



September 2009

SPIRIT IN THE PARK

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MORGAN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MPUMC FALL FLEA MARKET Saturday, September 19 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Submitted by Anne Genter

On Saturday, September 19, 2009 Morgan Park UMC will host the 2nd annual Fall Flea Market. It will be held in our parking lot. We will charge \$25 per space. This is a rain or shine event. In case of inclement weather, we will move everything into the Great Hall, Wesley Hall and hallways. *The Fall Flea Market is an all-church fundraising event and we need you to be involved!*

On that day we will have outside vendors as well as church sponsored tables with items for sale. Church members and groups can also purchase a space. Please invite your friends and neighbors to participate. It's a great way to sell things that you would normally sell at a garage sale, without all the hassle. Registration forms are available on the back table in the sanctuary or in the church office.

The church tables will include books, baked goods, gift items, Christmas decorations and jewelry. We need to donate items and help sell at these tables.

The United Methodist Men will be again preparing and serving lunch, so plan to enjoy what they have to offer.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO VOLUNTEER YOUR HELP!

- Purchase a space for yourself or share a space with a friend.
- Donate items for the Gift Court (no rummage, please), jewelry, and children's books.
- Bake for the bake sale.
- Volunteer to help with set-up, clean up or selling.
- Publicize...Publicize...Publicize!

We need everyone (men, women and youth) to give some time on September 19th. Set up and clean up are two areas where much help is needed. People will be needed in the parking lot beginning at 7:00 a.m. to guide the vendors and make sure all runs smoothly, and then again at 3:00 p.m. for clean up. *Many hands make light work*, so if enough of you sign up to help, it will be an easier job. A sign up sheet is posted in the parlor.

The funds raised by this event are a part of our church budget and also support missions through the United Methodist Women. So.....

It is important that we have a successful event.

Please talk to Anne Genter, Pat Hawkins, Trudy Hill or Elaine Reynolds and let them know how you will help.

FALL FLEA MARKET Saturday, September 19 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

*Gift Court... Christmas Decorations
Jewelry...Books...Bakery
Neighborhood Vendors*

FOOD...FUN FELLOWSHIP



HEALTH CARE RALLY



Pictured: Chris Walters, Tim Walters, Pastor Choi. Background: Yvonne Brown. Picture taken by Lucious Moore.

Chris Walters, Pastor Eun-Hye and Tim joined in the Health Care Reform Rally at the Federal Plaza on August 4th. They were joined by Yvonne Brown and Lucious Moore.

United Methodists are invited to participate in the “John 10:10 Challenge” to raise the faith community’s voice in support of comprehensive U.S. health-care reform. The challenge, issued by GBCS, is based on Jesus’ declaration that he came so all “may have life, and have it abundantly.” A new website, “John 10:10 Challenge”, at www.1010challenge.org, contains resources to enable persons to be informed, engaged and empowered to begin advocacy for U.S. health-care reform.

The United Methodist Church states in its Social Principles (§162.V) that it believes health care is “a basic human right.” Last year, the denomination’s highest policy-making body, the General

Conference, adopted a resolution that supports a single-payer system.

That resolution, #3201 in the 2008 *Book of Resolutions*, urges United Methodists to exert influence through all structures and means “to connectionally advocate and fervently lobby the federal government for the adoption and implementation of a totally nonprofit health-insurance system, a single-payer system administered by the federal government.”

Among the numerous faith groups working in collaboration to achieve health-care reform are the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries, Church Women United, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Islamic Society of North America, National Council of Jewish Women, National Episcopal Health Ministries, Presbyterian Church (USA), Network: A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby and United Jewish Communities. – Submitted by Yvonne Brown

36TH ANNUAL MEETING

SOUTHERN DISTRICT UMW

Saturday, September 26th

The 36th Annual Meeting of the Southern District United Methodist Women will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at Clair Christian United Methodist Church. With the theme “Gather at the Table” the speaker will be Rev. Michelle Taylor-Sanders, pastor of Hartzell Memorial United Methodist Church and cousin to our own Lucious Moore.

The day will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at noon. As a part of the program each unit will present their pledge to mission for the year 2010.

Clair Christian is located at 3956 W. 14th Street. All women are urged to attend. Let’s carpool. Talk to Anne Genter for more details.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 6, 2009

Holy Communion
"Be Opened"
Proverbs 22:1-9 and Mark 7:24-37

SEPTEMBER 13, 2009

Sunday School Rally Day
"True Wisdom"
Proverbs 1:20-33 and Mark 8:27-38

SEPTEMBER 20, 2009

"Who Is the Greatest?"
Proverbs 31:10-31 and Mark 9:30-37

SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

Youth/Young Adult Sunday

PLEASE... MARK YOUR CALENDARS

CHURCH CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 17th
10:30 a.m.

(SPRC meeting at 10:00 a.m.)

*All members are invited to attend.
Participation is requested of all Officers, Team
Leaders and Committee Chairs.*



Sunday School MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Rally Day

Sunday, September 13th

Submitted by Laura Parker

Fall Nurture Ministries will begin on Rally Day. Our regular Sunday School and Nursery schedules will start up on that day. The Nurture Team is looking forward to another good year of Sunday School, Nursery, and Bible Studies. We have some needs we want to let you know about and ask you to pray about.

We have two committed elementary teachers at this time. We are looking for more. Please see Carisa Parker or pastor Choi if you can give an occasional Sunday to teach our wonderful elementary age kids.

We currently have three people who will teach our pre-school/kindergarten age children. If you can assist with this important ministry, please see pastor Choi.

Michele Watkins has resigned as our Director of Youth Ministries to take another position. We are currently looking for someone to fill her shoes. Please speak with pastor Choi if you know of anyone who might be interested in this position, or if you are willing to volunteer your time to lead our teens in Bible studies, activities and ministries.

HOLIDAY CURRENT CATALOG

The **Outreach Team** is selling items from the newest Current Catalog during the month of September.

Featured in the catalog are many interesting gift and seasonal items (holiday, kitchen, candles, decorative, etc.).

**50% of the total sales support
our Rainbow Covenant mission projects.**

The catalogs and order forms are located on the Outreach Table in the parlor. Take a look at what is available to order. Please give your completed order forms and payment to Elaine Reynolds or you can bring them to the church office.

**Orders must be received by
Sunday, September 27th.**

**Thank you for your continued support
of our mission program.**

SEPTEMBER FILM DISCUSSION

Submitted by Shirley Butler

The Film Discussion Group will meet to view and discuss the 2008 film "Gran Torino" on Saturday, September 26th, at 5:30 p.m. at the home of Shirley Butler.

The film stars Clint Eastwood as a Korean War veteran who confronts his immigrant Hmong neighbors, and his own prejudices, when their teenaged son tries to steal Eastwood's beloved 1972 Gran Torino.

All are welcome to join the stimulating conversation.



Drama Team Meeting

Submitted by Shirley Butler

DRAMA GROUP TO PERFORM

The Drama Group will present an Advent play in mid-December, as we wait with great anticipation the birth of our Savior.

The first meeting of the group, a get acquainted session, will take place on Monday, September 21st, at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor.

All are welcome to join the Drama Group for this fun and spiritually fulfilling project.

For more information, please contact Shirley Butler.

RECONCILING MINISTRY NEWS

“Why I Joined the Committee”

Submitted by Jazelle Brown-Echols

I joined the “Reconciling Committee” because I remember that in the not-so-distant past the United Methodist Church was calling for the full inclusion of people of color. Now, the movement is for full inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

If the church is truly to be a vibrant instrument of God's love, then it must be a place that welcomes ALL. I look forward to working with the congregation as we turn to the Bible to discern God's Word and overcome our dilemma about welcoming lesbians and gays into the church.

“God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in them.” John 4:16

“Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.” John 4:8

I will faithfully work until Morgan Park UMC reflects God's love for ALL.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH NCD?

Submitted by Regine Desruisseaux

NCD Worship Evaluation

Sunday, September 27th

Sanctuary – Following Worship

The congregation will be asked to remain in the sanctuary to briefly evaluate the worship service.

NCD Sermon Evaluation

Sunday, October 18th

Sanctuary – Following Worship

The congregation will be asked to remain in the sanctuary to briefly evaluate the sermon.

NCD Survey

Sunday, November 15th

Great Hall – Following Worship

It has been two years since our last survey. Thirty members of the congregation will be invited to take part in the process this year. Invites will arrive in early November.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18th

Put the date on your calendar now. More details will be available soon and will be shared in church on Sundays and in the October newsletter.

Plan now to walk and/or support those who will be walking. We have had a good turnout of walkers in the past and we hope to continue that tradition as we support Church World Service in the fight against hunger.

LAY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

(Nominations)

The committee has begun the process of selecting nominees to serve as church leaders and committee and team members for year 2010.

If there is a specific area in which you would like to serve the church please contact pastor Choi so that your name can be submitted for consideration.

UMW FUNDRAISER



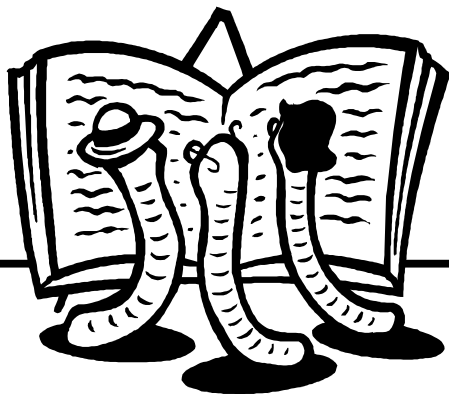
ENTERTAINMENT 2010 BOOKS Now on Sale!

Only \$20 each...Entertainment 2010 is packed with even more fun and savings than ever before... the best that entertainment has to offer. You'll find hundreds of two-for-one coupons, 50% off coupons, and other spectacular discounts on fine and family dining, fast food, movies, sporting events, activities, special attractions, travel, hotels and retail merchants.

GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT IDEA!

Help support UMW missions.
Order your book today!

*Contact: Gertrude Preyar: (773) 233-2017
Church Office: (773) 238-2600*



BOOK DISCUSSION

Several members of the congregation have read, or are reading the inspirational best seller, The Shack by William P. Young.

It is the story of a grieving father's encounter with God in a woodland shack. There are many questions, and surprising answers.

Everyone is invited to be a part of the group discussion, which will take place in mid-September. Contact Shirley Butler for more information.

MORGAN PARK PRAISE SINGERS

Wednesday, September 2nd
6:00 p.m.

"Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that breathes praise the Lord?" Psalm 150: 3-6

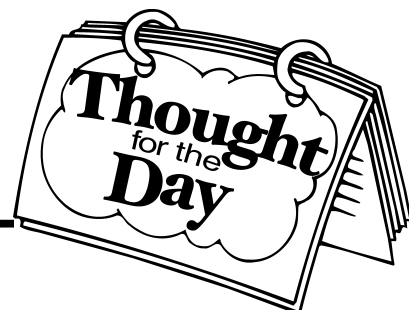


Our church is calling all singers and musicians of all ages who have gifts and talents in praise music to form a "Morgan Park Praise Singers" choir.

As an addition to our Chancel Choir, the Morgan Park Praise Singers will add more diverse styles of praise music to our worship service. You are invited to come to the orientation meeting and the first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:00 p.m. in the church parlor.

Our music director, Clovis Bordeaux, will lead the meeting and the rehearsal. He will listen to your opinions and preferences and guide and mentor you to be spirit-filled praise musicians and worshippers.

It is our sincere effort to renovate and revitalize our worship service with multi-generational praise singers and worshippers. Please join in us with open hearts and minds!



**Many folks want to serve God,
but only as advisors.**

Submitted by Shirley Butler

Halloween Fun

(New this Year)



**Sunday, October
25th**

BREAST CANCER PILLOW PROJECT UPDATE

Submitted by Anne Genter

Since we began this past spring making pillows for breast cancer patients we have completed more than 50 pillows.

Conchita Little has delivered them to the American Cancer Society office in Tinley Park. From there the pillows are distributed to persons needing them through volunteers and through several hospitals. This has become an on-going project and we have been meeting twice a month to work on the pillows.

Your help is needed. The cost of the material and stuffing for the pillows so far has been covered by those making the pillows and through one donation. We could use more cash donations. Any amount that you could give would be appreciated.

Cash or a check made out the MPUMW can be given to Trudy Hill, treasurer, or turned into the church office.

Thank you for your support.

JUST A "GENTLE" REMINDER

The deadline to submit articles for the October newsletter is Tuesday, September 15th. Articles received after this date may not be published. News of interest can be brought to the church office or emailed (as a word document, please) to morganparkumc@wowway.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

...IT'S A PARTY...

Phil Baker Invites You to Join Him
In the Celebration of His

75TH BIRTHDAY

Saturday, September 12th
5:00 p.m.
Great Hall

Please RSVP by signing the party poster in the parlor before September 8th.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

LITURGIST

September 6 through 27...Eileen Fay

GREETERS

Sept. 6...Sylvia Robertson and Geraldine Washington
Sept. 13...Billie Calhoun and Bonnie Herron
Sept. 20...Wanda Williamson-Johnson and Susan McDonald
Sept. 27... Yves-Myr Desruisseaux and Allysa Zopp

ACOLYTES

Sept. 6...Sydney Cerrantano and Denise Parker
Sept. 13...Kaline Langley and Carinne Parker
Sept. 20...Christopher Parker and Pierre Parker
Sept. 27...Pierre Parker and Will Zopp

CHICAGO BMCR YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT INITIATIVE

December 27, 2009 – January 2, 2010

AGES 13 AND UP

Cost: \$100

(Includes transportation and lodging.)

Come on a mission trip to help rebuild hurricane ravaged New Orleans, LA. Lodging at the Peoples UMC Volunteer Housing. Work side-by-side with the UM Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to help rebuild or construct homes. *No skills necessary.*

PLEASE CONTACT:

Rev. Dwayne Grant: mystrogrant@yahoo.com
Rev. Karli Pidgeon: karlidp@gmail.com
Rev. Sirchester Jackson: revsirchester@yahoo.com