



Church of the Good Shepherd  
**Faith Action**  
A Just Peace, Whole Earth, Open and Affirming Church  
United Church of Christ

Newsletter Staff

Rose Bender

Cassie Simpson

George & Margie Parker

February 2010

Newsletter Email  
cogs@goodshepherd-ucc.org

## We Called a New Pastor!

*Submitted by Margie Parker*

On Sunday, January 10, church members voted unanimously to call Rev. Sonja Ingebritsen as our next pastor. Those who met her found her to be warm and comfortable to talk to, with a good sense of humor. Sonja will be starting with us on February 15.

Sonja was ordained on January 30 in her home church, Plymouth UCC in Oakland, CA. We sent her a beautiful stole for the occasion woven by Richard Cox - many members have made a contribution to the church so the gift could be from all of us. (Contributions can still go to Financial Secretary Dana Delong. Donations will help with moving expenses.)

A huge thank you goes to all the members of the Search Committee - Bryan Crow, Richard Cox, Erika Peterson, Retha Daugherty, Jan Ritzel, Gary Shepherd, and especially to Chair Peggy Igleheart for their many hours of work and the successful selection of Sonja Ingebritsen.

### Sonja's Candidating Sunday January 10, 2010



# Good Shepherd News

## Happenings

### Recurring Events

**First Sunday:** Communion

**Adult Sunday School:** 9:30 am

**Music Time for Youth:** 10:00 am

**Worship:** 10:30 am

### Overeaters Anonymous:

Mondays at 7 pm.

### Circle of Peace:

Tuesdays at 5:30 pm. For more information call Wil Davis at 549-4836.

### Choir Rehearsal:

Wednesdays at 6 pm. New members welcome.

### February Birthdays

- 7** Chance Earles
- 9** George Parker
- 10** Summor France  
Jack Raino
- 14** Barb Grear
- 18** Celeste Wozniak
- 19** Cindy Clark
- 19** Sam Foskey
- 20** Joyce Kramer
- 21** Frank Hayes
- 23** Colleen Flanagan
- 25** Becky Robinson
- 28** Terry Samm-Garris

### Upcoming Events

**Feb. 7:** Rev. Peggy Hayes preaching

**Feb 14:** Rev. Hal Landwehr preaching

**Feb 15:** Rev. Sonja Ingebritsen begins as pastor of COGS

**Feb 17, 7 pm:** Ash Wednesday Service

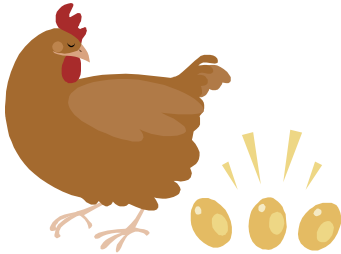
**Feb 20:** Shindig

Feb. 21: Rev. Sonja Ingebritsen preaching; lunch at Golden Corral

**Feb 28:** After church; Committee Fair with pizza served

### Green Tip of the Month

*Submitted by Bob Tyson*



The label "hormone-free" eggs is deceiving. Hormones in poultry have been banned since the 1960s. The "free range" label is also meaningless. The outdoor area for these hens could be a concrete slab. For real assurance of a barnyard style, look for "certified humane". Get outdoors! Join our next Sierra Club outing on Monday, February 15 (President's Day) as we hike in Hayes Canyon and also do Jackson Hole waterfall. Both are near Eddyville, IL. Contact the Tysons at 684-5643 for car pool arrangements.

### Care Team is Now On Call

*Submitted by Kate Baba*



The Care Team has decided to have an "On Call" list to meet the needs of the congregation. Please refer to the list of Care Team members and the schedule for the next few months.

**February:** Hugh Muldoon and Kelley Hessian

**March:** Peggy Hayes and Kay Tyson

**April:** Margie Parker and Hugh Muldoon

# Good Shepherd News

## *Thank You...*

- The congregation would like to thank those who helped un-decorate the church following Christmas (not near as much fun a job as decorating): George and Margie Parker, Andrew Samm, James Zetterman, Gary Shepherd, Erika Peterson, Barb Grear and Jennifer Morlan.
- Thanks are extended to George Parker, Jan Ritzel, Jennifer Morlan, and Margie Parker for shoveling following the last snowstorm. Also to the anonymous donors of two new ladders, one step, one extension, for use around the church.
- The work of everyone (far too many to list individually) who helped set up for, brought food to, or simply participated in, both the meet and greet and the potluck dinner held during the weekend when Sonja Ingebritsen came for her candidating service, is greatly appreciated.
- Of course, a very big thank you goes to the members of the search committee: Bryan Crow, Jan Ritzel, Richard Cox, Retha Dougherty, Gary Shepherd and especially the chair, Peggy Inglehart.
- Rose Bender for compiling and printing the 2009 annual reports, which she has done for **many** years! And to all who contributed individual reports.
- Richard Cox and Terry Moore for setting up the tables for the potluck on Annual Meeting Sunday

- Everyone who contributed \$375 to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund on January 31. That brings the fund balance to over \$500 and will make it possible for the pastor to help members and others meet special or emergency needs.

## *Congratulations...*

- Congratulations to Hugh Muldoon who received the Spirit of Martin Luther King Community Service Award at the MLK Day celebration on Saturday, Jan. 17. Carbondale City Councilwoman Corene McDaniel described Hugh as "someone who has served others throughout his life... He goes the extra mile to go across boundaries to build a better future for us all." And he "is always willing to step forward with passion and compassion." Illinois South Conference is proud to have Hugh as part of the Conference work in Carbondale. A freewill offering collected \$1,403.70, to be divided equally among Southern Illinois Coalition for the Homeless, African American Museum of Southern Illinois and Feed My Sheep. The latter, a ministry begun in 2002 by Bethel AME Church, now serves meals five days a week and has served more than 130,000 meals since its beginnings.
- In addition we would like to congratulate James Zetterman whose essay won first place in the Martin Luther King essay contest.

## **Training for Local Church Leaders**

*Submitted by Terry Moore*

Would you like to become a still better leader in Church of the Good Shepherd in the years ahead? If so, read on!

A small group leaders training event will be held by the Illinois South Conference of our church (the United Church of Christ) on Friday, March 19, 2010 at the St. Paul UCC in Nashville, Illinois from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. led by Rev. Ron Farr, a retreat leader, meditation teacher, writer and church consultant for the national UCC church. He will lead participants through the curriculum, *Unwrapping Our Gifts:*

*Empowering the Gifts, Ministries, and Spiritual Lives of Everyone in Our Churches.*

Registration forms are available in the narthex. The fee includes lunch.

## Good Shepherd News

### Vegetarian Challenge

*Submitted by Kate Baba*



The Ad Hoc covenant committee is challenging and encouraging YOU to eat vegetarian the first Sunday of the every month. This is an activity

that is in accordance with our covenants and won't be too taxing. Start slowly. As we often say, "baby steps" at first. But just a few reminders, pancakes, doughnuts, sweet rolls and cheese quiche are vegetarian foods. Good luck with the challenge!

### Sam Says Thanks!

*In response to our farewell for Interim Pastor Rev. Sam Foskey on January 31, he sent a card to the congregation with the following message:*

I really cannot say enough about the generous and gracious "send-off" you gave me last Sunday! How generous you were - \$160 plus a \$150 Barnes and Noble gift card; thank you so much! But the journal of good memories and heartfelt expressions of gratitude was priceless. I was greatly enriched, personally and spiritually, to have been your interim pastor. What a privilege! Shalom and God's richest blessings to you!

### Farewell to Sam Foskey, January 31, 2010



### February 21st

### Welcome Rev. Sonja Ingebritsen



February 21 is a "Be There!" Sunday. Come to church to welcome our new pastor, Rev. Sonja Ingebritsen, on her very first official Sunday with us. Let's show her how happy and excited we are to begin our ministry together.

Following morning worship are plans for anyone interested to join in taking her to lunch at Golden Corral where we've reserved a room. (With the Shindig the night before, this will be simpler than a potluck. There will be lots more opportunities for those.) You are also encouraged to come to the Ash Wednesday service at 7 pm on February 17, which Sonja will be leading.

# Good Shepherd News

## February 28th

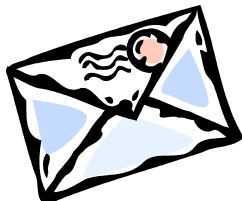
### Come to the Committee Fair

All you ever wanted to know about church committees – what do they do, when do they meet, how can you join – will be shared in a fun way on Sunday, February 28 following a free pizza lunch. What a deal! Don't miss this special event to find out how you can help keep the church strong and growing by participating in the work that keeps us going: Worship, Christian Education, Building and Grounds, Justice and Witness, Stewardship and Finance, Hospitality and Care Team.

## Notes To and From Sonja

*Submitted by Margie Parker*

*The following note was sent to Plymouth UCC to be read at Sonja Ingebritsen's ordination:*



Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ from Church of the Good Shepherd in Carbondale, Illinois, a Just Peace, Whole Earth, Open and Affirming Congregation!

We send best wishes to you, Sonja, at the celebration of your ordination into ministry. We feel blessed to be the first congregation you will serve as a settled pastor, and we welcome you into our church family with open arms!

We send thanks to Plymouth UCC for your part in preparing Sonja for this major step, and the many ways in which your congregation contributed to her journey of becoming the extraordinary person and pastor that she is today. Although we are not able to be there physically, we are celebrating with all of you in spirit. Sing, dance, and make a joyful noise... and eat a piece of cake on our behalf!

*To which Sonja replied on Sunday, January 31:*

It is wonderful knowing the congregation is holding me in prayer. The ordination service was wonderful! I felt well surrounded by love and support, and it was a great sending forth. There were a number of folks who, like you, weren't able to be with me in person. And to honor your presence in spirit, a member of my church and I designed an altar with a circle of candles to represent those of you who were surrounding me with prayer and care.

And thank you so much for the note you sent, the card signed by so many COGS folks, and the beautiful stole Richard made. I knew as soon as I saw the stole that it was the work of his talented hands. Ah, what a gift! Many people said that knowing they were sending me to Church of the Good Shepherd helped them feel better about losing me here. They could tell by your note and the stole that I was going to a great congregation. Of course, I agreed!

Please give my thanks to everyone. I'm excited to be on my way soon to begin our ministry together. I send my prayer and my love to the congregation.

## Youth Activities Planned for the Semester

*Submitted by Shari Burruss*

The semester is back in swing now that the holidays are over, and we are looking forward to some fun activities for the youth!

Sunday, February 21, we are going to have a Game Night/Potluck starting at 4:30 in the afternoon. EVERYONE in the church is invited to join us. Bring a dish or snack to share, as well as your favorite game. We will have games for all ages - so

we hope everyone can join us.

On the following Sunday, February 28, during the Church Committee Fair (right after service) Marisa is going to have some craft activities for the kids to enjoy. This will include painting some candle holders that will represent our covenants on the altar during service. Thanks to Marisa for organizing this activity and allowing the parents to enjoy the Committee Fair!

In March, we are planning a trip to Pirate...

*Continued on Page 6*

# Good Shepherd News

## *YOUTH Continued from Page 5*

... Pete's in Marion for some Laser Tag on March 21. We hope this will be an activity the older kids might enjoy, and encourage them to invite their friends. On Sunday March 28, we will enjoy "Palm Sundaes"...a trip to DQ for sundaes to celebrate Palm Sunday after service!

Sunday, April 4, we will celebrate Easter and look forward to our annual Easter Egg Hunt after service. Saturday morning, April 17, we are going to join the Carbondale Community Clean Up in celebra-

tion of Earth Day and help clean up our town - afterwards we'll enjoy some fun at Turley Park! On Sunday, April 18, continuing our Earth Day recognition - we will take a hike at Rocky Bluff and enjoy the wild flowers.

We will finish up the semester with an activity on Sunday, May 16 - we don't have the specifics yet - but welcome any ideas you can share!! **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** and join in on the fun...as always, we welcome the entire church family at all youth activities!

## **Annual Meeting – Budget, Elections, Constitution Changes**

*Adopted from Secretary Rose Bender's minutes by Margie Parker*

About 50 members attended the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 31, which convened in the sanctuary following the post-worship potluck. Sam Foskey opened the meeting with a prayer. The budget for 2010 was adopted as presented by Treasurer George Parker. (See the 2009 Annual Report for a copy or ask to have one e-mailed to you.)

The following were elected to the Church Council: Belinda Cole, Wil Davis, Donna Hayden, Dale Ritzel, and Ralph Tate; Jana Zetterman and Becky Robinson will be alternates. Barb Grear resigned at the January Council meeting and 2009 alternate Jack Raino will fill the second year of her two-year term.

Bryan Crow and Peggy Hayes were elected to the Pastoral Relations Committee with Lee Hayden, Kelley Hessian and Terry Samm-Garris to serve as alternates.

President Margie Parker thanked retiring Council members Rose Bender, Gary Shepherd, Rachel Tate (and herself) as well as Council members Terry Moore, Kate Baba, Dale Ritzel, Barb Grear and Kay Tyson for their dedicated service this past year. She also thanked retiring PRC members Shelly Avery and Erika Peterson along with Peggy Igleheart, Lenore Langsdorf and alternate Jan Ritzel (who replaced Lenore) for their service.

Margie presented the proposed Constitutional

changes which were distributed earlier. The revisions added the positions of Assistant Financial Secretary and Assistant Treasurer to several relevant Articles and eliminated the requirement that committee chairs be members of the church. Some additional clarifications and minor language changes were also presented. All were adopted unanimously.

The meeting then adjourned with a closing prayer from Sam.



# Community News

## February 28th

### ISC Offers Day of Discipleship

The annual Day of Discipleship (formerly known as Church Leaders' Workshop) sponsored by Illinois South Conference is scheduled for Sunday, February 28 at Evangelical UCC in Godfrey. The keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Martha Brunel, will speak at 2:15 on the day's theme of spirituality. Dr. Brunel has been a pastor, teacher, chaplain and writer in the UCC for over thirty years.

Following her talk, attendees can choose from 18 workshop sessions offered at 2:45 and 4:00 pm. Topics include a sampling of spiritual practices, spiritual practices through writing, Taize worship, discerning God's call in the midst of overload, praying the labyrinth, extravagant hospitality, curriculum resources and faith formation.

Registrations are due in the Conference office by Feb. 19. Call Margie Parker at 549-7193 if you're interested in attending.

## March 1st-3rd

### DuBois Center Spiritual Retreat

Explore actual message of several of the prophets, learning the five ways to distinguish true prophets from fake prophets. Find out why so many of them "died with their sandals on" and how their message resonates with our following God today. Fee includes 5 meals, snacks, activities and program materials. Visit DuBois Center @ [www.duboiscenter.org](http://www.duboiscenter.org). Mail, Fax or Email registration with fee or \$25 deposit to: DuBois Center, 2651 Quarry Rd, DuBois, IL 62831 Fax: 616-787-7701 email: [duboiscenter@frontiernet.net](mailto:duboiscenter@frontiernet.net)

- \$130/person
- Monday 7 pm-Wednesday 1pm (Monday Check-in 5-7 pm)
- Retreat Leader: Father Roger Karban
- Lodging in Hickory Lodge (double occupancy) or Cottages (dorm style)--limited number of single rooms available

## April 9th & 10th

### Dates Set for World Hunger Sale

Church Women United of Carbondale announced that the 36th annual World Hunger Sale is scheduled for April 9-10 at the Newman Center. The giant yard sale and auction raises money for sixteen local and worldwide charities and organizations that feed the hungry. Start checking your closets and shelves for what you'd like to donate and watch for more information in the next newsletter.

## March 6th

### CWU Celebrates World Day of Prayer



Church Women United of Carbondale is planning a very special World Day of Prayer celebration on Saturday, March 6 at Bethel AME Church, 316 E. Jackson, Carbondale. It will begin with a continental breakfast at 9 am, followed by the worship celebration at 10 am. It was written by women in Cameroon with the theme "Let Everything That Has Breath Praise God." The program features lots of music and hymns - some will be sung by the Bethel AME choir and others everyone will join in on.

All women are warmly invited to attend. The celebration is sure to lift spirits after a long, cold winter.

# Good Shepherd Covenants

Just Peace, Whole Earth, Open and Affirming

## Quotes From Rep. James Clyburn

*Submitted by Terry Moore*

"They (opponents of legislation to prohibit discrimination in the workplace) don't know what it's like to wake up every morning wondering whether or not this is the day that I lose my job because someone discovers who or what I am ... I understand those feelings because I've lived them."

"The First Amendment also stands for the proposition that the religious beliefs of some ... cannot be used as the basis for public policy at the expense of those whose beliefs may differ."

"Bigotry and homophobia are sentiments that should never be allowed to permeate the American workplace."

- Rep. James Clyburn (represents South Carolina's Sixth Congressional District)

## Obama Gets It, But Needs Our Help

*Witness for Justice #461, by Edith Rasell, UCC  
Minister for Workplace Justice, February 1, 2010.  
Submitted by Margie Parker*

Obama gets it. The State of the Union message showed he understands the problems faced by millions of Americans. He knows that nearly one in five people who want to work can't find a job or can only find part-time work. He knows that one in nine families cannot make the minimum payment on their credit cards, that one in seven mortgages is either in default or foreclosure, and that one in eight Americans is on food stamps.

The speech also showed that President Obama is continuing to mobilize his administration to tackle the nation's severe problems. He proposed a number of measures to create jobs, his first priority. He also proposed a new fee on big banks, a revised program to prevent foreclosures, and other measures that will speed the end of the economic crisis and make life easier for many who are suffering.

But the speech also showed that Obama is still too influenced by advisors who promote the failed policies of the past. Currently the most heated debate in Washington is over the size of the federal budget deficit. With sky-high unemployment and interest rates essentially at zero, a large deficit is the only tool that can repair the economy. Once things are somewhat back to normal, which probably won't be for two to three years, then we can worry about reducing the deficit.

But Obama is already proposing budget cuts

starting in the fall of this year. Not only are the cuts premature but what he proposes to cut -- non-security discretionary spending -- is also wrong-headed. This category of spending comprises only 14% of the budget but it pays for many things people care about deeply, from education and the environment to air traffic control, nutrition, and the national parks. Entirely excluded from the proposed cuts are the military and homeland security.

Over the next 11 years (2009-2019), the federal government deficit will total an estimated \$11.8 trillion. The Stimulus Bill and costs of the bailout are just 14% of this, while 26% is due to the higher costs and lost revenue associated with the economic downturn. But fully 45% of the total is due to the Bush tax cuts of 2001 and 2003, and 15% is the cost of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Money to reduce the deficit should come from ending the tax cuts and bringing the wars in the Middle East to an end, not from programs that cost relatively little and serve so many.

For the next few years, the nation and especially the unemployed need a large budget deficit and the jobs it will create. In later years, the burden of reducing the budget deficit should fall on those who benefited from the excesses of recent years.

Obama gets it. But that's not enough. As he said in his speech Wednesday night, democracy can be noisy, messy, and complicated. Well, it's time for caring people to get very noisy, jump into the mess, and make life in Washington very complicated. The health of our nation is at stake, as well as the well-being of millions of our friends and neighbors around the country.

# Good Shepherd Covenants

Just Peace, Whole Earth, Open and Affirming

## Moral Bankruptcy

By Joseph Stiglitz in *Mother Jones Magazine*, January 2010; Summarized by Bob Tyson

There is no need to rehash the whole story about the financial sector of our economy being brought to its knees by foolishness and risks, but no one is talking about its inherent moral deficit. We allowed markets to shape our economy, but in doing so also let it shape society. That is to say, materialism over moral commitment. Market fundamentalism erodes any sense of community, there is no common good, and exploitation of the unwary and unprotected individuals is sanctioned. Not surprisingly, there is an erosion of trust in institutions.

Look at the market attitude toward pay. Company leaders receiving twenty times the pay of workers, no relationship between pay and performance, and reward is decoupled from risk (company stock drops because of its investment in derivatives, credit defaults, etc., but you still get your bonuses or stock options).

It is incredulous to think mortgage originators and investment bankers didn't know the product they created, purchased, or repackaged were toxic. Each says that the other one deceived them. The fact is that investment bankers encouraged the mortgage industry to offer these instruments as a source of high profits. Exploitation of the poor and lower middle class was simply a lucrative revenue source. (Bob's note: Look at all the payday loan places, check cashing, furniture rental, etc., around here.) If a crisis hits the media, blame the victims.

Financial institutions say it is not up to them to discern what is right or wrong. Let the govern-

ment make the rules. Yet they fight any proposed government regulation on predatory lending, consumer protection laws, off shore banking, or stock market speculation. Therefore, if any problems occur, we still did everything within the law. Note that Citibank had no qualms about staying in apartheid South Africa. The predecessors of Morgan Chase helped finance slave purchases.

Securitization epitomized the process of how markets separated themselves from community and personal relationships (the bank sells your mortgage to New York and splits it into pieces to sell to other investors). This results in a fissure between Wall street and Main street as peoples' income become a race to the bottom. Of course those at the bottom are expected to continue consuming. The leaders who got us into this mess are now in charge of cleaning it up: translation- business as usual. The further ramification suggests risk-taking in the future while externalizing the cost of cleanup to taxpayers.

\*Bob's note: Another article relates to the psychological aspects of the financial crisis. Part of the game plan is to reinforce helplessness--nothing I can do about it, or my vote won't matter. The other tactic is to transfer anger into fear. The average person is angry at Wall Street and demands that government do something about it. Meanwhile, the principalities and powers tell voters that any reforms will devastate the whole economy. "People are going to be fighting each other in the streets for rat meat." Apparently this tactic is working. We have a tendency to think of evil forces or Satan as some physical entity instead of unseen forces seeking to control us. Look at Ephesians 6:10-12.



## NEED NEW GLASSES?

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February 7, 2010

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