

OCTOBER 2011

REYNOLDS NEWS WRAP

**Reynolds United
Methodist Church**

2496 Reynolds Road
Ashton, IL 61006

PASTOR ALAN MEYER



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**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29TH
4:00 -- 7:00 PM
ALL YOU CAN EAT**

**NEWSLETTER REPORTS
AND ITEMS DUE
SATURDAY
OCTOBER 15TH**



**ENJOY CHILI WITH YOUR CHOICE OF FIXINGS FROM OUR
TOPPINGS BAR, CORNBREAD, DRINK & DESSERT.**

(Chicken Soup available for those who don't eat Chili)

Adults (13 +): \$6.50

Children 5-12: \$3.50

Children Under 5: Free

ALSO - CHECK OUT THE SILENT AUCTION

Living on earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun. every year!!



Acts 1:8 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Dear Members and Friends of Reynolds UMC,

When God told the Israelites to go in and live in the Promised Land, they looked at the Jordan River and saw an impenetrable barrier between them and the land. For the river was at flood stage, and there was no way to cross. But God knew the river was there when He told the Israelites to cross. Yet He told Joshua to "Arise and Go." (Joshua 1:2) How could God expect the Israelites, or us, to get across the flooded river or problems that come up against us? Take note here: God didn't tell them they could quit just because of the river. That flooded river didn't even bother God. Why? Because, the impossible barriers and problems that they, and we, face every day mean nothing at all to God. God gave His people, and us, a plan so that we would have to depend on His strength and wisdom so that they and we can accomplish the impossible. No instead God told Joshua to instruct the priests who were carrying the Ark of the Covenant to cross the Jordan first, God told them as soon as the soles of their feet touched the river, it would part so all the people could pass over on dry land. (Joshua 3:13) Think about it, it is not natural to send the priests into a river that is flooded. Flood water is always swift and dangerous water that pulls us under. When Joshua gave the command I am sure the priests thought, Joshua, are you sure? We are all going to be swept away by the fast moving water. We are going to drown! Church, Joshua had heard from God, and he'd seen the miracles He had performed for Israel. Joshua was ready to obey. If Israel had just stood there and not taken that step of faith nothing would have happened. Israel and we have to be obedient to God's command to step out in faith. Faith takes action.

Has a flooded river come into your life causing you problems and sleepless nights? Are you standing on the shore crying, "Lord, will YOU do something?" Church, God has already told us to take up the Ark and cross the river. The Ark is God's presence which is always with us. We have the Presence of God in His living Word, which lives in our hearts. If we will just get up and take that first step of obedience, the Word of God will light our way, showing us exactly where to walk on dry land that is safe. Our obedience and faith bring God into the picture. Our Jordan Rivers, problems and obstacles, will part and we can enter into the Promised Land. We have to take hold of God's Word and step into the water. Then we will see something happen in our lives. The Lord has promised to deliver us out of our problems, circumstances, and troubles, no matter what they are. Know that God will deliver! Standing on the edge of the shore with obedience and hope will not get us across the rivers of our lives into the Promised Land. It's time that we, believers, begin to speak the Word with authority over all of our situations. Then with obedience step out in faith in the power of the Holy Spirit to receive all of God's promises He has planned for us. Today let us step out in faith, with confidence, and enter into our Promised Land together. Let us at Reynolds UMC stand up and step out to claim the wonderful promises that God has in store for us.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Al



INDIVIDUALS: 6 yr old Emma, Ashlynn Riley, Baby Molly, Caitlin Spohn, David Foster, Debbie VanDyke, Dolores Scott, Donald Adams, Ed & Jeanette Riley, Ellen Clark's cousins, Holy Schier, Hunter (Heimbaugh's grandson) Jerry & wife (Kathy) - Cancer treatments, Jerry Ford, Stan (Bob H's friend), Jiill (Egger's granddaughter) Jim Steder, Karen Yocum's brother (Jim) , Keith Long, Leila Place, Margaret Ann Reif, Marion Berry, Mike Olmstead, Neil Miller, Neva Becker, Pastor Al & Linda Meyer, Terry Hunley.

ALSO: Farmers as they Harvest crops, Families who have recent lost loved ones, School Children, The Unemployed, and All Members of the Armed Services, as well as Families who have lost loved ones in the Armed Services.

SERVING IN October:

Communion Steward: Kathy Brown

Ushers: Richard Vogeler, Bill Uphoff, Justin Rueff, Chad Murphy

Greeters: October 2nd—Steve & Lisa Headon

October 9th—Dusty & Brooke Horner

October 16th—Dolores Scott

October 23rd—Dusty & Brook Horner

October 30th—Gerri Underhile

Flowers: Linda Meyer or Lynnette Lawrence

Church Hostess: Audrey Roop



<u>Date</u>	<u>Children's Moment</u>	<u>Nursery</u>
Oct. 2nd	Kathy Clark	Help Needed
Oct. 9th	Pastor Al Meyer	Kathy & Rhonda Brown
Oct. 16th	Kathy Becker	Help Needed
Oct. 23rd	Lois Heimbaugh	Tina Phipps & Heather Lehnert
Oct. 30th	Rhonda Brown	Help Needed

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lawn Mowing</u>	<u>Coffee Fellowship</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>
Oct. 2nd	Keith Roop	TBA	Leslie Gittleson
Oct. 9th	Bob Heimbaugh	Beckers	TBA
Oct. 16th	Keith Morge	Yocums & Roops	Tina Phipps
Oct. 23rd	Keith Morge	TBA	Audrey Roop
Oct. 30th	Bill Kirchhofer	TBA	Shannon Brown

October Mission Project: Redbird Missionaries -Smallwoods

Bring Mission Offerings on the 4th Sunday (October 23rd)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MISSION /OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Nancy Eggers, Chair

The committee met with representatives from the Christian Fellowship of Women to discuss our relationship and future commitment to the Rockford Rescue Mission as a committee project. The 10-yr history with the organization was initiated by Cora Morris, and maintained in a large part through the commitment and leadership of Marie and Duane Ackland and Nancy and Vernon Gittle-son. This year 17 volunteers from Reynolds UMC partici-pated in the meal preparation and distribution of 200 sack lunches at the Mission's Sunday Night Chapel and Meal Pro-gram. It was decided to continue the program with a possi-ble change in the traditional Labor Day Weekend date.

A report was shared regarding the mission related activities to day, and the August-September expenditures were re-viewed. John and Michelle Hilleson then joined the commit-tee for a presentation of a potential project called Hot Lunch for Haitian Kids. Nancy Eggers reviewed the needs of the Christville Church and School in Les Ceyes, Haiti, including a lunch program for their 200 Kindergarten through Junior High Students. The Committee approved developing a long-term relationship with the mission, and to launch a regional fund-raising campaign to support the establishment of a school lunch program.

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Frances Cappel, Chair

Meeting: Sept. 13th-6:30 pm

Approved Grace Ann's salary for next year.

At the last meeting, we discussed how the secretary should be paid—salary or hourly. After contacting Lonnie Chafin, he told us all the part time secretaries are paid on a salary base. All area churches pay their secretaries on salary.

We went over our Church Profile and our Ministry Analysis Plan (reports for the Annual Church Conference)

Pastor Appreciation Sunday is September 25, with a scramble dinner after the worship service. Everyone should bring a dish to pass and their own table service.

FUND RAISING

On October 29th 4 to7 pm—There will be a Chili Supper Fund Raiser. Chicken soup will be available for those not eating Chili. There will also be a Silent Auction . Donations will be needed, and a list of what is needed will be furnished by Cindy Knight, Chair of this event. All are invited to sign up to help with this in some way.

TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

Ed Uphoff, Chair

Meeting: September 6th, 2011

The siding project will begin the middle of the month.

4 Shrubs were taken out on the East side of the church.

The water needs to be tested. Keith Roop will take care of that. Gary Brown will take care of fixing the toilets as they keep running. Downstairs bathroom needs a new faucet. The outside faucet needs to be cleaned and/or replaced. Minor repair to the kitchen floor is needed. Also clean screen in the washing machine and the dryer vent. Gary Brown will check for a short in the wiring and light switches in the breezeway and laundry room . A motion detector is needed for the out-side lights on the garage and side door. Laundry room door needs changed to an exterior door.

We have received an estimate from Tom White for painting the sanctuary.

Also at this Sept. 6th meeting the committee voted on win-dows for the parsonage, and at the special meeting on Sept. 11th, the vote was rescinded. More information is needed from the Finance Committee regarding the funding for the new parsonage windows before proceeding.

A work day is still needed to be set to take care of the other minor repairs that were brought up at the annual inspection of the parsonage.

Nest meeting: October 3rd, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Kathy Becker, Chair

Items discussed at the recent meeting are:

- Memorial Tree—research needed for the number of leaves needed.
- Mail boxes in the back of the Sanctuary—Refinishing , etc.
- Review Church rental usage rates. To check the rates in other area churches for comparison.
- Sunday Offering Box vs. passing the offering plates? Want input from the church members.
- 911 Service
- Services with Video presentations
- Kitchen Committee
- The Bulletin as revised is satisfactory.

SAFE SANCTUARY

By Rhonda Brown

In honor of October being National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I will be providing more information in this issue.

Statistics show that about 85% of the victims of intimate partner abuse are women and about 3/4 of the persons committing family violence are male. (www.clarkprosecuter.org, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and Family Violence Prevention Fund). It is for this reason I will be referring to the victims as female and the abusers as male.

Blaming the victim of domestic violence (DV) is all too common in our society. One of the most asked questions: "Why does she stay?" places all the blame and responsibility on her. Often the question is followed by a statement such as "She must like it." A far better question would be: "Why does he abuse her?". I will provide some common barriers victims face when they consider leaving the abusive relationship (Provided by www.acadv.org).

A question you can ask yourself is "Why do any of us stay?". So often the decision to stay in a hazardous situation is considered normal by society, except for the case of domestic violence. Why do people rebuild in the same area after a tornado, wild fire, hurricane, or any other natural disaster? Why do people stay in a war zone or in a country ruled by a tyrant? Why do people continue to live in neighborhoods overrun by gangs? Why do people stay in hazardous jobs? Why do they stay in a Jonestown type of cult, or better yet, why do they finally leave (www.stopfamilyviolence.org)? Why does a farmer continue to stay after he has lost all of his crops in floods or drought? By asking these questions, it may help you to understand what a victim of DV is feeling or what she is going through. Is she really any different than the rest of us?

The most common barrier is fear. It is the most dangerous for her when she decides to leave the relationship. The violence usually escalates when the abuser feels he is losing power and control over her. Statistics show that she will leave an average of 7 or 8 times before leaving for good. Each time she leaves and then returns, the abuse typically escalates. Just because she does leave does not mean the violence automatically stops. I used to tell my clients "The stalking begins when the relationship ends." For 15% of all abusers, nothing will stop them from abusing her. The other 85% will stop physically abusing her for an Order of Protection, being arrested, and/or a divorce or breakup. However most move on to a new victim. He will not stop being abusive until he takes responsibility for his actions, is held accountable, and he wants to change. Many times if the physical abuse stops, the abuser will continue the emotional and economic abuse, or will keep her tied up in court for the divorce and/or custody case. He will find some way to still have control over her. She may also be afraid of destruction of her property, harm to her job or reputation, charging her with a crime, harming children, pets, family, or friends, his committing suicide, or court and/or police involvement.

She may stay in the relationship for economic reasons. Often the abuser is in control of all the finances. She may have few job skills, limited education or work experience. She may have a fear of poverty.

Many times she does not have the financial means to get her own place which means she has to stay with family, friends, or stay in a shelter—none of which is an ideal situation but especially staying in a shelter. Many times it is overcrowded. Not all of them are the nicest places. There are a lot of rules to follow. The shelters don't always have space available—especially with all the budget cuts.

There may also be pressure from family, friends, or their church to stay. Her family may expect her to stay in the marriage 'at any cost'.

She may have grown up in a violent home so it is accepted as normal. The family may be in denial or blame her for the violence. Many religions do not believe in divorce for any reason. Religious leaders may also blame her or believe that abuse is how the husband keeps her submissive. This is why it is so important to educate ministers about the dynamics of DV and give them the proper tools in helping and supporting the victim while holding the abuser accountable for his actions.

The victim's feelings of guilt, shame, loneliness, incompetence, and failure may also be a barrier to her leaving. In most cases if DV there is verbal abuse. The victim is belittled, called terrible names, teased, and told she is worthless on a daily basis. It is too hard for her to believe she can make it without him and that anyone else will ever want her. He often accuses her of being responsible for the abuse and that she deserves it. She may not leave because she believes she does deserve it (not that she likes it, there is a big difference). Again, society has a way of reinforcing those feelings. She may also stay because of her feelings of love for him and thinking that she can change him and/or stop the abuse if she tries hard enough, cooks better, cleans better, stops provoking him ...The sad truth is that she could do everything just perfect, and he will still be abusive to her. It is about power and control—nothing else.

She may stay because of the children. The abuser sometimes threatens (and in some cases follows through) to charge her with kidnapping. As stated above he will take her to court by suing for custody. She feels (due to the abuse) she cannot adequately care for the children. Sometimes she will leave without taking the children, and then he will abuse the children. Often the abuser will kidnap the children. She may believe that the children need/deserve to have a father.

Another barrier is the lack of resources in the community, especially in small rural areas. There are 102 counties in Illinois. There are approximately 54 DV programs in the state, 24 being located in the Chicago area. Therefore, there are only 30 programs to serve the rest of Illinois. As I mentioned earlier, the programs are not always able to meet the needs of all the victims seeking services, especially with the budget cuts. Victims may not even be aware of what services are available to them. The abuser may be keeping them isolated from services. He may also try using her need for services against her. It is typical for an abuser to claim the victim as being crazy or on drugs. Sometimes the abuse will lead to mental health or addiction issues for the victim. When she seeks services such as counseling, the abuser uses it to back up his accusations. If the abuser is well known in the community and is considered to be an upstanding citizen, it can make leaving more difficult for the victim. If he knows or is a police officer, attorney, judge, minister, or any other type of community leader, it really makes it difficult for her to receive services. (Drew Peterson comes to mind). Be aware of the person who accuses his partner of being crazy, an addict, or a terrible person who abandons her children, especially if she is not able to defend/explain herself. Think about what possible might be the reason she is needing medication, seeking counseling, which led to her addiction, or her reasons for leaving her children behind. It may not be for the reasons he states.

So next time, instead of asking, 'Why does she stay?', ask "What barriers are keeping her from leaving, and what can I do to help remove them?"

If you are a victim or know someone who is, get help. No one deserves to be abused!

HERE ARE SOME NUMBERS TO CALL

National DV hotline-800-799-7233

HOPE of Ogle County -815-562-8890

IL DV helpline-877-683-6338

YWCA of the Sauk Valley—815-626-7277

Safe Passage of DeKalb—815-756-5228

Remedies of Rockford -815-962-6102

As we continue my writing on Church Committee and Officers, I would like to take a look at Church Council. Whatever your office in the local church, you are either a member of the Church Council or you hold your office and perform your duties under its authority. I will begin here and then write on each particular committee.

The Church Council coordinates the work of ministry and administration of the local church. Once a year, the Church Council meets as the charge conference under the chairmanship of the District Superintendent or other elder appointed as a representative of the District Superintendent. The Church Council acts during the year to carry out the decisions and policies determined by the Charge Conference. With the permission of the District Superintendent, the Charge Conference may meet as the Church Conference (which is what we are having here at Reynolds UMC) in which case ALL members of the church, in addition to the officers who make up the Church Council, have the right to participate and vote. If a charge includes more than one local church, then all the Church Councils included in that charge meet together once each year as the Charge Conference for that charge, chaired by the District Superintendent, or the appointed representative. Church Council is made up of seven lay officers, along with the pastor, and are automatically members of the Church Council. They are: The Chairperson of the Church Council, the Lay Leader, the Chairperson of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Chairperson on Finance, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, the Church Treasurer, and the Lay Member of the Annual Conference. In addition to those seven, the Church Council may include "representatives of the nurturing, outreach, missions, education committees, Youth Ministry, United Methodist Women and Men, and such other persons as the charge conference may determine." As spelled out in the Book of Discipline, the responsibilities of the Church Council include the following: **1. Goal setting and planning**, including scheduling and coordination of programs. The goals set and plans made would involve every aspect of the local church's life and work, and would be coordinated so that scheduling and other conflicts were avoided and all the activities of the church fit together into harmonious unity. **2. Membership review.** Among other things, it involves supervising the maintenance of the required rolls by the Membership Secretary, seeing that an audit of the membership rolls is conducted at least annually, and reviewing and making plans for evangelism and membership enlistment, training, and nurture. **3. Financial planning and administration** including the establishing of the budget on recommendation of the Committee of Finance, the recommendation of professional staff salaries and other compensation to the Charge Conference, the promotion of benevolent causes and all other financial promotion, and the supervision of the work of the Trustees and other financial officers. **4. Maintaining the proper relationships with the connectional structures of the Church**, such as the District and the Annual Conference, and fulfilling all responsibilities committee to it by the Charge Conference or the law of the United Methodist Church. **5. Coordination of the church's ministries of nurture, outreach, and witness.** They may include: Age-Level, Family and Specialized ministries, ministries with children, youth, college students and other young adults, older adults, married couples, families, singles, etc. They may also incorporate fellowship, recreation, counseling, evangelism, health and welfare, missions, and other areas of involvement as well. Let us remember the church council model reflects and continues a historic tradition within the Church. Jesus called twelve disciples to be together in the leadership of the early Christian movement (Luke 5:1-11, 27-32; 6:12-16). Following the resurrection and ascension of Jesus, leaders of "the Way" often convened in groups to make decisions and to support each other in the work of mission and disciple-making. Acts 15 describes the Council formed at Jerusalem. Throughout the letters of Paul, especially in Romans 12 and I Corinthians 12, leadership in the congregation is described as the shared work of spiritually graced men and women-the body of Christ. A church council is greater than the sum of its parts. Gifted individuals-knit together in faith, love, and commitment and empowered and guided by the Holy Spirit- can accomplish much more than individual. We honor and glorify God best when we become the body of Christ together.

In an Anglican church, each service begins with a greeting. The officiating clergyman says, "The Lord be with you". The congregation used to respond by saying, "And with thy spirit". But, with the modernizing of the liturgy, the minister now says, "The Lord be with you," and everyone responds with, "And also with you." One Sunday a visiting bishop went to a church where the sound system was known to be old and unreliable. As he approached the microphone, he tapped it several times and finally said, "There's something wrong with this!" Without hesitation, the whole congregation answered faithfully, "And also with you."



"I'm glad we don't speak in tongues. One keeps me in enough trouble."



Reynolds United Methodist Church
2496 Reynolds Road
Ashton, IL 61006
(815) 453-2513

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 3rd—Trustee's Meeting

October 10th —SPRC & Church Council

October 29th—Chili Supper/Silent Auction Fund Raiser

November 13th— Harvest Festival

December 4th— Annual Church Conference

December 11th—Cluster Advent Service at Reynolds