

# The Tidings

February 2015

## Ministerial Moments

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WOW! 2015! Feb. 1 begins my 9<sup>th</sup> year here. This year has begun with a bang! Back in October, or so, I applied for a grant for the Ministerial Alliance and was told we would hear something in Dec. Well, the month went on and on and I hadn't heard yay or nay so I was beginning to wonder if the rejection notices just went out later than the checks when low and behold, on the 30<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> of Dec. I got a letter from UCC Justice & Witness saying that we had been approved for a \$2000 grant. The one stipulation is that I now have to come up with a story about how it has been used. To this end, I called together Mayor Cross, Madelle of Macke Center, our Food Pantry Volunteers, representatives of the Ministerial Alliance and Gail of Food Mart to see how best we might be able to help the people of Marissa. Mayor Cross had some questions about how the Ministerial Alliance helps people and how these programs would work so that he can better explain it to the Village Board as one suggestion has been a community garden. Other suggestions were cooking classes for children, eating well on a budget and help with financial budgeting. A great many of these ideas came from the discussions the Deacons and I had last year as to how to help the community without a lot of finances. Janet Fauth has given me more resources and ideas from the USDA and still more ideas came from the community.

The people of Marissa really outdid themselves this year with giving to the Food Pantry. The Chamber already had several food drives per year and the school usually has at least one per high school and elementary. In addition, Pam Baker had the high school art department make several donation boxes which she had put in various businesses around town to collect. Lastly, Food Mart and Riess Ford went into partnership in that \$10 worth of food purchased for the food pantry got one a \$10 gift certificate toward an oil change at Riess Ford. The bottom line is that our pantry is overflowing for the first time I know of and because of the purchase of food from Food Mart, Gail has begun putting aside credit for the Food Pantry so that when the time comes that we do need to order food we will already have a credit towards it.

(Continued on Page 4)



# 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. 1 & 8 - Bob & Imogene Lehman, Gary & Susie Stewart

Feb. 15 - Mandi Schmierbach & Family

Feb. 22 - Kay Trotter, Mike Trotter, Carol Mayfield

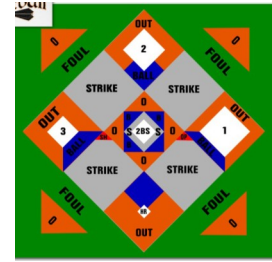
### MARCH

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

## Next Wurstmarkt - Saturday March 14th 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 you're free.


# Dart Ball




The dartball season began on January 9 but they always welcome new members. Practice is Wed. evenings at 7:00.


come


Schedule of Feb. games: Feb. 6, New Athens at Marissa 7:30PM; Feb. 20, Marissa at Addieville 7:30, Feb. 27 Plum Hill at Marissa 7:30 Banquet and Tournament to be announced later. For more information see Ron Geisel or Dwayne Waeltz




# FEBRUARY









**Across**

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Day - A Holiday Celebrating Our Leaders
6. February is \_\_\_\_\_ Month (2 words)
8. The Sweetest Day
9. February's Season

**Down**

1. February 2 is \_\_\_\_\_ Day
3. President Abraham \_\_\_\_\_
4. Our first President (last name)
5. February is the \_\_\_\_\_ month
7. Happens every 4 years (2 words)

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## Ministerial Moments (Continued )



I don't know about you, but I find all of this activity exciting. Lent is fast approaching which means that the Daughters' Pre-Lenten Breakfast is approaching; this year on Feb. 14. I don't remember it ever falling on Valentine's Day before, but since it is I have decided that our theme will be "love". I know will be using 1 Corinthians 13. I may or may not use the legend of St. Valentine for whom the day is named.

Ash Wed. and the beginning of Lent is Feb. 18. Worship will be at 7:00PM. Since Pastor Nancy Shubert is out with a knee replacement I do not yet have the weekly worship schedule but I will be contacting her and Pastor Becky of the Methodist church and should have an order of Wed. night worship by Feb. 1. My thought is that we will continue with the study of favorite Lenten and Easter hymns this year, but the other pastors may have different ideas.

Coming up in March is the World Day of Prayer on Friday March 6. We usually leave the church open that day so that anyone who wishes to come in and pray may do so at leisure. Saturday March 7 from 9-3 is conference Day of Discipleship at St. John's in Collinsville. I believe the focus is on children in worship. Cost is \$20 including lunch. It is budgeted for the church to pay for delegates I believe. To get a full listing of workshops please check [iscucc.org](http://iscucc.org).

I will be preaching at the Region 8 Easter Vigil this year which is Sat. April 4 at St. John's UCC in Trenton, IL. Marissa Easter Sunrise Service will be at 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist on April 5 at 7:00AM. 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist will also host Vacation Bible School this year starting June 15.

In May, Illinois South Conference will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a party at Grizzly stadium. Even more important, 2016 will be our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we need to get started deciding how we are going to celebrate.

### **New Council Members**

Susie Stewart  
Curt Werner  
Kathy Matzenbacher  
David Barbee

### **Members of Pastoral Relations**

David Barbee – Council Rep.  
Curt Werner – Congregational Rep.  
Carol Mercer – Pastor's Rep.

### **125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**

Kevin McDonald, Dwayne Waeltz, David Schneidewind

Blessings,  
Pastor Gail

# FEBRUARY 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Evangelical Daughters Mtg 6:30 pm	3	4 Choir 7:00 pm	5	6	7
8 Sheldon Culver Guest Preacher	9	10 Council Mtg. 7 pm	11 Choir 7:00 pm	12	13	14 Pre-Lenten Breakfast 8:30 am Theme: Love
15	16 President's Day	16	18 Ash Wednesday @ Friedens 7 pm, Choir after	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Lenten Service, TBD on Place 7:00 pm	26	27	28
<p>February 8: Sheldon Culver will be visiting with us and will do a Pastoral Relations Committee Training after church. All members of the Pastoral relations Committee should attend.</p> <p>March 6: World Day of Prayer ; March 7: 9 to 3 Conference Day of Discipleship at St. John in Collinsville, Focus is on Children in worship. ; March 14th - Wurstmart</p>						



Friedens is looking for a custodian. This position is roughly 5 hours per week.

If you are interested or know of someone that might be, contact Bobbi Duffie or Kay Trotter for more information.



*Friedens United Church of Christ*

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*Marissa, IL 62257*