



By the Way

Celebrating and Sharing God's Love in Christ

March, 2010

One great hour of sharing

In his final moments with his disciples, the Good Shepherd asks Peter, "Do you love me?" "Yes," Peter replies. Then, "Feed my lambs," Jesus tells him. "Tend my sheep." Three times, Jesus passionately repeats his instruction, pressing his followers: If you love me, take care of the people I love. (John 21:15-19)

The members of the family of God including those in parts of the world we may never visit, are God's flock, the sheep of God's pasture (Ezekiel 34:31). Yet, God's flock is often forcefully scattered as people are chased from their homes and livelihoods by brutal expressions of war, or as communities are blasted by natural disasters, or as societies and countries are ground down by unrelenting hunger, disease, and poverty.

Soon, you'll have an opportunity to offer your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing, empowering the United Church of Christ to offer disaster relief and refugee aid, meeting basic needs in Christ's name throughout the world. Soon, each of us will have the opportunity to decide how to participate in an offering that helps strengthen people to improve their own lives and communities.

Through One Great Hour of Sharing:

- disaster victims quickly receive shelter, food, water, and medical supplies
- local communities develop secure sources of food and clean water
- minds and bodies grow stronger with new schools and medical clinics
- refugees receive housing and long-term help to construct new lives
- women and communities are empowered through micro-credit loans and community development opportunities.

In challenging times, we often wonder how much we can afford to sacrifice to help feed Jesus' beloved sheep, when our needs remain pressing. Perhaps only through prayer can we decide how to respond to Jesus' call to feed His Sheep. Remember the feeding of the 5,000: when Jesus asked the disciples to feed the hungry crowd,

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Those recently hospitalized or ill:

- † Joyce Cox
- † Irene Smith
- † George Bergland
- † Theo Moore
- † LHC neighbor, Carol Stokely
- † Susannah Lesswing

.Congratulations to Christine and Josh Hjorth on the birth of Jackson Craig born on March 6th.
Proud grandparents are Ron and Maggie Purser.

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



SPRING
is almost here!



In these difficult days people seem to be missing hope. Natural disasters, war, hunger, economic recession and individual problems of health and welfare seem to overwhelm us. Then the media hits us with dire predictions of 2012. What are we to think! Fear in our lives has become a political commodity. Everywhere we turn there seems to be a "No Exit" sign. Has life lost its meaning for people? The psychiatrist, Rollo May, once talked of the man who routinely went through his life, going to church every Christmas and Easter, retired at 65, and then soon dies of a heart attack. May says, "I've always had a secret suspicion that he died of boredom."

The Biblical message we hear on Christmas and Easter is that there is Hope...even in the midst of hopelessness. There is life...even in the midst of death. The life of Jesus was announced as a victory of hope, good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. When the life of Jesus came to an what seemed to be an inglorious end, there was yet hope. The "Disturber of Peace," "The Upsetter of the Status Quo" was gone. Or so it seemed. But on the Third day came the message of hope. "Fear Not! For I know you seek Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified. He is not here; He is risen, as He said." (Matthew 28:58)

The New Testament is filled with an atmosphere of joy and hope that permeates the darkness of difficult times. The philosopher, Frederick Nietzsche said: "One who has a why to live for can put up with almost any how." In other words, one can endure if one believes that the experiences of life have meaning beyond the present pain and despair.

Easter is that time of a recovery of hope, a hope of eternal life now; a life that has quality not just quantity, depth, not so much length. The depth and quality of eternal life begin now in our belief. Are our times, our lives, any worse than they were in the time Jesus? But people then as now found the meaning of life and endured, though difficult, they endured and found life excellent and fair.

The secret of Easter begins when we open our hearts to love of an Eternal Christ who leads us to joy, love and hope; who believes in us even when we struggle to believe in Him. May this Easter be a time when someone comes to the piano and begins to play for us, "I Know That My Redeemer Live"; "Hallelujah". In the letter to the Ephesians an ancient hymn is quoted:

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Worship Schedule

**Theme: “Who Knows What Lurks in the Hearts of Us
All...The Shadow Knows”
(from the audio series “The Shadow...Lamont Cranston)**

- March 7** **Third Sunday in Lent**
Holy Communion
Sermon: “Were You There?”
Scripture: Genesis 15:1-2, 17-18; Luke 2:10-11, 23:39-43
Theme: The Shadow of Exclusivity
- March 14** **Fourth Sunday in Lent**
One Great Hour of Sharing
Sermon: “Excuses Anyone”
Scripture: Exodus 3:1-15; Luke 22:39-46
Theme: The Shadow of Low Self-Esteem
- March 21** **Fifth Sunday in Lent**
Sermon: “We Can’t Keep the Birds from Flying Over
Our Heads, But we Can Keep Them from
Building a Nest in Our Hair.” (Martin Luther)
Scripture: Joshua 5:9-12; Luke 22:54-62
Theme: The Shadow of Anger
- March 28** **Palm Sunday**
Sermon: “Pray and Trust God As If Everything Depends
On God; But Work and Do Your Best As If
Everything Depends on You.” (Ignatius Loyola)
Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-21; Luke 19:28-40)
Theme: Shadow of Fear
- April 1** **Maundy Thursday**
Holy Communion
Sermon: “The Practice of Love”
Scripture: Jeremiah 34:31-34; Luke 22:7-23
Theme: Shadow of Laziness
- April 4** **Easter Sunday**
Continental Breakfast 8:45 a.m.
Worship at 10:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt follows worship service

A WELCOMING SMILE

With a welcoming smile, please help people discover how friendly our church is. After the church service, remember to say hello to newcomers you might notice and invite them to coffee hour. If they can’t make coffee hour, please let them know you were happy to see them and hope to see them again. Should you notice someone at coffee hour that you don’t know, take a moment to introduce yourself. It can make all the difference!



Kristen
Thornton
Evangelism Ministry

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*Sleepers, awake!
Never again fear the dark
For in this world
For all to see,
There is a Savior for you and
For me.*

See you in the Easter season and remember every Sunday is a little Easter, a time to renew one’s faith that love is stronger than hate and that life outlasts death.

Amen.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy".

WE NOTICED

- The Exit lights have been replaced and our safety has been enhanced thanks to **Jim Winquist**.
- We now have new door locks that work. Thanks again to **Jim Winquist**.
- We hosted a music benefit for Haiti Relief Saturday 2/27. It was well attended by many from our church and extended community and much needed donations were received.
- Sergey Rachuba provided an informative presentation on the religious situation in the former Soviet Union, specifically Russia and the Ukraine on February 28th. Thanks to **Ralph Daehn** for organizing this Adult Christian Education session.



We Appreciate YOU!

Suzanne Setlock
Moderator

Long Range Planning: Creating an Endowment

by Anne Bouchard

One of the three elements of our church's long range plan is the creation of an Endowment, and Treasurer Art Zwemke, Moderator-Elect Bob Kaska and I have begun to lay the groundwork. As we consider how other churches have gone about the process and how they structure their endowments and timelines, we are mindful of the need for coordination with other fundraising and ongoing stewardship activities. We will resurrect our endowment committee and develop specific guidelines and policies for investment, spending and administration of the fund, and address other considerations as they arise. It is our hope to present a plan to the congregation at the Junual meeting, and to have an Endowment Policy and Fund in place and ready to receive donations by June 2012, if not sooner. If you would like to serve on the Endowment Committee, please contact me.

Introducing our Pastoral Relations Committee

As mentioned during our Janual (February) meeting the following individuals have agreed to serve on our Pastoral Relations Committee. They are Andrea Ferguson, Tom Atkins and John Berger (chair). These three have committed to a two year position and it is intended that they will rotate out one at a time to provide continuity. The role of this committee and these individuals is to be an advocate for our minister and a conduit between pastor and congregation. Please join me in appreciation of the valuable work they are doing. If you have questions or feedback pertaining to this committee, please seek out one or more of them for further discussion.

Thank you Andrea, Tom and John.

Suzanne Setlock
Moderator

Spring Retreat

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the disciples despaired (Mark 6:34-44). The five loaves and two fish seemed insignificant compared to the massive need. Yet when each gave sacrificially from what they had, through God's blessing, their gifts turned into a miracle of compassion for all.

Through One Great Hour of Sharing, our gifts meet compelling needs, while also bringing the blessing of compassion into our own lives. The current economic situation is challenging for many of us. For many others, it has pushed beyond challenging to be life-threatening. Heed Jesus' call to feed his sheep with a generous, even sacrificial, gift to One Great Hour of Sharing. Sharing your resources, you'll change lives – including your own. Our scheduled offering day is Sunday, March 14th but we'll always accept donations towards this worthy cause. We hope you'll give generously.

If you may remember our Fall youth retreat was cancelled due to H1N1 concerns. We've rescheduled it and thought we would try a Spring retreat!

All LHC Youth grades 6th through 12th, mark your calendars for the weekend of **April 9, 10 and 11th**. We will once again venture up to Covenant Harbor Bible Camp in Lake Geneva.

The cost is \$70 for Jr. High youth (grades 6—8) and \$80 for Sr. High (grades 9—12). It does include the activities scheduled at the Snake Road Adventure Center.

Letters spelling out the details have been sent out. Please return the signed permission slips as soon as possible. And as always friends are welcomed!

Parents, if are you interested in chaperoning or driving just let Ron know.

Hopefully we'll see you there.



With Banjo music playin', kerchiefs and rope hung from the beams and tin pans and candles decorating the tables, The Little Home Church fellowship hall set the scene for the 5th Annual Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, February 6th. An eager crowd was anxious to cast their ballots for the title of best chili. The competition was fierce as eight cooks vied for the coveted Chef's Hat Award and apron. Eight superb cooks sampled their chili creations to a hungry crowd of 90+ parishioners, friends and family. The tasters, with tickets in hand, literally cast hundreds of votes for their favorites. In the end, there could only be one winner. **Tim Haben** was awarded the much sought after title of **BEST CHEF**. Not only was the evening a delicious success, the votes purchased raised \$1,028 for our Outreach Ministries.

A big **THANK YOU** to our wonderful chef's: Wally Setlock (second place), Tim Haben, Lee Price, Will Lesswing, Peter Gatsch family, Kathryn Karwowski, Kathleen Kaska, and the Daehn family. And thanks to all who provided the delicious appetizers, cornbread and desserts.

It was a great evening of fellowship, good food and friendly competition!

Thanks to all that came, cooked, cleaned and enjoyed!



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Zach Maril	March 3
Gianna Marchese	March 4
Ted Schramuk	March 6
Dulie Ware	March 9
Ann McLaughlin	March 9
Sam Shelton	March 11
Emma Kaska	March 12
Kathleen Kaska	March 17
Carol Hancock	March 19
James Welch	March 23
Brian Gault	March 23
Gail Zwemke	March 23
Phil Kentfield	March 23
Tim Shelton	March 24
Andrew Kapoor	March 27
Lee Price	March 27
Kaylie Tanis	March 28
Tom Atkins	March 30
Jim Lindbloom	March 31



Easter Lilies

We are once again offering Easter lilies, tulips and hyacinths to help decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The cost of

each plant is \$10 each. They may be taken home after worship on Easter. You may designate whether the plant is in memory of or in honor of someone special and their names will be listed in the bulletin that Sunday.

There will be order forms in the upcoming bulletins or you may call the church office with your order...630.584.4013 or email it to lhchome@aol.com All orders are due no later than March 29th!



It is exciting to see all of the music that is happening in our church!

On February 27, a group of musicians gathered to present a wonderful concert to raise funds for Haiti earthquake victims.

On March 18, the Bartlett High School Chamber Orchestra will present a concert in our sanctuary under the direction of Tom Havel. I will also be performing with Tom that night on a piece by Ralph Vaughn Williams.

On May 2nd, Inna Faliks will perform a solo piano concert. Inna won the St. Charles international Piano Competition in 2001 and is an amazing pianist.

Our Adult Choir is preparing great anthems every week as we journey through this

Lenten Season into Easter. We will have some special musical guests join us on some of the anthems as well.

BIG NEWS! On May 9th, we will have our annual Mother's Day/Music Sunday - with a twist! We will be presenting Franz Scubert's "Mass in G" complete with orchestra, guest soloists, and a choir of 25 singers! You won't want to miss this.

To present a work like this will take some extra funds. If anyone would like to help underwrite some of the expenses for this concert, please contact me.

Larry

MARCH—APRIL

March 2010

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			

March 9	Council Meeting ~ All are welcome
March 14	One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering Pancake Breakfast DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 18	Bartlett High School Chamber Orchestra Concert 7:00 in Sanctuary
March 27	Easter Food Baskets Due ~ Resurrection Church 8:00—9:00 a.m. Plant Sale Planning Meeting ~ Noon at Kathleen Sullivan Kaska's home
March 28	Palm Sunday

April 2010

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	

April 1	Maundy Thursday—Worship 7 p.m
April 2	Good Friday—Joint Worship with Immanuel UCC in Bartlett 1 p.m.
April 4	EASTER SUNDAY Continental Breakfast 8:45-9:45 Worship 10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt following
April 9-11	Spring Youth Retreat—Covenant Harbor
April 13	Council Meeting –All are welcome
April 14	By The Way Deadline



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

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
lhchome@aol.com
www.littlehomechurch.org
www.ucc.org

Along the Way...

DON'T FORGET:

The Feeding Northwest DuPage food pantry continues to seek donations.

The Little Home Church has committed to providing disposable diapers and toilet paper.

Pick some up next time you're at the store.

Drop them off in the Parish Hall and we'll deliver them to the food pantry.

Thank you for all that you do!



Little Home Church by the Wayside

Pastor
Rev. Ron Purser

Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Don Heinrich

Minister of Music
Larry Dieffenbach

Moderator
Suzanne Setlock

Moderator-Elect
Bob Kaska

Office Manager
Lori Prang

Custodial Services
Odie Perry