



The Tidings

APRIL 2011

Ministerial Moments

Spring has sprung. The crocus and daffodils bloomed just in time for Wurstmart. Wurstmart was a huge success as always and Fun and Fellowship has already had their meeting to try to resolve the glitches and make it better for next time.

Ozzy wants to thank whoever threw him the ham shank. He enjoyed it. It will not, however, teach him to stop barking. (He's quieter than he used to be but I doubt anything will ever get him to stop barking.) He got some left-over ham shanks that didn't sell Sunday also, so we will have a very happy dog for a while. Sorry, church mouse, but I don't think there were a lot of left-overs for you.

We are now about half-way through Lent. As stated in last month's Tidings the UCC is running a commercial in the St. Louis area and we will be having a special welcome event in connection with it. Funds and Fellowship chose April 10 as our special Day of Welcome and as such the social hour that Sunday will be at 9:15AM instead of the usual 9:30. Please invite anyone new to town or anyone you believe to be un-churched or who hasn't been in church for a while so we can have a great day that Sunday.

On Sunday March 20, Ron, Mom and I went over to Darmstadt and saw the "Pickin' Chicks". They are four girls, ages 11-15, who took lessons at the Bluegrass Shack in New Athens and were formed into a group by their teacher. They have since won championships and have been booked to play the weekend before Memorial Day in Silver Dollar City.

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"Welcoming Event" - April 10th

There will be a "Welcoming Event" prior to worship service on

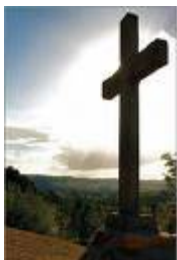
Sunday, April 10th - 9:15 a.m.

Come down to the basement and enjoy

Pastries, Coffee and Fellowship.

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SAVE THE DATE ! ! ! ! - Sunday, May 15th

On **Sunday May 15th** we will celebrate Mabel Schickedanz's retirement as Organist and Choir Director for Friends UCC. A retirement Open House is planned. Watch for further details in the May Tidings and Sunday bulletins.

Greeter and Ushers for April and May

April 3: Kay Trotter, Mike Trotter, Carol Reinhardt

April 10: Gene & Betty Bollmeier, Dale Sinn

April 17: Susan Oyler, Kathleen Robert, Neal & Donna Galle

April 24: Easter Sunday - Church Council

May 1: Gene & Betty Bollmeier, Kevin McDonald

May 8: Mother's Day - Sunday School, Carol Mercer, Susie Stewart

May 15: Linda Jones, Dale & Sharon Reese

May 22: Gene & Betty Bollmeier, Curt Werner

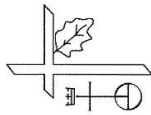
May 29: Ruby Lehman, Todd Erb, Katie Cowell

Monthly Birthday/Anniversary Calendars on Bulletin Boards

Please take a look at the monthly birthday and anniversary calendars on the bulletin boards in the vestibule. Please initial your dates if they are correct, if they are not correct please change it.

Also if there is someone I have missed, please add it.

Thanks ! ! !



Experience DuBois Center this Summer

Explore God's Creation on acres and acres of beautiful terrain.

Swim and boat in our lakes. Ride a horse. Go for a hike.

Sing around the bonfire and experience the wonders of the night.

Play wacky games and make new friends. Have FUN!

Be yourself, try new things and grow in your faith.

Be part of a Christian community.

See how amazing serving God can be.



Days at DuBois Center are filled with fun, laughter and a variety of activities which are adapted for different age groups and provide a progression of experiences. There are new challenges for campers whether it's their first or fifth time at camp.

- Archery • Beach Fun • B.L.A.S.T. • Bonfires
- Camp-Style Worship • Canoeing • Cook-Outs • Crafts
- Creek Hikes • Faith Chats • Fishing • Group Building
- Activities Games • Hay Rides • Hiking • Horseback Rides
- Singing • Skits • Swimming

What is B.L.A.S.T.?

Bible Learning And Spirit Time, and it's... a blast!

- ✓ Summer Camps for Young People who have Completed Grades 1-12
 - ✓ Summer Camps for Families and Parents & Children Together
 - ✓ Traditional Camps & Specialty Camps
 - ✓ A Week Specifically for High Schoolers
 - ✓ A Week for Middle Schoolers on the Conference Side of Camp
- Camp Brochures are Available in the Church Office.**

DuBois Center
www.duboiscenter.org email: duboiscenter@frontiernet.net
618.787.2202

A Ministry of the Congregations
of the Illinois South Conference, United Church of Christ

First Annual MENMEN Work Day



Saturday - April 2

DuBois Center

YOU'RE INVITED! Families, youth groups, adult fellowships, everyone is invited to lend a helping hand with the maintenance of DuBois Center. Projects vary, depending on the skills of those involved and the weather, but a tired muscle or two and a great sense of satisfaction are guaranteed. Stacking wood and raking leaves are on the list, as are a variety of carpentry projects. Throughout camp there is wood to be split, door and window screens to be repaired, painting and cleaning projects to be completed as we prepare for a busy spring and summer. The work isn't glamorous, but it really does make a BIG DIFFERENCE!

- ▶ We'll gather around 8:30 am and conclude by 4:00 pm.
- ▶ Lunch and supplies are provided, but **CALL AHEAD** to reserve a spot and let us know about special skills.
- ▶ Whatever tools and professional equipment you can bring will be greatly appreciated.

If this date doesn't work for you or your group, call the office to explore alternative dates. Work projects can also be scheduled as part of a retreat. In addition, we can arrange week-long work camps for groups.

For More Information Contact:



DuBois Center
618.787.2202
duboiscenter@frontiernet.net

Ministerial Moments Continued

The following week they have been invited to take part in the Youth in Bluegrass Festival at Silver Dollar City. Only 20 groups around the country get invited. Three of the four girls have taken Junior Championships. They will be performing on April 2 at Marissa United Methodist.

As some of you may have noticed, I am reporting more on the people on our Prayer List. This was suggested at a Council meeting and Bobbie Duffie has been tracking down people on the list we don't know so that I can report what is happening with them. Bobbie has also been a great help to me in trying to find music for the choir as we adjust to a new organist and lesser rehearsal schedule.

Maundy Thursday service is April 21 at 7:00PM. We will be celebrating the "hand washing" this year. I have been told that Easter Vigil will be held at St. Paul's in Lebanon this year at 7:00PM, but have not heard any details. Easter Sunrise will be a 7:00AM at 1st Baptist April 24. There will be breakfast following.

As we get closer to Easter we will be thinking more about Jesus' Resurrection and perhaps, about Heaven in general. The Resurrection is confusing to most folks because Jesus is depicted as walking and talking. He eats; and yet, he appears and disappears. He seems to walk through walls. People don't recognize him and yet, he still has the wounds in his hands, feet and side. It might help to remember that the gospels were written generations after Jesus' death with the earliest, Mark, written approximately 70AD. To a large extent what we have is an oral history written down years later. Because of this, we have reports of eye witness accounts but not the actual eye witnesses. Which account is literally accurate doesn't matter. SOMETHING HAPPENED! If it had not, there would not have been a story to tell and the disciples would have all gone home to Galilee to fish or do whatever they had done before.

I recently read a book called, Heaven: Our Enduring Fascination with the Afterlife. The author is Lisa Miller, a religion journalist, not a theologian. Perhaps because she is not a theologian, the book is highly readable as she explores what various theologians and religious leaders have said about Heaven through the ages. She covers not just Christian views on the afterlife, but Jewish and Moslem beliefs as well. Having a study of how views have changed over the centuries as well as different interpretations today in one book is very helpful both in understanding the various viewpoints, as well as helping to clarify ones' own viewpoints on what the afterlife may be like.

It is always good to remember that sometimes our faiths can come together and work as the Children of God we are.

Blessings,

Pastor Gail

Caring Volunteers Needed

Enjoy working with children and youth, but think you're too old for a week of camp? Think again! Caring volunteers are needed throughout the summer to serve as cabin counselors, nurses, and activity specialist. Volunteers generally serve for one week and work hands in hand with paid summer staff to provide our fun and faith-filled summer program.

Older, more mature volunteers are especially needed for our High School week at Dubois, July 10-15.

NO EXPERIENCE is required. Training provided.

Contact the DuBois Center office to apply: 618-787-2202 or duboiscenter@frontiernet.net

One Great Hour of Sharing

April 3 is our annual collection of One Great Hour of Sharing. This offering is our support of International missions to people in over 80 countries, primarily health education, and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and international and domestic disaster ministries. 64% of OGHS goes to health, education, and agriculture development. 10% goes to National Disaster. 7% to International Disaster, 8% to Refugees. 5% Promotion and Marketing, 5% administration and 1% Monitoring and Evaluation.

For those of you wishing to make a special donation for the Japanese earthquake/tsunami, please mark on the memo parts of your checks: pacific earthquake/tsunami. Wider Church Ministries.

Wurstmarkt News ! ! !

WOW - What a turn out. The weather was beautiful, what a great day for the Wurstmarkt. Over 450 people were served.

It is fair to say that over \$2,700 was made on the event, all the fresh meat was sold. We received once again many compliments on the great food and service.

Funds and Fellowship would like to give a huge **THANK YOU** to the great help and **FANTASTIC** desserts. Everyone out did themselves.

Oakdale's 18th Annual Eggstravaganza

Small town of Oakdale is having their 18th Annual Eggstravaganza

on Saturday April 16th!!!

Here is a list of things that you can do:

- 10 am **Easter Egg Factory Tours** \$1.00 ; **Petting Zoo** \$1.00 ; **Kiddie Train Rides** Free
- to 4 pm **Crafts and Food ; Prize Wheel ; Music:** 10 am to 4 pm (Joe and Cody Gill, Rosie Konkel, Bob Niedbalski, Madonna and Ron Williams, "Hangmanoverboardwalk Bank" and Sound Effects DJ)
- 11 am **Easter Bonnet Contest:** 5 cash prizes
- Noon **Egg Toss** (age 9 and up)
- 1 pm **Easter Bunny Line Dance Contest**
- 2 pm **Free 20 Acre Egg Hunt** (Ages 1-8)
- 3 & 4 pm **Bicycle Drawing** (must be present to win)

Order Form for Easter Lilies - Due April 17th

Name of person ordering _____

Memory or Honor of _____

Memory or Honor of _____

Memory or Honor of _____



Number of lilies ordered _____ X \$8.00 each

= Total Amount Due: _____

Money or check may be attached to this form and dropped in the offering plate or given to Susie Stewart. Orders MUST be in by April 17th.

APRIL 2011

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| April 2: DuBois Work Day ; BBQ @ Biddleborn 11–4 pm ; “Pickin’ Chicks” at Marissa United Methodist 7 pm May 2—Mother Daughter Tea 6:30 pm | | | | | | |
| 3 One Great Hour of Sharing ; Taize Service @ UCC in Waterloo 4 pm | 4 Daughters Mtg @ 7 pm Region 8 Mtg @ 7 pm | 5 | 6 Lenten Service @ St. Peter’s Lenzburg | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Welcoming Event 9:15 am Social Hour | 11 | 12 Council Mtg @ 7:00 pm | 13 Lenten Service @ Trinity Biddleborn | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Palm Sunday Lily Order Due | 18 1st Night of Passover | 19 Justice & Witness Mtg 1-3 pm | 20 | 21 Maundy Thursday “Hand Washing” | 22 Good Friday Service @ Trinity Biddleborn | 23 Easter Vigil @ St. Paul’s in Lebanon 7 pm |
| 24 EASTER Sunrise Service 1st Baptist 7 am | 25 | 26 Pastor Appreciation Day at DuBois Eden Spring Convocation | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

See far left for items



April Birthdays

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Ken Fitch | 2 |
| Mike Raban | 3 |
| Savanah Sinn | 5 |
| Kay Trotter | 7 |
| Betty Bollmeier | 8 |
| Eli Schmierbach | 10 |
| Sandy Triefenbach | 11 |
| Jeremy Dressel | 15 |
| Allison Curry | 15 |
| Karen Bearley | 17 |
| Danielle Sigman | 18 |
| Joyce Fitch | 26 |
| Melinda Schneidewind | 30 |



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Friedens United Church of Christ

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marissafriedens@frontier.com
www.marissaucc.org

*"Through the Spirit we are
 a Church on the Move:
 Welcoming, Caring,
 Sharing."*

April Anniversary's

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Dean & Kathleen Robert | 4 |
| Irving & Mabel Schickedanz | 23 |
| Milton & Blanche Schmierbach | 29 |



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 820 North Main
 Marissa, IL 62257*