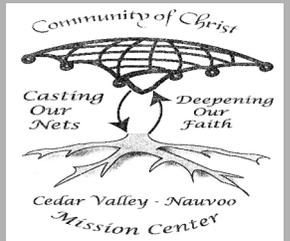


Shout The News

DECEMBER 2018

ISSUE 4



'Tis the Season of Giving...

Many times in the next few weeks you may be asked to donate money for a good cause. Giving in this way is wonderful, but how else can we be generous? Here are some suggestions:



- Babysit** for friends so they can have a date night.
- Teach** someone a craft, help with a building project, bake cookies or something else you like to do.
- Give away** the next thing someone compliments you on ("I love that _____").
- Assist** a coworker in her responsibilities at work.
- Sell** something you own or no longer use and donate the proceeds.
- Tell** someone about a special service at church and invite them to come.
- Take** your neighbor's emptied trash can back in from the street.
- Schedule** an hour every week to give away your time helping someone.
- Linger** a little longer after dinner and be present with your family.
- Invite** someone new in your neighborhood to take a walk with you.
- Share** the story of Jesus' birth with a child.
- Do** someone else's chores at home.
- Empty** the trash cans at church and put the trash in the dumpster.

Can you come up with more? This Advent Season give generously of your time, talents and testimony! Remember this passage from II Corinthians 9:7, "Everyone must make up his own mind as to how much he should give. Don't force anyone to give more than he really wants to, for cheerful givers are the ones God prizes." **Living Bible Blessings, Jane McDonald, Bishop**

'Tis the season to wish one another joy, hope, love and peace. Merry Christmas dear mission center friends. May you feel the love this special day brings to all -- the Mount Pleasant Congregation



One way to turn a blizzard into a blessing is to take 'community' to heart... A snowflake is one of God's most fragile creations, but look what they can do when they stick together! Have a Merry Christmas & Blessed New Year -- the Galesburg Congregation



Sharing Warmth and Jesus' Love

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls Fiber Frolickers show some of the blankets they made for Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

You're Invited

Hannibal, Dec. 16, 11 a.m.
"The Greatest Gift" presented by the Children's Church. Then stay for food and fellowship. To be sure there is plenty of food, please RSVP (573) 221-3263 or email tootand-dana@gmail.com

Cedar Rapids, Dec. 16, 10:30 a.m. Children's Christmas program; **Dec. 24, 7 p.m.** Christmas Eve service. View online at joy-hopelovepeace.com.

Galesburg, Dec. 23, 10 a.m. Christmas program, followed by Christmas worship at 11: a.m.

Moline, Dec. 23, 10:45 a.m. Indoor age-inclusive (adults and children) live Nativity program.

New Canton, Dec. 23, 10:45 Christmas Program.

Davenport, Dec. 24, 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.

New Canton, Jan. 4, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Soup Supper to raise funds for the Crumb Donors Ministry in Chattanooga, TN.

Save the Date

Camp Nauvoo, April 27, 5:30-9 p.m. Fundraiser Gala. Tours, social hour, dinner, door prizes, silent auction. Come, see and support what's new at Camp Nauvoo.

New Community Leader

Rick Enright has joined Deb Luce, Ron Howell, Brenda Mitchell and Lois Blythe as a community leader. He began serving the City Center, Moline, Willow Grove and Davenport congregations in October.

Quilt Group Disbands

In 17 years, Community of Christ Quilters finished about 200 quilts of all sizes and donated them to local charities, as well as national and international relief efforts. The group disbanded earlier this year after most of its members moved from the area.



Let's Celebrate



At City Center Ministry we love to celebrate. Sharing the good things in our lives is something we do each week to start our worship time. Since September we have found many things to celebrate. A biggy is our school attendance program which we would like to share with the mission center.

At the start of the school year we began a conversation with our congregation about ways we could support our school-age kids and encourage them to attend class every day. For many this may sound like a conversation that really isn't needed because, of course, a child would attend school unless they were sick. But for our families, many of whom come from a different tradition, this is a very important conversation.

Together we prepared a plan to give each school age child \$10 a week for each week that they attend school every day. If they miss a day there is no payment. One dollar is also subtracted for each tardy. We celebrate even when they have missed a day because the next week is a new opportunity to start over. We celebrate the moms who are making sure their kids go to school each day (no lying in bed and arguing about going). We celebrate the increase in school attendance and the children's joy in wanting to go to class.

God loves to celebrate and see each of us grow and reach for new goals. Sometimes we just need a little encouragement to get started.

It's important that we get the children in school to give the teachers a chance to teach. To help our children be successful in school we are starting an after-school program with Vera Howard and Dennis (LaRoque) to help our kids do better in school. We have also started discussions with Ascentra Credit Union to help our kids open savings accounts and begin to learn about saving part of what they have earned. An Ascentra representative will be coming after the first of the year to talk with both our adults and children.

We extend an invitation to each one of you and each congregation to join us in our celebration. You can do this by your donations in support of our school attendance program.

We also extend an invitation to each of you to attend our worship services and see first hand the joy on the face of each child as they receive their reward. God works in many ways. Celebrate God each day as you find ways to serve.

We thank each congregation and the many individuals who have supported City Center Ministries this past year. Without your continued support, prayers and contributions we could not accomplish the many things we do. We celebrate the wonderful community we have in our fellowship of the church.

**Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year
The City Center Ministries
Family**



Little Free Library Debuts

Members of the Coralville congregation pose with the new little free library installed Dec. 9 outside the church in memory of the late Beverly Koshatka. Beverly, a retired librarian and valued member of the congregation, died earlier this year. Pictured are Shawn Albright, library designer, Judy Pfohl, Barb Bachelder, Dick Bachelder, library builder, and Melissa Ertle.



Rolling Dough for Dough

Muscatine Sunday School class members created 46 ready-to-bake pies for Thanksgiving. The pies made serving the Thanksgiving feast easier for those who bought pies. The effort raised \$533. Thank you Sara, Scott, Laura, Anna Comstock, Mandy, Bryce and Maeleigh Grimm and Deb Wykert. Many dreamed of Christmas pies, but the pie makers are talking Easter.

CVG Upgrades Look to Future

Slow but steady progress was made this year on some key projects at Cedar Valley Grove. Cabin 6 was enclosed and Cabin 3 should be enclosed by the next camping season. We are in the process of running new power lines to the cabins and updating electrical equipment and lights inside the cabins. This will make it possible to use air-conditioners in the enclosed cabins, paving the way for new camping opportunities and creating a more comfortable camping experience for current campers.

New flooring has been installed in the basement bathrooms of The Cedars and the upstairs hallway trim has been finished. Our next focus in The Cedars will be its aging roof and the kitchen.

The area behind the shower house has been designated for development as a cabin community where you can rent space from CVG for your own cabin. Eight spots have been mapped out for cabins. A special offer is available for people who sign up by the end of the year. For questions on how to reserve a space or information on cabins, email sgelande@gmail.com or visit Cedar Valley Grove's Facebook page.

Living in Community

The **Hannibal congregation** is creating Blessing Bags for the homeless this Christmas. The plastic gallon zippered bags are filled with pudding/fruit cups, peanut butter/cheese crackers, Slim Jims, beef jerky, toothpaste, a toothbrush, comb, deodorant, baby wipes, gloves, socks, hand-warmers, fast food coupons, etc.

The **Burlington church** was part of the Burlington Organ Crawl on Sept. 23. Performances were held at four different churches on organs built by Fred Cool and/or his son David Cool. Our organ was the oldest and the smallest of the four. The congregation gave away more than 200 "live" and "forever" pumpkins at its annual Pumpkin Giveaway held Oct. 13.



Pat Reaves, Moline, is ordained to the Office of Seventy by Karin Franklin Peter, president of Seventy Quorum 5 for the North Central Field, and Robert Cook, president of the Cedar Valley-Nauvoo USA Mission Center, on Oct. 28, in Cedar Rapids at the 2018 Mission Center Conference.

Sacraments

Priesthood Calls/Ordinations

Doug Howell, Burlington, called to the office of elder.
Cherry Miller, daughter of Mary Jo Phillips, New Canton, ordained Dec. 9 to the office of high priest at the Chillicothe, Mo. Community of Christ.

Baptisms/Confirmations

Flora Gay Speidel, 84, baptized Nov. 19 in Moline, by Elder Ronald K. Lane; confirmed Nov. 19 by Seventy Pat Reaves and Elder Keith Lane.
Sydney Alana Hart, Hannibal, baptized/confirmed May 26 by Elder Russell Howell.
Alyssa Breann Hart, Hannibal, baptized/confirmed May 26 by Elder Russell Howell.
Myranda Presley Hart, Hannibal, baptized/confirmed May 26 by Elder Russell Howell.
Darby Judith Rollins, Hannibal, baptized/confirmed, May 30 by Elder Russel Howell.
Debbie Icke, Hannibal, baptized/confirmed May 30 by Russell Elder Howell

Blessings

Izabelle Marie Sabins, daughter of Malibu Judd and Josh Sabins, Oct. 19, by High Priest Dale Warner and Elder Dawn Blythe, Burlington.

Marriages

Rick & Lori McCarthy, Galesburg, Nov. 24.
Tyler & Faith Billings, Hannibal, Sept. 15.
Trevor and Summer Billings, Hannibal, Nov. 3.

Deaths

Judy (Moerke) Kakert, Blue Grass, IA, Nov. 22. Funeral Nov. 29 at Burlington Community of Christ.

Prayer Requests

Ashleigh White	Bette Erdmann
Bette Williams	Bill Gustafson
Bill Albright	Bill & Samantha Elliott
Ron Martin	Lisa Martin
Kevin Davis	Herb and Angela Iles
Don Richardson	Meredith Mitchell

Muscatine members are adopting a family for Christmas with gifts of clothing, toys and food.
New Canton members are baking cookies to take to nursing homes in the area.
Cedar Rapids is supplying bedding to go along with the mattresses Slumberland is donating to needy families, collecting gifts for Toys for Tots and contributing gifts to the Santa for Seniors Project.

Birthdays

Paul Lindburg, Moline, 80, Nov. 13.
Clarissa Fowler, 90, Dec. 5

Anniversaries

Dean/Shirley Truelove, Galesburg, 69 years, Dec. 11.

Births

Izabelle Marie Sabins, Sept 20, daughter of Malibu Judd and Josh Sabins, granddaughter of Andy and Becky Judd, Burlington.
Grant Coulter, May 13, son of Devin and Alesis Coulter, great-grandson of Paul and Niomia Lindburg.
Quinn Bender, Sept. 7, daughter of Austin and Elyesa Bender, great-granddaughter of Paul and Niomia Lindburg.