Dear Friends,

This past Sunday we had the privilege of welcoming eight new members into our church family. This is always a special day. As I mentioned last week, it is a chance for new energy and new ideas to strengthen our ministry and outreach. I hope you will take the time to welcome our new members: Ruth Hefferman (mother of Todd Hefferman), Heather and Beck Simonds (children Anne, Margo, and Sadie), Mary Ellen Young and Paul Cline, Selikem Gotah, and Brian and Ashley Matzenbacher (children Reese and Bryn). We also had one baptism and that was Ashley Matzenbacher. So, again, take time to introduce yourself and welcome them.

These times remind me of the various celebrations of the church. Local church membership is important because not only do we welcome new persons but we also are reminded of our own vows to “support the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness”. Baptism reminds us of our own initiation into the “universal” body of Christ (the church) and how that connects us with every other Christian around the world, regardless of their nationality or denomination. Baptism is one of the two sacraments of our tradition the other being Holy Communion. This coming Sunday will be our monthly service of Holy Communion as we focus our attention on the love of God that sent Christ into the world to die for our sins. So, in this short two Sunday period we will focus on some of the most important parts of what it means to be the Church of Jesus Christ.

The work of remodeling is going well. The work that is happening now, as you may be aware, is abatement of the asbestos that is a part of the older building. The entire second floor (the old classrooms and music room) is closed off and no one is allowed in except the workers. As the workers do their work of abatement, they put on all kinds of protective gear to not be exposed to the asbestos dust. They wear masks, goggles, special clothing, and gloves. The doors where they work are locked and covered with plastic to insure that no dust leaks out. They have filters and blowers that take in the dirty air, purify it, and make it breathable again. What a process it is because all of the ceiling, walls, and floors have to be removed. I am grateful that there are persons trained to do this kind of work, aren’t you?

I’ll try and keep you posted on what is going on with the remodeling and how it might affect the programs and activities around the church. For now, that is all there is to report.

See you Sunday,

Alan
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE

SEPTEMBER 8 • 5:30 p.m.
Hunan’s—Carbondale, IL

Jan Waggoner and Elaine Crain are your hosts for the evening.

ATTENTION METHODIST MEN!

Join the "Men's Group," led by Reverend John Sims, on Tuesday mornings in the church Parlor (Heritage Room). The group meets from 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. for conversation, sharing, and coffee and donuts. Men of all ages and faith are welcome.

Join us and invite a friend.

Disciples for Sunday, September 2, 2018

Outside Greeter: Don Frey
Van Drivers: John Graig, Brian Gorecki
Welcome Center: 8:15 Jan Verduin; 10:45 Carole Daesch
Coffee Hosts: 8:15 Lyn Christy & Jeff Anderer; 10:45 Marianne & Steve Lather
September Nametags: Sally Washburn
September Communion Ushers: 10:45 Karl Bartelsmeyer, Captain; George Everingham and Jan Waggoner
September Communion Committee: 8:15 Ron & Deanna Diel; 10:45 Sue & Ed Tresnak

In Sympathy: Sympathy to Ellen Bradley, & family & friends, on the passing of her husband, Richard “Dick” Bradley, who died on August 26, 2018.

In Sympathy: Sympathy to Millie Murden, & family & friends, on the passing of her husband, Charles Murden, who died on August 26, 2018.

In Sympathy: Sympathy to Will & Molly Stephens, & family & friends, on the passing of his grandmother, Edna Hammel, who died on August 21, 2018 in Sparta, IL.
SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

September 6  Priscilla Circle  
1:00 p.m.

September 7  Church Women United  
10:00 a.m., Heritage Room

September 18  Morning Circle, 9:30 a.m.

The Fifth Sunday Loose Change Offering  
from July 29th totaled $120.  
The Donation was delivered to 
United Methodist Little Grassy Camp.

Thank you for the support of our various campaigns. Our cooperation with MMDC and other agencies help make a difference across our local area, the state, nation and world.

Missions Committee

DANIEL PLAN ESSENTIALS  
Everyone welcome!  
Join us Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. in Room 403  
Contact Necia for more information

WEDNESDAY STORY TIME  
in the Diane Neill Dorsey Memorial  
Children’s Library  
10:00 - 11:00 A.M.  
Join Ms. Jane for stories, games, 
music, crafts, and snacks.  
Preschool—early elementary

BREAK TIME—  
Watch for fall session to begin 
in September.

DRIVE THRU COAT DRIVE  
Saturday, September 29, 10:00-noon  
Warm, gently used coats, winter hats 
& gloves.  
Drive up to the atrium entrance where 
students will be waiting to unload your donations.
SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children’s Opportunities

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Children’s Sunday School - (K - 5th grade) uses Deep Blue from Cokesbury. The morning begins with music at 9:30 a.m. in Room 415.

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. Children’s Church - (K - 5th grade). All children are invited to Children’s Church following the Children’s Time at the 10:45 a.m. worship service.

Sunday School - Main Topic: “Jesus’ Family”

September 2 Sunday School—“Jesus Joins His Family”

Youth Opportunities, 9:30 a.m.

Faith development through Bible lessons, emphasizing a relationship with God through Jesus.

Middle School meets in Room 410 and uses On the Go.

High School Class meets in Room 409 and uses a variety of materials connecting the lessons of the Bible with issues relevant to today’s youth.

Adult Opportunities, 9:30 a.m.

Renew - Renew is a group of women seeking deeper meaning in their lives through Bible study, reflection, and prayer. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 402. Women of all ages are welcome.

The Investors Class - Investors is an intergenerational class for all adults. Join us for a new study: “Far of the Other,” by William H. Willimon. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 404 (the Chapel). Everyone welcome!

The Electives Class - Scripture studies are led by Rev. John Sims. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room. All are welcome!

Small Group Opportunities

The Daniel Plan Essentials meets in Room 403 at 9:00 a.m. on most Tuesdays. Check the church calendar. Everyone welcome.

Grateful Hearts will resume September 12, 2018, in Room 308.

Youth Group has recessed for the summer and will resume for the 2018-19 school year.

Men’s Group - All men of church are invited to coffee and refreshments on Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room. We discuss anything and everything from the perspective of our relationship with God.

CHORAL READING CLINIC

September 11, 2018 - 7 p.m.
at the First United Methodist Church

Please join us for the opening event of our 2018-2019 season. Our guest clinician will be Jeff Parker. Jeff will introduce us to a wide range of anthems by noted composers. Jeff will soon complete his eleventh year as Minister of Music at the First Baptist Church in Chattanooga, TN where he also serves as Executive Director of the School of Fine Arts. Jeff is a native of Marion, IL, where his parents and extended family still live.

There is no charge for attending, however, please RSVP to Gail White, gailwhite11@gmail.com, or (618) 528-3691, so that we can have music packets prepared. Music packets will be provided by Midwest Sheet Music, St. Louis, MO.

If you need directions to the church, or special accommodations, please let us know.