

# THE BELL

A Monthly Newsletter  
15<sup>th</sup> Avenue Christian Church

*A Message from Pastor Mike.....*

We are now entering Holy Week, the most sacred week in the entire Christian church calendar. We probably don't spend enough time thinking about the significance of each day of this special week, and the Scriptures that are thought to have described events that happened on each of those days. Holy Monday is the traditional day of remembering Jesus' cursing of the fig tree and the cleansing of the temple (Luke 11:12-25.) Holy Tuesday is said to be the day that Jesus spoke these words from chapter 12 of John's gospel, *"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name."* Holy Wednesday is sometimes called "Spy Wednesday" because that's when Judas negotiated for thirty pieces of silver to betray Jesus to the religious leaders (Matthew 26:15).

Holy Thursday is usually called Maundy Thursday, after the Latin word for "commandment." Jesus told the disciples, at the Last Supper, *"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."* (John 13:34) Maundy Thursday services may include foot-washing in remembrance of Jesus washing the disciples' feet, and Peter's denial of Jesus. Either Maundy Thursday or Good Friday services often include Tenebrae observances. That word means shadows or darkness, and a Tenebrae service often includes darkness in the church as a set of candles are gradually extinguished following a series of Scripture readings.

Good Friday services, in some faith traditions, may also focus on the passion of Christ (his trial, beating, and then his death on the cross), or the Stations of the Cross, which mark events along the way to Calvary. Sometimes services present the famous 7 last words of Christ on the cross. Holy Saturday marks the so-called Easter Vigil. That is the day between Jesus' death and the resurrection on Easter morning. The "three days in the tomb" included part of Good Friday, all of Holy Saturday, and part of Easter Sunday morning. Throughout church history, candidates for baptism have been instructed in the faith during the weeks of Lent and then they have been baptized as part of the Easter Sunday services. Many churches hold Sunrise services because that is the traditional time that Jesus' followers went to the tomb to find the stone had been rolled away! In Luke's gospel, two angelic beings were there to announce that Jesus had been raised. Centuries later, we join our voices in proclaiming, He is risen indeed!

*"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his." – Romans 6:3-11 –*

## Music Notes

**Sheila Doak, Music Director**

Another Easter is upon us! I have had a fruitful Lent, trying to spend more time with Our Lord in praying and reading, and less time watching TV. De-cluttering my house and my mind, too. I hope you are likewise feeling prepared after forty days of Lent to celebrate Easter in grand fashion!

Music Camp is currently waiting on Grace Church's Session for discussions and approval to support it jointly with 15th Avenue Church. Structure of the camp remains the same. I would like to have the camp at 15th Avenue, since that is the location the director and kids are most familiar with. Stay tuned!

Also waiting Grace Church Session's approval is a fun Community Sing for Social Justice Event and Meal, being organized by Irene Leites, Director of the Black Hawk College Choir and Community Chorale. It is tentatively planned for Thursday, April. 27, 6pm meal, 7pm Sing, at Grace Church. More info to come!

As always, please let me know if you are interested in participating in the Music Ministry here at 15th Avenue, whether through singing in the choir, ringing with the bells, singing a solo, making recommendations for who you'd like to hear provide special music, etc. We appreciate anyone who is willing to give up their time and their talent to help us praise the Lord!

Yours in Christ,

Sheila Doak, Music Director



## Gratitude Challenge 2023

The Gratitude Challenge is coming to an end. How long is your list? As I type this, I stopped to look at my list, and I am up to number 36. I've aimed for every day of Lent. I have a lot to be grateful for.

If you have not turned your donations in, please do so during the month of April. Also, please remember to mark that it is for the Outreach Challenge. Cash or check donations are accepted. Thank you for the support you show our Outreach Challenges. Lisa Hatlett

## RUMMAGE SALE

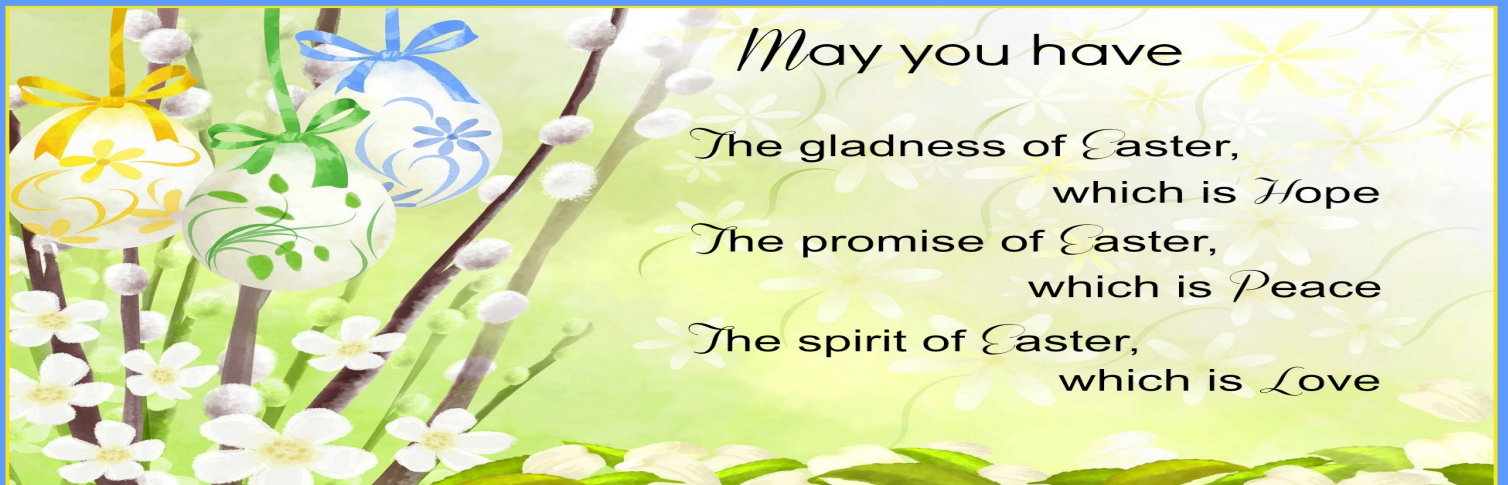
Set up for the Rummage Sale will be August 13th-16th. The sale will be held August 18th and 19th. Items can be brought beginning May. We cannot accept furniture, extra large TVs, etc. If you have any questions, please contact Marcia Swanson.

May you have

The gladness of Easter,  
which is Hope

The promise of Easter,  
which is Peace

The spirit of Easter,  
which is Love



## A Note from the Barnes

Dear Church Friends,

We are making the move to North Carolina to be close to our kids and grandchildren. While excited to spend more time with them each day, we will also greatly miss our church family. We were married in this church and raised our family here. We have been involved in so many facets of church life, from serving as deacons and elder, financial work, stewardship, outreach, music and more. It is with heavy hearts that we resign our positions as elder and deacon of the church.

15<sup>th</sup> Avenue Christian Church has given us the opportunity to serve in our community and support our church family in many ways. From the CROP Walk and CCC (Christian Caring Conference), to singing in the choir and playing bells, we have been blessed to have been a part of such a warm and loving congregation.

We will miss each of you, but hope to join you whenever we make our way back "home". You have supported us through the joys and sorrows in our lives and will forever be part of our family.

Thank you all for being such a large part of our lives all these years. Our new address as of May 1<sup>st</sup> will be 3914 Rhododendron Dr, Raleigh, NC 27612.

## SAVE THE POP TABS!!!

Marcia Swanson is collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. When we give these to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern Iowa & Western Illinois it helps keep families close. A donation does more than provide food, shelter, and support to families of the critically ill or injured children—it keeps families close to each other and the care they need. Please contact Marcia if you have any questions.



Anniversaries	
3	Pam & Jeff DEMARLIE
6	Judie & Bill HOLMER
12	Dave & Helen POPP
16	Richard & Dolores FRYBARGER
27	Steve & Lynne SHEESE
Birthdays	
2	Mona MLEKUSH
21	Dave O'MELIA
24	Jeanne O'MELIA
27	Dave GLANZ
28	Jesse ANDERECK

Sunday, April 2 and 9, 2023

# We Are Witnesses

Acts 10:39

Supporting general ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) received in most congregations



### March Attendance

March 5	48
March 12	31
March 19	36
March 26	30

### PROFIT & LOSS REPORT

Total Income	\$2985.56
Total Expenses	\$7497.19
Net Income	(\$4511.63)

## In Remembrance of Clara Delle Thompson



## In Remembrance of Dorothy Coulson



**Elders Prayer Update Bell Edition**

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,  
which God prepared in advance for us to do” Ephesians 2:10

Please keep these friends, family and neighbors in your daily thoughts and prayers.

Let them know they are loved and not forgotten while apart.

A card, phone call or visit to let them know they are missed.

George Isabel died. (Dan & Jennie Deibert's relation)

Shelly Rockwell ( friend of Popp)

David O'Melia (Jeanne & family)

Dennis Popp (David & Helen, Kathy & Matt)

Carolyn Swanson (Judie's cousin in Ames, Ia)

Don Harris died (Jerry Harris's brother in NC.)

Don Young (family)

Jeff Mix was in the hospital (Marilyn & family) \*\*\*

Jody, lost her Dad (family)

Damon (Dad)

Steve (Sue & family)

Brett Smith (Kelly”Goold” & family)

Jerry Roelens (Barb Hanson & family)

Wm. “Bill” Mockmore (Judie, Bill and family)

Diane Butcher (family)

Brenda O. (family)

Mike Rushing, Kaylee Walker , Connie, Kenny Hitchcock (Karen & family)

Sophi, Melaine, Cole (Diane)

Mona Mlekush (Alice & family)

Cara (friend of Diane B.)

Mike (Kathi, Jeff & family)

Jessica Borland (Swanson's)

Bob Bloomer (Annie & family)

Alice Lyons (family)

Gabriel , Sarah T, Scott,Michelle, Wand, Joy (Kathy & Don)

Julie (cancer)

Beverly Ducey (Jim & family)

Vickie (Jesse & Melba)

Kent Christensen (Kathy, Don and family)





\*\*\* Jeff Mix is at Winning Wheels 701 East 3rd Street Prophetstown, IL 61277

He will receive comprehensive rehabilitate Care there



# APRIL 2023

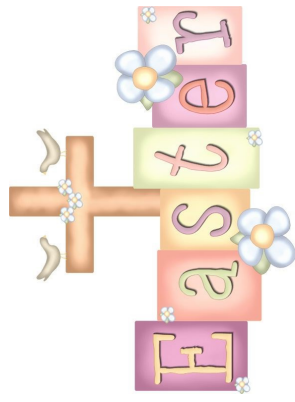
## 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue Christian

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Easter Offering 9:30am Worship 	3 6:30pm 15th Ave Bell Practice	4 6:30pm River Bend Bronze Bell Practice	5	6 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Service 	7 8:00am—Noon Prayer Garden 	8
9 Easter Offering 9:30am Worship Service Food Pantry 	10 6:30pm 15th Ave Bell Practice	11 6:30pm River Bend Bronze Bell Practice	12 6:30pm Choir Practice	13 10am Bible Study	14	15
16 9:30am Worship Service	17 6:30pm 15th Ave Bell Practice	18 6:30pm River Bend Bronze Bell Practice	19 6:30pm Choir Practice	20 10am Bible Study	21	22
23 9:30am Worship Service 30 9:30am Worship Service	24 6:30pm 15th Ave Bell Practice	25 6:30pm River Bend Bronze Bell Practice	26 6:30pm Choir Practice	27 10am Bible Study Bell Articles are Due	28	29 Noon-3pm Dave Glanz's 90th Birthday Open House

**Serving Elders**  
 Steve Swanson  
 Mark Carlson  
 Kathy Weston  
 Annie Bloomer  
 Diane Block  
**Visiting Elders**  
 Sally Bartosh and Alice Lyons

**Serving Deacons**  
 HD Karen Hitchcock, Barb Hansen, Rose Deibert, Marcia Swanson  
**Preparing Deacons**  
 Lynne Swanson

**Flowers**  
 Alice Lyons  
 Lisa Hatlett  
 Kathi & Jeff Barnes  
 Lisa Hatlett  
 Lynne & Steve Sheese



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**30-Day Scripture  
Writing Challenge***April*

God speaks to us through His Word, so take some time each day this month to write down the following Scripture. If you have time, you might want to also write a prayer that the Scripture leads you to pray, or your reflections as you write.

- |  |                     |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|--|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 1</b>  | 1 Peter 5:10        | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 16</b> | 1 Corinth. 15:54-58 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 2</b>  | Hebrews 11:11       | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 17</b> | Joshua 10:25        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 3</b>  | Isaiah 40:31        | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 18</b> | John 5:6            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 4</b>  | Jeremiah 29:11      | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 19</b> | 1 Peter 1:3-6       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 5</b>  | Colossians 1:27     | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 20</b> | Job 5:16            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 6</b>  | Philippians 1:6     | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 21</b> | Psalms 147:11       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 7</b>  | Romans 5:5          | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 22</b> | Proverbs 13:12      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 8</b>  | Romans 15:13        | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 23</b> | Romans 5:2-7        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 9</b>  | Romans 8:24-25      | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 24</b> | Proverbs 24:14      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 10</b> | Philippians 3:13-14 | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 25</b> | Romans 12:12        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 11</b> | Romans 8:28-29      | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 26</b> | Romans 15:4         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 12</b> | Psalms 3:2-6        | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 27</b> | Hebrews 11:1        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 13</b> | Colossians 3:1-2    | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 28</b> | Proverbs 23:18      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 14</b> | Isaiah 43:1-2       | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 29</b> | 1 Corinth. 13:13    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 15</b> | 2 Corinth. 4:16-18  | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>April 30</b> | Revelation 21:4     |