



The Millburn Church

MESSENGER



September 2011

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From the Pastor's Desk:

Rally Home is coming September 11th. It's a kind of holiday for us, and I'm looking forward to it. I'm looking forward to getting back into the sanctuary, for one thing. The Great Room is fine for worship, and it's air conditioned (and it's a few more feet removed from the sound of traffic on Highway 45) but the sanctuary is our main worship space. That's where we remember our connections to our past. It's more comfortable and the acoustics are far, far better. It'll be good to be back. We'll be coming home - rallying home - to share our stories our faith. That's why we gather, mainly. This is what Christian community is all about.

Sunday School tends to be the focus on Rally Home Sunday, as is appropriate. We really are blessed to have what we have here - the program, the outstanding leaders and teachers and the bustling energy of the young ones. We have much to teach, but more importantly, we have much to share. It's when kids feel a personal connection to a teacher, especially a teacher of faith, that they're most likely to grow in knowledge and faith. It's when a teacher is willing to share his or her soul that faith is really incubated.

We want them to have fun, of course, and they do, and they will, but we're looking to give them a much greater gift than fun. We're looking to give them a firm foundation for the living of their lives, a meaningful perspective on life, and a full appreciation of themselves and others. We want them to know that they're worthwhile just as they are, so that they don't have to go out and prove that to somebody else on somebody else's terms, which are often bad terms. What we want to pass on is probably more heart knowledge than head knowledge, though we work their brains, too.

So we'll be coming home to share our stories, which are smaller parts of a very large story that goes back thousands of years and that will extend into the remotest future. It's a story about life and hope and peace and love.

I hope you're as geared up for the new church year as I am. I'm looking forward to new insights, new experiences, growth in faith, growth in hope, growth in love. And lots of stories. Lots and lots of stories.

Peace,
Pastor Jed



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office is open Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Pastor Jed Watson

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Wednesday Pastor's Study Day
Friday Day Off

Margo Paramski, Director of Christian Education

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday9 a.m. – 12pm

Shirley Haley, Secretary

Monday, Tuesday and Friday9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Your Messenger Team

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Worship

8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Nursery Care and Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

Summer Worship Hour 9:00 a.m.

Held in Great Room

=====
Millburn Church Early Learning Center

Julie Zehner.....Preschool Director

preschool@millburnchurch.org

DEADLINE

=====
The deadline for article submissions is the **second Sunday of each month**. Next deadline is **Sunday, September 11th**. You may email your articles, comments, kudos, criticisms and other correspondence to the Messenger Editor, Church Secretary, or Messenger Publisher. You can also drop off your submissions to the Church Office.

WHY DOES THE MESSENGER LOOK DIFFERENT?

I offered to step in for this month, because John has been swamped and needed a break. So this Messenger may look a little different. John, you do such a great job that you left some BIG shoes to fill! I hope I did ok.

Publisher,
Kris Franks

Millburn UCC is UNCORKED!

Whether you want to learn more about wine or just enjoy an occasional glass, you'll enjoy our new wine tasting group! Of course, anyone who isn't from the church is welcome to join us.

We're trying to keep it as simple as possible, and this is how it works:

WHERE/WHEN -Each group will have no more than eight people (we will probably have several groups,) and couples will be considered as individuals. We'll meet once a month at someone's house (or the place of their choice) at 7:30 p.m.

THE WINE -Every time we'll all just bring one bottle of wine that costs no more than \$20, unless a theme calls for it. For the first event, we'll just bring our favorite wine. Afterwards, the hosts for that month determine the wine sampled for the next month (for example, they could request a type of wine, brand of wine, or wine from a certain country.)

FORMAT OF THE EVENING- We will have a blind tasting and simple scoring (everyone bring their wine in a paper bag) for the best wine. Afterwards, we can discuss the wine brought, or not. This is basically a social event that is founded on wine.

FOOD- The person who won at the previous party will be required to bring the cheese and crackers for the party (that way nobody will win twice in a row, and the hosts don't have to make something for the party.) For the cheese and crackers, we don't need anything fancy, nor do we need different types of cheeses. This is just to cleanse our palates between the different wines – not considered a meal.

So, if you are interested, a sign-up sheet will be posted in Lauren Hall. We hope to get this up and running sometime in September. We will have a kickoff meeting on Sunday, Sept. 11th at noon.

Should you have any questions, please contact either Holly Ellis or Nanette Thorson.



CIRCLE OF PRAYER:



We are holding in prayer the following persons:

Meryl Perlstrom, recovering from shoulder surgery;
Ruth White;s daughter-in-law, who lost her father.

If you wish to have someone added or removed from the prayer list, contact Shirley at the church office or speak to Pastor Jed. PLEASE NOTE: A new "Circle of Prayer" list will begin the first Sunday of each month.



MYLO

Our next meeting will be on **September 27th**. The program will be to make Linus blankets. These are no- sew blankets. Please bring 2 coordinating pieces of pre-washed fleece (1/2 to 1 1/2 yards each piece) and a pair of scissors. You can also purchase no-sew blanket kits at local fabric/craft stores.



Blessing of the Pets

The 3rd annual Millburn Church Blessing of the Pets took place Sunday, August 28th. Several owners and their pets gathered at 4p.m. on the back lawn. Pastor Jed conducted a brief service celebrating the unique bond between humans and their animals. A good time was had by all.



Stewardship message....

Taking the Long View

“And remember, I am with you always” Matthew 28:20

These last words of Matthew’s gospel have encouraged and comforted millions of Christians over two millennia. In times of challenge and pain, of doubt and despair, we are called to *remember*, and we remember that Jesus promised to be with us. We celebrate that presence in Holy Communion and whenever two or three are gathered in Christ’s name. The church is the living reminder to us of Jesus’ words; the community holds the memory when we struggle; the community holds us when we need holding, vicariously being Jesus for each other.

While loving one another and embodying Jesus’ love for one another often involves very specific times and people, we also need to take the long view. If we hope that our role in helping Jesus keep his promise will continue long after we die, then we need to think about how we can help our local church sustain itself for the long haul. There are many ways to do this: endow your pledge, include your church in your will, contribute to your church’s endowment or help start one. Our congregation is able to do more than we might have imagined because several far sighted women and men started a small endowment back in the early 20th century. That endowment has grown and helps us reach out as Jesus’ presence both inside and outside our walls. Jesus will be with us always; will your church continue to be Jesus’ hands, feet and voice in your community in the long term?

Rochelle A. Stackhouse is the Senior Minister of The Church of the Redeemer, United Church of Christ, New Haven Connecticut.

Church Board Notes

The August meeting started with Don Martin of the Boy Scouts of America stopping by the meeting to renew their charter with Millburn Church. We have had a long lasting relationship with the Boy Scouts and are looking forward to continuing this relationship.

Terry Knight, our Treasurer, gave us his monthly report. Since he has already talked with the congregation in July about the state of the church’s finances and sent out letters to members and friends of the congregation about this subject, it is not necessary for me to dwell on this subject. We all know what needs to be done.

Gary Garland continued giving the latest on the Visioning Committee’s recommendations, which were approved by the Church Board and congregation this past spring. Now it is up to the Church Board to begin the implementation phase. Jack, Gary and Pastor Jed did preliminary work so the subject could be discussed in detail during the board meeting. It was decided that a working group of 6 people should tackle the Bylaws and restructure them to include the Visioning Committee’s recommendations. This working group will consist of Terry Knight, Linda Warren, Nanette Thorson, Donna Zradicka, Joel Williams and Jack Geary.

The entire Church Board thanked Nanette Thorson for filling in for Shirley as Church Secretary during the summer. Shirley did an outstanding job of training Nanette to handle all of the various problems that might come up during her absence and I am pleased to say, it worked. Hurry back Shirley, we miss you.

September 10th, a Saturday, has been set aside as church cleanup day. The old sanctuary and the chapel will need to be given a good cleaning after being vacant for several months. Nanette and Mike will be in charge of the cleaning crew and food will be provided. All of the chairs, name tags and books will also have to be moved from the Great Room where we have enjoyed the air conditioning this summer. There is a need for muscle as well as scrubbers and dusters. If you have one of these specialties, please sign up and give us a hand. This is your church; let’s keep it clean.

September 11th is Rally Sunday.

Jack Geary, Church Board President

September 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 	2	3
4 9:00 Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 Summer Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Hour	5 LABOR DAY 	6 7pm Boy Scout Troop Mtg	7 6:15pm Adult Handbells 7:30 pm House Band	8 7pm Knit Night	9	10 9:00 Church Clean Up 
11 Rally Home Messenger Deadline 9:15 House Band 9:30 Registration 10:00 Worship & Sunday School 11:00 Coffee Hour 12:00 Uncorked Kickoff Mtg	12 7:15 pm Deacons 7:30 Church Board	13 7pm Boy Scout Troop Mtg	14 6:15pm Adult Handbells 7:30pm Adult Choir	15 7:30pm Compassionate Friends	16 	17 12:30 Doll Collector Group 4:30 Brian Haley & Beth Garrett Wedding
18 8:30 Worship 9:15 Adult Choir 10 Worship & Sunday School 11 Coffee Hour 11:15 Youth Handbells	19 6:pm Millburn Clovers 4-H Club 7pm CE Committee	20 9:15 Messenger Collating 1pm Town & Cntry Homemakers Assoc 7pm Boy Scout Troop Mtg	21 6:15pm Adult Handbells 7:30 pm House Band	22 7pm Knit Night	23	24 
25 8:30 Worship 9:15 House Band 10 Worship & Sunday School 11:00 Coffee Hour 11:15 Youth Handbells	26  Meals-On-Wheels	27 7pm BoyScoutComm 7pm MYLO 7pm PatrolLeaders Council 7pm Boy Scout Venture Crew Mtg Week for	28 6:15pm Adult Handbells 7:30pm Adult Choir Millburn Church	29 9am Lifeline Screenings Sept. 26th	30  thru Sept. 30th	

COFEE HOUR HOSTS

Special thanks to all the coffee hour hosts/hostesses who served and/or provided refreshments during the months of August.

- Aug. 7th MYLO
- Aug. 14th Barb Coon, Margie Petroff
- Aug. 21st Open
- Aug. 28th Open

Hosts are needed each Sunday. Drinks and a light snack is all that is needed. Please consider signing up to host a Sunday. Signup sheet is located on the bulletin board in Lauren Hall.

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MISCELLANEOUS

CHECK OUT THE BULLETIN BOARD IN LAUREN HALL FOR THESE SIGNUP SHEETS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Ushers, Lay Readers and Coffee Hour Host - Several open dates available.

FLOWERS FOR ALTAR – Please consider providing flowers to decorate the altar. Cost is \$27.00.

“UNCORKED” wine tasting group. See article in this Messenger (page 3).

Building & Grounds Repairs – if you see something that needs fixed.... put it on the list.

Church Clean Up Day- Sat. Sept 10th. See article in this Messenger (page 9).

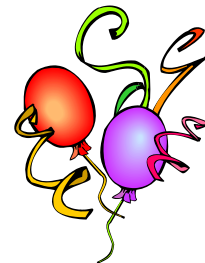
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“THESE DAYS” for August and September is available in Lauren Hall.



September

- 1st Euldene Welch
- 2nd Deborah Halterman
Nanette Thorson
Lisa Batz
- 3rd Olivia Lechman
- 5th April Strang
- 6th Eleanor Hauser
Al Glader
- 7th Abigail Crombie
- 9th Bill Eiserman
- 10th Judi West
- 11th Beverly Boschert
- 12th Jeff Zaloudek
Lorna Zaloudek
Daniel Reding
- 14th Peggy Doyle
- 15th Dorothy Swanson
Ron Smith
- 18th Sarah Ende
Walter Hartge
- 22nd Marsha DeRue
- 23rd Bob Reding
- 24th Michel Chivers
- 26th Mark Chivers
- 27th Greta Neils
- 28th Betty Kibort
Larry Roebuck
- 29th Virgie Anthony



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

By Margo Paramski

Rally Home Sunday is September 11th with sign-ups for many things happening this year at Millburn Church. We will have one service at 10:00 in the Sanctuary. Children will stay with their parents for the beginning of the service but will be excused to classes after the introduction and commissioning of this year's teachers. Plan to stay for lunch after the service, which will be provided by the Christian Education Committee.

Our children in preschool through 6th grade will be using a new curriculum this year called, Live B.I.G. "Believe in God, Believe also in me." This curriculum is a Sunday School adventure where children hear, see, and live their belief in God. We used this curriculum in our summer program and it was enjoyed by children and the teachers alike. The 7th and 8th grade class will again be using Claim the Life. This curriculum is life shaping, faith forming and builds the foundation for a life of faith for our youth. Our Senior High, will continue with LinC, *Living in Christ*. The purpose of this program is help youth develop Christian identity and live the Christian faith in their contemporary culture.

We are again asking parents to register their children for Sunday School. Please use the registration form found in this Messenger or you may fill one out on Rally Home Sunday.

Please check out the Millburn Church book exchange in Lauren Hall. This can be found across from the coat rack. You may take a book or drop off a book whatever you choose. The idea is to share the books that we read!

Thank you's

A huge thank you goes to the Christian Education Committee for all their help with Summer Sunday School, the Teacher's Orientation and breakfast, setting

up classes for the new Church School year and set-up and planning Rally Home Sunday!

Thank you to, Cindy Batz, Melanie Dillon, Diane Doner, Jen Frentz, Christina Garland, Nila Grahl, Stacy Messner, Cindy Rendl, Nannette Thorson, and Jim Zradicka for all their help with our children this summer during our Summer Sunday School.



Thank You From Shirley

I am so happy to report that I'm back at church after my knee replacement. I'm not 100% healed yet but hopefully before long I'll be able to do things I haven't in years. Thanks to everyone for your prayers, calls, cards, visits, flowers and food. I was overwhelmed with everyone's concern and generosity. Also special thanks to Nanette Thorson for volunteering her time and expertise in the church office these past 2 months. What a relief it was to know, administratively, Millburn Church was in great hands. Thanks again for all the TLC.

God Bless,
Shirley Haley



Kids Page

Kids Bible Wordsearch Animals in the Bible
 Puzzle # 1

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.



BEAR
CAMEL
DONKEY
GAZELLE
GOAT
HART
HORSE
IBEX
JACKAL

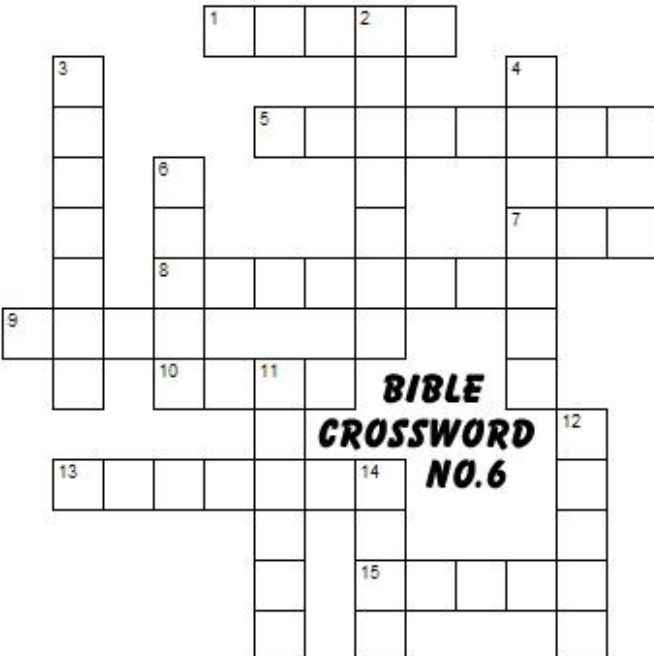


J	Q	D	B	I	U	D	P	F	M	Z	S	I
L	A	P	B	A	R	T	M	N	O	A	H	N
H	C	E	E	T	R	S	P	C	L	L	L	I
O	X	U	A	Y	T	E	L	L	E	Z	A	G
B	H	O	R	S	E	R	G	M	O	A	K	H
X	G	E	J	H	R	K	A	S	P	K	C	T
Q	X	S	S	C	O	C	N	H	A	I	A	H
K	T	R	E	U	N	I	C	O	R	N	J	A
B	R	R	Y	N	O	E	R	T	D	Q	M	W
C	S	J	X	J	I	M	S	M	M	O	L	K
I	F	Z	P	F	L	O	W	U	E	K	X	J
E	F	C	J	R	K	W	F	U	M	N	T	E
Q	L	B	W	V	N	M	J	N	Y	O	C	P

LEOPARD
LION
MOLE
MOUSE
NIGHTHAWK
OSTRICH
SHEEP
UNICORN
WOLF



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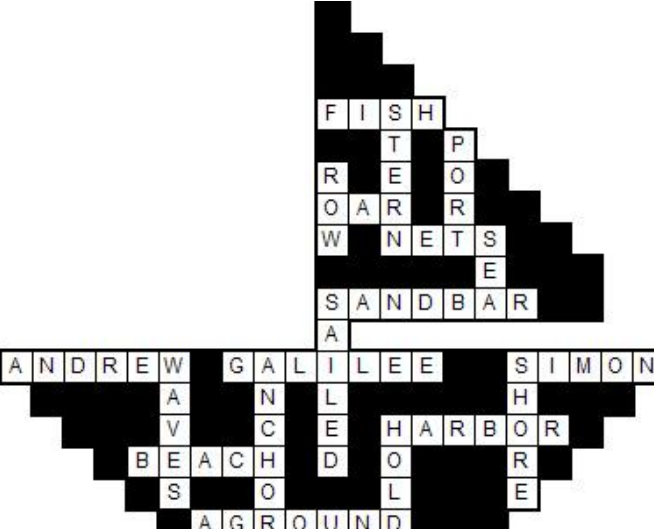
ACROSS

- 1 Noah found ___ in the eyes of the LORD. (Gen 6:8) KJV
- 5 God made a ___ with Noah after the flood (Gen.9:9)
- 7 Second son of Noah (Gen.7:13)
- 8 God caused the flood because the earth was filled with ___ (Gen.6:13)
- 9 The last bird Noah sent out to search for dry land (Gen.8:10)
- 10 God asked ___ to build an ark (Gen.6:14)
- 13 Noah brought all the ___ into the ark two by two (Gen.6:20)
- 15 How many people were on board the ark? (Gen.7:13)

DOWN

- 2 The waters ___ all the mountains in the world (Gen.7:20)
- 3 God put a ___ in the clouds as a sign of no more floods (Gen.9:13)
- 4 Third son of Noah (Gen.7:13)
- 6 The first bird Noah sent out to search for dry land (Gen 8:7)
- 11 The ark came to rest on the mountains of ___ (Gen.8:4)
- 12 How many days did it rain during the flood? (Gen.7:17)
- 14 First son of Noah (Gen.7:13)

Answers to August crossword puzzle



ANSWERS:
 1. FISH
 2. COVERED
 3. RAINBOW
 4. SHAM
 5. ARK
 6. RAVEN
 7. JAPHETH
 8. WATERS
 9. DOVE
 10. NOAH
 11. MOUNTAINS OF ARARAT
 12. 40
 13. ANIMALS
 14. SHAM
 15. 8

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From the Church Treasurer

Published from the letter mailed to the congregation dated July 31st.

I am writing to share with you the financial results of our church's operations during the first half of this year and to ask that you consider increasing your regular giving to help us continue our many and wonderful works. It is only through your financial support that we are able to send our adults and youth on valuable missions, maintain and repair our facilities (think tuck pointing and the resurfacing of our parking lot), continue our religious educational programs, our community outreach, our music, our fellowship and our worship.

Millburn Congregational United Church of Christ

Comparative Balance Sheets

	Dec 31 2010	Jun 30 2011
Assets		
Checking Account	\$ 12,525	\$ 11,270
Capital Fund Account	20,838	12,774
Memorial Fund Account	32,114	22,466
Endowment Fund Account	122,056	122,337
Total Assets	<u>\$ 187,533</u>	<u>\$ 168,847</u>
Liabilities		
Payroll Taxes Payable	<u>2,082</u>	<u>1,746</u>
Total Liabilities	2,082	1,746
Fund Balances		
General Operating	(16,964)	(13,820)
Mission Fund	4,593	4,419
Youth Fund	3,672	3,110
Music Fund	(461)	(454)
Pre School Fund	(1,821)	(5,601)
Fundraising	7,383	1,149
Good Samaritan Fund	1,541	1,456
Capital Fund	33,338	22,039
Total General Fund	<u>31,281</u>	<u>12,298</u>
Memorial Fund	32,114	32,466
Endowment Fund	122,056	122,337
Total Fund Balances	<u>185,451</u>	<u>167,101</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund	<u>\$ 187,533</u>	<u>\$ 168,847</u>

Millburn Congregational United Church of Christ

Actual vs Budget Comparison For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2011

	Actual	Budget
Income		
General Pledge & Offering	\$ 96,278	\$ 107,256
Special Donations	21,946	-
Pre School Tuition	34,823	30,870
Youth Group Income	6,444	1,074
Other	6,499	14,616
Total Income	<u>\$ 165,990</u>	<u>\$ 153,816</u>
Expenses		
Payroll	73,567	73,200
Utilities	9,886	10,278
Building & Grounds	28,152	27,978
Administration & Office	5,334	3,654
Christian Education	9,371	4,458
Worship	1,705	2,628
Mission & Outreach	2,198	8,430
Pre School	38,703	37,092
Capital Improvements	20,000	-
Other	(5,118)	1,242
Total Expenses	<u>183,798</u>	<u>168,960</u>
Net Results	<u>\$ (17,808)</u>	<u>\$ (15,144)</u>

As you can see from the summaries above, our church is currently operating at a deficit of nearly \$18,000 despite receiving special donations of around \$22,000 for capital projects. As a result, we had to move \$15,000 in July from our Memorial Fund to our General Fund to cover this shortfall. These monies taken from the Memorial Fund were designated by their donor to be used for a new youth ministry program. Therefore, we must find a way to not only repay these advances but increase our normal giving to a point where they sustain our ongoing operations.

This shortfall may be due in part to lower attendance during summer months, but the trend actually started as early as April of this year. Simply put, this is not in keeping with the vibrancy and richness of who we are and who we seek to be as a church. I am confident that, collectively, we can do better.

To help you assess your own individual impact on the financial strength of our church, we have attached a comparison between the amounts you gave in 2010, the amount you pledged for 2011, and the amount you've given through June 30, 2011. Rest assured, we do not view your pledge as a legally binding commitment of moneys you owe to our church, but we did nonetheless count on your pledge or, in its absence, the amount you gave last year, when we prepared our (balanced) budget for 2011. If you are unable to match your pledge or past giving, we understand and offer our collective prayers and support. If you are instead financially able to increase your giving levels, we pray that you will consider doing so with a sense of urgency and a generous heart.

Yours in faith,
Terry Knight, Treasurer

Church School Registration 2011-2012

#	Parent	e-Mail
1		
2		

#	Child	Grade	Birth mm/dd/yy
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Address	
City	
State	
Zip Code	
Phone	

Church School meets each Sunday September through May from 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. **All** children attend the first 15 minutes of worship and then are dismissed to their classrooms after Sharing Time with Pastor Jed. Nursery care for infants and toddlers is provided during the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Parents of Church School students, who volunteer their time, run the Church School program. Please share the load with other parents by signing up for the following activities.

Parent		Teaching	
1	2		
		Teacher	28 weeks
		Floorwalker/Substitute	6 weeks
		Rotation Teacher	3 weeks
		Week Day Volunteer	2 hrs/week

1	2	Events	
		Halloween Party	2 hours
		Advent Workshop/Nov. 27, 2011	4 hours
		Christmas Program/Dec. 4, 11, and 18, 2011	8 hours
		Promotion Celebration/ May 2012	4 hours
		Vacation Bible School/July 2012	15 hours
		Rally Home Sunday 2012	4 hours



Rally Home Sunday September 11

**Meet the Teachers
Go to Class
Stay for Lunch!**

Lunch provided by the Christian Education Committee

**Sign-up for ways to
help, sing, play, learn or just have fun!
See what we have to offer for people of all ages!**

One Service at 10:00 a.m.

Hope to see you there!



Sanctuary Clean Up Day Saturday, Sept. 10th – 9am – noon

Summer is almost over. That means it is time to start worshipping in the Sanctuary. Before that happens, we need to move chairs, hymnals and altar items from the Great Room. We also need to clean the Sanctuary. First we will clean and polish the pews and altar, then make the move. It may not take all morning, depends on how many people sign up to help. Afterwards a light meal will be served.

Cleaning items needed:

Old English lemon oil furniture polish

Rags for cleaning

Dust clothes

Any other cleaning items you think will be needed

A willing heart

A signup sheet is located on the bulletin board in Lauren Hall. Please include your phone number and/or email address so we can send you a reminder.

If you have any questions contact Nanette Thorson or Mike Anthony.

Thank you for pitching in!!
Your Church Board



HANDBELL CHOIR NEWS

Practice time changes starting Sept. 6th - The adult handbell choir practices will start at **6:15 p.m.** starting September 6th.

New members needed- The adult handbell choir is looking for new members. Some musical experience is required. The adult handbell choir is open to anyone 8th grade and older. If you are interested, please stop by on September 6th.

Next performance for the adult handbell choir will be Sunday, October 30th at the 10 a.m. worship service.

YOUTH HANDCHIME CHOIR – practice will start **Sunday, Sept. 18th, 11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.** The Youth Handbell Choir is open to any child 2nd through 7th grade. No musical experience is required.



**Look for our table at Rally
Home Sunday**

Kris Franks
Handbell Choir Director



never put a period
where *God has put a comma*



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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- *CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION
- *MILLBURN CHURCH UNCORKED KICKOFF
- *SANCTUARY CLEANUP/MOVE BACK



Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we worship God as a spiritually alive church,
welcoming all and reaching out with love as Christ's disciples.

