

COVENANT RENEWAL

2010

THIS MOMENT IN TIME



FROM THE PASTOR

If you've been around the church for worship, fellowship, study or mission you have probably seen and experienced a renewed enthusiasm and sense of the Spirit surrounding and guiding Roselle UMC. Our worship is vibrant and meaningful, challenging and uplifting. Our fellowship groups and education classes are helping transform people's lives and the mission work we engage in is making a real difference in the world.

We are most fortunate to have been given this gift of energy, enthusiasm and excitement. But with this gift comes responsibility. Roselle United Methodist Church needs its members and constituents to return this gift and invest in its future believing that God will continue to provide the Spirit to guide us. Jesus said it this way, **"From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required"** (Luke 12:48).

Covenant Renewal gives every person who loves this church an opportunity to capture the Spirit that is so present during "This Moment in Time." It is an invitation to recommit yourself to supporting Roselle UMC with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness and to do so in tangible ways.



On the following pages are specific opportunities over the next six months in which you can actively commit or recommit yourself to our church and to your own personal covenant. I invite you to review these options and thoughtfully and prayerfully consider how you can work with us over the next six months to transform lives and make a difference in the world.

We have been given a moment. The Spirit is igniting our church and its missions and ministries. Let us claim this moment and respond. The poet Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "This time, like all times, is a good time—if we know what to do with it." I believe that Roselle United Methodist Church has been given a moment in time—a gift from God—and that the measure of our faithfulness will be what we do with it.

Peace,

METHODIST PROMISES

When a member is received into the United Methodist Church they make five significant pledges. They promise to be loyal to the church and to support it by their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. At Roselle United Methodist Church we understand those pledges to include the following:

Prayers. We believe in the power of prayer. We have experienced that prayer is essential to remaining connected to the church body and to God. Every Sunday there is a list of prayer concerns printed in the order of worship and often other joys and concerns are lifted up. We ask you to pray for these people and for the families and friends who support and care for them. We ask you to pray for the missions and ministries of Roselle UMC, the United Methodist Church and the Church Universal.



Presence. There is no such thing as a solitary Christian. Our Christian faith cannot be practiced in a vacuum. We need the love, comfort, support and challenge that worship and participation in the community of faith offers us. Members are expected to make church membership and participation in fellowship, study and mission a priority in their lives. Your presence here is important to us. You are always welcome!

Gifts. Many folks who join a church are unsure of how much and what to give to support the mission and ministry of a church. The biblical standard is a tithe which is one tenth of one's income. People wonder if that amount is based on our income before or after taxes, before or after living expenses, etc. The truth is that tithing is a worthy goal and that if every member of the church would prayerfully consider such questions and return the first fruits of their labors to God, the church would be able to engage in many more life changing and world transforming activities. We urge you to make a faithful and sacrificial pledge.

Service. God has given us many talents, interests and abilities. We serve God and our neighbor by sharing these with our church and with others. Many folks start out slowly as they find their way into the church, participating in short term and low impact fellowship, study and service opportunities. This is a great way to get to know more people and to get fully connected to the church and to God.

Witness. Jesus sent his followers out to make disciples of all nations. This mandate is difficult to interpret and act upon in the increasingly diverse world we live in. We respect the varied religious traditions that surround us even while believe that following Jesus Christ is the way to our salvation. We urge our members to invite friends, neighbors and coworkers to church. We believe that our church offers vital and relevant worship, challenging and fulfilling study opportunities, mission and outreach events that are transformative and fellowship activities that lead to deep and lasting friendships. We look forward to helping you learn the language of invitation as we continue to grow together in spirituality, size, and discipleship.

A COVENANT PRAYER IN THE WESLEYAN TRADITION

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Thou are mine, and I am thine. So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth,

Let it be ratified in heaven. **Amen.**

THE UNITED METHODIST HYMNAL
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1989 EDITION

PRAYERS

Email Prayer Chain Ministry

Support your congregation, community and family through an on-line email prayer chain. As prayer requests are submitted to the church, they will be emailed to all members of the prayer chain for concerted, ongoing prayer.

Intentional Weekly Prayer Group

Meet weekly with a group of faithful prayer partners to engage in community prayer, surrounding one another in prayer and comfort.

Written Prayer Ministry

Contribute words of encouragement to written prayer cards sent out each week to those in our congregation and in our church family who have requested prayers.

Church Growth Prayer Commitment

Commit to a Church-wide prayer initiative focusing on the future and growth of Roselle UMC, its congregation and our ability to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

**“BE JOYFUL ALWAYS, PRAY CONTINUALLY;
GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, FOR THIS IS
GOD’S WILL FOR YOU IN CHRIST JESUS.”**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Presence in Spiritual Growth and Education Programs

Commit to presence in a class or group study. Commit with those within your group to a process of learning, of individual and corporate spiritual growth, and to relationship with each other in the Wesleyan spirit.

Adult Summer Sunday School	Adult Autumn Sunday School
“Journeys” 9:00 am starting June 6	Starts September 5, 9:00 am
“The Promises of Jesus”	“Enough: Discovering Joy
Group Study	through Simplicity and
Wednesdays 7:00—9:00 pm	Generosity” Group Study
June 23—August 18	Sundays, 6:30—8:00 pm
Adult Vacation Bible School	September 26—Oct 17
July 19-23, 9:30—11:00 am	

Presence Through Visitation

Share the gift of presence with those in our congregation who are unable to attend weekly worship services. Through scheduled visits and/or phone calls bring a sense of relationship, fellowship, love and commitment to the ill, the elderly, the lonely and the homebound.

Presence in Worship Services

Be present for worship services throughout the summer months. Commit to a weekly time spent with your church family in renewal, reverence, respect, devotion and adoration of God.

**“FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE COME
TOGETHER IN MY NAME, THERE AM
I WITH THEM.”**

MATTHEW 18:20

Missions and Ministry Support

Foster our missions and ministries by pledging or by increasing your pledge to the operating fund. Several new mission and ministry opportunities are emerging as our congregation works to make a difference in the world around us. An additional \$10 per week from all adults attending worship will fully fund these missions and ministries.

Building Improvements

Improve the functionality of our church structure by giving to our building fund. Air conditioning for the sanctuary and several other important building improvements are scheduled for the upcoming year. The air conditioning will cost \$70,000. Half of this amount will be paid with our existing building funds; we will be given the opportunity to support the project by special gifts and future contributions to the building fund.

Music Ministry

“Inspire one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord” Ephesians 5:19. Gifts to the music fund enable our music team to offer a variety of musical styles, sounds and experiences and enhance our congregation’s ability to worship through music and song.

Planned Giving

Leave a legacy. Remember Roselle United Methodist Church by including our church or Endowment Fund in your will and other planned giving.

**“REMEMBER THIS: WHOEVER SOWS SPARINGLY WILL ALSO
REAP SPARINGLY, AND WHOEVER SOWS GENEROUSLY
WILL ALSO REAP GENEROUSLY. EACH MAN SHOULD GIVE
WHAT HE HAS DECIDED IN HIS HEART TO GIVE, NOT
RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPULSION, FOR GOD LOVES
A CHEERFUL GIVER.”**

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-7

PADS

Serve the homeless of our area through Public Action to Deliver Shelter, St. Isidore Church location, on any or all of these dates: June 7, July 26, August 23, September 27, October 25, November 22, December 27. A wide range of serving opportunities are available: cooking, serving dinner or breakfast, setting up and making beds, clearing the location and storing equipment the next morning, washing a load or two of laundry.

Mission Trip

Join a group of adults and senior high students and travel to Little Rock, Arkansas where we will work with Habitat for Humanity of Pulaski County. We will work on the construction of new or existing homes that are being built and refurbished for deserving families. We will also tour the farm of Heifer International—a humanitarian organization that provides breeding pairs of animals and sustainable agriculture to change the lives of and future for impoverished people. This trip leaves after church on Sunday, July 11 and returns on Saturday, July 17. It promises to be a rewarding time of fellowship, fun and work.

Night Ministry

Travel with a group from Roselle UMC to serve the underprivileged of Chicago on Friday, July 30 or Saturday, November 6. Feed and love our neighbors with a compassionate heart, a warm smile, and a nutritious meal. Or, join a team that will assemble Health Kits for the Night Ministry clients on Saturday morning, September 11.

“TRULY I TELL YOU, JUST AS YOU DID IT TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE WHO ARE MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY, YOU DID IT TO ME.”

MATTHEW 25: 40

Rockford Urban Ministries Work Day

Put feet on your faith on Saturday, August 7 in a collaborative project with Rockford Urban Ministries. This project connects volunteers with nonprofit and faith-based organizations who serve the poor through soup kitchens, food pantries, homeless shelters and youth outreach programs. A group of Roselle UMC volunteers will depart the church at 8:00 a.m. and return by 6:00 p.m.

Donations for Haiti

Donate infant-care items as we continue to offer hope to the devastated nation of Haiti. Through June 30 we will be collecting the following items: cloth diapers, shirts or one-piece body suits, baby washcloths, gowns or sleepers, diaper pins, sweaters, receiving blankets. All donations can be placed in the marked bins in the back hallway.

Hands In Service (HIS) Ministry

This is a newly forming ministry to serve our church family and the community. We seek to develop a list of folks who are willing to engage in projects of indoor and outdoor household services, light home repair and seasonal maintenance and who will help overcome accessibility issues. This ministry is open to everyone from the willing worker to the handy homeowner to the experienced tradesperson.

“FOR I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU GAVE ME SOMETHING TO EAT, I WAS THIRSTY AND YOU GAVE ME SOMETHING TO DRINK, I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU INVITED ME IN, I NEEDED CLOTHES AND YOU CLOTHED ME, I WAS SICK AND YOU LOOKED AFTER ME....”

MATTHEW 25: 35-36

Learn the Language of Witness

Become more comfortable sharing your faith with others. Participate in our two week workshop “Learning the Language of Evangelism.” September 5 and 12 at 9:00 a.m.

Extend the Invitation

Invite your friends and neighbors to a worship service. Commit to personally inviting 2, 3, or 5 people to a church service, activity or program.

Welcoming in the Spirit of Christ

As part of the Welcoming Team, welcome visitors and newcomers to Roselle UMC in the Spirit of Christ and help them connect with our community of believers on the journey we all share.

Video Witness

Work with our Communications Team to provide a video witness that will be posted on the church website, sharing what you have found at Roselle UMC and how it has transformed your life.

Celebrate

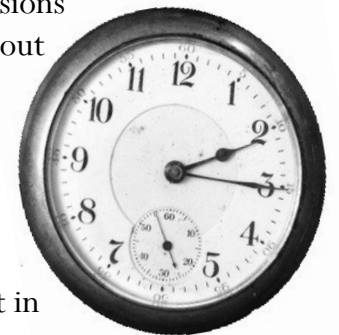
Be a part of the Roselle UMC Celebrations team—learning and modeling Christian celebration in our church and in our community.

“YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES IN JERUSAEM, AND IN ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA, AND TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.”
ACTS 1:8

“GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND SURELY I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE VERY END OF THE AGE.”

MATTHEW 28:19-20

To commit to participation in the missions and ministries listed in this guide, fill out the enclosed Covenant Renewal Card and submit it during the Worship Service on June 6, or turn it in to the church office anytime. Ministry leaders in your indicated areas will contact you to guide you as you invest in this moment that God has given us.



CONTACTS

REVEREND CHRIS WINKLER, PASTOR
JOYCE KIEPURA, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
GAYLE RICHARD, DIRECTOR OF CONNECTIONS MINISTRIES

MINISTRY AREA POINTS OF CONTACT

Prayers	Gayle Richard (630) 529-1309
Email Prayer Chain	Susan Pearson (630) 893-9972
Second Service Prayer Initiative	Carol Thorsen (630) 980-5344
Presence	Joyce Kiepura (630) 529-1309
Gifts	Leanne McRill (630) 213-2249
Service	Barb McLaughlin (630) 980-8431
PADS	Cindy Sheely (847) 352-8734
Witness	Gayle Richard (630) 529-1309
Video Witness	Craig Tabor (630) 876-1586

**We are called to action as faithful
servants of Jesus Christ:**

- In mission to the community near and far
- Supporting each other in our spiritual journey



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