

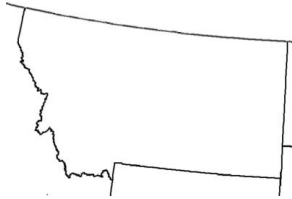
# United Methodist Messenger

A publication of the United Methodist Church of Gibson City, Illinois

July 2011

Volume 30, Issue 7

## Mission Montana



A group from our church is currently working in Busby, Montana doing home repair on a Cheyenne reservation. The team will return on Sunday, July 3.

Our Gibson City Cooperative Ministries Youth Mission trip report will take place Sunday, July 17, at 6:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church. The event will feature a Pie and Homemade Ice Cream Social along with the workcampers' report.



## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH POOL PARTY JULY 15 FROM 7-9 PM

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE  
GIBSON CITY  
SWIMMING POOL  
FOR A UMC POOL PARTY!



THE COST IS \$5 PER FAMILY  
SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

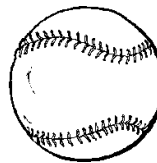
ALL AGES WELCOME  
QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE



## Mosquitoes

Have you noticed those annoying mosquitoes in the back of our sanctuary? They are hanging around, literally, to remind us of the threat that malaria,

carried by mosquitoes, poses to much of the world's population. Find out how YOU can help rid our church of these fake bugs and save real lives in the process. On the weekend of July 9 & 10, members of our Imagine No Malaria youth mission team will share all the details! Stay tuned!



## Church Softball July 31 and August 28 6pm at the North Park

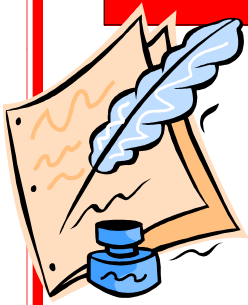
Please join us for pickup softball. We have collaborated with the First Christian Church, Presbyterian Church, and American Lutheran Churches to join in the fun! All players welcome ages 13+. The games will be played with a mush ball which is larger and softer than a softball, so you don't even need a glove! The first game was played June 26th and a great time was had by all. Don't feel like you can play? Come and watch!

**Kevin Boesen**—Pastor  
**Megan Thompson**—Associate Pastor  
**Barb Horsch**—Communication Coordinator

**April Rotramel**—Administrative Assistant  
**Pam Gee**—Church Custodian  
**Beverly Nagle**—Organist  
**Ruth Davis**—Choir Director  
**Verna Buck**—Saturday Pianist

Phone 217-784-5452, Fax 217-784-5543  
Saturday Night Light Worship 5:30PM  
Sunday Traditional Worship 8:45AM  
Sunday School 10:00AM  
Sunday Emerging Worship 11:00AM

Office phone (217) 784-5452, Pastor's cell phone (217) 249-5453, e-mail [gcumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gcumc@sbcglobal.net)



### From the Pastor's Pen

**“To sow the Word and grow disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”**

GCUMC mission statement based on Matthew 28:19

Intentional faith development means that we are actively seeking ways to grow closer to God, closer to each other, and closer to the people of this world. How are you coming with this? I don't know about you but it can be easy for me to be distracted. It is easy to get caught up in all the sports activities of the children and grandchildren that we forget to bring God's eyes with us to the game. Then we will miss opportunities to talk about our faith and church with other parents. We will miss opportunities to speak the love of Jesus with our children when they lose or win the game (we should always be aware that there is a losing side that has God's children on it). We will miss God at work in the ordinary.

It is easy to be so focused on our work, or vacation, or the golf game, or the committee meeting, or \_\_\_\_\_ (you fill in the blank) that we miss God's blessings. If our eyes are open we will see God was at work through our church in miraculous ways this past month. Lives have been changed! Joy was found in the midst of pain. Those of you who have experienced God's presence, shout it to the world! Intentionally seeking to become more like Jesus takes us away from the anxiety of not getting our way and the pain of personal failures. Let us make time to worship. This helps us remain aware that God is with us every step of the journey. Let us make the choice to read and study the scripture so that we will be a part of the miracle of God's transformation. Let us chose to give our tithes and talents so that we will receive the gifts of God that have no end.

The workers for the Montana mission trip left on June 24th at about 7:30 for the Cheyenne Indian reservation located around Busby. These are both adult and youth members of the First Christian Church, Presbyterian Church, Lutheran Church, and the United Methodist Church of Gibson City. They

are examples of being intentional about their faith development. They will worship, fellowship and work with each other. They will meet other work campers from around the country to join in service.

They will receive from the residents of the reservation more then what they give. When they return God will transform Gibson City through their experience.

Sowing the Word and growing Disciples for the transformation of the world.

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Kevin



To The Ladies of the Gibson City United Methodist Church—Thank you for the wonderful reception following **Carol Kline's** Funeral. The food was terrific and your

collective warmth and concern was even better. We all enjoyed visiting with old friends and acquaintances.

Thanks again, Sincerely,

**The Kline Family**

Thanks to our church family for all the prayers and acts of kindness shown us during the last few weeks as Joan's Dad, Harwood Stellwagen, came to the end of his life on earth. He approached life with quiet grace and unquestionable honor and is greatly missed by all who knew him.

**Bill & Joan Pool**

### From the Web Corner

Each week we upload the scriptures and theme for the upcoming weekend to our website and Facebook page. What better way to prepare our hearts and minds for worship than to meditate on His word from which the message will come? We hope you find these offerings helpful in your personal faith development journey.



### Welcome Pastor Megan

July 1st marks the start of our Associate Pastor, Megan Thompson. Her main focus will be the Youth Ministry among many other things. One blessing will be a monthly article from Pastor Megan in addition to Pastor Kevin's article. Below you will find her first article.

Pastor Megan will be preaching on July 9th and 10th. Please plan to attend one or more of the services to show Megan our support.

Summer is not usually the time for new beginnings. Fall is the start of the school year and figuring out new responsibilities for the new grade. Winter is the New Year and all of the resolutions that are made starting January 1. Spring is the time of planting and new growth as creation bursts into glorious color after a long season of cold and snow.

But this summer marks a new beginning that began four months ago as we begin ministry together. It's been a time of saying good-bye to the people of Melvin and Shiloh where I've served as pastor, as well as a time of anticipation of what our time together might bring. It's been a time of prayer and a time of planning. Finally, it is here!

In the months to come, I look forward to meeting you, members and friends of the Gibson City United Methodist Church and your families. It's going to take some time and patience to learn names and get to know you, but I am anticipating finding connections that bind us together in the one body of Christ.

So, to get the introductions started, here's a bit about me:

My spouse, Jeremiah, and I met when I was a prospective student at Boston University School of Theology. It then took two and a half years of friendship before we began dating. We got married in January of 2008, although, due to me being a year behind him at school, we have only lived together for 3 years.

Our daughter, Abiella, was born on December 23 of last year, arriving two and a half weeks before her due date, making her the best gift anyone could bring home on Christmas day.

At one point, I could speak German (four years of high school and a year and a half in college) and at another, I could speak Bulgarian (two years of Peace Corps). Now, however, I speak English and a weird version of "Gergarian" that confuses everyone.

I attended high school in Random Lake, WI, and went to the University of Minnesota and Boston University. I have cheered on the Rams, the Gophers, and the Terriers, none of which are particularly inspiring on the athletic front.

I love to read almost anything I can lay my hands on. If you recommend something to me, I will try to read it, especially if it is available on Kindle!

I occasionally will have the best dreams where I run effortlessly for amazingly long distances. These dreams will spur my occasional attempts to become a runner, though I haven't been able to get very far.

Part of what I love about Jesus is his very humanness. He eats, he sleeps, he walks, he talks, all with other people. Occasionally, people don't get what he is saying, so he has to explain. In everything he does, Jesus gives himself totally, not holding back. Part of what I love about being in ministry is revealing the ways that the stories and lessons contained in scripture apply to people like you and me, and how those stories can help us grow together and transform our world.

So my invitation to you is come, introduce yourself to me. Join me in a cup of coffee or iced tea and let's get to know one another! Call me or the church office—let's sit down and get to know each other!

Looking forward to getting to know you,

Pastor Megan Thompson

### From the Annual Conference

Inspiring messages delivered at our 2011 Annual Conference by Bishop Gregory Palmer, former Bishop Woodie White, and several others are available as audio files on the conference website. Please visit our website and click on 'Web Links' where you will find the link which will take you directly to the audio file page.

## United Methodist Messenger

# July Birthdays



Meg Fornero	1	Barb Wittemann	9	Jean Noellsch	17	Samantha Arsenault	28
Michael Morano	1	Morgan Hazen	10	Jason Murphy	19	Faye Rosendale	28
Kirk Miller	2	Hailey Rutledge	10	Austin Borton	20	George Frashier	28
Spencer Moore	2	Abygail Strebeck	10	Allison Davis	20	Susan Tongate	28
Jacob Chase	2	Jordan Moore	11	Mildred Davis	20	Phil VanSwol	28
Dan Jones	3	Emily Sawyer	11	Tara Copher	21	Mitchell McNutt	29
Jane Hastings	4	Lauren Anderson	12	Paige Cowell	22	Casey Duke	30
Karen Kummerow	4	Greg Pool	12	Kathy Littlefield	22	Dave Freehill	30
Howard Nettleton	4	Steven Anderson	13	Maci Lindelof	23	Karen Wright	30
Clevita Tongate	4	Elizabeth Fairchild	13	Maddox Lindelof	23	Jessica Hunter	31
Carrie Young	4		13	Jacob Rutledge	23	Justin Hunter	31
Meagan McCoy	6	Merle McCallister	13	John Cowell	24	Mary Jo Kingsley	31
Ryan Snyder	6	Phillip Noellsch	13	Mary Hinthorn	24	Bill Pool	31
Ashley Poe	7	Finley Rhodes	14	Connie Reum	24		
Jennifer Quinley	7	Bill Hunter	16	Edith Christenson	25		
Amy Hood	8	Katie Steidinger	16	Dean Farmer	25		
Joan Pool	9	Torrie Cox	17	David Hazen	25		



**July Mission Socks  
will benefit the  
Hanley School Fund.**

### Stats and Such for June

Giving YTD (budget) through June 26	\$ 131,283.70
Giving Goal YTD (budget) through June 26	\$ 175,760.00
Giving Goal (budget) each week	\$ 6,760.00
*Other Giving YTD through June 26	\$ 43,952.59

Weekend of	Sat 5:30	Sun 8:45	Sun 11:00	Offering
June 5	17	122	20	\$ 4,178.01
June 12	23	135	28	\$ 6,760.00
June 19	17	170	13	\$ 3,419.10
June 26	13	164	14	\$ 4,969.00

\*Includes giving for the following missions: Bereavement Meals, Memorials, Designated Giving (Handyman Fund, Cookouts at County Market for Missions, Special Offerings, etc.), Mission Socks, Opportunity School, Organ Fund, Elevator Fund, and Youth Mission Trip. It also includes Interest Income.

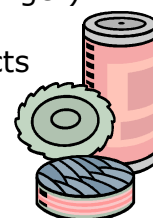
# July Anniversaries

	Day	Years
Matt and Staci Lindelof	1	5
Jim and Carol Steinman	1	50
Kevin and Joan Boesen	2	28
Phil and Malinda Lutz	4	46
Tom and Kris Barnes	8	16
Doug and Ellen Maxey	9	6
Kent and Jean Bielfeldt	11	19
Bill and Joyce Dewey	14	38
Darrell & Arladene Messmore	16	40
Mick and Mary Jo Kingsley	17	46
Glenn and Marsha Riddle	17	45
Jason and Kate Main	19	8
Rick and Jean Ertel	20	26
Doug and Sheila Bennett	26	??

### Current Food Pantry Needs

Sugar  
Canned fruit  
Cake frosting  
Ravioli  
Jelly  
Condiments  
(Ketchup,  
Mustard, Mayo)  
Hygiene Products

Helpers (Chicken,  
Tuna,  
Hamburger)  
Cleaning  
products





## United Methodist Messenger

### Prayers for the People

Join us in the sanctuary each Monday morning at 9:00 for prayer. Every member of our congregation is prayed for by name. The following people are in need of our prayers:

Teresa Beckman  
Joyce Bennett  
Marian Boog  
Verna Buck  
Janice Christensen  
Mildred Davis  
Ed Eagleson  
Rick & Jean Ertel  
Jennifer Fancher  
Ruth Fisher  
Grace Hanley

Ruth Harris  
Donald Hiner  
Hailey Jamison  
Vivian Imlay (Lorene Edwards daughter)  
Mary Lou Kelley  
Imogene Loy  
Phil & Malinda Lutz  
Tom Lutz  
Bob & Bettie Main  
Warren Meinhardt (Laura

Hazen's father)  
Mark, Angela and Kailyn Overman  
Joni Peters  
Judy Peters  
Ron Probus  
Thelma Probus  
Heather Reum  
Dixie Thomas  
Don Williams  
Harold Young

### Births, Baptisms, Weddings, Deaths

We would like to express sincere sympathy on the passing of **Lois "Jane" Sharp**, on June 10, 2011 and on the passing of **Melody Cochran**, on June 15, 2011.

### Third Annual Hymn Sing Festival August 14, 3:00 PM



The third annual hymn sing festival is scheduled for August 14, 2010 at 3:00 PM at the United Methodist Church of Gibson City.

Reverend Cindy Breeze of the 1st Mennonite Church in Urbana, Illinois will be our director. The theme for this hymn sing will be Our Hymns Through The Centuries.

The presentation is sponsored by the Gibson Area Music Foundation, ecumenical and non-denominational, and will be held at the Methodist Church because of its' excellent pipe organ and piano.

Annex	Manor (G.C.)	Asta Care	McLean
Verna Buck	Frances VanSwol	John R. Bell	Bill Loy
Doris Young	Ella Mae Miller	<b>Area Nursing Home Residents</b>	
Imogene Graff	Thelma Probus		
Zella During	Judy Peters		



### Imagine No Malaria Overnight

Every 45 seconds a child in Africa dies of malaria. Each year, more than 500 million people contract malaria, and more than one million die of the disease. The United Methodist Church has found these statistics unacceptable and has decided to take a stand. The Imagine No Malaria (INM) campaign is an effort to eliminate malaria completely. The plan can be thought of as Nets Plus. Bed nets will still be provided to families because they are a successful means of prevention. Beyond prevention however, we will also focus on providing treatment, education, and improving the communication network. Malaria was eliminated in the U.S. in the 1950's. It is the goal of the INM campaign to eliminate this devastating disease worldwide by 2015. More information can be found at [www.imagenomalaria.org](http://www.imagenomalaria.org).

All of this can be achieved with all of us doing our part. The Senior High youth of the United Methodist Church in Gibson City have proposed the idea of an Imagine No Malaria Overnight in the Park. We are inviting your youth to join us.

On July 29-30 we will join together in an effort to raise funds and awareness in support of Imagine No Malaria, as well as enjoy a fun night of great Christian music, games, and fellowship. The event will take place at the North Park in Gibson City, IL, from 6pm Friday night to 6am Saturday morning. Senior High youth are encouraged to join us for the complete overnight experience (games, food and more!), but all are welcome to attend the concert.

We will begin with a variety of icebreakers and games in the park (volleyball, etc) with a Christian concert featuring the Scott England Band to begin at

approximately 8:00. Activities are planned for throughout the night including basketball, bags, movies and more. There will be a prayer tent open all night for reflective time. We also will provide time to just sit out under the stars in the company of old and new Christian friends and enjoy a summer night together, without fear of malaria mosquitoes. We are blessed, and we can help provide this same freedom for others. Bring a blanket for stargazing and please keep good weather in your prayers! Hope to see you at INMO in the Park!



### The Scott England Band

Traveling from Atlanta, Georgia, Scott England and band will make their way to Gibson City for an unforgettable concert. With six albums, numerous recording productions, frequent performances, multiple accolades, and over a decade of preparation under his belt, Scott England is slowly but surely loving his way into people's hearts all across the globe. His engagements include performing at venues both nation and international. For the last two years Scott has performed at the Youth Annual Retreat (YAR) in Carlinville, Illinois.

Scott England's unique music style and energetic delivery guarantee a concert to remember. His God given ability to lead people into worship is undeniable. His love for music and passion for people make his vision clear: making music and changing lives.

# United Methodist Messenger

## Worship Information for July

	July 3	July 10	July 17	July 24	July 31
<b>Liturgist</b>	Eric Gee	Marsha Riddle	Link Woodward	Tom Borton	Jeff Glascock
<b>Greeters West</b>	Joyce Dewey Joyce Bennett	Joyce Dewey Joyce Bennett	Craig & Karen Kummerow	Craig & Karen Kummerow	Lonnie & Michelle Engel
<b>Greeters South</b>	Ron & Mary Ann Hood	Ron & Mary Ann Hood	Dwaine & Barb Horsch	Dwaine & Barb Horsch	Don & Mary Rhodes
<b>Acolytes</b>	Dani Eckerty & Morgan Steinman	Erin Arsenault & Audrey Boss- Maxey	Micah & Jonah Moody	Kaitlyn Kietzman & Taylor Engel	Dani Eckerty & Morgan Steinman
<b>Sound Room 8:45</b>	Kim Fisher	Joel Hood	Lonnie Engel	Steve Hawthorne	Kim Fisher
<b>Projection 8:45</b>	Doug Woodward	Meaghan Sharp	Taylor Engel	Donna Eckerty	Darren Eckerty
<b>Projection 11:00</b>	James Fairfield	Jessica Schultz	Jeremy Steidinger	Jessica Schultz	James Fairfield
<b>Nursery 8:45</b>	Laura & Morgan Hazen	S. & J. Schultz	S. & J. Schultz	S. & J. Schultz	
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	open	Bill Dueringer	Bill & Joyce Dewey	Sharon Pool	Dwaine & Barb Horsch

**Head Usher for July is Dwaine Horsch.**

**Church Website: [www.gcumc3.org](http://www.gcumc3.org)**

**We're on Facebook! Our page name is "Gibson City UMC"**

**United Methodist Messenger**

Gibson City United Methodist Church  
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Gibson City, IL 60936

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