



THE BELL

A Monthly Newsletter
15th Avenue Christian Church

May 2022 Volume 36 Issue V

Mother's Day is May 8th !!!

My Mother's Eyes

My mother's eyes have all the colors of the spectrum
They're blue as the sky, green with envy, red when angered.
Black when in defense of a cause, brown like warm fuzzies
when she loves her cat, and has yellow shafts of light that
compete with sunbeams when she smiles.

My mother's eyes have read John 3:16 that she could
verbalize to us, followed a recipe to make our favorite dessert,
watched us walk down the aisle and dissected our being
when caught in a half truth.

I'm now my mother's eyes. The contact lens. I drive the car
read the papers, thread the needles, pick out change at
the register, and sign on the dotted line.
I'm the clarity for eyes losing their optical symmetry.

It is quoted, "Eyes are the windows to your soul."
... I hope my eyes reflect the mirrored image of the life
that has been in my mother's eyes.

— Becky Ivan Leech

2022 Pentecost Offering—

Turning Struggle into Steadfastness

GROW + PRAY + DANCE + LOVE + SERVE

Sundays May 29th and June 5th

Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of God, because you know that in God your labor is never in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58

A special offering in support of the new church movement in our region and across the Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ).



Thank you!

Thank you to the Family of Roger Carlson for the new handrails in our sanctuary, in memory of Roger. All that use them will be thankful, and safe!

Thank you for all of your donations of the L & F dollars for our special Outreach drive. Your generosity is appreciated .

The Outreach Committee



Thank you SO MUCH!

4-12-22

Dear 15th Ave. Christian Church,
Thank you so much for your hygiene donations for our Frances Willard Students. These items are so important to not only our students' physical well-being, but also emotionally. Sometimes it is hard to understand what a luxury it is to have deodorant or a toothbrush. So again, thank you for helping our students feel good coming to school.

Blessings, Frances Willard Staff

Happy Easter! Wasn't it wonderful to have a big celebration again? So many people have commented how much they appreciated hearing the brass and timpani, which lifted their spirits in praise of God.

I am very thankful that with such small numbers in choir (7 on a good day) and with the voluntary help of Susan Runyon, we have been able to maintain a choir to also help us praise God every Sunday. The Bell choir continues to provide amazing music and Jesse Andereck lightens our hearts with his solos.

I am very hopeful that we will have Music Camp again this summer. I have talked to two local youth musical/choir directors, but unfortunately they are in demand this summer and don't have the time available for us. They each have offered recommendations for directors to do the job, so I'm confident we will find someone in time. The weeks we are looking at are either June 20-26, July 11-17, or July 18-24. Look for registration forms in the June newsletter. Volunteers to help with leading groups, art and craft time, recess, and lunch will be needed, so check your calendars!

Yours in Christ,
Sheila Doak, Music Director



“Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper! You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.” - Psalm 30:10-12

Pastor's Corner

May is a month of great change! Out my way, there are new calves, apple blossoms just waiting to show off, and so much more! There is new life all around us at this time of the year. Many of us have been waiting for warmer weather and the chance to increase our outdoor activities. This is the time to get back out there for mowing and gardening and doing the yard work that has been building up over the long winter. We can feel the Spring season slowly emerging from slumber. The days are longer and the air seems to be full of hope and promise.

A few years ago, as I was moving from full-time work to full-time schooling, a friend recommended a book titled *Transitions* by William Bridges. This author makes a convincing case that transitions in our lives can present us with some of our best growth opportunities. On the other hand, we human beings don't necessarily *like* spending time in an "in-between" state; that feeling of being off-balance and outside our comfort zone. Bridges says there are three states in the transitions we experience in our lives: orientation, disorientation, and then reorientation. Something big like the pandemic can bring disorientation to an individual and to a whole society.

Bridges' second chapter resonated for me, as it explored the psychology of being in an unsettled state... after something has ended and before something new has become evident to us. He says that that awkward and uncomfortable middle state can actually be an important catalyst, a crucible, the birthplace of something new and better, if only we can learn to let go of whatever old phase may be outdated. The reality seems to be that many of us view transitions as temporary obstacles which are disrupting our "normal" and we fervently hope that the unwelcome interruption will soon go away. For Bridges, these times of transition are actually prime times for personal development.

Our culture tells us that problems are to be dispensed with as soon as possible, but this author taught that problems can be signals to us that important life transitions are knocking on our doors. He writes, "Transition is simply the way in which one's life moves on and unfolds." He suggests that many people find the liminal transition period overly threatening to what they have come to know as stability, so they resist letting go of the old, comfortable, way in their life and avoid actively watching for the new way that is trying to be born.

While this author insists that our life transitions can take a toll on us – physically, mentally, and emotionally, he also says that we can only move into exciting new possibilities by being aware of, and receptive to, that stormy in-between period. Each new beginning comes to fruition after an ending and a period of waiting. Here in the Midwest, the very seasons bear witness that endings, transition periods, and new possibilities are always unfolding. The cycles of nature can be a gentle reminder from God to us that what we might view as a fallow or stressful period might be an integral part of moving us into a new season of possibility. Happy Spring, and may God bless you abundantly in this season of hope!

Pastor Mike



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Rummage Sale

Our Annual Rummage Sale will be June 17 and June 18. You may bring your treasures starting May 1st. The elevator will be open for drop off. If furniture is involved you will need to be prepared to pick it up if it doesn't sell.

Questions should be directed to Marcia Swanson 309 755 6889 or Steve Sheese 309 738 0545.

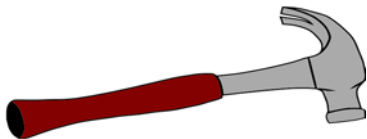
Join us for Sunday Worship

9:30am

We hope to have a cleanup / fixup day at the church in the coming weeks. Please stay tuned for more information, and please consider helping us with cleaning, organizing, and working on small projects. Thanks in advance!

May Birthdays

- 1 Rick Miers
- 14 Aaron Flemming
- 15 Judie Holmer
- 18 Alice Lyons
- 22 Grace Carlson
- 23 Kim Miers



April Attendance

April 3	34
April 10	44
April 17 (Easter)	62
April 24	37

Please see the Calendar at the end of the Bell for Serving Elders, Serving & Preparing Deacons, Fellowship Hosts, and Flowers scheduling.

Profit & Loss Report

1st Quarter 2022

Income	\$31,872.50
Expenses	<u>\$22,812.84</u>
Net Income	\$ 9,059.66

JUNE BELL

Bell articles for the June Bell are due by May 23rd.



May Anniversaries

- 5/1 Gene and Sally Bartosh
- 5/25 Bob and Annie Bloomer

Eastertide

Eastertide or Paschaltide is a festal season in the liturgical year of Christianity that focuses on celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It begins on Easter Sunday, which initiates Easter Week in Western Christianity, and Bright Week in Eastern Christianity. [Wikipedia](#)

The color for April 17—June 4 is WHITE.



Easter Thank You-

A BIG thank you to those who purchased Easter lilies for the sanctuary. To Sheila & Steve, thank you for all the beautiful music, for all your planning and hard work. It's always wonderful to have the Bells playing in our worship. A special thanks to our guest musicians on Easter Sunday:

Ben McKay—trumpet

Bill Sterba—trumpet

Thomas Knowles—trombone

Matt Ries—trombone / euphonium

Megan Cooney—timpani

Our Good Friday
Labyrinth in the
Fellowship Hall. A
time of prayer!



Scripture Writing Plan

May 2022

- Day 1: 1 Peter 4:7-10
- Day 2: 1 Peter 5:8-11
- Day 3: 2 Corinthians 6:1-2; 6-9
- Day 4: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15
- Day 5: 2 Corinthians 9:10-15
- Day 6: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
- Day 7: 2 Peter 3:14-18

- Day 8: Acts 20:22-24
- Day 9: Acts 20:32-35
- Day 10: Colossians 4:1-6
- Day 11: Ephesians 2:7-10
- Day 12: Ephesians 4:4-8
- Day 13: Galatians 2:17-21
- Day 14: Hebrews 4:14-16

- Day 15: Isaiah 30:18
- Day 16: James 4:4-6
- Day 17: John 1:14-18
- Day 18: Numbers 6:24-26
- Day 19: Psalm 86:6-7
- Day 20: Romans 3:20-26
- Day 21: Romans 5:1-11

- Day 22: Romans 5:12-17
- Day 23: Romans 5:18-21
- Day 24: Romans 6:1-4
- Day 25: Romans 6:5-7
- Day 26: Romans 6:8-14
- Day 27: Romans 11: 1-6
- Day 28: Romans 12:1-3

- Day 29: Romans 12:4-8
- Day 30: Titus 2:11-15
- Day 31: Titus 3:3-8

Grace

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.
 Psalm 119:18

Elders Prayer Update Bell Edition

"The Lord is my portion; I have promised to keep Your words
I sought Your favor with all *my heart; Be gracious to me according to Your word.*"
Psalm 119: 57-58

Please keep these family, friends and caregivers in your daily thoughts and prayers.
Let them know they are not forgotten while we are apart.

Consider a phone call or send a card to tell them they are missed and loved.

Gail has serious infected wounds on her leg. This week they are beginning infusion treatments. (Gene & Sally)

Mona Mlekush is at Trinity West RI had a toe removed due to injury. (Ron, Alice, Sandy & family)

Karen has brain tumor. (neighbor to Patty Pearsall)

Peggy Doak (Sheila Doak's mom)

Barb Hanson (family)

Jeff Mix (Marilyn & family)

Pat (Lori & Jim Bickford)

Cara (friend of Diane Block)

Mike (Kathi, Jeff and family)

Dorothy Coulson (Diane)

David & Sonya Geenen

Lois (Weston's friend)

Jessica Borland (Swanson's)

Bob Bloomer (Annie & family)

Michelle (Don & Kathy)

Wm. "Bill" Mockmore (Judie, Bill and family)

Alice Lyons (family)

Cathy Wilson (Lisa & family)

Wanda (Kathy & Don's friend)

David O'Melia (Jeannie & family)

C.D. Thompson (Family)

Sarah T. Julie (cancer)

Sharon D. (Bartosh's neighbor)

Beverly Ducey (Jim & family)

Bob, David and Jane (Kathy & Don)

Vickie Andereck (Jesse & Melba)

Ron Lyons (Alice, Sandy, Mona and Margaret)

Kent Christensen (Kathy & Don)

Jo (Kathy & Don)

Judy (Kathy & Don)

Gabriel (friend of Westons)

Tim M. (Jan & Roy)



58 days and counting until the John Deere Classic

As the time for the John Deere Classic approaches, we have a new option for supporting our church. The Birdies for Charity Program now includes "Fifteenth Avenue Christian Church" with a **"Charity ID" of 2322**. You can find more information and donate on the web site at: <https://birdiesforcharity.com/> .

One hundred percent of all donations to #2322 plus a bonus will come to 15th Avenue Christian Church. If you have any questions please call Lynne Sheese at (309)738-0634.

See the next page for the pledge form.

15th Avenue Christian Church

CHARITY SOLICITED FOR

2322

BIRD NUMBER _____

I pledge and promise to donate:

\$ _____ one-time flat donation.

Please attach payment. **Make checks payable to Quad Cities Golf Classic Charitable Foundation.**

\$ _____

extra donation to the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund

Donations to the BFC Bonus Fund (#1048) help provide the minimum of \$8 match for all participating charities.

GUESS THE BIRDIES & WIN A TWO YEAR LEASE ON A 2022 LEXUS RX 350!

I guess that _____ birdies will be made. Only 1 grand prize will be awarded. Void where prohibited by law.

BIRDIES SCORED (YEAR)

2,142 (2013)	1,982 (2016)	2,091 (2019)
2,040 (2014)	1,918 (2017)	N/A (2020)
1,990 (2015)	2,355 (2018)	1,905 (2021)

PLEDGE INFORMATION (Please print)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE OR EMAIL _____



Chip in for your chance to win

When you chip in to help area charities, you could win! But your favorite charity will be the *real* winner. That's because participating charities receive 100% of the donations pledged to them in this program, plus a bonus from the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund which is a guaranteed 5% match.

2022



GRAND PRIZE:
2 YEAR LEASE ON A 2022 LEXUS RX 350



HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

Simply make a one-time flat donation and mail with payment to the Birdies for Charity office at 15623 Coaltown Rd., East Moline, IL 61244.

To enter the contest, guess the number of birdies that will actually be made by PGA Tour Pros during the tournament, Wednesday through Sunday. A grand prize will be given to one person who guesses the correct number. In case of ties, winners will be randomly selected.

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS AS YOUR RECEIPT

I pledge \$ _____ one-time donation
I guessed _____ birdies would be made
Payment was included with pledge

YES \$ _____ NO

CASH CHECK NO _____

Please make checks payable to

QUAD CITIES GOLF CLASSIC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

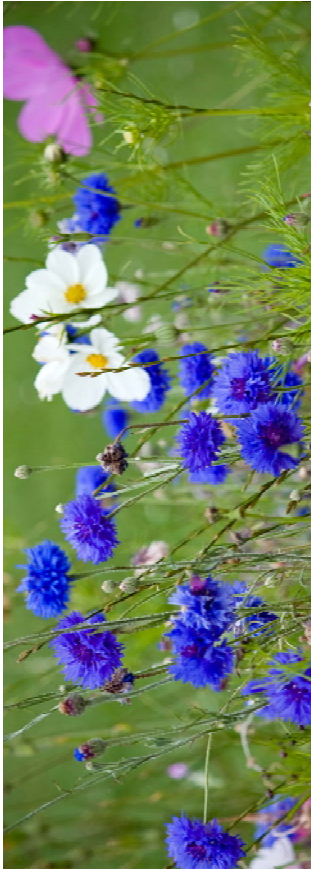


One lucky supporter of the John Deere Classic's Birdies for Charity program will win a 2-year lease on a 2022 Lexus RX 350, courtesy of Smart Lexus of Quad Cities.

CONTEST RULES

- Only 1 grand prize awarded. Ties determined by random drawing.
- All guesses must be on an official pledge card and received at the tournament office by June 10, 2022.
- Rules are available at www.birdiesforcharity.com.
- No pledge or purchase required. Need not be present to win.
- Pledges submitted after the JDC may be applied the following year.

OFFICIAL PLEDGE FORM



15th Avenue Christian Church

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 am Elder's Meeting	2 6:30pm, 15th Ave Bell Choir Practice	3	4 6:30pm Choir Practice	5 10am Bible Study	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9 6:30pm, 15th Ave Bell Choir Practice	10	11 6:30pm Choir Practice	12 10am Bible Study	13	14
15	16 6:30pm, 15th Ave Bell Choir Practice	17	18 6:30pm Choir Practice	19 10am Bible Study	20	21
22 Board Meeting in chapel 11:00 am	23 6:30pm, 15th Ave Bell Choir Practice	24	25 6:30pm Choir Practice	26 10am Bible Study	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day Office Closed	31				

Serving Elders

1 Doug Nelson
8 Dave Popp
15 Kathi Barnes
22 Steve Swanson
29 Doug Nelson
Visiting Elders:
Dave Popp & Steve Swanson

Serving & Preparing Deacons

Preparing: Helen Popp
Head Deacon: Ron Standley

Deacons: Grace Carlson
Allyson Leatherman
Rod Leatherman

Flowers

1 Mable Carlson
8 Lynne Swanson
15 Bill Holmer
22 Annie Bloomer
29 Kathi & Jeff Barnes , Doug & Marcia Nelson

Fellowship Hosts

1 Karen & Kenny Hitchcock
8 Bill & Judie Holmer
15
22
29 Kathi & Jeff Barnes