

“The Rock”

UPON THIS ROCK COOPERATIVE PARISH

Beth Eden — Harlem — Evans

Open Hearts-Open Minds-Open Doors

Visit our web page at: www.utrcp.org



February
2012

VOL 56

ISSUE 2

Pastor Doug's Home Phone: 815.877.4102
E-mail: dqb@utrcp.org

Pastor Eric's Home Phone: 815.282.1340
E-mail: eblachford@utrcp.org

THE CO-OP



BETH EDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3201 HUFFMAN BLVD.-ROCKFORD, IL 61103
PHONE: 815.877.9237- FAX: 815.877.8736
E-MAIL: BETHEDEN@UTRCP.ORG
WEB PAGE: www.utrcp.org
SECRETARY: Sherry Severing
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP: 8:30 a.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:50 a.m., for all ages
MODERN WORSHIP: 10:45 a.m.
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., Tues. thru Fri.



HARLEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
8401 N. ALPINE RD.-MACHESNEY PARK, IL
PHONE: 815.633.1450- FAX: 815.633.1450
EMAIL: HARLEM@UTRCP.ORG
SECRETARY: Mary Sue Wright
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:15 a.m.
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 a.m.
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 7:45 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., Wed. thru Fri.



EVANS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
7605 N. SECOND ST.-MACHESNEY PARK, IL
PHONE: 815.633.4411
E-MAIL: EVANS@UTRCP.ORG
SECRETARY: Mary Sue Wright
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 8:30 a.m.
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m., Wed. thru Fri.



SENIOR PASTOR: Rev. Douglas Q. Bowden
ASSOCIATE/YOUTH PASTOR: Pastor Eric Blachford

Harlem & Evans Church Council will meet on the 2nd WEDNESDAY of the Month,
Harlem @ 5:00 p.m. & Evans @ 7:00 p.m.
Beth Eden Church Council will meet the 3rd WEDNESDAY of the Month @ 6:30 p.m.



MISSION STATEMENT
*Beth Eden is a welcoming and passionate congregation,
committed to sharing the love of God,
the grace of Jesus Christ, and the unity of the
Holy Spirit, with all people everywhere.*





Dear Members and Friends of Beth Eden, Evans, and Harlem Churches:

It has been quite the month! After a blessed Advent season, the new year was ushered in well with a fun and forming sermon series of reflecting upon *Why God? Why Church? Why This Church?* I hope that you came away from that series with a new or renewed sense of who God is, what it means to be a part of a community of faith, and why each of the churches in our Cooperative are such a blessing.

I want to recall one aspect of the message *Why Church?* in this newsletter article. One aspect of why it is important to be a part of the church is because we are Body of Christ. We looked together at 1 Corinthians 12 where Paul explains what it means to be a part of **that body, and we studied verses 26 and 27 together which say, "If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."**

On Monday January 16th, our church suffered great concern for Pastor Doug when we heard news of his heart attack. Our church also experienced great joy when his quintuple bypass surgery was successful and we received the good news that while he has a long road of recovery ahead, that Pastor Doug is recovering well. Your great outpouring of love, concern, and support has been greatly appreciated by Pastor Doug and Mary and the entire Bowden family. I pray we continue to offer support and encouragement for Pastor Doug in his recovery, while also respecting his need for rest and recovery.

Many of you have been asking what will happen with Pastor Doug away for so long? Who will preach? How will this affect plans for ministry? Several have asked if maybe we need to just put everything on hold until Pastor Doug feels better. I understand your concerns because **Pastor Doug's ministry in this church is great, extensive, and appreciated by us all.**

But, if you have been concerned or anxious about what we are going to do, I want you to know that we are working on a plan to continue the work God has called us to do. We **will not put the church's ministry on pause**. While some of what was being done by Pastor Doug will need to take on adjusted forms, this is a great opportunity for us to truly be the body of Christ. We are the body of Christ and *each one of you IS a part of it and will make it possible for the church's ministry to be strong*. God has equipped us all for ministry and so I am calling upon you to listen and discern the whispers of the Holy Spirit to how God is calling you to step up and build up the body of Christ. While none of us can do what Pastor Doug did in the exact ways Pastor Doug did, there are many who are gifted to help fill the void until he is well again.

That is one of things I am most grateful and thankful for about our Cooperative. We **have so many people who've been graced by God with abilities and gifts for ministry**. We have great lay preachers and even a few retired clergy who are part of our congregations. A preaching plan for February is already prepared and we will continue to have excellent worship. Folks who are having surgery will still have a pastor to pray with them and for them, but as usual there are many laity who will also be praying for all in need and who will send cards and make phone calls to extend the care and concern of the church.

We have excellent teachers who make scripture and faith come alive. Already, one of **Pastor Doug's ongoing Bible Studies will continue on as the laity in that group are stepping up to lead in his absence**. Certainly in these and other ministries, there will be new opportunities for each of us to be in ministry.

As we seek to continue to be faithful, know that there *will* be bumps in the road and hiccups along the way. **As various things happen or don't happen, I ask that we offer one another grace and forgiveness**. Here is much I am sure that Pastor Doug was doing that many of us were unaware he was doing until it ceases happening. So let us be patient with one another and calmly communicate with one another as we journey forward together. I am excited to see how God will use this challenging time to help us grow in our faith, in our service, and in our reliance upon His grace and promise to provide. May we continue to keep Pastor Doug and our churches in our prayers, while discovering and rediscovering who we are as the body of Christ, with each one of us playing our part and **fulfilling our role for God's glory**.



In Memoriam

Listed below are the names of beloved sisters & brothers in Christ. Each of their lives and ministries is a great blessing and cherished memory for each of us.

Here are the names of persons who have passed away since December 21, 2011:

Gary M. Orris (<i>Beth Eden</i>) <i>Great-Nephew of Helen Emerick</i>	March 2, 1987 ~ December 23, 2011
Genevieve Sandona (<i>Beth Eden</i>)	May 31, 1928 ~ December 27, 2011
Terry Brown (<i>Beth Eden</i>) <i>Cousin of Darlene Scott</i>	December 16, 1942 ~ December 27, 2011
Charlotte Russow (<i>Beth Eden</i>)	August 28, 1918 ~ December 30, 2011
Bobby Collins (<i>Evans</i>) <i>Grandfather of Ashley, Erica & Jessica Collins</i>	June 8, 1927 ~ December 30, 2011
Eithal Curry (<i>Evans</i>)	September 15, 1916 ~ January 10, 2012
Byron Broge <i>Brother-in-law of Pastor John & Prudy Lee</i>	November 29, 1940 ~ January 10, 2012
Gertrude Ostic (<i>Beth Eden</i>)	April 2, 1919 ~ January 19, 2012

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Yes, says the Spirit, they will rest from their labors for their deeds follow them." Revelation 14:13



JOTTINGS FROM JUDY.....



My dear friends in Christ,

In the United States many of you just observed Martin Luther King. I hope that you took time to read some of his words in various sermons or speeches. He was a man of extraordinary faith with great depth and compassion.

Last month my heart reflected on the poor that I visited in the Bo Luang tribal village. As I read the words of Martin Luther King my heart now reflects on social justice. Poverty and social justice often go together. We discriminate or profile our fellow human beings based on circumstances of life. Often our discrimination is ingrained in our cultural environment and we walk into it without realizing it. We just simply do as others do until someone makes us stop; and enlightens us to an underlying cause. There are many injustices in this world. Many of the Grace families serve as missionaries in areas of social injustice (orphanages, abused women centers, drug treatment clinics). They walk simply in faith knowing God is with them. There are moments in our lives when God speaks to us directly about helping others. **Let's hope we are all open to God's call.**

Matthew 10:38-48

Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!

I pray that we can live what Dr. King taught us. I pray that we will always be quick to speak words that challenge injustice and quick to love and encourage our neighbors — whatever their culture or color of skin. Dear Lord, give us strength to embody your love for all persons and courage to bring your justice.

Thank you my friends! Together we are making a difference!

With God's Grace We Grow Together! Your friend in Christ!

Judy Long

Book recommendation: *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett

Peace and Hope Begin With Education: *One Child At A Time*

Judith (Judy) Long

Head Librarian

Grace International School

Chiang Mai, Thailand

www.gisthailand.org

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February 2012

YOUTH GROUP

Don't Forget:

No Confirmation on
February 5th due to
Superbowl Party



Don't
Forget:

No Youth Group on
February 19th due to
Valentine's Dance
on Feb. 18th

YOUTH GROUP SUPERBOWL PARTY

February 5th, 4:30pm to the end of the game

Please join us for our annual Superbowl Party on Sunday February 5th. We will join with others at Hilltop Ministry Center located at 8301 Mitchell Road in Roscoe. A band will play beginning at 4:30pm and in addition to the game, you can play Volleyball. If you are coming, you need to be dropped off and picked up from Hilltop. Please bring a snack to share with everyone. Hope to see each of you there!

BOWLING AT B & B PARK BOWL

February 26th, 5:30pm to 7:30pm

Please join us for a fun day of bowling at B&B Bowling at 5626 North 2nd Street, in Loves Park. The cost is only \$2 for however many games you can play in 2 hours! Please be dropped off and picked up at the bowling alley.

Valentine's Day Dance

All 6th grade through 12th grade youth are invited to come to a Valentine's Day Dance at Beth Eden. Please bring friends and come ready to dance and play a few fun games.

We hold the dance on Saturday February 18th
from 7pm-9pm.

Youth are invited to bring a snack to share.
We hope to see you there!

Contact Pastor Eric at 877-9237 or ehlachford@utrcp.org



Music & Worship Notes

Praise the Lord for Beth Eden and for the Co-Op! On January 22nd, I was able to share some of yours and my thoughts on Beth Eden UMC. In preparing for that service, I recollected memories from the many years I have had growing up in this house of worship. Too many memories to recite during that Sunday morning message, but it was good to bring them to the front of my mind. In doing so I **realized that we may become stagnant in our worship service if we don't take steps to ensure fresh approaches.**

Every so often, businesses must reinvent themselves so they continue to improve. Here at Beth Eden, I believe the same holds true. In order to continually move forward with passionate worship, we must also continue to look at how we worship and connect with God. As I have said for many months, I want people to connect passionately with God through meaningful worship experiences. I want you to lose yourself in worship so that you may find yourself in your relationship with God. In the near future I will be asking for feedback on how you feel about our worship services and what we can do to improve your personal connection time. Please be honest so we can carefully plan services that will create a pure environment for you to focus on worshipping God instead of focusing on the things that don't matter for example; **"Why did they put that on the screen?, I don't like that song, It's too loud, I can't hear the instruments, there are too many people up front,"** etc.

Don't settle for worship that is just good enough. God asks us to worship with all of our hearts, that's what we should give him, our everything.

In Christ's Love,
Jarrod Severing





YOU GUESSED IT! RED IS THE COLOR FOR FEBRUARY

The United Methodist Women are joining the national emphasis on heart health in February. Much information is available in current magazine

publications that will help us protect this most vital organ of our body. Let's remind each other by wearing something red on Sunday, February 12th.

Purpose: To honor Gods gift of our bodies and to practice good stewardship of them. **"I thank you, High God - you're breath taking! Body and soul, I am marvelously made!" (Psalm 139:14 - The Message)**

The United Methodist Women



SHARINGS FROM FORMER PASTOR, ROD DILLINGER

In his Christmas card he wrote, "Merry Christmas to the Beth Eden Church. Give my regards to all. Tell them that I have great memories of the things we did together. Jacob Deng of So. Sudan has become a friend and we have helped him build a school and dig a well in his home village."

This tells us that Rod still has a heart for mission work and projects. He also shared that he is still beekeeping and has eight bee-hives.



COMING ~ MARCH 4TH ~ ANNUAL BLANKET SUNDAY



DID YOU KNOW?

A free discount prescription drug card that will save an average 15% on brand name medications, and 55% on generic drugs is available. Because more than 56,000 pharmacies are under contract nationwide, the “experience of use” savings are 10%-85%. The bearer of the card is guaranteed the absolute lowest price available for medications. The card comes pre-activated, and is a bearer card, meaning no identification or personal information needs to be given in order to receive one of the discount cards. The discount card can not be used in conjunction with insurance.

Anyone can use the cards and there is no income or age requirement. NO drugs are excluded and the card NEVER EXPIRES. The cards can be used by people with no or limited prescription coverage, Senior citizens who reach their Medicare Part D benefit gap (donut hole), people with insurance that excludes certain medications or whose co-pays keep going up, etc.

The cards are accepted at over 80% of pharmacies in the US and Puerto Rico and are a valuable tool in saving people money on needed medications. You can locate participating pharmacies and check drug pricing at www.FreeUSDrugCard.com.



(This information was sent to Beth Eden from Our Savior Lutheran Church in Excelsior, IL, and is being shared by our Nurture & Membership Care Team).

JOLLY BETH EDEN SENIORS



The Jolly Beth Eden Seniors meet Wednesday, February 22nd at noon for a potluck meal. The program will be Bingo. Bring your own table setting and a dish to pass. As always, people from all three churches are welcome.

CALLING ALL SOUP LOVERS



To offset the chills of winter, seven kings of steaming soups will be served by the United Methodist Women on Friday, February 10, 2012 at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. All you can eat! In addition, there will be breads, crackers, desserts, and beverages.

“New” this year - a mini soup cookbook is going to be available, sharing all of our **“secret”** recipes for the soups served. There will be door prizes too!



Our program of music will be a vocal trio from the Third Presbyterian Church, Pam, Kris, and Judy call themselves the **“R.S.V.P. Trio”**.

Women and men from all three of our Co-Op Churches are welcome. You are invited to sign a list in your church to help us know how many to prepare for.





WE LOVE OUR BETH EDEN BABIES AND TODDLERS

Not only do parents take vows as their baby is baptized, but we as a church family also promise that “with God’s help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ..... surround the baby with a community of love and forgiveness.....and pray for them”. We have been blessed many times with so many babies and toddlers!!

WHO ARE OUR BABIES?

Carter Patrick Abrahamson was born to Pat & Sarah Abrahamson on March 16, 2011. Carter was baptized on July 31, 2011.

Gwen Arabelle Vanderheyden was born to Russell & Carrie Vanderheyden on June 7, 2011. Proud grandparents are John & Roxanne Vanderheyden. Gwen Arabelle was baptized on September 4, 2011.

Landon William Kast was born to Kelcey & Tim Kast on September 22, 2011. He joins big brothers Logan & Liam. Proud grandmother is Marcia Church and Aunts, Megan and Erin Church and Uncle, Cory Church.

Lauren Renee Lamm was born to Brian & Amy Lamm on November 1, 2011 at 8:01 a.m. Proud big brother is Conner Lamm. Proud grandparents are Donald and Linda Lamm and Bruce and Sandy Fowler.

Michael Paul Dally was born to Mike & Paula Dally on January 1, 2012. He weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz. and 20” long. Proud grandparents are Rick & Selinda Karl and proud great-grandparents are Byron & Margaret Hutchins. Welcome Baby Michael.

WHO ARE THE BETH EDEN TODDLERS?



Caleb Reagan Gascoigne was born to Carrie & Sean Gascoigne on February 18, 2010. Proud grandparents are Barb & Chuck Stenger and great-grandparents are Bill & Norma Kitchen.

Liam Brayden Quirk was born to Becky & Kevin Quirk on February 24, 2010. Proud grandparents are Barb & Chuck Stenger and great-grand-parents are Bill & Norma Kitchen.

Adalynn Rose Poonpanich was born to Amanda Gaines & Paul Poonpanich on April 11, 2010. Proud grandmother is Mary Sue Wright.

Isaac Daniel Blachford was born to Pastor Eric & Becky on May 9, 2010.

Samuel Gray Gerard was born to Dan & Rachel Gerard. Proud grandmother is Barbara Barger and great-grandmother Anna Lake.

Drake Vernell Wolf was born to Dannie & Cecilia Wolf on June 29, 2010. Proud great-uncle & great-aunt are Jarrod & Sherry Severing.



Cayleb Carl Wolf was born to Dannie & Cecilia Wolf on June 29, 2010. Proud great-uncle & great-aunt are Jarrod & Sherry Severing.

Isaiah Alan Hart was born to Mandy Andrus & Chris Hart on July 2, 2010. Proud Big Sister is Victoria (Tori) Hart. Proud grandparents are Karen & Ted Andrus.

Noah Thomas Wolf was born to Dustin & Feryn Wolf on July 19, 2010. Proud great-uncle & great-aunt are Jarrod & Sherry Severing.

Aleyse Mae Miller was born to Jennifer & Fred Miller on August 22, 2010. Proud grandparents are Kathy & Denny Berschneider and proud great-grandfather is Tony Kryzaniak.

Makayla Lynn Dally was born to Michael & Paula Dally on August 30, 2010. Proud grandparents are Rick & Selinda Karl and great-grandparents are Byron & Margaret Hutchins.

Charlie Ryan Shipton was born to Maren & Mark Shipton on September 13, 2010. Proud great-grandparents are Norma Shipton and Tony Kryzaniak

The first years of a baby's life are full of anticipated "milestones" of development and learning and toddlers are full energy and doing new things every day and we want to make this a monthly feature in the Rock.



PARENTS: Please call or e-mail the church office to let us know what is happening with YOUR baby. Phone: 815.877.9237 or e-mail betheden@utrccp.org.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Beth Eden UMC,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$50.00 to support Rockford Area Habitat for Humanity's mission to improve the lives of low-income families in our community.

Five families purchased homes in 2011 after building side-by-side with volunteers. They put well over 300 Sweat Equity hours into the construction of their future home.

The average monthly mortgage payment of a Habitat Homeowner is \$468. This is nearly \$200 less than market-rate rental housing. What a difference this will make to families earning 30% of the Winnebago County median household income!

During the season of giving, we can't help but think how blessed we are and how we are called to share with others. Thank you for making our families housing needs a priority. Your support of our mission is making dreams come true!

Sincerely,
 Tonya Thayer
 Executive Director



Schnucks



NEW AT LOGLI/HIGHLANDER

Do you have a Schnucks eScrip Community Card?
Did you know that you can upgrade your card to also earn cash for gas, while still earning money for Beth Eden!

By using your eScrip card when you shop at Logli or Highlander, they will donate a portion of your purchase to Beth Eden and you will earn money towards the purchase of gas **at most Kelley's Market or Mobil Fuel Stations.**

All you have to do is go into a Logli or Highlander store, go to the service desk and ask about upgrading your eScrip card to include the gas savings.
To find out what Mobil locations are participating see the flyers in Eden Hall.

If you don't have an eScrip card yet, go to any Logli or Highlander and get signed up.
They will ask for our group ID # which is 167466069.

We started the program in March of 2010. As of November 2011 Beth Eden has earned \$592.58. Thank you to all who have shopped at Logli since the program started!

Then when you shop at Logli/Highlander, before you check out, show them your card. They will contribute a percentage of your purchase to Beth Eden every time you shop and swipe your card. The percentages are as follows:

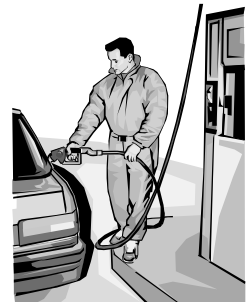
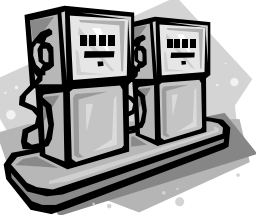
1% = up to \$300, 2% = \$301-\$600, 3% = \$601 - \$999

Also, you will earn the following for gas purchase:

For every \$100 you spend you will get \$0.10 off per gallon of gas
(for example ~ you spend \$300.00 you will get \$0.30 off per gallon)

If you have any questions, please see Blake Smith
or contact the Church Office at 815.877.9237

It's Free, It's Easy, It's Powerful





THIS MONTH'S
birthdays

- 1 Spencer Lafferty
- 2 Sherry Block
- 5 Laura Gippert
- 6 Marian Petersen
Cindy White
Carter Buteyn
- 8 Pastor Eric Blachford
- 10 Jon Moluf
Blaine Keller
- 13 Riley Shannon
- 15 Jeff Zimmerman
- 16 Ashley McCarty
- 17 Anna Lake
- 18 Caleb Damon
- 20 Judy Shannon
Rebecca Achilli
- 23 Paul Whitaker
Victoria Hart
- 24 Kim Paine
Jason Maurer
- 27 Kathleen Walker




THIS MONTH'S
anniversaries

- 12 Tom & Carol Parr
- 24 David & Linda Kobler



If your Birthday or Anniversary is listed wrong or missing, please notify the Church Office so we can correct it.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday																																										
<h1>FEBRUARY 2012</h1>																																													
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>March 2012</p> <table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">15</td><td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td style="text-align: center;">17</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td><td style="text-align: center;">19</td><td style="text-align: center;">20</td><td style="text-align: center;">21</td><td style="text-align: center;">22</td><td style="text-align: center;">23</td><td style="text-align: center;">24</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">25</td><td style="text-align: center;">26</td><td style="text-align: center;">27</td><td style="text-align: center;">28</td><td style="text-align: center;">29</td><td style="text-align: center;">30</td><td style="text-align: center;">31</td> </tr> </table> </div>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			<p>1 9:00 am-202 1:00-4:00 pm District stat Workshop 6:30 pm-Fina 7:00 pm-Cybe</p>
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31																																							
<p>5 Communion/Pantry 4:30-9:00 pm-Youth Group Super Bowl Party @ New Life UMC</p>	<p>6 2:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3154 6:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3244 6:00 pm-Cub Scouts #389 7:00 pm-Boy Scouts #2 7:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3575</p>	<p>7 7:00 am-Men's Prayer Group-Evans 9:00 am-Nurture & Membership 3:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3260 6:15 pm-Girl Scouts #3157 7:00 pm-Commission on Education 7:00 pm-Boy Scouts #6</p>	<p>8 9:00 am-202 11:30 am-We Luncheon 4:15 pm-Girl 5:00 pm-Syna 7:00 pm-Girl</p>																																										
<p>12 Lincoln's Birthday Boy Scout Sunday 12:30 pm-Evangelism 4:00 pm-Confirmation 7:00-9:00 pm-Youth Group Valentine's Day Dance</p>	<p>13 6:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3144 6:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3184 6:00 pm-Cub Scouts #389 7:00 pm-Boy Scouts #2 7:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3575</p>	<p>14 Valentines Day 7:00 am-Men's Prayer Group-Evans 7:00 pm-Boy Scouts #6 7:00 pm-Trustees</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>	<p>15 ROCK DEAD 9:00 am-202 5:00 pm-Syna 6:30 pm-Chur</p>																																										
<p>19 4:00 pm-Confirmation 5:00 pm-Youth Group</p>	<p>20 President's Day 2:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3154 6:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3244 6:00 pm-Cub Scouts #389 7:00 pm-Boy Scouts #2 7:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3575</p>	<p>21 Washington's Birthday 7:00 am-Men's Prayer Group-Evans 3:00 pm-Girl Scout #3260 6:00 pm-Lifematters 6:15 pm-Girl Scout #3157 7:00 pm-Boy Scouts #6 7:00 pm-Boy Scout #2 Comm. Mtg. 7:00 pm-Staff Parish</p>	<p>22 Ash We 9:00 am-202 12:00 pm-Jol 4:15 pm-Girl 7:00 pm-Co-C Service @ Be</p>																																										
<p>26 Blood Pressure Checks 4:00 pm-Confirmation 5:30-7:30 pm-Youth Group Bowling @ B&B Park Bowl</p>	<p>27 6:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3144 6:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3184 6:00 pm-Cub Scouts #389 7:00 pm-Boy Scouts #2 7:00 pm-Girl Scouts #3575</p>	<p>28 7:00 am-Men's Prayer Group-Evans 6:00 pm-Lifematters 7:00 pm-Boy Scouts #6 7:00 pm-Glory B's @</p>	<p>29 9:00 am-202 5:00 pm-Syna</p>																																										




Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Beth Eden UMC

<p>Bible Study -Rkfd/Dekalb Historical Report</p> <p>ance er</p>	<p>2 Groundhogs Day 6:00 pm -Weight Watchers 6:30 pm-Handbell Choir 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir 7:30 pm-Men's Bible Study-Evans</p>	<p>3 9:30 am-UMWomen Mission Team Mtg.</p>	<p>4 6:30 pm-4th Day Group at Evans (Emmaus Reunion Group-Open to all)</p>
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<p>Bible Study Lesley Willows</p> <p>Scouts #3325 ago Scout Leader Mtg.</p>	<p>9 12:30 pm-Edenettes 6:00 pm -Weight Watchers 6:30 pm-Handbell Choir 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir 7:30 pm-Men's Bible Study-Evans</p>	<p>10 11:30 am-UMWomen Soup Luncheon</p>	<p>11 8:30 am-Men of UTRCP Breakfast & Bible Study All day-Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby & Blue & Gold Banquet</p>
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<p>LINE Bible Study ago rch Council</p>	<p>16 6:00 pm -Weight Watchers 6:30 pm-Handbell Choir 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir 7:30 pm-Men's Bible Study-Evans</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 4:30-7:00 pm-Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser for the Friends of Emiliano Zapata Mission Trip 2012</p>
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<p>Wednesday Bible Study ly Beth Eden Seniors Scouts #3325 Op Ash Wednesday th Eden</p> 	<p>23 9:30 am-Stuffers & Stickers 12:00 pm-Clergy Laity-Harbor Cluster 6:00 pm -Weight Watchers 6:30 pm-Handbell Choir 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir 7:30 pm-Men's Bible Study-Evans</p>	<p>24 5:00 pm-Girl Scout Troop 3144 Overnight (leave 12:00 pm on Saturday)</p>	<p>25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">→</p>
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<p>Bible Study ago</p>	<p><u>Worship Schedule</u></p> <p>8:30-9:30 am—Traditional Worship</p> <p>9:50-10:40 am—Sunday School for All</p> <p>10:45-11:45 am—Modern Worship</p>		
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Dear Friends at Beth Eden UMC,

Leon and I are so grateful for the prayers you've sent our way and also the way you've kept this ministry up. We feel so grateful for the peace of mind we have just to know someone else cares, even though you don't know us very well. God is our life and we praise Him daily. This year our Christmas card reflects a lighter side of Christmas. We both thought everyone should be happy and full of smiles. So we both thank you for being our prayer family and so we hope for you all to smile in gratitude for our wonderful "Jesus who came not to condemn us. Many, many thanks for your prayers and our prayers include your wonderful church.

Love Leon and Leona Baumgartner

Beth Eden Church,

Thank you for the love and kindness and fro the really, very niche Birthday.

Everyone who came of family and all your wonderful caring dear ones who made it such a beautiful blessed place. Everyone remarked on all.

Best Wishes,
Jean Waeffler

Thank you very much for the amazing gift. We really appreciate the care package. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

Love,
Charlie & Lindsay Ewald

Thank you for your cards and your prayers. Your kind words have been a comfort during the recovery of my 3 surgeries on my back and various other treatments. They have also helped me as I begin this new chapter in my life on disability and no longer teaching. Your cards always put a smile on my face every time they come.

Thank you,
Kim Miller



Dear Pastor Bowden and Congregation of Beth Eden UMC:

Your contribution of 183 pounds of food was recently received here at the Rock River Valley Pantry. We are very thankful for your donation as the need is great!

The donated food is being placed in the client grocery bags within 48 hours of receiving it. These grocery bags contain enough food for a minimum of two days and most contain food for three days. The grocery items include food appropriate for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Additionally, much thought is given in the packing of the bags so they are nutritious and meet the caloric needs of the clients. Last month we assisted 6, 778 individuals, 37% of these individuals were children.

Thank you for your concern for those who are going hungry, and in your confidence in us to respond to those needs. We are very grateful for your support!

Sincerely,
Kim Adams-Bakke, Executive Director

Just wanted to let you know how much your kindness was appreciated.

Thank you so much.
Gloria Jacob

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Helping Hands Pantry, I would like to extend my gratitude to you for your generous gift of \$217.00. As you know, the Helping Hands Pantry provides vital support for residents of Machesney Park, Loves Park, and other local communities who need assistance feeding their families throughout the year. Your contribution will help to keep the pantry shelves stocked and assist hundreds of families. We are so thankful for your unselfish commitment to this ministry.

Thank you again for your generous gift and continued support!

With Gratitude,
Ron Kellett, Director



On behalf of the Sunday School Teachers and Students, we would like to sincerely thank our church family of Beth Eden UMC for their gracious giving. This year the Sunday School helped two families with Christmas gifts. We had a tree set up in Eden Hall with 42 envelopes and all 42 plus were returned and delivered with much thanks and gratitude from the families. Your giving has made the holiday season so much brighter for these individuals.

May God bless each and every one of you that gave!

Beth Eden UMC,

Thank you for caring. Thanks for the visits. Seems there are so many sick. It is good to be able to pray for all. I hope I can get to church. Some day's I cannot walk even a little. One of these days I will be better. I haven't felt well for a couple of days, but tomorrow will be ok. Thank you for caring and appreciate the visit when I called, and the prayer minister prayed with me.

Thanks to all and God Bless.

Sincerely,
Jean Waeffler

Dear Beth Eden Prayer Family,

Where do I begin? Thank you for all the cards, prayers, phone calls, and well wishes. Then the ladies make me a beautiful warm blanket and special unique card! I can't thank you enough! Then comes the Flame Award. I couldn't believe it! What an honor! Thank you everyone for voting for me. It means a lot to me.

Thank you everyone,
Spencer Lafferty

January 25th, 2012

Dear Upon This Rock Cooperative Parish Family,



Greetings. For six years, Upon This Rock Cooperative Parish has dedicated itself to support the ministries of our youth through a program called Club 52. The purpose of this program was to be a sponsorship program to help our youth be able to serve their Lord by serving others. It seeks to provide funds to embark upon our annual mission trip, as well as the other activities and projects we undertake throughout the year.

Once again we are looking for at least 50 individuals from our three churches to join Club 52. If you were a member of Club 52 last year, or the year before, we invite you to consider joining for another year. If you have not been a member before, this is how the program works. Each person that joins Club 52 will be promising to support the youth, especially their mission trip efforts, by pledging to give the youth group \$1 a week for one year. In return as a thank you, the youth will make, serve, and host 2 dinners during the year, as well as an ice cream social **with a presentation of the youth's work trip experiences. At the end of one year, you can choose either to continue your membership in the club, or you may end your support.**

If you are asking why sending our youth on a mission trip is important, it is important **because a mission trip can affect a young person's life in ways that no other experience can. When youth have to leave their "comfort zone" and step out in faith to spend a week of their summer working as a servant of Christ, they are given the chance to find out what "hands on" ministry is like.** They get to see a larger world and experience not only how good they have it, but how God uses us, his church, to do his work in the world.

Once again, we are asking your support of \$1 a week to be in addition to whatever you might be contributing to the church already. Youth mission trips and programming are expensive, and the youth do not have a budget line to help support their activities. If we have at least 50 people join Club 52, the youth will not do any other fundraising outside of asking for support for events like the Crop Walk or the Sleep a Night in My Box event we do for the Rescue Mission.

If you decide to join, please let Pastor Eric know by February 12th. You may also email the church office with your name, address, email address and phone number at bethe-den@utrcp.org or **put the information in my mailbox at church. This year's membership will run from February 2012 to February 2013.** You may choose to give \$1 a week, \$26 twice a year, or \$52 once a year.

Please prayerfully consider joining Club 52 and supporting our youth ministries and mission work. You can make a significant impact on the young peoples spiritual lives by helping them to participate in this mission trip experience. I would not be where I am today if my home church had not helped to support me in sending me to work trip. I hope that you will consider stretching your faith by increasing your giving by \$1 a week **so that the youth's faith may grow through this experience.**



In Christ,
Pastor Eric

Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser
for the Friends of Emiliano Zapata
Mission Trip 2012

Saturday, February 18, 2012

Beth Eden UMC

3201 Huffman Blvd.

Rockford, IL 61103

Serving 4:30-7:00 pm

Adults 13-110 \$7.00

Children 4-12 \$3.00

Children 3 and under FREE

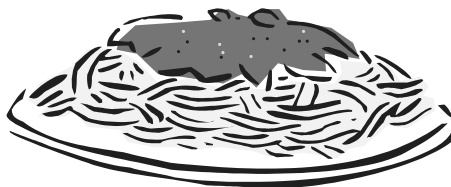
At the door they will be \$1.00 more, so buy early!

Dinner includes pasta, bread, beverages, and dessert.

Tickets available at Beth Eden

See Nicole Schandelmeier between services or call her at

815.319.2182



Mission trip 2012, Friends of Emiliano Zapata de Chiapas

I have been called upon to participate in a mission's trip to Emiliano Zapata de Chiapas, Mexico's poorest and southern-most state. Emiliano Zapata is a community of 1500 Mayan people who came together after starving in their previous homes. In this migration to a much more fertile land, they lost the elders of each original village and are seeking help. They now belong to a vibrant but isolated community whose wellness needs are not being met, especially for their children and youth, as well as mothers and newborns without nearby care. Two members have stepped forward and are willing and excited to be the health promoters for their village. They also have a gentleman that sets bones and a midwife, with no formal training. Our goal is to continue the work that was begun last year which included laying the foundation for a clinic and forming relationships with the residents of the village. This year we will continue the clinic, perform an assessment of the health and wellness of the Maya people, learn what they see as their needs, and develop a system of wellness care and health promotion to serve their people. Our team of 11 health and spiritual professionals will spend some time learning about the Mayan culture, after which we will travel the 7 hours (70 miles) on the dirt mountain "road" to Emiliano Zapata, spend 5 days in the village learning and teaching, and return home to compile our assessments and begin the next phase of our ongoing mission work. The total cost is between \$18,000 and \$20,000, for the entire trip. Each of us going will bear some of the cost personally, but we need more help. Please join us with your financial support and with your positive thoughts and prayers. Donations can be made here at the church, made out to SIUCC or to myself, or can be mailed to me at home 8216 Cameo Drive, MP IL 61115. Donations are tax-deductible, corporate donations are also welcomed and those businesses will be given recognition at our 2 fundraising events! Thank You for your generous support!

Nicole Schandelmeier

815.319.2182

nschandelmeier@hotmail.com

Harlem United Methodist Church


8401 N. Alpine Road -- Machesney Park — 815-633-1450

9:15 a.m. -- Kid's Sunday School ■ 10:30 a.m. -- Worship Service

Mondays -- 2:00 p.m. Bible Study □ Tuesdays - 6:00 p.m. AWANA

February Dates

Happy Birthday

- 
- 8 - Pastor Eric
 - 10 - Heather (Reis) Cimarrusti
 - 12 - Griffin Bainter
 - 13 - Bernice Hopkins
 - 20 - Steve Hill
 - 21 - Evelyn Martin
 - 22 - Brian Hawn

Let Us Remember

Eleanor Cousin

07/20/1915 – 02/12/2007

Richard Martin

06/30/1931 - 02/28/1995

To My Friends at Harlem UMC:

When I first came to Harlem 37 years ago as choir director, I had no idea that I would remain at Harlem for that length of time. I've seen many members, choir members, and pastors come and go, making many friendships along the way.

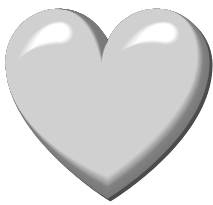
Like many churches, Harlem has had its share of ups and downs always making it though some difficult times. I've made many friends (especially in the choir) and love Harlem as my church here in Rockford, so it has been a difficult decision to leave. Although I am no longer with you physically every Sunday, I still will be here to see everyone at dinners and other activities.

My new venture in life with my position at Beth Eden has begun, for which I am very grateful. Beth Eden's warmth and fellowship in welcoming me was as warm as it was at Harlem when I first began.

Thank you Harlem for everything and I wish you all the best in the future.

In Christ's love and friendship,
Barb Fisher-Livingston





FEBRUARY 2012

HARLEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8401 N. ALPINE RD., MACHESNEY PARK, IL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 am Bible Study (BE)	2 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Evans)	3	4 6:00 pm 4th Day Group (Evans)
5 4:30 pm Youth Group Super Bowl Party @ New Life UMC	6 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	7 7:00 am Men's Prayer Group (Evans)	8 9:00 am Bible Study (BE) 11:30 am Wesley Willows Luncheon 7:00 pm Church Council	9 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Evans)	10	11 8:00 am Men of UTRCP Breakfast & Bible Study (Evans)
12 4:00 pm-Confirmation (BE) 7:00-9:00 pm Youth Group Valentine's Dance	13 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	14 7:00 am Men's Prayer Group (Evans)	15 ROCK DEAD-LINE 9:00 am Bible Study (BE)	16 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Evans)	17	18
19 4:00 pm-Confirmation (BE) 5:00 pm Youth Group	20 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	21 7:00 am Men's Prayer Group (Evans)	22 9:00 am Bible Study (BE) 7:00 pm Co-Op Ash Wednesday Service @ Beth Eden	23 9:00 am Stuffers & Stickers (BE) 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Evans)	24	25
26 4:00 pm-Confirmation (BE) 5:30-7:30 pm-Youth Group Bowling @ B&B Park Bowl	27 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	28 7:00 am Men's Prayer Group (Evans)	29 9:00 am Bible Study (BE)			

Evans United Methodist Church
 7605 N. Second Street — Machesney Park, IL
 Phone Number — (815) 633-4411
 Sunday Worship - 8:30 a.m. ~ Sunday School - 10:15 a.m.

We care about you, but we are not always updated on your needs. If you or someone in your family is ill or hospitalized, and you would like them to receive a visit or be included in prayers, please let us know.

February Dates

Birthdays

6- Muriel Blake 26 - Matthew Drake
 6- Joyce Eyster 28 - Robert Manriquez
 8- Pastor Eric

Anniversaries

13 – Mike & Lorraine Taylor

Lectors

February 5 - Sally Tammes
 February 12 - Nicki Valdez
 February 19 - Nola Loftis
 February 26 - Carol Alexander



Greeters

February 5 - David & Muriel Blake
 February 12 - Mylee McCracken
 February 19 - Joyce Eyster
 February 26 - Mitchael McCracken

UMW/SARAH CIRCLE
9:30 am February 15th
at Evans UMC

Ushers

Fred Alexander,
 Sue Elliott, Carol Burnside

Hostess: Joyce Eyster
Devotions: Ruth Becker



February 2012

EVANS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 am Bible Study (BE) 5:30 pm Cub Scout #418	2 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	3	4 6:00 pm 4th Day Group (Evans)
5 4:30-9:00 pm Youth Group Super Bowl Party @ New Life UMC	6 5:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	7 7:00 am Men's Prayer Group	8 9:00 am Bible Study (BE) 11:30 am Wesley Willows Luncheon 5:30 pm Cub Scout #418 7:00 pm Church Council	9 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	10 11:30 am UMWomen Soup Luncheon (BE)	11 8:00 am Men of UTRCP Breakfast & Bible Study
12 4:00 pm-Confirmation (BE) 7:00-9:00 pm Youth Group Valentine's	13 5:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	14 7:00 am Men's Prayer Group	15 ROCK DEADLINE 9:00 am Bible Study (BE) 9:30 am Sarah Circle 5:30 pm Cub Scout #418	16 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	17	18
19 4:00 pm-Confirmation (BE) 5:00 pm Youth Group	20 5:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	21 7:00 am Men's Prayer Group	22 9:00 am Bible Study (BE) 5:30 pm Cub Scout #418 7:00 pm Co-Op Ash Wednesday Service @ Beth Eden	23 9:00 am Stuffers & Stickers (BE) 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	24	25
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On the Road to Emmaus

WALK TO EMMAUS

Have you thought about taking this Spiritual Journey?
Plan ahead!

The next Men's Walk is April 19-22, 2012 and
the next Women's Walk is April 26-29, 2012.

Both walks will be at Loyola University Retreat and
Ecology Campus, Woodstock, IL



If you are interested in learning more about the Walk to
Emmaus you can go to their website at www.nil-emmaus.org
or see anyone who has been on the walk.

It's an experience you don't want to miss!



Chrysalis is open to young people of any Christian denomination.
The ages include upper high school students (ages 15-18 and com-
pleted 9th grade) and young adults (ages 19-24 and graduated from
high school). We invite you to join in a flight or journey, an exciting
three days of experiencing God's love in a fresh new way. Spread your wings.

The next Chrysalis Flight will be August 3-5, 2012 at Judson College in
Elgin, IL. For more information go to their website at
<http://www.upperroom.org/chrysalis/>



UNITED METHODIST MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER



What is a Marriage Encounter Weekend? It is a 44 hour weekend that
teaches couples married from 3 to 50+ years communication skills that can
refresh and sustain their relationship. Couples often return from the week-
end with a renewed image of themselves, and a renewed commitment to God
and to the Church.

**Discover God's desire for your marriage on a
Marriage Encounter United Methodist Weekend.**

A spring weekend is scheduled for April 20-22, 2012 –Bloomington, IL.
Registrations are needed 2 weeks prior to a weekend.

To register or to learn more about the weekend, click on our Illinois website:

www.ilencounter.org or our national site: www.encounter.org.

To call: Jack & Yvonne Hall 309-965-2343



WHAT'S GOING ON AT LOCAL CHURCHS



United Methodist Volleyball League
Hilltop Ministry Center
8301 Mitchell Rd.
Machesney Park, IL



*Sunday nights starting February 12, 2012

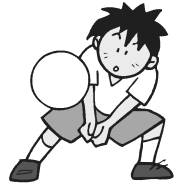
*League runs for 8 weeks

*Games will go from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

*Teams of 6 or more players

*Team Leader meeting @ Hilltop, Wed., Feb. 8th, 7:00 p.m.

*Final Sign-Up date. . . . Monday, Feb. 6th, 2012



Register your team by calling Mona @ 815.988.1293
or email her at familyministry@roscoeumc.org

Leah Zahn & Julia Schade
Court Street UMC
215 N. Court St.
Rockford, IL 61103



Sunday, February 19, 2012
2:00 p.m.
Free-Will Donation



Music with Violin & Piano
Performance will include:

Norman Lloyd's *Three Pieces for Violin & Piano*,
movie themes by John Williams, and *Sonatina*, Opus 100 by Dvorak

For information call Court Street at 815.962.6061
www.courtstreetumc.org

The U in Jesus

Before U were thought of or time had begun, God stuck U in the name of His Son...

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true, You can't spell out JesUs and not include U. You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name, for U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died. It even takes U to spell crucified...

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?

The stones split away, the gold trumpet blew, and this word resurrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension, He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.

"Go into the world and tell them it's true that I love them all - just like I love U."

So many great people are spelled with a U, don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do, He'd like them to know, but it all starts with U.



Submitted by Alan Hoffman

Kids Corner



What Is Love?

If you love me, you will obey what I command. John 14:15

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



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Contributors

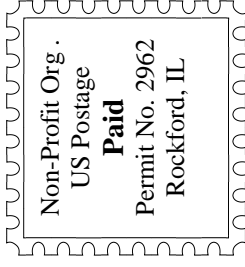
Pastor Eric
 Sherry Severing
 Mary Sue Wright
 Judy Long
 Jarrod Severing
 Lyle Syverson
 Norma Shipton
 Nicole Schandelmeier

WORD LIST

Love Is
 Protecting patient
 truthful faithful
 Helpful forgiving
 kind trusting

Love is not
 Mean angry
 evil proud
 Rude selfish
 hateful jealous

Upon This Rock Cooperative Ministry
BETH EDEN-HARLEM-EVANS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES
3201 HUFFMAN BLVD.
ROCKFORD, IL 61103



“Return Service Requested”

