



UNITED INTOUCH

Volume No. 6, Issue No. 11

November 2008

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ALL SAINTS' DAY

All Saints' Day is November 1st. During worship on November 2nd, 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 by October 30th. Thank You!

VETERANS DAY SERVICE

The Somerville War Veterans Memorial Committee is planning a Veterans Day Service on Tuesday, November 11th, at 11:00 a.m. The service will be held at the new Veterans Memorial Plaza on Grove Street in Somerville. The community is invited to attend this very meaningful service to honor and remember all the veterans who gave so much for us.

FRIENDLY'S NIGHT OUT

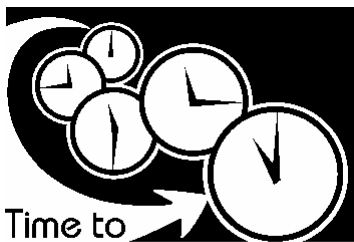
United's Preschool is sponsoring another Friendly's Family Fun Night, 822 Route 22, Somerville on Wednesday, November 12th from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. Friendly's will donate 10% of the proceeds to our Preschool. Enjoy dinner and good food, while benefiting our preschool program.

HUNTERDON HILLS TRIP

Horizons organized a trip to the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse for dinner and a Christmas musical on Saturday, November 22nd. An ensemble cast of multi-talented performers will 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.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

United will host a Thanksgiving Service for the community in our sanctuary on November 25th at 7:30 p.m. All are encouraged to attend this service. Area pastors will be part of the service and light refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall following the service. Join your church family and invite your friends to be with us.



Time to
turn back your clocks!

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends:

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. (II Corinthians 9:6-8)

Writing the to Corinthian Church, St. Paul set down these principles of generosity that have guided Christians in their giving habits ever since. One translation puts it that '**God loves a hilarious giver.**' No matter!

Whether we give cheerfully or hilariously, it is still expected that we will give from the abundance God has bestowed upon us.

Two important lessons may be drawn from this passage. First, St. Paul insists that no person was ever the loser because he/she was generous. The one who sows sparingly can only expect a meager harvest while the one who sows generously can expect a generous return. In other words, the measure with which we give is the measure with which we receive. And second, St. Paul reminds us that it is the happy giver whom God loves. To give with a cheerful and not begrudging countenance is a sure path to the love of God.

Once again our church (and just about every church, I suspect!) is entering the Stewardship Season. **United on the Move** will be the theme of the Sunday service on November 16th and a Stewardship Appeal letter will be mailed to each of us the next day.

As we consider the financial needs of our church, please remember that the God who has blessed us so abundantly will also bless us with the Spirit of Generosity. God makes it possible for each of us to share abundantly, for after all, God loves a hilarious giver!

Your pastor and friend,

Pastor Paul

UNITED ON THE MOVE

...is the theme for our 2009 Stewardship Campaign since our church is moving in the right direction on many fronts. Through the annual emphasis on stewardship, the goal is to reflect on the blessings that God has so freely given us and our church. We each need to figure out our stewardship pledge in time, talent and treasure for the coming year. The formal campaign will be kicked off in November. This note is a reminder to start thinking about next year. There are so many appeals to our generosity for good causes at this time of year. Please keep the Church uppermost in your thoughts. As Reverend Walther reminded us during worship this morning:

"And Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

Matthew 22:21

Administration & Finance Committee

The sympathy and prayers of the United Reformed Church are with the families of **Joan Sperling** and **Frederick Bergmann**.



Joan was a long time member of United. She passed away on September 25, 2008.

Frederick was a brother to Ernst Gurke.

Our prayers are with both Joan's and Frederick's families at this time. Remember all of life, from its beginning to its end, is in God's hands and through the power of Christ's resurrection, the end becomes a new beginning in God's full promise.

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.

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.



Bible Readings for the Month of November, 2008

- Saturday, November 1st All Saints' Day
Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22
I John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12
- Sunday, November 2nd
Joshua 3:7-17 or Micah 3:5-12; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 or Psalm 43; I Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12
- Sunday, November 9th
Joshua 24:1-3a; 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13
- Sunday November 16th
Judges 4:1-7 or Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 123 or Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12; I Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
- Sunday, November 23rd, Christ the King Sunday
Ezekiel 34:11-16; 20-24; Psalm 100 or Psalm 95:1-7a; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46
- Thursday, November 27th Thanksgiving Day
Deuteronomy 8:7-18; Psalm 65; II Corinthians 9:6-15; Luke 17:11-19
- Sunday, November 30th First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; I Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

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.

NAME AND ADDRESS CHANGE

Please make the following correction to your church directory: Eileen D. Huntley should now read:

Eileen S. Davall
155R Washington Valley Rd.
Warren, NJ 07059
(908) 392-1042

CRAFTMATIC ADJUSTABLE BEDS

Bring these two beds home which are designed to relieve the discomfort of chronic joint or muscle pain through the touch of a button. Two twin size beds measuring 80 inches long by 36 inches wide. \$150 each or make an offer. Call Charlotte Marcinkowski at (908) 526-5351 if you are interested or have any questions.

ELECTION DAY

November 4th is Election Day and Sharon Thompson will be working the polls. She is looking for a volunteer to answer the phone from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (any part or all of this time) If you can offer your time to help in the office, please give Sharon a call. She would appreciate the assistance with this important part of her job.

(ALMOST) FINAL SALE DAZE TALLY

The 2008 Sale Daze was a huge success with sales totaling \$2510.75. Receipts from the sales event totaled \$2084.15 and, to date, the sale of items on eBay has yielded another \$426.60. There are still some small items to be placed on eBay, so the total is not yet final.

This year, the Sale Daze expenses were greater than in the past in large part due to the purchase of several items, used to assist in pricing, as well as buying the pricing labels and tags to go with them. However, they can be used in future Sales Daze. The grand total raised by Sale Daze for the Lounge Redecorating Project now stands at \$2182.84.

United's families and friends who donated items and those who volunteered their time should be very proud of the "fruits of their labors." Thanks to all who gave their "stuff" and/or their time to make the 2008 Sale Daze our most successful experience in the "re-sale business!" Jane Huck

OUR SUNDAY SERVERS for November, 2008

	Ushers**	Counters	Fellowship Hour**	Altar Guild	Nursery Care
2	Elders Serving Communion	Tom Dibble Jocelyn Eckardt	Sandy Dibble	Alice Gunzelman	*Heather Rogalski
9		Pat McKiernan Sam Mendelson	Marge Rowell Pat Doyle	Toni Moore	*Heather Rogalski
16	Toni Moore Barbara Schwarz	Chris Parenti Jane Coleman		Millie Moore	*Heather Rogalski
23	Ruth Reader	Michelle Lane Marge Rowell	Youth Group	Dee Davall	*Heather Rogalski
30		James Phillips Kathy Phillips	Barbara Schwarz Alice Gunzelman Toni Moore	Toni Moore	*Heather Rogalski

***Volunteers are needed to join Heather in the Nursery in November. Beginning in December Heather will no longer be available. Can you serve in this ministry to our youngest members? Give the church office a call if you would like to help care for our children. We thank Heather so very much for her years of service. Her being able to be with the children was a great help to us.**

**** 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 Fellowship Hour.**

THE YOUTH of UNITED

MISSION TRIP FUND RAISER!

You are invited to share in a delicious LASAGNA LUNCHEON - our first fund raising event in preparation for next year's mission trip to Kentucky.

Here are the details!

When: Sunday, November 23rd, following worship in fellowship hall.

Menu: Lasagna (of course!), ice tea, bread, salad, and brownies.

Cost: Just \$7.00 per person (a real bargain!).



Be an angel: If you'd like to be an ANGEL and DONATE some needed supplies, sign up below and please speak with Pastor Paul!

Reserve now and sign up below!

Pastor Paul

✂ Cut off and return to Pastor Paul or the church office

Sign up for Youth Fundraiser

Name _____ number attending _____

Phone Number _____

Cost \$7 per person: Total: _____ (make checks payable to United Reformed Church)

Check if you would like to be an angel and indicate supplies you will donate.

SAVE THE DATES – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Advent/Christmas will soon be here and United will host a number of events for a memorable holiday season. Mark your calendars now for the following events:

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|---|--|
| *Peter Mayer's "Stars and Promises' Christmas Concert | December 5 th at 7:30 p.m. |
| Whitehouse Winds Symphony (beloved Christmas classics) | December 6 th at 8:00 p.m. |
| Somerville High School Choir Festival (our local students!)" | December 12 th at 3:30 p.m. |
| Deer Ridge Singers (their second year at United) | December 14 th at 7:30 p.m. |

*For additional information about the concert, please visit <http://www.midcleaonline.org/starsandpromises/>

DATES TO REMEMBER IN

Sunday, November 2	All Saints' Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School/ Mothers' Time 10:00 a.m. Worship (Holy Communion) 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ignite
Tuesday, November 4	Election Day
Wednesday, November 5	7:30 p.m. Worship Committee
Thursday, November 6	6:15 p.m. Reflection Ringers 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
Sunday, November 9	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, November 11	11:00 a.m. Veteran's Day Service (see article pg. 1) 7:30 p.m. Administration and Finance Committee 7:30 p.m. Parish Life Committee
Thursday, November 13	6:15 p.m. Reflection Ringers 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
Sunday, November 16	STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 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, November 18	7:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting 7:30 p.m. Bell Rehearsal
Thursday, November 20	6:15 p.m. Reflection Ringers 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
Saturday, November 22	6:15 p.m. Doors Open for Hunterdon Hills Playhouse Show
Sunday, November 23	9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Mothers' Time 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Lasagna Luncheon (see article pg. 5) 11:30 a.m. Farm Committee 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ignite
Monday, November 24	INTOUCH DEADLINE
Tuesday, November 25	7:30 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Service (see article pg. 1)
Wednesday, November 26	10:00 a.m. Collate Intouch
Thursday, November 27	THANKSGIVING DAY – OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 am. Ship's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
Friday, November 28	OFFICE CLOSED 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Ship's Galley
Sunday, November 30	9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Mothers' Time 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

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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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We have just finished learning the stories and struggles of the Israelites in Exodus. We reviewed the Ten Commandments and saw how Moses



prayed to God for guidance and to give thanks during times of bounty. We share with the children how we must also pray for guidance as well as for the blessings in our own lives.

On October 12, the Sunday school journeyed to The Farm in Kingwood Township. Eleven children and 6 adults enjoyed a picture-perfect, crisp fall day. After exploring the house, we went on a hike, played a game in the woods, made a craft with natural elements we found outside and

feasted on a “walking taco” for lunch. The children enjoyed looking at pictures in the old Farm guest book and reading messages their parents, aunts, and uncles wrote many years ago. We would like to thank all the children, parents, and Kendra for joining in on our adventure. It really is a place to appreciate and give thanks for the beauty God’s work. Please enjoy the two poems that the children used in their craft:

God We Thank You for Our Food,
For Rest and Home and All Things Good.
For Wind and Rain and Sun Above,
But Most of All for Those We Love. Amen

We Give You Thanks O God,
For Food in a World where many are Hungry.
We Give You Thanks O God
For Friends in a World where many are Alone,
We Give You Thanks O God
For Faith in a World where many are Afraid.
Amen.

We look forward to our new unit in which we will explore ways to make a difference in our world. Check out the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall to keep track of our journey.
Amy Stires

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