



Chalice Tidings

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
120 North McArthur Street, Macomb, IL 61455-2101

Volume XXX, Issue 3

March 1, 2026

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Alejandro Solis
A/V Intern

Karsyn Trusley
Nursery Attendant

Linda Webb
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Darren Woods
Choir Director

LENT IS **MISERABLE... OR IS IT?**

03/01 - John 3:1-5 MISERABLE CHAT	03/08 - John 4:1-5 MISERABLE THIRST
03/15 - John 9:1-12 MISERABLE BLINDNESS	03/22 - John 11:35 MISERABLE GRIEF
03/29 - Matthew 21:6-11 MISERABLE CELEBRATION	

Worship @ 10:30 am



Lent is **MISERABLE... or is it?**

03/01 - Ephesians 4:29-32
The Miserable Receives Forgiveness

03/08 - Micah 6:8
The Miserable Has Purpose

03/15 - Matthew 26:36-39 The Miserable Prays	03/22 - John 3:1-5 The Miserable is Confounded
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03/29 - Matthew 21:6-11
The Miserable
Shouts Hosanna!

Worship @ 6:30 pm



Kelly's Korner

If you are like me, the news of the world has you down, at the very least. Overwhelmed, at worst. News reports and briefings and partisan positioning do not bring hope. Social media can be more exasperating than comforting. You may be asking, "What can I do?"

My suggestion is to keep it small. Focus on immediate moments and opportunities. Truly see the people around you. Live love. Here are a few thoughts.

Continue with your Lenten promises, intentionally focusing on growing closer to God and understanding Jesus' ways better.

Pray. For our troops. For all people in harm's way (and that list is growing by the hour). For world leaders to find ways to end conflict quickly and with enduring peace.

Limit time spent on news stations and social media. I am not suggesting you should not be informed or that you should not check in on family and friends. I am suggesting mental health will greatly benefit by lessening time with frustrating and overwhelming and angering interactions.

Be humble enough to admit that your particular perspective may not be 100% correct and know that it is not your job set other people straight.

Hug your loved ones. Tell your family and friends, "I love you."

Find ways to live kindness. Bring in a neighbor's trash can. Buy a stranger a soda or coffee or meal. Extravagantly tip a server. Smile more. Look for small ways to help others.

Invite people to church, especially if they seem to be struggling or overwhelmed.

Create space. To be silent. To pray. To meditate. To just be.

A famous song says "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me." Jesus says, "Blessed are the peacemakers." May you provide peace for others in these turbulent times. May you discover personal peace.

Hope to see you soon.

Peace,



March Event Calendar

March 1: Emergency Cupboard Collection

March 1: Soup Cook-Off - 5:30 pm

March 4: Lenten Lunch & Learn - 12:15 pm @ *Fellowship Hall*

March 7: Disciples Men - 8:00 am @ *Old Dairy*

March 8: Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 11: Lenten Lunch & Learn - 12:15 pm @ *Fellowship Hall*

March 17: St. Patrick's Day

March 18: Lenten Lunch & Learn - 12:15 pm @ *Fellowship Hall*

March 19: Third Thursday Groups

- Meditation - 12:15 pm @ *Parlor*
- Men's Group - 7:00 pm @ *Buffalo Wild Wings*

March 24: Ladies Luncheon - 11:00 am @ *Old Dairy*

March 24: Disciples Women General Meeting - 12:00 pm @ *Old Dairy*

March 25: Lenten Lunch & Learn - 12:15 to 12:45 pm @ *Fellowship Hall*



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME BEGINS!**



MARCH 8, 2026

Disciples Women
Char Carden, President

Disciples Women will resume their meetings in March. The board will meet the first week of March. DW Ladies Luncheon will meet on **Tuesday, March 24th at the Old Dairy**. Luncheon starts at 11:00 am. **DW Meeting starts at noon**. All ladies are welcome. Please join us for lunch where we enjoy conversations and laughs. Our meeting is short and follows with a devotion. **You are welcome to come to one or both!** WE hope to see YOU!

May God give you...
For every storm, a rainbow...
For every tear, a smile..
For every care, a promise...
And a blessing in each trial...
For every problem life sends...
A faithful friend to share...
For every sigh, a sweet song...
And an answer for each prayer...
(Irish Blessing)



Macomb Chamber of Commerce Awards Night

Several of our church members attended the Macomb Area Chamber of Commerce Awards Night on February 5, 2026, an annual event that celebrates the dedication, leadership, and impact of local businesses, organizations, and individuals who help strengthen the Macomb community. The evening provided a wonderful opportunity for connection, encouragement, and community pride as attendees celebrated the accomplishments of local leaders while representing our church and supporting the ongoing work being done throughout our city. Events

like this remind us of the importance of being actively engaged in the community and building meaningful relationships beyond our church walls, and we are grateful for the members who took time to attend and serve as ambassadors for our congregation.



Pictured left to right: Jack McKinnon, Jan Rockwell, Anne Ingersoll, Rev. Kelly Ingersoll, Sally Vigezzi, Julie Meyer, and Dan Meyer

Environmental Stewardship

Kathy Fischer and Jack McKinnon

Most people only wear about 20 %of the clothes they have in their closets. What can you do to dispose of unwanted clothing? Here are a few ideas:

1. **Sell** unwanted clothes in good condition at local consignment shops. They are always looking for brand name clothing.
2. **Swap** your unwanted clothing within your social group.
3. **Donate** your unwanted clothing to local organizations. You can take clothing to Good Will, Salvation Army, WIU, Cross Church, The Newman Center International Student Closet, and the Wesley Foundation.
4. **Recycle** used clothing. Make a quilt, use old T shirts for rags instead of paper towels, or compost natural fibers.
 - a. The US contributes 21 billion pounds of textile waste to landfills.
 - b. It takes up to 40 years for leather shoes to decompose, rubber soled boot 80 years, nylon fabric 30-40 years, wool clothing 5 years, and cotton 3 months.

This only scratches the surface of what you can do to dispose of unwanted textile waste. Be creative and consider doing some research before disposing of clothing.

Elders

Jack McKinnon, Chair

The Elders along with many volunteers who cooked and delivered dinner for the Souper Bowl of Caring meal on Super Bowl Sunday. We prepared over 100 meals. The meals consisted of baked spaghetti, garlic bread, garden salad, and a brownie.

Thank you to all who donated food and money to make this another huge success. Over twenty folks met at the church on Saturday, February 7, 2026 to begin preparations. With so many volunteers, we were able to complete everything including cleanup in only three hours. That must be a record! Then, on Sunday afternoon, another crew of volunteers met to warm up the spaghetti and assemble the meals for delivery, and write encouraging notes that were attached to the inmate's meals. Again, thank you to all the volunteer crews! We couldn't have done it without you!

Here is a breakdown of the meals served.

Jail Inmates and Staff: 35; Police Staff: 8; Fire Department Staff: 6; Lifeguard Ambulance Staff: 5; Samaritan Well (both locations): 15; Shut-Ins: 9; Carry Outs: 5; Sunday Volunteers: 10; Total: 93

Many of the Sunday volunteers took food home as well. We still had two full pans of baked spaghetti left over. We found places to give those pans of food away.

Any leftover donated money will be donated to the Souper Bowl of Caring collection that goes to the Emergency Cupboard.

Table Talks with Phillips Theological Seminary Coming to Eureka

This Spring, Phillips Theological Seminary will partner with the Christian Church in Illinois & Wisconsin to host *Table Talks with Disciples in IL-MI-WI* at Eureka Christian Church. Taking place April 24-26, 2026, this special weekend gathering invites clergy and lay leaders into thoughtful conversation around Scripture, ministry, and our shared Disciples identity.

Through engaging sessions led by Phillips faculty, participants will explore meaningful and sometimes challenging biblical texts, reflect on table theology and communal life, and connect with others from across the region. If you have a passion for learning, theological reflection, and growing deeper in your faith, this is a wonderful opportunity to gather, listen, and engaged in faithful conversation together.

Lenten Lunch & Learn

Join us each Wednesday during Lent for our *Lenten Lunch & Learn*, held from 12:15 to 12:45 pm, February 25th through April 1st in the Fellowship Hall. This six week gathering offers a meaningful midday pause to reflect on Scripture, deepen your faith, and share fellowship with one another during the Lenten season.

Bring your lunch and enjoy eating together as we learn and grow in community. Feel free to come early and stay as your schedule allows. Whether you attend one week or all six, we hope you'll make this time of reflection and connection part of your Lenten journey.

Lenten Lunch & Learn

**Every Wednesday from 2/25 - 4/1
12:15-12:45pm**

Week One Grace Well Received
Ephesians 2:8-10

Week Two When Grace and Justice Collide
2 Timothy 3:14-17

Week Three The Poor are Always With You
Matthew 25:44-45

Week Four The Gift of Love
1 Corinthians 13:13

Week Five Building the Barricade
Matthew 5:43-48

Week Six A Hopeful Vision
Revelation 22:1-5

**Bring your lunch & enjoy eating in fellowship.
Feel free to come early and stay till you're finished.
Located in the Fellowship Hall.**



There's A Place For You

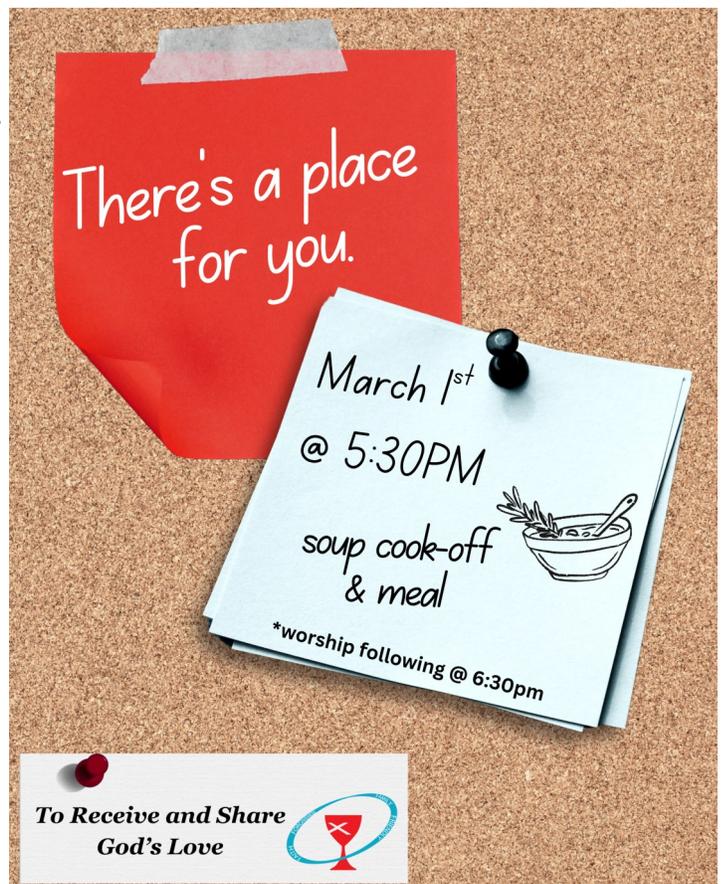
By David Behymer, member of the Evangelism Committee

Most of us reading this article probably have seen many MANY advances in communication during our lives. Some probably remember the hand crank telephones that hung on our wall and the old “party lines”; others may remember their first rotary dial phone being installed in their home and yet others have no clue what either of those “old-fashioned” gadgets are!

In this modern day, a cell phone seems to be constantly attached to our hand and we go nowhere without it. With the modern cell phones come the many social media apps that are intended to help us stay in touch with our friends and hopefully, be accurately informed about what is going on in the world. Most likely, we all have referred to one of those apps quite often to help us feel informed about the latest personal, local, and worldwide news.

As you are probably aware, our Evangelism team has been promoting “There’s A Place For You” which is an attempt to reach out to our members and friends of First Christian Church, showing them how they can be involved in our church and other activities in so many different ways. The word “**involved**” is a scary word for some, but seriously, each of us can be **involved** at whatever level we choose. You could volunteer to help with the Emergency Cupboard; you could volunteer to host a coffee time in our parlor on Sunday morning; you could join our choir or volunteer to help with the landscaping and lawn care during the summer. The list goes on and on, and that has been the point of our “There’s A Place For You” initiative.

With the Easter season quickly approaching, I would like to challenge everyone to use your social media to share exactly WHY you love First Christian Church here in Macomb. Then offer an invitation to your friends to feel free to join us at either of our worship services on Sunday or any other church related activity that they may like to experience. Peace and Love to each of you!





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Birthdays & Anniversaries

Chalice Tidings (USPS #324-120) is published monthly by the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 120 North McArthur Street Macomb, IL 61455-2101 Periodicals Postage Paid at: Macomb, IL Post Office

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:
Chalice Tidings,
120 N. McArthur,
Macomb, IL 61455-2101

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