

May 2014



The Tidings

Ministerial Moments



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We all know that life has its ups and downs. The last half of April has kind of been a mirror of the liturgical calendar. The Victorious March of Palm Sunday was followed by the Last Supper, arrest of Jesus in the Garden, crucifixion on Good Friday and the resurrection of the Glory of the Lord on Easter Morning. On that glorious Easter morning, we learned of the passing of Dean Robert. We laid him to rest the following Thursday and then Sunday April 27, we had the glorious celebration of the 70th Wedding Anniversaries of Mabel and Irving Schickedanz and Blanche and Milton Schmierbach.

Marlene, Ruby and a number of the other ladies of the church went to quite a bit of work both on the memorial meal and planning the anniversary celebrations. We thank you. There was a wonderful two page spread in the Belleville News-Democrat Magazine of April 20 also. I hope every one gets a chance to see it.

May is known for three celebrations, May Day, Mothers' Day, and Memorial Day. I did not grow up celebrating May Day, but I know a few parts of the country still do. The Germanic name is Walpurgis Night. St. Walpurga is credited with bringing Christianity to Germany. The secular version of May Day which most of us know revolves around the May Pole and crowning a Queen of May. It seems to me that in Kansas, children used to make May baskets of flowers to take home to their mothers also.

Some of you may be more familiar with this practice than I am.

Mothers' Day was established by Anna Jarvis in 1907. The first attempts came from women's peace groups. These were mostly women whose sons had fought or died on opposite sides of the Civil War. In

1868, Ann Jarvis, mother of Anna, created a committee to establish Mother's Friendship Day to reunite families which had been divided by the Civil War. There were also other similar movements. On June 2, 1872 Julia Ward Howe led an anti-war observance called "Mother's Day for Peace" which was accompanied by a Mother's Day Proclamation.



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Greeter and Ushers for May and June

May 4: Linda Jones, Dale & Sharon Reese

May 11: Mother's Day - Evangelical Daughters

May 18: Gene & Betty Bollmeier, Curt Werner

May 25: Ruby Lehman, Todd Erb, Ruth Erb

June 1 - Ruby Lehman, Todd Erb, Ruth Erb

June 8 & 15 - Larry & Kathy Matzenbacher, Carol Gladson

June 22 - David & Evelyn Schneidewind, David & Mindy Schneidewind

June 29 - Mandi Schmeirbach, Carol Mercer, Curt Werner



May Birthdays

Susie Stewart	1
Marilyn Lewis	2
Kenny Jenkins	2
Kevin McDonald	7
Greg Ray	15
Elizabeth Stuart	18
Kenny Raban	25



May Anniversaries

Larry & Linda Jones	3
Jim & Tari Carpenter	7
Calvin & Delow Fruth	30

Comments from the Church Mouse

I am all aquiver waiting for the celebration meal for Mabel and Irving Schickedanz and for Blanche and Milton Schmierbach that will take place on April 27. Both couples have been married 70 years, isn't that wonderful and amazing?



Some of my fondest memories are of Mabel and her organ and piano playing and of Blanche and her volunteering to help at the blood drives as well as bringing homemade goodies. I love listening to Irving tell stories of past times at Friedens and of the old clock in Fellowship Hall and the old bank above the downstairs water fountain. Over the years, either my grandfather, father, or I've seen Irving or Milton fixing something in the church. I was told that Milton still is very handy with tools.

Such special people! Such fantastic couples!

When I was thinking of the anniversary celebration, I came across a Presbyterian church newsletter from Sparta that Carol Mercer had left on the table. She was reading an article about The Schmierbach's granddaughter Katie Schmierbach who has a charitable mission called "Katie Cares". Her grandparents are surely proud of her.

In the newsletter was some information that I really liked. It was called "What we'd like to *hear* in church":

- Hey, it's my turn to sit in the front pew!
- I was so enthralled, I never noticed your sermon ran longer than usual
- I love it when we sing hymns I've never heard before
- Because we're all here, let's start worship service early
- Pastor, we'd like to send you to this Bible seminar in the Bahamas
- Nothing inspires me and strengthens my commitment like our annual stewardship campaign
- I'll volunteer to be the permanent junior high SundaySchool teacher.

I think they were amusing, and I wanted to think up ones on my own. But maybe I should wait until after the Mother/Daughter Tea which will take place on Monday evening, May 5th. I heard Susie Stewart talking about the program, and it will be fun. I'll listen to the program while I enjoy some crumbs from the finger food they will have. I'll just hope that Ruby Lehman, Janet Fauth and Marlene Karstens don't "clean up" before I get a chance to forage. They are really nice and great cooks, but they are fast on the straightening up. Give a little mouse a chance, ladies.

Now that springtime has really arrived and the wonder of Easter has passed, I hope I'll see even more people in church. If you see me, just don't squeal or get upset. Remember, I love my church home.

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This continued to be observed in Boston for about 10 years but seems to have had no connection with the Jarvis movement. Anna Jarvis continued on her mother's original wishes with a service on May 10, 1908 at her mother's church, St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church in West Virginia. West Virginia officially declared Mother's Day a holiday on 1910 and on May 8, 1914 Congress passed a law designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. President Woodrow Wilson issued the proclamation the following day.



Like Mothers' Day, Memorial Day can trace its origin back to the Civil War. It was originally known as Decoration Day, a day when people went out and decorated the graves of those who died in the war. During the 20th Century, the name was changed to Memorial Day and had been extended to honor all Americans who had died while in the military service.

And so as the weather gets warmer and we move toward the end of the school year we begin to prepare for summer. I've noticed a number of people in our congregation are having cataract surgery. I hope all goes well. Dale Reese remains in remission. I am sure he will be pleased to see the new roof on his house when he gets to come. It was great to see village workers, chamber members, and volunteers from the different churches working together to get the roof done. John Baker tells me they still need to do something about the gutters and a few small things. He thanks all of those who came out to help.

As usual, we will be putting slips in your bulletins throughout the month of May for you to list your favorite hymns. All hymns will be worked into the summer worship according to how many hymn choices there are.

Blessing, Pastor Gail





Mother/Daughter Tea

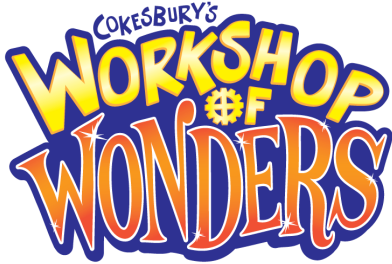
May 5th at 6:30 pm.

Fun entertainment and a variety of finger foods –

MAY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>* Region 8 Volunteer Day at Hoyleton 12-4 pm</p> <p>** Funds & Fellowship Italian Luncheon after church (no potluck, donations only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11th - Special offering for KinderCottage 				1	2	3 City wide Yard Sale Region 8 *
4	5 Mother/ Daughter Tea 6:30 pm	6 Sonshine Corner Meeting 1:00 pm	7 Choir Practice 7:00	8	9	10
11 	12	13 Council Mtg @ 7:00 pm	14 Choir Practice 7:00	15	16	17
18 Deadline June Tidings, **	19	20	21 Choir Practice 7:00	22	23 MHS Graduation 7 pm	24 Deacons Mtg 8:30 am
25	26 	27	28 Choir Practice 7:00	29	30 Last Day of School for Marissa	31 Fellowship Hall in use

V.B.S. Coming Soon !!



Vacation Bible School is coming in July!! Mark your calendars!!

July 7 through 11th here at Friedens UCC.

If you would like to volunteer and help, contact Carol Mercer.



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