

A Monthly Newsletter 15th Avenue Christian Church

A message from Pastor Mike......

If pressed, I might say that the primary purposes of the local church are to glorify God with our worship, to help others come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ (inside and outside of the congregation), and to provide a place where Christians can grow and serve. We find a good model for the church in Acts 2:42, which says: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." According to this verse, the purposes and activities of the church should be: 1) teaching biblical doctrine, 2) providing a place of fellowship for believers, 3) observing the Lord's supper, and 4) praying. Although the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is part of a Restorationist movement, God's purposes may be different from one age to another. The church is meant to respond and to adapt, even as the church did at the time the Book of Acts was written. We are still "pentecosting" as one of my seminary professors put it! We are still being empowered by the Holy Spirit to speak and to serve. The church has been given the responsibility to be God's hands and feet and voice in the world. We have each received gifts to make that work possible. We aren't each responsible for everything, and we aren't each responsible for the same work, but as a community we have been promised that we will have what we need to serve in this place and this time.

We are called to carry the gospel message out into the world, but that message cannot be just head-knowledge. It cannot be a set of facts which we think we have just right. When the church is fulfilling its purposes, there will be compassion, encouragement, teaching, preaching, and kindness. Spiritual gifts, given by God's grace, are most often for other people! We, as the church, have a calling to bring good news and to serve. We won't get it right all of the time, and yet we are called into service. The church itself isn't expected to make everything right, or to get everything right. It isn't the burden of the church to know everything. But we do have the privilege (and responsibility) to follow Jesus, and to continue the work he did during his earthly ministry. One of the practical insights I received from the seminary experience is the idea of the kingdom as "already / not yet". I believe this phrase originated with George Eldon Ladd. I like this idea because we are a living, breathing church and we aren't at the end of our race. We are the church — working in the kingdom 'already', but we know there is a big piece of the puzzle that is 'not yet'. With God's help, we can continue to learn and grow as the Body of Christ!

""They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."." - Acts 2:4 -

My Family and I would like to thank everyone who reached out to us with cards, letters and kind expressions of sympathy in the recent passing of Dave. We are very humble to have such great friends to help us through this trying time. It has been very much appreciated.

We love you all, Helen and all our family



A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning.

Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

July Attendance		
July 6	30	
July 13	34	
July 20	31	
July 27	29	

PROFIT & LOSS REPORT

Income	\$5805.00
Expenses	\$12920.49
Net Income	(\$7115.49)

Music Notes

We've got a great lineup of special music for the five Sundays in August! We start off on Aug. 3rd with Rob Miller on clarinet, followed by Susan Runyon, Lillian Dawn, Claire Reger, and Gary Troyer. I can't wait to hear them!

As a gentle reminder to those of you who are so excited to share our special music with the online community, not all of our soloists like to have their musical offerings shared online. If you'd like to record it, please just ask them first. They might even be willing to share it online, but prefer to be asked first. Thanks!

Yours in Christ, Sheila Doak

Anniversaries

- 11 Dave & Jeanne O'MELIA
- 22 Jerry & Nancy HARRIS

Birthdays

- 11 Hector MATA
- 30 Juliana MATA
- 30 Marilyn MIX

HELP WANTED

We are in need of some volunteers for cleaning the church. Please see Judie Church-Holmer for details.

Mission Speaker

Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 10 am.

At Hope United Church of Christ 3324 41st Street Moline, IL 61265

Elena Huegel, the Global Ministries mission co-worker in Chiapas, Mexico, will be our speaker. Elena has a lot to say about the situation in Chiapas, the good work that is going on in that critical part of the world, and Indigenous Maya healing practices in the face of trauma. She will help us to understand the critical realities of cartel power, migration pressures, and how organizations are coping.

For more information call Michael Swartz, 563 -505-2128



BRUNCH-OUT!!!!!!!!!

On Sunday, July 13th we had 13 people enjoy a meal at Welcome Inn in Milan. We had great service in a private dining room. Our next Brunch-out will be held on Sunday, August 10th. We plan to meet at Pizza Ranch, (located at 880 Lincoln Road, in Bettendorf, Iowa) after our church service, around 11:00 am. Pizza Ranch is located off Middle Road, in the same parking lot as Burlington Coat Factory. We have the Bunkhouse room reserved for our group. We will enjoy plenty of great food served buffet style, and fun fellowship. I hope you will make plans to join us, everyone is welcome.

Sally Bartosh

The Secret

I met God in the morning when the day was at its best, His presence came like a sunrise like a glory within my breast.

All day long the presence lingered. All day long He stayed with me: as we sailed in perfect calmness o'er a very troubled sea.

Other ships were blown and battered, other ships were sore, distressed; But the winds that seem to drive them brought to us a peace and rest.

Then I thought of other mornings, with a keen remorse of mind, When I, too, had loosed the moorings, with His presence left behind.

So I think I know the secret learned from many a troubled way; you must seek God in the morning if you want Him through the day.

Ralph S. Cushman

A big thank you for your cards, gifts and prayers at the passing of my brother, Bill Mockmore. He is at peace now.

Judie Church-Holmer



Elders Prayer Update Bell Edition

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18
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.

Please continue to keep all of the families who have lost loved ones in your prayers. (15th Avenue Church family)

Saundra, daughter of Dick and Dolores, recovering from rotator cuff surgery last week. (Frybargers)

Bill has additional dermatology appointments coming up, as he continues treatment for two types of skin cancer. (Judie)

Sheila's son, Charlie, is recovering from surgery to repair a badly broken arm. (Bible Study group)

Please continue to pray for Diane Block (family)

Tyler (Jeanne K.)

Don Young is doing somewhat better, but he still needs prayers (Sherry & family)

Lili (9 yrs old) leukemia and treatment complications (family)

Mike Besette has an upcoming cancer surgery. (Sabrinna, Zac, Nathaniel & family)

A cousin has been diagnosed with cancer (Jeanie)

Alice (Sandy, Mable & family)

Christine continues to receive cancer treatments. (friend of Kathy Weston)

Beverly Ducey is in hospice care at Park Vista. (Jim & Diane)

Joetta E. tumors (in-operable) Family

Judy Turner, lymphoma treatments (Craig & family)

Melanie (Diane Block)

Pam DeSmet (family)

Prayers for Johnny, Julianna, and Hector (Jeanie)

Bill being treated for cancer (Candy)

Mike F. stage 4 colon cancer (family)

Jackie Adams (Dolores and Dick Frybarger)

Roland, Cancer (friend of Kathy Weston)

Gibson (friend of Kathy Weston)

Patty R. (Rick & family)

Emma (Jeanie) / Hunter (family)

Mona Mlekush (family & Alice)

Julie (cancer)

Brenda O. (family)

Barb (Nancy)

Carla / Rosalie / Molly/ Mary/ Nickie (family)

Nancy G., cancer (family)

Pat, cancer (family)

Dawn F. (family)

Cara (friend of Diane B.)

Jessica Borland (Swanson's)

Vickie (Jesse & Melba)

Melba Andereck (Jesse & family)

Kent Christensen (Kathy & family)

Bible Study Tools

31-Day Scripture Writing Challenge

August

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.

□Aug. 1	1 Peter 2:24	☐ Aug. 17	1 Corinth. 13:12
□Aug. 2	Luke 18:42-43	□ Aug. 18	James 1:27
□Aug. 3	Genesis 4:7	☐ Aug. 19	Romans 1:17
□Aug. 4	Romans 5:8	□ Aug. 20	Revelation 3:21
□Aug. 5	Ephesians 1:7	☐ Aug. 21	John 8:12
□Aug. 6	Mark 11:25	□ Aug. 22	James 2:17
□Aug. 7	Psalm 103:12	□ Aug. 23	2 Corinth. 12:9-10
□Aug. 8	Romans 10:9-10	□Aug. 24	1 Chron. 16:10
□Aug. 9	Proverbs 19:11	□Aug. 25	Isaiah 6:3
☐ Aug. 10	Lam. 3:31-32	□Aug. 26	Habakkuk 3:3-4
□ Aug. 11	Psalm 119:28	□ Aug. 27	Zechariah 2:11
☐ Aug. 12	Habakkuk 3:17-18	□Aug. 28	Revelation 1:7
☐ Aug. 13	Isaiah 33:2	□Aug. 29	Psalm 19:1
☐ Aug. 14	2 Thess. 2:16-17	□Aug. 30	Job 38:4-7
☐ Aug. 15	Psalm 147:3	☐ Aug. 31	Genesis 12:2-3
☐ Aug. 16	James 1:2-4	Come back next month for	a new Scripture writing challenge!



15th Avenue Christian Church

Serving Elders Kathy Weston

Annie Bloomer 3 10

Sat

Fri

Thu

Tue

Mon

Sun

Sally Bartosh Annie Bloomer

Steve Swanson

Visiting Elder Sally Bartosh and Diane Block

Serving Deacons

rlson, Barb Hansen and D Sally Bartosh, Grace ry Troyer

Preparing Deacon Kathy Weston

Marty Larson Sandy Schlorf Flowers

Judie Holmer

Marilyn Mix

Bell Article

10AM Bible

9:30AM Worship

9:30AM Worship

31

Deadline

Study

24 31

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3	4	2	9	7	8	6)
8:30AM Elder Mtg				10AM Bible Study			<u> </u>
9:30AM Worship							
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
9:30AM Worship				10AM Bible			HD
Food Pantry				Study			Carl
11:00AM Brunch Out							Gar
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
9:30AM Worship				10AM Bible Study			
				,			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	3
							2