



T H E M E S S E N G E R

November 2016

RiversEdge United Methodist Church

***** www.riversedgeumc.org *****

***** www.facebook.com/riversedgeumc.org *****

500 N. Chicago Street, Spring Bay, IL 61611-9118 – Phone: 309-822-8279

Editor: Amy Potter, Email: alp82673@yahoo.com

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Hopp
Cell: 309-883-1422
Email: try2hopp@msn.com

Pastor: Rev. Kristi Hopp
Cell: 309-573-3061
Email: krishopp@outlook.com

Secretary: Judy Schaer
Phone: 309-822-8770
Email: jude187@msn.com

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November

A Note from your Pastors:

It's by no means universal, but I've heard many people express their love for autumn because of the changing colors of the leaves. Living next to a river is a blessing, if you like to see the trees in all their brilliance. Driving home from Peoria seems to have one of the best views in the area. Driving to Hennepin from Princeton can also take one's breath away. There is a spot on the Rock Island bike trail near Princeville which treats its riders to a canopy of golden maple leaves.

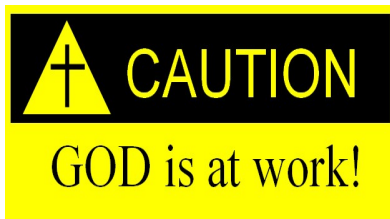
Reflecting on the changing leaves made us reflect on something else. Part of the beauty of fall is the fact that the leaves don't all change to the same color. The brilliant canopy of golden maple leaves would lose its specialness if every tree's leaves turned to gold. The sights just aren't the same without the reds and oranges along with the yellows. It is the diversity of nature which gives autumn its beloved status.

There is a scandal within the Christian church. It is the scandal of believing everyone has to be the same in order to be a "true" Christian. We have seen this ugly fruit on display during this election cycle. The name of Jesus has been used to berate people into choosing one side or the other, as if there is no diversity available in how we express our faith in Christ.

St. Paul rightly affirms how there are many gifts, but the same Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12.4) But just as we are each unique creations of God, we will have a unique approach to our faith in Christ. Yes, there are parts of our faith that are similar. Trees are trees, which have trunks and roots. But just like trees, we have commonalities and differences. Our differences aren't to be squelched. Rather, we each have a place in the canopy of autumn. Some of us are fiery reds, some of us are sunshiny yellow, others are mellow oranges, while still some of us are the solid ever-greens. We need all types in the church. It takes all of us to faithfully worship our God and to help God's will to be done on Earth.

So as you travel during these waning days of autumn, say a prayer for the Church of Jesus Christ. Ask God to help you understand Christians who think and act differently than you. May we all be given a more expansive vision of faithfulness to Jesus and His gospel, one that will help us fully realize that all truly means all.

Blessings,
Pastors Andy and Kristi Hopp



- ◆ Brian & Karen Doty's nephew, Alex Bigelow who is an officer in the Army, is home from South Korea. He will be stationed in Augusta, GA the beginning of November.
- ◆ Sharon McClellan is thankful that Butch's thyroid biopsy showed no cancer. Also, her daughter & son-in-law arrived safely in Slovenia.
- ◆ Val & Carl Huser are thankful for all the prayers offered for the safety from hurricane Matthew of Tim (son) and Angela, living on the coast of South Carolina.
- ◆ Mary Poignant reports that the food pantry served 66 families (approximately 200 individuals) on October 7.
- ◆ April Nauman is thankful for 'angels' that made the flight to Hawaii go better for the Dicken's family.
- ◆ Jaymie and Matt Freeman are expecting twins in May .
- ◆ Jarrod & Heidi Doty welcomed a new son Cash Wayne Doty (6 lbs, 18 inches).
- ◆ CUBS win!



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 Youth Group Program.



OUR PRECIOUS LIFE is a monthly group for widows, held at the church on the 3rd Monday. Participants will need to bring their bibles. If you have questions please contact Pastor Kristi via e-mail (krishopp@outlook.com) or cell (309-573-3061). This month's meeting is **November 21**.

Adult group **DIGGING DEEPER** will be 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 (**November 21**) at 8:30 a.m. at a **LePeep**. Participants will need to bring a copy of the Upper Room devotional magazine and their bibles. If you have questions please contact Pastor Andy via e-mail (try2hopp@msn.com) or cell (309-883-1422).



We are seeking the addresses for the following military individuals: Brian Rezak (Afghanistan), Tyler (graduated from boot camp), Alex Bigelow (South Korea), Isaac Braun (Arizona), Jordan Doty (Jacksonville, FL), Jason Lynn (Texas), Kyle Rummel (Florida), Tyler Graves (Afghanistan), Isaiah Herzog. Please call Joe Helms at 822-8770 or 635-3508 with the information.



Pastor Kristi is expanding the 'Divorce Support Group' to help others with varied challenges.

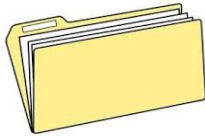
CURVE BALLS: Learn to hit curve balls, life rarely pitches straight. God can teach you how to swing.

This group is open for anyone who would like to join.

We meet on **November 14 and 28 at 7:00 p.m.** If you are interested in joining us or want more information, please contact Pastor Kristi Hopp via cell (309-573-3061) or e-mail (krishopp@outlook.com).

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.



UPDATING RECORDS

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 the any of the church email groups (1-receive announcements & newsletter, 2-receive prayer requests, 3 receive Pastor Andy's Thought for the week). See Judy, email at Jude187@msn.com or call at 822-8770. Also, check with other family members.

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.

Submitted by: Publicity Committee



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 (as announced) at 7 p.m.. 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



Every time we have Food Pantry Day, 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.



BLOOD DRIVE: Saturday, November 5, 8 a.m.-Noon. See Joe Helms (635-3508 or 822-8770) if you would like to help or sign up as a donor.



PULPIT EXCHANGE: Sunday, November 6, Pastor Kristi and Pastor Andy will be preaching at each other's churches.



We have received six names of Chaddock children for their Santa Express gift giving. We will be collecting donations during the month of November. The missions committee will meet **November 1 at 7 p.m.** for a meeting and then again on **November 29 at 7 p.m.** for a meeting. What the children want will be on the board in the back of the sanctuary on Nov. 6. Please look for a child or a gift that you would like to purchase for them. Please do not wrap the gifts. Please put the tag you got off the board securely with the gift. All gifts need to be back by Nov. 27 so we can pack them up for delivery by Dec 3. Thank you very much.

We made over \$2200 on the rummage sale. We have sent \$250 to UMCOR's ministry relief help to Haiti. We are still supporting Backpacks for Riverview school monthly. Thank you to all who helped and all who donated.

Submitted by: Deb Kamp, Missions Committee



O.U.R. is Sunday, **November 6** at 4 p.m. at the Cunninghams. Buzz and Diane are keeping their Halloween decorations up to celebrate a belated Halloween. Weather permitting they will have a wiener roast for those who want to partake. Plus pulled pork, coleslaw, potato dish, cast iron Dutch Oven cooked baked beans. And of course if there is a campfire, there has to be S'mores. Additionally there will be one of Joe's favorite deserts: Irish Cream Cake with Irish Cream Sauce.

Due to the time change and getting dark earlier we would like to start around 4 p.m. so we can enjoy the fall colors and the hot dog roasters can see what they are doing. Fun and games as usual.



for each new morning
with its light
for rest and shelter
of the night
for health and food
for friends and love
For Everything
thy goodness sends



ralph waldo emerson

SHOP FOR A CAUSE EVENT

HOW IT WORKS

1. Purchase a pouf bag my website
2. Donate the pouf bag to me to be filled with goodies (paid for through my earnings from your purchase and other donations) and handed out to parents and children at Children's Hospital of Illinois.
3. View pictures of your donations being dropped off in support of our cause.

WHY WE ARE DOING THIS AND WHAT'S IT FOR?

In 2011 my son was diagnosed with a severe heart condition leaving his life in danger. The doctors at the Children's Hospital of Illinois worked quickly and diligently and saved his life (pictures are of him above). We are doing this to give thanks to the staff and give something special back to the families there today.



WHEN

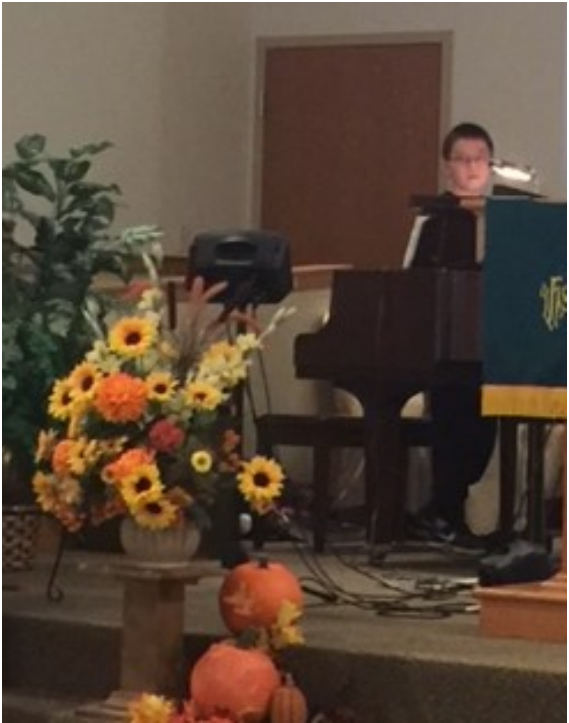
**Nov 26th, 2016
3pm – 5pm**

WHERE

**510 N. CHICAGO ST.
SPRING BAY IL**

WEB ADDRESS:

WWW.STELLADOT.COM/SITES/KRISTYGUEDE



November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7p.m. Missions Committee	2	3	4	5 8 a.m. - Noon Blood Drive
6 Set clocks back The Hopp's Pulpit Exchange 4 p.m. O.U.R. at the Cunningham's	7 7p.m. Trustees	8	9 7p.m. Choir Rehearsal	10	11 9-11a.m. Food Pantry/ King's Closet	12
13	14 7p.m. Curve Balls	15 7p.m. Ad Council	16 7p.m. Choir Rehearsal	17	18	19
20	21 8:30a.m. Keeping the Flame Alive (at LePeep) 7p.m. Our Precious Life	22	23	24 Happy Thanksgiving	25	26
27 1 st Sunday Advent	28 7p.m. Curve Balls	29 7p.m. Missions Committee	30 7p.m. Choir Rehearsal			

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)

YOUTH GROUPS: (6th – 12th grades)

Sunday Once a Month TBA

11:45 a.m. – Jr. High & Sr. High

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)

OUR PRECIOUS LIFE:

7 p.m. 3rd Monday

CURVE BALLS SUPPORT GROUP:

7 p.m. 2nd & 4th Mondays

KEEPING THE FLAME ALIVE:

8:30 a.m. 3rd Monday

Psalms 95:1,2,6

O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

