

By the Way

Celebrating and Sharing God's Love in Christ

June, 2009

Our faith statements

The Confirmation Class of 2009

I believe that God is the creator of all things that are living. I believe that God is always with you, no matter what you have done, what you are doing or where you are. I believe that God always loves you, even if you are a bad person. I believe that God is life.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God and died for us to forgive our sins. I believe that Jesus taught us to forgive others, love one's neighbor as oneself and to spread the faith. I believe that he promised eternal life.

I believe the Holy Spirit is a feeling that you are with God.

I believe the church is a place to worship God, share the faith with others and welcome all to join the Christian faith.

~ Peter Roach

The visual image of God is very important to me. I believe God is the creator, the giver of life. He is the Father who answers prayers. God is "seen and unseen."

I have a picture in my mind of Jesus and God together in heaven. I believe Jesus Christ once lived and was the only son of God. I believe he died to forgive our sins. He taught us to forgive, to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to spread the gospel. He gave us the hope of eternal life.

I believe the Holy Spirit acts in our hearts and minds to bring us closer to God.

I believe the church is a place to learn about Jesus. It is a community of disciples.

~ Sam Shelton

I believe God is everything. I believe God is life, death, heaven and the universe. God is feelings. God is nature.

When I was little, I always carried around by blanket that I slept with, played with, ate with and it comforted me a lot through my childhood. It covered me with such warmth and love. Now, I am never alone since God is covering me like a blanket and he is with me at all times. No more hauling a piece of old worn out cloth everywhere. I have God. My old blanket looks like a rag now. I have grown away from my raggy blanket and turned more to God's arms. Now, he is my blanket that will give me warmth, love, support and comfort through my long awaiting life ahead. To me and most people, life is very precious. God has given me my life which I will cherish in his arms through my life ahead and my faith will follow. God is everything.

~ Monica Thornton



Those recently hospitalized or ill:

- † Mary Holtorf's son, Steven Flickinger
- † Olga Wilson
- † John Ashe
- † Marie Giesecke
- † LHC neighbor, Carol Stokely

Our sympathies to:

- † Cheryl Stone on the death of her husband, Jack Stone.
- † Dede Freeman on the death of her daughter, Linda.

Congratulations to all our graduates and their families!

Please pray for God's protection of our troops and HIS wisdom for their commanders.

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.... Amen.



Jesus was a peripatetic educator. That's a fancy way of saying he taught on his feet, taught while walking around. Teaching while traveling was a fairly common way of learning in the first century—a time when established schools and formal education had not been “invented”. Indeed, most students (disciples) learned by gathering around a particular teacher and following him through a lifetime of discourse often wandering from town to town in the process.

Jesus was one of these wandering teachers and it was during one of his journeys in the district of Caesarea Philip that he chose to teach his disciples the meaning of the Messiah. It was, I suspect, during a lull in the conversation, when Jesus stopped in his tracks, wheeled around and challenged them with a direct question, another common form of teaching.

“Who do people say that I am?” The question was a real shocker and led to a fascinating bit of dialogue between them all, but mostly it became yet another opportunity for Jesus to teach, for of all his many human gifts, he was a brilliant teacher.

He taught through parables, by exhortation, even his miracles were forms of teaching. He taught his disciples how to live righteous lives, how to pray, how to heal and even how to die well. But mostly Jesus taught them about God—who God is, how to find Him in their lives, how to live with Him, and in this mini-seminar, how to die with Him.

As a “Great Teacher” Jesus recognized that we all hunger for some word about God. We can't see or touch Him and sometimes God seems so far away, it's hard to keep hold of Him. Jesus knew well how desperately we need a word—something we can hold onto.

As one ancient Hebrew proverb (22:6) sums it up,

“Train up a child in the way they should go and when they are old, they will not depart from it.”

And so I challenge each of us this day to renew our commitment to Christian education. We will provide the best we can for your children. You provide the children. Together we will teach our children well.

There's an old story from the life of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, the great English poet, which makes this point so well. He was once visited by a man who told him that he did not believe in giving children religious instruction. His theory was that the child's mind should not be prejudiced in any direction. Children should be permitted to choose their religious options for themselves as they mature.

Coleridge thought about this for a while and had an idea. He asked his visitor if he would like to see his garden. “Oh yes,” said the man and so out they went. What the man saw was great patches of weeds, for the whole garden was overgrown and unkempt.” “Why, this is not a garden,” said the man. “There's nothing but weeds here.” “Well,” said Coleridge, “I did not wish to infringe on the

(Continued on page 3)

Worship Schedule

A Series on the Miracles of Christ

June 7

Holy Communion

Sermon: "If You Accept the Gospel of Jesus Christ You Stumble upon Wonder Upon Wonder and Every Wonder True." ~ St. Brendan

Scripture: John 2:1-11

Theme: Vision of Life

June 14

Sermon: "A Great Reversal"

Scripture: Luke 5:1-11

Theme: Surrender

June 21

Father's Day

Sermon: "Cruciformed Faith"

Love for Another

Scripture: Luke 7:1-10; Matthew 8:5-13

Theme: Commitment to God's Will

June 28

Sermon: "The Light of a New Day Has Come"

Scripture: Luke 7:11-16

Theme: The Light of Compassion



This year's Vacation Bible School will take place

June 22–26.

This year we're going to Camp E.D.G.E.

Camp E.D.G.E. will take your children to an camp where they Experience and Discover God Everywhere!

The time is 9–11:30 and the cost is \$10 per child.

Registration forms are in the church office or you can find them on-line at www.littlehomechurch.org

Consider volunteering your time to help. If you can't commit to the entire week, join us for just a day. It's always a lively and fun week!

(Continued from page 2)

liberty of the garden in any way. I am just giving this garden a chance to express itself and choose its own production."

And the good news is that, along with teaching them, we will learn a lot from them. Education (teaching) is not a one-way activity, all learn and grow together. Indeed, often children are our best teachers.

While interviewing children about their faith, James Fowler ("Stages of Faith") reported this insightful interview with a 10 year-old girl named Millie:

"Millie, why are people here on this earth, any purpose?"

"Well, if there wasn't any people in the world, who would keep God company?"

"Is that why people are here, Millie?"

"I guess so. (Without us) how would God keep busy?"

This month of June is one where we acknowledge those who have taught. We give each a big "Thank You" for their dedication in sharing their faith. Those who have taught this year are:

Anne Bouchard

Jen Gatsch

Mary Roach

Allison Prang

Mary Jean Schless

Jane Shelton

We thank the children as well, without whom we would lose our enthusiasm and energy of love and faith.

This June 22–26 is Vacation Bible School. Get the children registered! Thank you and have a wonderful summer!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

- ◆ Rachael Abell
Graduating from South Elgin High School and attending College of DuPage in the fall and eventually attending Columbia College in Chicago with a major in photojournalism.
- ◆ Katie Benson
Graduating from the Fire Academy with a Firefighters II degree.
- ◆ George Bouchard
Graduating from Leysin American School in Switzerland and attending Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana this fall.
- ◆ Anne Haben
Graduating from South Elgin High School and attending Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana where she plans to major in English.
- ◆ Emma Kaska
Graduating from University of Cincinnati with a degree in Fine Arts. She hopes to pursue a career in stop motion animation filmmaking.
- ◆ Natalie Lalagos
Graduating from Elgin High School and attending Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois.
- ◆ Greg Schramuk
Graduating from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Flight Management.
- ◆ Beth Thorne
Graduating from Loyola University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
- ◆ Bill Thorne
Graduating from Elgin High School and attending University of Maryland in the fall. where he plans to major in history.



If we missed your graduate's announcement
let the church office know and
we'll publish it in the next newsletter!

OPEN MIKE NIGHT

**Saturday
June 13th**

6:30 p.m.

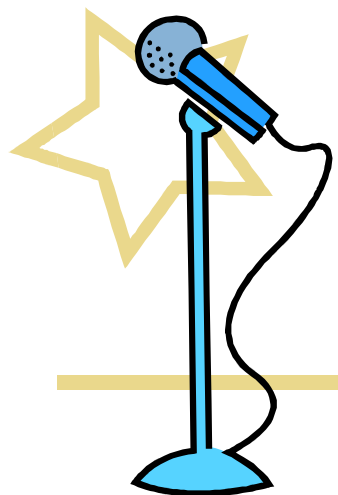
Little Home Church Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite appetizer, pasta dish (hot or cold), salad, bread or dessert and join us for a night of Italian cuisine and entertainment featuring our own Little Home Church talent.

**Look for
Sign-up sheets in the
Fellowship Hall**

**Or RSVP to
Susannah
Lesswing
(630) 513-
0186**

(BYOB)



The program Operation Support our Troops program is still going on. We will be collecting items to be sent in care packages to our troops overseas. To date the organization has shipped over 287 tons of care packages! The list of items desired is listed below.

In addition, Bruce Weigel will be selling tickets to one of the organizations biggest fundraisers: Rockin' for the Troops concert featuring Chicago's own Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band. The concert will be July 18th at Cantigny Park in Wheaton.

The items needed at this time are:

- ◆ Cold drink mix packets for bottled water
- ◆ Unscented wipes
- ◆ Slim Jims/Beef Jerky (Troops LOVE this!)
- ◆ Peanut Butter (20 oz. or less)
- ◆ Foot Powder (20 oz. or less)
- ◆ Pocket Pack of Tissues
- ◆ Canned/Foil Packets of Tuna or Chicken
- ◆ Crackers
- ◆ Coffee Singles
- ◆ Insect Repellant (non-aerosol)
- ◆ Nuts in Bags

If you would like to write a soldier a note they are very much appreciated.

There is a drop off box in the Parish Hall. See Bruce after church if you have any questions or give him a call at 630.377.7810.



Calling all 'Gardening' Angels!

by Kathleen Kaska and Anne Bouchard

Each Tuesday, beginning around 10 am, we meet at the church to take care of gardening chores. Bring your own tools and lunch. No experience needed. Find a weed and pull it out! Dead-head a perennial. Trim aggressive groundcover. Pick up sticks and twigs. All this and more is waiting for the Gardening Angels. Come when you can, stay as long as you like. Bring a friend and join us!



HELP WANTED

We are looking for a few willing people to fill a couple of vacancies on the church council.

Ministry chairs are open and we would SO GREATLY appreciate your help leading the following functions. There are people to help, but we need leaders for these ministries:

- Christian Education Superintendent
- Christian Education Chairperson
- Facilities Chairperson
- Members-At-Large (we need to people to represent our congregation)

If you would like to try we would love to help you be successful!

Contact Suzanne Setlock (630.372.6301) with your interest or if you have any questions.

~ PLEASE JOIN US ~

'JUNIAL'
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, June 28th
Immediately after worship

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



Bob Kaska	June 1
Trysta Malm	June 3
Brittany Winqvist	June 4
Mary Alice Roach	June 4
Kathi Abell	June 6
Nancy Schatzeder	June 8
Olivia Gatsch	June 8
Sean Atkins	June 14
Caroline Berger	June 16
Peter Roach	June 17
Dana Hancock	June 22
Kathy Thorne	June 25
Alex Kentfield	June 29
Ellie Karwowski	June 29



Thanks to everyone who participated in our Mother's Day/Music Sunday.

The choirs have had a great year of making music and being part of the worship services here at The Little Home Church.

We rejoice in having several new members join our choir this year and once again want to extend that invitation to all who are interested for next Fall.

The Children's Choir did fabulous job on composing their Mother's Day piece.

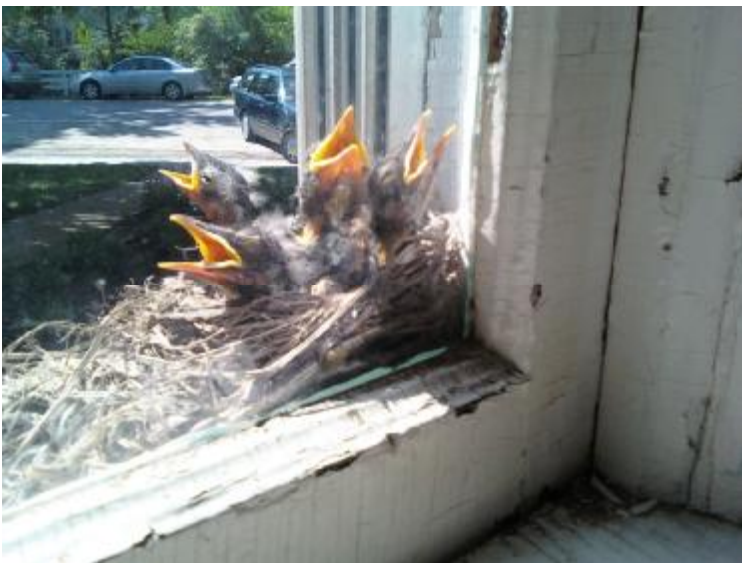
Thanks to Jen Haseltine for printing the music on her computer!

The choir will sing through the first Sunday in June. Once again, we will need volunteers to provide music for the summer worship services - watch for the sign up sheet outside my office.

We will have our choir party at the home of Marilyn and Dave Poole on June 19th, starting at 6:30 p.m. All who have participated in the choir are welcome to attend.

Our choir has been invited to participate in a Choral Festival at the Glen Ellyn Congregational Church on October 3rd with guest conductor, Brad Holmes, from Milliken University. I would like to have lot's of choir members participate in this event.

Larry



The Guild House front window found itself acting as the birthplace to four robins a few weeks ago. A mother robin found the window well in the front Sunday School room the perfect place to build her nest. The children got to witness the four small blue eggs, their hatching, along with the growing of the babies and eventual leaving of the nest! Mother robin hated Sunday mornings with all the activity and would fly away leaving her babies unattended but keeping a watchful eye from the nearby tree!

How delightful to be able to see this miracle up close!

JUNE-JULY

June 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

June 9 Council Meeting—All are welcome
 June 14 Flag Day Parade & Ice Cream Social
 Parade kicks off at 4:00 p.m.
 June 12 BTW Deadline
 June 21 Father's Day
 June 22–26 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
 June 28 Congregational Annual Meeting

July 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

July 14 Council Meeting ~ All are welcome

Consider joining us for Adult Bible Study.
 This informal group meets in Ron's office
 Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m.
 They would love to have you!



Pastor Ron's Cell Phone
 (630) 886-5677
 Church Office
 (630) 584-4013
lhchome@aol.com
www.littlehomechurch.org

Little Home Church by the Wayside
United Church of Christ
32W128 Army Trail Road
Wayne, IL 60184

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Wayne, IL
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DATED MATERIAL
Please Expedite

Join us for Worship:

9:30 Sunday Worship and Children's School
Childcare provided from 9:00-11:00
630-584-4013
fax: 630-584-4824
lhhome@aol.com
www.littlehomechurch.org
www.ucc.org

Along the Way...



FLAG DAY PARADE

Sunday, June 14th

Line up at Post Office at 3:30 p.m. to march in the parade.
Kids, don't forget to decorate your bikes!

Parade kicks off at 4:00 p.m. sharp!

Pack your blankets, chairs, picnic supper and join us on the lawn of the Little Home Church for some Dixieland music and fellowship. There will also be an ice cream social.

Come join this long standing Wayne tradition!



June

Little Home Church by the Wayside

Pastor
Rev. Ron Purser

Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Don Heinrich

Director of Music
Larry Dieffenbach

Moderator
Tim Haben

Moderator-Elect
Suzanne Setlock

Office Manager
Lori Prang

Custodial Services
Odie Perry