

Yes, I would like to donate!

Yes, I would like to donate a new hymnal(s) to UCC at \$30.00 each.

Name: _____

Number of hymnals_____ @ \$30.00 each for a total of \$_____

Please dedicate the hymnal(s) to the following:

(H = "In Honor of") (M = "In Memorial of) Circle one for each.

H or M (Person's Name) _____

H or M (Name)_____

H or M (Name)_____

H or M (Name)_____

Thank you to all of who have dedicated a new hymnal. You will be seeing the Bookplates in the hymnal in the next few weeks. Dedications are still coming in so please feel free to use this coupon to make your dedication in memory of, in honor of, or just dedicate a hymnal in your name. Thank you.

Summer at UCC

The Chancel Choir will take a break from July 4th until September 12th.

The church office will be closed May 31st for Memorial Day, July 4th for Independence Day and September 6th for Labor Day.

At a Glance

Youth Trip-Heifer Ranch, June 16-19th
Vacation Bible School, June 21-25th

Be Included submit news items by June 16th to Julie Baker:
julie4design@gmail.com

Go Green if you prefer to receive an e-newsletter as a PDF each month, let us know: cathy@ucchurch.org



universitycongregationalchurch

9209 E. 29th Street North · Wichita, KS 67226
316-634-0430 · www.ucchurch.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Steeple Notes

universitycongregationalchurch

Volume 28, Issue 6

Where head & heart are partners in faith.

June 2010



News from the Belfry



I have a confession to make. My Ouija board is so old that it often misunderstands the question and gives the wrong answers. My Eight ball does the same thing. I dropped my crystal ball years ago and continue to live with the bad luck. Tarot cards are as limited as my skills in poker. Finally, I am not now nor ever have been clairvoyant or in the least bit capable of telepathy.

So I am hoping that you can help me out. If you know of someone who is in the hospital or going through a rough time, please call me. If you think of someone who would appreciate a pastoral call or visit, please let me know. Do not worry that someone else might have called. I would much rather be told of a need dozens of times than miss the opportunity to serve a parishioner in need.

How can people get in touch with me? There are several ways.

- The church's phone number is 316.634.0430. You can leave a message with Cyndi or you can leave a message on my voice mail.
- My cell phone number is 316.239.5474. Again you can leave a message when I am not available to answer. Remember that cell phone voice mail is not automatic. I sometimes get voicemail messages a day or two after they are made.
- My home number is 620.367.2508. We have an answering machine. This is also the best number to call at night.
- My email address is drgaryblaine@yahoo.com

We are all getting ready for summer. Many families have vacation plans. Mine are not set yet but I can tell you that I will once again be teaching a class this summer at Phillips Theological Seminary. The title of the course is "The Spiritual Landscape of America's Nature Writers." I will offer this intensive class the week of July 19-23.

If you are traveling be safe. Return to us whole and rested. May you travel with God.

Gary

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Strategic Plan Committee – Year One

by Phil Rhea

May 31st will mark the end of the first year of our three-year strategic plan. At a congregational meeting on May 31, 2009, members unanimously endorsed the plan. Many initiatives have been started; other hopes have been completed. What follows is what UCC has done in Year One:

- Developed a new member program
- Developed a visitors' program
- Installed "Seasons of the Spirit" program into the high school curriculum
- Developed a toddler program and installed "Seasons of the Spirit" for them.
- Increased 'Community Service' in high school curriculum— Greensburg trip; collection for Youthville; Spanish alphabet coloring books; Operation Holiday
- Held a leadership training on January for strategic plan committee members and for members of the 2010 Council
- Installed new governors for the Endowment Fund
- Developed a Stephen Ministry program
- Replaced choir robes and stoles
- Replaced hymnals
- Completed office suite addition
- Reformatted the monthly newsletter
- Developed a completed new UCC website

I want to acknowledge the work of many people on the strategic plan.

Those who developed the plan were:

Leigh Aaron-Leary	Karen Malone
Ted Blankenship	Lindsay Miller
Bob Biles	Jim Rhatigan
Steve Brooks	Jonnie Rhea
Gary Blaine, Senior Minister	Philip Rhea, Chair
Ann Dorrah	Diane Worth
Shannon Goodman-Boone	

Those who implemented the plan from June 2009-December 2009 were:

Debbie Becker	Jonnie Rhea
Dr. Gary Blaine	Karen Robu
Ted Blankenship	Grace Kneil
Steve Brooks	Karen English
Ann Dorrah	Bruce Cochener
Dawn Jester	Rod Phares
Karen Malone	Larry Widmer
Georgia Nix Miller	

Those who are implementing the plan for January –December 2010 are:

Dr. Gary Blaine	Cathy Erbert
Debbie Becker	Dwayne Green
Jerry Becker	Becki Herod
Dorothy Blankenship	Grace Kneil
Steve Brooks	Jonnie Rhea
Kim Carraway	Karen Robu
Mary Ellen Conlee	Burt Tims

The committee meets at 5:30 pm on the Wednesday prior to the monthly Council meeting. I encourage you to attend any meeting that you wish.

Among Our Own

Our condolences go out to **Catherine Lane** on the death of her daughter Ann. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Charter Member **Jack Galbraith** died Wednesday, May 12th in Los Angeles. His memorial service was May 22nd in Kansas City.

The Memorial Service for **Bert Smith** will be Saturday, June 19th, 11:00 am at UCC. Bert passed away May 14th. Our condolences go out to Joyce Smith and their family.

Leigh (Cox) Burgess graduated from Phillips Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. Leigh is currently serving as Associate Pastor at Pine Valley Christian Church and has been accepted into Wesley Medical Center's Fall 2010 Clinical Pastoral Education program. We wish her the best in her new endeavors.

Social Scene

Woman's Guild Luncheon

Wednesday, June 2nd
The program this month is a chance to discuss "What's Your Favorite Book? Come and share with the group. Social time is at 12:00 noon. Lunch is served at 12:30 pm Cost \$7.00 Make your reservation by calling Rosie Howell 315-7985 by Tuesday June 1st. This is our last meeting for summer. We will resume the first Wednesday in October.

Men's Group Lunch

Thursday, June 10th at 11:30 am
Abuelo's, 1413 N. Waterfront Parkway. Let us know if you need a ride. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or call the church office.

Cook's Night Out

See you in the fall.
Will resume in October.

Family Night Out

See you in the fall.
Will resume in September.

Newsletter Sponsorship

Here is an opportunity to help fund the new and improved newsletter! Please call the church office if you and or your company would like to sponsor the monthly newsletter at a cost of \$100.00 per month. Your donation will be tax deductible.



Phone a friend

Hit a rough patch? Need someone to listen? **UCC Stephen Ministers**, welcome your call.

- Bev Berl
- Kim Carraway
- Andrea Conlee
- Debbi Green
- Phil Rhea
- Karen Robu

News from the future...our youth

by Karen Robu



June is going to be a busy month. The Youth Group takes its trip to **Heifer Ranch, June 16-19th**. If you are planning on going and have not turned in your release form please do so by June 1.

The following week, **June 21st-25th** is **Vacation Bible School**. Children ages 3 – 11 are invited to Meet God on the Mountaintop each morning from 9:00 am – noon. There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall, or you can call Karen at the church office (634-0430). We are also looking for parent volunteers to help that week.

Sunday, June 27th we wrap up a fun week with our annual **Ice Cream Social**. Join us 4:00pm – 6:30pm for Ice Cream, hotdogs, hamburgers, moonwalk, music, and more. Also, the children will be singing that morning in church. This will be the last time Miss Angela leads the Children's Choir as she will be leaving us next fall to attend the University of Northern Colorado. There she will be working toward her Master of Music in Jazz Studies, Jazz Piano Performance. I know we will all miss her kindness, and dedication, but it is exciting to see her moving on to fulfill her dreams.

Good Luck Miss Angela! We will miss you.

Shalom,

Karen

Congratulations!

We welcome our newest Confirmands as new members to UCC.

*Alex Blonigan
Jordan Helmer
Kristin Helmer
Mae Lavacek
Drake Lister
Molly Mason
Joshua Templon*

Sunday School Classes end

May 16th and start up again September 12th.

Summer Kids Club begins

May 23rd and runs through September 5th for ages 4 through just completed 5th grade.