

First United Methodist Church
220 North Main Street
Trenton, Illinois 62293
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Vacation Bible School

Friday & Saturday - August 13th - 14th

Worship Services 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School (Adults & Children) 9:30 a.m.
Childcare Provided

Website: www.trentonfumc.com
E mails: tfumcpastor@yahoo.com
office@trentonfumc.com
staff@trentonfumc.com



The Newsletter

First United Methodist Church
220 North Main Street
Trenton, Illinois 62293
(618) 224-7364

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

*Our Mission is to love, to serve, and to share the good news of Christ,
making disciples for Him.*

AUGUST 2010

Pastor's Thoughts. . .

Wow! I have lived in Trenton for over a month. The old saying, "time flies when you're having fun" keeps coming to mind. Beth and I have just been blessed beyond our wildest imagination thus far. We have met many of you; however there are still a lot of you we haven't had the privilege yet. Before the summer is over I pray we get to meet each other. I'm working on ways that this could happen and so don't be surprised if you get a call or a visit soon.

This past week I got to experience my first Clinton County Parade. Jim Mallrich and family indoctrinated Beth and I as the church placed its puppet float in the parade. I have got to tell you it was a blast! I believe we had 700 invitations to hand out and when the parade was over we had very few left. I want to say - Great job to those who passed them out. Next year we need 1500!!!

---To our puppeteers – God truly uses you to draw all ages to the kingdom. I look forward to my first puppet program I get to watch. I want to thank Lynn and Rose for all their leadership in helping the float to be ready. Finally, I want to thank Beth for her assistance as well. As you can see this float was a group effort. Trenton First was done proud!

This past weekend we had a great two services. It just happened to be my birthday last Sunday so everyone was willing to let me have special privileges. Jackie brought me a birthday cake (cupcake) along with my own little birthday hat. I must say I felt very lucky! I wanted to thank everyone for their birthday cards, emails, and Facebook acknowledgements. I had one of the best birthdays I have had in years. Beth and I were able to go out to eat with two of our church small groups. The food and fellowship were excellent. While I have your attention. . .have you thought about joining one of our wonderful small groups? You really should!

Wow! As we begin to close down on summer 2010 I want to remind you that we have ordered our "Daily Walk Thru the Bible" Bibles. At the present time we have over 30 persons ready to begin reading their bibles daily. I praise God for this wonderful news. I have received a few more orders since our initial order. If you are wishing to

purchase one too, just call the church office. When we receive enough orders to order at the same discount rate, we will release the order.

In Closing, I want to share a portion of one of my devotions I really love. It comes from, "Grace for the Moment", by Max Lucado. Here it is: "Perhaps you do not understand that God is kind to you so you will change your HEARTS and LIVES. (Romans 2:4) Repentance is the decision to turn from selfish desires and seek God. It is a genuine, sincere regret that creates sorrow and moves us to admit wrong and desire to do better. I like this statement the best, "It's an inward conviction that expresses itself in outward actions." This is why this was so important to me. . . I have never been happier than the day I sincerely repented.

Have a Blessed rest of the summer and remember God loves you!

Pastor Mike

UMW Produce Table

What a great growing season we are having! THANK YOU to everyone who has donated their fruits, vegetables and home canned goods, as well as the baked items. We appreciate the generous donations we have received. The Produce Table will continue until Fall.



WISDOM SEEKERS

Wisdom Seekers will meet only ONCE during the month of August. The date will be Tuesday, August 17, 2009 in the Moses Room at 10:00am. We are studying our new series "Come Thirsty" by Max Lucado, and are quickly learning how "thirsty" we are for soul hydration.

Join us anytime for study, fellowship, and rekindling your faith. Any questions, contact Yvonne Jackson at 224-9065.

-Yvonne Jackson, Group Coordinator

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The U.M.W. enjoyed "Christmas in July", on Monday July 12 at Alpine Suppe in Highland. Wonderful fellowship was enjoyed by 21 ladies (the restaurant will never be the same!) Eighteen (18) blankets and many toiletry items were collected for the "Red Bird Mission". Thank you everyone in our congregation for your support with this mission project

The U.M.W. will meet Monday August 9, 2010 at the home of Jeff / Yvonne Jackson at 5:30pm for a cookout.

Sunday School News

Who can believe that it is time for school to start? We are already looking at Sunday school classes for the Fall. In order to prepare, we are going to have an important teacher's meeting on Monday, August 16th at 6:30 p.m. We need everyone's input so that we can continue to have a great program.

This summer, our children have been collecting "coupons". They received coupons for various things such as attendance, participating in music time, bringing a friend and learning Bible verses. These coupons will be used at our Family Carnival on Saturday, September 18th, 2010, in the church parking lot. It will begin at 1:30 p.m. and will last until 3:00 p.m. It will be a fun time for all!

Vacation Bible School is coming up this month. It begins Friday evening, Aug. 13th at 6:00 p.m. Be sure to fill out a registration form and turn it into the office. You aren't going to want to miss this PRAISE PARTY!! On Sunday morning, all children will sing in the worship services and receive their certificate of participation and that would be a great time to invite friends to come and check us out! At 9:30 a.m. there will be a breakfast downstairs to celebrate the closing of V.B.S., you are invited to join us whether or not you attend V.B.S. We just ask that you let us know if you do plan to attend, by signing the opportunities insert or contacting the church office (224-7364).

At this time, I would like to say "**Thank You**" to the following ladies for substituting for the summer: Kate Brown, Jackie Van Gorkom, Roxanne Kohlbrecher, and Liz Blinn. We appreciate your willingness to teach so others could "take a break". We continue to ask for substitute teachers and "happy helpers" for our Sunday school program. If you are interested in either, please sign the opportunities insert in the bulletin or see Yvonne Jackson at 224-9065.

If you have not yet attended Sunday school, we encourage you to give it a try! We would love to have you join us, there is a place for everyone! Our August schedule for the children will remain the same: 9:30 a.m. -- snacks and gathering time then at 9:45 a.m. -- classroom time.



Thanks to all who brought food and helped with Pastor Mike and Beth's welcome lunch.

-- Hospitality & SPPRC Committees

SMALL GROUPS UPDATE

As Coordinator of Small Groups I just want to refresh for you the groups we currently have at Trenton FUMC. All these groups are quite active and anyone is welcome to join or just visit, any group, at any time.

Wisdom Seekers usually meet the first and third Tuesday mornings of the month, at the church.

Companions in Christ meet the first and third Thursday, in the evening, and at each others' homes.

Friends and Fellowship meet the second and fourth Thursday, in the evening, in each others' homes.



Prayer Shawl meets in the Moses Room at church, in the morning, on Wednesdays, but has taken a break for the summer and will renew in the Fall. If you don't know how to knit or crochet, someone in the group will be glad to teach you.

Women of Faith have been meeting and going out to various restaurants for fun and fellowship.

Lastly, we have Dining for Six which consists of groups of three couples dining out together, once a month, for three months.

For more information on any of these groups please call me (Carol Metzger) at 224-7576 and I'll get you in touch with the right contact person. Also, if anyone has an idea for another group, please don't hesitate to contact me and I'll help you get it started or help you get the information where it is needed.

I want to remind everyone that in September, Dining for Six will meet to select new groups, who will then meet in October, November and December. If you can't make the Sept. meeting, you can still join. We'll have a date for the September meeting in next month's newsletter, so keep us in mind for Fall. We are always eager to have new people join in the fun! It is a great way for fellowship and we also get to eat out!

- Carol Metzger

VITAL STATISTICS

July 4 Off: \$3968
Att: 198

July 11 Off: \$3251
Att: 170

July 18 Off: \$3360
Att: 144

July 25 Off: \$2452
Att: 149

I-FEST RECAP

On behalf of the Miniature Ministers Puppet Team, we would like to thank all of you for your donations of food and money to help us during our week at I-Fest. Because of your generosity, we were able to provide a great assortment of items for the puppeteers to choose from for their sack lunches and also for snacks. We also thank you for your prayers before and during our time away, it helped sustain us!

Over the years, we've had people ask us about I-Fest (International Festival of Christian Puppetry and Ventriloquism)-- what we do, why it's beneficial, etc... So we thought we would give you a brief description of the activities for the week: Each morning at 8:30 a.m.; we attended a chapel service where we sang praises and then listened to a message. This year's theme was "Knit Together" based on the scripture verse in Colossians 2:2. Each morning we were given insight about this verse and what it means for us. After being fueled with God's Word, each puppeteer and adult attended classes. After two classes, (ballooning, human video, ministry behind the stage, character development, scriptwriting, sign-language, missions, etc...) we met for lunch and then following lunch we attended one more afternoon class. Afterwards, from 3:00-5:00 p.m., some of our group either had down time at the hotel while others were attending "hands-on classes", or we stayed on campus to support our team members in lip synch competitions. The hands-on classes are the optional classes which require pre-registration with the payment of an extra fee. The puppets and props on display outside the sanctuary were made during this time. All fifteen of the puppeteers and adults usually reunited for dinner shortly after 5 p.m. and then we were back on campus by 7:00 p.m. for the evening shows. The shows varied each night; usually one of the week's presenters performed and then afterwards there were competitions, improvisation games, and a version of "Hollywood Squares". Each show was entertaining and provided many more ideas for our ministry. We usually returned to our hotel around 10:30 p.m., at which time everyone met to make their lunches for the next day as well as to discuss the events of that day and schedule classes for the next day. As you can see, our days and nights were full.

Did we emerge from this experience changed? We would like to think we did! Being in an environment that not only encourages Christian living but models it – is wonderful and refreshing. We tried to have our puppeteers stretch a little too, by having each puppeteer take a turn to lead us in prayer before our meals. We also prayed and recited our Bible verse before we left our hotel for the day. It was awesome to hear someone shout out..."Hey, we need to pray before we eat" or for a puppeteer to take the initiative to lead the group in prayer even when there wasn't an adult sitting with them to remind them. It is my hope that the lessons and experiences we all shared just a few weeks ago are still swirling around in everyone's heads and hearts – I know that is the case for me.

Again, thank you so much for all your support. While our ministry has now grown to thirty in number (adults and children), we know that it is this great church family that keeps our ministry going year after year and we praise God for you!!! If there is anyone who would like to become more involved in any capacity in the Miniature Ministers Puppet Ministry, please contact one of us or the church office.

Serving Him, Lynn and Rose



Clinton County Parade - A Success!!

Thank you to everyone who helped make our float for the Clinton County parade such a success! As usual, the children (and adults too!) were delighted by the puppets along the parade route. What an awesome experience to be able to share God's word with so many people at one time!

Please keep sending pictures and articles to the local papers about what your group(s) doing at FUMC! Let's keep the community as excited about all that is happening at Trenton FUMC as we are!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Addie Ebersohl | 7 Ted Medcalf |
| 7 Rosie Wall | 8 Paul Tockstein |
| 8 Gina Root | 10 Yvonne Stone |
| 10 Dale Medley | 12 Pam James |
| 12 Keith Cunningham | 13 Peter VanGorkom |
| 13 Harriet Schoene | 20 Marcy Buckles |
| 20 Marilyn Georgie | 25 Jenny Scheuchner |
| 20 Karmin Moorhead | 27 Gary Smith |
| 25 Robert Beck II | 28 Brenda Korte |
| 28 Bill Baxley | 30 Jack Etter |
| 30 Clif Crandall | |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 10 Jim & Jan Mallrich | 13 Rob & Kim Stephens |
| 26 Dan & Kris Chiarella | 28 Doug & Sharon Harried |
| 28 Paul & Shari Tockstein | |