

Chalice Tidings

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

Volume XXVI, Issue 14

April 14, 2016

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Church World Service's Blanket Sunday

Disciples Women is once again taking part in raising funds for Church World Service's Blanket Sunday.

Some 8,000 congregations and groups across the US hold CWS Blanket events raising funds for:

- Blankets, tents food and other emergency supplies for disaster victims.
- Tools and seeds for refugees returning home to replant their fields.
- Wells for families living in drought areas to provide safe drinking water and crop irrigation.
- Literacy training for women struggling to realize their potential.

To give you an idea of the scope of this project, in 2015, 300 blankets were given in the Bahamas, 210 blankets were donated in Mexico, and 1,200 blankets were distributed in Serbia. Across the states 3,600 blankets were donated to victims of disaster situations.

It seems like hardly a week goes by that we do not hear of some disaster worldwide. Please consider helping out with this worthy cause.

Thank you!

Kelly's Korner

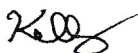
I must admit, I'm not much of a fisherman. I can cast pretty well. It's the bait part and the taking the fish off the line part I'm not so good at. I'm pretty good at eating fish. While growing up, I can remember my family having lots of fish fries. My grandmother and other relatives about her age loved to fish. We'd meet in Cyril, Oklahoma at my Uncle Fred's house and fry the fish that had been caught by the older generations. Probably, 40 or so of us cousins and aunts and uncles and grandparents would get together.

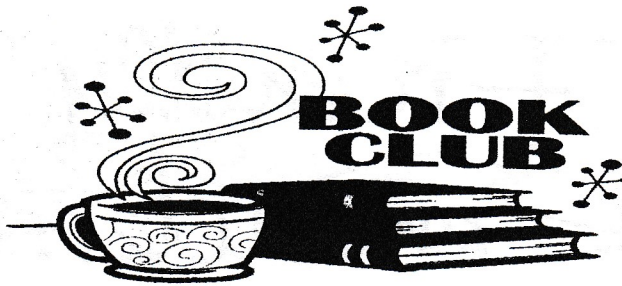
My grandmother, made the hush puppies. She could barely get a batch made before they'd be gone. Over the years she learned to keep people away from where she was working so that she could make all the hush puppies and set them out at one time. Mema—our name for her—was a pretty smart woman. You know what? She never shared that hush puppy recipe with anyone.

I never really saw the love and labor that went into catching all the fish. I never helped clean the fish. But, like many of my cousins and siblings, I sure enjoyed the eating. Our fish fries were never really about the food, though. They were more like a holiday. They may have even resembled communion. Gathering everyone together one more time to laugh, sing, play games, share stories and make memories. I sometimes miss those days. I definitely miss those who have left us and could no longer attend a fish fry should we even attempt to have one.

Our second (and last) sermon in the series *Jesus Sightings* will focus on the last chapter of the gospel of John. This passage has some great stories about the disciples fishing and then having conversation with Jesus. It is also the third and last appearance of Jesus to the disciples. He repeatedly says to Peter *Feed my sheep*. We will consider Jesus' commands to cast and feed to the disciples. Are these commands we should pay attention to still? Probably. Hope to see you Sunday!

Peace,





Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet

This is a historical novel which is a heart rendering story about Henry Lee, a Chinese American 6th grader and Keiko Okabe, a young Japanese American girl who formed a bond of friendship and innocent love. They worked together in the school cafeteria in Seattle, Washington, where American students showed prejudice toward them and a few students bullied them. The year was 1942 when Japanese families were sent to internment camps during WWII. Keiko's family was sent to one. Many of the families stored their precious belongings in the basement of the Panama Hotel. The Okabe family stored some of their possessions, and 40 years later, Henry searched for these belongings of the Okabe family. A moving story of love lost and found again!

I was so impressed with their story that I found an old email address and emailed a Western Japanese student Joe had taught in 1948! His family had been interned, and Joe thought highly of Henry. He answered me, and I was so glad I contacted him. Now I have a new-old friend!

Mary Stipanowich

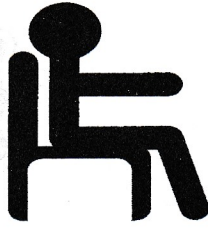
Friendly Reminders

May is our month to stock the shelves for Loaves & Fishes at the Presbyterian Church. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the parlor kitchen. Thanks to everyone for your help!

Christian Education has set May 1st as graduation Sunday. The graduates of 8th grade, high school and college will be honored during service and there will be a reception for them after church. These are the graduates we are aware of at this time, 8th grade--Brianna Cangro, High School--Maddie Dace, Natalie Workman and Halie Runner. College--Hannah Runner and Mia Iliopoulos. If there are others, please let Jack McKinnon know by April 15th.

Starting in late April, the newsletter will only be sent once a month. Therefore, in the last week of April, the May newsletter will arrive in your home. Debbie is accepting newsletter items now, so please get them to her as soon as possible. If you prefer to have your newsletter emailed, let her know. **There will be no newsletter the week of April 21.** We will be transitioning to a monthly newsletter. If you have any questions about anything in the newsletter, please feel free to call me.

Join the Spirit Sisters **Monday, May 2, 2016, at 7 pm** for an evening of painting, snacks, and fun! Explore your spiritual side while you paint! \$10.00 holds your spot and covers all supplies. For more information and to make reservation, please contact Sue Adams, sueadams99@yahoo.com by **April 25th**.

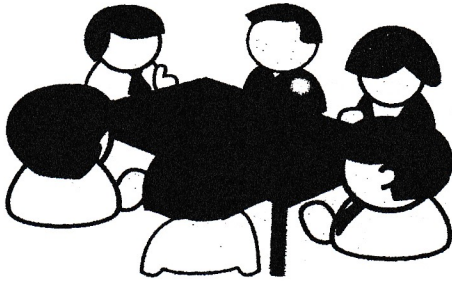


FREE Chair Yoga Class will be offered each Wednesday and Friday in April from 8:30-9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Class started *this* Wednesday, April 13th. You don't need to have any prior experience! Improve your strength, flexibility (No, we won't try to bend like pretzels!), and mental health in a peaceful environment. Call me at 421-0540 or email me at anneingersoll@gmail.com if you plan to attend or if you have any questions.

Although nothing is required for this class, if you have a yoga mat or yoga block, bring it! You can wear comfortable clothing or your street clothes.

Wanted: Pictures of your parents to display in the window across from the office, for the month of May and June. Please put their names and yours on the back of the pictures. Leave them in the outer office in the basket on the desk. I will be collecting until the end of April and returning the end of June. Joyce Randall

Chancel Flowers: Do you want to provide flowers for the chancel? Please contact Nancy Reed or Karen Chatterton.



Community Prayer Breakfast

A **Community Prayer Breakfast** is being organized to celebrate **World Day of Prayer in May**. Three communities of faith, **Christian, Jewish, Muslim**, will join to celebrate our unity and promote our understanding through prayer and conversation on **Thursday, May 5th at 8:00 am.**

The special event will be hosted by Mayor Inman, have President Thomas as speaker, and feature music by Kay & Don Norton. The prayer breakfast will be held at Spoon River College Outreach Center.

There has been a table reserved for FCC. Please call Debbie to reserve a seat at the table. 309-837-6473

Reservations must be made by May 1st.

Prayer Shawl
Thursday, April 21, at 1:00 pm

Third Thursday Men's Group
Thursday, April 21, 7:30 pm
@ El Rancherito

Spring Leadership Retreat
Tuesday, April 26,
8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Martha Shemwell Group
Tuesday, April 26, 1:30 pm
Fellow ship Hall

Bertha Gilchrist Group
Tuesday, April 26, 7:00 pm

Itoko-Maeda Group
meets for dinner at Taco Bell
at 6 pm April 26, followed
by a meeting at 7:15 pm

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, April 17

Rod Burg` Opens the church
Rod Burg Drives the van
9:00 am Sunday School
10:00 am Coffee Fellowship
10:30 am Worship
2:00 pm Grand Prairie
4:00 pm Everly House
Elder: Patti Jones
Deacons: Rick Webster, Joan England
5:00 pm Chi Rho
5:00 pm Youth Group
8:00 pm College/Young Adult Group

Monday, April 18

6:00 pm Trustees
7:00 pm Church Board

Wednesday, April 20

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 21

6:30 pm Financial Peace
7:30 pm Third Thursday
@ ElRancherito

Sunday, April 24

Bill Butcher Opens the Church
John Carden Drives the van

April Birthdays

19th James Shank
Chris Dace
Sherri Wagner
20th Joshua Butcher
21st Jim West
26th Florence Washburn
27th Hanna Runner

April Anniversaries

27th Phyllis & Sam Shields





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PERIODICAL CHALICE TIDINGS

SERVING THIS WEEK OF April 17

- Worship Leader:** John Harmon
Elders: Eric Reed (bread), Grant Reed (cup)
Diaconate: Dorothy Loop, Kenny Rutledge, David Greathouse
Liz Burton, Rick Webster, Kim Cunningham
Balcony: Margaret & Griffin Taylor, Kathryn Rutledge
Preparatory: Marcia Higgins, Sharon Butcher, Leslie Trone
Front Door: John Trone
East Door: Leslie Trone
Balcony South: Colin Reed
Elevator: Jeanna Montgomery
Sanctuary Superintendent: Jonelle Schauble
Soundboard Tech: Grant Reed
Children's Moment: Kelly Ingersoll
Children's Church: Jeff & Esther Young
Coffee Fellowship Time: Judy Graves
Acolyte: Marissa Meunier
Hospital Caller: Mary Stipanowich
Vespers: Rick Webster & Joan England
Elder: Patti Jones
Financial Escort: Dean Rockwell