

## Lay Coordinator ✍️ Sept 2010

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I am writing this on a very hot and humid afternoon but I am trying to remind myself that summer is winding down and everyone is starting to think about the upcoming school year! I used to love getting new school supplies when I was a kid, especially a new box of crayons, all perfect. They didn't stay that way very long but it was so much fun to have new pencils, erasers and crayons to start out the year!



**Madison First Congregational** joined with many local churches to participate in the Boy's and Girl's Club School Supply Drive. Thanks to many of our church folk, area children can start school on the right foot.

***Jesus Has Left the Building – and We Are Following!*** Each month that has a fifth Sunday, the Mission Committee and Diaconate of **McFarland UCC** coordinate opportunities for members to reach beyond the walls of the church. August 29<sup>th</sup> they will not be having a regular worship service but folks will volunteer at four prearranged sites, Skaalen Chapel, The Road Home, Porchlight and McFarland Parks and Recreation.

**Madison Lake Edge** will hold a Red Cross Bloodmobile on September 1, 2:00 to 6:00. Always looking for ways to encourage good self-care, they will offer flu and pneumonia shots on Sunday, September 26, 10:00 to 12:30.

Fall isn't just the beginning of the new school year; it is also the beginning of the new program year! **Madison Orchard Ridge** has two new groups starting up. One is Home Group- a chance for members to meet every other week with 8-12 others to get to know each other better. The group meetings will have a worship component, a question of the week and a chance to share joys and concerns. The other new opportunity is Writing Memories. Participants in this group will write and share memories in the classes and collect some writing pointers along the way.

This fall they are starting a second youth group at **Middleton Community UCC**, one for middle schoolers, grades 6-8.

Adult Faith Formation classes at **Belleville First United UCC** will have "Parenting For Faith Expression" as their September theme. They meet every Sunday morning at 9:30.

Have you ever had zuribieter or braetzli? Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> is the date for the Kilby Supper at **New Glarus Swiss UCC**. If you haven't had a chance to attend this fantastic Swiss meal, here it is! They serve family-style from 4:30 to 8:00.

**Columbus Olivet** is having a book drive to collect gently worn books for ages 4-10. They will be distributed through the Columbus School System to children that need them the most. And to continue their support of youth, Olivet has joined with two other local churches to sponsor a two-day seminar with author Sharon Strand Ellison who wrote *Taking the War out of Words* and *Taking the Power Struggle Out of Parenting*. It will be held October 1 and 2, you may call 920-623-3625 for more information.

Looking for new additions for your church library? **Janesville First Congregational** just added three new ones, *Hunger & Happiness: Feeding the Hungry, Nourishing Our Soul* by L. Shannon Jung, *Journey to the Common Good* by Walter Brueggemann and *The 36 Hour Day* by Nancy L Mace and Peter V. Rabins.

Speaking of books, **Verona Salem UCC** has their monthly book discussion list all set through the end of the year. They will be reading *About Alice* by Calvin Trillin, *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stien, *Don't Let's Go To the Dog Tonight* by Alexander Fuller, *Dream When You're Feeling Blue* by Elizabeth Berg and *The Ice Queen* by Alice Hoffman. I am always looking for reading suggestions, these are some interesting titles.

Did you know-that the Wisconsin Conference ranked No. 1 among the 39 UCC Conferences in giving to OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission) in 2009.

**Fitchburg Memorial UCC** will be holding their Annual Silent Auction and Grill Out on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. I know where I will be; eating my share of the six chickens and three whole pork loins that grill master Al Krug cooks off. Oh, I won't forget to bid too!

Have you signed up yet for the Stillspeaking Daily Devotional? It is a great way to start the day. You may sign up at [www.ucc.org/feed-your-spirit/daily-devotional/](http://www.ucc.org/feed-your-spirit/daily-devotional/).

Folks at **Paoli Zwingli UCC** will spend a day of fellowship together on Wednesday, September 8. They will meet at the church parking lot at 6:45 am to have juice and snacks before they board the bus to Galena Il. They will tour the Grant House, have lunch at the DeSota House and then after an afternoon of shopping, they will board the bus to go back to Paoli.

**Fort Atkinson Grace United Church** is holding potlucks on every third Sunday of the month so everyone in this newly yoked church can get to know each other in fellowship.



I buy much of my produce for Potter's Crackers locally. The other day I was talking to one of my farmers, George, and he was saying that the growing season has been so far ahead this year that he predicts a bad year for Halloween pumpkins- his will be bright orange and ready to go by mid September. "And Nancy, who wants a jack o' lantern in September?" This reminds me once again, in some things timing is everything! I am so glad grace isn't as time-sensitive as pumpkins!

**Go and serve.**  
**Nancy**