

The
Newsletter
of the
Saline
United
Methodist
Church



Pastor: Dr. James E. Tuttle

Phone: (734) 429-4730

Fax: (734) 429-3500

Email: office@fumc-saline.org

Website: www.fumc-saline.org

Traditional Worship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	10:10 a.m.
Contemporary Worship	11:15 a.m.

Summer Worship Hours:

Right Start	8:04 a.m.
Summer Worship	9:30 a.m.

STEEPLE NEWS

July 23, 2006

“Ringing Forth the Good News”

Vol. 15; No. 14

A few years ago, I was in a church similar to our former church building. It was located right downtown in the very heart of that city’s business district. Their logo printed on their bulletin was “A church in the heart of the city with the city in its heart.” Since 1990, when we moved to our current location, we would no longer be able to claim the first half of that statement, since our property line is the northern border of the city limits. Yet First United Methodist Church can clearly identify with the second part – “A church with the community in its heart.”

This became apparent again today at the funeral service for Doug Mull. Our sanctuary was filled with persons from various groups within our community. Besides family friends, there were police officers with whom Doug had worked, city officials and co-workers of Linda Hehlin, motorcyclists from the area in addition to the members of *Christ Riders*, the riding group sponsored by our congregation. Following the service, many people from our community expressed to me and to other staff members how appreciative they were of the hospitality of the members of First Church. You have a wonderful way of making people feel right at home here.

In many conversations with clergy colleagues, I’ve expressed how grateful I am that the members of First UMC – Saline have such an “open door policy” toward our community and the people from throughout the area. I’m blessed to be the pastor of a church that doesn’t exhibit a concentric, introverted mentality, focusing exclusively on caring for only those in the circle, while forgetting those outside the circle of our membership.

It seems everywhere I go around here I encounter people who in various ways are intertwined with First UMC. Some have children in R.O.C.K. in LOGOS, youth participating in WWW, or preschoolers in Lil’ SAINTS. They are part of the church orchestra, Friendship Ministry or Christ Riders. Some are people who have been helped by our Hands & Feet Ministry or other outreaches of this congregation. A couple weeks ago, many local residents, seeing the advertisement, came to Christler Hall to donate blood to the American Red Cross. Even displaying the silent auction items in the fellowship hall for Friends in Deed is another contact with our larger community. David Coxton, in up-dating us one Sunday on the most recent *Tapestries of Life* work mission, speaking to the new people of our congregation, said, “This is a mission-minded church,” and indeed it is. Thank God, it is.

I suspect that in the months ahead there will be even more inroads into our community, particularly through the upcoming Stephen Ministry, which you’ll be hearing more about this fall as it gets underway. Following worship last Sunday one of our members shared with me her desire to help facilitate support groups to minister to people in crises. Others of you will have other passions for which you will lead us into our future. I have some personal dreams for the coming years but I can’t even imagine the new program ministries that will be envisioned and developed by many of you, as well as by many of the new people who will be joining with us in our life together. I’ve probably said it a hundred times and I say it again, “What an exciting time to be part of First UMC - Saline.”

Come, grow with us and go with us, as we expand our heart for our community. – Pastor Jim

FRIENDSHIP MINISTRY NEWS



The Friendship Ministry Team will be hosting a few planning meetings over the summer for the 2006-07 fall season. This is

a unique ministry night specifically designed for students and young adults with special needs. We have students ranging in ages from age 8 to 40. The Saline Community has become a leader among cities in recognizing this population of wonderful persons and anxiously awaits any additional opportunities to serve students with special needs and their families. The latest possible program was mentioned in the Saline Reporter with a huge two page article about the "Miracle League." If any of you are even remotely interested, or have "felt the call" in regard to the Friendship Ministry, please consider joining us at one or more of the summer planning and discussion sessions listed after this closing. The opportunity for learning a whole new world of interactive relationships awaits you in the Friendship Ministry! The joys are plenty and the magnified blessings are infinite! For more information contact Roger Heffelbower at 429-7095 or RU4C@comcast.net.

1. July 25th, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
2. August 22nd, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
3. September 19th, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
4. September 26th, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. – We Launch Again!

WANTED:

KIDS CHURCH VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

We are looking for someone who is organized and enjoys working with people to take over the job of coordinating the volunteers for KIDS Church, which ministers to kids in 1st through 4th grades. The position does not require leading KIDS Church – all we need is someone willing to help manage the scheduling of adult leaders and assistants. This is not a time-consuming job, but it does need someone committed to keeping things running smoothly. As much as we hate to think about it, we will no longer have a KIDS Church program for kids in grades 1st through 4th if we cannot find a new KIDS Church Volunteer Coordinator. If no one steps forward to help with this important ministry then we are sad to say that KIDS Church will be discontinued in the fall. This is a great opportunity to be a part of a vital ministry in our church. If you are interested, contact Joy Burns (944-4003, joy@burnskids.com) for more information.

ATTENTION SHOPPERS

Are you a shopper? Someone that likes to shop 'til you drop? Would you like the challenge of exploring 311,000 square feet of household items? OR are you looking for a unique something for your home? If you answer



yes to any of these questions, then you are invited to join the UMW for a trip to the IKEA store in Canton. Two outings are planned, the first outing for Tuesday, August 15 and a second trip for Saturday, August 19. We will be having lunch in the IKEA cafeteria which features delicious Swedish meatballs among other items. Carpools will form in the church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. Return times will be left up to each carpool group. Some groups may want to shop longer than others. Should you wish to depart from the church at a later hour, please feel free to form your own carpool. If you are interested, please sign up at the Opportunity Wall in the Narthex. Questions?? Please call Kay Richmond at 944-6234

CHILDREN'S MISSION DAY

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10TH

1:00 – 3:00 P.M.



Our focus this year is overseas medical missions. As a special mission offering, please bring a small, inexpensive new or gently loved stuffed toy. These toys are given to the children as they receive their medication.

We will conclude the afternoon with our traditional ice cream sundae bar! Please sign up in the Narthex at the Opportunity Wall. Bring your friends and neighbors! For further information, please call Kay Richmond at 944-6234.

BLOOD DRIVE A SUCCESS

We had a very successful Blood Drive! Twenty-nine pints were collected, 9 of which were first time donors! The Red Cross was very happy. For all of you who donated or tried to donate and those who volunteered time to help out—I thank you so much!

Pam Ziesemer


DEADLINES

The next Steeple News deadline is *July 31st* at noon. Volunteers are needed to assemble the newsletter *Thursday, August 3rd* in Room F at 9:00 a.m. The weekly deadline for the bulletin is Wednesday at noon.

J.O.Y. Fellowship

All those 55 and older are invited and encouraged to come to our Celebrate Summer “Picnic” on Thursday, August 17 at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. We will have fried chicken, a variety of salads, biscuits, and ice cream for dessert. Come and share your favorite summer memories! Sign up at the Opportunity Wall. A requested donation of \$5.00 can be paid on the day of the lunch. Questions? Please contact Laura Speiran in the church office.

HOMELESS SHELTER COLLECTION



We are collecting **toothpaste and toothbrushes** during **July** for the Homeless Shelter. Items to be collected in **August** are **soap, lotion and shampoo**. These items can be placed in the “blue house” in the Narthex.

MISSION TRIP TO HAITI

A VIM (Volunteers in Mission) team will be going to northern Haiti November 11–19 to help paint the new kitchen for the Tovar School and complete the painting of the manse in Cap Haitien. Other smaller projects will also be planned for the team. We will worship and learn as we visit several sites and meet people in various settings. If you would like to join this team as we work alongside Haitian workers, contact Curtis Bartz for more an application or more information. Call 313-278-4849 or email jbartz@mich.com.



NEW VISITOR WELCOMES

If you or someone you know is brand new to our church family, we would invite you to attend our “New Visitor Welcome,” scheduled for August 13 after the worship service. There will be refreshments served and a small gift available for people who attend, as well as current members who can answer your questions. We are happy to welcome new people into our congregation and hope you will allow us to greet you!

Thank You

“We Care”—That’s just how Dean and Linda Klepaczyk felt the weekend of the fourth when they stopped and helped Eula Escott finish her yard work. My thanks to you.

God’s Blessings, Eula Escott

We can’t thank you enough for your generosity. It was so very kind of you to donate your space to us. Cody’s benefit went very well and provided enough money for him to go for his treatments. It is people like you who make a difference in the world.

Thank you again, The Freymuth Family


A NOTE FROM GRACE SUNDLING

I want to thank all of you who have expressed your prayers and support during Fred’s illness and at his death. He is with the Lord, now, and no longer suffering. Now, I’ll change the subject. I am aware many in our community have problems with alcohol. Many of you know that I am an alcoholic who has been sober for the past 37+ years—if you didn’t know, you know now. I am certain some people in our church family may be having problems with alcohol and I am offering support for any of you in your struggle with that problem. Alcoholism is a disease, just like diabetes is a disease. One should not feel guilty if this disease is present. Diabetes may be controlled by what one eats and alcoholism may be controlled by what one chooses to drink. If alcohol is controlling your life, please phone me at 429-5720 and I will try to help you get out from under its control.

WIDOW SUPPORT GROUP

Have you or someone you know experienced the loss of your spouse recently? Are you having difficulty moving on with your life even though your spouse has been gone for several years? If you are interested in joining a widow’s support group, please contact the church office with your name, phone number and days and times that you are available.

LEMONADE IN THE SHADE



Thank you to all those who have volunteered to prepare and serve lemonade after our summer worship service. **Only 1 date remains open—August 27.** If you are willing to help out, please sign up on the poster at the Opportunity Wall. All supplies and instructions are provided. Thanks!



70th Annual

Saline Community Fair

September 3-9, 2006

Fair Kitchen Update

With only three months away, the **First United Methodist of Saline Fair Kitchen Ministry** is busy at work planning for the event. The current committee would like to extend the opportunity for you to join the Ministry. If you are interested, please contact Donna Cody at 734-429-5048.

The First United Methodist Church of Saline Fair Kitchen Ministry was organized to run the full-scale kitchen at the Saline Community Fair.

This committee is in turn organized in functional teams. These Fair Kitchen Teams feel very strongly that this event should be a fun, binding and enlightening experience for everyone at FUMC, at the fair and in the Saline Community. We look at our selves as feeding bodies as well as the souls.

The Fair Committee coordinates and runs the Saline Fair Kitchen in September. Upon request, they also mentor groups using the FUMC Kitchen. On-going, it works with the Church Council to assure a commercially functioning kitchen for FUMC use.

During the week of the fair the Fair Committee is broken into teams. The Volunteer team will make sure that people have the opportunity to sign up to volunteer for a team. Then each associated committee team member will assist and guide the volunteers in their tasks. Below are the definitions of our current teams:

Chef Team (kitchen food preparation, daily specials, hot dishes, hot vegetables, etc...)

Childcare Team (Coordinates child care for volunteers during the day)

Front Cashier and Tally Team (Assist and train cashiers and tally group)

Graphic Design Team (Design the order form, menu, and sign. Write up advertisement for the newspaper)

Grill, Hot and Cold Table Team (Assist and train volunteers to operate the grill, hot and cold tables. Plan for rush hour and inform the chefs of on-going food supply requirements.)

Logistical Team ("Inventory Director", inventories supplies, suggest what needs to be purchased to the other teams, and compile the order lists for the volunteer runners.)

Manager (Insures that each team has what is required to complete their individual tasks and responsibilities. Deals with any on-going day- to-day issues)

Talley Team (Compile the daily tallies used for ordering)

Treasurer (Compile cash register receipts, maintain cash flow)

Volunteer Team (Generate volunteer work pool. Create volunteer forms and sign up chart. Disperse passes and find replacements if needed)

Window Team (Train and assist volunteers to work as our customer interface. Taking the orders, hosting, cleaning tables, restocking the soda and pies, ice orders, etc.)



The profits from the Fair Kitchen are used to assist general church projects. Examples of past donations are:

- Major projects
- Missions for the youth and adult
- Scholarship fund
- R.O.C.K. in LOGOS
- Church's Kitchen (The Church council also approves these expenses)

Request for funds are communicated to the Committee chairperson who will communicate all requests to the committee. Upon a majority agreement, the funds will be released.

All expenses submitted for reimbursement need to be signed by the committee chairperson and the treasurer.

Seats on the committee are not by nomination but by God's calling to be part of the Fair Kitchen activity. If you are interested in joining us, we would love to have you. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Cody at 734-429-5048.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CORNERSTONE

Needed: One Sunday School Superintendent, or possibly two, that would share in the joy of ministering to others, as well as the children of our congregation. Be a part of, and have a heart in making sure our Sunday School Teachers have what they need when they need it! Coordinate, organized and encourage fellowship that brings joy to the hearts of our hard working, dedicated teachers.

We have an opening for a **lead teacher in our 5th and 6th grade** Sunday School class. If you are interested, please see Leanne or call her at 429-4730.

Needed: One R.O.C.K. in LOGOS Ministry Director. Or if you have a friend that can share in the joy of this ministry, two would be a fun way lead this ministry into the 2006-2007 school year! One criteria is that this person(s) have gone to The LOGOS Ministry Training. To completely and fully understand the bones of this ministry, it is encouraged to attend the training that is offered. Sign up now at the Opportunity Wall if interested!!

R.O.C.K. in LOGOS training will be held in Troy, Michigan Friday, August 11–Sunday, August 13, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.



EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

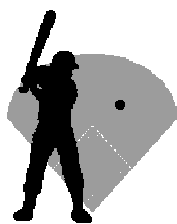
Nick Turosky and his scout team have begun working on the fall zone for the new play structure, as well as getting the fence in. Soon, Nick will make up a schedule of work days that will be posted. If you would like to help him out, please contact him at 944-1429.

INFUSION YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Junior High and Senior High

Don't forget to pick up your Infusion Calendars – We WILL be meeting throughout the summer-Get Infused, Stay Infused, Invite others to Infusion!

DETROIT TIGERS COUPONS



The VA Hospital has donated coupons—each coupon redeemable for up to 4 Upper Box seats for half price (\$10) any Monday – Thursday through July. Help yourself at the Opportunity Wall. Thanks to Art Angaran.

LIL' SAINTS PRESCHOOL

We have chosen and ordered a new play structure! We need help off loading the structure and putting it together. We do not have a specific date of arrival yet. However we are anticipating delivery around mid to late August. If anyone is interested in helping with this endeavor, please sign up at the Opportunity Wall.

The July 11 open house was a success with a possible new enrollment for the Fall. Should this family enroll, we will have 5 students at this point. Marketing efforts are being made, but the best marketing is word of mouth. So if you are interested or know anyone who would like to give their child the faith journey of a life time, along with preparedness for Kindergarten, please let Rachel or Leanne know. **The next open house will be held on Thursday, August 24 from 7:00–9:00 p.m.**

Check out our updated website at www.lil-saints.org



PRAYER CONCERNS ~

Paulette Suchy; Brian Setzer; our men and women in uniform; Wanda Beard; Don and Andrea Maddock their family; Jerry Johnson and his family; Dennis Cunningham; Katherine Beach's daughter, Mary; Erik Maddock; Greg Fischer; Chelsea and Adam

Ford and Cindy Parker's aunt; for a R.O.C.K. in LOGOS director and strength for the leadership team; John DiGiambardino; our 18 youth and 4 adults who went to Mountain Top; Peg Chizmar; Helene Langthorne Rose; Zella Polliery's daughter, Virginia; Katie Brehmer. ~ **PRaise/CELEBRATIONS** ~ Paulette Suchy's hospital discharge; thanks to our church family for sending us to camp (Amy Acree, Kim Setzer and Angela Hammond); Genevieve Grant's wonderful recovery.

Military personnel and families to keep in our prayers

~ Billy Kirkland, son of Kathy & Bill Kirkland; J.T. St. Denis, nephew of Kathy & Bill Kirkland; Robert Rodriguez, grandson of Florence Belt; Bennett Phipps, brother of Rachel Wislocki; Bill Paul, nephew of Bonnie & Tom Riggs; Roman Kisz, grandson of Lil Vaughan & nephew of Karen Sipos; Timothy Frisbee, grandson of Florence & Ernie Busch; Nick Gilveli, grandson of Martha Gilveli; Kevin Raymond, son of Susan Raymond; Abby Suchy, daughter of Paulette & Mike Suchy; Bobby Singh, Abby Suchy's fiancé. Tim Jones, son of Penny & Doug Jones; Dan Erlwein, friend of Dave & Susan Hares; Sam Spicer, grandson of Lois Royal; Erik Maddock, son of Don & Andrea Maddock; Doug W. Beard, son of Doug & Wanda Beard; Mark & Brad Nadig, sons of Carroll & Sandy Nadig; Nathaniel Held, son of Keith & Patsy Held.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO ~ Faye Smith on the passing of her sister, Phyllis Barker; the family of Tim Wright on his passing; Linda Hehnlin and Doug Mull's family on his passing.

Calendar for July 23–August 5, 2006

23 Sunday 8:04a – Right Start Service 9:30a – Worship 10:30a – Cancer Support Group 6:30p – Jr. High Youth 11:00p – Mt. Top Youth Return	24 Monday 10:00a – Shawl Ministry	25 Tuesday 9:30a – WISE 4:37p – Golf League 6:30p – HOMMIES 6:30p – Friendship Ministry Planning	26 Wednesday 9:30a – Bible Study 12:30p – Quilting 8:00p – WWW	27 Thursday 10:00a – Brecon Service 11:00a – Prayer Ministry 7:00p – Auction Deadline	28 Friday	29 Saturday
30 Sunday 8:04a – Right Start Service 9:30a – Worship 10:30a – Cancer Support Group 6:30p – Jr. High Youth	31 Monday 10:00a – Shawl Ministry	1 Tuesday 9:30a – WISE 4:37p – Golf League 7:00p – Membership /Evangelism	2 Wednesday 9:30a – Bible Study 12:30p – Quilting 8:00p – WOW	3 Thursday 11:00a – Prayer Ministry 7:30p – Flying Club	4 Friday Camping Weekend Through August 6th	5 Saturday Camping Weekend Through August 6th

August Greeters:

Cindy Parker
Adam & Chelsea Ford

August Welcome Center Hosts:

Nancy Miller

Head Ushers:

August – Carlos Melendez, Charlie Bender
Darlene Heffelbower, Patti Hogue

Worship Attendance:

June 25 . . . 392
July 2 . . . 325
July 9 . . . 369
July 16 . . . 378

First United Methodist Church
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Saline, MI 48176

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