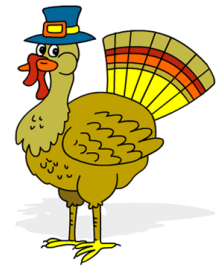


The Tidings

Friedens UCC
Marissa, IL

November 2016



Ministerial Moments



November is the start of our holiday season. For the church, we are ending one year and starting another. We are starting the year with remembrances and honoring our past and ending the month with anticipating our future.

The remembrances will start with Sunday, Nov. 6 when we remember all those who have passed since last All Saints' Day. We will also finish out our 125th Anniversary by remembering those who started this church. Names of those people are elsewhere in the Tidings. While Veterans' Day is a secular holiday, on Sunday, Nov. 12 we will honor those who served in the Armed Forces.

In looking toward our future, we will go to the polls on Election Day and hopefully find our civility when the results come out on Nov. 9. By the end of the month, on Sunday, Nov. 27th we will celebrate the first Sunday of Advent, a time which both looks back to the events leading up to the birth of Jesus and look ahead to Christ's coming again. On Nov. 27th, we will have hanging of the greens after church. This is usually a joyous time for all who can stay.

In between, we will host the community Thanksgiving service on Tues. Nov. 22 at 7:00PM. This is a time both to remember our fore-fathers who celebrated that first Thanksgiving back in 1621 and a time in which we can find a moment to be thankful for all those things God has given and continues to give us. Nancy has the choir working on a new piece for the Sunday before Thanksgiving and we will be singing an anthem at the community Thanksgiving service as well.

Blessings,

Rev. Gail Geisel

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November 6
Daylight Savings Time End



November Birthdays

Bobbie Duffie	2
Daniel Dressel	3
Melissa Curry	8
Carol Gladson	8
Mandi Schmierbach	12
Alice Childers	14
Kathy Matzenbacher	14
Ryan Cathcart	15
Kandice Unfried	17
Kathleen Robert	20
Caitlin Cowell	21
Mike Trotter	22
Amber Rahlfs	24
Susan Oyler	25
Dennis Galle	28
Blanche Schmierbach	28
David Reese	30



November Anniversaries

Cameron & Lori Selman	11
Gene & Betty Bollmeier	14
Mike & Peggy Dierks	24



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On Sunday, Nov. 6 we will honor those who passed in the past year: Robert Lehman, Albert Galle, Pat MacBeth, Delow Fruth, Irving Schickedanz and Dorothy Dressel. In addition, since this is the 125th Anniversary of our founding and our founders finished building the original church building in November of 1891, we would also like to recognize those founding members at this service. Per your 100th Anniversary book, your charter members were: Matthias Bopp, Henry Degen, Henry Diehl, Gottfried Gaebelt, George Hacker, Henry Hacker, Valentine Heil, John Hotz, Ernst Kunze, Herman Kunze, Frank Lange, Henry Lehman, Mrs. Sophia Orth, Louis Petri, John Rotherman, Martin Ruester, Ernst Sauerwein, Henry Schmidt, Mrs. Christina Stein, George Steinheimer, Fred Wagner and Gottfried Werner. If you know of anyone who is a descendant of any of these families, please get word to them so that we may honor them and their ancestors at this service.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped last month with the Wurstmart. Daughters made about \$900, half of which went to the roof fund and half to help the church's general fund.

New Athens Women's Guild luncheon

11:45 Tues. Dec. 6 Reservations needed by November 14. Please bring unwrapped Christmas gift worth \$5:00 or more. Entertainment will be by the Bluegrass Shack



ILLINOIS SOUTH CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. David Greenshaw of Eden Seminary was the keynote speaker at the Annual Conference held at Rend Lake Oct. 22-23. He mentioned the great decline of Mainline churches which reached their peak in 1964 and have been declining ever since at about 1% per year. Current membership in the UCC is about 900,000. He also mentioned that the first reaction to decline is usually denial. On the other hand, Americans tend to be action folks. Our cultural institutions help us decide how to act.

One of the most important items he said that we do in our churches is funerals. Funerals are important because they say, "Life matters." The bravest thing we do is that we love life. We should always remember that no matter what, Christ has taught us that death is not the last word.

Of suggestions for our future, the other most important thing we can do, is to consider every child in our life or church who may not know about God without our teachings. He said we should know each of these children by name and ask them questions which show we care about them. Further, we should encourage them to ask questions of us, as we are the "Priesthood of all believers" and we should remember that when we were baptized, we were not baptized into one particular church or denomination, but into the whole Body of Christ Universal.

PREVENTING IDENTITY THEFT

Back on October 4, I attended a seminar at SWIC in Belleville on Elder Abuse. It included helpful information about lowering our chances of Identity theft. I have given Lori the sheet which she will include in the Tidings if there is room. If not, it may be included in the future. Among the things I learned was not to carry more than one credit card with you at a time so that if your purse or wallet is stolen, you only have to report and replace one card. They also suggested blacking out the last four digits on your Medicare Card since they are the same as your Social Security number. They then said you can give those numbers verbally to your doctor when you see him or her. Lastly, they suggested not carrying blank checks with you unless you intend to use them as all your bank information is on those checks. Also, included in the session were various phone scams. We were told that there are now apps which can make a phone call look like it is coming from the organization they say it is coming from. They said to hang up on anyone you don't know. Be careful of what information you give out over the phone.

The list of phone scams will be added, little by little to the Tidings.



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November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Sonshine Corner Meeting 1 pm All Saints Day	2 Choir 7:00 pm	3	4	5
6 All Saints Sunday	7 Evangelical Daughters Mtg 6:30 pm	8 Pastoral Relations 6 pm. Council Meeting 7 pm Election Day	9 Choir 7:00 pm	10 Ministerial Alliance Meeting 11 am	11 Veteran's Day	12 Pancake breakfast at St. Peter's in Lenzberg
13 Recognition of Veterans	14	15	16 Choir 7:00 pm	17	18	19
20 Thanksgiving Sunday Confirmation	21	22 Community Thanksgiving Service 7 pm	23 Choir 7:00 pm	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26
27 First Sunday of Advent Hanging of the Greens after church	28	29	30			

Greeter and Ushers for November and December

November

6 John & Janet Fauth
13 Pete Dressel, Ron Geisel
20 Susan Oyler, Kathleen Robert, Linda Jones
27 Ryan & Crystal Cathcart and Family

December

4 Gene & Betty Bollmeier, Linda Jones
11 Jay & Leslie Lehman, Lorrie Lehman, Neal Galle
18 Dave & Pete Dressel, Duane Waeltz
24 Christmas Eve - Council Members
25 Ruby Lehman, Larry & Kathy Matzenbacher



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