



The Methodist Chimes

First United Methodist Church of Lockport

September 2008



The Pastor's Message

The long hot summer season is about to end, that signals to us that in a short time, the autumn season is here. Where did summer go? For our church, it signals a variety of excitement because this is the start of enriching and enhancing our church commitment to mission and ministry. To parents, teachers and students, this is back to school time. We may not know who's happy and excited and who's not in going back to school. Perhaps the most excited are the young children who will be first timers in school. I remember my daughter Reanna when she started kindergarten school class. She was so excited to meet her teacher and her classmates. I remember an interesting part, she was all dressed up like *Dorothy* the girl in the *Wizard of Oz* movie. Wearing her apron-like dress with matching red glittering shoes. As a church we should also be excited to be back from summer vacation. I hope we are all back on the first Sunday of September with renewed spirits and strengthened bodies ready to work for the Lord. Isn't this a great time to be back on our feet and join the rest of us in doing God's business in the body of Christ?

I am reminded of a gospel song sung by the Gaither Gospel singers, entitled "*Get All Excited, Tell Everybody That Jesus Christ Is King*". This fall, I would like all of us to **GET ALL EXCITED!** about the ministry events starting and happening this fall. Part of that excitement is the start of our *Christian Education* ministry which is the *Rally Day*, that kicks off our church school program offering church school classes to children, youth and adults as well. *Youth Confirmation* classes will also take shape this fall for our young people grades 7th, 8th and 9th. As part of our small group ministry, I am starting a class in "*Christianity and World Religions*". This is an 8-week class meeting, with trips to visit different places of worship. *New Membership* class orientation is also something to be excited about. It will be offered for new comers who feel that the Spirit of God prompts them to be part of our household of faith. Likewise for those who have been joining us in our church ministries but never had the chance to declare to be full members of the church. I believe that there is that someone who has heard God's call to be part of this growing congregation. Our *Stewardship* team has already lined up exciting ways and means to promote our stewardship of time, talent, treasure and service. A *Pork-Chop* dinner fundraiser is planned on **October 11**. Tickets are available from any Stewardship team or at the church office. Proceeds will help defray our mission commitment to the larger church, which is our church apportionment. A survey form of our *Spiritual Gifts* along with *Pledge/Tithe* cards will be mailed to you as well in timely fashion. The *Growth and Outreach* or the *GO* team is taking on evangelistic efforts to attract new people to church and in the knowledge of Christ.

Friends, **September 2008** might be a hectic month for you and for your family. But please know that the church and its commitment to mission and ministry should also take hold in your priorities as followers and members of the body of Christ our Lord. Again hear the words of the Apostle Paul in his letter to the *Romans 12:1-2*; "*So then my friends because of God's mercy to us I appeal to you; offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God; dedicated to his service and pleasing to him. This is the true worship that you should offer.*" I look forward to your full excitement, interest and participation serving in the Lord's vineyard.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY FOR GREAT THINGS GOD HAS DONE !

+Pastor Noah



Worship Opportunities



Fall Worship Schedule

Beginning Sunday, September 7! Fall Worship Schedule - Saturday Praise & Worship Service at 5 p.m. and Sunday School classes for all ages 8:45 a.m. to 10 a.m. and Sunday Worship at 10:15 a.m.



Communion at the Lord's Table

Saturday, September 6 - Saturday Praise & Worship- 5:00 p.m.

Pastor Noah preaching

Music by: Eric Oberg

Sunday, September 7- 10:15 a.m.; Pastor Noah preaching

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149 or Psalm 148 (UMH 861)

Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

*FISH Food Pantry Collection; Sacrament of Holy Communion; Rally Day
Coffee hour following 10:15 a.m. worship service*



Worship Through Song & Music

Saturday, September 13 - Saturday Praise & Worship - 5:00 p.m.

Pastor Noah preaching

Music by: Kristin Price

Sunday, September 14 - 10:15 a.m.; Pastor Noah preaching

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 14:19-31; Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 (UMH 135);

Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35



Church Picnic And Worship

Saturday, September 20 - Saturday Praise & Worship - 5:00 p.m.

Music by: Eric Oberg

Sunday, September 21 - 10:30 a.m.; Pastor Noah preaching

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Picnic & Worship at Dellwood Park, Pavilion Egret #7

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 16:2-15; Philippians 1:21-30;

Psalm 105:1-6,37-45 (UMH 828) or Psalm 78 (UMH 799); Matthew 20:1-16

Circle of Love Collection; Sacrament of Holy Communion



Holy Baptism

Saturday, September 27 - Saturday Praise & Worship - 5:00 p.m.

Pastor Noah preaching

Music by: Mary Beth Davidson

Sunday, September 28 - 10:15 a.m.; Pastor Noah preaching

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

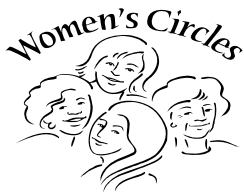
Lectionary Readings: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 (UMH 799);

Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

Change for Missions offering; Fourth Sunday Dinner

Sacrament of Holy Baptism for George Andrew Skirha, son of Jennifer Skirha

Sacrament of Holy Baptism for Mia Diane Skirha, daughter of Michael & Meghan Skirha



**UNITED
METHODIST
WOMEN**

Rachel Circle - Tuesday, Sept. 2, 7:30 p.m.-

Rachel Circle will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Dystrup Study. Joyce Ganz and Geri Baxter, hostesses.

Bykota Circle - Tues., Sept. 9, 1:00 p.m. -

Bykota Circle will meet at the home of Bev Price. Harriet Hamilton will give the lesson. Please bring paper luncheon napkins for Lamb's Fold.

Sarah Circle

Sarah Circle will not meet in the month of September.

The UMW will be holding their Annual Fall Brunch on Tuesday, September 30 at 10:00 a.m. in Yeoman Hall.



All men and their sons are invited to our men's breakfast on Sunday, September 7 at 7:30 a.m. Come for a hearty breakfast and fellowship.

Sunday School Rally Day is Sunday, September 7, 2008. Be here at 9:00 a.m. for a pancake breakfast and a craft.



Confirmation Class



If you are interested in having your child confirmed, please contact the office at 815-838-1017. We will have a confirmation class beginning on September 14, 2008. There will be a parent meeting to kick off the class on that date after the 10:15 a.m. worship service with the class officially beginning in October.

Please let Pastor Noah or Mary, our Administrative Assistant, know if you are in need of a pastoral visit in the hospital or at home. Call the church office at 815-838-1017.



Book Club News

The FUMC book club enjoys lively discussions and dessert monthly. All are welcome. We meet the fourth Thursday of every month, at 7pm in Dystrup Study.



In September we meet on the 25th, we will discuss "Home: A Memoir of My Early Years" by Julie Andrews.

Our October book is Nineteen Minutes by Jodie Picoult. We meet on October 23rd.

If you enjoy reading a variety of books, along with conversation and dessert, give this group a try. We always have a great time. Questions...call Lynn Farr @ 815-838-8554 or email @ RaisorFarr@sbcglobal.net

T-Shirts Are Here!

T-shirts bearing the United Methodist logo and the name of our church are available for sale through the church office or at Sunday morning services. Price is \$10 and there are sizes ranging from youth small to XXX-large. The shirts are a light steel gray color and are great to wear at church events or running errands around town. Check out the T-shirt display in the church's breezeway and choose yours!



First United Methodist
T-Shirts
On Sale!

**FIRST UMC
SENIORS FELLOWSHIP**



All beautiful people 60+ are invited to our Luncheon fellowship on September 6 at 11:30 a.m. in Yeoman Hall. This will be a potluck luncheon bringing your own table settings. But if you can't bring any dish to share, don't fret, know that you are still welcome and bring along a friend with you.



July 2008

Beginning Balance	2,069
General Fund Income	14,456
General Fund Expenses	13,877



Thank you to everyone who continues to support Circle of Love through their time and financial gifts. Circle of Love is always in need of people to work on Wednesday mornings. We are also in need of products such as baby wipes, shampoo and soap. Thank you for supporting this special ministry. — Jennifer Queeney

GOLFERS



**GOLF
DAY**

The United Methodist Men will be hosting a golf outing on Sunday, October 5 at 2:00 p.m. at the Lockport Golf & Recreation Club on High Road in Lockport. **ALL GOLFERS ARE INVITED!!** Golf fees are \$14.00. Golf carts are available for an additional charge of \$8.00 for a single rider and \$14.00 for two riders. For additional information or if you plan on attending, you may call the church office at 815-838-1017 or Len Chapp at 815-838-0717.

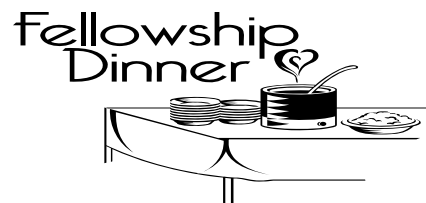


LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Movie Nights are returning to Lockport 1st United Methodist Church. Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 13th. We start at 6:00pm, with popcorn and candy, then chose between two or more movie options for the evening. In the past, we have seen High School Musical 2, Cars, Alvin & the Chipmunks, Enchanted and others. If you can't join us in September, the next Movie Night is November 15th. A great outing for the whole family. There's no charge for the movies or the snacks, so bring your friends and settle in for a great time! For more information, contact Phil Winters at 815-405-3959.

Daybreak Mornings of Service 2008-09

Mark your calendars to help with Daybreak Mornings for 2008-09 as First United Methodist engages in service to the community. We served breakfast at Daybreak in June and everything went so well, we're going back for more and you're invited along. We're looking for a "crew chief" for each day, someone willing to take only one of the dates and organize the team serving that day. Our breakfast menu of pancakes, sausage, and fresh fruit was so well received by the residents (most mornings are eggs or cold cereal) that we're sticking with it unless a crew chief wants to plan something different. A serving crew needs to be at Daybreak by 5 am, serve by 6am, clean up and the day is over by 7:30. Most of those who served in June went off to work afterwards. First UMC has signed up for the following dates, all the 3rd Wednesdays of the month: September 17, November 19, January 21, March 18, and May 20. For more information or to volunteer, as a crew chief or crew member, contact Pattie Piotrowski at 815.838.0435 or ptrowski@comcast.net



4th Sunday Dinner for September

"Ven a comer con nosotros" or for the English speaking "come and eat with us"! Join us for the 4th Sunday Dinner on September 28 as First UMC celebrates Hispanic Heritage month with a menu that gives a nod to our international neighbors to the South. Everything at the 4th Sunday Dinner is provided, except the fun and fellowship, and that's where we ask that you do your part and connect with fellow church members over a quick bite after the worship service. Dietary options are offered, there's nothing to bring, just let your nose follow the good smells to Yeoman Hall and find yourself a seat among friends. Interested in helping out? Contact Pattie Piotrowski at 815.838.0435 or ptrowski@comcast.net



There will be an all church picnic and worship on Sunday, September 21, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. at Dellwood Park. It will be held at pavilion Egret #7. Meat and drinks will be furnished, so please bring your own place settings and a dish to pass. People with last names starting with A-M, please bring a dessert and people with last names starting with N-Z please bring a vegetable. We also ask if you have folding chairs to please bring them also. So mark your calendars for a time of worship, fun, games and food.



Got Game?

Join us for a new opportunity for fellowship. If you enjoy playing games, eating, and having a night out, join us at after the 5:00 Worship Service on September 13th at 6:00 p.m. in Yeoman Hall for games and a Hearty Party Potluck (Fun Appetizers).

We will have Taboo, Scrabble, Cranium and whatever other games you would like to bring with you. Invite a friend, bring some food, your favorite game and come ready for a night of fun!

Hopefully this can become a monthly event!

Please RSVP to the church office. Any questions call Cathy Wagner or Cindy Nelson.



The First United Methodist Church will be sponsoring a Pork Chop Dinner on Saturday, October 11 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. This event is a drive-through only. There will be advance sales only and no tickets will be sold at the door. Cost for the meal is \$12.00 per person and the meal will consist of 2 pork chops, baked beans and coleslaw.



Building Leaders And Sunday School Teachers!

A training event for new Sunday school teachers or experienced teachers who want to feel like new! Focus will be placed on children and youth, with separate breakouts in the afternoon. This event will be held on Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008 from 9 am to 3 pm with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. at St. Mark United Methodist Church, 8441 S. St. Lawrence Ave., Chicago, IL, 773-846-2992.

Registration is due by Sept. 17 with a fee of \$10 per person for lunch & materials. Child care will be provided upon advance request for \$5/child or \$10/family—please bring a sack lunch for each child. Forms for registration are available in the church office if you would like to attend.



Blood Drive September 27 at First United Methodist Church Lockport

A blood drive will be held Saturday, September 27, from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Lockport located at 1000 S. Washington Street. All blood types are needed. For more information, visit the church website at 1umclockport.org, or call the church office at 815-838-1017.

A prayer for perspective

A prayer written for use during the Jewish New Year (September 30-October 1) is pertinent for Christians, too:

Eternal God! Grant us gratitude enough to look backward and be thankful;
courage enough to look forward and be hopeful;
faith enough to look upward and be humble;
kindness enough to look outward and be helpful.
Amen.

CHARGE CONFERENCE OCTOBER 11, 2008

We have been notified that our Charge Conference date for this year has been selected as Saturday, October 11. Staff Parish will meet with the new District Superintendent, the Rev. Diana Facemyer at 9:15 a.m. and the Charge Conference will begin at 10:00 a.m. We will probably have coffee and some type of goodies (cookies, muffins, coffee cake or whatever) to munch on during the conference. We understand that this is earlier than we normally have had our conferences, so that means the chairs of committees need to start thinking about getting your reports in earlier. The office would like your reports to be in no later than Sunday, September 28. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office, 815-838-1017. All members are invited to attend the Charge Conference.



The Stewardship and Lay Leadership & Development Teams will have a survey form for you to fill out listing different areas of the church that you may want to become involved in. We would like you to tell us what are your interests and spiritual gifts. When the forms are available, please take time to fill them out and let us know how you can help serve God and the church. The forms will be due back to the church by September 28.

Celebrate Labor Day

Labor Day, first celebrated in 1882, provides a day of rest for working Americans, showing their importance to the country's well-being.

Christians see work as a gift and command from God. Adam was put in the Garden to "till it and keep it" (Genesis 2:15, NRSV). Even Jesus chose workers to help carry out his mission.

Rest is just as significant as work. God commanded us to rest one day each week (Exodus 20:10). The Sabbath is a time for worship, family activities, renewal and recuperation.

Labor Day is a reminder to be grateful for the creativity, ingenuity, minds and muscle power of countless workers — all gifts of God. That's worth setting aside a day to appreciate.



REMEMBER TO KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN OUR PRAYERS: To those that have been hospitalized and are now recuperating; all our homebound; Ken Clark; Jim Sutton, (Rella's son, Jim's address, P.O. Box 32985, Juneau, Alaska 99803); Michael Jobin; Filomena Panlilio (for good health); Norbert Schenck (had liver transplant, Kim Kelly's cousin); Lois Brown; Don Brown Sr.; L/Cpl. Jeff Endebak, (Jeff's unit has returned to the United States from Iraq); Jack Queeney, esophageal cancer, is doing better (father-in-law of Jen Queeney); Becky Goltermann (burned in a home fire); Jillian Meseth (better health); for our Natural Church Development Team; our missionaries in Zimbabwe, Larry & Jane Kies and their four children; Ben Worsham (born 4/29, had aggressive malignant brain tumor, has been removed & starting chemo-family friend of the Czako family); Chris Wagner (recuperating from surgery); Lois Gatlin; Mickey Bown; Family of Gene Bogdan (Gene passed away, relative of the Dystrup family); Nancy (cancer, friend of Cindy Nelson); Ray Hostert (cancer, father of a friend of Jan Koger); Dr. Lily Chan (cancer); Sara Hahn, stage 4 metastatic melanoma Dan Mahoney (Jim Koger's uncle, passed away) Family of Jim Bailey, who passed away (Jim used to be the custodian for the church many years ago); Dawn Gargano (melanoma surgery, friend of the Burnett's); Ken Koger (Jim's dad, more knee work); Phil Winter's mother had knee replacement surgery; Gerald Revels (son of Hazel Revels is recovering from major surgery, doing well); Anna Raisor (Lynn Farr's cousin had surgery); Dorothy Wierenga (Carolyn Brauch's mother, prayers for healing); Erin Gotts (foot surgery); Eden (friend of Becky Benkert, prayers for healing); Carlton Baumgartner; Pastor Noah's brother-in-law, Arnie; Shelly Halfman; Jeff Carroll's mother, prayers for healing; for the family of Nancy Patrick, who passed away; Sarah Joanis (ovarian cancer); and for all the men & women serving our country in the military. May we keep all in need in our prayers - those who are grieving, those taking care of the aged/sick/dying, and our own special intentions that we hold dear in our hearts.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Saturday, September 20th, 4 to 7 p.m. is the date of the Silent Auction. We have many items accumulated that will be up for bid. There will be an original painting, a cookbook written and autographed by Oprah's personal chef, hand made wall hangings, a quilt, a floor cleaning kit, 3 - one month work outs to LA Express, a personalized bracelet, Janine Mahalick CD and many baskets—toiletries, movie, golf, NASCAR and much more. There will be hot beef or pulled pork sandwiches, chips, brownies and drinks for purchase.

Please come and bring a friend for an enjoyable evening.

Auction setup will be Friday, September 19th. Items can be brought to Yeoman Hall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Clothing Sale

UMW SPONSORED

GENTLY USED CLOTHING SALE

While cleaning your closets this fall please save your clothing for our sale on Friday, Oct. 17 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. A Bake sale will also be held. Set up will be on Wednesday, Oct. 15 and Thursday, Oct. 16 in Yeoman Hall.

Fall and winter items will be featured including coats, jackets, shoes, purses, boot, hats, mittens, women's, men's, and children's clothing as well as sheets, blankets, towels, rugs and other linens.

Drop off your items on Wednesday, Oct. 15 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 16 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call Joyce Volling at 815-838-2251 if you need clothes to be picked up.

ANNIVERSARIES

- September** 2 - Kevin & Casey Brauch
 3 - Mark & Diane Seiler (1977)
 4 - Len & Iris Chapp (1948)
 6 - Don Jr. & Linda Brown (1980)
 7 - Robert & Marguerite Stelling Sr. (1963)
 8 - Brian & Megan Hill (2006)
 10 - Glenn & Joyce Volling (1955)
 17 - Steve & Robyn Potaczek (2005)
 20 - Michael & Jennifer Queeney (1997)
 23 - Don Sr. & Lois Brown (1945)
 26 - Gary & Jenni Culbreth (1992)
 28 - Robert & Julie Goshorn (1985)

**BIRTHDAYS**

- September** 2 - Bruce Baxter
 3 - Michael Kurtyak Jr.
 4 - Phil Rittenhouse
 7 - Jordan Bowlan
 Cindy Endebak
 8 - Frances Langley
 Clyde Odle
 Robert Walker
 9 - Jim Koger
 10 - Samantha Meade
 11 - Winnie Johnson
 Goldie Lorenzen
 12 - Allen Langley
 14 - Bo Goshorn
 15 - Molly Crane
 Maxine (Mrs. Stewart) Smith
 16 - Kyle Saginus
 Rosemary Thompson
 17 - Douglas Schehr
 19 - Paul Farr
 Jeremy Landig
 20 - Bryan Sartori
 22 - Berin Kamm
 23 - Jena Culbreth
 24 - Rella Sutton
 25 - Charles Dimmick
 Roseanne Wilson
 26 - Joseph Burek
 Dick Burnett
 27 - Karmen Kabat
 29 - James Shinn

If you have any additions or corrections, please notify the church office, 815-838-1017.

JOYS

- Allison Champion, granddaughter of Gerda Sprague, and Mark Leahy were married in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin on Saturday, August 9.
- Ten members completed the Bible Study led by Pastor Noah on "Exploration of our Christian Heritage." They were: Virginia Coffeen, Glenn & Joyce Volling, Betty Becker, Len & Iris Chapp, Roseanne Wilson, Winnie Johnson, and Mark & Ruth Stevens.
- Elena Winters was on the Channel 5 news.
- Sean McNamara is an exchange student in Sweden.
- Jeff Endebak is now a corporal and his unit has returned to the United States.
- Gerald Revels, son of Hazel Revels, is recovering from major surgery and is doing well.
- We collected 613 wide ruled theme books for the Back to School Fair. Many thanks to everyone for their generosity.
- Julia Faith Visser received a good report from the doctor.
- We had an awesome Open Door Music Fest!!! Janine Mahalick and her son, Jim Mahalick and his band were the opening performance. The other musicians were: Eric Oberg, the First United Methodist Church Choir, Larry & Rick Patrick, Pastor Noah, Mary Beth Davidson, Kristin Price, Rick Young & Jimmy Aleman, and Sharon Marbeth. We wish to thank all that participated and to all those who worked behind the scenes to make this such a wonderful event. Mark your calendar for next year, August 15, 2009.



The Prayer Chain – By Paul Farr

On August 15th 2001, we started a prayer chain at the First United Methodist Church of Lockport. The idea of having a prayer chain started at a weekend retreat in November of 2000. It was after attending Discover God's Call that I began to work as a Pastoral Assistant at the church and Pastor Lora and I formed the prayer chain as we know it today. Our administrative assistant Mary Schehr had already been publishing our Prayer Book Mark for a couple of years, so we had a good start for prayers. Let me take a moment to explain just how our pray chain works. When a prayer request comes in, Mary and/or Pastor Noah are the first to know and then Mary will call me to start the process. Our prayer chain consists of five teams, each with a team captain. It operates like a basic telephone tree. When a captain gets a call, he or she informs their team members along with the next team captain. Each team consist or 3 to 4 members. If a team captain can not reach the next captain, they would call all their members along with the other captain's team members. This way it is assured that the prayer request get passed on through the chain. The people on the prayer chain are asked to write down the request in a prayer book or journal and then pray for the request for only 7 days. In addition to the regular prayer requests from our own church family, we have received other prayer requests from outside the church many times. I was once told by a person asking for prayer that we are known as "A Praying Church", and I attribute that to the dedication of our prayer team members.

When I was asked to write this one of the questions that was asked of me was to explain how prayers have been answered, without giving names. One family asked for prayer because their newborn grandchild was suspected of having cerebral palsy. It turned out that there was a spot on the brain, but there was no palsy. One minute it was there, and the next minute it was not. Another time a child was thought to have celiac disease. All the evidence was there. It turned out that when more serious testing was done, it was not evident. Did the doctors guess wrong or did prayer change the results? I believe it was the prayer which changed the results. We have had healing prayer services in our church and people have come forward and asked for specific prayer for healing, and later I was told by them that their prayers were answered. I believe that most people in the world don't give prayer enough credit. Most of the time they assume that the disease or the problem really wasn't there and the doctors made a mistake.

Miracles still do happen, and sadly people sometimes forget to give the glory to God. I don't really think doctors make mistakes very often, but I do think God answers prayers often and abundantly. I'm not sure how people find out about our prayer chain outside of our church family, other than members sharing with them and God answering their prayers for help. Just today I was told of a woman, from another church that needed a kidney transplant and had been on a waiting list for years. She and her husband went to their church (as usual) and during the service she stood up and prayed out loud in front of the congregation that God provide a kidney that would be suitable - if he desired. With-in 24 hours seven (Yep, that's 7) people were found and one (1) matched, literally saving this person's life. The number 7 is significant in the Bible as most people who pray know. Coincidence? Or a confirmation that God was answering prayer? I have seen people that were near death, come back to be among us for several more years. I have seen and heard of many miracles from the power of prayer. I have also witnessed the mercy of God acting quickly because of prayers.

There are hundreds of web sites and phone numbers for prayer. You might say that it is evident by the number of ways to communicate with God that Prayer really works, or there wouldn't be so many ways for people to contact Him. There have been many prayer requests through the years at our church. One year I received over 350 prayer requests. Most requests are printed on the Prayer Book Mark, which is in everyone's bulletin weekly. In addition to calling the prayer team members, I also email prayer requests to the members that have email. Emergency requests are called immediately to the 5 captains of each group. Praying for a person is powerful, not only for the person being prayed for, but also for the person praying. Even more important, I find that praying with a person is moving and can be a profound experience. I will never forget the first hospital visit I made. I was nervous about praying out loud for the person I was visiting. When I finished a short prayer, the person I was praying for started praying out loud for me. I went there to reassure this person that God was watching over him and left knowing God was watching over me too. You can never out give God when it comes to prayer. Whatever you give to him in prayer, he will return to you in blessings.

Have you prayed today? If not, why not? It will refresh you soul, renew your spirit, and let you revive your connection with God. As all good talks end, I just want to say....." Let us pray".

Thanks to all the prayer chain members for their dedication: **Pastor Noah, Mary Schehr, Barb Stein, Betty Shinn, Kay Rothlisberger, Bob Thompson, Jan & Jim Koger, Pat Burnett, Joyce Volling, Carol Smith, Kim Callahan-Kelly, Carolyn Brauch, Gerda Sprague, Catherine Eckman, Lorelei & Goldie Lorenzen, Marguerite Stelling, Cindy White, Geri Baxter, and our Pastoral Assistant Gary Marinellie,**

Blessings,

Paul Farr – Prayer Chain Coordinator – First UMC



OUR HOUSE

This craft is a reminder of the blessing of your family and what you and your family should do for God.

What you need:

- 8 1/2" x 11" cardstock
- Markers or crayons
- A photograph of each person in your family that you can cut apart
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- A hanging picture frame that holds an 8 1/2" x 11" photo (optional)

What you do:

- Draw a colorful picture of the outside of your house. Remember to add a door and windows.
- Decide where you want each person's photo to go. Cut out a whole body (if you want someone to stand on the front porch, for example) or just cut out a face (if you want someone to be looking out a window).
- Use the glue stick to glue the cut-out photos onto your drawing.
- Write out Joshua 24:15b, NIV: "But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."
- To frame your picture, have an adult help you. If you don't have a frame, display your house on a refrigerator or bulletin board for everyone to see.

As for our family...

With school starting, schedules are getting busy again. Sometimes you might feel like you're going in too many directions and forgetting what's really important. Use the key below to remind you of where your family's real focus should always be.

	A	B	D	O*	N*	R*
KEY:	E	F	H	S*	T*	U*
	I	L	M	V*	W*	Y*

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JOSHUA 24:15B

_____ "

Answer: "But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."