

# Lay Coordinator ❁ August 2008

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My granddaughter Olive will be four months old on Aug 5 and she celebrated early by going to her first Cubs game. She even had a new "Cubs" outfit to wear! She isn't the only one celebrating the joys of summer; our churches are busy with fellowship picnics and special outings. Of course most of the outings are to see the Madison Mallards or the Brewers play, not the Cubs, but what can I say. I am still working on my son-in-law's loyalties; just give me a little more time!



**Lowell First** will be celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> with a special service. Happy Anniversary Lowell!

Is your grass getting long? Are you thirsty for a summertime treat? August Fest in Juneau will take place August 22-24 and **Juneau St Stephen's** will be having a booth where they will sell root beer floats, homemade baked goods and raffle off a lawn mower!

**Madison Plymouth** is having a Kitchen Cleaning Party August 13. This comes on the heels of a Sealing the Driveway Party and will be followed by a Classroom Painting Party! They have yet to schedule a Window Washing Party and Church Cleaning Party for fall! I wonder if I could host one of these parties at my house, Nancy's Clean the Garage Party?!

**Paoli Zwingli** is experiencing some structural issues that need quick attention. One of their Council members is calling together a Men's Coffee Meeting to discuss, organize and tackle church maintenance needs. They also voted to become a "true sanctuary". This means that in case of a disaster, who ever has a key is authorized to open the doors for use of the church by the Red Cross or the Fire Department or a governmental or law enforcement agency. With all the recent rains and flooding the Council felt this would be a good move.

**Middleton Community UCC** is looking for helpers for their Farmers' Market Food Collection. Members go around with a wagon and boxes to all the produce vendors at the end of the farmers' market and collect the leftovers and deliver them to local food pantries. What a great idea!

The Executive Council of **Madison First Congregational** will be holding a book sale for three Sundays in September to raise money for Habitat for Humanity. They are collecting books all through the month of August.

The Urban League of Greater Madison is looking for volunteer tutors to work with School of Hope Middle School children. If you have an hour or two a week of time you could give to a good cause, check out their web site at [www.ulgm.org](http://www.ulgm.org).

Many of our churches are active in the Interfaith Hospitality Network, an organization that helps homeless families. Their annual fundraiser breakfast is coming up this fall and they are looking for table captains. For more info, contact Jennifer at 608 829-1639.

**Madison Orchard Ridge** has a busy month coming up. On August 4 their Knit/Crochet Group will meet. On August 10 folks will gather for a swim in Lake Kegonsa and then as soon as darkness falls they will have a telescope viewing of the stars. On August 14 the Women's Book Group will meet and discuss *The Last Lecture* by Randy Pausch.

**Fort Atkinson Friedens** is planning ahead. They will all gather at the church for the big Packers/Vikings Game on September 8. Popcorn will be provided and brats and hot dogs will be for sale. Game is at 6, doors open at 5:30!

Speaking of looking ahead, many of our churches are busy planning for the start of the Sunday School season. **McFarland UCC** will celebrate Fall Kick Off Sunday, September 7 with worship outdoors followed by a potluck. **Fort Atkinson First** has Celebration Sunday the same day and they will have special music, food and fellowship.

Check out <http://growingstronger.nutrition.tufts.edu/book.html> for a very good, realistic, lifelong exercise program. You can print the book out online for free!



Fall election time is drawing near and we will be inundated with political ads and talk of the elections. This prayer comes from the **Sauk City First UCC** newsletter-

*Almighty God, you rule all the peoples of the earth. Give to our leaders the vision of truth and justice, that by their council all nations and people may work together. Give to the people of our country zeal for justice and strength of forbearance that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will. Forgive our shortcomings as a nation; purify our hearts to see love and truth.  
We pray all these things in your Name. Amen.*

**Go and Serve.**

Nancy