



UNITED INTOUCH

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October 2008

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UNITED WELCOMES STUDENT PASTOR

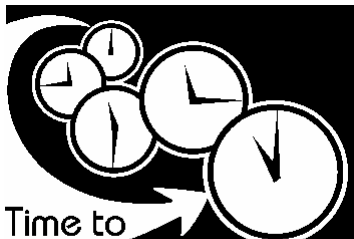
Pastor Paul Walther introduced United's new student pastor, Kendra VanHouten, to the members and friends of United during worship on Sunday, September 14th. Following worship, all had the opportunity to meet and greet Kendra at a reception in her honor during the Fellowship Hour. The backdrop for the reception was the "lovely" leftovers of Sale Daze. Kendra's good nature and sense of humor assured us that the "festive setting" was a great way to start her experience with United.



Kendra is in her second year at NBTS and is a graduate of Reformed Bible College (now Kuyper College) in Grand Rapids, MI. She has worked extensively over the past 13 years in Youth Ministry and Christian Education before now answering a call to pursue seminary training for parish ministry. Kendra's focus here at URC will be with Outreach and Pastoral Care. Kendra is excited about being here, being present within the church and community itself, building relationships and walking alongside each other as we journey forward.

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY OCTOBER 5, 2008

Celebrated since 1936 on the first Sunday in October, World Wide Communion Sunday is one of the most venerable of "special Sundays." The day has taken on new relevancy and depth of meaning in a world where globalization often has determined peace and justice – and in a time when fear divides the peoples of God's earth. On this day we celebrate our oneness in Christ, the Prince of Peace, in the midst of the world we are called to serve – a world ever more in need of peacemaking. Join your brothers and sisters of United as we share the Sacrament of people of faith throughout the world. In keeping with the meaning of World Wide Communion Sunday, please plan to remain following worship for a light lunch with an International Theme. (see page 2 for full details.)



Time to
turn back your clocks!

REMEMBER TO turn
your clocks back before
going to bed on
November 1st.

SHARE A MEAL ON WORLD-WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

On Sunday, October 5th, the 72th Anniversary of World-wide Communion Sunday, there will be a potluck luncheon with an International theme in Fellowship Hall immediately after worship. Guests are asked to contribute a covered dish or salad (to feed 10-12 guests) that would represent another country, perhaps a guest's country of origin. Parish Life will supply rolls, beverages, and dessert. Join our United community in sharing another delightful dining experience. Bon Appétit!

After the luncheon, stroll down Main Street and take in the sights and sales at the Somerville Arts and Crafts Show, which runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

✂ Cut and return to the church office.

Share a meal Sign-Up -
Name (s) _____
Phone Number _____
Number Attending: _____

UNITED "LANDS A BIG ONE" AT SCAMPI'S

What a great way to unwind after the very busy week of Sale Daze! Go out to dinner at Scampi's and raise some money for United. In all, sixty-seven people dined at Scampi's on Monday, September 15th, between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. and United received 20% of the total food and beverage sales - \$464.72.

It was a lovely evening shared with friends - good conversation and delicious food. Thanks to Bob Pettix and his staff for making United's evening at Scampi's so enjoyable and rewarding. We'll have to do it again!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings one and all! Last Sunday I shared in my sermon an interesting fable that warrants repeating to a wider audience – so here goes.

"It seems that back in the Middle Ages a wealthy nobleman wanted to present a special gift to the local townspeople so he built for them a magnificent church. The building boasted high vaulted ceilings, magnificent stained glass, finely carved woodwork and a gilded marble altar. The day of dedication arrived and the townspeople filled the sanctuary to overflowing, admiring their new spiritual home. But it wasn't long before they realized one thing was missing – there was no lighting in this beautiful church! There were no chandeliers, no candle stands, no artificial illumination of any kind. It was then the wealthy nobleman entered the sanctuary and presented each person with a small iron candleholder that fit into a special bracket on the pew. His message to them was simple: When you come to worship with your candle the church will be filled with the light of the Good News; when you stay away from church your light will be missing and parts of the sanctuary will be engulfed in darkness."

I shared this story to help explain the Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16). In this unusual parable Jesus teaches that there is a place and a spot and a job for every one of us in the Kingdom of God. In other words our light is needed, our talent is wanted and our abilities are important! And when we take our rightful place in the sanctuary on a Sunday morning our little lights join together and the whole structure is soon filled with the light of Christ.

So see you in church this Sunday! *"Let your light so shine before all that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."*

Blessings one and all,

Pastor Paul

CALLING ALL YOUTH!

This coming Sunday (September 28th) Pastor Paul would like to meet with our URC youth (8th grade and up) and parental representatives in the Lounge following worship. Initial plans are now underway to schedule a YOUTH MISSION TRIP for late June 2009 and we have to begin NOW! There is a lot of exciting news to be shared and we will be talking about schedules, activities, fundraising events – and more – in preparation for an event that is now less than a year away. See you Sunday!

CROP WALK



This year URC is participating in the CROP Walk! You won't want to miss out on this great opportunity to help make an impact on the lives of those in need around the world and right here in Somerset County! Here are the details:

The walk is on Sunday, October 26, 2008, starting at the United Methodist Church (on West High Street). The walk starts at 1:30 pm. Watch the bulletin more details as we get closer to the date.

What do we need?

- We NEED WALKERS!!! If you love to walk, we would love to have you join us! It's not a race, so you need not worry about speed. This walk is all about the journey. (And there's been a walker challenge, for every URC member that walks, a donation will be made to the Youth Mission Fund!) You can pick up a packet of information from either the church office throughout the week, or talk to Kendra VanHouten on Sunday morning.
- WE NEED SPONSORS!! Because each walker is asked to raise money, we need others to be willing to donate and support the walkers. Watch the list of walkers to be posted in the bulletin throughout the month, or you can give your donation to Kendra and she will make sure that your donation gets to a walker who needs the support.

If you have any questions, or would like to learn more about the CROP Walk, please talk to Kendra.

ALL SAINTS' DAY

All Saints' Day is November 1st. During worship on November 2nd, as part of the service we will remember those saints who passed away during the past year. If you have a family member or friend you would like included in our prayers on November 2nd, please give the church office a call.

HUNTERDON HILLS TRIP

The Christmas musical at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse is scheduled for Saturday evening, November 22nd. An ensemble cast of multi-talented performers celebrate Christmas in an original holiday song and dance fest featuring traditional carols, classic and contemporary Yuletide compositions, humorous skits, and spectacular dance numbers – all backed by a live onstage orchestra. The doors open at 6:30 p.m. Please select your meal choice:

- Chicken Cutlet with sauce Robert
- Pork Chop with Fruit stuffing
- Catch of the Day
- Prime Rib

Payment along with food choice (s) can be sent to Carol Lane, 275 Grove St., Somerville, NJ 08876 or to the church office by **October 12th**. Please make checks payable to: Carol Lane.

DO YOU HAVE A CONCERN?

If you have a concern, please let the Church Administrator, Sharon Thompson know. We want to remember them in our prayers and mention their name in the "In Your Prayers" reminders for the week in our Sunday bulletin.

SALE DAZE LEAVES US DAZED BUT DAZZLING

The Sale Daze experience left a number of our volunteers tired but happy at the success of the 2008 edition of this fundraiser. At last count, Sale Daze raised over \$2,000, but Lori, our e-Bay lady, has a number of items that are still on e-Bay or about to go on, so there's more to come. A more thorough report will be available in next month's InTouch.

The success of Sale Daze would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of a few people who started the first week in August to sort, price, clean, and organize over half of the donated items/clothes which were stored in the choir room. Special and grateful thanks go to: Sylvia Anderson, Ruth Reader, Toni Moore, Lois Mason, and Jim & Sharon Thompson for their time and help during the *fun-part*.

On the Monday evening before the sale, Boy Scout Troop #83 and Cub Scout Den #1 carried ALL of the items from the basement to Fellowship Hall. What a fantastic job they did! For their efforts, they were rewarded with ice cream sundaes.

Then the final pricing, sorting, and organizing began and Sale Daze started on time thanks to the extraordinary efforts of: Sylvia Anderson, Ruth Reader, Barbara Ciampercero, Lois Mason, Alleda Radziewicz, Marge Rowell, Katherine Cole, and Della Nemes. Most of these same wonderful people were also available and worked really hard during the sale and were joined by Freddie Oakley, Carol Davis, Carol Lane, Michelle Lane, Bill Anderson, Doug Young, Charley Huck, Elizabeth Fowler, and Heidi Schultheis.

Special thanks go to Katherine Cole who made very special Sale Daze aprons for the volunteers to wear. Katherine purchased the fabric and lovingly made the aprons. The volunteers were most grateful to have the aprons.

On behalf of our congregation and consistory, grateful appreciation goes to all who contributed items, worked so hard to make Sale Daze happen, to those who spent the "big bucks" on their treasures and to Paul Walther and Charley Huck who transported the "leftovers" to the VNA.

THANKS TO . . .

Morgan and John McLachlan for moving one of our members personal belongings. It was a lot of hard, heavy work, but they did it all with smiles.

Pete Stires for seeing that the ever-widening hole in the asphalt walkway near the playground was filled in before someone got hurt.

Carlos Lopez for rigging up an incredible set of clothes racks for displaying clothes during Sale Daze. Also, for his hard work digging the holes so that mums could be planted in front of the church.



Bible Readings for the Month of October, 2008

Sunday, October 5 (World Wide Communion)

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 or Isaiah 5:1-7;
Psalm 19 or Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

Sunday, October 12

Exodus 32:1-14 or Isaiah 25:1-9, Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 or Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

Sunday, October 19

Exodus 33:12-23 or Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 99 or Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13); I Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

Sunday, October 26

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 or Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 or Psalm 1; I Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

OUTREACH – A PLACE FOR YOU?

One of the great ministries of United is our outreach to the needy of our community and world. With the recent move of John Aliberto the committee has been depleted and help is needed. If you have a heart for mission and justice/mercy issues, please call the church office or speak with Rev. Walther.

CALLING ALL PARENTS!

You are invited to join Kendra in the Lounge during the Sunday School hour for some coffee each Sunday Morning! This will be a very informal time for us to just sit, relax, enjoy a cup of coffee and conversation together. Coffee will be provided, so drop off the kids to Sunday School and come join us!

ATTENTION PARENTS

Acolytes are needed!!! We are looking for young people of the church to light the candles, which represents God entering and being with us during worship. At the end of the service, the light is retrieved and carried out of the sanctuary representing how we as a congregation bring the light of God out into the world. Talk to your child about helping out with this small but vital role. Assistance/training is available upon request. If interested, a sign up sheet is available during Sunday school or you can call the church office.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday school started their Christian Journey on September 14th, which included fellowship and munchkins! It is wonderful to hear about everyone's summer and to plan our journey ahead. Please check out the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall which will document our steps throughout the year. The Sunday school will extend our journey to The Farm on Sunday, October 12th. Our day will include a Sunday school lesson, craft, games, service project and lunch. Parents are encouraged to join in on the fun. A parent volunteer is still needed to help coordinate the lunch donations. Please call Amy Stires if you are able to help us out while the teachers run the days events. We are looking forward to a great adventure.

OUR NEWEST EAGLE SCOUT

Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scout. Alan Radcliffe completed all the requirements for the highest rank in the Boy Scouts of America. Alan was honored with a ceremony and a celebration on Saturday, September 20th. Our congratulations go out to the Radcliffe family as they celebrate this honor. Alan's Eagle project was done at The Farm, consisting of clearing a trail, make resting benches and repairing a bridge to a trail.

SOMERVILLE ARTS AND CRAFTS DAY

The Somerville Arts and Crafts Day will be held on Main Street from 11 a.m. to 5: 00 p.m. on October 5th. Please remember not to park on Main Street when coming to worship and to the International Luncheon following the service.

UNITED WAY SAYS THANKS

United Way's "Stuff the Bus" Program took place in our Fellowship Hall the week of August 18th. Through this program, they were able to take in, sort, count and distribute more than 40,500 school supply items to 51 schools and agencies in Somerset County. Thanks to the kindness and generosity of everyone who supports this program, thousands of children, whose families cannot afford to get all of the school supplies they need to achieve academic success, are helped through this program. They are grateful for the opportunity to work with us to help those who are struggling in our community.

Sincerely,
Irene Natale
Program Manager
(Check out the bulletin board for the entire thank you letter.)

OUR SUNDAY SERVERS for OCTOBER, 2008

	Ushers**	Counters	Coffee Hour**	Altar Guild	Nursery Care
5	Deacons Serving Communion	Marge Rowell Cathy Stires	Parish Life Committee	Alice Gunzelman	*Heather Rogalski
12		Kathy Phillips Jim Phillips		Toni Moore	*Heather Rogalski
19	Toni Moore Barbara Schwarz	Lois Mason Jane Coleman		Millie Moore	*Heather Rogalski
26		Eileen Huntley Dee Davall	Barbara Schwarz Alice Gunzelman Toni Moore	Dee Davall	*Heather Rogalski

***Volunteers are needed to join Heather in the Nursery. Please consider serving in this ministry to our youngest members and give the church office a call if you would like to help care for our children.**

**** If you can volunteer to usher, or prepare coffee, please call the church office and add your name to the list or sign up during coffee hour.**

DATES TO REMEMBER IN

Wednesday, October 1	7:30 p.m. Worship Committee
Thursday, October 2	6:15 p.m. Reflection Ringers 7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir
Sunday, October 5	9:00 a.m. Sunday School/ Mothers' Time 10:00 a.m. Worship (World Communion Sunday) 11:00 a.m. International Luncheon 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ignite
Tuesday, October 7	7:30 p.m. Parish Life Committee
Thursday, October 9	6:15 p.m. Reflection Ringers 7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir
Sunday, October 12	9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Mothers' Time 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ignite
Tuesday, October 14	7:30 p.m. Administration and Finance Committee
Thursday, October 16	6:15 p.m. Reflection Ringers 7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir
Sunday, October 19	9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Mothers' Time 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ignite
Monday, October 20	Intouch Deadline
Tuesday, October 21	7:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting
Thursday, October 23	10:00 a.m. Collate Intouch 6:15 p.m. Reflection Ringers 7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir
Friday, October 24	12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Ship's Galley
Sunday, October 26	9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Mothers' Time 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 11:30 a.m. Farm Committee 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ignite
Thursday, October 30	6:15 p.m. Reflection Ringers 7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir

United Reformed Church
100 West Main Street
Somerville, NJ 08876

Phone: (908) 725-4545
Fax: (908) 725-1950
E-mail: sharon.thom@yahoo.com
Office Hours: Monday-Friday
9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Lunch Hour: 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

MOVED TO MAINE

United said “good-bye” to the Aliberto’s on August 17th, the day before they moved to Maine. Luckily for us, they have been back to visit, including the dinner at Scampi’s. It’s always good to see them! Good luck in your new home.



FREE – JUST PICK UP

Alleda Radziewicz has two wing back chairs to give away. The fabric has a blue/green strip with a very nice floral design. If you are interested and need more information, please give Alleda a call at 908-526-4938.

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