

Senior Ministries for All Generations Report

August, 2016

Summer is upon us and we are looking forward to the cooler days of fall as we continue to look at ways to continue to offer the best possible programs for members of our congregation.

- Since we were expecting to be using room 307 (the Open Circle classroom) during remodeling/renovation of the church, we recently worked in conjunction with the Open Circle class to assist in sponsoring **professional carpet dyeing** in the room to make it look more attractive for everyone who uses the room. Thanks to Lynda and John Krazinski, Bill Abernethy and the members of the Open Circle Class who contributed financially to this effort with us the carpet has been dyed and repaired and looks great at no additional cost to CUMC.
- On Saturday, June 4 we will be honoring those in our congregation who are 90 years old and older during our **Celebration of Wisdom**. This year's celebration was wonderful as we enjoyed special music by Mark Miller at the Saturday Heritage service along with introductions of our celebrants by many of the youth in our congregation. Following the service, our honored guests and their families enjoyed dinner with us in the Parlor.
- Although we miss Pastor Sarah Casey, we have been blessed this summer to have **Nikki Young**, a ministry intern helping us with our services. Thanks to Nikki, we have been able to continue to conduct our outreach programs at Brookdale Senior Living and the Ecumenical Adult Care Service in Naperville. In August we will be welcoming **Rev. Dr. Leo Waynick** who will be helping us with our services while Pastor Grace is on vacation and during her formational and spiritual growth leave.
- With the help of George Groves, Tom Kupferer and members of our STARS group including Bob and Judy Smith and Bonnie Valiant, the lack of **accessible seating for those with disabilities** and an initial plan to remedy this finding has been discussed. This plan has been communicated to Nate Burke, Trustee Chair and we hope to see it implemented by the end of the first week in August. The plan includes (1) removing the front pew (110") on the south side of the sanctuary and replacing it with a shorter pew (77") currently sitting under the windows on the south side of the sanctuary. This will allow a wheelchair to be parked by the pew without blocking the aisle. (2) Removing the back pew (115") in the same section and replacing it with one of the 68" pews from the balcony and centering it in the uncarpeted space, but leaving about 30" from the middle aisle. This would give room to park a wheelchair on either end of the pew without blocking the aisles. Signage (Blue with white Plastic Sign 14/5" @\$8 each..we will need 3) will be ordered and attached to the back of the designated pews and the cost absorbed by donations made to the STARS ministry. Other than that, everything else can be done with volunteers who George and Nate will be finding and coordinating.
- The **STARS** group is organizing a group to attend the matinee of "Music Man" presented by

the Summer Place Theatre on Sunday, August 7 at 3pm. The group rate will be \$11 and we are inviting friends and others in our congregation to attend with us. Contact Sylvia at coppersmithy@hotmail.com or 630-983-1397. This show is being directed by one of our STARS members, Ted Waltmire, and the musical accompaniment includes our very own Jolene Bastunes!

- Our **Senior Fellowship and Reminiscence** services remain on hiatus. In August we will be sending out information about the availability of these programs to local senior facilities in an effort to determine whether they would be interested in attending these services that have been traditionally held at CUMC. Over the past years we have found that fewer of the homes have available staff and/or transportation to attend programs at our church.
- We are also working in conjunction with Bright Star Care on a special off site luncheon and **Successful Aging Seminar** at the Naperville Senior Center on Saturday, October 1. Information will soon be available about our speakers for the luncheon.
-and finally, mark your calendars...on Sunday, October 9 at 3pm Senior Ministries will be co-sponsoring a special performance by **TreDiva**. **The three soprano's who will be performing with Chris Garofalo on the piano are Jonita Lattimore, Elizabeth Norman, and Anisha McFarland.**

We continue to need more volunteers to help with all of our our programs. If you are available and can help, contact Sylvia Kupferer and get on our volunteer mailing list. We do not discriminate based on age. Everyone is invited to attend our programs, in fact, we believe that inter-generational participation can only make our program stronger!

Sylvia Kupferer, MS, RN (Retired)

Facilitator, Senior Outreach