

AUGUST 2012

REYNOLDS NEWS WRAP

Reynolds United Methodist Church

2496 Reynolds Road
Ashton, IL 61006

PASTOR ALAN MEYER

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**SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER
REPORTS AND ITEMS DUE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15TH**

**PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY EVERY
WEDNESDAY AT 9:30 AM.**

***Life without God
Is like an unsharpened
Pencil.
It has no point!!***

We do not stand in the world bearing witness to Christ, but stand in Christ and bear witness to the world. Gordon

Dear Members and Friends of Reynolds U MC,

Take time to read Exodus 14. After the children of Israel escaped from Egypt, they walked through the Red Sea. God would feed them in the wilderness. They would witness the bitter waters at Marah turn sweet in Exodus 15:22-25. By the power of God, they circled the city of Jericho and the walls fell down. They conquered kingdoms that were as large as they were. But history also records a time when the Israelites had turned their backs on God and were cut off from His power. In Ezekiel 37, we read that the prophet Ezekiel was carried away by the Spirit to a valley filled with dry bones. These bones represented a nation that was lying dry and dead in the valley of defeat, despair, and hopelessness. The Spirit of God commanded Ezekiel to prophesy to the bones. Suddenly, the bones began to rattle, the breath of life from the four winds came, and once again, there was noise in the camp of Israel. We can compare what happened to the Israelites to what is happening in Reynolds UMC today.

The Early Church began in the mighty winds of Pentecost. Everyone who was in the Upper Room was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in other tongues (Acts 2:4). And as they went out in the power of God, they turned the world upside down (Acts 17:6). As we look at the winds of Pentecost today, we can hardly recognize it. Various groups and denominations have poured their traditions and philosophies into it until it has become diluted. In the hour of mankind's greatest need, we cannot back away from the Holy Spirit or the power of God. As we look and study the Book of Acts, we will see that the Early Church believed in salvation by the blood of Jesus. They believed in the Baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. They believed in the power of God and they demonstrated it. The Early Church refused to back away from the power of God. When they were threatened and told to be quiet, they prayed for boldness to speak even more.

God was not content to leave Israel in the valley of dry bones. And God does not want the Church today to dry up on the vine. It's time for us to grab hold of this same power and go to another level. I will never back away from the power of God. I hear the footsteps of the Holy Spirit. I can hear the rustle of His garment. I am beginning to hear noise in our valley. But it needs to be louder. Reynolds UMC, let's rise up and make a noise that will shake the earth, that will change lives—a noise that everyone will hear—a noise that will carry the end-time revival to the four corners of the globe!

Pastor Al

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REPORT

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

Wow, what an incredible week! We learned so much and had a lot of fun while doing it. We made new friends and were able to get reacquainted with some old ones. We had 50 kids attend this year.

Through Operation Overboard we learned how to “Go Deep into God’s Word.” Each night focused on a different “Ocean Insight” and we were told a Bible story to help us understand the lesson better.

Depend on God – The story of Noah

Dare to Care – The story of the servant girl, Naaman, and Elisha

Claim Jesus – The story of John the Baptist

Choose to Follow – The story of Peter and how he and the other disciples choose to follow Jesus.

Change The World – The story of Paul delivering the good news, even though he was heading to Rome to be brought up on false charges. If everyone one of us remembers to do these 5 simple things every day, we would have the best relationship with God, and we would make a big difference in the world.

We also learned a lot of new songs which tied into the lessons each day. In fact I think we may have a couple of new favorites that rank right up there with “Let’s Go” from a couple years ago. Some of you had the privilege of hearing the kids perform them on Friday and during church on Sunday. But if you didn’t don’t worry, I am sure they will sing them again (and again, and again).

However, the best lessons I learned did not happen during the actual VBS time. It happened outside of VBS. I thought I was asking a lot of people by having them help prepare the meals each night, donating craft supplies and snacks, and helping with the kids during VBS. Therefore I did not want to ask for help with the other meals and entertainment for the New Beginnings Group. I was going to take care of it myself. The only problem with that plan is I forgot what a generous and loving congregation you all are. You opened your homes/businesses and your hearts to the group. You showed them what a loving/caring group we are by providing meals and entertaining them. They felt so loved and welcomed by us that they chose to come back on Sunday to help with the VBS program. They have not done this for any of the other churches. I think that speaks volumes of who we are as a church! So thank you from the bottom of my heart. I will try very hard not to underestimate you again!

I also really enjoyed getting to know the New Beginnings team. Not just by interacting with them, but by watching their interaction as a team, and with others. Anitta is the student director. She is a leader who is a mama bear at times. However she is also a caring friend to her team and to others. Kimberly is the music director. She is also known as the crazy cat lady. She was able to convince even the most reluctant kids to at least try and learn the motions to the songs. Shelbi is the PK/K leader. She plays the ukulele (named Naomi). She also has the most infectious laugh. Christian, a.k.a. DC, is the Bible drama leader. He is funny and he made the stories come alive. He also played the accordion and piano. Nicole was the games leader. She was very patient and connected with the kids. She is crazy and likes to have fun. Whitney is the craft leader. She is the quiet one. She helped to balance out the team. She was very sweet. My favorite time of the week was when I arrived at the church early and there was always music. One or more of the team would be playing an instrument and/or singing, and sometimes even dancing. They are a very talented group who touched a lot of hearts.

During the week we collected nonperishable food items for the Ashton food pantry, and money to help replenish our Sunday school funds. We raised \$134.49. On Sunday we also collected a free will offering for The New Beginnings team as a thank you for coming back to help. Words cannot express how much I appreciate each and every one of you for all you have done to make VBS so successful. Thank you for everything!

Rhonda Brown

STEWARDSHIP

If you keep what you’ve got, it’s the MOST it will ever be.

If you give what you’ve got, it’s the LEAST it will ever be.





INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS:

6 yr old Emma; Adam Devine, Baby Molly; Baby Roux & family; Brian (Megan’s friend); Carrie Becker’s mother; Chris, Nancy Egger’s daughter and granddaughter (Jill & Jenna); Debbie VanDyke; Donald Adams; Duane Truckenbrod; Jill Cox; Jill Meadows; Jim Steder; Lelia Place; Louie Frye; Margo Ackland; McKenna Menali; Neil Miller; Neva Becker; Pastor Al & Linda & their family; Steve Pfeiffer; and Vi Lawrence.

OTHERS: All those mentioned in previous weeks including: Cancer patients; Tornado victims; Families who have recently lost loved ones including the Jeri Bartlett family; Members of the Armed Forces and their families; Motorcycle accident victims; Struggling families who are facing life challenges; Families dealing with depression and income problems; and all ‘ Unspoken Requests’.

SERVING IN AUGUST

Ushers: Duane Ackland, Gary Brown, Vernon Gittleson, Adam Cappel

Greeters: August 5th- Duane Ackland
 August 12th & 19th - Dennis & Edy Pfeiffer
 August 26th - Ed Uphoff family

Flowers: Linda Meyer or Lynnette Lawrence

Church Hostess: Lois Heimbaugh

Communion Steward: Lexi Headon

<u>Date</u>	<u>Children’s Moment</u>	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Media</u>
August 5th	Kathy Clark	Help Needed	Ed Uphoff
August 12th	Pastor Al Meyer	Kathy Brown	TBA
August 19th	Cindy Knight	Help Needed	TBA
August 26th	Lois Heimbaugh	Help Needed	TBA

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lawn Mowing</u>	<u>Coffee Fellowship</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>
August 5th	Bob Heimbaugh	Nurture Committee	Kathy Brown
August 12th	Dennis Pfeiffer	TBA	Kathy Becker
August 19th	Jerry Lawrence	TBA	Frances Cappel
August 26th	Bill Kirchhofer	Church Picnic/Rally Day	Dolores Scott



August Mission Project: Rockford Rescue Mission
 Bring Mission Offerings on the 4th Sunday (August 26th)

Count your blessings instead of your crosses; Count your gains instead of your losses.
 Count your joys instead of your woes; Count your friends instead of your foes.
 Count your smiles instead of your tears; Count your courage instead of your fears.
 Count your ‘full’ years instead of your ‘lean’; Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.
 Count your health instead of your wealth; Count on God instead of yourself!

(from PAUMCS Linking Hands)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Rhonda Brown, Chair

(See Vacation Bible School Report on page 2)

YOUTH REPORT

Thank you for the cards and gifts for my preschool graduation. I had fun opening them all up!



Nolan Rueff

Thank you for sending me to camp. I had a really good time. We swam everyday, and I made good friends. I had the best time and learned even more about God's love. I can't wait to go again. Thank you so much.

Olivia Rueff

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Vernon Gittleson, Chair

The Finance Committee has not yet met to work on preparing the 2013 Budget, but we will be doing so soon. Because of not meeting our monthly budget during this year, we need to make some cuts or increase our income in 2013. It's taken an additional \$2,000 per month to help pay the bills.

So we need help from everyone to increase our weekly offerings and any other income or cut the budget by \$24,000.

Please pray about what you can do to help this situation!! Thank you.

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Frances Cappel, Chair

The Benevolence Committee has met. Cindy Knight- Chair & Rhonda Brown- Secretary. Applications are available for those needing assistance. Since this is not a line item on the budget, we are asking that anyone desiring to help with funding the Benevolence Fund, please do so. Thank you.

Next meeting: August 13th at 7:00 pm.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Joining by Transfer from another United Methodist Church are Justin & Jane Rueff along with their children Olivia, Carson, & Nolan.

Angela Pfeiffer has requested her membership be transferred out to a non-United Methodist Church.

Grace Ann Lloyd, Chair

NURTURE COMMITTEE

Kathy Clark, Chair

Sunday, August 26th

Be sure to circle this date on your calendar. You won't want to miss **Reynolds's Family All Church Picnic and Sunday School Rally Day!!**. Many fun events are planned for this special Sunday- something for all ages.

Everyone is invited to stay after our morning worship service and enjoy a delicious meal. Just bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Meat and beverages will be furnished. WATCH YOUR BULLETINS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

Keith Roop, Sec. Pro tem

Meeting date: July 2nd, 2012.

Among the items discussed were:

- Parsonage front porch has been carpeted. The carpet cost was donated.
- New shrubs and bushes are planted on the East side of the Church.
- C&C Plumbing & Heating has been contacted regarding the A/C and the outside faucet replacement at the parsonage. Neither of these problems have yet been resolved.
- Church septic tanks have been pumped out.
- Porch windows are being replaced at the parsonage.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, August 6th at 7:00 pm.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE will be held on October 18th at 6:30pm. (SPRC will meet at 6:00 pm) Committee Chairs need to start getting their information together to prepare their annual reports. Forms will be distributed soon.
- If anyone would like to pay for one of the new bushes that has been planted on the East side of the church building and dedicate it in honor or in memory of someone, please contact Joe Phipps.

Paige Gittleson has graduated from Educators of Beauty in Sterling. She is now eligible to take the Cosmetology State Board Examination and become a licensed cosmetologist.

CONGRATULATIONS PAIGE!

List of some of the projects that have been 'gifted' to the church in recent months:

- Church restrooms have been redecorated & some new parts installed in the stools
- New porch carpet and new front door installed in parsonage
- New window installation in parsonage front porch
- Replacing of florescent light bulbs
- Replacing Kitchen supplies
- New mail boxes & posts installed
- New bush installation and continued daily watering
- Numerous other small projects representing many hours of labor have been given to help make our church more beautiful and more functional.
- Coffee Fellowship treats
- Lawn Mowing (summer) and Snow Shoveling (during the winter months)

(If a gift project is missing, please let the office secretary know so it can be recognized next month)

STEWARDSHIP IS MORE THAN GIVING MONEY- IT'S GIVING OF YOURSELF AND YOUR TIME & TALENTS.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO 'GAVE' IN THIS SPECIAL WAY!

BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST

- 1 - Ellen Clark
- 3 - Jacob Silvius
- 4 - Cindy Groves
- 6 - Lisa Tippy
- 8 - Katie Gittleson
Stacie Vogeler
- 11 - Kay Ohman
Josh Smardo
- 13 - Colton Headon
Kathy Clark
- 16 - Adam Gittleson
Theresa Tippy
- 18 - Jason Pfeiffer
- 20 - Walker Jones
Kimberly Townsend
- 22 - Emalie Vogeler
- 23 - Barrett Becker
Nathan Becker
- 24 - Leslie Gittleson
- 27 - Cole Stumpenhurst
- 28 - Majastina Headon

**PRAY FOR EACH ONE ON HIS/HER
BIRTHDAY!**



**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES
IN AUGUST**

- 15 - Derek & Gabrielle Troha
Brock & Stacy Gittleson
- 18 - Gene & Joyce Brake
- 21 - Ryan & Tracy Cheeseman
- 30 - Jerry & Lynnette Lawrence

CONGRATULATIONS!!

If you're in the middle of a bad situation, and you wonder where God is, remember-- the teacher is always quiet during a test!

The need for a diet is the result of exceeding a 'feed limit'!



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2496 Reynolds Road
Ashton, IL 61006
(815) 453-2513

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday:

9:00 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:00 am - Worship Service

Wednesday:

9:30am - Prayer & Bible Study