



THE BELL

A Monthly Newsletter
15th Avenue Christian Church

A Message from Pastor Mike.....

Some forms of Celtic spirituality include a belief that there are “thin places.” That is, places or times when heaven and earth seem to be close together. Times and places where heaven and earth seem more connected than usual. Examples of *close places* might be when we hear the cry of a newborn, or the crying that we hear at a funeral. Such moments of increased awareness help us recognize that something bigger is taking place than we are likely to notice on an average day that is filled with hustle and bustle. When we pause and take time to assess where we really are on life’s journey, it can help us see that heaven and earth aren’t really so far apart after all.

Jesus is in heaven making intercession for us as we go about our busy lives, individually and as the Body of Christ. Imagine for a moment where you have already been in life. God was there with you. God is with you right now too. Now, imagine where you will be 100 years from now. God is already there too. We can rest in the hope that Jesus’ intercession for us has already won the victory. There is great comfort in knowing that we are part of God’s eternal plan and that God has everything under control. In the meantime, how do we move from where we are to the next phase of life which God has waiting for us? One way to connect the complexity of daily life with God’s big-picture is through our practices of prayer and Scripture reading. We can always be more intentional about using our daily devotional time to practice *orienting* ourselves to God’s plan across the ages. That is when we more fully realize that heaven and earth go together.

One of the commentaries I read suggested three steps we can take to make our faith real. First, we are asked to grab onto the fact that we have been accepted by God. We are worthy of God’s grace because Jesus has made that true. Secondly, we are asked to exercise our faith boldly. Third, we are asked to challenge and encourage each other with the good news. How do we do that? We support each other and remind each other, in all of the disappointments and messiness of life that the victory has *already* been won.

From the days of the priests ministering in the Tent of Meeting and then in the temple, to Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, to Jesus’ intercession for us in heaven, to Jesus’ ultimate return, and on toward God’s ultimate restoration of all things, the victory has been won. Life may sometimes feel like a puzzling whirlwind to us, where our lives leave us feeling all turned around. In those moments, we do well to remind each other that God’s plan is a wonderful plan and we are part of it. We are here, together, and God is with us. Have a blessed Spring!

I will be gone on May 12 to attend my daughter Maryrose's graduation from Syracuse University in New York. Dr. Charlie Schmidt will be here to play in my absence.

Music Camp will be held June 10-14 with the show during the 10:30 service June 16 at Grace Church. Please let me know if you need a registration form for grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or neighbor kids! If you would like to offer your time or financial support, it would be much appreciated.

Finally, as always, I am looking for more musicians to provide special music.

Sheila Doak, Music Director



SAVE THE POP TABS!!!

Marcia Swanson is collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. When we give these to Ronald McDonald House Charities 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.

BRUNCH-OUT

On Sunday, April 28th we had 14 people who came to Brunch-Out at Milan HyVee Wahlburgers/Market Grill. With a wide selection of food to choose from, everyone enjoyed the meal and time together. For our next Outing, on Sunday, May 19, 2024 following Church Cabinet Meeting, at 11:30 we will meet at Mulkey's, only a couple blocks from church in Rock Island. I hope you will put this date on your calendar, plan to come to church and join us for Brunch-Out at Mulkey's.

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/>. You can also put your donation in the offering plate. Please make checks out to Birdies for Charity. Deadline for donations is June 19, 2024.

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.

**61 days and counting until the
John Deere Classic**



Fifteenth Avenue Christian Church

CHARITY SOLICITED FOR

2322

BIRD NUMBER

I PLEDGE TO DONATE:

\$ _____ to the charity noted above.
(one time, flat donation amount)

BIRDIES FOR CHARITY BONUS FUND

Yes, I would like to make an additional donation to the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund in the amount of \$ _____, to help provide the minimum 5% match to all participating charities.

GUESS THE BIRDIES TO WIN A TWO YEAR LEASE ON A 2023 LEXUS!

I guess that _____ birdies will be made. Only one grand prize will be awarded. Void where prohibited by law. Guesses due by June 26.

BIRDIES SCORED BY YEAR

1,990 (2015)	2,355 (2018)	1,905 (2021)
1,982 (2016)	2,091 (2019)	2,041 (2022)
1,918 (2017)	N/A (2020)	1,929 (2023)

PLEDGE & DONOR INFORMATION (please print)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE AND/OR EMAIL _____

Please include payment & make checks payable to:
BIRDIES FOR CHARITY

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.

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 Road, 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.



GRAND PRIZE: 2 YEAR LEASE ON A 2024 LEXUS NX!

One lucky supporter of the John Deere Classic's Birdies for Charity program will win a 2 year lease on a 2024 Lexus, courtesy of Smart Lexus of Quad Cities.



SMART LEXUS OF QUAD CITIES

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS AS YOUR RECEIPT

I pledged \$ _____ one-time donation.

I guessed _____ birdies would be made.

Payment was included with pledge

YES \$ _____ NO

CASH CHECK NO. _____

Please make checks payable to:

BIRDIES FOR CHARITY
15623 COALTOWN ROAD
EAST MOLINE, IL 61244



Quad Cities Golf Classic Charitable Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, EIN #93-1332621, doing business as John Deere Classic & Birdies for Charity.



JOHN DEERE
CLASSIC
JULY 1-7, 2024

MOTHER'S DAY MAY 12TH!!!

2024 Pentecost Offering—

Restore and Rewind!

Sundays May 12th and May 19th

“All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.” Acts 2:44-45

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

Happy Birthday

Alice Lyons!!

Please join us after service on May 19th to celebrate Alice's 90th Birthday.



May Birthdays

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

April Attendance

April 7	34
April 14	28
April 21	33
April 28	38

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



Profit & Loss Report

Income	\$3060.00
Expenses	\$7109.71
Net Income	(\$4049.71)

JUNE BELL

Bell articles for the June Bell are due by May 30th.

May Anniversaries

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

Elders Prayer Update Bell Edition

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.” Romans 12:12

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

Send a card, a call on the phone or a visit. Let them know they are not forgotten.

Troy Green had a major heart attack and is out of the country.(Karen & Kenny Hitchcock)

Kenny and my mother Faye (Karen Hitchcock)

Helen Odean died (Barry, Sandy & family)

Annie Bloomer (Bob, Ron, Lisa & Laila)

Bob Bloomer (Annie & family)

John JR Christopher (Lisa & family)

Ken Enstrom (family)

Dennis O. died of cancer (Janet)

Susan Runyon (friend of Bartosh)

Henry Diedrich /Silver Cross #255 (family)

Terrie Rutherford (family)

Patty R. (Rick & family)

Wayne Carter (Susan, Sabrinna, Zac, Nathaniel and family)

Mike B. (Sabrinna, Zac & family)

Theresa / Blake (Jeanie) / Emma (Jeanie) / Hunter (family)

Chad Secor (Dave & Helen's nephew)

Roland, Cancer (friend of Weston's)

Edward Gridley (Jacob)

Mona Mlekush (family & Alice)

Carla Rosalie Molly Mary Nickie (family)

Nancy G, cancer (family) Pat, cancer (family)

Kaylee Walker (Karen & family)

Kim Poleing (Karen)

Kenny (Karen)

Melba Andereck (Jesse & family)

Juliana & Hector (Jeanie) Chaplaincy at John Deere (Jeanie Kirgan)

Jerry Roelens (Barb Hanson & family)

Gavin ,Mike Rushing, Connie (Karen & family)

Kathy Overholzer (Dave & Helen's niece)

Julie (cancer)

Brenda O. (family)

Dawn F. (family)

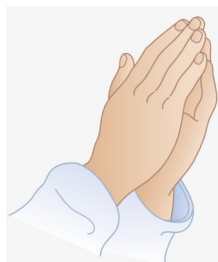
Cara (friend of Diane B.)

Jessica Borland (Swanson's)

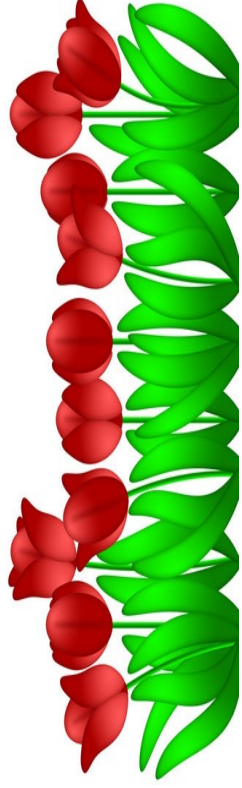
Beverly Ducey (Jim & family)

Vickie (Jesse & Melba)

Kent Christensen (Kathy, Don and family)



15th Avenue Christian Church



MAY 2024

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

Serving Elders
 5 Mark Carlson
 12 Helen Popp
 19 Steve Swanson
 26 Lisa Hatlett
Visiting Elders:
 Dave Popp & Steve Swanson

Serving Deacons
 HD Ron Standley, Grace Carlson, Marty Larson and Gary Troyer
Preparing: Lisa Hatlett

Flowers
 5 Judie Holmer
 12 Annie Bloomer
 19 Don and Sandy Wentler
 19 Mona, Sandy and Margaret
 26 Sandy Schlorf



**GOD IS MERCIFUL
GOD IS SLOW TO ANGER**

May Scripture Writing Plan

Day 1 - Deuteronomy 4:30,31

Day 2 - Deuteronomy 30:1-3

Day 3 - 2 Chronicles 30:9

Day 4 - Reflection: 1 Corinthians 12:26

Day 5 - 2 Chronicles 36:15-16

Day 6 - Nehemiah 9:17

Day 7 - Nehemiah 9:30,31

Day 8 - Psalm 78:38,39

Day 9 - Psalm 111:2-4

Day 10 - Psalm 112:1-4

Day 11 - Reflection: 1 Peter 3:8

Day 12 - Psalm 145:8,9

Day 13 - Numbers 14:11,12

Day 14 - Numbers 14:18,19

Day 15 - Psalm 106:43-45

Day 16 - Ecclesiastes 8:11,12

Day 17 - Lamentations 3:22,23

Day 18 - Reflection: 2 Timothy 2:24,25

Day 19 - Jeremiah 18:7-8

Day 20 - Ezra 9:13-14

Day 21 - Ezekiel 20:8,9

Day 22 - Ezekiel 20:13,14

Day 23 - Joel 2:12,13

Day 24 - Hosea 11:8,9

Day 25 - Reflection: Proverbs 16:32

Day 26 - Jonah 4:1,2

Day 27 - Jonah 4:3,4

Day 28 - Nahum 1:3

Day 29 - Micah 7:18,19

Day 30 - Romans 9:22-24

Day 31 - 2 Peter 3:8,9