



Dear Partner in Ministry,

Twenty-nine of us have just returned from our mission trip to New Orleans and I have never been prouder of St. Philip's and the United Church of Christ. We stayed at Phil and Rachel Ricks' home church where two congregations have blended together after Katrina and where

the UCC helped finance bunkrooms and showers so that all of us could go to NOLA and help with the recovery.

The UCC received so much Katrina Relief money that they hired some folks to run the recovery program, then they helped local churches prepare for visitors (as in weeklong sweaty worker visitors.) Any UCC member who needed help rebuilding was given a several thousand-dollar credit and folks like us have come in legions to help. You will hear all about this in worship on July 27.

I can't say what was the most rewarding part of the trip. Maybe it was watching our youth (especially our girls) measure, cut, place and screw drywall into place. Maybe it was the daily devotional time where so much was shared. Maybe it was meeting, and for some working with, the beautiful, faith-filled families who lost almost everything and are so grateful for their blessings.

This was Christianity at its best. We lived in close community, we worked, we played, we fought, and we forgave. Thank you St. Philip's for supporting us with your money and prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Sue



Dear St. Philip's Family:

Thank you for the book and flower bouquet honoring my graduation. I appreciate all the prayers and support and I will think of you often as I continue my pursuit of education at Mizzou. Thank you for gift and for thinking of me on my graduation.

Sincerely,

Hannah Schillinger

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(A note sent to Philip and Rachel Ricks)

On behalf of the Disaster Response Ministry of South Central Conference of the United Church of Christ, I wish to thank you and all members of your group from St. Philip's UCC for spending a week with us in New Orleans. Your group was terrific! We thank each of you for your willingness to volunteer, for all your hard work and for helping us move forward with the recovery of New Orleans.

We are grateful for the thoughts and prayers coming our way from Missouri, and hope that you will continue to keep us in your prayers and consideration for future mission trips, as we rebuild homes and rebuild hope.

(signed) Alan  
Rev. Alan Coe  
Minister of Disaster Recovery

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Dear St. Philip's Sunday School:

Thank you for underwriting the cost of Marcus's allowance with your recent gift of \$25.00. Your gift and encouragement is a great support for Marcus in his efforts to overcome his troubles.

We certainly could not do it without support from friends like you! We truly appreciate your spirit of giving to those in need. Thank you for your continued support.



means that you will be contacted if something of that nature needs doing and you can decide if you would be available. This is not a commitment but rather a way to offer short term activities to people who have an interest in a specific area.

### **BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

Building and Grounds is still looking for any volunteers interested in helping with the clean-up around the church property on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 until around 8:00. If interested we are cleaning up weeds and overgrowth so dress appropriately and bring any tools you may have for such work. If you don't have or use any tools, come anyway. There is always something to do.



Al Farrow

### **BOOK CLUB NEWS**

Faithful Readers will discuss *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Haseirri after church on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. Future selections include *Auditions* by Barbara Waiters and *Water for Elephants*, discussion dates not yet set. All are welcome (even men!)

### **LYDIA'S HOUSE COMMUNITY MEAL**

It's St. Philip's turn to provide the community meal for Lydia's House on August 6<sup>th</sup>. That entails delivering food for approximately forty people – the ladies and their children. We always have a nice selection and enough for them to take some leftovers home for the next day. If you haven't helped before, please consider making something for the August meal. Sign up on the bulletin board and have your food to church by noon on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August.

### **FREEDOM FROM HUNGER**

Thanks so much for all the food you brought for the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. It was a barrelful! All food will go to feed your neighbors in Lemay. This is so important now when many are out of work and money of those working are making wages too low to

support even a basic lifestyle for themselves and their families. Thank you again for your generosity.

### **THANKS FROM THE CONFERENCE OFFICE**

The Missouri Mid-South Conference Office thanks Joy Lopez, Joan Schumacher, Dorothy Vinyard, and Sandy Stevenson for helping prepare a recent mailing. In an effort to save money by cutting down on office staff, the conference office uses volunteers for extra workloads such as collating materials and stuffing envelopes. St. Philip's has helped a number of times and they are very grateful.

### **AUGUST DINNERS**

Remember to sign up for the August 8<sup>th</sup> dinners to be held at Virginia's and Sandy's. Just add your name to the list on the bulletin board so we know how many to prepare for. Pick either house. Neither hostess will get her feelings hurt if you go to the other location. Just come and enjoy food and fellowship.

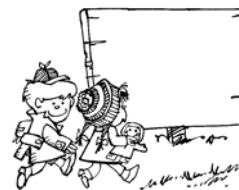


### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Please make the following changes in your church directory:

Kali Hladnick  
6522A Clayton Avenue 63139  
cell phone # 636-734-9986

### **ECC 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**



In September, the Early Childhood Center will be celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We've come a long way since the program was started in the parsonage by Mrs. Nowack! Several events are being planned to help everyone celebrate this important milestone.

During the month of August, we are collecting items for 2 baskets to be raffled off at our Family Event in September. The themes for the baskets are "Art" and "Games". Suggested donations include: watercolor paints, construction paper, playdoh, fingerpaints, card

games (for younger children), balls, simple board games such as Hi-Ho Cherrio and Sorry. Donated items should be placed in the box outside the day care office. Any support will be greatly appreciated!

### **COMING EVENTS**

August 1 Vacation Bible School  
August 3 VBS presentation  
August 4 Bible Study Class 8:30 am  
Church Council 7 pm  
August 7 Yoga Class 6:30 pm  
August 10 Traditional E & R Communion Service  
Birthday Sunday  
August 11 Bible Study Class 8:30 am  
August 13 Free Lunch – noon  
Prayer and Meditation Service 6:30 pm  
August 17 Mission Moment Sunday – Eden Seminary  
August 18 Bible Study Class 8:30 am  
Crier articles due  
August 19 Women’s Fellowship – Knoll Florist Tour 10:45 am  
August 24 Faithful Reader’s Book Club after worship  
August 25 Bible Study Class 8:30 am  
August 27 Prayer and Meditation Service 6:30 pm

### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Saturday, August 2 – Pancake Brunch and Gift Basket Silent Auction – 10 am – 1:30 pm at St. Philip’s United Church of Christ – to benefit the Alzheimer’s Association (see enclosed flyer) This event is hosted by Tom Hanewinkel’s (our neighbor) granddaughter.

Saturday, Augst 2 – St. Martin’s – Dittmer – Chicken Dinner 3-8 pm

### **HOME CARE AVAILABLE**

Sarah Spencer, our Dare Care director gave me the following info. If you or anyone you know is in need of home care there is a woman available whose children attended our day care program.

Her name is Becky Van and she is available any hours – day or night. Home phone # 314-842—5938 or cell # 314-494-0152.

### **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

Aug 1 Jackie Thurmond Ken Holdener Jean Mullgardt	Aug 19 Hilda Leonard
Aug 2 Terri Karcher	Aug 20 Claire Schillinger
Aug 3 Lauren Saulka	Aug 22 Lily Gibson Grace Gibson Connie Caldwell
Aug 7 LaVerne Ploesser	Aug 23 Al Farrow
Aug 8 Leetah Nickel	Aug 28 Wally Knoll Jennifer Larsen Paul Shrout
Aug 11 Peggi Werner	Aug 30 Harry Headley
Aug 15 Chris Armistead	Aug 31 Judy York
Aug 16 Megan Comstock	
Aug 18 Tammy Knoll	



**LITURGISTS, USHERS, ACOLYTES AND CHILDREN'S TIME  
FOR AUGUST**

**Ushers**

August 3 Youth  
August 10 50+ Group  
August 17 Early Childhood Center  
August 24 Women of the Church  
August 31 Worship and Music



**Acolytes**



August 3  
August 10  
August 17  
August 24  
August 31

**Children's Time**

August 3 Engaging Youth  
August 10 Kit Norton  
August 17 Andrea Moran  
August 24  
August 31



**'T WAS THE DAY AFTER BIBLE SCHOOL**

(Even though Bible school isn't over until August 1<sup>st</sup> – thought it would be appropriate to put it in the August Crier that comes out a little early).

"Twas the day after Bible school and all over town,  
With a sigh of relief, we all settled down.  
Out to the golf course goes Dad in his cap,  
And home in the bedroom Mom's taking a nap.  
Gone Linda, gone Brenda, gone David and Johnny  
Gone Margie, and Mary, and Ronnie and Donnie.  
Gone stories, and puppets, and songs in the air,  
Gone paint under fingernails and paste in the hair.  
Rest sweetly, dear workers, and wake with good cheer,  
For Bible school won't come again for a year.  
As they drifted off, I heard them exclaim:  
"It was worth all the hard work and we'd do it again!"

From The Newsletter August, 2008

## **THE LORD'S BASEBALL GAME**

Thanks to Dave Schiele for this one !

Freddy and the Lord stood by to observe a baseball game. The Lord's team was playing Satan's team. The Lord's team was at bat, the score was tied zero to zero, and it was the bottom of the 9<sup>th</sup> inning with two outs. They continued to watch as a batter stepped up to the plate named 'LOVE'.

Love swung at the first pitch and hit a single, because "Love never fails." The next batter was named 'FAITH', who also got a single because Faith works with Love.

The next batter up was named 'GODLY WISDOM'. Satan wound up and threw the first pitch. Godly Wisdom looked it over and let it pass: Ball one. Three more pitches and Godly Wisdom walked because he never swings at what Satan throws.

The bases were now loaded. The Lord then turned to Freddy and told him He was now going to bring in His star player. Up to the plate stepped 'GRACE'. Freddy said, "He sure doesn't look like much!" Satan's whole team relaxed when they saw Grace. Thinking he had won the game, Satan wound up and fired his first pitch. To the shock of everyone, Grace hit the ball harder than anyone had ever seen! But Satan was not worried; his center fielder let very few get by. He went up for the ball, but it went right through his glove, hit him on the head and sent him crashing on the ground; the roaring crowds went wild as the ball continued over the fence.....for a home run!

The Lord's team won! The Lord then asked Freddy if he knew why Love, Faith, and Godly Wisdom could get on base but couldn't win the game. Freddy answered that he didn't know why. The Lord explained, "If your love, faith, and wisdom had won the game, you would think you had done it by yourself. Love, Faith and Wisdom will get you on base but only My Grace can get you home: 'For by Grace we are saved, it is a gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast.'

Psalm 84:11 "For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly."

## **YOUTH NOTES**

Many thanks to all of our church family here at St. Philip's for your amazing support throughout our preparations for this faith-filling experience in Louisiana! We are all so glad to have enjoyed the opportunities to serve God's call and we are excited to share our stories with each of you. One of the most important reasons for going on a trip such as this one to New Orleans, is for our youth to have a community building, life affirming, positive learning experience from which they can draw upon throughout their own faith lives. It is very powerful to live in community together for over a week; we cook, clean, eat, sleep, pray, play, laugh, and cry with a unified focus on serving God's children with kindness and humility. Even though in this case New Orleans may never be exactly the same, we all feel that we received God's blessing through acting out the kind of love that Jesus taught us to share. With God's grace, I believe we left that city with a deep impact, three families better.

Thank you St. Philip's Family !

Mission Trip Participants (listed by work site groups)

Group # 1 – Roland Balzer, Jim Birkenbach, Tammy Birkenbach, Alex Balzer, Brett Hentz, Taylor Hawkins

Group # 2 - Philip Ricks, Rachel Ricks, Pastor Sue, Dawn Schillinger, Ryan Bonacker, Nick Balzer

Group # 3 – Kevin Nickel, Pat Moran, Karen Moran, Alysse Highley, Tiffany Walsh, Brigitte Mittler

Group # 4 - Amy Balzer, John Mikusch, Kit Norton, Emily Mikusch, Carley Nickel, Emily Schaper

Group # 5 – Leetah Nickel, Tim Hentz, Andrea Moran, Haylee Thibodeaux, Lauren Guerrero