

Bridge Communities and DG First United Methodist Church

The Garden Walk is a fundraiser benefitting the Bridge Board of the First United Methodist Church in Downers Grove (DGFUMC). The Bridge Board is a program partner with Bridge Communities, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose focus is to transform the lives of homeless families by guiding them to a better future. This mission is accomplished by providing housing, mentoring, direction, hope, encouragement and a stable environment so that families may become self-sufficient and sustain their independence. Every family resides in DuPage County.



All proceeds from the Garden Walk support the work of the DGFUMC Bridge Board. For the past seven years, Garden Walk expenses have been covered by the generous donations of various community sponsors. We are seeking sponsorships from our corporate community to help cover marketing expenses such as designing, printing, advertising and distributing advertising materials.

Homeowners are graciously sharing their private gardens for the benefit of formerly homeless families.

Ticket sales begin June 9 at these locations:

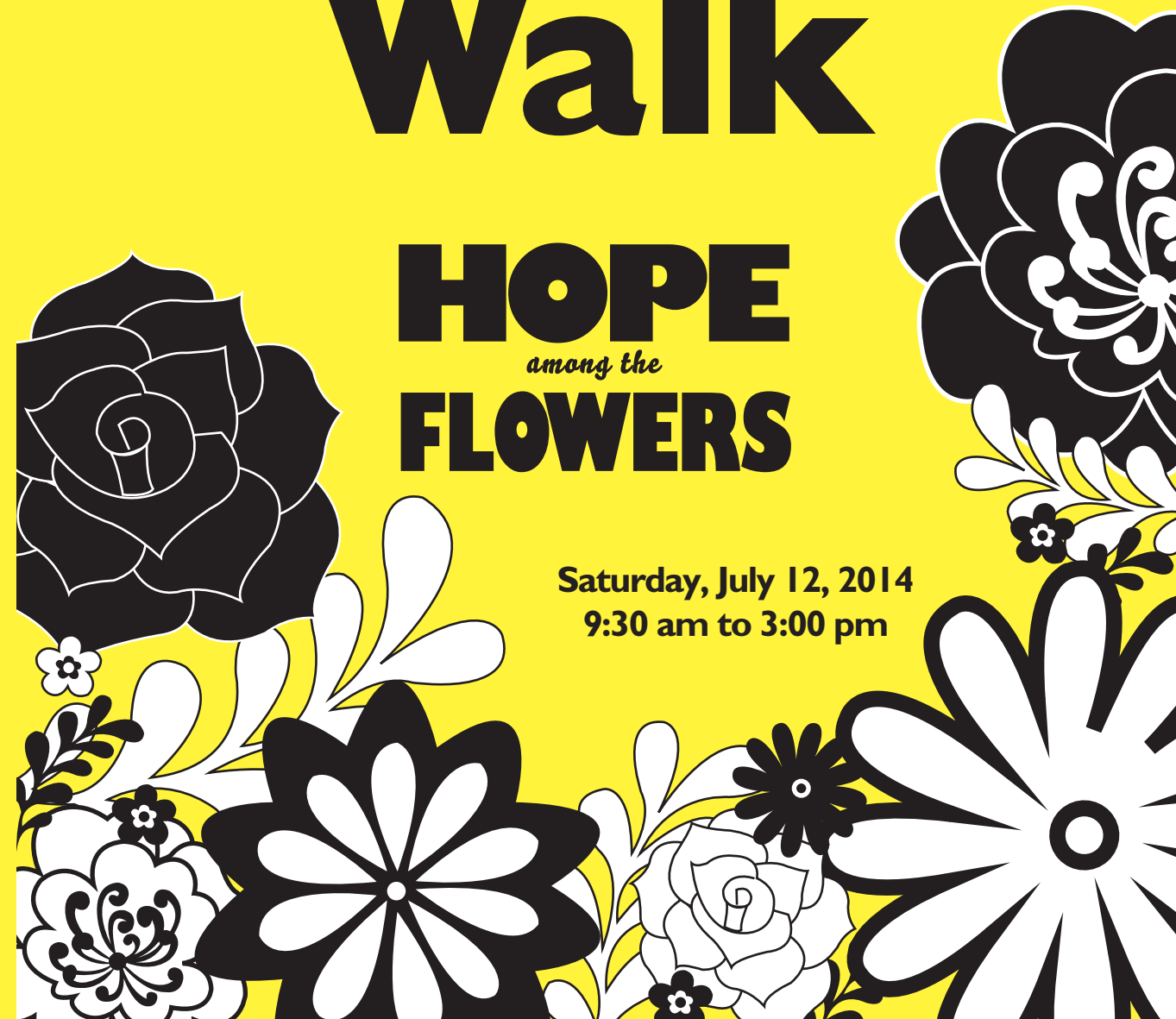
Anderson's Bookstore 5112 Main Street, Downers Grove, IL	630.963.2665
Avec Panache 1010 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove, IL	630.963.1010
Community Bank of Downers Grove 1111 Warren Avenue, Downers Grove, IL	630.968.4700
Growing Place 25 Plank Road, Naperville, IL	630.355.4000
Phillip's Flowers and Gifts 1512 Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL	630.969.9300
Phillip's Flowers and Gifts 528 N. Cass Avenue, Westmont, IL	630.719.5212
Vern Goers Greenhouse 5620 S. Oak Street, Hinsdale, IL	630.323.1085
Online at www.dgfumc.org/gardenwalk/	

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 on July 12.

Downers Grove Garden Walk

HOPE *among the* FLOWERS

Saturday, July 12, 2014
9:30 am to 3:00 pm



Garden Descriptions

Garden #1

- * A Chanticleer pear canopy welcomes you to this peaceful front patio space with river birch, weeping cherry, Endless Summer hydrangeas, Knock Out roses, Green Velvet boxwoods and feather reed grasses providing a nice mixture of color and texture throughout the seasons.
- * Mature Colorado blue spruce and a red bud tree invite you into a back yard with a fire feature, seat walls and a pergola. The pondless waterfall cascades down the natural grade of the land with Tigers Eyes sumac, serviceberry, purple maiden grasses, sedum and many shade perennials surrounding the falls.
- * A Japanese maple graces the main patio area, which includes an outdoor kitchen that is surrounded by river birch arborvitaes and a Norway spruce tree. The perimeter of the yard features sumac, oak, maple, beech and quaking aspen blended to create a natural forest feel. A hammock strung between two honeylocusts is a great place to listen to the waterfall and relax.

Garden #2

- * This unique garden is lovingly created from yearly Mother's Day gifts! The highlight of the front garden are the roses that climb 20 feet up the facade of the home. William Baffin and New Dawn roses intermingle with a variety of clematis around the front door. Another yellow rose climber opens from time to time with a surprise of color. The window boxes complete the beautiful curbside effect of this home.
- * The steep side garden contains drought-resistant shrubs, trees and roses. The back garden highlights some beautiful large rocks that have been hand picked for their interesting detail.
- * The small pond into which the neighborhood kids throw their "school fair" fish is surrounded by many lovely perennials, all of which work together to enhance this peaceful retreat.

Garden #3

- * As you enter this surprising, natural garden you walk through vinca, ferns and columbine shaded by a pair of mature maple trees. The tiered deck with its grapevine covered pergola affords the perfect vista of this private backyard oasis.
- * A stairway draws you down into a butterfly-honey bee garden replete with daylilies, bee balm, phlox, geranium, and woody shrubs. Shades of pink butterfly bushes, purple cone flowers, cleome, and rose campion entice you to an area with a pond surrounded by joe pye weed, honeysuckle and native grasses.
- * A fire pit made of reclaimed stone with a backdrop of ferns, celandine poppies, hydrangeas and hostas can be enjoyed on cool, crisp evenings. A rustic bridge crosses St. Joseph Creek and a path lined with Jacob's ladder, Virginia blue bells, May apples, and trillium leads you deeper into the woods. The solitude of this natural area makes you hesitant to turn back.

Garden #4

- * Perennial gardens on either side of the front drive include creeping thyme, caramel heuchera, shasta daisies, wood betony, coreopsis, roses and black-eyed Susan interspersed with several varieties of hydrangeas and punctuated by two tall evergreens. Three large hydrangeas are breathtaking when in bloom.
- * A mulched path meanders alongside the house passing the raised beds of a vegetable garden. The rear patio is surrounded by a mixture of many shrubs and perennials including catmint, daylilies, lamb's ear and lavender. Sedum and asters emerge in Autumn so there is something to enjoy in every season.

Garden #4 continued

- * The gazebo is framed by clipped boxwoods in a circular layout intersected by stepping stones in a cruciform shape. Roses and clematis climb the posts of the gazebo surrounded by bushy coreopsis, lavender, dianthus, and ornamental grasses. A weeping cherry tree accents the rear of this garden oasis. The shady back area includes naturalized ferns and solomon's seal, which lead to woods and the creek beyond.

Garden #5

- * This well-designed, dapple-shaded front yard garden is home to Japanese maples, hydrangeas and a variety of multi-colored hostas. Most all of the remaining property contains charming woodland gardens that are interspersed with both deciduous and evergreen trees, boxwood shrubs that provide year-round greenery, panicle hydrangeas and perennials such as 'Annabelle' hydrangeas,, astilbes, hostas, ferns and a variety of groundcovers.
- * The back deck overlooks multiple shades of green foliage that evoke peacefulness from the hustle and bustle outside. A stone path meanders through the garden and leads to a serene sitting area and fire pit. Further back into the garden is another small space where visitors can sit, relax and take in the tranquility of the garden.
- * Annuals such as coleuses, red impatiens, and other shade plants add color and offer additional texture. In springtime, tulips and daffodils add splashes of color before the garden explodes in "green."

Garden #6

- * This lovely front yard, anchored by two oak trees and an ash tree with sweet autumn clematis winding throughout, is home to hues of blue and green hostas, 'Autumn Joy' sedums, woodland poppies, purple cone flowers, heucheras, phlox, black-eyed Susans and liatris. Knock Out roses and grasses add additional color and texture. 'Limelight' and 'Little Lime' hydrangea, white fringe tree and Japanese maple border the house along with a tri-color beech planted in memory of the homeowner's mother.
- * A rock garden along the driveway featuring a weeping Norway spruce, miniature cacti and creeping groundcover leads to the elevated back yard. Shaded by a forest of trees, a weeping 'Louisa' crab, 'Sike's' dwarf oakleaf hydrangeas and cardinal flowers attract hummingbirds. Pennisetum and 'Francee' hostas join in the abundance.
- * Bordered beds contain an array of heucherellas, hostas, lungwort, corydalis, hellebores, columbines and anemones. A 'Bloodgood' Japanese maple, white pine, blue spruce and 'Skyrocket' junipers add year-round interest, along with shrubs of My Monet weigela, Pinky Winky hydrangea, thread-branch cypress and purple smoke bush.

Garden #7

- * A walk up the stone driveway and walkway leads to the owners' tranquil garden. From the screened porch, morning coffee through evening meals are enjoyed while taking pleasure in the calming surroundings.
- * Lovely hemlocks line the back of the yard while a beautiful pondless waterfall provides entertainment as robins and bluejays splash in the water. A pet memorial to an old friend proudly sits at the edge of the water feature.
- * A variety of plants sit lush and green throughout this shade garden and flourish along with the trees and shrubs to provide a continuous display throughout the seasons. A variety of hostas, ferns, boxwoods and other shade garden perennials add to the relaxing nature of this intimate garden.