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November 2018

Hello Church Family,

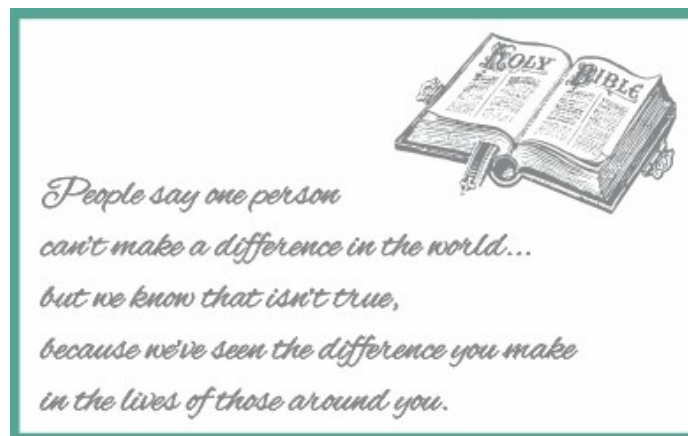
My heart is filled with mixed emotions. I'm looking forward to returning to "retired life," but I will miss seeing you all. I enjoyed my appointment at RiversEdge UMC. Your praise band and choir and the Doty Family Singers were always inspiring.

I have been working closely with your newly appointed pastor, Binu Peniel, desiring to make this transition as smooth as possible. But please remember; Binu is not Judy Doyle as Judy Doyle was not Floyd Blackard. Binu will do things differently than I have. Be flexible. God works through all people in a variety of ways and God speaks to each of us differently. Pray for Pastor Binu and his family as I'm sure he had been praying for you.

As much as I have enjoyed being with you and sharing in God's ministry with you, my tenure is over at RiversEdge. I will not be returning to RiversEdge to officiate funerals or weddings. I will not be returning to worship with you. I will always keep you in prayer and in my heart. (Exception: your administrative council and Mary Kathryn Pearce, the Illinois River District Superintendent, has requested that I attend your Charge Conference on Sunday, November 18).

God bless you and pray for God's Holy Spirit to continue to move among God's people in the RiversEdge UMC and surrounding communities.

Sharing in Ministry with Riversedge UMC,
Rev. Judy



Fall, the New Beginning in Life

Binu Peniel

Nature is always ready for a change. We often say spring is the best time for a new beginning. You and I may have a fresh start any moment we choose. Today with our own life in transition we want to propose the argument that fall is the best time for a new beginning. The trees lose their leaves; the plants turn brown and go away. The old make a way for the new. Any new changes can bring a mixed bag of emotions. Look around, the whole world just seems to glow and the colors are just so gorgeous. The red, yellow, green, gray and orange will never look the same. The question is do we want to celebrate the falling or the falling that gives the opportunity for a new life. No matter what, God is the one who brings hope, stability and renewal through passing seasons. God will give us strength for all that He calls us to do. He promises a harvest and a reward in the right time. As Christians we also look forward to advent, the Latin word *adventus* means arrival or coming.

As a family we had many new beginnings. One of them was five years back coming to the United States as an international research scholar. Studying at United Theological Seminary and living in Dayton, Ohio forced me personally beyond the academics to think and dream about the possibility of flying. Yes, the inspiration was the same in the air while being in the bicycle repair shop (by Wright Brothers) and while being in the library (UTS) that has the prototype of the first flight hanging above your head. I realized the invitation of God just like Apostle Peter who was invited to walk on the water. It also took a lot of faith, stick-to-itiveness and perseverance. It is not always the destinations that are suppose to excite us, but the journey. During my previous few years in Dayton, Ohio, there are two main areas in which I got involved. The first one was related to my academic project: "Bringing awareness about modern-day slavery to the church leaders and the congregation." Dayton, Ohio was ranked number one in the nation for human trafficking. Again, unfortunately, in 2016 Dayton became number one for the drug overdose. I started to work at the needle exchange project in the inner city. It was amazing that through that project we helped around 3000 people this year and distributed around 300,000 needles. At the same place, we identified individuals that need more help and a support system because addiction is an overdose issue. Along with an inner-city mission, we looked outside for a model that we can bring to Dayton because Dayton needed some hope. This led me (Program Director) to start Recovery Cafe Dayton last February 2018. Following a successful data-based approach from Seattle, in our pilot phase, our program served more than 600 meals and helped more than 50 individuals in their journey to recovery.

This week (Nov 04) we begin our new journey at RiversEdge United Methodist Church. Last month when the R-1 (religious minister) visa got approved through the immigration, the new opportunity to work under the leadership of Bishop Frank J. Beard and Rev. Mary Kathryn Pearce (DS) was confirmed. We know God is moving in that direction and we look forward to new strength in this new journey. We know God is putting us in the midst of lovely mothers, fathers, friends and faith models. Please continue to pray and support us through your prayers, love and blessings.

My ministerial journey begins with my personal response to God with humility and humbleness, "here I am Lord send me". This time I was in a little village, in Kerala, South India. Where I am today is preparing me for where God will take me tomorrow. I know that we have been formed with a unique purpose. Let's enjoy together the journey and get to know each other better. I am glad to be part of this church and look forward to get to know you more in person.

Love and Prayers,

Pr. Binu Peniel, Mebin, Keren and Kadmiel

(binu.peniell@gmail.com and mebinbinu@gmail.com) (682-583-8641 (Cell), 937-867-5364 (Home))



Program Practice

Any youth interested in participating in the Christmas program *Crazy, Busy, Peaceful, Holy Night*, come join in rehearsal each Sunday morning in **November** starting on the **4th** at **9:30 a.m.** The tentative performance will be on **December 9** during 2nd service.



Monthly **Food Pantry** Day is **November 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.



The first choir practice will be on **November 14**. I hope we will see some new faces as we have lost a couple due to death and deteriorating health. You don't need a solo voice to join us in singing praises and providing a message in song to our congregation. I hope some will sign up for music specials also. Music is a path that the Holy Spirit can fill the listeners soul. You will receive a blessing. I will let you know when we will have the first rehearsal. I know there are several of you out there who used to be a part of our worship and choir. Oh, the memories I have of the years gone by and how I wish that we could again share in our worship experience. Hope to see you.

Submitted by: Judy Schaer, Choir Director/Worship Co-chair



Please join us on **November 18** at 9:00 a.m. for the charge conference. It is the basic governing body of each United Methodist local church and is composed of all members of the church council. All members must be members of the local church. The charge conference must meet at least once per year. It directs the work of the church and gives general oversight to the church council, reviews and evaluates the mission and ministry of the church, sets salaries for the pastor and staff, elects the members of the church council, and recommends candidates for ordained ministry.

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/glossary-charge-conference>



On **November 18**, after 2nd service, we will have a Meet & Greet with Pastor Binu, his wife Mebin, daughter Keren and son Kadmiel with a potluck meal. Meat, drinks and dinnerware will be furnished. Please bring a dish to share.



Come join us for Bible Study at **9:15 a.m.** on **Sunday** mornings. The next Bible study is to be determined.



We are having our next American Red Cross Blood Drive on **December 21**, 2:00-6:00 p.m. with a free T-shirt giveaway, etc. I have a sheet available to SIGN UP. We would really like to have a lot of donations. The RED CROSS has a very serious shortage of blood and plasma products. They are looking for help as a blood shortage continues. As always thank you for your past donations. **Submitted by: Joe Helms**



Remembering the Saints who have gone before Us

Shawn Sarver 01/27/2018

Harold Doty 02/04/2018

Jim Winkler 03/15/2018

Myrtle Smith 05/21/2018

Ken Clore 07/20/2018

Diane Vance 08/09/2018

Butch McClellan 08/18/2018



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 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.

Dennis Hill still wants to work with small groups for **MUSIC SPECIALS**. There is room on the signup sheet for other specials (solos, duets, reading, etc.). If you are interested, please contact Judy at 822-8770 or 645-6625.

NURSERY—PAID POSITION. Need an adult to assist/oversee the nursery on Sunday mornings. See Matt Freeman or Ron Call if you are interested or know of anyone that might be or if you would like additional information.



Once again we will support Chaddock children by donating Christmas gifts for 5 children. The Santa Express board will be up sometime in November and all unwrapped gifts should be returned by December 2. Please pick up a tag or two to support these Chaddock children. Thank you, the missions committee. **Submitted by: Deb Kamp, Missions Committee Member**



- ♦ From Dianne Pointer: "The Praise Team is a blessing to all of us every week and I am thankful for the joy and energy they bring to our worship service."
- ♦ Praise from Clare Braun: "Answered phones at WCIC FM Radio. The Donations exceeded expectations, reaching their goal by lunch time Thursday. They then raised \$20,000 more for prison Christian concerts."
- ♦ April expressed a joy to have so many kids willing to share their gifts in the upcoming Sunday School Christmas program; Makes her heart/soul happy.
- ♦ Orda Doty thanks everyone for her birthday wishes. She had a wonderful day on her 90th birthday.
- ♦ Rev. Judy so thankful that no cancer was found during her niece's major abdominal surgery.

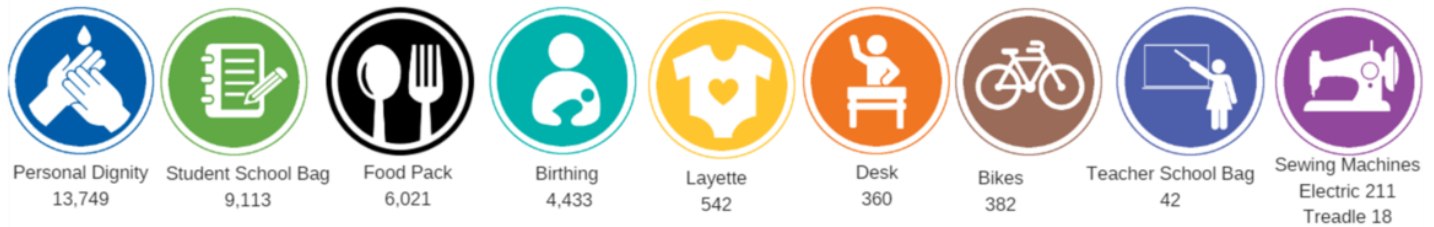


Our incoming pastor will arrive November 1 with wife Mebin, daughter Keren and son Kadmiel. He has a website (binupeniell.com) where you can play some videos and see information about him and his family.

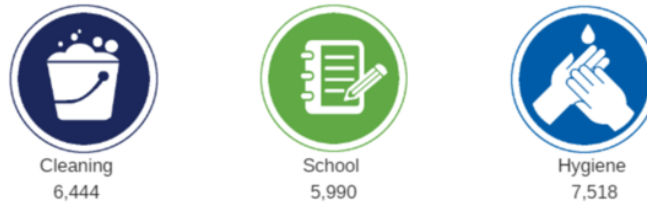


Scan the QR code at the end of the newsletter with your smart phone or visit riversedgeumc.org where you will find the newsletters, calendars and announcements regularly. The committee wanted pictures to depict the life of our church. If you see pictures that you are in and would like them removed, please let Judy Schaer know. **Submitted by: Communications Committee**

Midwest Mission Projects & Kits That Have Been Distributed in 2018



UMCOR Kits That Have Been Distributed in 2018



The Midwest Mission Distribution Center of the United Methodist Church provides disaster relief supplies around the world. Supplies bought through DollarDays (<https://www.dollardays.com/midwestmission/wishlist.html>) would be the best way to donate, as they are shipped directly to MMDC at the Center's bulk prices. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Monetary donations may be sent to:

MMDC, 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62558
www.midwestmissiondc.org | office@midwestmissiondc.org

*We Can
Recycle*

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



1. What did God make when Noah gave thanks after the flood?

- ☐ a feast ☐ the first zoo ☐ a rainbow ☐ a mountain

2. When God saved the children of Israel from the Egyptians, they had to celebrate! Who sang and praised God with the ladies?

- ☐ Moses ☐ Moses' wife ☐ Aaron ☐ Miriam

3. Which of these kings danced with all his might when the ark of the covenant returned to Jerusalem?

- ☐ King Solomon ☐ King Herod ☐ King David ☐ King Ahab

4. The Israelites had special thanksgiving offerings they brought to the house of God.

- ☐ True ☐ False

5. The Psalmist wrote in Psalms 136, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is _____. His love endures forever" (NIV)

- ☐ good ☐ right ☐ holy ☐ scary

6. What royal ruler praised God for saving Daniel from the lions den?

- ☐ the princes ☐ the princess ☐ the queen ☐ the king

7. The Jews were in captivity for many years and their temple had been destroyed. When the temple was rebuilt, who shouted for joy?

- ☐ the young men ☐ the priests ☐ the rulers of the city ☐ the Babylonian soldiers

8. At one time, Jesus healed ten lepers. How many lepers were made completely whole because they returned to give Jesus thanks?

- ☐ two ☐ ten ☐ three ☐ one

9. When the apostle Paul wrote to churches, who did he give thanks for?

- ☐ the politicians ☐ the apostles only ☐ his wife and children ☐ his fellow saints and Christians

10. How did Paul tell the church in Philippi to pray in Philippians 4:6?

- ☐ Pray and be thankful only once a year ☐ Do not worry about anything. Present your needs with thanksgiving to God ☐ Tell their neighbor to pray and thank God more for them ☐ Thank God only for big things

1. a rainbow—Noah made an altar to God for saving his family from the flood. God was so impressed with Noah's sacrifice and thanks, God made a rainbow in the sky. He promised Noah that this would be a sign that the earth would never be destroyed by water again. (The story can be found in Genesis 8:20-21.)
2. Miriam—When the Israelites realized they had their freedom, they had a celebration! Moses' sister Miriam told the Israelites to sing and dance because God had drowned the Egyptians in the Red Sea. She picked up a tambourine and wrote a song about how God had saved them. (This story can be found in Exodus 15.)
3. King David—The ark was very important because it represented the presence of God. The ark had been stolen by the Philistines many years before Israel had a kingdom. When it had been returned it had sat in a house for many years. King David wanted the ark to return to its proper place in God's house. When the ark returned, there was singing, dancing, and shouting in the streets, with people praising God. David was so happy he danced in front of all the people.
4. True—Israelites brought thanksgiving offerings to the house of God each year. Part of the offering was given as a sacrifice on the altar. The rest of the offering was cooked as a meal and shared with the priests. It was a way of thanking God and sharing His blessings with others. (This can be found in Leviticus 7: 11:15.)
5. good—The Psalmist, or song writer, wrote to praise God because He is good. In Psalms 136, he wrote about all the great things God had done for his people and how he saved them through many hard times.
6. the king—The king had made a very bad choice when he listened to the princes and made a law saying no one could pray to anyone but him. When they found Daniel praying, the princes forced the king to throw him into the lions' den. The king was very worried the lions would hurt Daniel. However when the king went to the den and saw that Daniel was saved he was extremely happy! He gave praise to God and made another law for all the people in his kingdom to fear and serve Daniel's God because He had shut the mouths of the lions. (Story can be found in Daniel 6.)
7. the young men—The old men cried because the first temple had been very beautiful and had the glory of God. However God's people had disobeyed his commands and they were taken into captivity for all the evil they had done. When the Jews returned they rebuilt the temple. The young men shouted because God now had a house again. "With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the Lord: "He is good; his love toward Israel endures forever." And all the people gave a great shout of praise to the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid." (Ezra 3:11, NIV)
8. one—When the lepers had stopped Jesus and begged him to have mercy, Jesus told them to go show themselves to the priest. On the way they discovered their diseases were healed. One turned around and gave Jesus thanks. Jesus was so surprised he made the man completely well right then. (This story can be found in Luke 17:11-19)
9. his fellow saints and Christians—Paul wrote letters to churches and thanked God for the people that were faithful Christians. He thanked God in his prayers for them because their faith was continually growing. He also thanked many people in the church for doing kind things for him as he spread the good news of Jesus.

"Our friends, we must thank God at all times for you. It is right for us to do so, because your faith is growing so much and the love each of you has for the others is becoming greater." 2 Thessalonians 1:3 (Good News Bible)
10. Do not worry about anything. Present your needs with thanksgiving to God. - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philippians 4:6. Paul wanted Christians to know that they should thank God and God would supply every need. God would take care of his people.

Message by
Rev. Becky Barrow

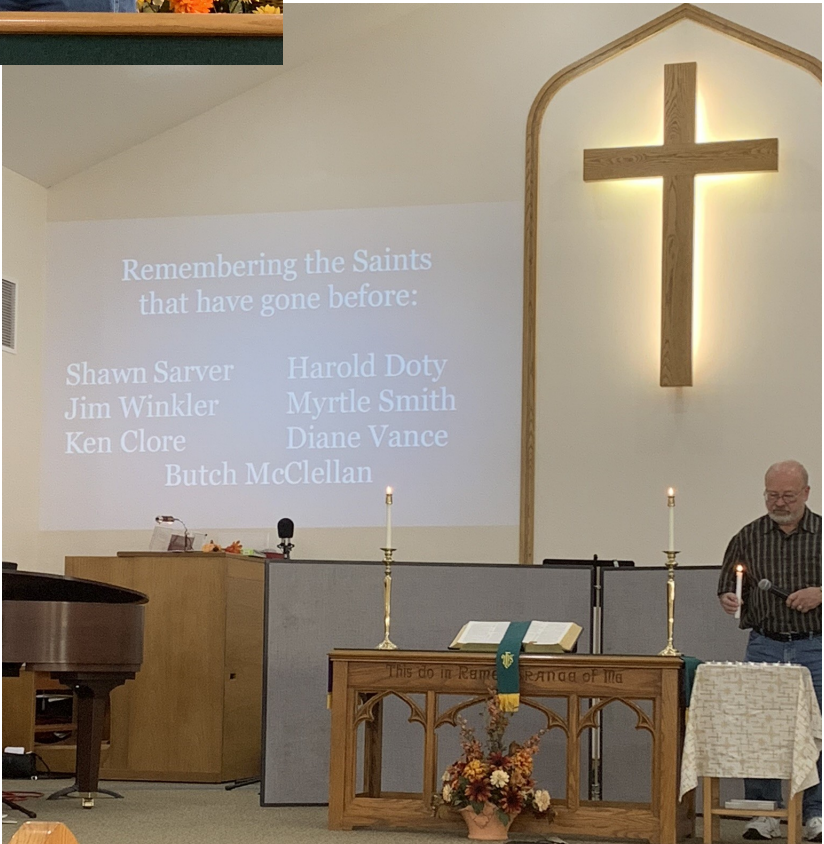
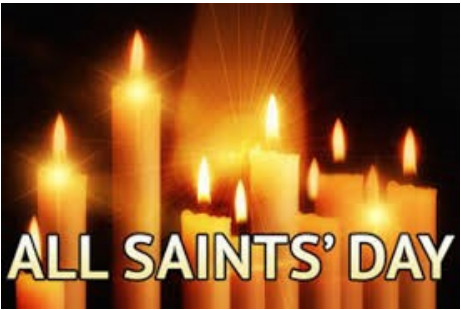
'Esther'



Rev. Judy Doyle, Past Interim Pastor with children's message



**Tracy Arnold
Received into Membership**



November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 9:00 a.m. Loaves & Fish (meet at church)
4 5:30 p.m. O.U.R @ The Nauman's	5 6:00 p.m. Trustees	6	7	8	9 9-11:00 a.m. Food Pantry/ King's Closet	10
11	12	13 7:00 p.m. Ad Council	14 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	15	16	17
18 9:00 a.m. Charge Conference 11:45 a.m. Potluck	19	20	21	22 	23	24
25	26	27	28 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	29	30	

Our Motto "The Church That Cares"

Our Mission

"Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

OUR VISION

"Our vision is to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our neighbors through our witness, welcome and nurture ."

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)

Sunday Morning (All Ages)

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)



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