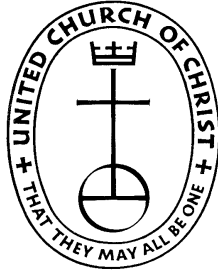


Forward in Faith

April 2010



The Newsletter for

St. John's United Church of Christ

11100 Second Street, Mokena, Illinois 60448

(708) 479-5123

e-mail: stjohnsmokena@att.net

Website: stjohnsmokena.org

Rev. David Alfeld-Johnson, Pastor

Karalyn Schroeder & Kerri Gorecki, Co- Directors of

Children's Ministries

Dawn Funk, Director of Older Youth Ministries

Holy Week

What was Peter feeling as people waved their palm branches and shouted "Hosanna" along the road leading up to Jerusalem? Were the Roman centurions who mocked and whipped Jesus simply inhumane, or were they people like you and I; people with families who were just doing their job? Was the criminal on the cross who asked Jesus to remember him sincere? Or was it just another death row conversion? And the women. What was his mother going through when they took him to be executed? What were they feeling when they discovered the tomb empty that first Easter morning?

Many different people encountered Jesus during the events of Holy Week, each in their own way. Some saw Jesus as a problem to be managed. Some viewed him as a threat to be eliminated. Some wondered if he were the real thing, or just another imposter. And some hoped that he was the one they had been waiting for. And the gospels tell us that their views changed, sometimes drastically, over the course of that week. Some who waved branches and shouted "Hosanna" called for his crucifixion just a few days later. A Roman centurion confessed "certainly this was the Son of God," as he watched Jesus die. One of his friends swore he would never abandon Jesus, but later that same night pretended not to know him.

We can assume that many, or even most of the people involved were trying to do the right thing as best they knew it—for themselves, for their families, for their country, or their God. For some that meant keeping order. For others it meant insuring proper religious belief and practice. And for some, it meant keeping a low profile and not getting involved. They, like us, were sometimes hopeful that things could change, other times despairing that things would never be different. Sometimes they believed that God cared about them and was active in their world, other times wondered if God even existed. These are some of the same challenges and questions we might have as we live our lives.

During Lent this year, a small group of us have been working to imagine the events of Holy Week from the perspective of some of these different characters, and following them as the week unfolded. Beginning with Palm Sunday, and following through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter morning, we will relive the events, thoughts, and feelings through the eyes of a centurion, or religious leader, or disciple, or bystander, as they might tell their story. We might find that their questions are our questions, and that their faithfulness is mirrored in ours. And on Easter morning, we might discover that their surprise and joy can be ours as well for having walked through the events together. I hope you will join with Peter, and Cassius, and Salome, and the others at our services this Holy Week.

And may the joy of new life that comes from following our risen Christ, be yours this Easter and throughout the year.

Pastor Dave

Holy Week and Easter



Holy Week begins on March 28th with Palm Sunday, and continues with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter morning services. This year we plan to follow some of the characters of the Holy Week drama as they experienced the events unfolding around them. I maintain that Easter will mean more to us if we enter into the Last Supper, the betrayal, trial, and crucifixion along with the disciples. Make plans to participate in those services during Holy Week.

March 28	Palm Sunday	Regular 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. services
April 1	Maundy Thursday	7:00 p.m. - Communion will be served
April 2	Good Friday Cross Walk	1:00 p.m. – Starting at St. Mary’s Catholic Church
April 2	Good Friday Tenebrae	7:00 p.m. - Communion will be served
April 4	Easter Morning	6:30 a.m. - Sunrise service led by our youth 7:30 a.m. – 9 a.m.– Easter Breakfast served by youth in the CCC 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. - Services with communion

We are in need of people who are willing to help with childcare on Easter Sunday morning. This is a time when we have numerous visitors to our services, and part of our hospitality is caring for children. Why not offer to watch kids at one of the services.



Cross Walk

The congregations of the Mokena/Marley Clergy Association would like to invite area residents on the Annual Cross Walk as part of their Good Friday devotions on April 2nd. The walk will be from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. It will begin at St. Mary’s Roman Catholic Church at 19515 115th St., Mokena and conclude at Immanuel Lutheran Church at 10731 LaPorte Road, Mokena. In between stops will be made at St. John’s United Church of Christ and Mokena United Methodist Church. At each church a twenty minute worship service will be conducted and then participants will follow a wooden cross from one church to the next, where the next service will be held. This will be an opportunity to remember the suffering of Christ on the cross on the first Good Friday.

Adults, children and youth are invited to participate on this annual walk. A bus will be at Immanuel Lutheran Church to return people to their cars at St. Mary’s. In addition the bus will travel with the walk route for those who have difficulty walking. The churches of the Mokena/Marley Clergy Association invite all to be part of this special event.

Director of Children's Ministries Report

Karalyn Schroeder and Kerri Gorecki

Attention All Kids (3 years old-8th grade)

We continue to have LOTS of fun on Wednesday nights. JAM Time meets each Wednesday night (with the exception of a few holidays). Come join us and bring a friend. Here is what is happening on Wednesday nights at St. John's...

5:30-6:00 choirs for all kids (preschool - jr. high)
6:00-6:30 dinner (\$2 per person)
6:30-8:00 classroom time and gym time (preschool - jr. high)

The kids are divided by during classroom time: preschool, kdg/1st grade, 2nd/3rd grade, 4th/5th grade, 6th/7th grade, and 8th grade confirmation class.

Wednesday Night JAM Time Dinner Menu

March 24 - chicken nuggets/mac 'n' cheese
March 31 - pizza
April 7 - no JAM Time (Easter Break)
April 14 - spaghetti/meatballs
April 21 - hot dogs/french fries
April 28 - pizza
May 5 - french toast sticks/sausage
May 12 - tacos
May 19 - pizza

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Thank you to everyone that came out on March 13th and helped with the Easter Bunny Breakfast! Everything went very well because we had so many volunteers. We are grateful for each and every person that gave their time to make the breakfast a success.

A lot of people from our church and the community came out to eat pancakes, play games, and have lots of fun while supporting Hands and Feet Project in Haiti. Our final numbers are not in yet. We will let everyone know how much money was raised once we figure all of the expenses. All proceeds will be sent to Hands and Feet to help provide for the children in their care.

For more information about Hands and Feet Project, visit their website at www.handsandfeetproject.org



Vacation Bible School

It's not too early to think about summer! St. John's biggest youth event of the year is quickly approaching. *Hero Headquarters* Vacation Bible School will be held July 18th-July 22nd (Sunday- Thursday) from 6:00-8:15 p.m. This year at VBS, kids will be introduced to some amazing Bible heroes and explore how they, too, can be heroes for God! Mark your calendars and keep this week open so you can come enjoy the excitement of VBS week!

Help Wanted

We need lots of volunteers for Vacation Bible School. Whether you can help just one night or all five, please consider helping out this year. There is something for everyone to do. We will need teachers, group leaders, coin counters, greeters, and kitchen helpers, and lots of help decorating prior to VBS week. Please let Kerri or Karalyn know if you can help out.

Don't Forget to Mark Your Calendar!

April 7, Wednesday - Easter Break (No JAM Time)
May 19, Wednesday - Last JAM Time for the year
May 26, Wednesday - Pump It Up Party (6:15-7:45 p.m.)
July 18, Sunday through July 22, Thursday - VBS (6:00-8:15 p.m.)

Sunday Morning Childcare

Each Sunday morning during the 9:30am service two classrooms are available for childcare. The Nursery is for children preschool age and younger and the Kids' Club is for children in kindergarten through 3rd grade. We have a rotating list of volunteers that help out on Sunday mornings. We are always looking for more people to add to this list. If you are interested... contact Kerri, Karalyn, or call the church office. Below is the schedule for the upcoming weeks...

March 28 - Nursery

Tara McKenna 815-463-8298
Debra Raimondi 815-469-6052

March 28 - Kids' Club

Rita Burkett 815-462-1729
Stafford Hipp 815-464-1449

April 4 - Easter Sunday

*volunteers will be in the nursery for infants-preschoolers, but there will be no Kids' Club for kdg-3rd grade

April 11 - Nursery

Cathy Prokop 708-326-4835
Donna Scanlin 708-479-5431

April 11 - Kids' Club

Maura Ciszek 708-479-4767
Lisa Golden 708-479-1183

April 18 - Nursery

Dawn Bush 708-479-1731
Alicia Funk 815-485-1045

April 18 - Kids' Club

Ryan Kertson 815-485-4546
Marianne Voss 815-464-1488

April 25 - Nursery

Craig Young 630-605-0646
Kirsten Young 630-605-0646

April 25 - Kids' Club

Tim Hoblin 708-479-1167
Kathy Lewandowski 708-479-7287

May 2 - Nursery

Luann Seiler 708-479-6269
Meg Seiler 708-479-6269

May 2 - Kids' Club

Rita Burkett 815-462-1729
Jen Seiler 708-479-6269

May 9 - Nursery (Mother's Day)

Amanda Mead 708-479-2902
Franklin Mead 708-479-2902

May 9 - Kids' Club (Mother's Day)

Lisa Golden 708-479-1183
Stafford Hipp 815-464-1449

May 16 - Nursery

Tara McKenna 815-463-8298
Debra Raimondi 815-469-6052

May 16 - Kids' Club

Maura Ciszek 708-479-4767
Ryan Kertson 815-485-4546

May 23 - Nursery

Dawn Bush 708-479-1731
Donna Scanlin 708-479-5431

May 23 - Kids' Club

Alicia Funk 815-485-1045
Cathy Prokop 708-326-4835

Director of Older Youth Ministries Report

CYF NEWS: On Friday, March 5th the CYF held a **junior high dance** in the CCC. There were approximately 120 who participated at the dance. There was water, pop, and pizza sold at the dance. A profit was made of \$350 at this dance with sixteen CYF members present and five adult chaperones.

The next **junior high dance** sponsored by the high school youth will be held on Friday, April 23rd. The dance will be from 6:30p.m.—9:00p.m. The high school youth will sell pizza, pop & water, mardi gras beads, and glow-in-the-dark necklaces. The cost for admittance into the dance will be \$5.00 per person with a school I.D.

We are in great need of adult chaperones for these dances. Please help out by volunteering your time. If you are interested in chaperoning, please contact Dawn Funk @ 708-497-5804. This will be the last dance for this school year.

The 30 hour famine was held on February 27th and 28th. The goal for donations this year was \$2,000. I am happy to announce that although we didn't make our goal, we did in fact raise more money than in previous years. There was a donation of \$1,806.00 sent to the World Vision Foundation and that is enough to feed and care for five children for an entire year. What an amazing feeling to know that we are helping others who are hungry. Of course we could not have accomplished such a wonderful task without the help of our St. John's family that so graciously donated to the high school youth during the famine. The CYF members greatly appreciate your generosity.

Also, during the 30 hour famine the youth went out in the neighborhoods of Mokena to collect non-perishable food items. The youth collected bags and bags of food that were donated to the Frankfort-Mokena food pantry.

On Sunday, March 14th, the high school youth went to the movies to see *Alice in Wonderland* in 3-D. There were ten of us that enjoyed a day at the movies.

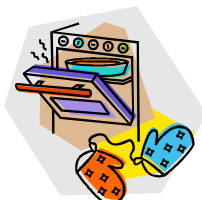
Sunday, March 21st twelve of the CYF members set out to a Chicago Wolves game at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont. It was a thrilling game of ice hockey with lots of spectator participation. The Wolves won the game in an overtime shootout 3—2.



On Easter Sunday, April 4th, the senior high youth will be presenting the **Easter Sunrise Service** at 6:30a.m. The youth will be presenting a drama during the service. Please join us for the service. Then immediately following the service the youth will be hosting their annual **Easter breakfast**.



The breakfast will be served from 7:30a.m. until 9:00a.m. The menu will be as it was in the past. It will include: stuffed French toast, egg casserole, sausage, coffeecake, fruit, hard boiled Easter eggs, cereal, juice, coffee and milk. The breakfast will be a free will donation. The high school youth members invite you to join them for a wonderful Easter sunrise service followed by a delicious breakfast to start your day of celebration of new life.



Other possible events being planned for the remainder of the school year include: lock-in in April, Medieval Times, paintball, trip to the Indiana dunes in June, horseback riding in May, Joliet Jackhammers game in June, and much more!

"JUST 4 GIRLS" NEWS: Due to conflicts with the high school girl schedules and the busyness of the season, the "Just 4 Girls" group will not be meeting until the fall. Stay tuned for new ideas and a whole new twist on the "Just 4 Girls" discussion group.



JUNIOR HIGH JAM TIME NEWS: On Friday, April 23rd the CYF will be having a junior high dance in the CCC building. The dance will be from 6:30-9:00 p.m. and will be for all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade youth. The cost will be \$5 per person. Pizza, pop, water, and glow necklaces will be available as well. All junior high students are welcome to participate and they are encouraged to bring friends.

On Friday, March 19th the junior high JAM time youth members as well as the entire church were invited to an **ALL CHURCH FAMILY SWIM EVENT** from 6-8p.m. at Lincoln Way East High School in Frankfort. This event was open to all ages and all church members.

Junior high JAM will be going bowling in April. The date is yet to be determined.

On Wednesday, May 19th the junior high JAM will have their last meeting for the year. This will also be their pizza party and open gym celebration night.



Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn Funk

From the Board of Christian Education:

Would anyone be interested in reviving the puppet ministry? We are looking for adult leadership for teaching and bringing this ministry back to St.



John's. For many years, we had a ministry for young people and adults presenting bible stories and stories teaching Christian values. The puppets were professionally made and purchased through the Board of Christian Education. The puppet shows ranged from 5 minutes long to 45 minutes long. We made presentations in church and Sunday School. We also took our shows on the road and presented them to various organizations. We would make approximately \$600 to \$800 a year from these performances. We have all the puppets (they are Muppet like puppets), costumes, scripts, stage, lighting, and props for use with kids 5th grade and up. Pam and Marc Schonwise would be happy to consult and help get things going again. If no one is interested, we will be selling the puppets and other stuff for someone else to use. Please call the church office if you might be interested in this fun and rewarding ministry.

From St. John's Christian Preschool:

Thank you from the preschool board and staff for your support of our raffle and craft/vendor show fundraiser. We were able to raise \$1,080 to make some purchases of CD's and money toward a new sign at the preschool entrance.

Thank you to the preschool board for organizing and working the craft/vendor show. Special thanks to Shelby Koester for spearheading this event. Also a big Thank You to Amy Young for donating 6 stick horses to the preschool. The kids love them!

Thank you to Bob Pollard for hoppin' down the bunny trail!

Also, we have an old upright piano that we would like to move out of our preschool room. If you are interested in having this piano (you would have to arrange for removal), please call the church office or see Pam Schonwise.



GPS Update

The GPS committee would like to thank all of you who participated in the lunch we held in March to kick off the seven new GPS teams. For those who were unable to make the lunch, but are interested in becoming involved, it's not too late! The seven new teams met for a short period and decided on a Navigator (contact person) for each of the teams. If you are interested in joining or finding out more about a GPS team, please contact the Navigator for the team or a member of the GPS committee. These seven new teams are going to be developing proposals detailing the "nuts and bolts" of how to accomplish the team's objectives. So if you have an interest in any of these areas, we are always looking for fresh ideas as we move down the road toward the future of St. John's. The seven teams are listed below with their Navigator and team description.

- **After School Program – Navigator: to be determined, next meeting April 11th**
A program to reach out to the community and provide a safe place at St. John's for children to come for recreational activities and tutoring.
- **Community Care – Navigator: Jeremy Kinder**
Develop outreach programs to care for the community such as homeless dinners, care casseroles, helping hands, military and college care packages, etc.
- **Multigenerational Intellectual Series – Navigator: Ron Cutshall**
Develop a series of talks or classes that provide information on various topics of interest to multiple age groups by bringing in outside speakers and/or utilizing the talents within our church.
- **Multigenerational Social Activities – Navigator: Pam Mead, next meeting April 13th**
Create more opportunities for fellowship within the congregation that include multiple generations and promote more connection among our members.
- **Volunteer Member Care Program – Navigator: Richard Kinder**
A program for lay members of the church to be trained to reach out and provide care for members in our congregation during times of need.
- **Reconnecting with Members – Navigator: to be determined**
Forming and maintaining relationships with both new and established members.
- **St. John's Worship Experience – Navigator: Bettylou Linke**
Explore different possibilities to be included in worship services including styles, content, etc.

Once again, we would like to thank the congregation for their participation thus far, and invite anyone interested to get on board and join the journey, as we travel together toward the future of St. John's!

Sincerely,
The GPS Committee
Tom Mitchell, Steve Hoblin, Shelley Maves, Sheree Kinder, and DeAnna Kertson

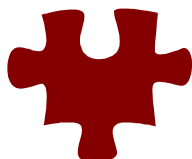
NEWS FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

It is time for us to consider our service to St. John's and on behalf of St. John's. The 2010 Time and Talent Sheets will be mailed out on April 11th this year. The 2010 Time and Talent Sheets call us to our life purpose and mission within the church. Our Stewardship theme this year has been, "There's a Place for You at St. John's". We, the Stewardship Committee have tried to highlight opportunities throughout the year to help you find your place and serve. Part of the U.C.C. Statement of Faith reads, "God calls us into the church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be servants in the service of others...".

We are challenged to find time and make time in a life where there seems to be no time. We are challenged to name our talents and offer them in service when it seems life itself drains us of our daily energies. But most of all we are challenged to accept the fact that our time and our talents; our very lives are gifts from God to be used in service to His Word and building His Kingdom.

Many of us are blessed in so many ways and we have given so much. We celebrate and give thanks for such generosity and faithfulness. In our recently taken 'church life survey', the 132 St. John respondents said, "50% of us feel our sense of belonging to this congregation is strong and growing". In the same survey, "32% reported they are participating in the activities of the congregation more than they did two years ago". These numbers are to be celebrated given all that we do day in and day out. At the same time, these numbers can challenge us to further our individual and collective ministries both internally and externally.

Please take some intentional and prayerful time to consider and fill out your 2010 Time and Talent Sheets. We look forward to hearing how you answer your call and "find your place at St. John's".



Women's Circle

Women's Circle met on March 16th. We worked on plans for our Annual All-Church Garage Sale which will be held on May 13th, 14th, and 15th. Drop off dates and times are as follows: Monday, May 10th and Tuesday, May 11th from 9 a.m. until noon and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Wednesday, May 12th from 9 a.m. until noon. Thank you in advance for your donations.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Warning, Secretary



LADIES NIGHT OUT

On Wednesday, April 21st at 6:00 p.m. we will meet at Little Joe's located at Francis Rd. and Cedar Rd. in New Lenox. The hosts will be Lois Steen and Donna Schiek. Following dinner we will return to Lois Steen's home, 10912 Third St., Mokena for dessert and fellowship. Please call Lois (479-9651) or Donna (479-9413) by Monday, April 19th if you are planning to attend.

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP DAY – A reminder that all Christmas Decorations should be removed before April 1st. We also need your help in cleaning up the cemetery on Saturday, April 3, 2010, starting at 9:00 a.m.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

On April 11th from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the Lions Club of Mokena will be having their 54th Annual Pancake Breakfast at Mokena Elementary School, 11244 Willow Crest Lane. The cost is \$4.00 for Adults, \$2.00 for children and the proceeds will benefit the causes supported by the Lions Club of Mokena.



KWIL

Women's Fellowship Spring Meeting "God Is Still Speaking Through Us" will be held on Thursday, April 15th from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Frankfort. The noon luncheon will be served by St. Peter's Women's Fellowship at a cost of \$5.00 per person. Reservations are to be made with Alma Ingemansen at (708) 479-9644, or the church office (708) 479-5123. Registration deadline is April 8th. Rev. Tom Norwalk will be the morning speaker with a program on "A Journey with Angola". The afternoon program is presented by The South Suburban Dulcimer & Folk Music Society.

Men's Glee Club Concert

The Naperville Men's Glee Club, directed by Bonnie Roberts, will be presenting their spring concert next month. The concert, entitled *Linked in Song*, will be held on Sunday, April 25, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. at North Central College, 171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville, IL. For ticket information call 630-448-0518. For further information on the Naperville Men's Glee Club, visit www.nmgc.org



MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET

The Mother-Daughter Banquet will be held on Saturday, May 1st from Noon - 3PM in the CCC. Cost will be the same as last year, \$10 adults, ages 4-12 \$5, and children 3 and under are Free. Tickets will be sold after church beginning March 28th. You may also contact the church office to purchase your tickets. The theme is 'A Tea Party' so everyone is encouraged to dress up! (Cut off date is Friday, April 23rd). The Mother-Daughter Banquet committee is looking for donations of ceramic tea pots. Anyone who has any tea pots can drop them off in the church office. (These will not be returned). Thank you!



From the Church Records

BIRTHDAYS:

Doris Sangmeister will be celebrating her 82nd birthday on April 6th. Her address is: 20735 Wolf Road, Mokena, IL 60448.

Bill Schiek will be celebrating his 80th birthday on April 8th. His address is: 11005 191st St., Mokena, IL 60448.



ATTENDANCE:

February 28, 2010

8:00 a.m. - 40
9:30 a.m. - 122

March 14, 2010

8:00 a.m. - 45
9:30 a.m. - 146

March 7, 2010

9:30 a.m. - 44
8:00 a.m. - 149

March 21, 2010

8:00 a.m. - 31
9:30 a.m. - 113

DEATHS:



Marilyn Braeunig passed away on February 26, 2010 at the age of 78.

Mary Lou Hinspeter passed away on March 1, 2010 at the age of 76.

Anne Burkhardt passed away on March 8, 2010 at the age of 83.

NEW MEMBER:



We welcome Danielle Murphy to our church family.

Thank You

Birthdays are special when remembered by our friends at St. John's. Did we ever feel special on our trips to the mailbox. Thank you for all the many birthday wishes.

Hans(January 14) and Peg (March 2) Mueller

Thank you to everyone who kept me in their prayers and sent cards during my recent hospital stay and surgery. It is so wonderful to know that I have such a wonderful church family. It truly is a blessing and I appreciate all the well wishes. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! Prayers are so powerful!

Dawn Funk

The CYF would like to thank all those who helped raise money for the 30 hour famine. We are so proud to announce that because of all of your support and donations we were able to donate our biggest amount yet... \$1,806.00 has been sent to World Vision. That is enough money to feed and care for five children for an entire year. Thank you so much for your wonderful donations.

The CYF youth group

"Thank You" very much for the lovely Birthday Cards I received when I returned home from Florida. I appreciate all your thoughtfulness and again "Thank You" to each and everyone of you.

Sincerely,

Margaret Cappel

Thank you to my family and all my friends at St. John's for the beautiful birthday cards sent to me for my 92nd birthday, and also all the good wishes made the day special. God bless you all.

Alma Lauffer



FINANCE

YTD FINANCIAL STATUS, February, 2010

<u>Operating, Income (1)</u>	\$45,332.81
(1) Amount to match YTD budget	51,685

Operating Expenditures

Worship Ministry	3,460.21
Christian Education Ministry	4,595.31
Discipleship (not incl. Missions)	0.00
Office Operations	7,850.22
Building Operations	8,150.01
Pastoral, Administrative	<u>12,957.52</u>
TOTAL	\$37,013.27

Gain/(loss) – this year 8,319.54

Balance, previous year end -41,957.19

Present Operating Fund balance -33,637.65

Mission Income (2) 4,353.50

(2) Amount to match YTD Budget 4,550

Mission Fund Expenditures

O.C.W.M. Basic Support	2,833.00
Local Mission and Direct Support	193.00
TOTAL	3,026.00

IL Conference Capital Campaign(3) 841.50

(3) amount to match YTD budget 1,666.67

Building Fund/Project 150 Income 4,644.50

CCC Profit/Loss Statement – Year To Date 2010

<u>Rental Income</u>	1,430
<u>Expense:</u>	
Custodian	351
Gas	1,970
Electricity	799
Water/Sewer	195
Maintenance	-----
Total	3,315
Net	(1,885)



St John's United Church of Christ
Summary of the Church Council Minutes
March 9, 2010

Members present- Steve Gignac, Terry Ciszek, Richard Cantwell, Abby Bicksler, DeAnna Kertson, Bernetta Pruum, Sheree Kinder, Brian Burkett, Chris Maluta, Pastor David Alfeld-Johnson

Members absent- none

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President Steve Gignac. Brian Burkett led devotions with a prayer and discussion of developing spiritual leaders.

Officer's Reports-

- **Secretary's Report** – The February 9, 2010 meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion made by Richard Cantwell and seconded by Terry Ciszek to approve the minutes as written.
- **Financial Reports** – The Financial Secretary's report was reviewed and discussed. Motion made by Abby Bicksler and seconded by Bernetta Pruum to approve the report as written. The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Motion made by Terry Ciszek and seconded by Richard Cantwell to approve the report as written.
- **Vice President's Report** – Council duties were set for the months of March through mid-May in regards to communion duty.
- **President's Report** – Steve Gignac led a discussion about joint committee meetings and whether these meetings should be held quarterly. A discussion was held on possibly having all the June meetings on the same night. Steve again requested that all minutes of meetings attended by council members be made available prior to regular council meetings. The council will have a retreat on Saturday, March 20, 2010. Steve led a discussion regarding the Boy Scout Troop 40 and why we have to sign the applications when new members are added to the troop. As the sponsoring organization for the troop we are following guidelines.

Staff Reports -

- **Pastor's Report** – A written report of pastoral duties from February 2010 was submitted. A discussion was held regarding July 4, 2010. The holiday is on a Sunday this year and a group from another church has proposed having a whole community service near the main park to facilitate churches and groups getting to the staging area easily. Could we have one service at our church, possibly at 8:30 or 9:00 and still get to the parade? The proposal will be brought up at the next Music and Worship Committee meeting.
- **Youth Ministries/CYF** – no reports

Church Board Reports -

- **Preschool Board** – DeAnna Kertson reported that the craft show was a great success and made \$1,083.00 for the preschool.
- **Board of Christian Education** – Abby Bicksler led a discussion about our Sunday morning child care. Should we do background checks on the people who volunteer to watch children in the nursery and preschool rooms during church services? It was agreed that children do feel more secure with the same person watching them each week. New or prospective members would feel more comfortable with a checked person. It was brought up that even though a lesson plan is provided, it is hard to lead a discussion or class because the age groups are too wide, ages 3-9, and there are too many toys that distract. The younger children sometimes come into the older children's room to be with their siblings. It is hard to enforce the designated split in the rooms. We need a secure way to care for the children. Further discussion at a later time, how much would we pay a person and would we need a background check?

- **Personnel Board** – meeting to be scheduled.
- **Facility Board** – Brian Burkett reported:
 - Fellowship Hall window treatments** – a great deal was secured through JC Penny that will cost \$611.94. There is money left from a donation made for the remodeling of Fellowship Hall that will cover the cost. Motion made by Bernetta Pruum and seconded by Brian Burkett to approve the purchase of the window treatments for the Fellowship Hall.
 - CCC furnaces** – the furnaces will be cleaned for \$50.00.
 - Lift inspection** – a new inspection was conducted and our lift passed. The cost was \$250.00.
 - CCC floor** – the hole in the southeast corner will be repaired by replacing 2 rows of tile.
 - CCC storage room** – plans are in the discussion stage of having the church property in a locked area.
 - New guidelines for CCC rental** – New guidelines for CCC renters will be prepared. Strict rules about what type of tape can be used on the floor, what type of balls can be used inside the gym, and how children using the gym must be supervised, will be included.
 - We now have clips to hang the white boards.
 - Marc Schonwise will paint the walls of the CCC gym from the floor to the top of the doorways.
 - Dartball** – the Dartball team has requested a new trophy case for the fellowship hall. This request will be tabled until we decide how we want to manage the room.
 - New door** – a new door will be installed in the fellowship hall in the northeast corner to block the outside door and the boiler room door.
- **Cemetery Board** – the board will meet on March 14, 2010. A written agenda for their meeting was submitted.

- **Music and Worship** – brief discussion about redoing the red books in the sanctuary. The organ and piano are in need of tuning before Easter.
- **Membership** – no report

Correspondence – no correspondence

Old Business –

Illinois Conference Representation – Anyone can be a representative at Illinois Conference. We need to be sure the dates are published far enough in advance for people to plan, probably at least 6 weeks.

Other Reports –

- **Stewardship** – discussion of membership.
- **Evangelism** – Sheree Kinder reported that a new flyer is being prepared and the group would like a welcoming center in the fellowship hall.
- **Mission Outreach** – Terry Ciszek reported that the Biloxi mission trip is off for this year. In 2011, the scheduled trip is from March 20 -26. The collected money from this year will be rolled over to 2011. The Tower Hill clean up is being planned. Relay for Life is still in need of new leaders.
- **GPS Committee** – The GPS will meet on Sunday March 21, 2010 after church. There are 7 project categories. Lunch will be served
- **150th Anniversary Committee** – the first meeting of this committee will be on March 23, 2010.
- **Technology Committee** – This group is still in the planning stage.

Popcorn-

Council members were given an opportunity for an open forum to make comments or identify concerns.

Next Council meeting is April 13, 2010 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting was closed with a prayer by Brian Burkett
Meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Maluta
Church Council Secretary