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Join Us Sunday

Mornings!

Worship, 10:30 am

**About Us...**

- All who seek and serve the love of God are ministers of Union Church
- Rev. Kent Gilbert, Pastor
- Marlene Payne, Moderator
- Joan English, Church Secretary
- Wyndee Holbrook, Director of Faith Development
- Deborah Payne, Youth Director
- Hope Hounshell, Interim Woman's Industrial Director
- Jennifer Shelton and Bea Chasteen, Childcare
- Erik Reinhart, Custodian



## BIG Changes coming...

Hopefully you've heard that Sunday School for children and youth is going to a new format. Instead of meeting weekly at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings, this fall we're starting a monthly version called Second Sunday Bible Club.

The first session was an introductory mini event for children, youth and parents on Sunday August 29.

Beginning **September 12** the regular format will begin after worship and end at 3p.m.

Sample schedule for children:

11:50 – 12:15 \$1 Lunch for children & workers

12:15 – 12:45 Music

12:50 – 1:10 Story telling: Biblical stories with life lessons

1:15 – 2:30 Small classes for learning activities and crafts

2:30 – 3:00 Supervised, co-operative play

- Please note that parents with children younger than 3 are welcome to come with their little ones and participate as they choose.
- Preschool (ages 3-5) will have their own class led by the expertise of Hazel Morris, Betsy Hoefer, Judy Rowell, Kevin Burke and Carla Gilbert.
- Two elementary classes will be lovingly and skillfully taught by Megan Purcell, Rosanne O'Connor, Kathleen Kilb and Grace McKenzie.
- Middle and High school youth will be led by the powerhouse team of Jessica and Joe Spencer.

I want to share with you the reasons behind trying the new plan:

➤ Our Sunday School numbers, like most churches, were dwindling.

Our Vacation Bible School numbers were strong. So, we're trying a model that has

*(Continued on page 5)*

**On Wednesday, Sept 8, at 7 pm,** following Wednesday Nite Live supper, the Design Team AND Staffing Team will present information concerning its past four months of architectural deliberations with Pearson and Peters, Architects, Lexington.

The Design Team will discuss the charge from church Council (voted on by the congregation at the May 16 Congregational Meeting). The Staffing Team will discuss its recommendation, see page 4.

We will present our time line, the data we have collected and the on-site inspections and discussions we have had with the architects.

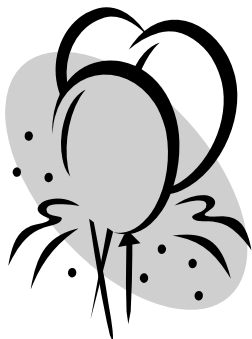
We will present a renovation/construction recommendation at that time. In addition a multi page report will be sent by e-mail to the congregation before the end of August so that the congregation will have some sense of where the Teams

*Town Hall  
Meeting  
Sept. 8, 7:00 pm  
Dinner at  
Wednesday Nite  
Live, 5:45 pm*

are in their planning. Printed copies of the reports will be available in the church office on request and posted on the church website.

Announcements will be included in the Sunday bulletins. We seek your attendance and anticipate a lively discussion.

**-Bob Boyce,  
Design Team Chair**



## September Birthdays & Anniversaries

### September Birthdays!

- 1 Cole Warren
- 2 Hamrick Walters
- 5 Steve Goff
- 7 Noah Broomfield
- 9 Hailey Biggs
- 10 Tim Reardon
- 11 Lisa Shroyer
- 13 Steve Connelly
- 13 Mary Nash
- 14 Debbonnaire Kovacs
- 15 Loretta Mountjoy
- 17 Joyce Fields

- 17 David Harl
- 17 Sunni Walters
- 18 Ruth Wesley
- 19 Reid Connelly
- 20 Mark Gailey
- 26 Charles Sisson
- 27 Olin Shaw Perry
- 28 Pat Barrett
- 28 Heather Mecham
- 29 Katrina Rivers
- 29 Abi Woodie
- 30 Megan Purcell

### Anniversaries

- 1 Gene & Dorothy Chao
- 5 Richard & Judy Drake
- 9 Harry & Virginia Piland
- 17 Tom & Joy Frazier

If we don't know your birthday or anniversary, we want to! Or if we've made a mistake please call or email the office.

## News of the Family...



Union Church is a place where your faith can grow and deepen. We are actively looking

for those who would like to explore discipleship with Jesus in this congregation. If you'd like to formally join Union Church, please call the office.

Our Fellowship Principles:

*"Union Church welcomes all followers of Christ and works with all who work with Him; respecting each person's conscience; working by love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."*

In our prayers...

**Luther Center**, facing surgery for a hole in his heart on September 3.

**Tom Frazier**, still recovering at St. Joseph Hospital in Lexington.

**Toby Wilcher's daughter, Sarah**, and her children, who must move house due to irreparable mold damage.

**Magnolia Clark**, sick with pneumonia.

**Body Recall** invites everyone to an intergenerational Grandparents Day Celebration of Sunday, Sept. 12 from 1-5 pm. Call them at 986-2181 for more info.

**Josh English**, (son of our secretary, Joan) and **Jesse**



**Hasting** will be married October 2! Josh has just

begun grad school at the University of Louisville and had a poem published in the journal Verse Wisconsin.

Central Kentucky Blood Center thanks **Joyce Henderson** for coordinating the July 20 blood drive, which resulted in 133 registered donors and 103 collected units, which assist 309 medical procedures! Next chance to donate is Sept 21, 11-5 in the Community Room.



**YOU are welcome here!**

## From the Pastor

Not everything we are called to do is something we *like* to do. Stopping in the rain to help a neighbor, supporting a child or parent in an extraordinary medical condition, laboring to plant trees or maintain land that will not mature until long after the planter has moved on are things that we don't necessarily like or benefit from, but when connected to a community, it's hard not to care.

There are things we do because, in the long run, others will be better off. It's part of what we admire in generous and visionary persons of every age. As we focus on our beloved church community and the way it serves we've taken pains to try to focus on the greater good and to look beyond just the quick fix.

This whole summer we've been looking at our staffing and physical infrastructure in the same way. For the building in particular, there is much that has to be addressed and let me say from the start that we've discovered several critical needs that will be necessary, invisible when finished, and EXPENSIVE to undertake. These are the least fun of all projects, BUT they are

still the way we express our deepest character and hopes for incarnating the best of our discipleship.

Because we care about each person who moves through our building, it's not possible to overlook the structural work needed to keep the porch up and the choir loft supported. Because we care about the Creator and creation, it's not possible for us to solve our heating and cooling leaks with toxic and inefficient cheap patches. Instead we find ourselves called in this time to use our hard work and generous spirits to do unglamorous, expensive things many of which will benefit others immensely, but down the road.

Is this a reason to quail? I hope not. I do not think we are community of Christ who shrinks from the difficult or unglamorous. We haven't in the past, and nor have we been complacent about doing what is inexpensive versus what is right. I don't think we will ever be happy about simply sending the problems a few years down the road to our children and grandchildren.

None now alive worked on or helped pay for the magnificent building we have all inherited and enjoyed. It was an investment by an earlier congregation who hoped

it would pay off. Because of their vision, the church has no indebtedness except to those whose sacrifice left us with a place from which to sing and worship and teach Christ's way.



Now, just like stopping to help a neighbor in the rain, or planting an orchard for your grandchildren, we are getting the chance to pay that gift "forward." It will be hard, some things will be expensive, and some will be seemingly invisible. But not in our hearts. Not to our grandchildren and the thousands who will come here to love and bless God and God's world after us.

If we accept this call, what we build in pursuit of God's vision will not be a tall steeple to be admired. It will be a deep character and an interior strength and grace that comes from doing what it takes for a greater, wider, good. I suspect that the effect of that character and commitment will be a greater witness to a Christly love than all the steeples in all the world. Even if it means working invisibly in the rain.

*Rev. Kent*

## Welcome to Our New Intern Associate Minister, Steve Sherman...

Continuing our welcome and assistance for those seeking to prepare themselves for called ministry, Union Church welcomes Lexington Theological Seminary student **Steve Sherman** as our 2010-2011 Intern Associate Minister.

Steve, a second year Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) student at LTS, already has a connection to members of our church. He and his wife, Erin, served

with Deborah Payne in Uganda with the Peace Corps, and while completing a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education at St. Joseph Hospital, he has been the chaplain assigned to Tom and Joy Frazier's floor.

Steve and Erin have a near-two-year old, Gabriel, and live in Lexington. Steve will be spending 15-20 hours a week in ministry here from September through May, assisting in all aspects of parish life, preaching once a month, and taking the lead on special projects. Church Council is grateful for those who have volunteered to form an Intern Support Committee: Tina Parker, Steve Rhodes, and David and Lisa Shroyer.

## Church Council Votes to Approve Recommendation for Additional Staff

At its meeting on August 3, 2010, the Church Council voted unanimously to recommend that the Congregation designate \$150,000 of **Building the Vision Campaign** funds for a full-time Associate Pastor position and a half time Church Administrator position.

These funds would cover salary and benefits in decreasing amounts over a three-year period with the operating budget picking up one third of the cost in the second year and two thirds of the cost in the third year. The Congregation will have the opportunity to vote on this recommendation at the meeting later in September when we vote on the Building the Vision Campaign.

As you will recall, the report of the Union Church Visioning Taskforce, August 2009, included additional staffing as one of its six major recommendations. Since that time, there have been two successive Committees doing research, interviewing, and prayerfully considering a specific

recommendation. The first laid the groundwork and the second researched salaries and proposed general position descriptions. As stated in the Preface to the first Report, "In order to continue our vibrant ministry we must grow both our staff and our membership. We cannot support additional staff without adding members and we cannot add members without increasing our professional staff."

The Report then quotes Roy Oswald of the Alban Institute: "If you desire to staff for growth, you need one full-time program person on your staff for every one hundred active members." (Staffing Committee Final Report, February 2010)

The second Committee worked to further define our staffing needs, developed provisional position descriptions, and researched salaries in order to recommend a figure to be included in the Campaign. (Report and Recommendations of the Union Church Staffing Committee – Part II, July 2010)

In general, a full-time associate pastor will help nurture and care

for families, empower our mission projects, and work with Rev. Kent to enhance and grow our worship and education ministries as we reach out to visitors and prospective members in our community.

A half-time church administrator will empower our ministry and stewardship by working closely with our Administrative, Stewardship and Finance, and Properties Boards to oversee smooth "back office" operations of our church, thus allowing pastoral staff to focus on "pastoring."

The three-year period of seed monies from the Campaign will give us time for our ministry to grow. Obviously, maintaining these additional positions will depend on whether we have achieved our goal of increasing our membership.

You can find copies of the Committee Reports on the church web page. Members of the Committees: I: Ramona Culp, Carla Gilbert, Nancy Hindman, Michelle Tooley; II: Gene Chao, Betty Hibler, Nancy Hindman, Michelle Tooley



**Wednesday Nite Live! begins September 8 with a meal at 5:45 pm. Don't miss this great chance to share food, fellowship, activities for all ages AND hear the Design and Staffing Teams' proposals for the Capital Campaign!!**

**Changes in Faith Development...**



*(Continued from page 1)*

worked for us, instead of one that was only reaching a very limited number of children.

➤ Parents are responding happily to the new approach. Children and parents who've never been in our Sunday School have already agreed to participate and volunteer.

➤ Second Sunday Bible Club gives more individuals a comfortable and meaningful place to serve. As of May there were 4 of us teaching weekly Sunday School for ages 3 – 17. **Fourteen** adult volunteers are ready to make the first Bible Club a success! Teachers have signed on for the year, but several helpers can only come the first time, which means many more individuals will have the opportunity to serve.

➤ More volunteers mean more relationships, mentors and role models for the children. However, the teachers will remain constant for stability.

➤ More variety of programming is possible with more volunteers and a bigger block of time.

➤ The teaching time in the monthly event will be on par with the accumulated time spent in the Sunday morning program. By beginning with a light meal after church, we're able to start together with

music. Unlike Sunday mornings since typically all of the children were not present at 9:30.

➤ The format welcomes new comers to stay after worship to participate.

➤ Parents will have a nice block of time each month on the Second Sunday afternoon knowing their children are engaged and cared for. (Great time to plan a monthly parents group!)

Please invite children and youth to join in as we journey through the Bible this year. Volunteer so you won't miss out on the FUN!

Faith Development Board is also working on a new format for WNL, so be ready for more exciting developments!

**Some things don't change...**

Childcare will continue be available in the nursery beginning September 5 at 9:15 a.m. for parents wishing to attend adult classes.

Florence Anyabuonwu will be leading Children's Worship beginning September 5 and weekly volunteers are needed.

We're praying for great learning and faith development for all ages. YOU will make all the difference!

Blessings and thanks,

— **Wyndee Holbrook,**  
**Director of Faith Development**

**The Properties Board**

continues to attempt to clarify the bids for repair of the porch and front steps supports. It now appears the project will cost some \$50,000. The Board also continues to address the water damage caused by condensation from the AC system; as well as the basement flooding from periodic downpours. Refinishing the wood steps in the NW stairs has been completed; previously the area was patched and repainted by Church volunteers.

**Monthly Food Bank Contributions...**

Our monthly food bank contributions make a huge difference, as does the fresh produce that Union Church is growing on the front lawn.

Every first Sunday is a special time to remember the poor and those who need the support of food or utility and rent relief in our town. Canned or boxed foods, and/or a special financial contribution to Berea Faith Community Outreach is one way we try to embody Jesus' teachings to care for one another. Please bring a can or box with you to worship this month. It makes a huge difference.



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## Youth Group News



Greetings Friends,

At one point in my life, summer was a time for hanging out, drinking lots of ice cream floats and being generally still. I'm not sure what happened to that routine. Starting with our mission trip to Minnesota in June followed by a few other personal trips including one to Haiti to teach health and hygiene education, I'm pretty sure I've logged over a few thousand miles. Now that we've reached the dog days of summer I'm about ready to just sit down and enjoy a nice ice cream float.

Yet with school starting and the promise of a few cooler days we're ready to roll into a new year of youth group activities. Our first outing will be on Friday, September 3rd to see one the last Lexington Legends

games of the season. Both has been some interest in middle and high school youth are invited as well as any friends who'd like to come! We'll meet at the church at 5:30 and carpool up to the game. The tickets will be covered but bring a little spending money if you'd like refreshments. Drivers are needed so if you'd like to join us please contact the office!

On Sunday, September 5th at 6 pm we'll have a pizza party in the community room for middle school youth and parents to plan for the year and determine the best night for our youth to meet. We have typically been meeting on Wednesday night but there

**Lexington Legends  
trip for all youth  
Sept. 3  
Pizza Party &  
Planning for  
Middle School  
Parents & Youth  
Sept. 5, 6:00 pm  
High School youth  
meets at WNL  
Sept. 8, 6:30 pm.**

possibly meeting on Sunday.

High school youth will have their first meeting at the first Wednesday Night Live on September 8th at 6:30.

I hope you have all had a rejuvenating summer. I'm pretty excited

to get back to my routine of hanging out with the most enthusiastic people in my life- our Union Church Youth!

Peace,

— **Deborah Payne,  
Youth Director**

## The Church Bazaar is October 9!

100% of the money raised benefits service projects here in Berea, around our state, and across the world. We need volunteers to help sort and price prior to our sale in October - just around the corner - and we need all hands on deck to help display and sell our wares.

Household items (not electronics), art, plants, collectibles, books, furniture, and items of distinction suitable for silent auction are all needed and can be brought to the church RIGHT NOW.

Volunteers are encouraged to sign up at the Service Board in the sanctuary for helping with the

bazaar, especially for: taking money at checkout table, an hour shift at least; set up, Friday evening and Saturday morning; take down and clean up, of course, games such as corn hole, dime toss, basketball shoot, and others. Contact John Payne (our Bazaar Czar) at 986-8100.



Joyce Fields, phone 986-9899, has Bazaar Quilt tickets for sale. See her at church or call. She asks for volunteers to take a few packets, one dollar a ticket, or 6 for 5 dollars, and sell to others or yourself. Thank you.

# What's happening in September 2010?

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">                     Regular Sunday Schedule                      10:30 am Morning Worship                      Right after worship - weekly Q&amp;A session                      regarding Capital Campaign, Dialog Center                 </div>			1  7:00 pm-Q&A session regarding Capital Campaign	2  10:30 am-Mothers Forum, 204 12:00 pm-Bible Study  6:15 pm—Choir	3  9:00 am-Woman's Industrial	4
5	6 Office closed  6:00 pm—Community Life & Growth Boards meet 7:00 pm—AA Big Book Study, Dialog	7  7:00 pm—Memory Keepers	8  Wednesday Nite Live! Supper, 5:45 Activities for all ages 7:00 pm -Town Hall Meeting (p. 1)	9  10:30 am-Mothers Forum, 204 12:00 pm-Bible Study  6:15 pm—Choir	10  9:00 am-Woman's Industrial	11
12  <b>SECOND SUNDAY                      BIBLE CLUB!!!</b> Right after Worship, see p. 1	13  7:00 pm—AA Big Book Study, Dialog Center	14 6:00 pm—Faith Development Board 6:30 pm- Properties, Nurture & Care, Admin. Boards meet 7:00 pm - Stewardship/Finance, Worship	15  Wednesday Nite Live! Supper, 5:45 Activities for all ages 6:30 pm-Q&A session regarding Capital Campaign	16  10:30 am-Mothers Forum, 204 12:00 pm-Bible Study 6:15 pm—Choir 7:00 pm—Mission & Service Board meets	17  9:00 am-Woman's Industrial	18  Blackburn/Long wedding
19  Wilder/Boggs wedding	20  7:00 pm—Church Council meets 7:00 pm—AA Big Book Study, Dialog Center	21  Bloodmobile Consider deadline  7:00 pm—Memory Keepers	22  Wednesday Nite Live! Supper, 5:45 Activities for all ages 6:30 pm-Q&A session regarding Capital Campaign	23  10:30 am-Mothers Forum, 204 12:00 pm-Bible Study  6:15 pm—Choir	24  9:00 am-Woman's Industrial	25  Henthorn/Ford wedding
26  12:00 -Congre- gational Meeting to VOTE on Capital Campaign	27  7:00 pm—AA Big Book Study, Dialog Center	28	29  Wednesday Nite Live! Supper, 5:45 Activities for all ages	30  10:30 am-Mothers Forum, 204 12:00 pm-Bible Study  6:15 pm—Choir		

**The Church of Christ, Union**

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**September** Events for Moving FORWARD toward Building the Vision Campaign:

**Wednesday, September 8, 7:00 p.m.:** Town Hall Meeting with Design Team and Staffing Committee

**Sunday, September 26, Noon:** Congregational Meeting to VOTE on Building the Vision Campaign Fundraising Goal (Light Lunch served)

**Q&A Sessions:** Each Sunday following Worship in the Dialogue Center

**AND Wednesday Nights: September 1 at 7:00 p.m.; September 15 and 22 at 6:30 p.m.** following the Wednesday Nite Live meal

