



The Tidings

Ministerial Moments

September, the month we begin to notice the nights getting longer and the days shorter. It may or may not begin getting cooler. For those of us who are Cardinals fans, we begin to look more urgently and the won-loss column and is the team approaching the “magic number” yet. Those of you who are football fans, pro or college, are looking to see how your team appears to be shaping up for the coming season’s competition. Ram’s fans are looking for some sign that they might actually stay in St. Louis.

All around us are the signs of God’s changing world. Children get older and enter the next year of school. It’s hard to tell sometimes who is happier, the children or the parents, when they go back.

Before long the trees will begin to change color and we will begin what some of my colleagues call “church supper” season: Schlatzfest at Biddleborn is first, followed by a spaghetti dinner at St. John UCC in Trenton, then our own Wurstmarkt, which is followed the following day by the DuBois Fall Festival. Even the village of Marissa gets into fall festivals with “Tootin’ Around Marissa” the end of September, a chili cook-off, the village garage sale, and then in November the Toast of Marissa.

God’s world is forever changing. It is also forever renewing. In the Autumn, plants die and then in the spring, they come back to life. In the Spring animals are born and that seed which did not go into the ground to be planted in the fall or winter, gets planted again in the spring. Life is always being renewed and in the seasons we see the proof of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Blessings,
Pastor Gail



September 2015

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Wurstmarkt Time!!!

**Saturday, October 3
3:00 pm to 7:00 pm**





Greeter and Ushers for September

September 6 - Ryan & Crystal Cathcart

September 13 - Carol Mercer, Susie Stewart, Sunday School

September 20 - David & Evelyn Schneidewind,

David & Mindy Schneidewind

September 27 - John Barrett, Carla Hellsten, Ron Geisel



Annual Conference Special Offering

The annual meeting of Illinois South Conference will once more be at Our Lady of Snows Shrine. It will be held on October 23-24. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. Martha Brunell, whom I think some of you know. In addition, Ken Medema will be providing music. Ken is a blind musician who has been at our conference annual meetings before. He was trained as a musical therapist and is a highly talented individual. He will be giving a concert at St. Paul UCC the day after Annual Meeting, Oct. 25 at 2:00PM.

This annual meeting will mark the retirement of our current conference minister, Rev. Sheldon Culver. They will also be celebrating the 55th year of ordination for Rev. Schmidt, along with anniversaries of the ordination of many other clergy and churches.

At the Annual meeting there are always three special offerings which are collected. They are a little different this year. This year the "noisy offering", meaning loose change will be collected for DuBois Center. We will collect this "noisy offering" on September 20 during service and October 11. I will take it with me to Annual Meeting put in their coffers. (It will need a note with how much we are donating so the church gets credit.)

The second offering is for Hoyleton Ministries. In the past we did this for KinderCottage. Included in this newsletter is their wish list of supplies. If you are donated to the wish list, please bring your supplies and place them in the big basket just inside the church door. Again, I will take this with me when I go to Annual meeting.

The third request is for an offering for the Deaconess Faith Community Nurse Ministry. If you wish to make a donation to this offering, simply write a check and notate it with your offering so that Kay and Lori know that is what it is going to.



New Bible Study

We have begun a new Bible Study on Prayer meeting Thursday afternoons at 4:30PM. We will begin with a discussion on prayer and how members of the group already pray, then we will move on to "Why Pray?" and different kinds of prayer: study of the Book of Psalms, corporate vs. private prayer, the Order of the Hours (used by Catholics and Episcopalians), the Jesus Prayer (out of the Orthodox Tradition but very easy), flash prayers, centering prayers, meditation, use of devotionals, and possibly an experience of walking a labyrinth, beads (for Protestants) and knitting groups (from a book I got called Knit One, Purl a Prayer.) On our Journey, we may even find more ways of praying. All are welcome to the group, it is not necessary to have been part of it from the beginning.

When we finish the study on prayer, I have come across several resources to help us better read and understand the Bible. If this is something you may be interested in, let me know.



September Birthday's

September Anniversaries

Alan & Susan Oyler	2
Mervin & Ruth Erb	3
David & Evelyn Schneidewind	6
Jeremy & Jessica Dressel	10
Ryan & Crystal Cathcart	11

Hope Geisel	2
Jessica Dressel	5
John Fauth	6
Lisa Humphrey	9
Nicole Sinn	10
Marlene Karsten	11
Pete Dressel	11
Robert Lehman	11
Imogene Lehman	12
Todd Erb	13
Sherri Duffie	13
Donna Galle	15
Brandon Schmierbach	17
Melanie Rahlfs	21
Crystal Cathcart	27
Justin Raban	30





Neighbors in Need Offering

Neighbors In Need Offering is one of our UCC 5 for 5 offerings. It is collected every year on the first Sunday in October, World Communion Sunday. One third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's justice and witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. I believe it was this fund which gave us the \$2000 to get our community garden started. Not only did those funds help with the community garden, but they also were available for me to help a woman do repairs to her home when the village had not yet received their annual grant to help home-owners, and it has allowed the Ministerial Alliance to stretch the funds normally given us by the churches and Sonshine Corner to help the poor of Marissa stay in their homes, keep the heat on and the water running far longer than it has in past years.

I will be applying for another grant this year, so I hope you will continue to support this offering.

People

Irene Triefenbach has changed rooms. She is now in room #110 of New Athens Care Home.

I believe you know that **LaJune Fulton** moved to Cedarhurst, 211 N. Market in Sparta some time ago. **Caroline and Albert Galle** are also there now. They are in room #26. I do not have LaJune's number.

Max Pepmeier is now in Oak Hill Nursing Home in Waterloo. That is all the address I have.

This past June was the 55th anniversary of **Rev. Robert Schmidt's** ordination.

BLOOD DRIVE - OCTOBER 12 !!!

If you can't give blood, please help us out!
There will be a sign-up sheet in the vestibule.
Please sign up your help is needed!
Please give blood!



OCTOBER 12 - - - - - FROM 2:30-6:30 P.M.



Comments from the Church Mouse

Often I wish I could venture out a little bit to some of the cool things happening in the area. One thing that I know I would enjoy is Biddleborn's Schlachtfest on September 13th. It is good practice for our Wurstmarkt of Oct. 3rd. I love that. Then I will be here for the American Red Cross Blood Drive on October 12 with all the snack tidbits that are left for me.



Pastor Gail's Southern Conference paper had an article about a really special performer who will be at St. Paul's UCC in Belleville on October 25th. He is supposed to be very inspirational. I didn't get to jot down his name. It's Ken something. Pastor Gail would know.

I wish I could read more area news, but a little mouse can only read what's laid out – a bulletin page, a newspaper or newsletter page, and open books. I can also read the computer screen when it is up. When Lori has the computer on, and is called away for something, that's when I get to hunt and peck my comments. Sometimes I probably sound choppy because I can only write when I get a chance. I have learned how to "save" my work. Hey, that sounds churchy, I can save something.

Why don't more people give little mice a chance? Hey, that's a heavy question.

Thinking more positively – choir is back. Yea! Another positive thing is Susie Stewart came all summer to teach the youngsters in Sunday School. She is really dedicated. A few Sundays there were not any kids here, followed by four being there the next time.

I do enjoy our kids. Although it is not alive, I also still enjoy our attractive new carpet. That makes me think of one of the biggest donors to the carpet fund, Evangelical Daughters.

Evangelical Daughters has started back. They hold their meetings the first Monday of the month. Daughters is a nice group of devoted women who do a lot for our church. They miss Janice Schmidt, but we all do.

Thinking of other nice things and people, Bev and Avis Murray from Marissa Antique Station Restaurant have donated more money to Friedens building fund. That's rather extraordinary since they are not members, just nice people.

We have nice people in our community and in our church. I read that Cal and Delow Fruth celebrated an anniversary recently, but now are in need of our prayers for their physically well-being. We have quite a few people on our prayer list. Make sure you look at it, and "take it to the Lord in prayer".



Illinois South Conference
Of the United Church of Christ
51st Annual Meeting
October 23 - 24, 2015
National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows

OFFERINGS

LOCAL...REGIONAL

1 NOISY OFFERING FOR DUBOIS CENTER

Here's the plan...

- Each ISC church asks its members to donate small or large amounts of change at Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, Sunday Services or meetings prior to the Annual Meeting.
- Bring a representation of the change collected to the Annual Meeting at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows on October 23 - 24. (You can convert some of the change to dollars or one large check by taking the change to a bank. They will count it and exchange it for paper currency.)
- Bring some of the offering as change in a container that can make some noise at the presentation at Annual Meeting.
- Designate a representative from your church to present the money during specified times at Annual Meeting.



#2 HOYLETON MINISTRIES

Here's the plan...

- Collect items from the Hoyleton Ministries' wish list. This is a GREAT project for Vacation Bible Schools, Sunday Schools, and the church.
- Bring those items to Annual Meeting. We'll stack them up to show the generosity of the congregations of Illinois South Conference.
- Hoyleton will transport the items from the Shrine.
- The wish list is on the back of this flyer. Please keep your donations to these items.

#3 DEACONESS FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE MINISTRY

During worship on Friday...

- Ask your Church Council to seek contributions from your congregation in support of Deaconess Faith Community Nurse Ministry, which supports the nurse ministries in churches and the community.
- Bring a check with you to give during Annual Meeting's worship service on Friday.
- During worship offer your financial support to Deaconess Faith Community Nurse Ministry.
- You may wish to offer your own financial support as well.

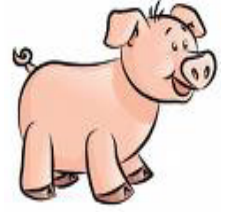


SEPTEMBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
October 17: Pre-Annual Meeting @ New Baden 6:45 pm ; Spiritual Council Mtg 7:00 pm		1	2 Choir 7:00 pm	3 Bible Study 4:30 pm on Prayer	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8 Council Mtg 7:00 pm	9 Ministerial Alliance 11 am Choir 7:00 pm	10 Bible Study 4:30 pm on Prayer	11 Marissa Movies in the Park	12
13 Schlachtfest @ Biddleborn Pre-Annual Mtg @ Okawville 2:30 m	14 Daughter's Potluck 6 pm	15	16 Choir 7:00 pm	17 Bible Study 4:30 pm on Prayer * See top for more items	18	19
20 Evangelical Synod Seminar 2-4 pm	21	22	23 Choir 7:00 pm	24 Bible Study 4:30 pm on Prayer	25	26 Chili Cook off — Tootin Around Marissa — Rushing for a Cure
27	28	29	30 Choir 7:00 pm	October 3 — Wurstmarkt ; October 4 — World Communion Sunday/Neighbors in Need Offering ; October 11 — Noisy Offering for DuBois ; October 13 — Deadline for New Athens Care Luncheon ; October 14 New Athens Care Home Luncheon at St. John's \$8/person		



October Wurstmarkt - Saturday October 3



It's that time again . . . What time you say.. It's Wurstmarkt time!!

Pick up your apron, dust off those pie pans, get your potato peeler oiled and stretch those legs. Come one come all to the help at the Wurstmarkt.

The Funds and Fellowship are in need of workers and lots of those wonderful pies and cakes. They can also use fresh bodies to help clean up at 7 pm.

If you have any questions please contact Bobbi Duffie, Susan Oyler or Peggy Dierks.

See you at the Wurstmarkt!! Listen at church for set-up night.



Friedens United Church of Christ

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