



# The Tidings

February 2013

## Ministerial Moments

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On Facebook Sunday evening I posted that there should be button for clergy, church treasurers and Presidents to wear which says, "I survived another Annual Meeting." I don't know why we always get so worried and anxious about Annual meetings. Maybe being worried about how bad things could be, helps us relax afterward and say, "Now that wasn't so bad, was it?"

Actually, there was no discussion which hadn't been anticipated. Even though some decisions were tabled, at least they are now on the table and we can take the next few months analyzing where we are and trying to put together a process by which to grow. I was very glad that some members seem to be interested in exploring methods of Evangelism and Stewardship/Fundraising we haven't discussed outside of Spiritual Council in the past. I do hope that there will be volunteers to help the Spiritual Council and two Deacons. This will be a process which will need everyone who is able to help.

One suggestion which has already taken root is that the Ministerial Alliance put together a brochure which will list the churches, worship times, web sites, and any extra regular activities to be at the Village for anyone opening a new water account, as well as at the Library and Sonshine Corner. I have mentioned this to Rev. Becky Williams of the Methodist Church and Pastor Nancy Shubert. I will bring it up at the full meeting of the Ministerial Alliance which is tentatively scheduled for 3:00PM on Feb.12.

Congratulations to our four new Council members: Jay Lehman, Sandy Smith, Linda Jones, and Mandi Schmierbach. Installation of the new Council will be Sunday February 3. Members now are: Trustees – Dwayne Waeltz, Kevin MacDonald, Jay Lehman and Carol Reinhardt.

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## Funds and Fellowship Bunko!!! February 24

Funds & Fellowship is hosting a BUNKO party!!!! Sunday February 24, 2013 from 2 pm to 5 pm. Doors open at 1:30. This will be in Fellowship Hall at the church. Cost to play is \$5.00 and a snack provided along with beverages.

BUNKO is easy to learn and play and fun for all ages!! Come on out and enjoy the fun and fellowship!! If you have any questions please contact Susan Oyler.

# February



## Birthdays

Emma Schmierbach	15
Lori Selman	16
Julie Imes	18
LaJune Fulton	19
Bryan Childers	20

## Anniversaries

Dennis & Cindy Galle 21

## Greeters and Ushers for February

### FEBRUARY

Feb. 3 & 10 - Bob & Imogene Lehman, Gary & Susie Stewart

Feb. 17 - Fed & Marilyn Lewis, David Keim

Feb. 24 - Kay Trotter, Mike Trotter, Carol Reinhardt

### MARCH

Look for new Usher and Greeter List in March's Tidings

## Next Wurstmarkt - Saturday March 16th 3 pm to 7 pm

Funds and Fellowship is always in need of helpers to set up Fellowship hall, tear down and of course the need of pies. They start at 8:00 am with peeling of potatoes and cooking. Tear down is around 7:00 pm. There will be a work schedule and pie sign up in the entrance at the church. So come on out and help Funds & Fellowship with the Wurstmarkt if your free.

## Comments from the Church Mouse



Brrrr – am I ever glad to be in my nice church home. It's been cold outside.

There has been a lot of activity lately. The men have started dart ball practice and I hide from them. That Dennis Kinzel and Todd Erb are good shots so I don't want to be seen in case they target me by mistake.

Although I received some nice donations from Ken Lehman's funeral luncheon, I felt sad for his wonderful relatives and church family. Lorrie Lehman is one of my favorite people, and I've missed seeing her. Do you know she even was sweet enough to help at the January 14 blood drive? What a lady! Her daughter Susie Stewart is following in her mother's footsteps and is also a great asset to our church.

At the lunch, I saw some other dedicated ladies in the kitchen led by Marlene Karstens. I didn't get to see all of them, but I did recognize Blanche Schmierbach, Kathy Matzenbacher, and Sandy Smith. Blanche and Sandy came back to help at the blood drive, too.

We have such great people that go here. One that really impressed me was Kevin McDonald, who brought food to the funeral lunch without being asked. Cool guy. I've been a bit afraid of him because he could so easily squash me, but I think he's too kind to hurt me.

I heard that those who went to the German restaurant in Mascoutah had good food and a good time. Dwayne Waeltz took Blanche on the dance floor for a tad of polka time, and they were joined by Susan Oyler and Carol Mercer. Well, maybe there's a bit of German heritage there – or maybe just good sportsmanship.

There was a lot of great food at the annual meeting, but the people talked so long, and the kitchen staff cleaned so well, that I didn't get my fair share. Thankfully, I had enough stored from the blood drive. We had 28 people willing to donate blood, and lots of children came with them. They were the crumb droppers. Yeah, kids. Thanks.

Oh, try to stay warm and remember God loves all creatures big and small.

The Church Mouse

**THANK YOU !!!!**

Fund and Fellowship would like to thank everyone who attended our dinner out at the German Restaurant. Thirty-one ( 31) attended. Everyone enjoyed trying new things and tasting others dishes.

## Ministerial Moments (Continued )

Deacons: Mandi Schmierbach and Sandi Smith

Elders: Pete Dressel and Linda Jones

This means that the current Spiritual Council is Larry Matzenbacher, Marlene Karsten, Pete Dressel and Linda Jones.

Retiring from Council are Marlene Karsten, Susie Stewart, Bobbi Duffie and Curt Werner, all of whom have worked hard and earned a rest.

Susan Oyler has graciously agreed to stay on as our representative to Region 8.

Pastoral Relations Committee is Ruby Lehman, Susie Stewart (one more year, Council rep.) and Carol Mercer. Retiring from Pastoral Relations is John Barrett who has been a great asset to the committee and will be missed.

Please consider becoming a Conference Delegate. Conference Annual meeting is October 25 and 26 this year at the Shrine, but there are activities which the conference would like delegates to take part in before that date for the purpose of training. One of those dates is an Ecclesiastical Council for Andrea Asselmeier on Feb. 17 at 3:00PM at St. Paul in Columbia. Ecclesiastical Councils are for the purpose of determining whether or not a person is ready to seek a call, or for ordination. I have the materials to read if anyone is interested in going with me. Our church is allowed 2 delegates.

Among the new things we are doing, Funds and Fellowship is hosting a Bunko day for the benefit of the New Athens Care Home on February 24. Please encourage everyone you can think of to come to this fun event since it will be helping one of our mission partners.

On February 4, I will meet with Rev. Sue Artt of Nashville to discuss plans for my Sabbatical. Sue took a full 12 week Sabbatical to Europe last year. While I do not plan anything as long or as elaborate, I am hoping she can be a good resource to me regarding the preparations I need to make to get the most out of this experience. Right now I am leaning toward Ghost Ranch in Abiquiqui, NM. Ghost Ranch is a Presbyterian Retreat Center on the site of the former home of artist Georgia O'Keefe. In addition to a Georgia O'Keefe museum there are many trails to hike. I have always found the desert to be a spiritual place so this should be ideal.

On January 18 Friedens Dartball team began their season with 2 wins and one loss over New Athens. The Feb/March schedule is as follows: Feb. 8 7:30PM Marissa at Plum Hill, Feb. 15 7:30 New Athens at Marissa, March 1 7:30PM Marissa at Addiville, March 8 7:30PM Plum Hill at Marissa. Banquet and Tournament to be announced later. If you are interested in joining the team please contact Dennis Kinzel, Ron Geisel, Dwayne Waeltz, Kevin MacDonald, Mike Dierks, Robert Schmidt, or Todd Erb. I am sorry if I left anyone out.

As we enter into this New Year, let us look forward to New Beginnings.

Blessings,  
Pastor Gail







## Day of Discipleship

Saturday March 2 will be the conference annual Day of Discipleship, held this year at St. Paul UCC in Waterloo. From 9:30AM to 4:00PM. The theme this year is “A Church on Fire: Refresh, Renew, Re-Engage”. The Keynote Speaker is Rev. Daniel P. Smith, author, pastor and professional Life-Coach. His specialty is coaching pastors leading change in their congregation. If you are truly interested in revitalizing the church, I strongly encourage attendance. Cost is \$20 if paid before Feb. 20 and includes lunch. We do have delegate fees budgeted if you would like to use them. Depending on the length of the workshop you sign up for, you can take 2 or 3. Please see Pastor Gail for application.

### Workshops offered:

Church Treasurers workshop  
Church Presidents' workshop  
A Review of Church Renewal Resources,  
Church Renewal Intensive (by invitation only)  
Church Beautiful: Delight the senses with Stunning Accessories for the Worship Space  
Planning for a Purpose-Driven Church  
Digital Media in Worship  
Partners in Mission (These are conference Health and Human Services.)  
Renew your Christian Education Program  
Becoming a Contagious Christian  
Social Media for the Church  
Caring for the Pastor and the Pastor's Family  
Change your life on a Mission Visit to Ecuador  
Growing Spiritually through Holy Conversations  
Keeping Our Children Safe  
The Story- One Church's Attempt to Revitalize Christian Education  
Welcoming the LGBTQ Community  
All God's Children Play and Sing (Youth invited to bring instruments and “jam”)  
The Gospel According to Harry Potter (workshop offered twice)  
Bringing the Gospel Alive with Skits  
Bringing Treasures Forth (Asking for Time, Talent and money, i.e. Stewardship)  
Rooted in Justice, the Bible's Call for Action  
Caring Ministries in the Local Church: Called to Care, Stephen's Ministries, BeFriends, St. John's Community Care

# FEBRUARY 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
March 2nd - Day of Discipleship @ Waterloo March 16th - Wurstmart					1	2
3	4 Evangelical Daughters Mtg 7 pm	5	6 Choir 7:30 pm	7	8	9
10	11	12 Council Mtg. 7 pm	13 Ash Wednesday @ Friedens 7 pm, Choir after	14	15	16
17	18 President's Day	19	20 Lent @ Biddleborn, Choir after	21	22	23
24 BUNKO 2-5 pm @ Friedens	25	26	27 Lent @ Darmstadt, Choir after	28		

It is official! First United Methodist of Marissa is rejoining us in our Lenten series this year. The theme Pastor Becky, Pastor Nancy and I have chosen will focus on familiar Lent and Easter hymns. Dates of worship are as follows:

Ash Wednesday Feb. 13 7:00PM here

Feb. 20 7:00PM Biddleborn

Feb. 27 7:00PM Darmstadt

March 6 7:00PM Friedens

March 13 7:00PM Methodist

March 20 7:00PM Lenzburg

March 27 Maundy Thursday

(time to be determined when type of service is decided)

March 28 Good Friday Biddleborn

March 29 Easter Vigil Darmstadt

March 30 Easter (Sunrise service to be determined)

## Lent Schedule



*Friedens United Church of Christ*

*820 North Main*

*Marissa, IL 62257*