



A Message from Doug

By now you have had a few days for the unveiling of The Next Big Thing to sink in. If you weren't able to be with us on April 30 I hope you have had an opportunity to visit our web site (www.whumc.org) to learn more about where God is leading us in our next years. We have shared with you three defining terms – *inter-faith, social justice, spirituality* – and have made the crucial links to the three defining terms in our mission statement, our First Big Thing – *home, service, welcome*.

I invite you to be with us over the next three weeks for a message series based on why these three new terms are important and how they connect to our mission statement. Be with us as we take these themes and begin to share some of the specific ideas that emerged from our year-long journey of appreciation for Walnut Hills and the vision God is entrusting to our care. All of this has to do with why we are a church in the first place – personal transformation for individuals and global transformation for God's world. It's no small vision, but then Walnut Hills was never founded for small visions. I'm grateful for your participation in our shared journey.
~Doug

In the Spotlight ...

Confirmation Enrollment Begins

All youth entering 7th grade this fall will be receiving a letter and registration form for the first year of confirmation. If you do not receive a letter, and would like to enroll or have an older child who has not been confirmed and would like to join this year, please contact Doug Peters or Julie Stone at 270-9226; doug@whumc.org; julie@whumc.org. All year one students will soon receive information about year two including times and dates of classes that will begin September 10.

Graduates and Families

High school graduates will be recognized at both services on May 21st. Graduates may sit with your family and will be asked to stand to be recognized where you are sitting.

We would also like to acknowledge those of you who are graduating from college or completing other degrees or have children who are doing so. Please check the stub or contact Julie at 270-9226 or julie@whumc.org

One Earth, One Future...A Continuing Conversation

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, May 21, when the Walnut Hills Justice Ministry Team presents "One Earth, One Future...A Continuing Conversation." The focus of our day will be on the environment, and what you can do as an individual or a family to be good to the earth. We will have speakers from the Iowa Environmental Council and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources during the 9:30 hour for youth and adults, as well as activities for elementary-aged children. You can also meet at 2:00 p.m. at the church to go to a water testing project at Walnut Creek. We will view the critters that live near the creek and do a little cleanup project!

Food Pantry Sunday, May 21

Our next Food Pantry Sunday will be on Sunday, May 21, and our featured food item this month is baby food and formula!

Habitat For Humanity News

Signups for volunteers for our Habitat for Humanity build will be May 14, 21, and 28 following both worship services. Our build weeks are June 13-17 and July 25-29, and we need four volunteers plus a team leader for each day. Please check your calendar and see which day or days you might be available. Crew members need to be age 16 and over.

Can't help with the hammers and nails? Consider signing up to help with a lunch for build days. Signups will be available for lunch detail!

YAC (Youth Annual Conference) Registration Due

Youth Annual Conference is June 23-25th at Iowa Wesleyan College, Mount Pleasant Iowa. Walnut Hills Youth Ministry sponsors 4 youth (grades 7-12) and a chaperone for this statewide annual event. Contact Julie for a registration form.

Clothing Drive

Sudan has been a country in crisis for years. Millions of Sudanese have had to leave their country in order to survive. Many fleeing families have found a home in Des Moines. In an effort to help local Sudanese families, Walnut Hills is sponsoring a children/youth clothing drive. This Sunday May 14, please bring your new or gently used children's and youth clothing to church. There will be a collection bin in the East Gathering area.

Collecting Items

We are collecting items for the United Methodist Committee on Relief, which will be taken to Iowa Annual Conference in Ames and loaded onto a truck. These items include school kits for children, cleaning supplies, personal items, baby items, paper goods, and many others. You can pick up the list of items on the ministry table in the East Gathering Area, and return new items to the church by Sunday, June 4. Questions, contact Susan Guy, sguy@whumc.org.

Special Last Day for Sunday School May 21.

The whole congregation will be exploring "One Earth, One Future." Please see the articles pertaining to this amazing day throughout the newsletter.

Vacation Bible School 2006

Adventure of the Treasure Seekers, Exploring God's Promises.
Register your children at the church or online as soon as possible so that we may obtain an accurate amount of supplies for the program. Cassette tapes of VBS songs will be available for order at registration time. Vacation Bible School is Monday, July 31–Friday, August 4, 5:30-7:45 p.m.



Cyclepaths on RAGBRAI

The Cyclepaths are again sending a small (but hardy) team to RAGBRAI. The group will be traveling by RV and need host families who could provide them with a parking space in the overnight towns, including: Sergeant Bluff, IDA Grove, Audubon, Marengo, and Coralville. The RV is self-contained, but an electric hookup would be welcome if available. If you have recommendations, please get in touch with Ron Roberts at (515) 242-0015 or ron@cruiseholidaysiowa.com.



Take a Break on June 5

We will not be serving the meal at Churches United Shelter on June 5, as there is another group coming from out of town to serve that evening. We will resume our regular schedule on July 5. Thank you for making this such a priority ministry for Walnut Hills!

Introducing Administrative Council

There are many ways to serve at Walnut Hills. One way is to serve on a committee. For the next few weeks we will highlight one of the many committees/meetings.

Administrative Council – This council is the top decision-making group in the church. They meet every other month and at occasional other times when a situation requires their attention. Membership includes the chairperson, vice-chairperson, recording secretary, church treasurer, member and alternate to the Iowa Annual Conference, chairpersons of the other administrative committees, some at-large, members and the pastors. The other administrative committees meet in the months when the Administrative Council does not meet.

This Sunday, May 14, 2006

DOUG PETERS' MESSAGE: "A Safe Place for a People Yet Unborn"

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 22:25-31

MUSIC: Adult Choir, Tom Caudron, Jolie Prentice & Martha Schut/CAP Kids 10:45

**5th Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day**

With Our Children

CAP singing this Sunday, May 14 at 10:45 service.

Sunday School Rooms May 21:

- ◆ 3 year olds in room 103.
- ◆ 4 year olds in room 109.
- ◆ 5 year olds, Kindergarten through 2nd Grade in room 108.
- ◆ 3rd & 4th Grades in room 004.
- ◆ 5th & 6th Grades in room 005.

With Our Youth

Sunday School: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

- ◆ 7th Graders meets from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. in room 003 - lower level.
- ◆ 8th Grade Confirmation Bible Study room 007-008.
- ◆ Freshman Club for 9th Graders Koth Library.
- ◆ 10-12th Grade in the Sr. High youth room.

On May 21 in place of regular Sunday School classes at 9:30, youth will join the adults in the Celebration Center to hear speakers discuss the environment. Walnut Hills Justice Ministry Team is sponsoring this special morning entitled "One Earth, One Future...A continuing conversation." This concludes Sunday School for this year - see you September 10!

In Our Prayers

- ✠ Baptisms of Lauren Kate & Grant Miller Gilmore on May 7. Parents are Ryan & Holly Gilmore.
- ✠ Jeannie Kuskulis, home healing.
- ✠ Charlie Reid, treatments.

With Our Adults

Our new Women's Spirituality Group will be meeting on Monday, May 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. All women are welcome!

With Sr. Adults

Friday mornings at Silvercrest - 10:30-11:00 a.m. trauma doll stuffing and visiting. Join us for fun, and fellowship with residents at Silvercrest Assisted Living.

Illahee Hills Retirement Residence will be helping with the Trauma Dolls ministry the second Tuesday of each month.

Trauma Doll Ministry at Silvercrest and Illahee Hills is a partnership with the North West Kiwanis. Call Pam at 270-9226 for information on any of these programs.

With Our Music

MUSIC ON SUNDAYS...

- May 14 Mother's Day - Adult Choir, Tom Caudron, Jolie Prentice & Martha Schut
10:45 CAP Kids
- May 21 Soul Singers

Satellite Services

Sunday afternoons ~ Silvercrest Assisted Living - 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday mornings ~ Worship at Timberline Care Facility Deerfield -9:30-10:15 a.m.
4th Sunday afternoons ~ Worship at Illahee Hills Retirement Residence - 3:30 p.m.

Groups Gather

- ◆ **Cyclepaths:** Sunday, May 21, 1:30 p.m. Great Western Trail Cummings/Martindale. For more information, call Bob Myers (515) 988-9909 or visit the Cyclepaths webpage at www.whumc.org/cyclepaths.htm.
- ◆ **Women's Night Out:** Monday, May 22, at 6:30 at Champps in Jordan Creek Town Center area! Check the STUB
- ◆ **Men's Round Table:** Wednesday, May 24, 11:45 a.m., Walnut Hills. Host is Sam Harris.
- ◆ **Knitting Ministry:** Sunday, June 4 at 4:00 p.m. Questions? Contact Susan Guy, at sguy@whumc.org or 270-9226.

Service to Others

Preparers and/or servers are needed for **CFUM Low Income Meal Program** (located at Trinity) Tuesday, May 16 and **Meals for the Homeless** (Churches United Shelter) Wednesday, July 5. Check the STUB.

Jewish Food Fair on Sunday, May 21 at 11 a.m.—5 p.m. Located at Temple B'nai Jeshurun, 5101 Grand Ave., DM. Tickets are \$12 at the office or door. Call 274-4679 to get your tickets.

DMARC Service Awards: The Des Moines Area Religious Council's Service Awards Luncheon will take place on Tuesday, May 23 from 11:45 until 1:15 at the Holiday Inn Conference Center, 6111 Fleur Drive, Des Moines. Tickets are \$25, of which \$10 is a tax-deductible gift to DMARC. Tickets can be purchased by calling the DMARC office at 277-6969.

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Waukee will take place from Friday, June 9 at 6:00 p.m. until Saturday, June 10 at 6:00 a.m. at the Waukee High School stadium complex. For information, please contact Patty Myers, Chairperson, at 515-987-6776 or MYERS2343@aol.com.

Walnut Hills United Methodist Church
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Des Moines, IA 50323

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Walnut Hills Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday, 8:30 a.m. to Noon

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ca
Doug Peters, Pam Deeds & Susan Guy,
Ministers
ca
8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday Services
ca
9:30 a.m. Sunday School