

The
Newsletter
of the
Saline
United
Methodist
Church



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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

October 21, 2007

“Ringing Forth the Good News”

Vol. 16; No. 21

“Oh goodness, is it that time of year again?”

Those weren't the precise words, but they certainly were the sentiment expressed by one of our people in a brief conversation at a funeral luncheon a few weeks back. The comment was a response to a remark I made that the financial stewardship campaign was just around the corner. Yes friends, it's that time of the year again.

The various leadership teams and committees have been carefully working to develop budgets that they need to carry out their particular part of our church's ministry for next year. Those are being collated, so we can better see the big picture. Then the anticipated expenses will have to be balanced with the anticipated income that you and I indicate that we plan to give during the weeks and months of 2008. Only after that process can we then begin to propose the budget needed to support our operation and outreach for our 175th year of ministry in Saline.

Each fall just prior to Thanksgiving, we are all asked to take a step of faith and to complete a statement of faith – an amount that we anticipate that we will be able to contribute to God through the ministry of this congregation. This enables your leadership team to make solid, wise decisions about what we intend to do for the coming year.

Beginning in a couple of weeks, you will be receiving letters, hearing sermons, seeing skits, and voting on clergy salaries at the Church Conference on November 4th. You might come away from all of this feeling inundated with how much it costs to operate a church as active and dynamic as ours. By the first of December, some of you might even experience a little “stewardship overload” and feel like holding up a placard with the words, “Too Much Information.” Yet it is so very important for us to grasp how vital our individual giving is for enabling our church to carry out Christ's ministry to the people in our community and Christ's mission around the world.

A year ago you responded well. Your “estimates of giving” cards were clearly statements of faith. Throughout this year you continue to remain faithful in fulfilling those faith promises, even with the financial setbacks that some have incurred this year. Though income is still a bit behind, all of our bills are paid, and people who were behind this summer have been catching up. Thank you so much for your continued support of this congregation.

Before all the campaign letters hit your mailbox, I want to ask you to prayerfully consider what you desire that your level of giving will be for the coming year. Rather than wait 'til the night before November 18th, the Sunday we're asked to return our stewardship card, give yourself sufficient time to seriously reflect on what you believe God is directing you to give this coming year. For your spirit's sake, I encourage you to be open to taking a real step of faith in 2008; then sit back and watch what God will be able to do in your life and through your life when you've followed God's leading. If what happens is what I think will happen, a year from now you will be saying, **“O good, it's that time of the year again.”**

– Pastor Jim

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CORNERSTONE
"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever!" Amen 2 Peter 3:18



R.O.C.K. in LOGOS - Halloween falls on Wednesday, October 31st, we will still have R.O.C.K. in LOGOS but with an adjusted schedule. There not be family time. Students should be picked up by 5:00 p.m. If your child will not be attending on this particular day, please call the church office as you would for any other absence, or email Leanne at Leanne@fumc-saline.org. Thank you!



R.O.C.K. IN LOGOS 5TH GRADERS - On Saturday, October 20 from 9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. the 5th grade R.O.C.K. in LOGOS class will make caramel apples in the church kitchen. The class will help prepare 90 caramel apples which will be sold at our Missions Bake Sale on Sunday, October 28. The funds raised from this sale will be used to feed up to 300 children at the "Jehovah Jirah" Church near Panama City. This feeding project was coordinated by our Panama Medical Missions Team upon their return in April. The 5th grade R.O.C.K. in LOGOS class is excited about this project and about making a difference for Christ's cause in the world. We need about five more people to assist the children with this project from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on October 20. Any person high school age or older who would like to help, can call Melissa Zimmerman at 734-913-6911.

J.O.Y. FELLOWSHIP

This is a group for those 55 and older. Come for lunch, fun and fellowship! You are invited to make a \$5.00 donation for the lunch, but it is not required. Our next get-together is November 15, 2007. Please sign up at the Opportunity Wall or call the church office. Our menu will include vegetable beef soup, corn muffins and pie for dessert. Please contact Rev. Laura Speiran if you have questions, or if you have any dietary concerns.

EVENING OF HOPE

On Friday, November 2, at 6:30 p.m. at the Michigan Firehouse Museum, there will be a fund raiser for Hope Clinic. Entertainment will be provided by Jump Street Swing Band, and the event will be catered by Back Alley Gourmet. There will also be silent and live auctions (you can preview these items at www.thehopeclinic.org). If you have questions about this event you can contact Jan Turosky at 944-1429.

November Gathering

The UMW will hold its November Gathering on Tuesday, November 6th at 1:00 p.m. in Room C. Ruth Circle will be hosting and all circles and members-at-large are invited. The program will focus on the World Thank Offering. Childcare will be provided. If you have questions, please contact Kay Richmond at 944-6234.

Hannah Circle

Hannah Circle will meet on Monday, November 5th at 9:30 a.m. to prepare Christmas ornaments for the Gift of Hope Tree. Anyone interested in joining or learning more about Hannah Circle is encouraged to attend. Melissa Zimmerman is in charge of refreshments. Childcare will be provided. For further information, please call Sylvia Korte at 517-423-7881.

Esther Circle

Esther Circle will meet at the home of Millie Webster on Monday, November 5th at 12:30 p.m. Millie's address is 583 Sycamore Circle in the Wildwood neighborhood.



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for selecting me as a recipient of an Upper Class scholarship. I feel honored and blessed to be receiving this gift. I appreciate your continued support and prayers while I am away at college. Thanks again.
Scott Schoenfeldt

A HUGE Thank You...

Thank you for your generous support of the Youth Missions Rummage Sale! We were blessed by those who brought items, bought items, worked to sort and sell items, cleaned-up, and hauled unsold items. Your support raised around \$2,200 for the Youth Mission Trip coming in the summer of 2008. Thank You!

INFUSION YOUTH NEWS

Junior & Senior High

Make sure your 2007-2008 Infusion Youth Information Sheet is filled out and handed in to Emily. This form can be picked up in the junior or senior high youth room!

Worship Fall Youth Rally—Mark your Calendar NOW for an AWESOME time with other Christians Worshipping God—Saturday, November 10th from 2–10 p.m. at Flint Calvary UMC—Fun, Food, and Fellowship—Christian Rock Band “Nailpoint Payment” will play and internationally known speaker Julian Hamilton. Pick up a flyer in the youth room today. Registration is due Sunday, October 28th.

Parents & Adults Leaders—The United Methodist Conference Council on Youth Ministries is hosting the Worship Fall Youth Rally on November 10th. All adult leaders attending must be certified through the conference as trained adults. There is a training opportunity for us on October 29th at Southfield Hope UMC. Please consider attending the training and the Fall Rally with us. Talk to Emily if you have any questions.

Junior High

Happening Every Week...

Dinner and Drama (at RNL)—All 7th and 8th graders are invited to Dinner and Drama every Wednesday from 5:30–7:00 p.m. We eat dinner together as a group in Room F and then prepare and practice as a drama team. Come join us this Wednesday!

Junior High Youth Group—Sunday Nights you will find us playing games, checking out God’s Word, chatting about living for God, eating snacks, and having a ton of fun! Come join us every Sunday night from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in the junior high room.

1st Year Confirmation Class—Students meet in the Junior High Room from 7:00–8:00 p.m.

1st Year Confirmation Students—Confirmation Retreat Registration and \$75 payment are needed by October 17th. Safe Sanctuary Trained Parents are still needed as volunteers to attend the retreat.

Senior High

Wild Worship Wednesday (W3)—It’s a night of connecting with friends and connecting with God made for senior high youth. Join us every Wednesday in the youth room from 8:00–9:30 p.m.

Life Together Groups (LT Groups)—Every Sunday from 4:00–6:00 p.m. we will be connecting to God and one another through small group Bible study—Come join us! If you are in an LT group please check with Emily to make sure you are signed up to bring a meal. We always end our time together with a yummy meal prepared by the families of those participating in an LT group.

Worship Team Meeting—If you are a part of the student-led worship team or have any interest in being a part of it, please join us on October 21st following the second worship service for an important discussion and meeting! We will eat together after the service at the Mississippi Missions Meal and then gather in the basement for the meeting.

Bonfire & Corn Maze – All parents and students are invited to a night of fellowship on Saturday, October 20th at 7:00 p.m. Join us at the Bennyhoff Home and enjoy some food around the fire! Parents will stay and relax and enjoy one another while students head out to the Talladay Farms Corn Maze. Students – Bring \$5, a flashlight, and your parents. Certain to be a GREAT fall evening together!

FLU SHOT TIME

The Parish Nurse Program has been able to secure the services of the Visiting Nurses to administer flu shots at our church. The clinic will be held on Sunday, October 28th from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The cost for the shot is covered by the following insurances: Medicare Part B, HAP, Blue Care Network (NOT Blue Cross/Blue Shield), M-Care, Care Choices, and Priority Health. If you are not covered by the above insurances, the cost is \$33.00 payable with cash, check, or most major credit cards.

So roll up your sleeves and protect yourself and those around you. Be healthy this winter!



Pastor Tuttle has said that he wouldn’t mind if folks sat in the back during Sunday worship and slipped out for their shot. This would allow a more steady flow of people in line. You can come early for the 9:00 a.m. service or stay after the 11:15 a.m. service. There is no excuse; don’t leave church without it! To your good health...Sharell Gehrke

Fundraising Lunch
Gulf Coast Mission Team
October 21, 12:30 – 2 p.m.

The Gulf Coast Mission Team is hosting a Mississippi Style Luncheon on Sunday, October 21 from 12:30–2 p.m. This will be the first major fundraiser for the team. They will travel to the Gulf Coast area January 26 through February 3, 2008. This theme based fundraiser will offer a New Orleans style main course with a luscious favorite, Mississippi Mud Brownies, for dessert! The Gulf Coast Mission Team invites each of you to share in this time of fellowship and food. Please plan on celebrating this mission opportunity with us. There will be a free will offering taken to help support this mission trip. For more information please contact Kathy Kirkland by calling 429-3414 or 429-4528.



175TH ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK

Please help us pre-plan how many cookbooks to have printed by reserving your copies now. The cookbooks will be here by November 4th and will make great Christmas gifts. The cost will be \$10 per book. Please pick up a preorder form at the Opportunity Wall. Payment can be made now in the form of a check written out to First United Methodist Church with *175th Anniversary Cookbook* in the memo line. Payment is also accepted at the time of pick up.



Trick or Treat
For UNICEF



The Sunday school mission for October is TRICK-or-TREATING-for-UNICEF (the United Nations Children's Fund). On Sunday October 21st the Sunday school children will receive the orange boxes used to go door to door when trick or treating. UNICEF is working in 156 countries to provide health care, clean water, nutrition, and education for children and their families. By Trick-or-Treating for UNICEF, you can be a hero and help your child to help other kids around the world. Please return the orange box with the money collected on Sunday November 4th. Any questions can be directed to Kathy Kirkland at 429-3414.



A Special
Friendship
"Thank You!"

On behalf of the Friendship Ministry, our staff, and our Friendship families we would like to offer a very special Friendship **"THANK YOU"** to Amy Acree, the Acree family, and all the friends who shared in the "dance revolution and birthday party" for Amy's 31st birthday in the Fellowship Hall! Amy's family and friends offered up very generous gifts to Amy and in addition to that offered special monetary designations for the Friendship Ministry! These gifts were given to purchase a long awaited karaoke machine for the Friendship music program and fellowship time. Friendship received over \$300 in designated funds from Amy's wonderful friends, her family, and ministry supporters. We sing out a very special "thank you" with joy and gratitude for these very generous gifts!
La-la-la-la! "THANK YOU !"

Operation Christmas
Child



What are small, rectangular, and can send a piece of you to faraway places to touch the lives of children who are refugees of a civil war, survivors of a natural disaster, or victims of extreme poverty? **YOUR OLD SHOEBOXES!** Pack a shoebox with new small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, a personal note a photo if you wish, and other items that are safe and can make a tough trip overseas. Also include \$7 to cover shipping and project costs like printing gospel materials in foreign languages. Bring your boxes to church to dedicate to God on October 28th. Operation Christmas Child then adds the gospel materials and sorts and sends them around the world to children in need. Look for specific Operation Christmas Child box instructions in the brochure at the Opportunity Wall or call Linda Klepaczyk at 429-0441. No time to shop? Please help as a "box topper" and donate money to help buy last minute items to top off the boxes filled with items donated by the R.O.C.K. in Logos kids.

Loving Hands Ministry



We need your help! Would you consider making a meal in your home and delivering it to someone in our church family? Loving Hands offers meals to those who have had surgery, those who are undergoing cancer treatments, who have been in an accident, who are welcoming a new baby into their home, or to those who just need a helping hand. Due to employment changes in our area 12 people have had to leave our serving team and we would like to replace them. If you are able to help, please sign up at the Opportunity Wall by the Loving Hands poster. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Maddock at 482-2463 or Carol Osterling at 429-6953. Thank-you!

PRAYER MINISTRY

Please note that the Prayer Ministry has changed to Thursday at 9:30 a.m. (everyone is welcome to join us). This small group prays over the prayer cards from Sunday, as well as concerns which come in during the week. We want to keep our congregation connected to God in a powerful way, as we seek to do the Lord's will in this place. If you have any questions please talk to Laura Speiran.

SCRAPBOOKS!



Do you have envelopes, drawers or even boxes filled with pictures and keepsakes waiting to be organized? Have you been meaning to get those pictures into albums but just haven't

had time? Or have you started a scrapbook but never found the time to finish it? Come join us on Friday, October 26th starting at 5:00 p.m. and/or Saturday, October 27th starting at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a Scrapbook Extravaganza. Contact Cheryl Schlaff at (734)417-3951 or cheryl@fumc-saline.org to get all the details.



BLUE HOUSE COLLECTION

All items placed in the Blue House will be donated to Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti. The following is a list of suggested items to donate: large and small diapers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, peanut butter, jelly, canned meat, cereal, shampoo, toilet paper, and bar soap. If you have any questions contact Jan Turosky at 944-1429.

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE



The Annual Church Conference will be held on Sunday, November 4th. We will begin the evening at 6:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner; the business meeting will follow at 7:30 p.m. We will provide the entrée for this potluck but are asking you to bring your favorite side dish, vegetable, salad or dessert (to serve 10 or more) to compliment the meal. Please save the date on your calendar and plan on a great tasting meal with a meeting on the side. We will provide coffee, tea, milk and lemonade. If you or your ministry team would like to set up these beverages, please contact Darlene in the office. We are looking for someone to do set up/clean up in room A/B for the Staff Parish meeting with Tom Macaulay, our District Superintendent, at 6:30 p.m. The set up would include condiments, place settings, coffee and ice water. If you or your ministry team would like to help in this area, please contact Darlene at 429-4730.

What is the Longest Night Service?

Each December, we hold a special worship service during the Christmas holiday season for people who are struggling through a challenging time. It is meant to be a time and a space to rest in God. When you don't feel like celebrating because of the recent death



of a loved one, or illness, or job loss, or any other difficult issue, it may help to come and worship in a quiet, meditative way. We offer the opportunity to light candles, either in remembrance, or as a symbol of hope. This is meant to be a community service—everyone is welcome and there is no offering collected. This year's Longest Night Service will be held on Tuesday, December 18th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please invite neighbors or friends who may benefit, or consider coming yourself. If you have questions please contact Deacon Laura Speiran in the church office.

October is Ministry Appreciation Month

What a wonderful time of year to show our appreciation for all those who make the ministries at Saline FUMC so successful. Both paid staff and our many volunteers are truly the heart that keeps this church pumping and bringing us all closer to God. Please take a few moments to say a kind word, send a card, or give a small token of appreciation to those in our varying ministries.

Stewardship Nuggets for Families and Children Thanksgiving Every Day

By Linda Holland

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

— *Philippians 4:6, NRSV*

"Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honor me; to those who go the right way I will show the salvation of God."

— *Psalms 50:23, NRSV*

Most of us consider Thanksgiving Day as an opportunity to visit with family, watch parades and football games, and eat a traditional meal that includes turkey and pumpkin pie. We tend to have fond memories of this holiday. As Christians, we must remember that each day is a *thanksgiving day*. We are blessed with God's abundant love every day.

Create a thanksgiving box with your family during the first few days of November. Ask your children to decorate the outside of a shoebox with typical Thanksgiving symbols: turkeys, pilgrims, and so on. Keep this box in a conspicuous place, such as your kitchen table or the coffee table in the den. Each day during family time, ask family members to reflect on their day by recalling one aspect of the day for which they are thankful. Family members may write this one recollection on a slip of paper. Family members then share what they have written with the family and place the slips of paper in the thanksgiving box. Close your time together with a family prayer, and thank God specifically for those recollections.

On Thanksgiving Day, open the box with your family and review these slips of paper. Count your blessings!

Questions for Discussion

- For what are you most thankful?
- Is being thankful a choice or just a feeling?
- Do you remember any stories from the Bible about thankful people?
- How will you continue to give thanks to God each day?

— *Linda Holland is from Helena, Alabama.*

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OUR SYMPATHIES TO ~

The family and friends of Kenneth Volz on his passing; the Hinsman family on the passing of Barbara Barry; the family of Genevieve Fraser on her passing.

PRAISE/CELEBRATIONS ~

Leanne Rinnac and Mandy Austin our newly Certified Lay Speakers; for all the teamwork of volunteers and staff that make our church run smoothly; Nick Turosky on his Eagle Scout award; for those who participated in the Crop Walk; Steve and Pam Heffelbower to become grandparents; Keith and Patsy Held's new granddaughter; Carl & Sue Snow's new granddaughter.

PRAYER CONCERNS ~

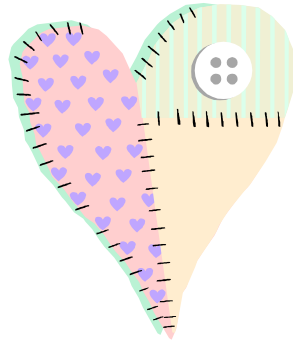
Paul Adamkowski, Walter Schmidt, Joanne Gunningham, Jackie Tull, Laura, Thelma Dean, Martha Karaman, Eleanor, Jim Beal, McKenna Ducca, Gary Korte, Karen Folta's family, Madeline, Jean Fryer, Rosila Hoelzer, Nathan Miller,



Margaret Acree, Samantha Sherson, Hinsman family, Andrea Bachman, Margie Sauter, Oneta Bull, Kim Setzer & family, Gregg Brayton, Thane Stout, Debbie Phillips, Sally, Matt Folta's pop pop, family of Gary Ingram, Annella Aurand, Sharon Abel's extended family, Dorothy Sackett, Phil Knapp, Ruth Akans, Dave Cuff, Betty Morrow & family, Lynn Hopkins, Pioneer High School teacher's family, the family of Gary Ingram, Dennis, Rev. Nancy Smith, Amy, Tommy Hickey, Richelle Barker, Patricia Harris, Terry Marshall, Todd Michael, Ronda, Megan Shaw, Lou Pintinelli, Roger Ott, healing for our friends, those suffering from natural disasters, for everyone who is out of work, for those struggling with marriage difficulties.

MILITARY PERSONNEL AND FAMILIES ~

J.T. St. Denis; Bennett Phipps, brother of Rachel Wislocki; Bill Paul; Timothy Frisbee, son of Pam & Gene Frisbee; Nick Gilveli; Kevin Raymond, son of Susan Raymond; Bobby Singh, son-in-law of Paulette & Mike Suchy; Tim Jones, son of Penny & Doug Jones; Dan Erlwein; Sam Spicer; 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; Jeff & Ryan Housner; Aaron Friese; Sergeant Eric Coppernoll; John & Ryan Engel; Russ Bodine, son-in-law of Martha and Robert Seward; Erik Anderson; Edgar Groom, son-in-law of Beulah Morton; Joseph Miller; Dave Hayes; Nathan Miller, son of Jeff & Susan Miller; Benjamin Cripe, Derek Burge, Justin Burge.



5TH ANNUAL QUILT AUCTION AND UMW DINNER

**Saturday, November 3rd
In the Fellowship Hall**

**Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
Silent Auction at 6:00 p.m.
Quilt Auction at 7:00 p.m.**

SOUPS, SALADS AND DESSERTS

All buffet items will be from our new cookbook!

The meal free-will offering will go to missions that include:
Methodist Children's Home, Cass Avenue,
Heritage Foundation and Saline Area Social Services

Proceeds from the quilts go to funding
next year's quilts, our Prayers and Squares Ministry,
the UMC AIDS Advance Giving and other missions.

