



## Wow. It's already June.

It seems impossible that I have been with you all for four years, and even more impossible that it is time to go. As I said in my letter announcing my departure for mission service in Colombia, I am grateful to First United for offering me the chance to live among you and to be a part of your lives as your pastor. There have been ups and downs and unexpected curves with unexpected blessings. I thank you all for letting me walk with you and for walking with me and with Richard as we began our lives in ministry together. In many ways it is hard to leave, but the good news is...this is not good-bye!

Though I will not be your pastor anymore, Richard and I do consider First United to be our home church and we hope you will stay connected with us, pray for us and for Colombia, and care for us (even from afar) as sheep of your own fold. We would love to keep up with you all, and we have a number of ways to make that happen.

1. Write us at either [revmamie@gmail.com](mailto:revmamie@gmail.com) or [rawillia13@gmail.com](mailto:rawillia13@gmail.com). (If you can't figure out which e-mail is for which person, we have given you all way too much credit...)

2. Let us know (via e-mail) that you would like any updates we send out – either through e-mail and/or by post. Please send us your proper postal address and e-mail.

3. Friend us on Facebook. We will try to have updates posted there, but you may even just catch us online that way!

4. Keep your eye on the Messenger Bell. We hope that some of our reflections will make it into the Bell so that you can see what we are up to.

Go to our as-of-yet-unestablished blog and follow our reflections. We'll keep you informed as to where it gets set up via e-mail/letter/Messenger Bell.

5. Come and visit! There will be opportunities to come to Colombia to learn more about the people there for yourselves, and we would love to see you. Plus, hey, who wants to be around here in February? Fuggidaboutit.

Please do keep us in prayer as we will hold you all in prayer as well. We cherish your support and your concern, and we will need your strength as we begin this next step in our faith journey.

Que Dios les bendiga (May God bless you all),  
—Mamie

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## Summer Worship — “A Reason to Believe” —Julie R. Harley

The season of Pentecost begins on May 31 and continues through Nov. 21. It is the longest season of the church year, the time when we are “sent out” to do mission and ministry as spirit-filled people.

On the first Pentecost, believers from many nations gathered to worship. Jesus had risen from the dead 50 days before, and these followers weren't sure what would happen next. As they prayed together, a wind carrying tongues of fire swept through their assembly. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, suddenly they all understood each other's languages. They were literally in-spired, filled with the breath of God, and empowered to form the Church. What will happen in worship this summer? Hold on to your pews – it will be an exciting ride! Our sermon series is titled, “A Reason to Believe,” and we will preach through the book of Romans. Each week we will highlight one aspect of the faith we affirm as progressive Christians. Look for our children to bring forward the symbols of faith each week – Bible, cup, bread and water – saying, “Children of God, welcome home.” Expect new artwork, flowers and plants to fill the sanctuary. Cathryn Wilkinson will offer an hour-long organ recital once a month on Sundays. We will have new Pentecost banners on the front of the church, designed by Emory Mead. We will sing the Psalms and recite a variety of creeds. We invite you to a sermon talk-back session after every service in July.

It's amazing to see what God is doing in this place!

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## June Worship

June 7 – Isaiah 43:1-7

“Last But Not Least”

June 14 – Pentecost 1 – **Worship Time changes to 10 am for the summer**

*Isaiah 6:1-8, Romans 1:1-17 and John 21:15-19*

“Do You Love Me?”

June 21 – Pentecost 2 - Baptisms and Father’s Day

Rev. Tim Rhodes, President and CEO of Lifelink, guest preacher

*Mark 4:35-41*

“Paralyzing Freedom”

June 28 – Pentecost 3 - New Members Join

*Mark 6:1-13 and Romans 5:1-21*

“Peace Be With You”

“Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore we must be saved by hope...”

## Transitions

**Birth:** *Henry (Hank), son of Robert Hickok and Brian Fletcher, brother of Jackson*

**Baptism:** *Stefan Ben Gierl  
Lara Blaine Miller*

**Compassion:** *Gene Kearley  
Manteno Veterans Home Unit 5  
One Veterans Drive, Rm. 521  
Manteno, IL 60950*

*Claudette Zobel*

*Bob Haisman*

*June Crocker, mother of Carol Lewis*

*Elaine Pierce*

**Condolence:** *Cathy Gehring,  
wife of Tom, mother of Tanya, Shura and Larisa,  
sister-in-law of Walter Miller and Kristin Gehring*

*Ernestine,  
sister of Don Register*

*George W. McFedrief,  
brother of Helen Sverson*

### **New Members by Confirmation May 17 and 31:**

*Jimmy Byrne*

*Tom Drews*

*Zachary Erik Dyhrkopp*

*Stefan Ben Gierl*

*Benjamin Ian Gronzwoold*

*Lara Blaine Miller*

*Mahala Miller*

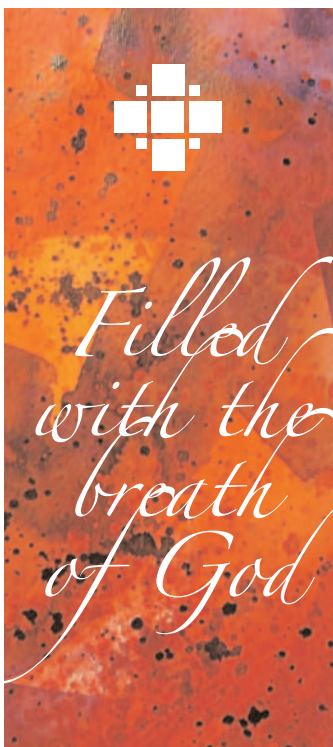
*Emma Claire Mrkoicka*

*Becca Pearce*

*Jackson Peter Todd*

*Conrad Joseph Wight*

*Rebecca Robinson (5/31)*



**Deacons:**

Carl Nauert	Mario Butler-del Rio
Franklyn (Bud) Hayes	Betsy Samore
Neal McNish	Connie Ronnow
Lee Anderson	Priscilla Sibley
Melinda Haag	Irene Worley
Chris Davis	Karin Pietrini
Sally Sutherland	

**Pastoral care needs**

Please contact any member of the pastoral staff if you need a home visit, hospital visit, nursing home visit or personal counseling. If there is a pastoral emergency after office hours, Lead Pastor Julie R. Harley can be reached on her cell phone at 630-561-4255.

**New Member Class in June**

Are you interested in becoming a member at First United? Please contact Mamie or any one of the ministers so that we can talk with you about the church, what your interests are, and next steps. We have a set of four classes for anyone who is thinking of joining and would like to know more about the church. Each Sunday in June we will gather to talk about the church, about our faith, and about ourselves. Child care is available in these hours, so please talk to Julie R. Harley if you would like to make use of it! We will welcome new members into the life of the church at our worship service on June 28th.

**Yes! We Record Services!**

Each Sunday we record a CD of our Sunday service which is then placed in the library and is available for check-out. Right now this is all the work of George Ashman, so if others would be interested in helping occasionally, he would be glad for the assistance. If you are interested in a copy of any CD for yourself or to take to members who are unable to join us at church, you are welcome to copy it yourself or talk with George about how to obtain one.

**Communion Servers' Training**

All new elders and deacons, as well as anyone who would like to serve communion, is welcome to a training workshop from 9:30 to 10:30 am in the Chapel on Sunday, June 7. Mamie Broadhurst will be our leader.

**McCormick Seminary Intern  
Will Begin in September**

We are pleased to announce that First United will sponsor a seminary intern in the upcoming academic year. Jeffrey Foels will be a third-year student at McCormick, and he has visited our church for the last few months. He is a graduate of St. Olaf College and a member of First Presbyterian Church of Stillwater, Minn. He has served as an elder, senior high youth director and member of a Pastor Nominating Committee in his home church. He is most interested in fostering a sense of Presbyterian identity, helping churchgoers articulate faith and life in today's world, promoting peace and justice, and involving generations who have been turned off or turned away from church. He will spend this summer taking a polity class, going on an archeological dig in Israel and serving as a teaching assistant for a Greek class. Jeffrey will work with us for 12-15 hours a week beginning in September.

**Spiritual Retreat in September**

Our pastoral staff will lead a spiritual retreat for 32 church members at Stronghold Conference Center in Oregon, IL. The retreat begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, and concludes at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27. This retreat center is located about two hours away, and we will stay in a lodge, with all meals provided. The cost is \$50 per person. Please make reservations (first come, first served) by contacting Julie R. Harley at [jrh@firstunitedoakpark.com](mailto:jrh@firstunitedoakpark.com) or 708.386.5215 x22.

“Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes sense in any immediate context of history; therefore we must be saved by faith...”

“Nothing we do, however  
virtuous, can be  
accomplished alone;  
therefore we must be  
saved by love...

## Memorial Garden

Our church’s Memorial Garden is located on the west side of the building, facing Kenilworth. The ashes of many beloved saints of the church are buried there, and their names are engraved on the memorial tablets. You may wish to keep this in mind as you consider funeral arrangements. The Memorial Garden provides a meaningful and affordable place for burial. For more information, please contact the Church office staff.

## The Vision Task Force — Rick Ashton

By the time of the 2010 Annual Meeting of the congregation, First United Church of Oak Park will have developed a new vision for its next 10 years.

Focusing on what can be, not on what already exists, the new vision will come as a gift from God, grasping our spirit in a compelling manner. It will guide our worship and service at the highest level for years to come.

Led by Mark Loafman, steered by Dick Krissing, advised by Julie Harley, the Vision Task Force includes Jane Barker, Pat Inman, Mark Jolicoeur, and Sara Stevenson, with Rick Ashton as communicator. In the next few months we will be asking the congregation, the community, and the leadership of other churches to share their hopes for the future of our church.

Supported by your prayers, we are guided and inspired the words of Isaiah: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you, I have summoned you by name; you are mine.....Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?”

## Associate Pastor for Youth and Adult Education Search Update —Melinda Robinson

The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that the search for an Associate Pastor for Youth and Adult Education has been completed. Our committee, with the addition of Melinda Haag from Adult Education Committee and Rob Lovell and Ilse Miller from the senior high youth group, has recommended that Rev. Leah Fowler be called to minister to our congregation. This recommendation was affirmed by Church Council on May 19.

Leah is a native of Atlanta, GA, where she grew up in a Presbyterian church. She graduated from the Candler Theological School of Emory University in 2002 and is ordained in the United Church of Christ. She has extensive experience working with youth and adults, in all aspects of pastoral leadership. Currently she is an associate pastor at Montclair Congregational UCC in Montclair, NJ. We are confident that Leah’s high energy, experience and resourcefulness will be a great asset to First United. Leah will be introduced to the congregation and will preach in worship on July 12. A congregational meeting will be held immediately after the service that day to vote on her call, and we anticipate she will join our staff on July 26.

Rev. Kelly Brouwer has served in this associate role as a contracted minister since 2007. She will be leaving our staff in June, and we are planning a farewell celebration to honor Kelly and her partner Sandra VanLeeuwen. Kelly has served our church with great faith, care and devotion, and we prayerfully support her as she now seeks a new ministry position.

## Search Committee Members Needed

Church Council voted on May 19 to form two search committees: one to select an interim associate pastor for membership and mission (Mamie’s position) and one to nominate a called associate pastor for membership and mission. Our hope is to find a three-quarter time interim to serve in this associate pastor position for 6-12 months, beginning Aug. 15. At the same time, the second search committee for a called, full-time associate pastor will be seeking an installed leader. If you would like to serve on either of these committees, please contact Moderator Laurie Jolicoeur or Lead Pastor Julie R. Harley. Both committees will begin their work this summer.



## Faith IN ACTION

### West Suburban PADS - Transitional Shelter Program:

West Suburban PADS will be starting a new Transitional Shelter program this summer. This program is different than the September-May Emergency Shelter program. It is designed to foster self-sufficiency with a combination of short-term shelter and supportive services in order to rapidly re-house individuals who are homeless and a return to self-sufficiency.

#### Services include:

- ❖ Regular, stable shelter
- ❖ Three daily meals
- ❖ Intensive case management including goal setting, supportive counseling, referrals, linkage to services and housing. Specialized case management in the areas of medical, mental health and substance abuse services.
- ❖ Twice weekly life skills and support group activities providing personal enhancement opportunities, job search, and daily living skills enhancement.
- ❖ A savings program, in which each guest must save at least 30% of all income.

The Support Center in Maywood will provide services that aid guests in job search, including use of mailing address, computers, telephone and fax machine, voice mail, showers and laundry facilities. The pilot program will operate for 13 weeks in partnership with local congregations. First United Church has committed to hosting this mission program July 20-31. Volunteer opportunities abound. A maximum of 15 people will be involved in the program and they will be the same people throughout the summer which offers a unique chance to know the clients better.

Contact Ted Despotes (tdespotes@ameritech.net, 708-209-1377) or Heather Winquist (708-338-1724 ext. 228) for more details or to volunteer. Volunteer forms can also be found on the lounge bulletin board just outside the sanctuary. Information and the volunteer form can also be found at [www.westsuburbanpads.org](http://www.westsuburbanpads.org).

“No virtuous act is quite  
as virtuous from the  
standpoint of our friend  
or foe as it is from  
our own standpoint;  
therefore we must be  
saved by the final  
form of love,  
forgiveness.”

Reinhold Niebuhr

### Sharing our Fruits – 4th Sunday Offering

In an effort to continue outreach with our local, denominational, and global communities, Faith in Action in coordination with the Finance Committee and Church Council have decided to give away one offering each month. We will use the offering collected on the 4th Sunday of every month to go to specific organizations/causes with whom we have a relationship.

*What do we mean by offering?* It is any coins, currency, and/or checks collected in the offering plates other than that which is specifically designated to fulfilling a pledge or dedicated to a different purpose.

*What are we going to do with the funds?* The offering on June 28 will offer extra support for the PADS Summer Transitional Shelter as the program gets off the ground. We are excited for the new possibilities this will offer both PADS clients and First United!

### CROP Walk

Thanks to all those who participated in the CROP Walk this year, either as walkers or sponsors of walkers. We do not have total donation numbers yet, but we are grateful for the support of First United and the entire community in helping fight hunger, locally and globally.

### All Church Picnic and Farewell for Rev. Mamie Broadhurst on June 7

—Julie O'Shea

Celebrate the end of a wonderful program year at First United with your church family on Sunday, June 7, from noon to 1:30 pm. Hot dogs, drinks and tableware will be provided and each individual or family should bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. If you'd like to spread out on the lawn, bring a blanket; table seating will also be provided. We'll enjoy live jazz music by Blue Line and games for children and youth. We'll also bid a fond farewell to Associate Pastor Mamie Broadhurst and her husband Richard, who will begin their new call as missionaries with the Presbyterian Church in Colombia, South America, in July.

**Quest: The Journey Continues** — Art Spooner

Saint Paul makes a bold statement: "I am convinced that nothing can separate us from the love of God." He doesn't say "I think..." He doesn't say "I hope..." He says "I am convinced..."

In my faith journey, sometimes I am convinced myself. But often I am doubtful, skeptical, incredulous. I can be wishy-washy or apathetic. That's where Quest comes in. I have listened to these students, to an amazing group of co-teachers, to wise voices from the church's past, and to parents and friends in faith. We have done things together – trips, mission projects, eating together, dreaming together, asking questions together. Somehow, in these relationships of listening and doing, I can find the courage to be convinced.

As Janet Fishburn says, "The Christian faith is not inherited: each generation, each individual, must learn faith anew." That's what Quest is about; that's one way the church can learn and grow.

**All Kids Need a SCARF** —Marylen Marty-Gentile

First United–Spirituality, Crafts, Art, Reflection and Fun (SCARF) - Summer Camp, July 13-18, 2009 - 9:30 am-4:00 pm. Register now for children going into 1st grade through 8th grade. This is a week long experience for First United Youth run by First United Folks. Think story, art, drums, dance, fellowship, cooking and time. Registration forms are on the Elder desk in the church lounge. Please return with \$75 payment to the church by June 7.

**MemberLink** —Carl Nauert

Have you ever been frustrated with communications within First United? Have you ever wanted to send an e-mail to a member or call a member but can't find the address or number? Well, now we have a tool just for you!! Just access the church website at <http://www.firstunitedoakpark.com/>. and go to the Resources section to access MemberLink. You will see that it contains a user guide to using MemberLink, please use it!! You will be taken to a login screen where you can obtain a user name and password. Once in MemberLink, you will be able to search for member addresses, phone numbers or e-mail addresses, access the church calendar and your profile. (MemberLink is a subset copy of the church office database system.) The user guide will also direct you to where you can update your profile and set family information security preferences. Please check out your profile and ensure it is complete and accurate. We encourage you to include family and individual pictures in the directory (and only members and staff of First United have access to this tool).



## Summer Music Opportunities

—Bill Chin

Though we're on the summer schedule beginning June 14, music in worship continues at First United. If you have a musical talent you'd be willing to share, or a piece of music you've been wanting to play or sing, please let us know. We typically have room in services for as many as three (sometimes four) musical pieces. And of course Open Choir Sundays continue through the summer. Join us on the last Sunday of each month at 9:00 am to rehearse the piece for the day. Contact Bill Chin for more information on any of these musical opportunities!

## Chicago Summer Sings

Bach, Poulenc, Haydn and Gilbert & Sullivan

— Elaine Pierce



Once again, Music At First is proud to present its Sixth Annual Chicago Summer Sings! On three Tuesday evenings in June, we open the doors of First United to music lovers from all over Chicagoland who come to sing or listen as eminent conductors lead everyone in favorite choral works. This year's selections span almost 300 years and are some of the most well-loved pieces of choral literature.

**June 9** - Haydn - *The Creation*, William Chin conducting.

Considered by many to be Haydn's masterpiece, *The Creation* celebrates the creation of the world as told in the book of Genesis. The work on the oratorio lasted from October 1796 to April 1798 - the longest time Haydn had ever spent on a single composition. Explaining this, he wrote, "I spent much time over it because I expect it to last for a long time." It was a profound act of faith for this deeply religious man, who appended the words "Praise to God" at the end of every completed composition.

**June 16** - *Bach Magnificat* and *Poulenc Gloria*, Martha Swisher conducting.

J.S. Bach's *Magnificat* is based on Mary's song of praise, recorded in the first chapter of the gospel of Luke, sung on the occasion of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth, who is pregnant with John the Baptist.

Francis Jean Marcel Poulenc wrote his *Gloria* as a reflection of his deeply-felt Roman Catholic faith. During a visit to the shrine of the Black Virgin of Rocamadour in 1936, Poulenc experienced a life-changing transformation, and thereafter wrote many pieces which are now considered masterworks of sacred choral literature.

**June 23** - Gilbert & Sullivan - *HMS Pinafore*, Dennis Northway conducting.

Opening in May 1878, *HMS Pinafore* was W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan's first big hit. The opera's gentle satire explores love between members of different social classes, and lampoons British class distinctions in general. *Pinafore* also pokes good-natured fun at patriotism and the rise of unqualified people to positions of authority ("I polished up that handle so carefully that now I am the Ruler of the Queen's Navy."). The title of the piece comically juxtaposes the name of a little girl's garment, a pinafore, with the symbol of a naval warship.

Each event begins at 7 pm. Tickets are \$10 to sing or to listen. Bring your own score, or rent one for \$2. Truly, a wonderful way to spend a summer evening!

And there's more!

Dine at Francesca's Fiore before or after any Chicago Summer Sings event and make a donation to Music At First at the same time! When you order, simply tell your waiter that you are supporting Music At First, and 15% of your check total will go to MAF - all three Tuesdays. You can enjoy Francesca's fine cuisine, full bar, and welcoming ambience either before or after the sing-alongs. Francesca's Fiore is located at 7407 W Madison in Forest Park. Go to [www.miafrancesca.com](http://www.miafrancesca.com) or 708.771.3063 for details. Cheers!



Music  
At First

## Church Finance/Stewardship

### Questions Answered

— Joanne Despotes

Many of you may be wondering just how First United is doing financially in these difficult economic times. The money that supports all the staff, programs and mission of First United comes from basically two sources: the money people give every week (pledges and plate offerings) and an agreed amount taken from the endowments and calculated into the annual budget.

**Pledge Receipts:** as of the end of April, we are very close to our projected pledge income. (Remember that we have a built in expectation that we will receive less than the actual funds pledged so this is below that number.) We are cautiously optimistic that unlike other churches that have had to make serious cuts in staff and program, we will be able to continue with our current spending plans. This means that those who have pledged are doing their best to fulfill their pledges – thanks be to God. We know that there are many competing calls for your money and appreciate that you are making the church a priority.

**Endowment draws:** just as most of us have experienced in our retirement accounts, the church's endowment funds have been hit by the economic downturn. The value of all of the endowment funds is down. How does this impact the operating funds of the church? We have a policy of drawing 6% of a five-year rolling average of the mid-year market value from both the General and Special Mission Endowment Funds and applying those draws to the annual operating budget. If the market value is down again this mid-year, the amounts from these endowments will be decreased for the 2010 budget. However, since it is a five-year rolling average the adjustments are more gradual than if we looked only at the current mid-year value. Once the economy recovers and the values increase, we will again be gradually increasing the amount of the draws. Another way that the endowment draws may be increased over time is through growing the endowments with new gifts. Planned Giving programs and other gifts designated for the Endowments will make a lasting impact.

How will we pay for the roof? As reported in April, the Building Fund has been depleted. This is a problem since it looks like we are going to have a rather large expenditure this summer for the roof over the church school building. (I try to look at this as helping the economy by providing employment for roofers!) We have several options. We are making application to the Harrison Foundation and certainly would welcome gifts from members for this urgent need. If neither of these avenues covers the cost, we may decide to lend ourselves the money from the endowment fund or increase our loan with Park National. Either of these loans would have to 'paid back' over time which will affect future operating budgets. We trust that God will provide a way for us to fund the work that so desperately needs to be done. Next month, I'll write about the Special Investment Funds -- Promise! Contact me with questions at (708)-209-1377 or [jdespotes@ameritech.net](mailto:jdespotes@ameritech.net).

Give, and it will  
be given to you  
...the measure that  
you give will be  
the measure  
you get back.

—Luke 6:38

## Planned Giving Committee

—Gene Armstrong

On April 26, the Planned Giving Committee launched its effort at the congregational breakfast in Centennial Hall. Those who attended learned how planned giving allows you to make a gift to First United Church that will have a lasting impact. The Committee believes that to be faithful to ourselves and future generations, as members of the Church we have an obligation to preserve and increase our General Endowment Fund, our Special Mission Endowment Fund, and our Building Reserve.

The focus of the breakfast program provided information that makes planned giving less mysterious, and to answer questions. The following definition was provided: "Planned giving involves a variety of ways that you can make a lasting financial commitment to First United Church. Gifts can be made during your lifetime or after your death. These gifts allow us to fund our ministry and mission above and beyond annual campaign pledges." The Committee explained several ways you can make a planned gift:

*You could include in your will a bequest to the Church.*

*You could purchase an annuity that pays you income during your life and passes the principal to the Church upon your death.*

*You could make the Church a beneficiary of your Life Insurance, IRA or Trust.*

*You make a gift to the Church instead of sending flowers to memorialize a friend or remember an event.*

The new Planned Giving brochure is available at the Church. The Committee plans to hold more events in the coming months. Members who would like more information about planned giving should contact Rev. Julie Harley.



## Denominational Representatives to PCUSA and UCC Meetings

—Julie Harley

Our church is dually affiliated with the Presbyterian Church USA and the United Church of Christ, and so we have the opportunity to participate in the life of the wider church on several levels. Lee and Mary Lou Anderson and Priscilla Sibley will be our delegates to the Illinois Conference UCC meeting in Springfield from June 5 to 7. Marylen Marty-Gentile will attend the national UCC General Synod meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from June 26 to 30. Carole Bergstraesser and Betty Peaslee will represent us at the fall meeting of the Chicago Metropolitan Association of the UCC.

Connie Ronnow and Pauline Coffman are our delegates to meetings of the Chicago Presbytery. We are still seeking two more people who can attend Presbytery meetings, which are held five times a year at different churches in the Chicago area. If you would like to learn more, please contact Julie R. Harley. Our clergy staff and clergy members of the church attend most of these meetings, as well.

## PrimeTime

### Visit to the Holocaust Museum – June 18

—Janet Haisman

PrimeTimers will visit the newly opened Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive in Skokie on June 18. We will purchase tickets at the door (\$6 for 65+, \$8 for adults under 65). We'll meet at the Church at 10 am and carpool to Skokie. After visiting the museum, we will have lunch at a local restaurant. If you are interested, please telephone Marilyn Kauffmann at (708) 366-4047 or e-mail Janet Haisman at [jhais@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jhais@sbcglobal.net) ASAP.

## Dinner and a Movie

—Ted Despotes

Dinner and a Movie will be on hiatus in June and July (it is too light out to see well...that's a weird sentence to write, but it is true!). In August it will pick up again with *The Secret Life of Bees* on Wednesday, August 26th at 6 pm in the lounge. The movie is PG-13 and stars Dakota Fanning as a young girl who loses her mother and takes solace in the care of the Boatwright sisters played by Queen Latifah, Alicia Keyes, and Jennifer Hudson. More information, including a parent guide, can be found at [www.imdb.com/title/tt0416212/](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0416212/). For more information please contact Ted Despotes at [tdespotes@ameritech.net](mailto:tdespotes@ameritech.net).

## Evening Division Program

—Marcia Ashton

Evening Division Dinner 6:30 pm, Thursday, June 4 – The Rev. Dr. Ron Beauchamp, Director of the Niebuhr Center at Elmhurst College will accept the Libby Snow Grant of \$1,000 given by the Evening Division in memory of Rev. Ed Bergstraesser. Rev. Beauchamp will speak on the mission and work of the Niebuhr Center .

## Summer Cookouts

—Judy Bradeen

We are adding a new twist this summer to the August cookouts of the past. This year, this time of fellowship will take place on Sunday evening and we will head over to Scoville Park to hear the concerts offered by the Park District of Oak Park. Tentative dates are July 12th, July 26th, August 2nd and August 23rd. The idea is that we will meet at the church at 4:30 pm, bring something to grill and something to share. Dinner will last until about 5:30 and we will walk over to Scoville Park to enjoy dessert and the concert. Interested in participating? For more information and/or to volunteer to fire up the grill one night, contact me at [jab1022@aol.com](mailto:jab1022@aol.com) or 383-6870.

## Prayers for Peace

On the front  
steps of the  
church every  
Friday evening  
at 7pm

## INNERPEACE WORLDPEACE

Saturday at 8:30 am,  
in the Conference Room  
All are invited.



### Library Committee Soliciting Feedback —Lisa Bierman

As we ponder future budgeting, the Library Committee is trying to assess the value of the magazines we are currently carrying. We would like to invite members to comment on the magazines you have read recently (if you have), and we would love to invite others to come in and check out what's there. I will welcome any comments from readers—you can contact me at [biermanlisa@hotmail.com](mailto:biermanlisa@hotmail.com). The magazines we currently carry include: The Christian Century, The Chicago Reporter, Common Lot, and Sojourners. Let us know if you find them worthwhile and engaging!

### Nursery School News —Joan White

The Nursery School had a wonderful Golden Celebration in April, a tribute to its fifty year history. Not only was it a fun evening of socializing at the Carleton Hotel, but a successful fundraiser. We wrapped up our year with a fantastic plant sale in May. Many thanks to each of you who have First United Nursery School flowers blooming in your yards this spring! As we spent this year looking back with pride and fondness, we also embraced the future by making plans to position the school for the years ahead.

Beginning in September, 2009, the Nursery School will have a number of new options.

- ❖ Two morning classes will move to three hours in length
- ❖ One afternoon class is three-and-a half hours and includes Spanish and Creative Movement
- ❖ Lunch Bunch will be offered to ten children daily from 11:15 to 1:15
- ❖ There will be two-year-old classes on Monday/Thursday and on Tuesday/Friday



**Regularly Scheduled Weekly Meetings:** Please check with convener if you have questions.

<i>Wednesdays</i>	3:30p	Food Pantry Open	Kathy Russell/Michele Zurakowski - 386-1324
2nd 3rd & 4th and 1st	7:00p	Food Pantry Open	
	7:00a	Men's Breakfast Group	Ted Despotes
<i>Fridays</i>	7:00p	Peace Prayer Vigil	Bud Hayes
<i>Saturdays</i>	8:30a	Inner Peace/World Peace	Jeff Olson - 383-3154
	9:00a	Food Pantry Open	Kathy Russell/Michele Zurakowski - 386-1324
<b>Walk-in-Ministry</b>	Monday—Saturday 10 to 11am		Susan Zaruba—386-1946

**Week of June 1**

Monday 1	7:00p	Fellowship of Reconciliation	Amy Pappageorge
Tuesday 2	7:00p	Devotional	
		Library Committee	Cindy Palombi
		Youth Board	Kelly Brouwer
		Faith in Worship Committee	Scott Haldeman
		Children's Ministry Committee	Andrea Alter/Barbara Metric
Wednesday 3	7:00p	Adult Choir	Bill Chin
	7:00p	New Member Committee	Susan Saliny
Thursday 4	6:30p	Evening Division Dinner	Carole Ferguson
Friday 5	8:45p	Softball at Ridgeland Common	Kelly Brouwer
Saturday 6	1:00p	Dances of Universal Peace	Cindy Palombi
	4:00p	Wedding-Kari Jorgensen and Ben Wilcox	

**Week of June 7**

Sunday 7	9:00a	New Member Class	Susan Saliny
	9:30a	Communion Servers Orientation	Mamie Broadhurst
	11:00a	Worship-Communion-Ordination of Elders/Deacons	
	12:00p	All Church Picnic-Farewell to Mamie Broadhurst	
	5:00p	FUJI (Junior High) Youth	Kelly Brouwer
	6:00p	FUSH (Senior High) Youth	Kelly Brouwer
Tuesday 9	1:00p	Calendar Planning	Staff
	7:00p	Music at First Concert	Bill Chin
		Shawl Ministry	Elan Long
		Finance Committee	Gene Armstrong
		Deacons	Carl Nauert
		Youth Committee	Lou Valsano
Friday 12	8:45p	Softball at Ridgeland Common	Kelly Brouwer

**Week of June 14**

**Summer Hours Begin**

Sunday 14	10:00a	Worship-Summer Hours Begin	
	11:00a	New Member Class	Susan Saliny
Tuesday 16	6:30p	Vision Team	Mark Loafman
	7:00p	Music at First Concert	Bill Chin
	7:30p	Church Council	Laurie Jolicoeur
	8:00p	Communications Committee	Martha Reese
Wednesday 17	7:00p	Food Pantry Volunteer Orientation	Kathy Russell
Thursday 18	10:00a	PrimeTime	Janet Haisman
	7:00p	Spiritual Guidance Group	Jeff Olson
Friday 19	7:45p	Softball at Ridgeland Common	Kelly Brouwer
Saturday 20	9:00a	Directions at a Member's Home	

**Week of June 21**

Sunday 21	10:00a	Worship-Baptisms	
	11:00a	New Member Class	Susan Saliny
Tuesday 23	7:00p	Music at First Concert	Bill Chin
		Building & Grounds Committee	John Zaruba
		Personnel Committee	Melinda Robinson
		Faith in Action Committee	Bob Hahn
		Adult Education Committee	Melinda Haag
Thursday 25	7:00p	Shawl Ministry	Elan Long
		Food Pantry and WIM Task Force	Jane Barker
		Planned Giving Subcommittee	Gene Armstrong
Friday 26	9:45p	Softball at Ridgeland Common	Kelly Brouwer

**Week of June 28**

Sunday 28	8:30a	New Member Breakfast-Centennial Hall	Susan Saliny
	10:00a	Worship-New Member Introduction	
	3:00p	PFLAG	Sylvia Menninga

[www.firstunitedoakpark.com](http://www.firstunitedoakpark.com)

Julie R. Harley,  
Lead Pastor

Mamie Broadhurst  
Associate Pastor

Marylen Marty-Gentile  
Director of Children  
& Family Ministries

Kelly Brouwer  
Associate Pastor for Youth  
and Adult Education

Bill Chin  
Director of Music Ministry

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**Softball is here!** — Kelly Brouwer

Come out and enjoy a good 'ole softball game and cheer on First United! All of our games are on Friday nights and are played at Ridgeland Commons (Lake and Ridgeland).

June 5	8:45pm	West Diamond
June 12	8:45pm	West Diamond
June 19	7:45pm	East Diamond
June 26	9:45pm	West Diamond
July 3	NO GAME	
July 10	7:45pm	East Diamond

**Save These Dates**

Thursday, June 4	6:30p	Evening Division Dinner
Sunday, June 7	12:00p	All Church Picnic and Farewell to Rev. Mamie Broadhurst
Tuesday, June 9	7:00p	Music at First Concert
<b>Sunday, June 14</b>	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Worship-Summer Hours Begin</b>
Tuesday, June 16	7:00p	Music at First Concert
Thursday, June 18	10:00a	PrimeTime Gathering
Tuesday, June 23	7:00p	Music at First Concert
Sunday, June 28	8:30a	New Member Breakfast

**Deadline for the July 2009 issue is June 15th.**

*Please e-mail information or articles for the MB to:*

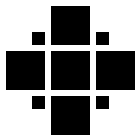
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**June 2009**

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 www.firstunitedoakpark.com

WEB Edition



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*an open community  
 united in love  
 & justice*