

My grace is sufficient for you, for my
power is made perfect in weakness.
2 Corinthians 12:9

Reflections from Pastor Anna



"I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." (Ephesians 4:3)

The month of August at Friendship has been full of events. A long-time favorite, 'All Church Picnic' has been resurrected as we embark on a new school year. It was so lovely to watch many people, young and old, mingling together with big smiles. Thank you to those grillers for filling my office with the smell and smoke of a picnic! The sound of the 'choo-choo' train and the climbing wall were a special dab of festivity. Thank you Social Life Ministry Team for letting us enjoy the spirit of community.

Even though we enjoyed one another's presence on this day, we were saddened by news of the resignation of Terri O'Gara, our Youth Director. There is no one who could replace Terri who gave herself whole-heartedly to the youth ministry for many years.

While we look for staff persons for children's ministry and youth ministry, we'll seek an opportunity to strengthen the lay leadership, especially for the educational ministry. One thing that I have been so grateful and thrilled about is that 27 people responded 'YES' to be Sunday School teachers for the coming year!

Last Monday evening, the first Teacher's Workshop was held. Each one was asked, "Why did you say 'yes' to teaching?"

These are the responses:

- to nurture children to grow in faith
- to thank those who mentored me growing up in the church
- to step up to help the need in our church
- Somebody asked
- Because it is important to work for church
- to teach Christ and to help youth know God and have a relationship with God
- A sense of call for nurturing our children
- To enjoy working with and being around many different ages of people, young and old

Each response was precious. Are you excited that these are our children's teachers at Friendship? I am so humbled by working with them. I wonder if we should ask this question of ourselves about ministry we do, whether as a leader of the ministry or as a supporter throughout the year. I am sure our vision would be sharpened.

May God continue to guide and strengthen our work for the coming of God's reign.

Pastor Anna



Angels Unaware!



ANGELS UNAWARE ~ September 2013

A monthly column that highlights folks who do “good stuff” for Friendship Church



This month your Angel Reporter found a couple who both do great things for Friendship Church! They have been members for many years here at FUMC and have seen several pastors through their assignments. They both are present almost every Sunday for worship and are seen at most of our church gatherings, whether it's a committee meeting or a fellowship gathering. The Angel “double” halo this month goes to:

Charles and Martha Rayburn!

Charles and Martha are just about the friendliest folks you'll ever meet. They are active and interested in whatever is going on and if you ever speak with either of them, you feel like they are so interested in you! What a wonderful quality to have! Perhaps it comes from being retired teachers. They both taught in the Chicago Public School system for many years and have continued to stay very busy with family, travel to their timeshare in Wisconsin and church activities since they entered retirement.

Martha and Charles have served on many committees at FUMC. Charles has been the lay leader in our congregation, has served on the education board, Church Council, been part of small group ministry, as well as our Social Life Committee. Martha has also been active in education, small groups, social life and Women's Bible Study. Both Martha and Charles have been faithful worship assistants, serving often as liturgists at the 10:45 a.m. service.

They both are regulars at our monthly Senior Luncheon and Bible Study and your angel reporter has learned that when they are not there, the group lacks a certain “pizzazz.”

Health issues have challenged this sweet couple but you'd never know it when they greet you. Just a few days ago, Charles was heard saying to an inquiry about how he was feeling: “not bad for a young man!” May we all have that twinkle in our eye and that wonderful attitude as we age and face health struggles!

Thank you, Martha and Charles for all you do for Friendship Church and for being a wonderful example of Christian love to us all.



UMC Northern Illinois Conference

2013 Men's Spiritual Congress | September 13-15

300 Conference Point Rd. Williams Bay, WI | Northern Illinois Conference of United Methodist Men
NICUMM.org

Would you begin a long, cross-country trip without first looking at a map?

Sounds ridiculous-yet this exactly how most men approach life's most important journey. They have a rough idea of where they want to go—but have no idea how to get there. Join us as best-selling author and humorist David Murrow reveals the Bible's map to manhood.

You will learn:

- How God turns common men into great men
- Why church is so frustrating and so satisfying at the same time
- When to be a lion and when to be a lamb
- What to expect next in your spiritual journey

David Murrow is not a pastor, professor, or theologian. He's just a guy in the pew whose tired of seeing churches drive their men away. He is Director of Church for Men, an organization that helps churches reconnect with the world's largest unreached people group.



Rich Rubietta from Abounding Ministries will serve as Song Leader for the weekend.

Conference Registrant: Bill Franz
747 S. Oakland
Villa Park, IL 60181-3079
Email: swedtooth13@live.com

*If you are concerned about your church
and what you can do to help grow,
this conference is for you!*

To register to attend the Northern Illinois Conference 2013 Spiritual Congress, please complete the official registration form and mail it, with your check payable to "NIC UMM" and send to Bill Franz. You can find the form at www.NICUMM.org.

All registration forms need to be turned in by **September 8, 2013**.
For further information, contact Bill Franz at 630-903-7210.

Who Is My Neighbor Program | Spanish as a Second Language Spanish Teachers Wanted

Are you proficient in Spanish and have experience teaching?

Then apply to become a Spanish as a Second Language teacher. Our teachers are given a curriculum to use and an orientation that can train them on teaching in the classroom. Come and share your gifts, inviting others to know their neighbors. A stipend is available to our teachers.

[Click here](#) to download the application.

Want to learn Spanish? Classes are filling up for the fall session.

Sites include:

Aurora: Bethany of Fox Valley

Chicago: Broadway

Chicago: Grace Church of Logan Square

Deerfield: Christ

Elgin: Epworth

Genoa: Faith

Naperville: Wesley

Rochelle

Schaumburg: Our Savior's

Sterling: Wesley

West Chicago

Wood Dale



There is no set fee to attend. A voluntary offering will be taken at the class. [Click here to register.](#)

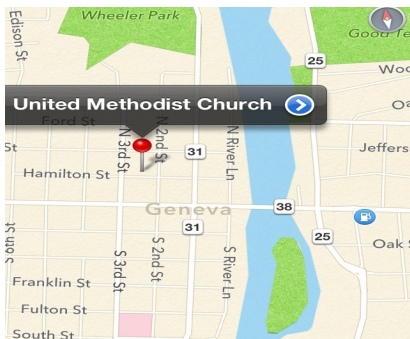
Other News

New Opportunity for Ministering to the Community

Friendship is partnering with a new community group called **Parent Mentoring Program (PMP)**. PMP's mission is to equip parents with the tools and a support network to achieve success for themselves and their family. This will be done through adult mentoring, monthly workshops and coaching. This program is headed by Amania Drane, chair of Friendship's Outreach & Missions Committee. The Northern Illinois Conference has also provided a \$2,000 grant through their Creative Ministries Grant program.



Additional details will be forthcoming. If you have questions or would like to get involved, please contact Amania at 630-985-6421 or niaenterprises1@comcast.net.



Northern Illinois IAF

United Power for Action & Justice, Lake County United, & DuPage United – Fox River Valley Initiative

REGIONAL 2-DAY TRAINING

Friday, September 20 | 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Saturday, September 21 | 9:00am – 5:00pm

United Methodist Church of Geneva | 211 Hamilton St., Geneva, IL 60134

Parking is available directly west of the church and side streets.

SUMMARY

Northern Illinois Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF) will offer a 2-day version of its acclaimed national leadership training in Geneva in September.

Co-sponsored by **Northern Illinois United Methodist Conference**. It will include the core universals and skills taught in somewhat longer IAF training offerings. This training will be useful for emerging leaders, leaders who have been involved in broad-based organizing but have yet to participate in other trainings, and staff of member organizations.

REGISTER TODAY! info@dupageunited.org

For more information contact: Adrienne McCauley, 512.560.8838 or adrienne@dupageunited.org.

The Bible and Immigration | Sunday, September 22, 6-8pm | Friendship Church

Presented by Reverend Michael Mann, conference staff for Outreach & Mission

Where does scripture meet your story? The Bible includes some of the oldest accounts regarding the migration of people and God's attitude towards those who sojourn in a new land. This fall, study what the Bible says about migration, learning the principles that recur throughout Scripture and may even apply today. Hear where your story may intersect with the larger story of God's movement throughout history. Listen for where God is moving today.

Session II, September 22. Have you heard the latest about immigration? What about the history and stories of migration in this country? Come and hear the background of immigration in the U.S. Share your own stories that point to the continually changing nature of migration and our collective story.

Around and about Friendship Church...

Church Anniversary

In **October of 2014**, Friendship will celebrate its 40th anniversary. The Bishop will worship with us on the first Sunday in October. Old friends and pastors of Friendship will be invited to attend.

A committee has been formed to begin working on the details for the occasion. If you have any suggestions, please contact one of the members listed below.

Wayne Feters, Carolyn & Loren Weber, Jane Pierce, Jody Hargett, Mike DeWitt or Susan Higginbotham.



Update Your Information

We're updating our database!

Look for the form next time you are at church to update your information.

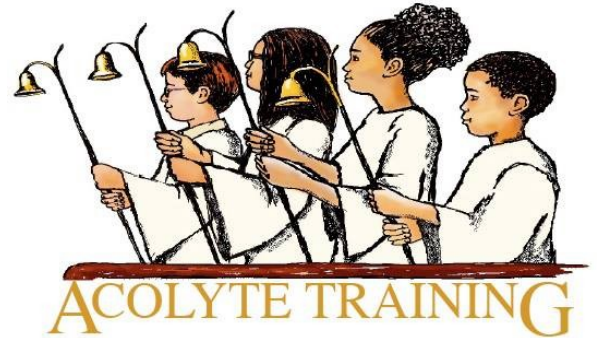
Please fill out the form and drop it in the box at the Information Station.



Everyone's Invited to First Thursday Dinners

We will be meeting at The Patio, 151 S. Weber Road, for our First Thursday dinners.

Mark your calendar for 6:00pm to 8:30pm on **September 5** to have a time of fellowship, friendship and NO COOKING with other church members.



Calling All Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Graders! Be an Acolyte!

Pastor Anna would like to invite you to be a part of our worship service by becoming an acolyte.

This would require a training session on **September 22** at 10:15 (between services) and a commitment to serve as an acolyte every few months at the service you and your parents attend.

This is an important job in our worship service. The light you carry in to worship is symbolic of the light of Christ entering our lives and when you carry the light out of worship, it is a symbol of Christ's light and love going out into the world.

Soon you will receive more information and a special invitation to attend acolyte training. We encourage you to be a part of the worship service in this special way!



Core Groups Are Gearing Up for a New Year

The Core Group Kick-Off was August 25. If you aren't in a Core Group and would like to be, please contact the church office.

We hope you will give it a try!

A Letter From Bethlehem Home

August 1, 2013

Dear Friends of Bethlehem Home,

On behalf of the Board Members, I want to say thank you for everything the Friendship United Methodist Church in Bolingbrook, Illinois have done to support the children of Bethlehem Home in Haiti, Jeremie. We received a check donation of \$200.00 in December 2012 to support our 1st Annual Dance for the Children in Haiti Fundraising. Your supports are very well appreciated and will make a difference in the lives of the children.

It is such a blessing to see how God had been good and will continue to do good for the children at Bethlehem Home in Haiti. We are also proud to have you help fulfill part of our mission of Bethlehem Home.

The Board Members and I thank you all.

Please contact me if you have any questions at 773.392.8663 or e-mail: bethlehemhm@aol.com.

Warmest Regards,

Gigi Polycarpe

Founder and President of Bethlehem Home

"Whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40



Thank you to Nina Henry

Nina, our Building Manager Assistant, will be moving on to new work. It was clear that Nina took her work seriously and was very professional in preparing our church for our members and for others who use our building.



We are grateful to her for her work at Friendship and wish her well.

Michelle Braxton, Chair
Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Caring Christians

Caring Christians is moving into its 2nd year at Friendship United Methodist Church.

We believe that many hearts and souls have been touched by the care offered through our ministry. To date the Card Ministry group has mailed over 150 cards to members during happy, sad, or difficult times. We will continue to offer the "cards" to those who would enjoy receiving a gentle reminder that you are never alone. Please contact the church office and let us know of someone who would benefit from a small gesture of kindness.

Caring Christians is available for hospital visits, funeral receptions, rides to medical appointments or emergencies for those who are unable to drive themselves, meals, telephone ministry and/or service repairs. We are only a phone call away. We are there when you need someone.

Please feel comfortable to allow us to help you, if needed. We care!!





Church Picnic Fun ~ August 18, 2013



A wonderful, fun- filled afternoon was had by all who attended our church picnic on August 18! Great food, great fellowship and super activities made for fun for all ages. Thanks to Kathleen Campbell and Dave Lichty and their hard working Social Life Committee who made the day a success!



Soft Ball Team Wrap-Up



Cheerleaders



Children & Family Ministry News



**September
2013**

Sunday **Sept. 1**
10am Family Worship

Sunday **Sept. 8**
9am & 10:45am
Worship
& Sunday School
2pm Parade

Sunday **Sept. 15**
9am & 10:45am
Worship
& Sunday School

Sunday **Sept. 22**
9am & 10:45am
Worship
& Sunday School

Sunday **Sept. 29**
9am & 10:45am
Worship
& Sunday School

Kick-Off Sunday

September 8, 2012 at 9:00am & 10:45am

Join us as we start a new year of
Sunday school on September 8th at 9:00am & 10:45am.

Children will be learning to GROW in their faith
by proclaiming the Gospel and serving others.

We will once again have 2 classes at each service:
Preschool-1st grade and 2nd-5th grade.

Pick Up your Registration Forms at church.



Bolingbrook Parade

Sunday, September 8 | 2pm

Yes, it's time for the annual Bolingbrook Pathways Parade!

It would be great to have a large crowd of our Friendship family participate in the parade, sharing our gifts (water bottles), presence, and smiles with the community.

Come! Walk with us!

Bring your wagons. Wear your traditional dress or hat!
Sign-up to walk in the parade on Sunday, **September 1.**
See Dan Henry for more information!



Family Worship Sundays

Family worship will continue on the 1st Sunday of each month.
All Ages will be in worship at 9 & 10:45.

We will **NOT** have Sunday School on September 1, October 6, November 3, December 1, January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, or May 4.

Children 3rd grade and under will go to Friendship Center during the sermon for a short lesson about worship.



September 2013

Plumbline

Plumbline 2013 is gearing up for another adventure in New York City. This 4-day experience starts on Sunday, **October 13** and goes until Wednesday, **October 16**.

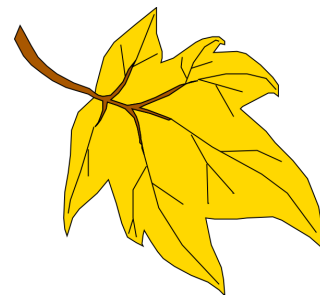
This year's theme is *Immigration: stories, faith, future*.

We will look at the history and the stories surrounding people's migration to the U.S., including why this issue has come up at this time.

If you know of youth who are interested, visit:

http://www.umcnic.org/k_eventdetail.php?id=2230

for an application and more information.



Contact Rev. Michael Mann at 847.931.0710, ext. 20 or mmann@umcnic.org with questions.

Deadline for Plumbline EXTENDED until **September 5**. Slots are filling up quickly, but some have requested more time to talk with their school officials.



A Note From Terri

What a joyous opportunity I have been given to not just once, but twice serve Youth Ministries at Friendship United Methodist Church as the Director of the Youth Ministries program.

Being just a small part in the lives of this wonderful group of youth has been one of the best experiences I have ever had! I will remain a member of Friendship and remain involved with the youth program, but will no longer be in charge.

I do want to say that I have also been blessed with an amazing team throughout my time here, that has been amazing and supportive. *Melissa Schoonover, Tom Marsh, Donna Jacobs, Barb Collins, Robyn Lichty, Andrew and Leslie Tardecilla, Dave Olsen, Libby Northrip and Quenton Ihne*. Also, those who volunteered to help out in making pancakes for the pancake breakfast, on the mission trip or at the 30 hour famine. I have an amazing Staff Parish Liaison in *Marnie Vidad*. She has been supportive, encouraging and thoughtful in ways that goes beyond her role. I have truly been blessed in this role, with those around me who have such a passion for the youth as I do. I have a congregation and parents that have supported the youth program in amazing ways.

Most importantly, it has been an honor and a privilege to be just a small part of the faith journey of these youth who are the leaders of tomorrow's FUMC!

I will miss this role in ways that I can't even put into words.



Ms. Bosacki and Mrs. E. are eager to return to the classroom September 3rd, as we begin a new school year at First Friends.

Please continue to pray for us as we guide our 19 four-year-olds and 6 three-year olds, along their paths of spiritual, cognitive, emotional and physical growth.

We do have several openings in our Tuesday/Thursday class, so please tell your neighbors that there is still time to register! They can contact Ms. Bosacki at 630.739.3010 or through our website at www.firstfriendspreschool.info.

Our wish list this year includes a much-needed artwork-drying rack and a wagon for the playground. Ms. Bosacki would really love to update the music program from CD's and tapes and purchase an iPod and iPod player for the classroom.

Thank you for buying from our main fundraiser, Market Day!

And thank you to church members who have donated paper and beautiful calendars to our classroom. We really appreciate it.



Also:
**You are invited to walk with
us in the Pathways Parade
on September 8th!**

Wear something red!

Service

Please email your requests to prayerrequests@friendshipchurchmc.org if you don't use email please call the church office and the request will be forwarded. If you do not have access to a computer and wish to join the prayer chain, please advise the church office or see Kathryn Bulman, prayer chain coordinator. Please be mindful that even though prayer requests may be common knowledge, it is our responsibility to maintain confidentiality.

Celebration offerings



The tradition of the Celebration Offering came to us from our African Fellowship.

On the first Sunday of each month as we celebrate God's abundant gifts on our lives, a special offering is taken in addition to the general offering. It's a chance to celebrate the blessings God has bestowed upon our lives. Look for the

special offering envelope in the bulletin. There is a place to mark if you would like to share your story with the congregation during a Sunday worship.

We have been blessed continuously with generous sharing and giving from our church families to share their moments of thanksgiving and joy with others who need an extra encouragement.

In the month of August, we received 10 envelopes totaling \$120.70. Thank you so much for your generous sharing. These celebrations are in honor of only sister's 67th birthday; for grace and blessings of God over our family; for God's deliverance and cure from cancer as well as this continuous protection; for the blessing of work; for scheduling of a much needed surgery; for life with God; for love of Christ and his forgiveness; and God's Goodness!

May God continue to bless you richly as your compassionate heart grows daily! Blessings, Anna

DAYBREAK

Serving at **Daybreak** is a long standing tradition at Friendship. On the third Friday (and following Saturday morning) we donate food, cook and serve two meals. Watch inserts in 2nd Sunday bulletins for details on how to donate and get involved in serving at the shelter.

Dinner on Friday, September 20 @ 5:00 pm
Breakfast Saturday, September 21 @ 5:00 am
Richard Guzman, Coordinator

SENIOR BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON

Is open to all senior adults. It meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:15am. The study is led by Pastor Anna and is followed by a delicious luncheon. If you would like to attend, contact the church office at 630-972-1011

Study & Lunch: Thursday, September 19 @ 11:15 am

AA & GA

Friendship is a place of help and hope for those struggling with addictions. Meetings are open to all.

AA Meetings: Saturday @ 9am & Sunday @ 5pm

GA Meetings: Friday @ 7:30 pm

DRESS A GIRL

Imagine a world where every little girl owned at least one dress.



Turn donated t-shirts into beautiful dresses for girls in need. Join us for cutting, sewing and assembling dresses.

Call the Church office to find out when and where we are meeting next.

Feel free to drop off children's t-shirts, pillow cases, 100% cotton fabric and ribbon at the Giving Center in the front entry so this team can create beautiful dresses!

ANXIETY/PANIC ATTACK SUPPORT GROUP

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month from 7—9pm. Open to all

September 2013 ~ Friendship Church

Two services resume September 8 ~ 9:00am & 10:45am

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10a Family Worship 5p AA	2 LABOR DAY 	3 10a Hour of Faith First Friends begins	4 6:30p Scouts 7:30p Chancel Choir	5	6 10a-Hour of Faith 7:30p GA	7 9a AA
8 2 Services resume 9 & 10:45 Youth Board 2p Pathways Parade 5p Gujarati Worship 5p AA	9 5:30p Girl Scouts 7p Crop Walk Recruiters Mtg.	10 10a Hour of Faith 7p Building Decoration Team	11 6:30p Scouts 7:30p Chancel Choir	12 7p Anxiety/Panic Attack Support Grp 7p Staff Parish 7p Trustees	13 10a-Hour of Faith 6p Girl Scout Leaders 7:30p GA	14 8:30a Market Day 9a AA
15 Worship 12p Confirmation Orientation 6p Core Leader Workshop 5p AA	16 5:30p Girl Scouts	17 10a Hour of Faith 7p Church Council	18 6:30p Scouts 6:30 Adult Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	19 11:15a Senior Bible Study/Lunch 7p Boughton Ridge Assoc.	20 10a-Hour of Faith 5p Daybreak 7:30p GA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 5a Daybreak 9a AA
22 Worship 10:05a Acolyte Training 5p Gujarati Worship 5p AA 6p Bible & Immigration, Part 2	23 5:30p Girl Scouts	24 10a Hour of Faith 7p Boy Scout Committee Mtg. 7p Evangelism	25 6:30p Scouts 7:30p Chancel Choir	26 70 Anxiety/Panic Attack Support Grp. 7p Worship Planning	27 10a-Hour of Faith 7:30p GA	28 9a AA
29 Worship 5p AA	30					