



The Tidings

March 2011

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Ministerial Moments

THE PIG IS UP! It's hard to believe that in a few weeks Spring will be here. Lent is late this year and as a result several of us thought we would get a breather. We almost took too much of one. March 5 is the Pre-Lenten Breakfast with March 9 Ash Wednesday. March 12 is Day of Discipleship and March 19 is Wurstmarkt. By the time we are through with all that, it will seem like no time until Easter.

March 4 is World Day of Prayer this year so that will be our theme for the Pre-Lenten Breakfast. We will lift up our world missions and pray for those areas of the world where there is unrest or recent natural disaster.

In addition, the Missouri Mid-South Conference and Illinois South Conference have used money from our Strengthen the Church offering to purchase advertising time on local stations. The days and times you may see these ads are included in this newsletter. We will have our events sign outside which will post the "God is Still Speaking" slogan at the top and announce service and Sunday school times below. Hopefully, the ads will increase visitors. Between Sunday and Wednesday, the sign will announce where the Wednesday evening Lenten service will be. I will also post the services on the back door in case someone forgets and comes to our church when it is at one of the other churches.

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Wurstmarkt Time!!!



You know it's almost Spring when you see the pink pig in the front lawn of the church in late February. Yes it's that time again. Wurstmarkt Time!!! **Saturday, March 19 - 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.** I'm sure that Funds and Fellowship could use as much help as they can get and all the pies you can make.

See the sign up list or call Susan Olyer (3324) or Bobbi Duffie (3489) to find out where help is most needed. Also there



March Birthday's

Curtis Werner	5
Milton Dressel	7
Calvin Fruth	9
Dorothy Dressel	10
Ruth Erb	12
Stacey Pilbean	12
Clinton Galle	13
"Mike" Archie Dierks	13
Mervin Erb	15
Mindy Fitch	18
Alberta Galle	20
Brian Matzenbacher	23
Paul Weilmuenster	25
Caroline Galle	26
Timothy Campbell	31

March Anniversary's

Dennis & Nicole Sinn	10
Bill & Carol Gladson	15
Kenneth & Lorrie Lehman	20
Robert & Imogene Lehman	21
Warren & Kay Trotter	21

Dart Ball Schedule

Dartball will have their last two regular matches on Friday March 4 at Addieville and Friday March 11 at Marissa.



Come out and support the members.

Greeter and Ushers for March and April

March 6 - Donna Galle, David Keim, Ruth Erb

March 13 - Ruby Lehman, Janice Schmidt, Susan Oyler

March 20 & 27 - Cindy Galle, Sandy Smith, Lorrie Lehman

April 3 - Kay Trotter, Mike Trotter, Carol Reinhardt

April 10 - Gene & Betty Bollmeier, Dale Sinn

April 17 - Susan Oyler, Kathleen Robert, Neal & Donna Galle

April 24 - Easter Sunday - Church Council

Comments from the Church Mouse



February had several meetings (Funds and Fellowship, Evangelical Daughters, Dart Ball, Church Council...), but it was Ashlyn Cathcart's third birthday that I enjoyed the most. At Sunday School her grandma, Susie Stewart, brought M and M cookies as a treat. There weren't many crumbs, but what a delicacy for me!

The church sang Happy Birthday to Ashlyn during service as I peeked from my hiding place by Mabel's organ. Luckily Joyce didn't notice me. There were seven kids up front for the children's sermon. Pastor Gail thought it was because of the bowling that would take place later that day in Sparta, and maybe she was right. All I know is that it looked good seeing so many kids.

I heard about the bowling party at Star Lanes from listening to young Davey Schneidewind and Nolan Cathcart. It was a free event and had soda and pizza. Any affair with free food sounds good to me. From what I heard, it seemed like an enjoyable time with about 50 people bowling or socializing.

Keeping my big ears tuned, I also heard that there were four male generations of Mike Dierks' family bowling. There was Mike, his son Michael, Michael's son Steven, and Steven's 9 year old son Braeden, who all bowled on the same alley. That's cool! Makes me think of great-grandfather mouse, and my whiskers just tingle.



They will probably tingle during the March 5th Women's Pre-Lenten Breakfast here. It's always a good service, and I'll rake in some goodies after the Evangelical Daughters breakfast spread. I do love hot cross bun leftovers.

I hope all of Friedens people are ready for the Wurstmart of March 19 and for Lent. Can spring be far behind?

Sonshine Corner News

It's that wonderful time of year again and I'm not thinking about Easter or Spring, but change over at the Sonshine Corner. Actually it probably will be kind of fun putting out shorts and t-shirts after this long cold winter. The store will be closed the last week of March and re-open on April 6th.

God has truly blessed Sonshine Corner with all the good loyal dedicated workers and the people that donate their good clean clothes and other articles. Last but not least, the financial end of it which has gotten better and better, Much of our money goes to the Marissa Ministerial Association which in turn is able to help so many people in Marissa.

Come and shop at Sonshine Corner, you help so many people and also helps yourself.

Ministerial Moments Continued

One of the Traditional items of Lent is the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. This will be collected on the first Sunday of April, April 3. One Great Hour of Sharing supports Wider Church Ministries in 80 different countries. Amongst other missions, it aids refugees, disaster relief (both national and international), and community development. Envelopes will be in next months mailing.

Another traditional way of celebrating Lent is to give up something. I am going to challenge you not to give up something, but to ADD something. For some of us, that could be more exercise. For others, it might be spending more time outside. If you work in the garden or walk, try to do it "mindfully", thinking about and enjoying the feel of the soil, wind, change of seasons, praying for residents of the houses you pass, etc. Another suggestion would be a gratitude list. This is a short list of about five things you are grateful for per day. When you have the list, then say a prayer thanking God for those five things. If you don't have a daily habit of devotion, Bible reading or prayer, try to start one. Lenten Devotional Books will be out March 6. Ask a friend to join you in church (Nothing ventured, nothing gained.) The point of Lenten time is to be a time of meditation and prayer which brings us closer to God. Sometimes when we try to do something different for a short time, we find that we like it enough to continue it.

We had a really great turn-out for bowling February 20. Many thanks to Funds and Fellowship for another fun day. Everyone seems to always enjoy themselves, even those of us who don't bowl. Carol took some good pictures which I hope you will get to see, either in the newsletter, on the web site, or on the bulletin board. My favorite is of Ashland sitting down to give the ball a push. That would be my way of bowling except I don't think I could get up if I sat down like that anymore.

I've heard that the dart ball team is not doing as well as they have the past two years, but that does not mean they are having less fun. From the sounds of things, the men really enjoy getting together. There is talk that they may continue to gather occasionally for fellowship even after dart ball is over. This gathering will be open to all men, so if you are interested or know of someone who would be interested, contact Ron Geisel or Kevin MacDonald.

Organist Stephanie Reuss had a baby girl February 16. Her name is Avery Rose.

Pastor Gail



One Great Hour of Sharing

If it's Spring, it must be time for One Great Hour of Sharing. One Great Hour of Sharing is one of the UCC five special offerings per year. You will find a small brochure and offering envelope in this Tidings.

One Great Hour of Sharing supports international programs of health, education, and agricultural development, relief, and refugee assistance. It will be collected on April 3rd.

MARCH 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Spiritual Council Mtg @ 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 ?	3	4 World Day of Prayer	5 Pre-Lenten Breakfast 8:30 am
6	7 Evangelical Daughters Mtg 7 pm	8 Council Mtg. 7 pm	9 Ash Wednesday Service @ 7 pm Here	10	11	12 Day of Discipleship @ Columbia 10 to 3 pm
13	14	15 MCOP Mtg @ 3:30 pm	16 Lenten Service 7:00 pm Here	17 Set-Up for Wurstmarkt 6:00 pm	18	19 Wurstmarkt
20	21	22 Family Care meeting 2 pm @ Valentines in Freeburg	23 Lenten Service 7:00 pm Darmstadt	24	25	26
27 Luncheon at DuBois 12 to 2 pm	28	29	30 Lenten Service 7:00 pm Here	31	Sunday April 10th - Fellowship Time - 9:15 a.m. - Coffee & Pastries	

Extravagant Invitations



The weeks leading up to Easter are a wonderful time to let your neighbors know about your church family and invite them to worship with you. This year, your extravagant invitations are supported by television advertising. Over 180 UCC churches in the St. Louis, Missouri and Illinois market have come together to support you in being invitational. (The national office also came through with a generous grant.) The UCC “All the People” ad will be aired over 600 times in our market area during the weeks leading up to Easter. The message is that UCC churches welcome all the people. No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you’re welcome here. You’ll recognize the “All the People” message when you see it.

Watch for the ad on KMOV, KSDK, KTVI, KDNL during the day on programs such as Ellen, Nate Berkus, The View, Rachael Ray, Fox2News Midday, and Ellen. The ad will also appear during late night on programs such as Letterman, Jimmy Fallon, Seinfeld, The Office, and Extra. While prime-time programs don’t fit into our budget, you can also see the ad on cable stations such as MSNBC, DIY, Lifetime Movie Network, TV1, and Biography.

You can also share the All the People message by linking your friends and neighbors to <http://www.iscucc.org>. It’s the first thing you’ll see on the left side. Ask them what they think of its message.

So let’s take full advantage of this regional effort to support our personal outreach to our neighbors. Invite someone to join you for worship or one of our other activities.

Funds and Fellowship Bowling



Funds and Fellowship held their annual bowling party Sunday, February 20th. We bowled at Star Lanes in Sparta from 1-3 in the afternoon. Approximately 50 people attended with bowlers on all 8 lanes this year.

On lane one, 3 year old Ashlynn Cathcart was the winner with a score of 89. Ashlynn had a stike and a spare in the 10th frame to propel her to victory. It was only fitting since Ashlynn was celebrating her 3rd birthday with us that day.

Several lanes over, Mike and Peggy Diercks had 4 generations of bowlers enjoying the fun. Milton and Blanche brought their granddaughters to enjoy the afternoon.

A big thank-you to Todd Erb and Duane Waeltz who picked up the pizza from Domino’s when their delivery driver had to go to Tilden with another big order. You never know what you may be asked to do when you come to the Funds and Fellowship Bowling party.







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**Friedens United
 Church of Christ**

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*“Through the Spirit we are
 a Church on the Move:
 Welcoming, Caring,
 Sharing.”*

Lent Service Schedule

All Services will be at 7:00 p.m.

March 9th - Ash Wednesday - Friedens (Marissa)

March 16th - Lenten Service - Friedens (Marissa)

March 23rd - Lenten Service - Darmstadt

March 30th - Lenten Service - Friedens (Marissa)

April 6th - Lenten Service - Lenzburg

April 13th - Lenten Service - Biddleborn

Easter Sunrise Service will be held at the First Baptist Church on April 24th. TBA



*Friedens United Church of Christ
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