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June 2017

A Note from your Pastor:

Our food pantry is one of the more important ministries of this church. The Lord became human, and as such, He had a body along with a soul. Our calling as Christians is to care for the body along with the soul. We all play a role in our food pantry, but I have found my service to be more meaningful when I actually serve the people who come. Most often, I am the one handing out the numbers to control the crowd in our small space. It gives me a chance to see them, hear them, and speak to them.

Some of you are wondering why I'm headed back to Israel so soon after my previous trip. On my first trip, we focused primarily on the sites of interest for tourists. We stayed in nice hotels, and traveled in nice buses, and stayed together on nice roads. Our time with regular folks was limited and curtailed to some extent. The majority of our interactions with local people came from having to fend off vendors trying to ply their wares on the weakest among us.

This trip I am taking now is different. I am going with my seminary, and the main purpose of the trip is to encounter the real people of Israel and Palestine. While we will still be concerned about safety, we will spend a lot less time at the tourist traps and more time with regular folks. We will hear their stories, and see from their perspectives. It won't be a 30,000 feet overview. We will walk the stone-cobbled paths with them.

My trip will be halfway completed by the time you are reading this. I thank you all for allowing me to go on this trip and for your prayers for my safe travels. I will be keeping you in prayer as I journey as well.

Blessings,
Pastor Andy



Monthly **Food Pantry** Day is **June 9**. We will have our **King's Closet** upstairs at the Annex. We have clothes, other small items or produce for local people to take and use, if they need it. Bring items all month. It comes in free and goes out free, no charge. Anything left over will be taken to Good Will or South Side Missions.



Mostly Music Sunday (both services) and Potluck (after the 10:30 a.m. service). Fried chicken, drinks & table service will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. Want to share your talent? Contact Barb Waldrip (367-2892/bswaldrip@gmail.com) for 8:00 a.m. service and Judy Schaer (822-8770/jude187@msn.com) for 10:30 a.m. service.



Hero Central 2017 VBS prepares kids (2 yrs.—6th gr.) with special abilities to *Do good! Seek peace and go after it!* Ps. 31:14B (CEB). Kids learn God's heroes have Heart (Samuel Anoints David), Courage (Abigail), Wisdom (Jesus Goes to the Temple), Hope (Beatitudes), and Power (Pentecost). Grab your cape and get ready to fly with epic music, spectacular science, crafty crafts, heroic recreation, and fantastic Bible stories! Join us **July 10-14**. Please contact Joanne Helms if you would like to volunteer or if you have questions (822-8905).

ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE FOR MISSIONS

Mark your calendars for **July 26, 27 & 28**. Start collecting your 'treasures'!!

USED JEANS

If you have any **USED JEANS**, please bring them to the church. Tracy Arnold is collecting them for her mother's church to make rugs for the homeless.



Pastor Andy will be starting a group to help us meet our self-improvement goals for 2017. It will be called "**Our Better Selves**". Its goal is to support and encourage - not to chastise. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Andy with some suggestions for meeting dates and times.

CHURCH EQUIPMENT POLICY

Due to potential damage to our church equipment, our kitchen equipment needs to stay in our kitchen. The white tables can't leave the church property, and the white chairs can't leave the church building. We have metal chairs available. If you want to borrow them, please contact the church office.



- ◆ Shantel, the daughter of Mike Osenkarski, had her medical tests come back negative (NO breast cancer).
- ◆ Denise & Bob Miller celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary.
- ◆ The biopsy report for Amy Potter's sister Sarah Webster came out negative, no cancer.
- ◆ Matt Kirkham, made it home safely from TN on Saturday after spending a month, training with the National guard. He will be home 2 weeks before another 3 weeks of training with the Guard.



OUR PRECIOUS LIFE (monthly group for widows) is going on hiatus while Pastor Kristi is gone, unless there is a lay person who would want to partner with Pastor Andy to get the group going again.

Adult group **DIGGING DEEPER** is on **Sunday mornings** at 9:15a.m. We will be digging deeper into the Bible passage we hear that morning, deeper into what it means to follow Jesus, deeper into how God is at work in our own lives and the world. Please come with questions and a learning spirit. Bring your favorite Bible, or use the ones we have. Let's learn together!

KEEPING THE FLAME ALIVE will meet on the third Monday of the month (**June 19**) at 8:30 a.m. at a **Bob Evans**. Participants will need to bring their daily devotionals and their bibles. If you have questions please contact Pastor Andy via e-mail (try2hopp@msn.com) or cell (309-883-1422).

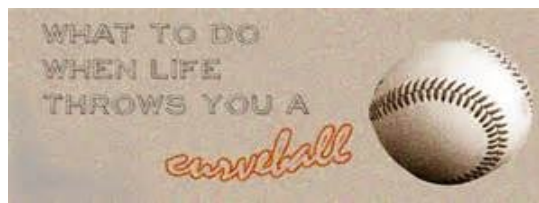


John Schaer is still collecting **ALUMINUM CANS** to recycle. Aluminum CANS only, no aluminum disposable pans or other items. If you have any, you may leave them in the entry area of the river side of the church. You may call John at 822-8770 if you would like him to pick them up. Once he gets a truck load, he will take them to the recycle center. Not only will this help the earth, but the money will go to the Church account.



If you would like your name added to the birthday list, have had an email address change or would like your email address added to any of the church email groups (1-receive announcements & newsletter, 2-receive prayer requests). See Judy Schaer, email at Jude187@msn.com or call at 822-8770. Also, check with other family members.

Submitted by: Judy Schaer, Worship Committee Chair



CURVE BALLS: Learn to hit curve balls, life rarely pitches straight. God can teach you how to swing. Open for anyone who would like to join. We meet on **June 12 & 26** at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining us or want more information, please contact Pastor Andy Hopp via e-mail (try2hopp@msn.com) or cell (309-883-1422).



10:30 a.m. **WORSHIP SERVICE HELPERS** are still needed. If you are interested in ushering, reading scripture, greeting or being an acolyte, please sign up on the Schedule Sheet in the back of the sanctuary.

We still need one **SUNDAY SCHOOL** teacher. We are working towards having two teachers per class. Please talk with Pastor Andy, Gale Allen or April Nauman if you'd like to help. Please help us raise the next generation of Christians.

The **PRAISE AND WORSHIP TEAM** is looking for singers and musicians. If you have any interest learning more, please contact Jarrod Doty at church, by email at jdoty69@gmail.com or by phone at 309.657.8904.

If you, or anyone you know, want to fill in on the **ORGAN** or **PIANO** occasionally, please text or call Carla Doty at 657-8903 or email at dougdoty@aol.com.

There is still room for more **CHOIR** participants. We meet on Wednesday evenings (to be announced) at 7pm. Anyone from 7th grade up to 100 years is invited to join us. If you think that you don't sing well enough and would like to try it anyway, please come. Other members will guide you along.

Also, we welcome special numbers: solos, duets (or any number of individuals), instrumentals and other forms of worship. Music plays a very important role in our worship experience. This is an opportunity to serve. You will feel blessed. Remember that there is **JOY IN SERVING JESUS**.

Submitted by: Judy Schaer, Worship Committee Chair



Be sure to check out website at riversedgeumc.org where you will find the newsletters, calendars and announcements regularly. If you see pictures that you are in and would like them removed, please let Pastor Andy or Judy Schaer know. The committee wanted pictures to depict the life of our church.

Check out our new QR code (Quick Response Code) at the end of the newsletter. You can use your smart phone to scan the code and check out our website. **Submitted by: Communications Committee**



congratulations

CLASS OF 2017

Samantha Dodwell	8 th grade, Metamora Grade School
Aubrey Gunzenheiser	8 th grade, Central Junior High School
Alex Hopp	8 th grade, Parkside Junior High School
Lexie Pemble	8 th grade, Riverview Grade School
Melanie Potter	8 th grade, Parkview School
Madison Cain	Dunlap High School
Rylee Mann	Metamora Township High School
Simon Northrip	Metamora Township High School
Jeri Rebholz	Metamora Township High School
Taylor Riggio Atherton	Metamora Township High School
Kyle Robertson	Metamora Township High School
Logan Webster	East Peoria Community High School
Dr. Bryana Mitchell	University of Missouri (Veterinary)
Alec Schaer	Illinois State University

thank you!

For your message

Rev. Brent Foster





The Publicity Committee is in the process of getting signs for the inside of the church. These will be coming soon. You may have already noticed the new signs on the front and back doors as well as in the restroom stalls. These signs will be changed monthly to inform you of current events happening at the church. ***Submitted by: Communications Committee***



Urgent Need! This month Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC) has sent almost 4,000 Cleaning Buckets , SO FAR, to Missouri and Illinois flood victims. We are running low on all Cleaning Bucket supplies, especially Bug Spray. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Monetary donations or supplies bought through **DollarDays** would be the best way to donate as they are shipped directly to MMDC at the Center's bulk prices.

Midwest Mission Distribution Center
P.O. Box 56, 1022 New City Road, Chatham, IL 62629
<http://www.midwestdistributiondc.org>
office@midwestdistributiondc.org

Our Dad

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it...Dad

Author Unknown

June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Annual Conference (AC)	9 9-11 a.m. Food Pantry/ King's Closet AC	10 AC
11 Sing & Savor 5:30 p.m. O.U.R. Barth's host @ Schaer's	12 7 p.m. Curve Balls	13 7 p.m. Ad Council	14	15	16	17
18	19 8:30 a.m. Keeping the Flame Alive @ Bob Evans	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 7 p.m. Curve Balls	27	28	29	30	

OUR MOTTO: "The Church That Cares"

OUR MISSION (our purpose): "Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ through our welcome, worship, and witness."

OUR VISION (what we hope to be): "We are a community of caring people striving to meet the spiritual and physical needs of our neighbors."

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Sunday 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

NURSERY:

Sunday 8-11:45 a.m. (infant-kindergarten)

SUNDAY SCHOOL GROUPS : 9:15-10:15 a.m.

D.O.C.K. (Preschool – 5th grade)

Youth (grades 6 – 12)

Digging Deeper (Adults)

CHOIR PRACTICE: (7th grade-Adult)

September through May

7 p.m. Wednesday evenings, as announced

O.U.R.: Outwardly Upwardly Righteously
(first Sunday of month)

CURVE BALLS SUPPORT GROUP:

7 p.m. 2nd & 4th Mondays

KEEPING THE FLAME ALIVE:

8:30 a.m. 3rd Monday

The greatest gift
I ever had
came from God
I call him Dad



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