

THE KOINONIA

February 2011

First United Methodist Church, Park Ridge, Illinois

February 13, 2011

LOVE SUNDAY

On this day the United Methodist Women provide for all aspects of the three worship services.

There will be a special offering taken for UMW mission. Proceeds will be combined with the annual Mite Box donations and distributed to local charities in June. Last year donations were given to:

Avenues to Independence	Bethany Retirement Home (Good Samaritan Fund)
ChildServ	Bethany Terrace (Alzheimer's Unit)
Center of Concern	Foster Avenue Methodist Home
Harbour, Inc.	Humboldt Park Mujeres a Mujeres Program
Methodist Youth Services	Marcy Newberry Foundation
Park Ridge Teen Center	Maine Center for Mental Health
Rainbow Hospice	Women in Need Growing Stronger (WINGS)

Please plan to attend this very special day!



We are a multi-generational Christian community welcoming all, offering spiritual growth and opportunities for compassionate service.

February is a month when much of the country will focus on that powerful four-letter word L-O-V-E. Thanks to Hallmark, we talk a lot about love in February. I remember when I had my first “real” boyfriend in 7th grade agonizing over what to get him for Valentine’s Day and wondering what he would get me. This, however, was not love, in any sense of the word. I think it’s appropriate to do a little Bible Study about what we, as Christians, consider love to be.

Many of us would turn first to the “Love Chapter” of 1 Corinthians 13 to hear from Paul what love is. His description is not the fluffy, ooey-gooey love you might find in a love song on the radio, but Paul portrays an understanding of love that becomes a verb which means actively being patient, being understanding, being kind, being forgiving, sharing in the joys and the sorrows and remaining steadfast all the while. Many of us have experienced this deeper understanding of love in relationships, marriages, and friendships (and maybe there are faces that are coming to mind right now).

However, many of us have also been disappointed in love when it has seemed to run out or fail us. The truth is that we are human. We get the most perfect image of love from God. “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” (John 15:13) Our attempts to reflect that love are sometimes right on and sometimes fall short. “We love because God first loved us.” (1 John 4:19) We have experienced such deep, unconditional, abiding love through the love God has for us that our only response should be to love in return – loving God and loving one another. “Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. (1 John 4:11-12)

Let’s spend some time allowing these words of scripture to dwell in our hearts. What would the world be like if we all at First UMC made the decision to live lives of love – loving each other, loving the stranger, loving the enemy, and loving God with everything we have and everything that we are. Let’s love! And, let us not forget the importance of verbalizing those important words and the commitment contained therein:

I love you.

Pastor Carol

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. 1 Corinthians 13: 4–8



[Rev. Rich Darr, Th. D.](#)
Lead Pastor

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
418 Touhy Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068
(847) 825-3144 Fax: (847) 825-3149
Email: office@parkridgeumc.org
www.parkridgeumc.org
Sunday Worship Services
8:00 am, 9:00 am & 10:30 am
Children’s Sunday School 9:00 am



[Rev. Carol Hill](#)
Associate Pastor

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL will meet on Tuesday, February 1, at 7:00 pm. Team leaders of each ministry are voting members. However, all members of FUMC are invited and encouraged to attend. This is the place to discuss policies and events of interest to you. Reports from each team leader will guide us in our future endeavors. One of the main topics will be establishing a budget for 2011. We will meet in the Parlor. Please plan to attend.



*From the United Methodist Book of Discipline:
Paragraph 251.1 **The church council** shall provide for planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources in the local church. It shall also provide for the administration of its organizational and temporal life. It shall envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate the mission and ministry of the church. The church council shall be amenable to and function as the administrative agency of the charge conference.*

OUR LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO . . .

Michael Koziol, Bill Sayre; Wyrta Heagy, Bette Bonney and all US servicemen and women which includes Paul Bartel. If you have friends or family whose names should be listed here, please contact the church office at office@parkridgeumc.org.

Our congratulations to **Ellen and Marco Macoratti** on the birth of Rebecca Grace, born December 28th in Vienna, Austria. Rebecca is the granddaughter of Alice and Roger Crawford.

THANK YOU!

*The week before Christmas we were delighted to have carolers from our church come to our home. Included in the group were Pastor and Mrs. Darr. We certainly enjoyed their singing.
Thank you all. Will and Barbara DuMez*



DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES NEEDED

A search committee has been formed, led by Lay Leader [Alice Crawford](#), to find a Director of Children’s Ministries. Resumes are being accepted through January 31. Interviews will take place in February. If you know someone interested in this position please contact George Tommasi or the church office.

ALL means ALL LGBT Inclusion Team invites you to a special film presentation of

[For the Bible Tells Me So](#)

Sunday, February 13 in Jorgeson Hall

11:45 – 2:30 (light lunch included)

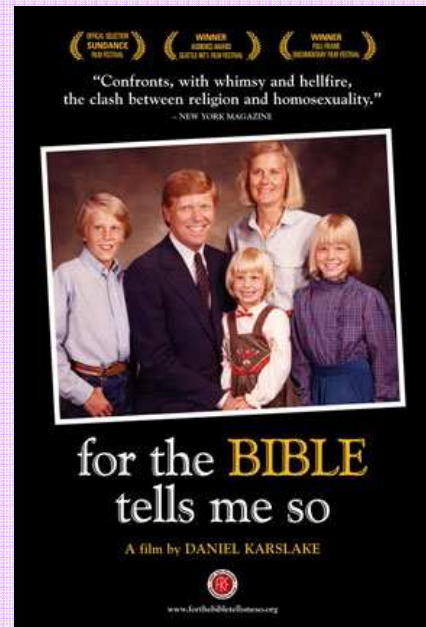
Through the experiences of five very normal, very Christian, very American families -- including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson – this award-winning documentary recounts how insightful people of faith handle the realization of having a gay child.

Informed by such respected voices as Bishop Desmond Tutu, Harvard's Peter Gomes, Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg and Reverend Jimmy Creech, FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO offers healing, clarity and understanding to anyone struggling with the issue of sacred scripture and what it says about sexual identity.

It presents and critiques the Biblical case against homosexuality, as well as contemporary “Nature vs Nurture” scientific research. A strong advocacy message of acceptance and inclusion is central to this film. The challenges raised by it for all churches, including our own, will be the topic for a discussion session after the screening. Due to the frank nature of the film we recommend it be viewed only by teens and adults.

Child care will be provided.

www.forthetibletellmeso.org



Adult mission opportunity— Chicago Food Depository

Saturday, February 26 Meet at the church at 8:00 AM to carpool

We need 10 people to travel to the Greater Chicago Food Depository. It is an interesting place with a variety of tasks. We will be repacking bulk products to individual/family sizes, assembling boxes with assorted food, checking expiration dates and labeling and gleaning products. Our good work there will be credited to Humboldt Park Social Services for its buying credit at the Depository.

Participants must be at least 13 years old to volunteer at the Food Depository for this project. No heavy lifting required. Hours at the Depository will be 9:00 a.m. to noon. Please look for the signup sheet in Grant Place doorway. Questions? Call Lorie Bartel, Outreach Chairperson at 847-370-4455 or email bartelsan@aol.com.

Stayin' Alive Fundraiser Dinner to Support Park Ridge Teen Center

Come out on February 26th for a benefit for the Park Ridge Teen Center. More information to come soon! Many have wondered how to support the ongoing ministry of the Teen Center, which is housed in our basement, and now is your opportunity! Tickets cost \$50 per person. Contact Kate Kerin, 847-318-7376, for more details or to purchase a ticket.

You are invited to the

UMW DESSERT

Thursday, February 10
at 7:00 pm in the Parlor

Herb Zuegel and Burt Olsson
will talk about

PARK RIDGE THEN AND NOW



Invite a friend or neighbor!
Dessert will be provided by
Susannah Circle
No reservations needed.

Practice Radical Hospitality!

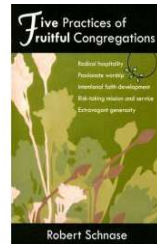
FUMC will host the NIC Lay Academy on two Saturdays, February 19 and 26. We will provide breakfast and lunch on both days to over 100 attendees. UMW will need everyone's help to make this event successful. Contact Connie Bruce 847-823-5431 if you can help.

Many thanks!

Northern Illinois Conference and District Events

Event: Laity Convocation 2011
February 05, 2005 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Sycamore UMC
160 Johnson Ave, Sycamore, IL



Presenter: Bishop Robert Schnase, author of
“Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations”

Congregations that practice Radical Hospitality demonstrate an active desire to invite, welcome, receive, and care for those who are strangers so that they find a spiritual home and discover for themselves the unending richness of life in Christ.

Details may be found on the Northern Illinois Conference website: <http://www.umcnic.org>

The program includes worship, three 45-minute sessions with Bishop Schnase, and communion with Bishop Hee-Soo Jung. A light breakfast and lunch are included.

You may find registration forms in the rack (Grant Place door) or online: [Registration Form](#)

Contact the office if you are interested and may like to carpool.



Lay Academy— a district-wide annual event

Saturday, February 19

Saturday, February 26

8:00 am to 3 pm

First UMC, Park Ridge

Are you a teacher, committee member or officer in your church? Do you share God's Good News and the Love of Jesus with others? We are looking for you! We each "speak" for God through our daily lives and the use of our unique gifts and talents.

This academy offers the training for becoming a Certified Lay Speaker. All laity and clergy are welcome. You are not required to become a Lay Speaker to attend. These courses will help you better serve your local church. This is an opportunity to learn to become a witness in your church and community. Registration is \$35 for both days, including all materials, breakfast and lunch. Youth registration is \$15. Flyers with more information are available at the church office or in the rack near the Grant Place door.

Event: Chicago Northwest District UMW

February 12, 2011

Glenview UMC, 727 Harlem, Glenview, IL 60025

Our theme is *"Rekindle the Spirit of United Methodist Women."*

All Local Unit UMW Officers in the Chicago Northwestern District are invited to participate in this 'morning together' of training and updates.

We gather at 8:30am for continental breakfast.

Coordinator: Vivian Matthews

vmatt5400@aol.com



**When you buy snacks for your
Superbowl party
don't forget Pepperidge Farm goldfish
and bring the UPC to church!**
In addition, why not serve several
eligible products...
**Campbell's, Franco-American, Swanson,
Pepperidge Farm, Prego and V8.**



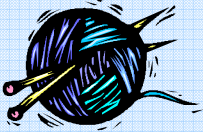
Esther-Priscilla Circle collects
these UPC labels to benefit
Marcy Newberry Center.
Place these in the container
by the Grant Place door.

**SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP
REFRESHMENTS**

February 6 Admin Council
February 13 Discipleship
(Adult Small Groups)
February 20 Susanna Circle
February 27 Susanna Circle

Served 10:00-10:30 am in the Parlor.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



will meet on the
1st & 3rd Mondays
of the month
at 1:00 pm
in the Parlor.

Contact Dorothy Silver or [Marilynn Fisher](#)
for more information.


COUNCIL ON MINISTRY
This council consists of the team leaders of
the five main ministries:
Welcoming, Discipleship
Nurture, Outreach, Worship
All members of FUMC are welcome to join
in the discussions.
**Tuesday, February 8, at 7:15 pm
in the Parlor**

**Humboldt Park Social Services
FOOD PANTRY**

Many thanks ... for the ongoing
support for those who need this boost to
their family budgets and well-being.
Your donations of food and dollars
make a very real difference as they
offer both sustenance and a sense of
God's care in the world.
Donations of non-perishable food items
are best received the first Sunday and
will be delivered the following Saturday
of each month. Leave your donations in
the baskets by the Grant Place door.
Or even better, leave a check in the offer-
ing plate clearly marked "Food Pantry."

HUMBOLDT PARK MEALS MINISTRY
will be cooked and served by
Lydia Circle this month.

Sunday, February 20
Cook at 1:30 pm
Deliver at 4:00 pm



Thanks Lydia Circle!!



*Thank you one million times over for a beautiful farewell.
I treasure you all in my heart.
The special "ABC's of Mrs. P " photo album is awesome!
The \$300 collected from families towards the purchase
of Mrs. P's Peace Pole in Park Ridge is deeply touching.
Thank you from down deep in my heart. I love you!
See you in the pew! Peace in Christ, Catherine Petersen*

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT FOR ADULTS

Continues through – February 20

8:00 am – Justice and Immigration led by Carol Hill

Issues regarding immigration are rattling our country. WWJD? How can we address the issue of immigration with justice and integrity? Come for some lively discussion!

9:00 am – Discussion Group led by Leah Cozad

Lively discussion about the Jesus who taught EVERYONE.

Based on *Writing in the Sand* by Thomas Moore.

10:30 am – Christianity at Work led by Deborah Hill

This class comes out of a personal interest Deborah Hill has had throughout her 20 years of consulting. Deborah finds integrating integrity and faith in the work place to be interesting. Join her in this exploration of how the Bible works and speaks to the every day job.

Child care will be available at 9:00 & 10:30 am

All classes will be held on 1st floor



YOUTH NEWS

...making disciples...and having a blast!



YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

CHRIS SMAIL

Chris at Fear Factor Youth Group in October! Toothpaste bursts!

Chris Smail, who is an eighth grader at Lincoln Middle School, is an incredible person! Chris is knowledgeable in all types of video games on a variety of gaming systems. This year Chris has been instrumental in making our new 8th graders feel welcome (even his brother Ethan). Thanks, Chris for being so full of joy and enthusiasm that it's contagious!

A NEW YEAR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

When a Church graduates 14 seniors, the next year is sure to be a year of rebuilding. This year our middle school youth have been really holding our youth program together, consistently participating and providing the energy that helps drive a youth program. This year is important to rethink what kind of a youth program helps to develop disciples, helps to bring others in the community into the circle, and allows a smaller group to make a big impact. Thanks to each youth for helping rebuild our youth program. We will continue to build and grow a program that meets the

needs of our youth as well as glorifies God!



**Talent Show
COMING!**

Start working on your acts! We will be putting on our Youth Talent Show on March 6th! Tickets to go on Sale in February! **This will be one of the primary fundraisers for our summer mission trips!**

Happy Birthday to:

February 2 - Brett W.
February 11 - Eddie W.
February 24 - Kevin W.



WEEKLY YOUTH
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM

February Events

February 4 - 5

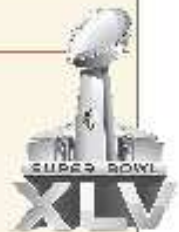
Change the World Overnight

This is a DISTRICT YOUTH lock-in held at First UMC! We will host possibly 60 or more youth! We'll be playing mega games of sardines, worshipping, and debating the issue of immigration. Fun starts at 7 PM and ends on Saturday at 7 PM. Bring clothes for Saturday, sleeping bag, toothbrush, and DEODORANT!

February 6

Superbowl Party

There's no better way to watch the Superbowl than with the youth, making predictions, rating the commercials, and oh yeah - watching the game! We'll start at 6 PM. Location TBA.



February 13



Whirly Ball

We will join with Northbrook UMC for a whirly ball tournament! We'll be whirly balling from 2 - 5 PM. Bring money for snacks!

February 20



Youth Small Groups

Our small groups are going to start the study of *The Gospel According to the Simpsons*. Don't miss this awesome group! Groups will meet on the 3rd floor from 6 - 7 PM.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES



Are you interested in joining First UMC? Maybe you just are curious about the United Methodist denomination. Come and join our Pastors and welcoming team in our New Member Classes, which will be offered on **Sunday, February 27 and March 6** from 11:45 am – 1:30 pm in the parlor. A light lunch will be served and information about the United Methodist church and our local church will be discussed. Sign up with Pastor Carol Hill by emailing her at carol@parkridgeumc.org.

First UMC's GOT TALENT!

Do you have a talent you've been hiding? We'd love to have you participate in the Talent Show on **March 6th!!** Please contact Pastor Carol with your contact information and your act information! **ALL AGES** are invited to participate! This dinner and talent show will benefit the youth mission trips for 2011. Talented Chili Chefs are needed too!

Coming in March World Day of Prayer

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be **Friday, March 4, at 10:00 am here at FUMC.**

This is an annual global event, focusing on one area of the world each year.

A simple lunch will follow the worship service.
Please mark your calendars now.



PEACE, HOPE, LOVE, JOY



February 2011

Sunday Worship 8:00, 9:00 & 10:30am

First UMC Park Ridge

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																								
		1 7:00 PM Admin Council - Parlor	2 8:30 AM LIFE Group - Parlor 11:00 AM Contemporary Team Lent Planning 6:30 PM Confirmation Class - 3rd Floor 7:30 PM Jubilee Rehearsal - Sanctuary	3	4 7:00 AM District youth lock-in - Entire Bldg - ends at 7 PM	5 7:00 AM District youth lock-in - Entire Bldg - ends at 7 PM 9:00 AM NIC Lay Convocation - Sycamore UMC, IL																																																																																																								
6 8, 9 & 10:30AM Adult/Youth Groups H.P. Food Pantry Collection 9:00 AM Sanct Choir Practice 6:00 PM Superbowl Party Prueitts	7 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl - Parlor 4:45 PM Uptown Condo Officers -Meditation Room 7:30 PM Fam. Anon. - Parlor	8 7:15 PM Council on Ministry - Parlor	9 8:30 AM LIFE Group - Parlor 6:30 PM Confirmation Class - 3rd Floor	10 10:30 AM UMW Board - Library 12:00 PM Kiwanis prep - Kitchen 7:00 PM UMW Dessert - Parlor	11 4:45 PM Kiwanis Spaghetti Dinner - Kitchen & Parlor	12 8:30 AM MAP Team - Parlor 9:00 AM H.P. Food Delivery																																																																																																								
13 *LOVE SUNDAY 8, 9, & 10:30 AM Child/Youth/Adult Groups 9:00 AM Sanct Choir Practice 11:45 AM Reconciling Ministries - Jorgeson 2:00 PM Youth Whirly Ball Trip 4:00 PM Cub Scout setup - Jorgeson 5:00 PM Cub Scout pack - Jorgeson and kitchen	14 1:00 PM Scripture & Song -Balcony 4:45 PM Uptown Condo Officers -Meditation Room 7:30 PM Fam. Anon. - Parlor	15 <i>Koinonia info due</i> 7:00 PM Trustees Mtg - Parlor	16 8:30 AM LIFE Group - Parlor 6:30 PM Confirmation Class - 3rd Floor 7:00 PM Finance Meeting - Library 7:30 PM Jubilee Rehearsal - Sanctuary	17 7:30 PM BSA Troop #1 Planning - Jorgeson	18 1:00 PM Setup for Lay Academy - Jorgeson Parlor 6:00 PM All Staff Gathering - Parlor	19 8:00 AM Lay Academy - Entire Bldg*																																																																																																								
20 8, 9, & 10:30 AM Child/Youth/Adult Groups 9:00 AM Sanct Choir Practice 11:45 AM Staff Parish Meeting - Library 1:30 PM Humboldt Park Meal, Lydia Circle 5:00 PM Youth Small Groups - 3rd floor	21 9:00 AM World Day of Prayer Rehearsal - Sanctuary 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl - Parlor 4:45 PM Uptown Condo Officers -Meditation Room 7:30 PM Fam. Anon. - Parlor	22 <i>Koinonia mailed</i> 10:00 AM Esther - Priscilla Circle - Parlor 7:00 PM Lydia Circle 7:00 PM Susanna Circle	23 8:30 AM LIFE Group - Parlor 10:00 AM Traditional Worship Team - office 6:30 PM Confirmation Class - 3rd Floor 7:00 PM Miriam Circle - Off site	24	25 1:00 PM Setup for Lay Academy - Jorgeson Parlor	26 8:00 AM Food Depository Trip 8:00 AM Lay Academy - Entire Bldg*																																																																																																								
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Weekly Events: Monday - Boy Scouts 7:30 pm / Fridays + Saturdays-Teen Center 7pm