Fat Analysis, Blood Pressure Checks
 Glucose Checks
 Chair Massage
 Facial Toning, Migraine Relief, Facials
 Spinal Health & Chair Massage
 Reiki, CranioSacral & KHT Hand Therapy
 Acupuncture
 Eye Health & Safety
 Breast Cancer Info & survivor packs
 Advanced Directives
 Senior Services
 Blood Pressure Checks
 Senior Services
 Mental Health Services
 Child Development Clinic - Information
 Counseling Services - Information
 Community Services - Information

Physician's Immediate Care
 Kish Health Community Wellness
 Kish Health Diabetes Educator
 Mandy Dillon, LMT
 Mandy Frick, LMT; Dana Baars, Esthetician
 Olympic Chiropractic & Physical Therapy
 Alysa Radtke, Reiki Master
 Heather Vanderburg, Acupuncturist
 Hauser Ross Eye Institute
 Cheryl Chilson, Breast Cancer survivor
 DeKalb County Hospice
 Elder Care Services/DeKalb Adult Day Care
 Atec Ambulance
 Family Service Agency
 Ben Gordon Center
 Kish Health Child Development Clinic
 Kish Health Counseling Services
 Voluntary Action Center
 MORE TO BE ADDED SOON!

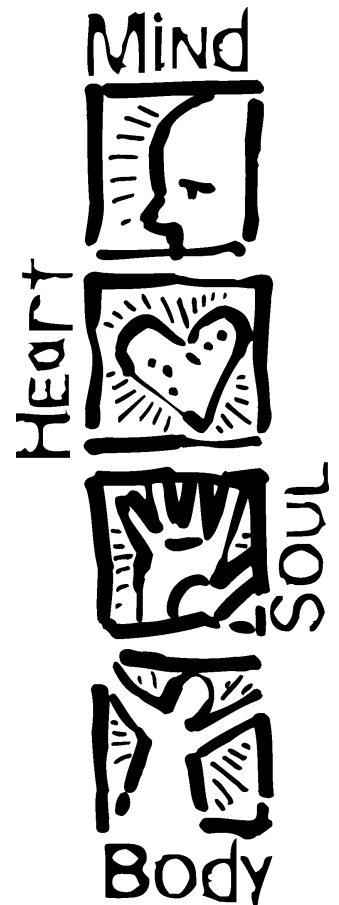
Safety & Fitness

Big Brothers/Big Sisters programming & Intergenerational Programming information - Family Service Agency
 Sycamore Fire Department - Fire safety - Fire engine tour, Atec Ambulance - ambulance tours
 Ridge Ambulance - Balloons and candy for the kids - Ambulance tour
 Kishwaukee Family YMCA - Fitness programming info; Sycamore Park District - Fitness programming info
 Energym - Fitness programming information; Cardinal Fitness & Cardinal Bird Mascot- Fitness programming information
 MORE TO BE ADDED SOON!



Spiritual

SUMC Youth Group & Family Ministries - Program information
 Parish Nursing - Presentation on prevention of bullying
 SUMC Sisters In Service - Trail mix & Popcorn - 50 cents/bag
 ABC Pre-School - Program information MORE TO BE ADDED SOON!



For more information, call the church office 815-895-9113



Hope Haven Meals

Summer is nearly here! As you make your summer plans, please consider providing a portion of a meal for Hope Haven homeless shelter. SUMC provides meals for 35-40 people on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Monday of each month; and the summer months are often difficult to fill. If you can help, contact Lori Grant at (815) 895-8709 or e-mail lgrantbuckeye89@gmail.com.

Thank You's

Dear Church Family,

Your kind expression of sympathy is deeply appreciate and gratefully acknowledged by the family of Russ Schelkopf. Sincere thank you for all the calls, cards, notes and visit to us during Russ' illness. Your prayers and support will continue to support my family and I in our loss.

Blessings,

Berni & Family



Thanks to all who donated to the coat ministry for the 2010/2011 season. We gave away 329 coats, 108 gloves, 117 hats, and 235 miscellaneous items. Those people were a little bit warmer this season because of you. See you in October !

SUMC Coat Ministry

Dear Church Family,

We have appreciated all of the meals, gifts, encouragement and prayers you have offered us as we've welcomed Henry to our family and now are in the midst of moving to Pontiac. We truly do consider you all part of our eternal "family," and will continue praying for your ministry in Sycamore! Your prayers as we transition to a new home, church and community are greatly appreciated. Our new address (as of mid-April) will be 120 E. Reynolds St. Pontiac, IL. Thank you for teaching us, growing with us, and for the privilege of serving our gracious Jesus together!

Love in Christ,

Randy, Ellen, Olivia, Isaac and Henry Yedinak



Spotlight on Recovery

The 2011 Rosecrance Foundation Benefit is Monday, April 11, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. It will take place at Giovanni's, located at 610 North Bell School Road, Rockford, Illinois. The cost is \$150 per person, or \$1500 for a table of 10. Proceeds will provide charity care to youth, adults and their families who seek addiction treatment but need financial assistance. Entertainment will be provided by *Under the Streetlamp*. Contact the church office at (815) 895-9113 for more information.

Military Ministry News

Military Ministry & SUMC,

Thank you for the boxes that you all do for the soldiers. I know they appreciate it, I sure do. It is so nice to get a taste of home, it makes the day ten times better. You guys definitely take care of us. If you guys send any more boxes out we are in need of baby wipes, that's a big thing.

The beef jerky and trail mix and all the snacks are great. The food around here is not that great what so ever. Maybe some protein bars and granola bars and some raisins all would be very helpful. When I was previously deployed I didn't send any thanks you's or letters or anything. Religion and the lord play a big part out here. This is one of many letters. Thank you for all the support that you show for us. It really means a lot to know that I have such a supportive church family back home. I am in the southern province of Afghanistan this year. A very different experience and atmosphere here. I didn't know what to expect, but it turned out to be totally different. If you can send a card or something small to my proud Army wife Kaycie Isabel, she made the decision to stay on post this year while I'm gone, I know she would appreciate it and it would mean so much to her as well. Here address:

2855 B Texas Avenue
Fort Campbell, Kentucky 42223

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, Military Ministry and SUMC.

Sincerely,
SPC Isabel, Christopher R.
RF Fighting OEF. 2011-12

Prayer Shawl Ministry

"Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them..."

Romans 12: 6

Spring is here and we have put aside knitting and crocheting hats, scarves and mittens for a while. Now we are keeping busy making Prayer Shawls, lap robes, Prayer Squares, and baby hats for the newborns at

Kishwaukee Hospital. We have delivered 140 little hats to the Maternity Ward since the first of the year— all in different colors and patterns, made of the softest yarn. We continue to plan and look forward to our 5th Anniversary Celebration luncheon on June 6th.

March Meeting Dates

Monday, April 4th
@ 9:30 a.m.

Monday, April 18th
@ 9:30 a.m.

Questions? Call:

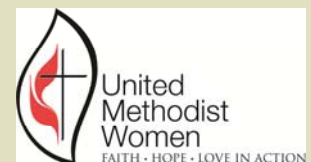
Phyllis Anderson
(815) 899-9957
Jeanne Johnson
(815) 895-5594

UMW DeKalb District

The UMW DeKalb District Spring Meeting will be held on April 30 at Sterling First United Methodist Church. Karen Hewitson's program "Joy to the World" will address mission in the age of global Christianity. The meeting concludes with a noon luncheon for \$6. Registration forms are available on the UMW bulletin board and need to be returned to Becky Brown by Fri. April 22.



"Every skilled woman spun with her hands and brought what she had spun— blue, purple or scarlet yarn or fine linen."
Exodus 35: 25



April

8:30 AM Sunday Worship 8:45 AM Adult Sunday School 8:30 AM Biblical Devotion 10:00 AM Sunday Worship 10:00 AM Children's Sunday School 11:00 AM Biblical Devotion	9:15 AM Moms-In-Christ 9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (1st & 3rd) 12:00 PM Sycamore Food Pantry 4:00 PM Children's Christian Conditioning	9:00 AM Christian Conditioning 9:00 AM Craft Group 9:10 AM ABC Chapel (1st & 3rd) 11:30 AM Clergy Staff Meeting 1:10 PM ABC Chapel (1st & 3rd) 6:30 PM Spiritwind/Jam Session 7:00 PM Confronting the Controversies	6:30 AM Man Code 9:10 AM ABC Chapel (1st & 3rd) 12:00 PM AARP Tax Help 4:00 PM Children's Christian Conditioning 4:30 PM Sonshine Ringers Rehearsal 5:30 PM With Joy! Dinner 6:00 PM Confirmation Class of 2012 6:15 PM Children's Choirs 7:00 PM Adult Choir 7:15 PM Confirmation Class of 2011	9:00 AM Christian Conditioning 10:45 AM Worship Staff (1st & 3rd) 12:00 PM Church Staff Meeting (1st & 3rd) 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Adult Handbells	7:30 AM UMM Breakfast (2nd & 4th) 4:15 PM Saturday Seek 5:00 PM Saturday Worship Service
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 5:00 PM Family Health Fair— Set-up	2 9:00 AM Family Health Fair 5:00 PM Cotton Patch Gospel
3	4 6:00 PM Budget Boosters 6:00 PM Evangelism 6:00 PM Finance 7:00 PM Church Council	5 Election Polling Place 9:10 AM ABC Chapel 9:15 AM ABC Board Meeting 1:10 PM ABC Chapel 6:30 PM Rachel Circle	6 9:10 AM ABC Chapel 6:45 PM Spring Cantata Dress Rehearsal	7 10:00 AM Oak Crest Bible Study	8	9 5:00 PM Revive— Twenty Eleven
10 11:30 AM Family Food & Fun 4:30 PM Jr. High Youth 6:00 PM Sr. High Youth	11	12 9:30 AM Mary Circle 6:00 PM Staff Parish	13 9:30 AM Esther Circle 11:00 AM UMW Spring Banquet Committee 6:00 PM Stewardship 6:15 PM Adult Ministries	14 6:00 PM ABC Preschool Spring Sing 6:30 PM UMM Meeting	15	16 9:00 AM Memorial Committee
17 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	18 6:30 PM Caring Ministry 7:00 PM Ruth Circle	19 9:10 AM ABC Chapel 1:10 PM ABC Chapel 7:00 PM Leading Ladies	20 9:10 AM ABC Chapel 1:15 PM History & Archives	21 6:30 PM Military Ministry 7:00 PM Trustees 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	22 7:00 PM Good Friday Service	23
24 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 6:30 AM Easter Sunrise 7:15 AM Easter Breakfast 8:30 AM Easter Service 10:00 AM Easter Service	25 Office Closed 6:30 PM Discipleship	26 1:00 PM UMW Missions Team 6:30 PM Worship Committee	27 6:00 PM Endowment Committee	28	29	30

Open/Lock Team

- 4/3 Gil Larimer
- 4/10 Dick Graham
- 4/17 Marv Wildenradt
- 4/24 Gil Larimer



Ushers

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>8:30 a.m. Service</i> | |
| Dave Campbell | |
| Jim O’Kane | <i>10:00 a.m. Service</i> |
| Jim Hendricks | Paul Callighan |
| Jim Edwards | Tom Maurer |
| Dan Olson | Cheryl Callighan |
| Edward Poppen | Chuck Mason |
| | Vern Hoerman |
| | Kathy Hewitt |

Church Bus

- 4/3 Mary & Jordan Kalk
- 4/10 Dave & Nancy Leifheit
- 4/17 Kara Morris
- 4/24 John & Linda Toles



Sunday Greeters

- 4/3 Ashley Compton, Lizzie Compton, Marlin & Phyllis Anderson, Georgina Yeager
- 4/10 Dean & Sue Curtis, Eric Menzer
- 4/17 Jasmine Stipher, Sally Scott, Charlie & Betty Primm
- 4/24 Camilla Metcalf, Ann Elder, Marty Roush, Tim Tucci



Saturday Greeters

- 4/2 Nancy Davis, Brent Anderson
- 4/9 Dean & Sue Curtis
- 4/16 George & Kathy Brancato and Family
- 4/23 Marty Roush, Berni Schelkopf

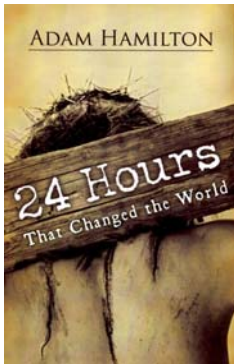


The deadline to submit articles for the May newsletter is

Tuesday, April 19.

Please e-mail all newsletter articles to: office@sycamoreumc.org to make sure your submissions are received.

Christian Ministries



April 10th is Family, Food and Fun. Families are invited to the Sgarlata house (16450 Shearon Court, Sycamore, for pizza and an Easter egg hunt. Each participating child is asked to bring 6 filled plastic eggs. Families are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Paper goods and pizza are provided.

Adam Hamilton's "24 Hours That Changed the World" is offered on Monday nights in the lounge at 7:00 p.m. for adults. Each Monday is a different video and discussion. Anyone can attend any Monday that fits in his or her schedule. The theme for April 4th is Jesus, Barabbas and Pilate. The theme for April 11th is The Torture and the Humiliation of the King. We will conclude the study on April 18th by discussing The Crucifixion and Christ the Victor.

There is also an interactive class for children on Thursdays during Lent for children in preschool through elementary school. This class meets on Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:00 and helps explain Easter to children through a variety of activities. On April 7th, the children will discuss The Last Supper and The Garden of Gethsemane. On April 14, the children will discuss the Arrest and Peter's Denial. We will conclude the study on Maundy Thursday, April 21st with the theme of Good Friday and The Resurrection.

Palm Sunday is April 17th. The children will wave palms and parade through the sanctuary during the opening hymn. Children who would like to participate in the palm procession are asked to meet by the welcome desk at 8:30 for the first service and 10:00 for the second service.

Easter is April 24th. We will have Sunday School for Kindergarten through fifth grade in the gym. We will rotate through Easter centers including a craft, a story and an egg hunt. Preschoolers age 3 through 5 will be in the Preschool Sunday School room. Children two and under will be in the nursery.

Donations of plastic eggs, candy, or money for the Easter egg hunt would be greatly appreciated. Please bring egg and candy donations to the concourse where baskets will be placed under the table where the Upper Room devotionals are located. Monetary donations can be placed in an envelope and put in Julie Sgarlata's mailbox in the concourse. I will order inspirational eggs filled with Easter toys with the donations.

Thank You, Sonshine Ringers!

I would like to thank the Sonshine Ringers members and parents for another wonderful season of ringing handbells! I am thankful to the children and their parents for their dedication and commitment each one of them brought to our team. They worked very hard each week while having fun making music for the Lord!

I would like to acknowledge everyone that participated this year: Adrianna Acosta, Ryan Cowan, Raelyn Erickson, Amanda Ericson, Lauryn Gregorec, Katie Hancock, Jacob Handel, Ryan Loitz, Damon Massier, and Michael Hermes. Special thanks to Kevin Loitz, our substitute that filled in for our March performance, and to our awesome Assistant Director Stephanie Maurer! It has been a blessed season of ringing!

Due to many other activities, the Youth Handbell Choir will resume in the fall. Please contact me if your child (4th grade through high school) is interested in playing next season!

In God's Love,

Deb Loitz



Music Matters

WE HAVE TWO EXCITING MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES COMING UP IN APRIL. These, along with our Holy Week and Easter services, are excellent opportunities to invite friends and neighbors who might need to hear the good news of Christ!

The first is **Saturday, April 2, 5:00 p.m.**, when we will host Phillip Kaufmann (Phyllis Horst's twin brother) in a one-man show of Harry Chapin's **COTTONPATCH GOSPEL**. Harry Chapin died before he was able to perform this, but commented that it was a show he was "born to write." I have heard it described as a country version of GODSPELL. We will take a special free-will offering to help cover the costs of the production and raise money for world hunger. In addition, we will be collecting canned goods that evening for our SUMC Food Pantry. This is an hour and 45 minute production, with an intermission.

The second is **Saturday, APRIL 9**, and **Sunday, APRIL 10**, at all 3 worship services, where we will present **REVIVE: TWENTY-ELEVEN**, an inspiring, modern-day indoor tent revival. The Adult Choir, Dance Team and many favorite SUMC small groups, such as the GOOD NEWS! QUARTET, MEN'S TRIO, and the Watson's, will be featured, as well as Katie Denius on violin, Don Wehr on guitar, (Sun.) Jim Selig on Sax, and David Rauch on drums. There are even rumors that Elvis may put in an appearance.

I went to SHS's ORCHESIS (dance) production in March, and was blown away by the talent and beauty of the. Several of our SUMC young men and women are involved with this group, including Youth Ensemble member Whitney Munro, and I was so proud of all of them!

I was also proud of Junior Choir Director Peggy Carey, who wrote the beautiful song KEEP YOUR EYES ON JESUS that the Junior Choir sang in March, and choir/praise team singers Midge Hartsuch, (chairman,) Nancy Davis, Gil and Alice Larimer, and Marty Roush, who volunteered for the Mission Team to Louisiana in March.

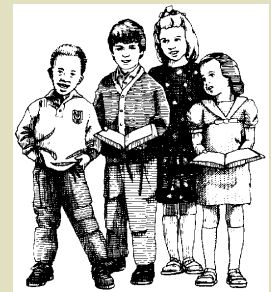
The Adult Choir hosted a special farewell and thank you party for our wonderful singer and music leader Ellen Yedinak on March 16, and the Junior Choir had their Pizza and Prizes Party that night as well.

HERE'S THE SCHEDULE FOR APRIL FOR CHILDREN'S CHOIRS: (Please note they're different than the regular Sundays.)

April 3	Both	Cherubs
April 17	Both	Junior

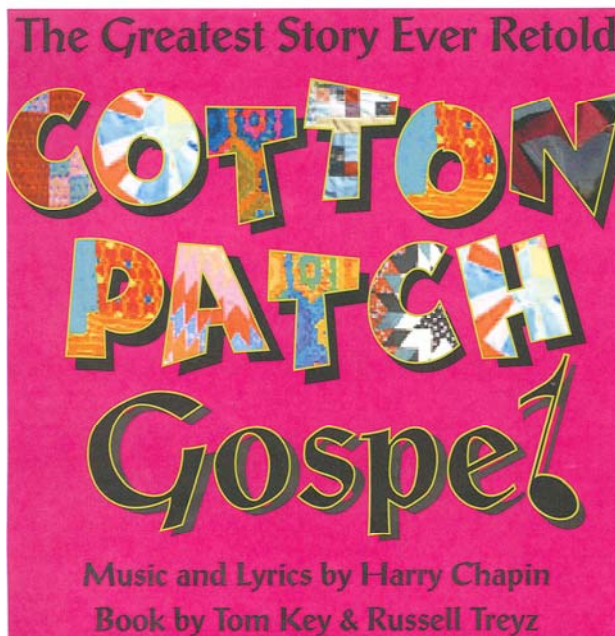
Blessings,
Bev Rauch

*Spring Choral
Celebration is
April 9 and 10
at all three
services.*



**Join the Choir
Wednesdays
at 7:00 p.m.**

Join us April 2
at 5:00 p.m.
for Cotton
Patch Gospel



Sweet Tator Award

The Caring Ministry Network wants to congratulate Charles and Betty Primm on the Sweet Tator Award. Charles and Betty stepped up when Blanche Medine needed transportation to visit Cheryl when she was hospitalized and became a vital role in helping Blanche transition after Cheryl's passing. Not only have they been helping with Blanche, but now they are making visits to one of our nursing homes, visiting with our members that now live there. Their faithfulness and devotion to our Caring Ministry Network, exemplify what the Caring Ministry Network is all about. We Applaud the Primm's!

Prayer Walks

Prayer Walks are happening now at Reynoldswood and Wesley Woods. See the bulletin board for more info.

United Methodist Men

The UMM invite you to join us for our first evening meeting on the 14th of April. We are happy to welcome Tuke Matukewicz the line backer coach for the NIU Huskies Football Team. Tuke will be our guest speaker that evening. We will also have dinner that night. So come join us for the program, diner and great fellowship. There will be a sign up sheet in the concourse please sign up so we can order enough food. We hope to see you on the 14th.



Revive! Twenty-Eleven

SUMC Choir and Dance Team Spring Choral Celebration
Saturday, April 9 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 10 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Sycamore United Methodist Church

160 Johnson Avenue, Sycamore, Illinois 60178 ☩ (815) 895-9113 ☩ www.sycamoreumc.org
Childcare provided on Sunday, April 10 at 10:00 a.m. A free-will offering will be taken.

SUMC's Spring
2011 Cantata:
Revive!
Twenty-
Eleven

Popcorn Studies

"Taste and see that the Lord is good!" Psalm 34:8

Popping up in May, the adult ministries will be cooking up a whole new series of 1-2 session long studies. Topics range from the fun like Survivor, the Amazing race, Murder Mysteries, Believe it or Not, Clue and a spin-off of *Are you Smarter than a 5th grade*. Look for Theatre Devotions to accompany the popcorn throughout the summer!

Some Adventurous studies just for men will cover topics like, *A Look at Life from a Deer Stand* and *How do I get life out of First Gear?*

Starting in May several longer term studies will begin. Our first study will be *Made to Crave* at 6 pm Mondays led by Cathy Pivonka. For more information contact her at 815-899-4143. *More Bad girls of the Bible* groups will be forming in May as well as an internet based *Bad Girls of the Bible*-

Adult Sunday School will resume *Joshua* on May 1, 8:45am in the conference room.

Are these topics "popping" great study ideas into your head? We would love to hear your suggestions! Do you feel tempted to lead one of these studies? Stop by the adult ministries table at the health fair on April 2 or e-mail us at adultministries@sycamoreumc.org, or call Diane Parrish at 815-751-4942 or Molly Wade at 815-762-2645.



Stewardship
Message

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which said: "I am blind, please help." There were only a few coins in the hat.

A man walking by took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words. Soon the hat began to fill up.

Soon many more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon, the man who had changed the sign came to see how things

were. The boy recognized his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?"

The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way.

"I wrote: 'Today is a beautiful day; but I cannot see it.'" Both signs told people that the boy was blind. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign reminded people how fortunate they were to have their sight. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective?

Moral of the story:

Be thankful for what you

have. Be creative. Be innovative. Think differently and positively. When life gives you 100 reasons to cry, show life that you have 1000 reasons to smile. Face your past without regret. Handle your present with confidence.

Prepare for the future without fear. Keep the faith and drop the fear. It's a beautiful thing to see a person smiling. But even more beautiful is the knowledge that you are the reason for the smile! Faith is not about everything turning out OK; Faith is about being OK no matter how things turn out. Enjoy this beautiful day that God has made, with a heart full of gratitude.

Love INC Annual Fundraising Banquet

Sunday, May 1, 2011
6:00 p.m.

St. Mary's Banquet Hall
322 Waterman St., Sycamore
You are invited to attend the Love INC fundraising banquet! Come and enjoy a catered meal by Nats on Maple and music by the Evangelical

Free Praise Team. Learn more about Love INC which is mobilizing many churches in our community to serve the needy. There is no charge for the meal. You are requested to make your reservation at the display table in the concourse at the Sat. or Sunday

services April 9/10, 16/17, or 23/24. You will be invited to make a donation to Love INC at the conclusion of the banquet. Contact Marcy Buick, Lanny Sanner, Helen Maurer or the church office if you have any questions. Hope to see you there!

Decades of Dresses

"Decades of Dresses 1905-1991" is the theme of the United Methodist Women's Spring Banquet. Dinner begins at 6:00 on Thurs. May 5 followed by a fashion show of popular apparel worn in the previous century. Perhaps you'll recognize a favorite or

feel relieved we aren't wearing "that" anymore! We also have a unique opportunity to share your photos of special dresses worn during that era. Drop photos off at the church office with your name on the back by April 28. Tickets for a delicious dinner prepared by

Jim McCue and served by our youth mission team, will be available April 10. Adults are \$10, children ages 6-12 are \$5, and children under six are free. Dinner tickets are limited so get yours right away!



One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing offering for UMCOR is April 2 and 3rd. You see, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) receives no World Service Funds or any other apportionments, so your gifts cover their cost of doing business. 100 per cent of every dollar you give to designated UMCOR programs helps some of the world's vulnerable people after floods, earthquakes, tornadoes and other tragedies. UMCOR does not take anything from designated gifts to cover home office administrative costs because of the broad support of United Methodists through this annual offering. UMCOR's ability to respond and remain until the job is done is in direct proportion to

the generosity of United Methodists at this time of offering. Since U.M.C.O.R. is almost entirely run by volunteers and donations, it is extremely important that we give generously at this time to help U.M.C.O.R. meet its needs. Envelopes will be provided at all three services the weekend of April 2 and 3. The need for support never ends so UMCOR can live up to its slogan: BE THERE! BE HOPE!

Our mission team of 17 churchfolk spent March 12-19 working for UMCOR Sager Brown in Baldwin, Louisiana, one of two huge international depots of the United Methodist Church. It has RV hookups and housing facilities for mission workers. It packs and

ships disaster relief supplies wherever needed, throughout the year. Our church has been sending teams there for nine years now. Besides the depot work, volunteers repair and reconstruct small homes and mobile homes in the local area to make them livable and safe. In the sewing room they construct needed items for the various kits. In the community, some volunteers are needed to work for Chez Hope, a shelter for abused women and Mickey Mouse Head Start school. Others work on the grounds and in the buildings on campus. The need for workers never ends! Midge Hartsuch
Co-Leader of UMCOR
Mission Trip

One Great Hour of Sharing

Sycamore United Methodist Youth Ministry

Wow what a busy month it was and will be during April. Whitney and I got to do our first Message together at service. I must say pretty stressful but fun. This month we will be working on the Good Friday service so if you are interested in helping please contact me. I hope to see everyone there the youth really work hard on this service. This month we have our fund raiser of Cinnamon Rolls please help support our youth and enjoy some rolls at the same time. This month we will only have Youth group once because of Easter. I hope to see everyone at there. Starting in March we will be doing a bible study for High School on Joseph, please join us.

Joe

Junior High Youth (6-8th grades)

April 10th 4:30-6:00 Game time / Devotion

Senior High Youth (9-12th grades)

April 10th Youth Group 7:00-8:30

April 14th BAD (Breakfast and Devotion) 8:00 a.m.

April 28th BAD (Breakfast and Devotion) 8:00 a.m.

Senior High Mission Trip (8-12th grades)

Start selling Cinnamon Rolls





Non-Profit Organization
Permit Number 76
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Postage Paid

Sycamore United Methodist Church

160 Johnson Avenue
Sycamore, Illinois 60178

Phone: (815) 895-9113
Fax: (815) 895-1042
E-mail: office@sycamoreumc.org

Open Hearts... Open Minds... Open Doors

WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.SYCAMOREUMC.ORG

How was your worship experience?

The worship committee would like to know about your worship experiences. You can email your comments directly to the Worship Committee at worship@sycamoreumc.org and offer your comments or suggestions about our Saturday and/or Sunday worship services. If you prefer, you may also leave your comments in the Worship Committee mailbox located at the south end of the concourse.



Church Staff e-mail directory

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