

The Outreach Vision Team will be hosting a pancake breakfast on Sunday, October 9 following worship. Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast and support our church's missions.



The Book Club will be meeting on Monday, NOVEMBER 7 at 4:30 pm in the church library. They will be discussing the book "Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women World Wide", by Nicholas Kristof & Sheryl WuDunn. All are invited to join us for our discussion.



First United Methodist Church
 118 West Jackson Street
 Morris, IL 60450
 815-942-0809

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Spirit Alive

October 2011

Staff

Pastors

Scott McClellan

Scott@morrisumc.com

Deborah Percell

Deb@morrisumc.com

Financial Secretary

Judy Burns

Judy@morrisumc.com

Church Secretary

Julie Pierce

Julie@morrisumc.com

Choir Director

Mary MacAdams

Organist

Cheryle Larson

Custodian

Don Kundert

Preschool Director

Lori Woodard

preschool@morrisumc.com

Sunday School

Superintendent

sundayschool@morrisumc.com

Children's Choir

Director

Leann Hill

Hand Bell Choir Director

Millie Dyer

A Note From Your Pastor . . .

Dear Friends:

Beginning Oct. 16th I will be leading a new Adult Sunday School Class called United Methodism 101. As its name implies we will be looking at the basics of our denomination.

I know that many of our present members did not grow up in the United Methodist Church. And of those who did, some may never have studied our denomination --or have forgotten what we learned in confirmation classes many years ago.

The class is being designed as a "drop-in" class --meaning that each session is independent of the others. That way, those who teach other Sun. School classes every other week, or those who have other commitments and cannot attend every session are welcome to attend.

The class will last for six weeks (Oct. 16 – Nov. 20). The topics which I hope to cover include:

1. History and important people of our church
2. Our beliefs and Social Principles
3. Connectionalism --how we are organized
4. Worship and Sacraments
5. Where we are in Mission today
6. Comparison with other denominations

(These topics are not in the order they will be covered and are subject to change at the discretion of the teacher.)

As United Methodists I believe it is important for us to know where we have come from, what makes us distinct, and where we are going as a denomination. I look forward to being able to share our story as United Methodists and talk together about the future mission of our church.

In closing let me share a trivia question dealing with our U.M. history: Several churches in our Northern Illinois Annual Conference have names related to historical people or places. What is the significance of: Wesley (several churches), Aldersgate (Wheaton and Rockford), Epworth (Chicago and Elgin), Kingswood (Buffalo Grove) and Embury (Freeport)? Come and find out at UM101!

Peace,
Pastor Scott

News of the flock

Hospitalized

Eleanor Hacker
Darrell Brown

Lois Snyder
Lorna Hardman

Margaret Gunnerson

Don Varner

The beginning of life eternal . . .

Remember the following in your prayers . . .

- ~ Jim & Mary Jo Schuster and family on the death of his mother, Julia Schuster.
- ~ Bob & Marge Olson on the passing of her brother, Richard McComb.
- ~ Gail Helland and family on the death of her husband, Steven.
- ~ Herschel Goken on the passing of his wife, Ruby.
- ~ Jake & Coleen Gregory on the death of his mother, Rena Gregory
- ~ To the family of Vi Willimason.



Thank you to everyone who sent cards and offered prayers at the time of my brother's death.

Marge Olson



PADS Meals

We are looking for some volunteers to prepare meals for our PADS visitors on Tuesday evenings starting October 18. If you would like to prepare a meal please sign up on the bulletin board. If you have questions contact Pam Butler (815-942-0707).



LOOKinG foR A Bible Study?

Tuesday Morning Bible Study will begin October 4 at 10:30 am at the church. They will be doing a more in depth study of the Sunday morning passages. All are welcome.

The Wednesday Night Bible Study invites you to join them as they take on Matthew. Everyone is welcome to come just when you can. Join in the lively discussions from 6:00-7:00 PM any Wednesday you can make it starting October 5th.

Wednesday Night Men's Group meet at 8:00 pm in the Cry Room on Wednesday nights. They are studying Adam Hamilton's "Christianity and World Religion". All men are welcome to join them.



Once again the Preschool has filled all 4 sessions with an enrollment of 69 students! These classes have an incredible team of teachers now with Mrs. Leann Hill on board as permanent staff! Mrs. Woodard, Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Hill make a super team and the little students are seeming grateful that they have friendly familiar faces to welcome them into learning their fundamentals. The school year was kicked off with the September fundraiser of Box Tops For Education. Last year 1000 box tops were collected which provided \$100 of funds for the preschool. The Board of Directors and staff are excited to share this year's new service of Hearing and Vision Screenings with the small fee of \$7. The preschool got on board with all the Corn Fest excitement by taking the annual walk to the tractors. The 4-year-olds got a tour of Fire Station #1 by

the firemen. Love's Photography came to take the annual school pictures. One of our little 4-year-old has a special request to all of you to collect your pop tops this month and help us help the Ronald McDonald House Charity. Drop them by the church office or any of the staff during the month of October. Happy Halloween!



Word from Finance



Fall is here and that starts a very busy time of year for the church, Sunday School is back in session, Ham & Bean Dinner, P.A.D.S., Turkey Supper, and Thanksgiving Food collection for We Care. It is hard to believe that Christmas is not that far away. I was in a store the other day and the store employee's were putting out the Christmas decorations. Where did the summer go?

Our church is very blessed this harvest season. Our financial position is good. Our bills are paid in full and we are 2 apportionment payments ahead in our obligation to the conference. The church received a government refund for Health Care Insurance purchased for our pastors. The refund was temporarily put in a savings account and will cover church expenses. The church has one year left on the mortgage for the Muffler Property so continued gifts are important.

Thank you so very much for helping support the various functions the church in involved in!

God bless!
Andy Larson



Saturday ~ October 8

8:00 am—Noon

Fellowship Hall

Signup on the bulletin board.



Our Annual Turkey Supper will be Friday, November 4 will settings at 5, 6 & 7 pm. Carry-outs available from 4:30—6:00 pm. Adult tickets will be \$10.50 and children under 12 will be \$5.50. Tickets go on sale after worship on October 15 & 16 and in the church office during the week of October 17.

October Birthdays

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Mary Callahan | 13 Jacqueline Jollay | 23 Laurie Allen |
| Jacquelyn Sereno | John Martin | John Hanson |
| 3 Jody Brown | 14 Kathy Goodale | Nathan Kotowski |
| Kaitlyn Brown | Pamela Roth | 24 Charles Butts |
| Deborah Hanley | Connie Wies | 25 Amy Peacock |
| Bryan Thouvenin | 15 Kevin Kinzler | 26 Rachel Altieri |
| 4 Deanne Devine | Jeff Lovelady | Jennifer Jacobs |
| Sarah Krueger | Alaina Wallace | Muff Larson |
| Craig Lincoln | 16 Sharon Dibble | 27 Delaney Eber |
| Nicholas Redford | Gail Helland | Cade Enerson |
| Brianne Thacker | Sherry Lewis-Miller | Van Hicks |
| 5 Matthew Eber | 17 Kori Beck | Wendy Schluntz |
| Jeffrey Wilson | Deborah VanPelt | 28 John Darlington |
| 6 Ashley Maubach | 18 Kerry Dite | Steven Turk |
| 7 Marian Benson | Kevin Laughary | 29 Ian Miller |
| 8 Liliana Delgado | Kurt Laughary | Thomas Sereno |
| Jasmine Gaertner | Michael Wright | 30 Jenna Baker |
| Elizabeth Miller | 19 Branden Dite | Charles Brehm |
| Brent Newman | Ruth Harp | Corie Gaertner |
| 9 Taylor Baranski | 20 Mary Caisley | Pat Hunter |
| Lauren Devries | Alexia Stacy | Arlene Varner |
| Sergio Diaz | Aidan Thouvenin | Mary Fran Wilkinson |
| Randee Murphy | 21 Donna Hickerson | 31 Kiley Kindelspire |
| 10 Kelly Monk | Kyle Olson | Joseph Lyle |
| 11 Carla McClintock | 22 Marcus Schluntz | |
| 12 Joseph Thomas | 23 Brenda Acker | |

UMW Circle News

- ~ Executive Board is Tuesday, October 4 at 6:30 pm at the church with 2012 program planning at 7:30 pm
- ~ Children's Sabbath is October 8 & 9 with Kori Beck as speaker on her mission trip to Haiti
- ~ Rummage Sale Sorting—Monday & Tuesday, October 10 & 11
- ~ Rummage Sale is Wednesday & Thursday, October 12 & 13
- ~ Monday Circle is Monday, October 17 at 12:30 pm at the church
- ~ Wednesday Circle is Wednesday, October 19 at 12:30 pm at Letty Mae's Tea Room
- ~ Martha Circle is Thursday, October 20 at 9:00 am at the church
- ~ God's Girls is Thursday, October 20 at 7:00 pm at the church
- ~ Rebekah Circle is Thursday, October 20 at 7:30 pm at Anne Barr's home



Top 5 ways to a productive & successful rummage sale:

5. If it's broke, don't bring it (the dumpster fills quickly).
4. Bring your treasures by NOON on Monday, Oct. 10.
3. Please remove garage sale stickers, your pricing system may not be the same as ours.
2. Sign-up to sort, donate food, or work the sale—you will enjoy the fellowship. It is great fun!
1. Remember—if it's not nice enough to give to your sister, it's probably not nice enough to bring to the sale.

You only have a short amount of time left before the Fall UMW Rummage Sale. Drop off your gently used treasures starting Monday, October 3. All are welcome to help during this week of fun, food & fellowship.



Fall Festival

Mark your calendars and join us on Thursday, October 27 from 5:00—7:00 pm for a time of games, candy, fellowship and fun for the whole family. The Jr. High Youth Group will be sponsoring our Family Fall Festival.

We are looking for people to help with the planning and also that evening with the games. If you would like to help in anyway please contact Pastor Deb, 815-942-0809. Once again we will be needing candy for prizes. You can drop it off at the church office.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Stephen Ministry offers a selection of small booklet CareNotes to provide help and hope to the hurting. Check out the CareNotes table outside the Sanctuary by the elevator. We've added new titles, such as "What Everyone Should Know About Stress" in addition to popular titles such as "When You Can't Stop Worrying" and "Slowing Down and finding God in Your Busy Life". CareNotes for Teens and Kids are also available.





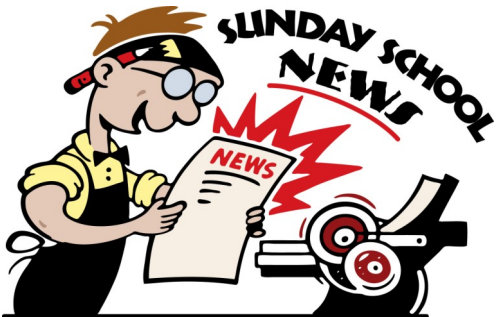
Upcoming Events

Jr. High

October 16	Corn Maze \$5 plus snack money	5:30 –9:00 pm
October 23	Meeting At the Church	4:30—6:00 pm
October 27	Family Fall Festival At the Church	5:00—7:00 pm

Sn High

October 23	2012 ASP Parent/Youth Meeting Anyone interested in going to ASP next year should attend this meeting with their parent(s).	7:00 pm
October 30	Halloween Fun Night At the Church	7:00 pm



The Education Vision Team would like to say a HUGE Thank You to the Fellowship Team and everyone who helped make our Bible BBQ Bonanza Extravaganza such a wonderful start to our Sunday School year!

Thank you once again to everyone who has answered the call to teach our young people. Your passion for this ministry is an inspiration to us all.

Are you looking for a new, exciting Sunday School experience? Join Pastor Scott in the first of this year's series of classes—UM 101: Everything you wanted to know about being a United Methodist! The first session will begin on Sunday, October 16.

Our children in the preschool and third grade Sunday school classes will be receiving their Bibles on Sunday, October 9 during worship. If your child is in preschool through 5th grade and has not yet received a Bible, please notify the church office ASAP.



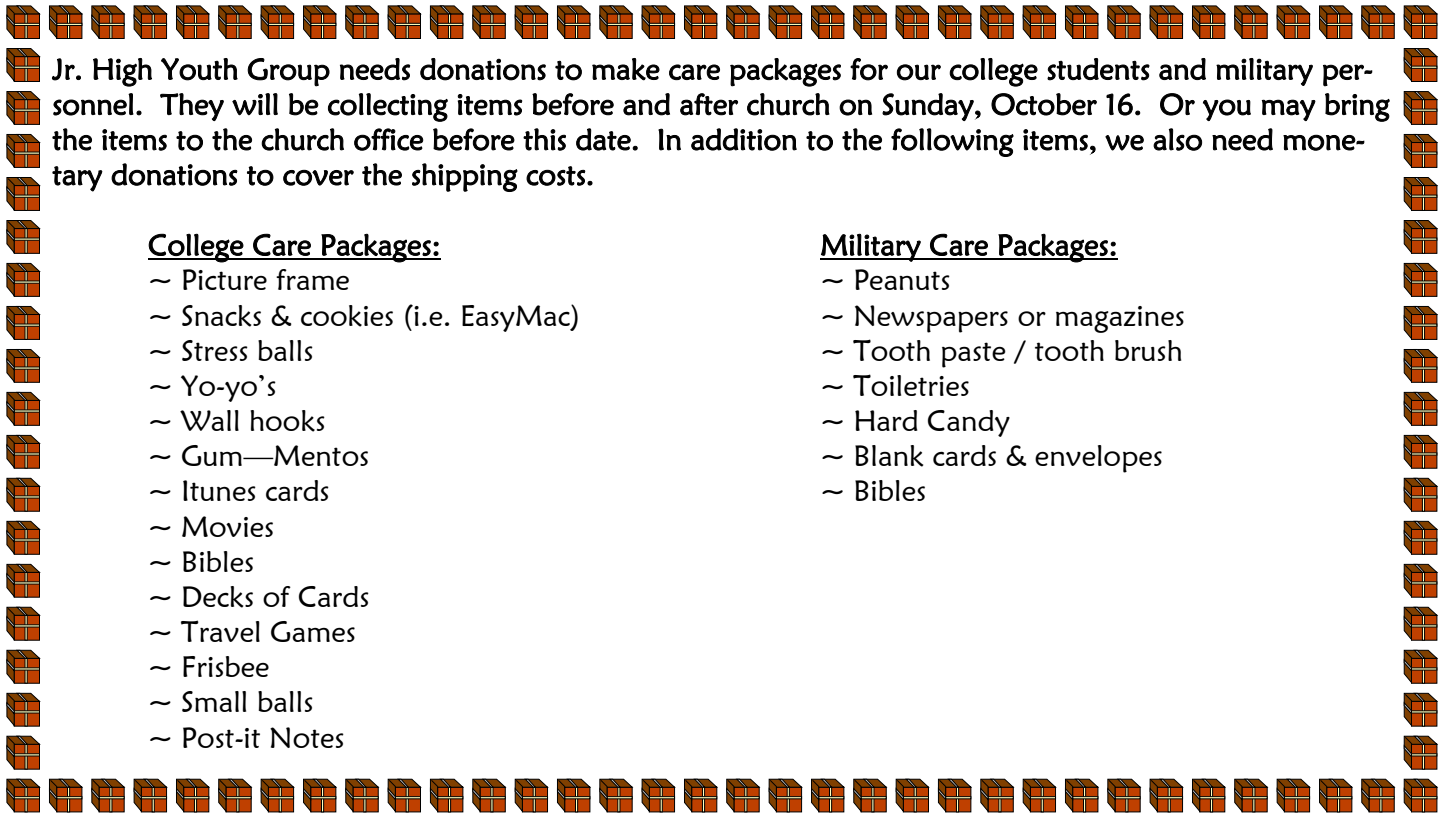
ADDRESSES NEEDED

We are in the process of updating our records and would like to be able to communicate with our college students and military members. If you have a child away at college or in the military please fill out this form and return it to the church office or e-mail the information to julie@morrisumc.com.



Name: _____

Address: _____



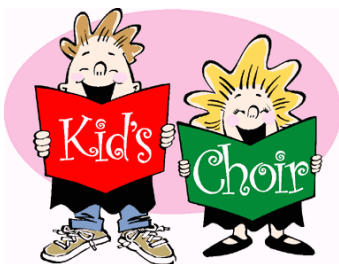
Jr. High Youth Group needs donations to make care packages for our college students and military personnel. They will be collecting items before and after church on Sunday, October 16. Or you may bring the items to the church office before this date. In addition to the following items, we also need monetary donations to cover the shipping costs.

College Care Packages:

- ~ Picture frame
- ~ Snacks & cookies (i.e. EasyMac)
- ~ Stress balls
- ~ Yo-yo's
- ~ Wall hooks
- ~ Gum—Mentos
- ~ Itunes cards
- ~ Movies
- ~ Bibles
- ~ Decks of Cards
- ~ Travel Games
- ~ Frisbee
- ~ Small balls
- ~ Post-it Notes

Military Care Packages:

- ~ Peanuts
- ~ Newspapers or magazines
- ~ Tooth paste / tooth brush
- ~ Toiletries
- ~ Hard Candy
- ~ Blank cards & envelopes
- ~ Bibles



**Calling all kids!
Do you like to sing?
We have a choir for you!**

There will be a choir for children in kindergarten through 3rd grade. Our youth choir will continue for youth in 4th grade through 8th grade. Rehearsals will begin on Wed., Oct. 5th. The children's choir will meet from 5:00 to 5:30 and the youth choir from 5:30 to 6:00. Please sign up on the bulletin board or talk to Leann Hill (942-5938).