O, clap your hands, all ye people! The jubilant sounds of New Orleans are coming Sunday, May 15, to all three services at the Alpine Center.

Members of A Wing and A Prayer Dixieland Jazz Orchestra – the group includes Rockford Symphony Orchestra principal trumpet Mark Baldin on cornet – will lead the CUMC congregation in a hand-clapping, foot-tapping, sing-along, whoop-it-up celebration of Pentecost.

John D. Smith, the group’s leader and trombonist, encourages worshippers to wear N’awlins beads and/or red – and to arrive early for a lively and swinging prelude. He’s also hoping members of the Our Master’s Center will make the trip north for the 8 or 11 a.m. service.

“The human spirit is renewed,” said Smith, a retired band director and music educator from DeKalb Community Unit School District 428 and member of DeKalb’s First United Methodist Church. “We have fun, we put smiles on faces and we renew ourselves.”

Smith is the president of JD Music Pros, which books professional musical entertainment for all occasions, as well as its nonprofit arm, Just Make It Happen, Inc. His popular Shananigans Big Band has released three recordings. The latest: “It’s Saturday Night! Let’s Dance” released in July, 2015 at NIU.

Mark Baldin launched A Wing and A Prayer nearly a quarter-century ago; since then, the band has played everywhere from Mississippi River boat cruises to Creole-flavored funerals.

Band members first took their Dixieland tunes into a church sanctuary five years ago after Smith discussed ways to combine the joys of playing jazz and living the Christian life. That conversation encouraged him to develop a New Orleans-style worship service that blends jazz, gospel and songs from the hymnal.

Smith communicated with Pastor Jane Eesley, who he knows from her time in DeKalb, and CUMC Worship Arts Director Jody Warren to pick the May 15 music.

They considered melodic and textual content in their selections and, Smith said, created a program that will successfully deliver “what Pentecost is all about.”

“Suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.” – Acts 2

CUMC worshippers will hear finger-snapping takes on “Amazing Grace,” “Blessed Assurance,” “Can The Circle

( Dixieland Jazz Orchestra continued on Page 5)
“The day of Pentecost had come, and they were all together in one place….They were all filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:1, 4a, Revised English Bible).

Inspired

What role does the Holy Spirit play in your life? For many United Methodist Christians, our primary devotional focus has been on God the Father and God the Son, much more than on God the Holy Spirit. We emphasize God who created and is creating, who sent the Son to embody love. We emphasize Jesus who shared our human life and took on human suffering, even receiving death on the cross. We celebrate that God raised Jesus from the dead, proving that love is stronger than death. We often fail to emphasize the Holy Spirit, that of God which comforts us, guides us, reminds us, convicts us, and enlivens us.

Every year at Pentecost, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to the believers in Christ. Luke tells us in the Acts of the Apostles that ten days after Jesus ascended to the Father, the Holy Spirit descended upon the Jews gathered in Jerusalem for the Jewish festival of Pentecost. For Jews, Pentecost celebrated the wheat harvest and also the giving of the Torah, or Teaching, on Mt. Sinai. On the Pentecost celebration after Jesus’ resurrection and ascension, God gave the Holy Spirit. The Spirit gave spiritual gifts which empowered the believers to live their faith in miraculous ways. Even to this day, the Spirit gives spiritual gifts which empowers believers to live their faith.

At Christ UMC, in these Sundays of Easter, we have been reflecting upon various creeds or affirmations of the Christian faith. It is striking to note what the creeds say about the Holy Spirit. The briefest is the Apostles Creed, which refers to Jesus’ having been conceived of the Holy Spirit, then later lists the Holy Spirit in a longer list of basic beliefs (“I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints…” and so forth). The Nicene Creed describes the Holy Spirit as “The Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life…who has spoken through the prophets.” I especially like the way the Modern Affirmation describes the Holy Spirit: “the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.”

Who is the Holy Spirit, for you? This Pentecost, we have a special opportunity. The music in worship will be led by A Wing and A Prayer Dixieland Orchestra. We will enjoy New Orleans Dixieland Jazz as we thank God for the gift of the Spirit in Pentecost.

May this Pentecost celebration create in us a greater awareness of the Holy Spirit’s presence in our lives!

In Christ,

Jane
A little extra for Rosecrance

Are you one of the many people at CUMC who has a connection to Rosecrance? Do you know someone who has benefited from a substance abuse treatment program or mental health treatment program? Are you a former or current employee? Did you visit a new Rosecrance facility in town and learn about the work done there? Have you ever contributed to a collection of art supplies, games, and puzzles? Have you been moved by an adolescent in a Rosecrance program who announced a milestone in recovery during joys and concerns?

This year at Annual Conference, June 5-7, there will be an opportunity for the lay members of annual conference to deliver money given at their churches for Rosecrance. The special offering allows everyone in the Northern Illinois Conference to give to the substance abuse recovery work and mental health treatment programs of Rosecrance, not just the lay and clergy who attend.

There’s no special Sunday for this. As the spirit moves you, just write a check to CUMC (Christ UMC), note “Rosecrance” in the memo line, and put the check in the collection plate between now and June 5.

Your check will help bring hope and healing to our friends and neighbors in Northern Illinois. Thank you.

Your lay members to Annual Conference,
Kay Cull  
George and Mary English  
Morry and Angie Harms  
Diane Kirkland, Jan Klimek  
Alternates: Don Black and Judy Schultz

Welcome to Christ United Methodist Church!

Alpine Center  
(MAILING ADDRESS FOR BOTH CENTERS):  
4509 Highcrest Road  
Rockford, IL 61107  
Phone: (815)399-5910

Sunday Worship Services  
Blended Worship Services:  
8:00 and 9:30 a.m.  
Celebration Service:  
11:00 a.m.

Our Master’s Center  
5973 Darlene Drive  
Rockford, IL 61109  
Phone: (815)399-5910

Sunday Worship Service  
9:30 a.m. Child care is available

Rev. Jane Eesley, Sr. Pastor  
jeesley@christumc.cc
Rev. Deanna Mede, Assoc. Pastor  
dmede@christumc.cc
Rev. Scott Himel, Assoc. Pastor  
shimel@christumc.cc

Christ UMC Mission Statement  
We will live out God’s vision as we  
Gather:Meet together as the body of Christ  
Grow:move from believer to follower, and  
Go:make a Gospel impact beyond our local church

The Flame is a monthly publication of Christ United Methodist Church, available by mail or online at www.christumc.cc.  
Editor—Linda Kuntz  
Features Writers—Don Black, Mark McGowan, Beth A. Palm  
Contributing Photographer—Joe Whinnery  
Director of Worship Arts—Jody Warren
Scrapbooking/Stamping is scheduled
Join us on **Saturday, May 21**, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Alpine Dining Room. Stay for all day or just a half day - whatever fits your schedule. Not everyone in our group scrapbooks. Some are stamping or working on other projects so join us for a fun day of crafting! If children will be joining us, it's requested they be at least middle school age.

As always, please bring money for a sandwich plus a snack to share and your own beverage. If you have questions, call Mary Hicks at 815-742-1136.

CUMC Senior Fellowship Group
**Friday, May 20 at Noon**
**Dining Room, Alpine Center**
Come and join this group for those who are age 65 or better for a wonderful homemade lunch and fellowship with your friends. This will be a lunch only meeting. Call the church office at 815-399-5910 to make your reservation by Monday, May 16. Please join us!

**The Lego Movie**
**Friday, May 27**
Join us for an animated action/adventure movie of good vs. evil in the land of Lego people. Chris Pratt, Will Ferrell, and Elizabeth Banks star in *The Lego Movie* (PG; 2014). We start with munchies at 6:15 p.m., Fri., May 27, in the Sacred Grounds Coffee House. The movie will start at 6:30. Afterwards there will be a discussion. We finish by 9:30. The event is free. Children are invited to watch and discuss the movie at the discretion of their parents or grandparents.

**Next New Member Session**
**Sunday, May 1, 4:00-7:00 pm**
**Alpine Dining Room**
The new member session will include supper and child care. If you are interested in joining Christ UMC as part of your discipleship journey, please contact Gayle George at the church office, 815-399-5910, or email her at gaylegeorge@christumc.cc.

Our final MOMS Connection Group will meet on **Friday, May 20, 2016, from 9:30—11:00 am in the Sacred Grounds Coffee House**. We would love to have you join us for delicious snacks, great coffee and even better company! We will resume MOMS Connection Group in September. If interested in attending, please email Emily Muserallo at emuserallo@gmail.com.

**WOWS**
**Widows Or Widowers and Singles**
Open to all single women age 65 and over

**In May:**
We will be going to the Stockholm Inn for breakfast on **May 18** (please note date change) at 9:00 am. Please call Phyllis Melenas to make your reservation. Any questions, call Phyllis at 815-633-2288. Donations of personal care items or craft items for Walter Lawson Children’s Home will be much appreciated.

**In June:**
We will be going to the Lone Star Steak House for lunch on **Wednesday, June 15** at noon. Reservations by June 10 to Sharon Watts at 815-398-3541. Please bring a donation of travel size personal care items for those in need.

**Save the date for a trip to White Pines in August:**
We will be going to White Pines on **Tuesday, August 23**. More information will follow. Call Carol at 815-399-1291 with any questions.
Adult Study: Faith and Politics

Facilitator: Jeff Kearney
Start Date: Wednesday, May 11th
Time: 6:00 to 7:30 PM
Frequency: Weekly, for 5 weeks
Location: Alpine Dining Room

Description: Once more, Americans are bracing themselves for a year of polarized politics in which candidates sling mud at their opponents. Complex moral and political issues are addressed in thirty-second sound bytes offering polarizing solutions. Rev. Adam Hamilton, well-known pastor of The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leewood, KS and frequently published author, recently preached five sermons to help Christians think about how their faith can guide their political decisions this election season. A video recording of Hamilton’s respective sermon will be shown, and then group discussion will follow.

Hamilton tackles the following topics:
1.) Preaching politics, keeping faith
2.) Immigrants and the Bible
3.) A Christian response to Islamic extremism
4.) Christianity and healthcare; and
5.) A middle way on gun control?

No RSVP is required, and there is no book to purchase.

Summer Book Study

Book: How to Be Here: A Guide to Creating a Life Worth Living
Cost: $16.00
Teachers: Pastors take turns teaching each week
Start Date: Wednesday, June 15th
Time: 6:00 to 7:15 PM
Frequency: Weekly, for 9 weeks
(Will not meet on July 6th)
Location: Alpine Dining Room

Description: Rob Bell, the popular pastor and New York Times bestselling author of Love Wins and What We Talk About When We Talk About God shows us how to pursue and realize our dreams, live in the moment, and joyfully do the things that make us come alive. Each of us was created for something great—we just need to figure out what it is and find the courage to do it. Whether it’s writing the next great American novel, starting a business, or joining a band, Rob Bell wants to help us make those dreams become reality. Our path is ours and ours alone to pursue, he reminds us, and in doing so, we derive great joy because we are living our passions. How to Be Here lays out concrete steps we can use to define and follow our dreams, interweaving engaging stories, lessons from biblical figures, insights gleaned from Rob’s personal experience, and practical advice. Rob gives you the support and insight you need to silence your critics, move from idea to action, take the first step, find joy in the work, persevere through hard times, and surrender to the outcome.

(Dixieland Jazz Orchestra continued from Page 1)

Be Unbroken,” “Every Time I Feel the Spirit,” “I’ll Fly Away,” “Just A Closer Walk with Thee” and more.

These songs, he said, are like the United Methodist Church itself: open to all and to every level of belief.

“We’re going to have fun throughout the service and see how we can touch the people,” Smith said. “This is music that will strike at your heart and reach out to your soul.”

Joining Smith and Baldin in the trip to the Alpine Center are Roger Hintzsche (banjo), Rick Peterson (tuba), Joe Pasteris (drums), John Skillman (clarinet) and Denny Vaupel (piano).

Feel free to chat with the players afterward, Smith said. They’re used to it.

“People say to us, ‘Hey, you coming back next week?’ This will be one of those kinds of experiences,” he said. “We see people who you didn’t think would come to church coming to church.”
UMW Circle Schedule

The United Methodist Women invite all women of the church to their circle meetings. Visitors are welcome and encouraged! To learn more about each circle, contact Carla White-Carpenter at 815-885-3425. Some circles do not meet in the summer.

Out to Lunch Bunch

Thursday, May 26, noon
Fresco at Anderson Gardens
318 Spring Creek Rd.
Cost for walking through the gardens is an extra $7 but is not required. However, the view from the windows in Fresco is fantastic. Remember to bring personal care items for those in need. Please RSVP to Ruth Kearney at 815-877-0355 by May 19th.

Martha Circle

Martha Circle will look forward to helping with the Spring Salad Luncheon on Wednesday, May 11. Please bring assigned food items and plan to help set tables, arriving at 10:00, and then enjoy lunch.

On Wednesday, May 25, at 12:30 pm we'll have lunch at Sam's Restaurante, 6075 E. Riverside (near Village Green). Mark your calendars as we mark the end of another good year. Questions? Call Wilma at 815-877-3465 or Donna at 815-877-5381.

Caravan Circle

The May meeting for the Caravan Circle will be Wednesday, May 18 at 9:30 am at Egg Harbor in Edgebrook Shopping Center, across from the Alpine Center. This is our annual fellowship brunch. We welcome any woman, even if she is not a regular attendee of our circle. Come and enjoy brunch with our dynamic group! Any questions, call Geneve Harris at 574-612-9495.

Mark your calendar for the Ta Da! Party

Thursday, June 16, 9:00 am
Alpine Fellowship Hall
The Quilt Group of CUMC will be hosting our annual Ta Da party on Thursday, June 16 at 9:00 am. Please join us as we celebrate our work to date. There will be light refreshments and quilts will be available for sale. Please invite your friends. We will be having a bed turning. If you have a quilt you would like to show or have its story told, bring it to the Ta Da party and we will display it for our guests. Questions? Call Renée Johnson at 815-397-9270.

Please Save Your Soup Can Labels

This is an update for those who save soup can labels for United Methodist Women. We now send our labels to McCurdy Ministries in New Mexico. Last year, along with ours and other labels, they were able to purchase a new van for their school.

There is a change in what is needed from the soup can. NO labels from the front of the can are acceptable. They only want the “Label for Education” as shown below. This must be intact so the UPC code and points all show.

There is a container in the cabinet in the Alpine Fellowship Hall where you may deposit these labels. Thank you for your donations.
CUMC Preschool will once again be holding weekly camps for the summer, ages 3-6yrs. The camps run June 6th- August 19th. Each week is a different theme. We will be exploring nature, learning about transportation, super heroes, going on a safari, learn about the ocean, drama and the Olympics. We will also be getting wet and wild one week a month as we play in the sprinklers, and have lots of water activities. You can find more information on our website; www.christumc.cc or call the preschool @ 815-398-1458.

We also have a few spots available for the 2016-17 school year. Please contact the preschool with any questions.

Summer Music 2016
Alpine and Our Master’s Centers
In the summer, our regular music programs take a break so that YOU have an opportunity to share your musical talent at either the Alpine Center or the Our Master’s Center, or both. We will celebrate the musical gifts and talents of our congregation in worship May 29-Sept 4.

We are looking for soloists, duets, or small groups, primarily middle school age and older, that are willing to sing or play an instrument in worship at the 9:30 service at Our Master’s Center, and the 8:00 and 9:30 services at Alpine Center.

For Alpine Center: Please contact Jody Warren at church at 815-399-5910 or by email at jodywarren@christumc.cc

For Our Master’s Center, please contact Sherrill Muller at 815-520-4158 or by email at slmrerm66@gmail.com Worship service dates will be filled on a first come, first served basis, so please contact Jody or Sherrill as soon as possible. Jody will be happy to help you find music.

As always, you don’t need any previous choir experience to participate in worship, just a desire to spread the Word of God through your love of music!

Music Matters

TLC- Tender Loving Craft Show for UMW
Saturday, October 15, 2016
Interested in assisting with our 27th Annual Tender Loving Crafts Show? This year’s TLC will be Saturday, October 15, 2016 and we need your help!
We have volunteer shifts available, a few booth openings and a need for items to be sold at the UMW table. Let us know if you're crafty and/or love to volunteer. We would be happy to have you on our TLC team!
To volunteer, please contact Carla White-Carpenter at 815-885-3425 or Diane Wilson at 815-708-3636. For booth space availability, please contact Diane Kirkland at 815-885-1757.

Blessing of the Layettes
Thursday, May 19, 11:00 am,
Alpine Sanctuary
Pastor Jane will give a blessing over the 47 layette gift packages that were gathered the month of February. The United Methodist Women invite you to attend this special gathering in the Sanctuary with Mary Ann Pifer from Crusader Clinic.

JuBell-ee
Saturday, May 7, 4:30 pm
Rockford Christian High School
Tickets are $5.00
Handbell choirs from all over the area will join together to present a program of massed handbell ringing. This will include our CUMC Wesley Ringers. Come and support the Wesley Ringers, as well as the Rock River Valley Pantry (all proceeds go to the food pantry). Enjoy an afternoon of fun and music.

Annual Worship Arts and Music Ministry Open House
Thursday, May 26
6:00-8:00 pm
Alpine Center Coffee House
Everyone who has been involved in leading worship and working behind the scenes to prepare for the worship services at Our Master’s and Alpine Centers is invited.
Stop by with your spouse and/or family for appetizers and fellowship to celebrate your hard work and dedication to Christ United Methodist Church.

If you have questions, contact Jody Warren at jodywarren@christumc.cc.
long-distance relationship for over two years,” he said. They were married 14 years ago, spending their honey-
moon in St. Lucia. 

Today Rachel is the lead technician of the x-ray department at Swedish American Hospital. Darrin worked 15 years for Ferguson Enterprises of Rockford in plumbing sales. This spring he joined ITT Engineered Valves, LLC, which has headquarters at Lancaster, Pa. He works out of his home office in Machesney Park, serving as regional account manager for distributors in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas. His company sells to manufacturers. “I help distributors sell our products,” he explained.

He used to do commercial plumbing. “Now we do bigger projects, like for chemical plants, and steel, power and pharmaceutical companies,” he said. Instead of doing the planning, now he helps others “who are trying to figure out application questions, like which specific valve to put in.” he said.

Jack attends the fifth grade at Machesney Elementary School, in the fine arts program. He’s in Boy Scout Troop 620 in Roscoe. Mackenzie attends third grade at Olson Park Elementary School. She’s into dancing, taking ballet, hip-hop and jazz. They both are in JAM at church.

The family enjoys tent camping in local areas, but have done so at Apple River Canyon, about an hour north of Rockford. “We enjoy the summer, and family,” Darrin said. They go to a lake in Wisconsin every year and have plans to go to the Caribbean next year.

The family recently got a new member – Brody, a Golden Retriever, who’s now 4 months old.

Darrin and Rachel have been running and training for the upcoming Literary Council Half Marathon (13.1 miles) this month in Rockford. They’ve run a 12-mile stretch in their preparation. Darrin ran a full marathon three years ago.

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**Job Opening:**
**Choir Director/Handbell Choir Director**

Christ United Methodist Church, a 1600 member church in NE Rockford, is seeking a part-time director(s) for an adult choir that sings two Sundays a month and/or a handbell choir that plays once a month during the school year. In addition, our second worship center is seeking a part time director for an adult choir that sings three times a month during the school year. These positions can be filled by one, two, or three people. Opportunities for directing summer choirs are available. Candidate must be able to work as part of a team, choose music from a variety of musical styles. Experience directing choirs and choosing worship music required. Candidates will be asked to prepare and teach music to the choirs as part of an audition. Preference will be given to candidates with piano proficiency. Candidates should possess a background in a variety of worship music genres, skill to lead musical groups with willingness to learn.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and any questions to humanresources@christumc.cc. The job description is available on our website at www.christumc.cc.

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Ditch the Debt, GROW Our Ministries

$736,828
Contributions Received

Thanks to everyone who kindly donated to our CUMC capital campaign!

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Annual Spring Salad Luncheon
Wednesday, May 11, 12:30 pm
Alpine Dining Room

All women of the church are invited to attend the annual spring salad luncheon. Come and enjoy food, fellowship and a program. Writer and crafter Nancy Hanwell Stacy will present a program on the history of aprons. Babysitting provided. Bring your favorite apron to wear or display.
One year ago Roxy was an atheist with a son, Liam asking questions about God and Jesus for which she had no answers. Roxy has triplets who are 7: Liam, Gavin, and Marlee. She always knew if they became interested in God she would make sure she would find a church for them to discover about God and Jesus. She never wanted her ideas to stop them from believing in God and Jesus.

I asked what drew her to Christ UMC. She said they live in the neighborhood and she didn’t want to go to Holy Family so she first called our office and spoke to Gayle George. She explained that she was an atheist and asked about how our church handled prejudices against people of various differences. Gayle assured her we were a loving and accepting community so Roxy and her children came the next Sunday. Roxy said, “I was intimidated, but I felt the love people had for one another, for God and Jesus, and for the pastors.” She said that even though she didn’t know anybody she felt “an overwhelming sense of peace, happiness and love.” The kids had a great time so they decided to come back. Previously, Roxy said she had been judged, and felt people might judge her. That made her feel vulnerable. It made it tough to come back after having bad experiences before of people turning her off to church by their beliefs and behavior.

She didn’t realize at first, but as Roxy attended church with her children, she was feeling happy and peaceful. She could name it now as God’s presence. She said she had no intentions of crossing over to believing in God for herself. In her words, “It snuck up and bit me.” And that has been a good thing! She had conversations with Pastor Scott and Pastor Jane about what she was experiencing. She had questions about how you know when God is working in you and through you.

When asked how God works through her now, the words and ideas tumbled out. Roxy has a strong sense of helping others. She volunteers her time, she makes things for people, she shares moral support, she prays for others. She has blessed people she doesn’t know and then told them to pay it forward when they can. She said, “Every night I pray to God, show me what to do, I am yours, work within me.”

Roxy’s faith has been impacted by the Wednesday night classes she has taken. She enjoys the learning but also hearing other people’s stories. She said as people share their stories, something in her story of life might relate to theirs and help. Reading the Mosaic book has stirred an idea in Roxy to want to do something to help kids at risk for abuse. The idea is forming and she is in conversation with some people to see how this idea may become a ministry. Roxy said she knows “God has a plan for me and this is my calling.”

By Beth A. Palm

Rainbow Covenant Giving
Rainbow Covenant giving in May will go to Lee Memorial Girls’ High School in Calcutta. The major accomplishment of this ministry is the lives saved by God, through the service of Lee Memorial among the orphans, poor and destitute.

Today the school is one of the oldest and most prestigious Bengali medium schools in Calcutta. Their purpose is to feed, clothe, and educate the children and teach them the ways of the Lord.
All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
And all things wise and wonderful;
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens up,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors and
He made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning light
That brightens up the sky.

The cold wind in the winter-time,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden
Now, He made them ev’ry one.

He gave us eyes to see them all,
And lips that we might tell
How great is the Almighty God
Who has made all things well.

Cecil Alexander and her husband,
William, a parish minister in Londonderry,
Ireland, served in a rural area. She visited
the poor families and gathered the children
around her for instruction in the Bible, the
catechism, and the Apostles’ Creed. When
she published a collection of her songs, al-
most all for children, she donated the profits
to support disabled children in her area.

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”
was written to help children understand the
phrase, “I believe in God the Father, Maker
of Heaven and earth.” Often when we think
of God the Creator, we consider the vast gal-
axies of space and the mighty billowing
oceans, but this hymn, written for boys and
girls, talks of little flowers with glowing
colors, little birds with tiny wings, purple-
headed mountains, ripe fruits in the garden,
and meadows where we play.

MELD Shower
Sunday, May 1, during coffee hours
at both Alpine and Our Master’s Centers
For MELD Young Mom and Dad’s program

MELD would appreciate your gift of
new baby supplies such as baby wipes, disposa-
ble diapers, baby lotion, laundry soap, baby
shampoo and gently used items such as infant
and toddler clothing, bedding, blankets, toys,
high chairs, playpens, car seats, swings, bath
tubs, strollers.

Your gifts do not need to be wrapped.
Monetary gifts will be used to purchase the
above items. Checks to CUMC with MELD in
the memo line.

Garage Sale Update
"Tough for Tyler" is sponsoring a gigantic garage sale on Satu-
day, May 7. All proceeds go toward medical expenses for our
own Tyler Levine. Tyler is a 7-year-old in our congregation who
is currently battling Ewing's sarcoma, a childhood cancer.

First...WOW! We are blown away by the generosity of this
congregation. Thank you, thank you.

Second...We are able to pick up large or heavy items. Contact
Rich Fisher (815)222-6181 to arrange this.

Third,...Come to the sale on May 7 from 9:00 am—3:00 pm.
This is part of the giant Churchill’s Grove Neighborhood Sale.
We’re in the alley between Camp and Harlem—1625 Camp Ave.
Contact Megan Abbott with questions: mabbott@christumc.cc
or cell #815-218-3149.
Announcements!

We would like to invite all the families and children to join us on May 21, 2016 at 10 am at the Alpine Campus, for a Bicycle Blessing Day. Bring your friends, your grandparents, and the whole family and don't forget to bring your bicycles. Summer is almost here and this would be a nice venue for our bicycles to be blessed by our pastors.

There will be no Sunday school on May 29th in celebration of Memorial Day weekend. Our summer Sunday school classes for Our Master’s and Alpine Centers will start on June 5, 2016.

VBS 2016 will be June 20-24 from 9:00 am until noon. You can start registering online by going to http://2016.cokesburyvbs.com/www.christumc.cc or fill out a registration form in our Connection Center. We are looking for items that relate to the beach party theme for decorations during the week of June 20-24. Items such as beach balls, towels, umbrellas, chairs, tents, palm trees, surfboards, etc. would be welcome for use during that week. As you encounter these items during your spring cleaning, please think of us. We will return them to you as soon as VBS is over.

Joy

Important Dates to Remember

May 21—Bicycle Blessing at Alpine Center, 10:00 am
May 22—Teacher Appreciation Day (Our Master’s and Alpine Centers)
May 29—No Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

8:00 a.m. Nursery Child Care is available at the Nursery Room
No Sunday School at this worship hour

9:30 a.m. Worship Hour Alpine Center
- Infants and Toddlers: Nursery Room
- All children begin in the Sanctuary and are dismissed after Children’s Message (except on the first Sunday of the month)
- Pre-School(4)-5th Grade—Lower Level Sunday School Rooms.*

Every first Sunday of the month* Kindergarten-5. grade children at the 9:30 am Alpine worship center will begin downstairs. We will all come up together to take communion and go back to their SS rooms.

9:30 a.m. Worship Hour OMC
- Infants: Nursery
- Pre-School-Kindergarten: Nursery
- 1-.6- Grade: Begin in Sanctuary, dismissed downstairs for Sunday School following the Children’s Message

11:00 a.m. Worship Hour Alpine Center
- Infants and Toddlers: Nursery Room
- All children begin in Sanctuary and are dismissed after Children’s Message.
- Pre-School(4)-5th Grade—Lower Level Sunday School Rooms.

Note: Communion is every Sunday for the Children

Our VBS 2016 online registration is all set up for anyone who wishes to participate this summer. It will be on June 20 - 24 at Alpine Center from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Online registration is open for the parents who want to register their children and also for the volunteers @ http://2016.cokesburyvbs.com/www.christumc.cc , for more details, please call Joy Hayag at 8153995910 or email her at jhayag@christumc.cc
May 1
Don Black
Dave Carlson
Caleb Hayag
Jan Rittweger
Ben Schaible

May 2
Melody Coffer
Donna Dyer

May 3
Milo Case
Nina Giannangeli
Gavin Horkheimer

May 4
Liezl Carlson
Dave Johnson
Amy Steffen

May 5
Alex Bielefeldt
Jessie Lantz
Heidi Lashock
Alex Liddell
Becky Rippentrop
Nick Scribner
Stephanie Umenhofer

May 6
Bill Michalsen
Steven Moore
Becky Schoff

May 7
Brady Kneller
Linda Lurvey

May 8
Maya Alston
Steve Thomas

May 9
Randy High
Terri Kobler
Patti Lashock
Sally Pulford

May 10
Rebecca Bruesewitz
Nancy Chalman
Linda Thomas

May 11
Amy Craig
Murphy Fraser
Don Schultz

May 12
Gretchen Beaman
Billy Cook
Kara Fauerbach
Jeff Holmertz
Dayton Hunter
Lorna Keefer
Jane Kiley
Donna Kirk
Scott Miller
Derek Nelson
Larry Watts

May 13
Marci Molina
Jan Noble
Jane Reuber
Ed Smerke

May 14
Chase Flodin
Sean Ogilby

May 15
Andrew Geddes
Cheryl Jacobs
Elijah King
Mary Martin-Huber
Austin Meyer
Braden Robinson
Kyle Thurston
Arlene Williams

May 16
Josh Cassaro
Susan Murray
Jean Randel
Paul Seiler
Bill Sims

May 17
Cindy Wiles

May 18
Sue Calcione
Brian Earnest
Pat Erickson
Emily Keeley
Ilona Mitchell
Diane Moore
Callie Rezin
Dennis Rezin
Braxton Williams

May 19
Megan Armstrong
Nate Gibbons
Mark Page
Dan Rezin

May 20
Paige Abbott
Paul Klazura
Karissa Lin
Dustin Marino
Barb McKelvey
Brady Nickel
Hayden Nickel
Jake Runestad
Chad Williams

May 21
Molly Fraser
Joy Nordberg

May 22
Noah Fall
Pam Livingston
Zachery O’Quinn
Cheryl Wallem
Chris Warren

May 23
Joan Cox
Katie Kaiser
Elizabeth Lipton
Bonnie McLeod
Jamie Morgan
Emily Mouri
Brad Robinson
John Spitzer

May 24
Elaine Johnson
Diana Johnson
Helen Kunz
Char Peters
Bonnie Shourek
Devon Smick
Pat Vandiver
Larry Wainwright

May 25
Sara Eilers
Robert Freethy
Timmy Gaumond
Martha Hooley
Arlene Persinger

May 26
Kaylee Bielefeldt
Ryan Blume
Jared Calow
Jo Marie Paul
Nick Potter
Sandy Welte
Emily Williams

May 27
Madison Clark
Jackson Clark
Cynthia Hansen
Scott Himel
Jan Leopold
Brittany Olson
Sparky Powell
Kay Schwálbach
Tom Shula
Bob Turner
Candace Wermager

May 28
Jacob Hedberg
Lexie Wood

May 29
Elena Gottlick
Candy Johnson
Erin McKinney
Bill Miner

May 30
Linda Kuntz
Jonathan Olson
Wilma Porter
Phil Rezin

May 31
Joey Carlson
Keldon Lin
Lauren Rheingans
Anniversaries; The Church is People

Happy Anniversary

May 1
Gary and Cindi Lutes

May 2
Andrew and Lindsey LaPour
Ben and Jo Mohrman

May 4
Bill and Maureen Cook

May 5
Joe and Sue Calcione
Doug and Janet Johnson
Ken and Rose Johnson

May 9
Eladio and Carol Arreguin
Scott and Karen Hulick
Harold and Holly Sweeney

May 12
Mike and Laura Meehan

May 13
Steve and Debbi Thurston

May 14
Greg and Candace Wermager

May 16
Al and LeeAnn Mowbray

May 17
Larry and Joan Cox

May 18
Elmer and Kathy Kietzmann
Andy and Vernadel Schavland

May 19
Mark and Connie Bradel
Michael and Julane Storm-Levia

May 20
Al and Connie Fox
Tom and Annette Hosmann
Ryan and Rebecca Miller
Doug and Robin Roegner
Mike and Laura Stroup

May 21
Bill and Karla Michalsen

May 22
Mark and Christy McGowan

May 23
Keith and Staci Buteyn
David and Lisa Dunlap

May 24
Dennis and Jackie Gay
Mark and Crystal Lundvall
Brad and Lisa Morrison

May 25
Jeff and Beth Holmertz
Norm Shirk and Barbara Havens-Shirk

May 26
Dave and Karen Cox
Larry and Nancy Hedberg

May 27
Jim and Linda Slife

May 28
Steve and Diann Anderson
Keith and Kathy Magnus
Ted and Martha Ritter

May 29
Ken and Brenda Christiansen
Steve and Cindy Kentner

May 30
Zach and Elizabeth Enderle

The Church is People

Sympathy to:
Nancy DeHart, Mark and Crystal Lundvall,
Wendy Jancek, and Jan and Steve Hudgin and
family on the death of Dale DeHart on March 26

Sully Sullivan and family on the death of his
wife, Lee, on April 1

John and Lynn Anderson and family on the
death of John’s mother, Donna Anderson on
April 7

Barb Peterson on the death of her friend, Roger
Johnson

Wedding:
Laura Wilson and Brad Underwood were
married at CUMC on April 9

Megan Smick to be Ordained at
Annual Conference
Sunday, June 5, 7:00 pm
Pheasant Run Resort
4051 E. Main Street, St. Charles, IL
Congratulations to Megan Smick and her family
as she is ordained an elder at this year’s annual
conference. Megan is a former member at
CUMC and we have been her home church in the
candidacy process. She now serves at Rockton
UMC.

- From LeRoy Grande
I would like to thank Pastors Scott and Dee for
their calls before I entered the hospital after my
heart attack. Thanks to all my church family for
your prayers and cards when I had my heart
surgery.
Getting to Know You: Darrin Erickson
by Don Black

As a child, Darrin attended Tabor Lutheran Church, because it was two blocks from his home. He participated in confirmation and youth programs until high school and college.

Darrin graduated from Rockford Lutheran High School. Rachel graduated from Jefferson High School. He was in Key Club, played tennis and ran track. His cousin and he also operated a lawn mowing business. Now he belongs to a men’s soccer league.

Darrin went to the University of Iowa, thinking about a career in physical therapy, but he graduated with a degree in communication studies, heading for a sales career.

He met Rachel through their mutual friends. She was attending Rockford Memorial Hospital’s x-ray technologist school while he was in Iowa. “We had a