

# St. Michael's Messenger



February 2012

Volume 9 Issue 2

## Pastor's Message

It was time to eat but the chili was about 20 minutes away from hot enough. Most everyone had brought a game to share. Welcome to St. Michael's game night!

Apples to Apples, The Farming Game, Monopoly, Memory, and more lined the marble counter in the fellowship room. But how to begin? Jenga . . . Hmm. Maybe that would be a quick game while the chili warmed . . . maybe there's a way to play as two teams. Sure . . . why not? I'm making this up even as I state the rules for this sort of play. The ten others in the room (some of whom *actually* know how the game is supposed to be played) buy into the made-up team rules, and before you know it we're counting off by twos and everybody's in the game.

Do you know Jenga? Kathy Hummel tells us it's an African game. And she goes on to say that African games are notorious for teaching, building and celebrating community. We have struck gold.

Jenga begins as a 3 x 3" square, 10 inch-tall tower. It's constructed out of rows of 3 1 x 3" wooden planks that stack one on top of another. The first row is 3 planks vertically side by side, the next row of three lies atop horizontally, the next vertically, the next horizontally and so on about 20 rows high. Can you picture this?



Players take turns removing one plank from somewhere within the tower. They place that just-removed plank just atop the tower to make a new row. The tower gets taller and taller, and wobblier and wobblier.

The game is over when the tower falls. Which it did not do for a very long time. We kept taking turns removing one plank and then another, building much higher and wobblier than any of us would have predicted. We were all holding our breaths and cheering one another on. Even though one team was supposedly competing against the other.

Of course in the end it came toppling down. But all of us being in on the game – minds, bodies, spirits engaged – that's the memory I'll savor. I want to do this again!

Ash Wednesday is coming. February 22<sup>nd</sup> to be exact, and begins the season of Lent. It's a game changer. In the beginning, it was relatively easy for Jesus as he gathered his disciples and started teaching, preaching, healing and multiplying loaves and fishes. But at a certain point, the level of difficulty gets ratcheted up a notch.

Mark's gospel notes the game-changing moment: Jesus sets his face toward Jerusalem. No more hiding out in the Galilean countryside. They take the game (which is all about teaching, building and celebrating the community of God's Reign on earth) to where the powers and principalities preside. This is a tricky, even dangerous, path. The scribes

## Pastors Message cont.

and the Pharisees hound and try to entrap him. Every move entails risk. Jesus and his disciples just keep playing by the Kingdom rules, which exposed the ways that the political, social and religious rules were rigged to favor some and exclude so many others. Things get more precarious as the powers collude to bring him down. Each move called for deeper discernment, prayer, courage and camaraderie. After the march on Jerusalem and the Temple action, he's arrested and tried in a kangaroo court, tortured and executed. A life toppled.

The other night, when the Jenga tower fell, the game may have ended, but the community lived on. The way we had encouraged and cheered one another, the way each person had stepped up to take his turn and risk ruin or glory, witnessing each person's discerning eye, her gentle, skilled touch and willing spirit, none of that was lost when the swaying tower finally fell.

Game night was a very good idea. Thanks to Bryan Kelsey for dreaming it up. Thanks to Sara Phalen for bringing the chilly chili that got us playing Jenga. Maybe we'll do it again. It's so good to spend time together - to get to know and appreciate one another, and to cheer each other on. Jenga, chili and Apples to Apples were ways into the gift of community. Which is indeed a precious gift when the Way gets difficult or even when life comes crashing down. Sometimes it's not all that far from Jenga to Jerusalem.

Join us for worship on Ash Wednesday and for the Sundays of Lent. And watch for future game nights!

Love and prayers,

*Denise*



## Save the Date

Charlie King and Karen Brandow concert at



St. Michael's UCC. **March 9** at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$10. The legendary folk-singer, Pete Seeger says this about Charlie: "He's one of the finest singers and songwriters of our time." That's quite an endorsement! Please spread the word. [www.charlieking.org](http://www.charlieking.org)

### St. Michael's United Church of Christ

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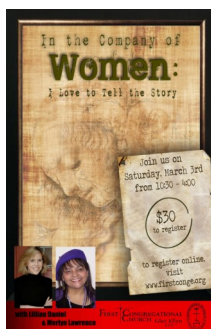
Office Hours  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9:00 am-12:00 pm  
Friday 9:00-3:00

Kathy Hummel, Newsletter Editor  
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We are planning to continue the tradition this year of having a Shrove Sunday (the Sunday before Ash Wednesday) pancake brunch after worship on February 19. Several items are still needed, so if you can bring something for the brunch, please sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

**In the Company of Women:  
"I love to tell the story"**

As women, we lead busy lives. It is vital that we set time aside and apart for spiritual refreshment. This women's retreat will focus on the stories of women. Prepare yourselves for a day of wonderful fellowship, good food, new and renewed friendships, and much fun as we share stories and are refreshed in God's presence.



This retreat is led by Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel and Merlyn Lawrence and women of all ages and walks of life are invited to attend. Feel free to invite your friends along. Spread the word anyway you can.

The retreat is Saturday, March 3, 2012, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm. at First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn, 535 Forest Avenue, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137. (630) 469-3096. Registration begins at 10am.

Registration Fee: \$30.00 RSVP by February 21, 2012 includes lunch and a copy of the book: *Tell It Like It Is* by Lillian Daniel. See Denise for a copy of the registration form.

The *Community Clothing Closet* at St. Michael's UCC continues to provide clean and gently used clothes and shoes to all in our community who are in need.

On January 14th, 16 families visited the Clothing Closet and took home 318 clothing items, including approximately 40 winter coats received from *Operation Warm*. On January 25th, 39 Head Start families took home 448 items, including about 150 coats. Thank you to Shirley Schramer, Dorothy Dombrowski, and Jack McClelland for helping with the Head Start families. The Community Clothing Closet has distributed 55,514 clothing items to visiting guests since opening our doors over seven years ago.

The Community Clothing Closet will be open this month on Saturday, February 11, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Our work day this month will be Thursday, February 9. The Happy Hangers will work in the morning from 10:00 a.m. to noon and the Evening Organizers will work from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

As reported last month, during the final days of 2011, the Community Clothing Closet was able to take advantage of a surprise opportunity to receive over 500 new children's winter coats from a national organization called *Operation Warm*. As a result of a special grant, these coats were available to our Clothing Closet at an extremely low cost of \$2.09 per coat, to cover the shipping costs to West Chicago.

Thanks to the generous donations from members and friends, we collected over \$500 of the \$700 needed to cover the cost of delivering these coats to our Clothing Closet. If you have not yet made a contribution, please consider a special donation to the Clothing Closet fund to help meet this need.

It is a special gift that we are able to provide brand new, warm, winter coats to children who have a need in our community. Thanks be to God!

## Thank you from Early Head Start

A thank you poster was made of little thank notes from the Early Head Start families who received Shining Star Christmas gifts from our churches. The handwritten notes were all in Spanish. Below is the English translation.

Dear Members of St. Michael's UCC, 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church & 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church:

I want to congratulate your church and the people who organized this program. Thanks in the name of the Delgado Gomez family!

*I want to give you thanks for the gifts you gave my whole family. – Leticia Nuñez*

Heartfelt congratulations and thanks to you. Nobody gives Christmas gifts like you all do. Blessings on your churches. – the Contera Family

*I am thankful for the gifts for my children and my husband. Merry Christmas. – the Muñoz Family*

Many thanks for the gifts for me and my whole family. Love you!!

*On behalf of the Hernandez family I'm writing to thank you for all of the marvelous things you are doing for our community.*

Thanks from my heart for thinking of my family. With all my heart, the Chavez family

*Thank you for the gifts you. May God increase your joy at Christmas and in the New Year. This is our desire for you. – the Zarte family*

I want to thank you for the kindness you showed me by giving a gift to my daughter. Without it my little girl would not have had the opportunity to open a gift this year. Many, many thanks and may God bless you. – Angelina Garcia

*Thanks to all for the gifts for my children. May God bless you and may you have a merry Christmas. – Alonzo Perezchica and family*

## People Made Visible

Sara Phalen



People Made Visible will again be co-sponsoring West Chicago's Local Music Night. The February event will be held, Friday, February 17th from 7:00pm -9:00pm and will feature members of The Awakenings Project as Local Music Night Does Poetry. Members featured include Bob Lundin, Irene O'Neill, Julie Brandon, Ben Beyerlein, and others. Upcoming Local Music Nights will take place on March 23 and April 20, 2012. Local Music Night is held at Gallery 200 Studio, located at 203 Turner Court. As always, open mic will begin at 8:30 pm. Please join us for a night of locally grown entertainment. This event is free and open to the public.

Thank you to everyone that came to our first Game Night, co-sponsored with St. Michael's. We had a great time and hope to do another one again soon, look for more details to come!

PMV is also gearing up for Spring and making plans for continuing the Community Garden. If you are interested in getting involved with this great project please contact us at [info@peoplemadevisible.com](mailto:info@peoplemadevisible.com).

## Fox Valley Association News

To the Clergy and Laity of the Fox Valley Association,

St. Peter, United Church of Christ invites you to attend the Service of Installation for Rev. Emily Mitchell to be held at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012

A reception will follow the service.

St. Peter, United Church of Christ  
47 Church Street  
Lake Zurich, IL  
847-438-6441

## SPECIAL DAYS

### **February 2 – Feast of the Presentation Candlemas . . . Groundhog Day**

This day, 40 days after the birth of Jesus, marks the traditional ending of the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle. It has been observed both as the presentation of Jesus in the Temple and the purification or cleansing of Mary, following the birth of a male child, as was dictated by Levitical law. The theme of Jesus, the true light – anticipated in Advent and brought into being at Christmas – now is sent to all the world: “a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for the glory to your people Israel” (Luke 2:32). Because of the emphasis of Christ’s light overcoming the darkness, candles have played a large part in the celebration of this day, thus the name Candlemas. In some churches candles are blessed and distributed to be taken home and used during family devotions. Interestingly, this date marks the half-way point between winter solstice (the longest night of the year) and the spring equinox, when the hours of darkness and daylight are equal to one another. It’s also Groundhog Day. Whether or not the little critter sees its shadow. . . we’re half-way to Spring!

### **February 4 – Mawlid al Nabhi (*Islam*)**

Muslims celebrate this day as the birthday of the prophet Mohammed, the founder of Islam, born this day in 570. Since the 13th century the day has been a major festival, usually preceded by a month of celebration. The day itself includes special worship, gift-giving, and feasting. While observed in many countries, some conservative Muslim sects consider the celebration idolatrous.

### **February 15 – Nirvana Day (*Buddhism*)**

This day commemorates the death of the Buddha, which is also the day he achieved nirvana, or total enlightenment. While celebrations vary according to region and culture, Buddhists

generally observe the day by meditating or going to Buddhist temples or monasteries. Often special food is prepared and some people bring gifts to the temple or monastery such as money, household goods, or clothes. Some Buddhists will read passages from the Paraniibbana Sutta which describes the last days of Buddha, while others may reflect on those who have recently passed away.

### **February 19 – Transfiguration Sunday**

The revealing of Jesus’ glory marks the end of Jesus’ ministry in Galilee and the beginning of his journey toward Jerusalem. The Voice that spoke at Jesus’ baptism, speaks again: “This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.” Contemplate the Transfiguration and pretty soon the clear divide between heaven and earth, the holy and the ordinary, becomes a very thin line.

### **February 22 – Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent**

Lent means “the lengthening of days.” It’s a season for prayer and reflection. A time to trust that things are coming to life below the surface even though it appears that nothing is happening. Like Advent, Lent is a time to pay attention. Often Christians engage in special disciplines of prayer and service that help us open hearts, minds and lives to the ways that God is calling us to experience, understand and share the gifts and challenges of life.

### **February 26 – Ayyam-i-Ha begins (*Baha’i*)**

This period adjusts the Baha’i year to the solar calendar. It leads to the 19-day fast. Each day of Ayyam-i-Ha is marked by a different virtue such as hospitality, gift giving, or charity.

## An Undocumented Student Fights for His Life

by George Mariscal, member of Iglesia Unida/United Church UCC in Berwyn

I came to this country when I was one year old. I went to school here in Melrose Park, IL and graduated from here. I'm undocumented, but I didn't know that growing up--I thought I would be able to get a job just like any of my friends, and go to the university here. I found out when I was in high school. I was so excited because I thought I was going to get my driver's license. I was signing up for a class called "Behind the Wheel." But then my mom told me, "Even if you take that class, you won't be able to get a license because you're undocumented, and you don't have a social security number." So that's when I started realizing that I wouldn't be able to get a job, or get government loans for college.

It was hard to take, but I didn't let it overcome me. I didn't just give up that easily. But then when I was sixteen I started getting all these symptoms-- I couldn't eat, I was nauseated and tired all the time. When I went to get checked out, the doctors told us they were surprised that I was still alive because with the results that they were seeing, I should have been dead. I had kidney failure, and I would need dialysis in the short term, and a kidney transplant as soon as possible.

I was lost. I thought I was just going to die at the hospital. People have asked me before, did you have faith to get you through that? I did have faith, but in that moment it all came crashing down. I thought there is no God. All the faith I did have was gone, because I thought that was it for me. I mean, what's the point of having faith if I'm done? But my mom started talking to me, and had pastors talk to me in the hospital, and they told me that you have to have faith. If God wanted you dead, you would have been gone already. God is keeping you alive for a reason. Slowly I started praying more, and my faith did get me through those hard times.

I've been on dialysis for six years. We are still struggling to find a hospital that will offer a surgery at a price that we can pay with no insurance. But we're a lot better now than we were before--what I mean is that we have a lot of support from a lot of people. My church, Iglesia Unida de Berwyn UCC, and Arturo Mota, a Village Trustee in Melrose Park, are helping with fundraisers, and with looking for a hospital that would offer the surgery at a lower price. A couple people have volunteered to donate their own kidneys if they are found to be a compatible donor. At first I was afraid to even tell my story, since I'm undocumented and there is always the risk that they could put me in deportation proceedings. But after I knew I wasn't alone anymore, I stopped being so scared.

I continued school--I finished high school, and I still wanted to continue my education. I took some college courses--I have some college experience and I plan to get an associate's degree in graphic design and web page design. But now I haven't been able to continue that because of my illness. It's either you pay for medicine, or for tuition. I have to deal with it, but it's not like I'm never going to go back to school. It's just that the most important thing right now is to get healthy.

As hard as it is to believe, it's all part of God's plan. I have to leave everything up to Him. The only thing I can do, is do what the doctors say, and pray. And it's been working so far. I don't plan on losing faith again. I know that God will help me through this, and will grant me my wish of getting a new kidney. I'm hopeful through this because I know He's on my side. And I've felt His presence. I was scared to death before every surgery because I heard so many stories of people dying on the surgery table. And I would pray, and I would get this feeling like, hey, everything's going to be ok. I'm in good hands.

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## George Mariscal cont. from p. 6

To all of you reading this article, I want to you know that everyone sometimes asks, "What's the point?" Before you start saying that you have it hard, you should look at other people, because I'm guaranteeing you other people have it worse than you. You should appreciate even the small things in life. It may sound like a cliché but it's true- you should enjoy life. You never know when it's going to be your time, or when you're going to be hit with something big like I was. Live it happy, and go to church. Believing in God does get you through a lot of things in life.

If you would like to help, you can do a search on facebook for Jorge A. Mariscal, or call me at 708-526-1951. Or another way to help is to become an organ donor. You can do it by just filling out a couple forms. We all have an expiration date, you know? If you pass away, and you could help save three lives, wouldn't you want to do that? Even if it doesn't help me, you'd be helping others.

I'm very, very thankful for everyone who has been helping out in any way; for everyone who God has sent my way.

### From the IL Conference Task Force on Immigration:

The Immigration Task Force is working with Jorge to get a transplant. Stay tuned for more news as we approach local hospitals. If you wish to make a contribution, funds can be donated at Chase Bank (walk into any branch, or mail to 1836 N. Broadway St., Melrose Park, IL 60160) Account Title: Jorge A. Mariscal Kidney Transplant Fund; Account No. 829325513

For more information, contact Sara Wohlleb, [sara.wohlleb@gmail.com](mailto:sara.wohlleb@gmail.com) or 773-334-9414

## The Rev. Dr. J. Robert Sandman, 1927-2012

J. Robert Sandman, 84, who was a retired United Church of Christ minister, died of a heart attack on Monday, January 16.

He served for 12 years as Associate Conference Minister in the Illinois Conference, retiring in 1992. After retirement he continued to serve in ministry: he and his wife Olga served as volunteer missionaries to the Interparish Migrants Project in Istanbul, Turkey, he served as Interim Conference Minister in South Dakota, Acting conference Minister in Illinois and Interim Association Minister in the Fox Valley Association, and taught classes on UCC history and Polity. All this *after* retirement!

He was for 31 years an active member of First Congregational UCC in Downers Grove, Illinois. Bob dedicated his life to service and justice ministries such as civil rights, anti-Vietnam War marches, new church ministries for immigrant minority communities, and farm worker labor rights. As a student at Oberlin in 1948, he was present when the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches approved the Basis of Union with Interpretations. Bob went with other clergy into inner city Dayton, Ohio, during the riots of 1968. In 1973, he was one of the 95 who went from the General Synod to stand in solidarity with farm workers in Coachella, Calif. Bob co-chaired the committee that oversaw the 2003 visit of *The Amistad* to Chicago. In recent years, he regularly joined the prayer vigils to protest deportations outside the Chicago field office for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Removal Operations.

He was a denominational leader who knew how to bring peace and understanding to individual pastors and members, local congregations, judicatories, General Synod delegations, local communities, and state governments. In 60 years of ordained ministry, he steadfastly lived out his concern for the poor and marginalized.

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## Global Ministries

### Whom Shall I Send?

*And I heard the voice of God saying, whom shall I send and who will go for us? Isaiah 6:8a*

Churches in China are growing rapidly. This growth isn't the result of massive missionary efforts from the west after China's opening, but fruits of the work being quietly done by Chinese believers who held on to their faith through all of China's turmoil.

I want to tell you about Mr. K as he told me his story. Mr. K is about 40 years old and has a smile that makes you want to hear what he has to say. He was born in Northern Jiangsu province into a family of farmers.

"I was 19 years old when I first learned about Christianity from a classmate's mother-in-law. She had us pray before and after meals, which introduced us to these ideas for the first time. I had little interest in religion, but was willing to pray if it meant I could eat. One day I was walking past a small church and heard the sound of hymns being sung. When I glanced inside the feeling of comfort and peace I felt in that moment led me to believe. I realized God cared for me and it was a moment of great joy. After that I looked forward all week to my Sunday meetings with God. In the congregation no one else had even a middle school education, and 90% of them were illiterate. So they started asking me to preach or help them with reading the Bible. Looking back, it was my happiest year.

Outside of church, my friends had encouraged me to start raising chickens. I had invested in the supplies: feed, eggs, fences. One night I was outside, and sisters from the church came looking for me, but I didn't hear them knocking on my door. When I heard that I had missed them, I became focused on why it was they were searching for me. I stared at the sky unable to sleep, I

knew they were going to ask me to study at the seminary, but I wanted to say "no."

Then I remembered the verse that says, "Whom can I send? Who can go for us?" And I realized that for my church I was the only one to do this on their behalf. It was my calling. The next day a sister from the church came and asked me to study at the seminary, and I happily agreed.

I had been focused on raising chickens, but God told me to raise my sights." Together we pray for higher visions for ourselves, our church, our world.

*Tom and Linnea Morse, Global Ministries missionaries, serve with the Nanjing Drum Tower Hospital in China in English communications.*

### Greetings from Ngawang

Dear Friend,

I hope you are fine and happy with your family. Me and my family are also fine and happy. Before we had an earthquake at West Bengal and Sikkim. In West Bengal there is not much destruction and in Sikkim there is a huge destruction and at that time me and my mom were so afraid. And I thought that we are going to die. I was near by the window and ready to jump and I told my mom to get out from the house. And I thank God who had really saved our life. That's first time in my life. I hope you have seen on the TV at news channels. Now a day I am very busy with our yearly exam which start at Dec. 12 till Dec. 16. And after that we have winter vacation holidays for 20 days. I am studying hard and hoping to get good marks on all the paper. This time we had many holidays due to Indian celebrations and enjoyed very much with my friends.



The weather is very cold here. How is the weather there? Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Opportunities to Serve

### Feeding Northwest DuPage Offering



Food pantry offering for February: baby products, no clothes, items like baby shampoo and baby wipes, which we take for granted as necessary, but cannot be purchased with food stamps. Providing folks with such necessary items helps them stretch meager funds.

Please be sure to purchase individual size products as they are easier to distribute to the clients. You can place your donation in the basket at the front door of the church or in the barrel in the Ehredt-Albin Fellowship Room. See Shirley Schramer for details. For more information on Feeding Northwest DuPage visit their website at [www.feedingnwdupage.com](http://www.feedingnwdupage.com)

### Community Clothing Closet



Donations are still needed to cover the costs relating to our receipt of 500 brand new children's winter coats. Extra hands are always welcome on February 9th and February 11th.

### DuPage Habitat for Humanity

Did you resolve to volunteer in 2012? Let us help you keep your resolution by signing up to lend a hand at the ReStore.



*Current needs: Drivers - Wed. or Sat. Showroom - Thurs. - Sat.*

We offer a flexible schedule and easy 4-hour shifts. Email us at [restore@dupagehabitat.org](mailto:restore@dupagehabitat.org) to get started.

Have you ever thought about volunteering on a Habitat build site? *Now's your chance!* For a limited time, DuPage Habitat is offering the opportunity for teams to work at our West Chicago build site.

We're seeking teams of ten volunteers to sign up for select Thursdays and Saturdays in February and March. Contact [build@dupagehabitat.org](mailto:build@dupagehabitat.org) to register for this rewarding opportunity.

For more information on volunteer opportunities with Habitat for Humanity go to their website: <http://www.dupagehabitat.org>

### Ministry and Committee Meetings

<b>February 8</b>	6:00 pm -7:30 pm 7:30 pm- 8:30 pm	Worship Ministry Choir
<b>February 9</b>	10:00 am -12:00 pm 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Happy Hangers Evening Organizers
<b>February 11</b>	9:00 am -12:00 pm 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Clothing Closet Council Meeting
<b>Every Wednesday</b>	7:00 - 8:30 pm	Choir



## Remember in Prayer...

Pat Birkholtz – currently in Alexian Brothers hospital – she sends love to all at St. Michael’s.



For Chuck Schramer and Marge Klug, both recovering from eye surgery

Irma Becker – she’s doing well, just not able to get to church – she sends love to us.

For Glen Stewart, Jeana Stewart’s husband who’s living with colon cancer.

George Mariscal - he’s on the church council of Iglesia Unida de Berwyn/United Church of Berwyn UCC. He is in need of a kidney transplant.

Iglesia Unida de Berwyn/United Church of Berwyn UCC and their pastor Rev. Luis Alverenga

Olgha Sandman – Bob Sandman’s widow

Linda (and Doreen) – Linda is Doreen Roethler’s good friend who has ALS, now in hospice.



## Answered prayer

Everything is resolved with Bill Wylie-Kellermann’s United Methodist bishop over the charges arising from celebrating Lydia and Erinn’s wedding. The case is now closed and he remains in good standing for his orders and pastoral appointment. Thanks be to God!

## Special Wishes

### Birthdays in February



9	Leeina Smith
10	Lincoln Nagel
	Bryan Kelsey
11	Sherrie Albrecht
18	John Duerr (son)
19	Emily Nagel
25	Brian Bendeich
26	John Duerr (father)

### Anniversaries in February

2/7/1976	Sherrie Albrecht & Roger Kim
2/13/1965	Len & Cheryl Redelsperger

## Rev. Dr. J. Robert Sandman, 1927-2012

A memorial service will be held at 3:00 p.m., Central Time, Saturday, February 25 at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Downers Grove, Illinois. In lieu of flowers, undesignated contributions can be made to the United Church of Christ, the denomination that Bob loved and served.

Cards can be sent to Olgha Sierra Sandman  
c/o First Congregational UCC  
1047 Curtiss Street  
Downers Grove, IL 60515

## Sunday Schedule

Worship 9:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am



**February 5, 2012**  
**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**  
**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Isaiah 40:21-31  
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
Mark 1:29-39

Lay Reader: Nancy Fraley  
Altar Flowers: Marge and Armin Klug  
Fellowship Host: Pat Gilliam

**February 12, 2012**  
**Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

2 Kings 5:1-14  
Psalm 30  
1 Corinthians 9:24-27  
Mark 1:40-45

Lay Reader: Barb Dieckmann  
Altar Flowers: Bob and Barb Dieckmann  
Fellowship Hosts: Kathy Hummel and Bill Birch

**February 19, 2012**  
**Last Sunday after Epiphany**  
**Transfiguration**

2 Kings 2:1-12  
Psalm 50:1-6  
2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
Mark 9:2-9

Lay Reader: Roger Kim  
Altar Flowers: Open  
Fellowship Hosts: Shrove Sunday Pancake Brunch

**February 22, 2012**  
**Ash Wednesday**

Joel 2:1-2; 12-17  
Psalm 51:1-17  
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**February 26, 2012**  
**1st Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm 25:1-10  
! Peter 3:18-22  
Mark 1:9-15

Lay Reader: Kathy Hummel  
Altar Flowers: Open  
Fellowship Hosts: Ray and Helen Eggert

## February Calendar

**February 19 – Pancake Breakfast** Sunday-before-Shrove Tuesday pancake breakfast after church. Have you signed up to bring something you'll contribute to the breakfast? Sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Room.

**February 22 – Ash Wednesday Worship services at 12pm and 7pm** Join in a time of quiet time of reflection and worship as we step into the season of Lent.