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# Gather Grow Go

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Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.  
The people of The United Methodist Church.



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## TRANSFORMERS

By Rev. Robin Roderick

Once again this summer the movie theater will be filled with Transformers. A move here, an adjustment here and soon a totally new creature is before our eyes. Wouldn't it be wonderful to adjust here or turn 90 degrees here and be a stronger Christian?

Articles to be included in the July 13th Spire are due in the Church Office by Wednesday, July 6th. You may also e-mail them to spire@fumcstcharles.org. Please put the word Spire in the subject line.

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Join us for our upcoming sermon series-- "Transformers" What can help us change and grow? Beginning July 10th we'll look at those things that transform our personal faith to a deeper stronger level. Spring boarding from the book Five Practices of Fruitful Living by Bishop Robert Schnase we will explore the practices that personally open us to the transformative power of the faith. How do we as individuals engage in Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service and Extravagant generosity. Don't miss a Sunday as we are transformed!

# Staying Connected

*Our deepest sympathies are extended to the families of those who have recently passed away.*

The family of Scott Carl at the death of Scott's mother, Caroline Carl, on 6/15/11.

Steve and Kathy Northrup, at the death of their son, Robert "Rob" Northrup, on 6/12/11.

Maralyn Weaver, at the death of her husband, Henry "Hank Weaver", on 6/12/11.

Jim and Betty Hedges, at the death of Betty Hedges' sister-in-law, Ruth Neal, on 6/11/11.

Gary and Denise Carmichael, at the death of Gary's grandmother, Inez Lasher, on 6/5/11.

Dorothy Keethler, at the death of her niece, Cathi Ward, on 6/9/11.

## Save the date

For Saturday, August 6, from 10:00-1:00. We will need your help that day to man the Safety Town, run games, serve lunch and hand out school supplies. If you would like to help, please contact Dee Dee Kassel at (636) 947-0066

## CREATIVE COMMUNITY By Donna Carlson

On July 7th, Bring needle craft projects and relax with others as we complete Unfinished Fiber arts Objects or learn a new craft. We will help you if you are stuck, encourage you if you are discouraged, teach you a new craft. all crocheting, knitting, needlepoint, cross stitch, tatting, embroidery, small quilting or any other needle craft is welcome.

## RADICAL HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITY By Rev. Debby Bartley

Have you ever been offered a cup of coffee, glass of water, cookie, dessert, or other act of hospitality when you least expected it but needed it? Did someone's smile uplift you when you were down in the dumps? How about joining me the second Tuesday morning of every month and offering some radical hospitality to those who come to our church seeking financial assistance! No experience required - just an open heart ready to offer coffee, juice and snacks to our guests. We begin setting up at 7:30 a.m. and are usually done by 9:00 a.m. Please let me know if you are interested. (636) 947-0066 ext 111 or revdebby@fumcstcharles.org.

## SAM LUNCHEON By Roemell Woods

Babara Kay is bringing Betsy Ross to our house to share her story. She will also bring some patriotic songs for a sing along. Menu: Hamburgers, potato salad, green salad, and dessert, The fee is \$8.00 and reservations are due by noon July 5, 2011.



## FOURTH OF JULY PARADE By Brenda Ward

First United Methodist Church will be participating in the 4th of July parade again this year. The parade will be held on Monday July 4 at 10:00 a.m. starting at Blanchette Park and ending at Frontier Park. We would like to have you walk in the parade with us to hand out bottled water to people along the parade route. We will not have the bus this year so we will all be walking. We will also be handing out fliers letting people know about upcoming events at FUMC. This is a wonderful way to reach out to our community and invite people to our church. Put on your blue FUMC t-shirt and join us for this fun event. We will meet at the church at 8:00 a.m. to carpool or you can meet us at the park at 9:00 a.m. Just look for the big red truck filled with bottled water. If you have questions contact the church office or Brenda Ward at (636)926-0048.

# A Look Ahead

- ▶ July 4<sup>th</sup> - Fourth of July Parade
- ▶ July 10<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Gathering
- ▶ July 10<sup>th</sup> - Movie night @ church
- ▶ July 11<sup>th</sup> -SAM Luncheon
- ▶ July 13<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> - Youth 2011
- ▶ July 17<sup>th</sup> - Cyber Safety for Families
- ▶ July 23<sup>rd</sup> - Youth Zip Line Trip
- ▶ July 24<sup>th</sup> - Disruption@church
- ▶ July 28<sup>th</sup> - Mystery Mission Bible Study

## REV. RODERICK ELECTED AS DELEGATE TO GENERAL CONFERENCE By FUMC



At the 2011 Annual Conference Session of the Missouri Annual Conference our Senior Pastor, Rev. Robin Roderick was elected by her clergy peers to be a part of the General Conference 2012 Delegation. This means she will attend the General Conference of the United Methodist Church and be a voting delegate to this body, which is the official voice of the United Methodist Church. The General conference is made up of 1000 delegates, elected from around the global church. They meet to worship, study, pray, and decide many issues facing the church in our time. The conference itself takes place over 10 days April 24th through May 3rd, 2012.

She will be asked to serve in a particular sub group and review intensely the issues that come before the team--but she will also be studying and familiarizing her self with thousands of pages of material. Much of the meeting and time to work with the Missouri delegation will take place on Saturdays between now and April--so it will not take too much time away from regular church ministry.

Included in her duties over the next few months will be working with the Missouri delegation to interview Episcopal candidates in preparation for the South Central Jurisdictional meeting in July of 2012, where Bishops will be elected.

We congratulate her on this great honor and pray for her as well as the rest of the delegation during this time of great responsibility. Stay tuned for updates.

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**PRAYER SHAWLS**  
By Donna Carlson



My daughter presented me with a beautiful prayer shawl as I recovered from knee replacement surgery. When I wrap myself in my cherished "security blanket" crocheted with love and prayer, I feel wrapped in the love of God. Prayer shawls are lovingly knitted, crocheted or woven for those who need to feel our love and support during difficult times in their lives. Blessed by prayers, the shawl or lap robe is symbolic of the unconditional and comforting love of God. Come join us to knit, crochet, weave, share patterns, and pray for those who will eventually receive the shawls. No experience is necessary. We will teach you to make shawls with looms, knitting needles or crochet hooks.

Knitting looms, crochet hooks and yarn will be provided for beginners. Experienced crafters, please bring your own hooks or needles and yarn.

Groups will meet Thursdays in the Catherine Collier room from 1:00 to 3:00 and 6:00 to 8:00 beginning July 7.

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**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY UPDATE**  
By Jennette Barker

The last Habitat article focused on volunteerism. Prayerfully consider giving up a Saturday morning this summer to help with the construction of a house for a local family who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford it. Work for this Habitat House in the Enclaves subdivision that FUMC and other St. Charles County UMCs are working on begins with groundbreaking on July 9. Saturday work days are scheduled to be:

July 16 – Start the subfloor, build wall sections

July 23 – Exterior walls, start trusses, complete sheathing

July 30 – Shingles, doors and windows

If you are unable to help on a Saturday, there is weekday work as well. Another way to contribute to the Habitat House is by making a gift-in-kind donation. All materials are provided for the house through fund raising and/or donations. Perhaps you have a connection in the community for materials and resources that could help build the house. Contact Ashlee Johnson at [Ashelee@habitatstcharles.org](mailto:Ashelee@habitatstcharles.org) if you would like to help during the week or to make a gift in kind donation.

**Directions to work site (the Enclaves at Eisenhower)**

Take Hwy. 70 to Hwy 79, head south toward Salt Lick Rd. /Birdie Hills. You will cross over Mexico Rd. About ½ mile past Church on the Rock, turn right on Eisenhower Dr.

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**Alan Finke Memorial Scholarships**  
By FUMC



The Board of Trustees are proud to present the Finke Memorial Scholarship for 2011 to Julia Avery, Tanner Davis and Erica Peters. These 2011 High School Graduates will each receive \$500 to use for their college education next year. This is an annual award given to worthy seniors that are active in the life of First United Methodist Church. The scholarship fund was set up 8 years ago in memory of FUMC member, Alan Finke. The Church congratulates these three for their accomplishments, and are anxious to see what great things they are yet to achieve on their faith journey.

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**Cemetery and Church Grounds**  
By Trustees



In addition to what was published in the last issue of the Spire, we just wanted to say a few more comments on the Cemetery and Church Grounds. For those of you who have not been to visit the Church Cemetery, please stop by and visit it. It is really looking beautiful. A very special thank you to the team of people that take care of this special place for our church.

People are asking for cemetery lots but we are currently full. We will be looking at this to see what can be done to expand.

Please continue to decorate your family graves, this really beautifies the Cemetery.

Also have you noticed how beautiful the Church grounds look with all the flowers and landscaping? This team also spends many hours of work on the area. We give them very special thanks to them also.

The grounds team is in need of some additional support in two areas:

They would really appreciate a few more people to assist on Thursday mornings.  
We are also in need of some volunteers to plant flowers in two designated areas.

If you are interested in assisting please contact Ray Deweese. Thank you for your attention to this request.

And once again thank you to both the cemetery and grounds teams for your endless hours of support. You are appreciated.



**MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION REWIND**  
By Nancy Cooper

Mission Springfield! June 7th our Middle School Students headed out to Springfield, MO for our annual mission trip. We stayed at Wesley UMC and served Victory Mission by power washing, scraping (and scraping and scraping!), and painting their warehouse. We also helped sort donations and get them ready to be sent out in to the community where they could be used. But, as is frequently the case, we found ourselves being blessed as much as we were being a blessing. On Thursday we were treated to lunch at the Cook's Kettle, a restaurant opened by Victory Mission to train homeless men in food service. What a treat - first class food and service in place of our usual sandwiches and chips!

Then, on our way home we stopped at Meramec Caverns to experience their zipline. Soaring through the trees over the Meramec River topped off our trip.

**HELP SHALOM HOUSE WIN \$100,000**  
By Shalom House

Shalom House has a shot at winning \$100,000! In order to win, we are going to have to finish #1 in our region, but with your help we can do it!

It takes just three easy clicks...

- (1) Visit Shalom House's page on the Vivint Gives Back Project Website - [Click Here](#) -> (2) Click the Facebook Login icon to connect your Facebook to the voting page
- (3) At the bottom of the page, click "Vote" to endorse Shalom House as the agency that should win the \$100,000!

Each vote for Shalom House is a vote to help break the cycle of homelessness and to rebuild and stabilize the lives of homeless women.

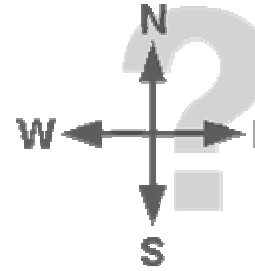
Please share this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of homeless women with your friends, co-workers, community organizations, etc. and let them know how three easy clicks each day can help win \$100,000 for Shalom House women.



**CYBER SAFETY FOR FAMILIES**  
By Rev. Debby Bartley

The Internet is amazing, but it has some dangers! Learn how to protect your children and teens so they can be safe and still reap the benefits of our cyberworld. Join us for a family potluck (bring 2 dishes to share) on Sunday, July 17th, 12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall. Nursery and activities for older children will be provided during the presentation. RSVP by July 11th to the church office (636) 947-0066 or [www.fumcstcharles.org](http://www.fumcstcharles.org).

**SUMMER MYSTERY MISSION TRIP**  
By Rev. Debby Bartley

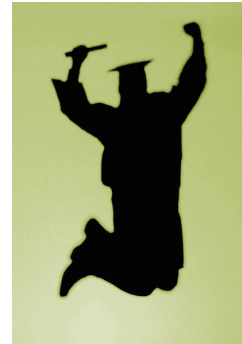


Our next mystery Bible study trip departs at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 28, 2011. We are leaving later at 9:30 a.m. because this location is closer. (Hint) We will return no later than 2:00 p.m. Thus far, we have visited Pacific UMC (Pacific, MO), Shiloh UMC (Foristell, MO), Kingdom House (St. Louis City), and Faith UMC (House Springs, MO). Curious where we might be going on this trip? Sorry, you'll have to join us to find out! Hop on the bus and go with us to the mystery location, participate in a short Bible study, and enjoy lunch and fellowship with fellow "mystery travelers." The only cost will be whatever our host location asks us to bring to support one of their mission projects. When I know what they need, I will let you know! Join the adventure! RSVP to Pastor Debby at (636) 947-0066 ext. 111 or [revdebby@fumcstcharles.org](mailto:revdebby@fumcstcharles.org).

**FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
By Rev. Debby Bartley

During our Sunday School time on July 10, we will gather together as families to learn about Mozambique. We'll learn about our covenant church in Jogo, Mozambique, and we'll learn what it's like to live there. Parents, please join your children and youth for this hour of learning and crafts. Best of all - spend time together as a family!! If parents are not available or have other responsibilities at church, feel free to invite grandparents to join the festivities! Questions? Please see Nancy Cooper or Rev. Debby.

**Congratulations to All Our Graduates**



**"MAY TODAY'S SUCCESS BE THE BEGINNING OF  
TOMORROW'S ACHIEVEMENTS.  
CONGRATULATIONS!"**

\* All graduates may pick up a color copy of the Graduate Insert in the church office.