

United Methodist Messenger

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

October 2010

Volume 29, Issue 10

Family Fellowship Team

The family fellowship team has two events scheduled for the month of October.



The first is **Family Movie Night** which will be October 2 in the parking lot and small park. "Princess and the Frog" will be the movie shown.

Popcorn, snacks, and drinks will be provided. Please bring your family and friends and your preferred method of seating (lawn chairs, blankets, etc) at 7pm. The movie will start around 7:30. In the case of inclement weather, the movie will still be shown indoors, so we hope to see you rain or shine!

The second event is scheduled for October 31. It will be held from 3-5 in the parking lot and small park. There will be pumpkin painting and a costume contest in addition to other fall games.



Stay tuned for more information in the weekly bulletins as this date draws near!

Youth Group News

A new development in youth ministries this year is a venture in cooperative events with the American Lutheran, First Christian and First Presbyterian churches. A small group of youth and leaders representing the various churches met this summer and worked on a plan to meet once a month for fun outings. The events will involve grades 6-12. The kickoff event was Sunday, Sept. 26, with a cook-out at the home of Pastor Ed and Nancy Taylor of the First Christian Church.

Corn Maze!!



On Sunday, October 10, the youth group (grades 6-12) plans to meet at our church at 6 and head to Hardy's Reindeer Ranch in Rantoul. The cost will be \$6 for the maze and kids are encouraged to bring extra money for food afterwards. Adult drivers will be needed; please let the office or Barb Horsch know if you can help in this way. All planning to do the maze should bring flashlights and dress appropriately if it is cold or muddy!! All youth planning to go must have their parents/guardians fill out a permission form. These will be available in the office and on our church website.

Sprouts will continue for 3rd-5th graders on Wednesday evenings. Sprouts is a discipleship ministry to help kids grow towards the Son through acts of kindness, justice, worship and devotion. Snacks/playtime will start at 3:30 PM while Sprouts will begin at 4:00 PM and end at 5:00pm. From 5:00 to 5:30, we will begin a new music ministry, a



Kids' Choir for grades 3-8, that will meet in the Red Room under the direction of Megan Whitehouse and April Rotramel. Our Kids' Choir will practice music with the goal of sharing in worship



once a month and offering a Christmas program on Wednesday evening, Dec. 15.

Kevin Boesen—Pastor
Barb Horsch—Minister of Children & Family Ministries
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



From the Pastor's Pen

"Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest.'" (Matthew 9:37-38)

The farmers in our community are celebrating that the corn is done and now they have moved into the beans. The grain elevators are busy and overflowing. The harvest is in full swing! Many of our farmers are saying that this is the earliest the corn has ever been out in their memory.

Many of you have shared with me stories of how God is working in new ways in your lives. I praise God for your gift! For some it has been a simple yet profound reassurance that God remains with us even in the depths of the shadows. There are those of us who have received new and unexpected direction on the paths we travel. And yes, many continue to watch with excited anticipation for the response of our maker.

We also noticed that dozens of prayer stones have been returned to the vase on the altar in the sanctuary (*Please see the article on prayer stones on page 4*). Most of these stories I have not heard. If you are willing I would love to hear how God has answered your prayer or given you direction. The Lord of the harvest is at work in our lives and now each one of us is being asked to play our part. Have you considered the hidden power in each one of your stories? There are people in this community who are living their lives thinking that God does not care – or perhaps that there isn't even a God. There are people in this community who don't have the joy of being a part of a faith community where they have a place of worth. Many of them experience similar doubts, struggles and pain on their journey that we have in ours and yet they don't have the hope that comes from God's grace. Don't just share your story of God's work with the pastor. Share your answer to prayer with family, brothers and sisters in Christ, and yes, the people in this community who are longing for the hope that God's grace gives to all of us.

The seasons are changing and new things are happening! The harvest is plentiful. Are we prepared for the harvest? Are we expecting the unexpected? Are we willing to go out and labor for the Lord of the Harvest? Keep your eyes open for opportunities to share the love first shared with us and watch for the world to be changed. To God Be the Glory!

Your Brother in Christ,

So Long and Welcome New ...

Thank you for the years of kindness you have shown me during my stint as Administrative Assistant. Gibson City will be remembered fondly by my family as we always felt well received by all of you. We enjoyed being a part of the church as well as part of the community. Please keep in touch! Contact information is as follows:

Tom & Nancy Taylor

1095 Arrowhead Drive

Prattville, AL 36067

Email: taylor1288@hotmail.com

Also, thank you for the wonderful reception and parting gift. The items in the gift basket will definitely find a place in our new home!

Please welcome April Rotramel to our faith community as she begins her tenure as Administrative Assistant. April was raised in Rantoul, graduated from the University of Illinois, and is eager to use her skills to keep the church office running smoothly. She has already proved to be very proficient with Microsoft Office products (Excel, Publisher, Word, Outlook). Coupled with excellent computer and organizational skills, April also possesses a cheerful personality that will enable her transition to Gibson City UMC to progress very easily.

April is part of the Chime Choir, Sanctuary Choir, Family Fellowship Team and Co-director of the Kids Choir. She and her husband, Jeremy, are expecting twins around the first of November. Her life is full and we are fortunate to have her as part of our staff. God Bless, *Nancy Taylor*

United Methodist Messenger

October Birthdays



Kyle Knerr	1	Jack Willoby	9	Genevive Nickrent	19	Angela Poe	27
Abby McNutt	1	Herb Green	10	Torri Ferguson	20	Danielle Tipsord	27
Don Douglas	2	Doug Maxey	10	Kenna McCall	21	Jacob Embry	28
Dale Riblet	3	Parker Chase	11	Evelyn Patton	21	Linda Goltz	28
Janet Davis	5	Angie Davis	13	Timothy Young	21	Nelda Jordan	29
Connor Main	5	Phillip Littell	13	Joan Boesen	22	Mick Kingsley	29
Carl Reum	5	Wayne Apperson	14	Donna Eckerty	22	Dwain Parker	29
Ty Royal	5	Joann Hildenbrand	14	Andy Young	22	Alex Ward	29
Delmar Bedel	6	William Dewey	15	Amia Bennett	23	Zachary Shanley	30
Tom Barnes	8	Molly Ertel	15	Hannah Pruitt	23	Connie Brown	31
Tammy Moody	8	Scott Moody	15	Carly Wilson	23		
Marilyn Morano	8	Jack Tankersley	16	Neil Blissard	25		
William Pearson	8	Audrey		Rhonda Eckerty	25		
Antje Strebeck	8	Boss-Maxey	18	Mary Ann Hood	26		
Danielle Eckerty	9	Sidney Overman	18	Jillian Nagle	26		
Matthew Ertel	9	Imogene Graff	19	Leigh Ann Sharp	26		
Linda Lindelof	9	Eva Langlois	19	Linda Hester	27		



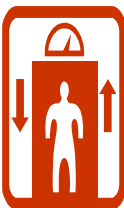
Stats and Such for September YTD

Giving YTD (budget) through Sept 26	\$ 194,395.96
Giving Goal YTD (budget) through Sept 26	\$ 240,669.00
Giving Goal (budget) each week	\$ 6,171.00
*Other Giving YTD through Sept 26	\$ 160,464.03

Weekend of	Sat 5:30	Sun 8:45	Sun 11:00	SS 10:00	Offering
August 29	30	204	0		\$ 4,739.50
Sept 5	37	137	23		\$ 7,822.40
Sept 12	12	153	24	98	\$ 4,405.00
Sept 19	17	144	28	98	\$ 4,226.75
Sept 26	16	132	18		\$ 3,571.25

*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.

All Cash and checks given for Elevator Project (1/1/2009—9/26/2010)	\$119,040
Pledges not yet received	\$ 70,325
Total of cash, checks and pledges (1/1/2009—9/26/2010)	\$335,943



October Anniversaries

	Day	Years
Michael and Marilyn Morano	1	8
William and Imogene Loy	2	71
John and Nellie Kinder	5	54
David and Laura Hazen	7	10
Justus and Lori Clinton	9	11
Lonnie and Michelle Engel	12	14
William and Betty Pearson	12	??
Dave and Linda Hester	17	18
Jason and Sarah Peterson	20	3
Bill and Sarah Tubbs	21	54
Russell and Diana Ehlers	26	14
Chris and Jessica Rhodes	26	8
Carey and Angie Davis	30	17
James and Christine Hazen	31	46



October Mission Socks

will benefit the

Midwest Mission Distribution Center

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



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	Grace Hanley	Veda Mangan	Ron Probus
Marian Boog	Myron Hanley	Bob & Bettie Main	Thelma Probus
Verna Buck	Ruth Harris	Louis Miller (Mike	Dale Riblet
Melody Cochran	Bob Hutchcraft	Arsenault's	Shanley Family
Dusty Davis	Hailey Jamison	grandfather)	Dorothy Shields
Mildred Davis	Vivian Imlay (Lorene	Warren Meinhardt	Jo Swanson
Kate Farris Dyer (Jenny	Edwards daughter)	(Laura Hazen's	Dixie Thomas
Arsenault's cousin)	Alice Jones	father)	Bill & Sarah Tubbs
Ed Eagleson	Jim Jones	Marilyn Morano	Don Williams
Rick & Jean Ertel	Goldie Kincade	Mark, Angela and	Emily Young
Jennifer Fancher	Imogene Loy	Kailyn Overman	Harold Young
Cindy Fisher	Malinda Lutz	Bill Pearson	

Prayer Stones

We have started a new practice during our worship time this past month. When you come to church you will notice a vase on the altar that is filling up with little stones. There is also a reed basket that contains these stones by the altar. How do these Prayer Stones work?

Take a Prayer Stone and keep it with you (in your pocket or purse). Use this as a reminder to pray for a specific concern in your life or a specific prayer for guidance or direction from God. When you have received an answer or guidance from God please bring the Prayer Stone back in and place it in the clear vase on the altar. Take another Prayer Stone and maintain a path of constant prayer as we are led on the journey of faith.

Births, Baptisms, Weddings, Deaths

On Saturday, August 28, 2010, **Hunter Stephen Hansen** was baptized. He is the son of Timothy and Elizabeth Hansen. On Saturday, September 4, 2010, **Christopher Aaron Beckman** was baptized. He is the grandson of Nyman and Teresa Beckman. On Sunday, September 19, 2010, **Maysen Claire Frashier** was baptized. She is the daughter of George and Lori Frashier. Siblings are Schuyler, Garrett, and Keegan.

Jake Godsey and **Molly Baker** were united in marriage on Saturday, September 11, 2010.

Richard Shields passed away on Saturday, August 29, 2010. **Jack Tankersley** passed away on September 25, 2010.

Annex	Manor (G.C.)	Asta Care	Heartland Health	McLean
Verna Buck	Veda Mangan	John R. Bell	Goldie Kincade	Bill Loy
Ruth Harris	Ella Mae Miller		Dorothy Rudolph	
Doris Young	Thelma Probus			

Area Nursing Home Residents



The Hanley School Fund would like to thank you for your donation to our cause. Through your gift we have been able to serve 165 needy students in the GCMS school district by providing them with their school supplies. God Bless, **Shepherd's Closet and Closet Too**

To our church family, We would like to thank all of you for your kind words, concern, hugs, cards, food and mostly prayers during Richard's illness over the past year. We could not have made it through this difficult time without all of you. In Christian love, **The Richard Shields family**

Ladies of the church—Thank you for the lovely and very delicious lunch. We appreciated all your hard work. **The Richard Shields family**

We would like to thank our church family for the cards and prayers at the time of our brother, Dennis Jamison's, death. God Bless, **Wayne and Audrey Apperson.**

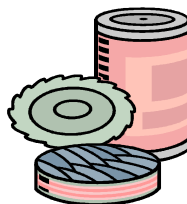
Charge Conference

This year's cluster charge conference will be held on October 25, 2010 at 7pm in the sanctuary. Anyone who is interested is welcome to attend. This year's conference will include representatives from the Methodist Churches in Loda, Melvin, Paxton, and Roberts/Thawville.

Current Food Pantry Needs

The current needs of the Gibson City Food pantry are listed below. Items may be brought to the church and placed in the coffee area on the main floor. Thank you!

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| cleaning products | pancake mix |
| hygiene products | instant potatoes |
| jello | fruit cocktail |
| sugar | juice |
| toilet paper | |



Donation to Grace Children's Hospital in Haiti

A donation was made in the amount of \$900 to Grace Children's Hospital in Haiti. This money was raised with a bake sale that was spearheaded by 11 year old Micah Moody.

Grace Children's Hospital, founded in 1967, is the flagship ministry of International Child Care. Grace Children's Hospital is recognized as Haiti's leading medical facility dedicated to the treatment of children with tuberculosis (TB). Each year, the hospital receives thousands of children who are suffering from TB, HIV and other diseases.

Children who are seriously ill are admitted to the sixty-bed inpatient ward, where they receive constant care from the hospital's all-Haitian staff. Both children and adults can be treated at one of Grace Children's Hospital's many outpatient clinics. People living in the slums around the hospital receive vaccinations, prenatal care, and other basic health services from specially-trained community health workers and volunteers.

All Saints' Weekend October 30th and 31st

Saturday and Sunday, October 30th and 31st we will celebrate All Saints' Day, a day that has been traditionally set aside by the church to remember the faithful who have died and now are living in the presence of our Lord, Jesus Christ. During this service we will be lighting a candle to remember the lives of those who have passed during the past year. Listed below are the names of those we will remember. If your loved one is missing, please contact the church office.

- Lana Lunde
- Ruby Martin
- Jessica Smith
- Richard Moody
- Dorothy Walters

- Donald Bunting
- Aileen Underwood
- Mark Craig
- Richard Shields
- Jack Tankersley

United Methodist Messenger

Worship Information for October

	October 3	October 10	October 17	October 24	October 31
Liturgist	Jeff Glascock	Sam Horsch	Sharon Pool	Denise Kearfott	Donna Douglas
Greeters West	Bob & Bettie Main	Deonna Sauer	Deonna Sauer	Audrey Apperson Margaret Farmer	Audrey Apperson Margaret Farmer
Greeters South	Ken & Tammy Seneca	Mike & Kenna McCall	Mike & Kenna McCall	Phil & Betty VanSwol	Phil & Betty VanSwol
Acolytes	Micah & Jonah Moody	Amber Wittemann Allison Davis	Danielle Eckerty Morgan Steinman	Morgan & Spencer Hazen	Kaitlyn Kietzman Taylor Engel
Sound Room 8:45	Steve Hawthorne	Lonnie Engel	Kim Fisher	Steve Hawthorne	Lonnie Engel
Sound Room 11:00	Peggy Godsey	Peggy Godsey	Peggy Godsey	Peggy Godsey	Peggy Godsey
Projection 8:45	Doug Woodward	Darren Eckerty	Sam Horsch	Meaghan Sharp	Sarah Bielfeldt
Projection 11:00	Jessica Schultz	Corey Fields	Jeremy Steidinger	Jessica Schultz	Corey Fields
Nursery 8:45	S. & J. Schultz	S. & J. Schultz	S. & J. Schultz	S. & J. Schultz	S. & J. Schultz
Nursery 11:00	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
Altar Flowers	Herb Green	Open	Open	Warren Walters	Jeff Glascock
Saturday Ushers	Peggy Godsey	Open	Open	Kummerows	Open

Head Usher for October is Kent Bielfeldt.
Church Website: www.gcumc3.org

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Gibson City United Methodist Church
 206 East 10th Street
 Gibson City, IL 60936

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