

# Foresight

Looking to the Future  
Christian Church of Villa Park  
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Pastor: Rev. Kerry Waller



Tuesday, May 10, 2011

## Bragging About Our Amazing God



My husband and I are in the continual process of teaching our nearly-three year-old son, Soren, manners. He does pretty well with the basics, but has developed a habit of trying to boss the family around. His sister listens surprising well to him, and agrees with his bossing - you know, if she were going to do whatever he suggests anyway. He has also started bragging. "I did a good good good good job putting on my shoes," he announced this morning. "I am a nice boy." Harmless, so be sure, but so often the words from the mouths of babes have some wisdom for us all.

The apostle Paul writes that "if I boast, it is only in the Lord." I think that's a good standard, but perhaps it is not enough for some people. After all, God gives us everything good, including our abilities and talents. God has given us a church at the corner of Riordon and Villa and been so good to us for more than 50 years. God has enabled us to serve on his behalf the community that uses the Food Pantry for 20 years. God has sustained our faith for decades, too. When is something bragging, and when is it just good advertising?

This summer we will be looking at evangelism using the book "Unbinding the Gospel" by Martha Grace Reese. We will have two 6-week sessions of studying using the book for inspiration. If you have ever wanted to have the right words to say when someone asked about your faith or when they were suffering or when they needed a foundation for their life, this is the class for you. For too long, we have let people come to church if they wanted to, instead of sought opportunities to share our faith and transform lives.

I hope that whether or not you can join us (Wednesdays at 7:30pm) this summer for class, you will be in prayer about how you can share your faith and help others to have a living faith and relationship with God. And why not brag a little bit about how amazing God has been in your life, while you're at it?

*Kerry*

### April Food Pantry Stats

177 Households Served

616 People Served

## Adult Sunday School

Just two more times to join the Adult Sunday School Class this program year – May 15 and May 22. We gather for treats at 9:00 am and class begins at 9:15.

*Lisa Gonzalez*



As the weather gets warmer, so will our sanctuary. Most of our building is un-air conditioned. To help with temperature management we will move worship up a half hour, and will begin at 10 am for June, July and August. Also, please feel free to dress appropriately for the weather and bring a bottle of water into worship with you.

## **Scrip Gift Card Program**

Our first Great Lakes Scrip Card order netted \$127.44 to support the ministries of CCVP. Thank you to all who placed orders for gift cards. The next gift card order and payment deadline is June 19. You may browse the Great Lakes Scrip program online at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) anytime between now and then. To place an order online, if you have not done so already, you must first create a family account, choosing a UserName, Password, etc. Please also use the CCVP Enrollment Code D2929FF928811 to correctly channel the scrip (e.g., rebate) to our church. Paper order forms are available at church.

## **Thank You!**

Thank you to all the pray-ers who participated in the prayer vigil on April 21 and 22: Dee Adkins, Ashley Boggan, Joan Fuller, Lisa Gonzalez, Brenda Hopkins, Artemis Malos, Mannie, Kailash, & Khelan Naidoo, Norine Nelson, Ken Newton, Tristan Orozco, Cindy Plahuta, Betty Prorak, Jane Reid, Gary & Susan Reynolds, Carol & Jerry Robbins, Heather Smith, Kerry Waller, and Dick & Deloris Yowell.



## **Easter Lilies**



Dee Adkins, Ken Newton, Cindy Plahuta, Betty & Steve Prorak, Carol Robbins, Michelle & Joe Thompson, Kerry Waller, and Deloris Yowell graciously provided lilies for the sanctuary on Easter morning to the glory of God, in honor of the Thompson family (from out of town), and in memory of Cletus Bunker, Grace and Sarah Newton, Elmer Plahuta, Alice Prorak, and Rev. Steve Schuette.

## **Mission Trip Shares for Sale/2011 Mission Team**

The Mission Team will be going to Nashville, Tennessee the week of July 17, 2011. This will be the church's 10<sup>th</sup> mission trip! This year we are working through the Tennessee conference of the United Methodist Church which is coordinating a number of faith-based organizations in bringing volunteers to the area to help victims of the floods of May 2010. The floods damaged or destroyed over 41,000 homes. 3,000 families are expected to need assistance in order to rebuild/repair homes.

Our 2011 Mission Team members from Villa Park are Doris and Dan Carter, John Martin, Betty and Steve Prorak and Kerry Waller. We are looking forward to again partnering with members of the Austin Boulevard Christian Church (3 team members) and the First Christian Church of Paris, Illinois (6 team members).

You can support the mission work of the church through prayer and through your financial contributions. You can become a "Shareholder" in Mission Trip 2011 by purchasing one or more shares for \$25 each. You will be recognized for your financial support with a Stock Certificate and will be invited to the Annual Shareholders' Meeting (dinner) after the team returns where you the team will report back on what returns you received from your financial investment. Checks should be written to the Christian Church of Villa Park and either given to Doris Carter or put in the offering clearly marked as being for the Mission Trip. The team looks forward to your support!

## Music Education Class This Summer



This summer we will attempt to organize a music education class. All of you who enjoy music and know nothing about it will have an opportunity to learn about the different aspects of written music. The program will be geared toward choral music in an attempt to not only teach but also to add to the ranks of our current choir. There will also be a chance for those who have a more advanced knowledge of music to take their skills to the next level.

*John Reynolds*

## A Big Thank You

The May 7 Arts & Crafts Fair was the first of 3 fund raisers we have planned for the year to help raise money to support our church ministries. We had a successful event and made a profit of over \$1,000. A big THANK YOU goes out to all of the Board members who participated in the planning and organizing and to everyone who helped with the set-up, the actual event and clean up. We had a number of crafters mention how nice people at our church are, so everyone also did a great job of showing Christ's love through our words and actions

*Doris Carter*

## Highlights from the March Board Meeting

The Visioning Team presented a draft 3-year ministry plan for the church to the Board. The Board members will be reviewing it and will discuss it at the May Board meeting.

The Board decided to make 2 more rooms available for crafters so that we could invite 7 more crafters to participate for a total of 37. Final plans were made for the May 7 Arts & Crafts Fair, the bake sale, the lunch and the raffle.

Plans for the celebration on May 1 of our 5 years of ministry with Pastor Kerry were discussed.

The Board discussed several projects that need to be done but are expected to be quite costly – namely, repairs on the parking lot, repairs on the parsonage roof, and possible radon remediation for the parsonage (based on recent tests). The Board will be getting cost estimates for these projects before making decisions about when to have the projects done and how to cover the cost.

The nominating committee will be meeting in May to prepare a slate of nominees for the diaconate, the Elders and the Board of Directors for 2011-2012. The congregational meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2011.

*Doris Carter, Board Chairperson*



## April 30, 2011 Financial Summary

	April	Year-to-Date
Income for budget items:	\$8,201.94	\$32,691.25
Budgeted expenses:	\$9,020.51	\$38,524.99

## Pentecost & Potluck Brunch

Pentecost Sunday falls on June 12 this year. As part of our celebration we will hold a potluck brunch following worship that morning. If you are able, please bring a food item to share.



We extend our sympathy to Minni Philip whose mother passed away on April 29. Minni was able to travel to India earlier that week and got to talk with her mother, which was a miraculous event. Her mother had been unresponsive and not talking until Minni arrived.

Dee Adkins entered Elmhurst Hospital this past weekend with pneumonia. Keep her in your prayers.

Betty Bohl is celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday later this week! Best Regards, Betty!

The Robbins returned from attending a wedding in Minnesota last week.

Heather Smith continues to have problems with her knee, trying to find the right doctor, and perhaps a disability office. She helped out at the arts and crafts fair.

Wheaton Warrenville South High School show choir won the nationals a couple of weeks ago. High school senior Khelan Naidoo has been a participant in this choir for three years.

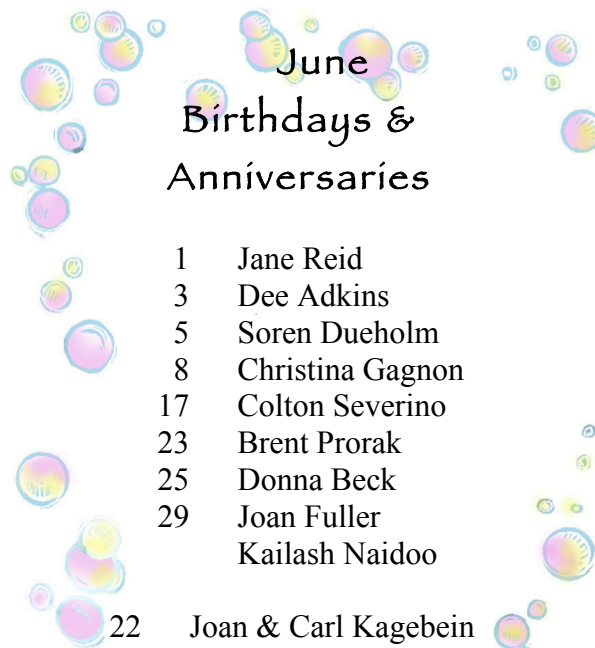
Ken Newton had a cancer removed from his cheek and is recovering nicely from that.

Dolly Preston is continuing with rehab in Downers Grove now. She does recognize you, but cannot verbally speak yet. Jennifer and her family came for Mother's Day from Nebraska.

The Dueholms enjoyed having Kerry's parents here for her 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary with CCVP celebration.

Nice seeing Brent and Amanda Prorak in for Mother's Day.

The church will have a garage sale on August 6. Find those treasures you are ready to part with and set them aside!



### **Fundraising with Jewel/Osco**

Jewel lets not-for-profit groups such as our church order Jewel gift cards at a discounted price. Then the church sells them for full value and keeps the 5% discount we got when purchasing the cards. The cards can be used at any Jewel/Osco store any day of the week.

The ministries of CCVP have received \$310 from Jewel gift card orders placed in January through May of this year.

If you shop at Jewel and are willing to pre-pay for your groceries, please sign up for one or more gift cards of your desired denomination by Sunday, May 29 (Memorial Day weekend). The gift cards will be available to you on Sunday, June 5.





Disciples Church Partners:

On behalf of a grateful church I want to thank you in advance for your support of the new church movement. More than 12 years ago, Rev. Richard Hamm wrote in his book *20/20 Vision*, that he envisioned the creation of more than 1,000 new Disciples churches between 2001 and 2020. Many thought that this was an unachievable objective.

At Pentecost in 2011, we Disciples stand just beyond the halfway point towards our 2020 goal. I am pleased to report that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has started more than 692 new congregations since 2001, reaching more than 42,000 new Disciples.

One of the most recent church plants is in Prosper, Texas, where the North Texas Area of the Southwest Region has called Doug Kriz, along with his wife Meredith and two small children, to Prosper to gather a yet-to-be named community of faith. We ask your church to pray for the Kriz family and all of our new church planters as they live out their mission to help bring people in relationship with Christ.

The Pentecost Offering is evenly divided between the region where the offering was taken and New Church Ministry. The offering is used to directly support starting new congregations and funds the recruitment, assessment, training and coaching of our new church planters in the first two years of their new plant. We invite you to join us in expanding the new church movement by supporting these courageous leaders through prayer and financial assistance.

Shalom,  
Charlie Wallace  
Minister, Congregational Relations

*The Pentecost Offering will be received on Sundays June 5 and 12.*