

the MESSENGER



COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2020



From Steve's Desk...

A Pile Of Lemons

The age-old question has a great answer... What do you do when life gives you a bunch of lemons? You make lemonade. 2020 has given us a bunch of lemons. Every few weeks it seems there is another crisis, plague, pandemic, hurricane, flood or fire; and with it plenty of commentary on what's wrong in the world. Yes, it is true there is plenty wrong in the world; however that means there is plenty of opportunity to make some cool refreshing lemonade!

Countryside Christian Church does not have a forest fire or hurricane in its neighborhood (yet?), yet we have been given a fantastic lemon right down the road at the Riverdale Schools. With COVID-19, all public schools have adopted some kind of modified learning program; and Riverdale's plan does not have any students in the school building on Wednesdays. This is a lemon for many working families who need to have a safe place for their school-aged children to be on a regular work day (Wednesday).

So let the lemonade flow. "No School Wednesdays" have been a great opportunity to serve our community. We saw a need in the community and started Kids Club. This is a program with technology, reading, games, crafts and life lesson time on Wednesdays from 7am – 11am. We capped out enrollment at 15 kids and were full in a couple days. We have heard many encouraging heart-felt thank you's from parents and kids. Our staff consists of Kathy Kohrt, Connie Curry, Sandy Lawrence, Sarah Denekas, Laura Schmidt, Ellie and Nathan Johnson, Becki Winger, Wayne and Cathy Lotz, and me. They have a wonderful spirit of "Yes we can!" and the program has truly been refreshing.

We hope to expand our ability to serve through Kids Club in October by raising the enrollment to 20 kids. This will happen when we have a few more volunteers join our staff. If you are available, we would love to see this program grow with your help. Are you available from 8am – 11am on Wednesdays in October? Are you available just one Wednesday or only an hour each Wednesday? Please contact the church office if you are available to help us reach our goal.

One more thing. We are planning to have a time of fellowship with the Kids Club families. We want to have a couple of fire pits burning and some S'more- making going on here on the church campus Saturday evening October 3rd. Will you please join us in prayer as we want these families to feel good about our church, the community it can provide, and ultimately we want them to meet Jesus.

God bless, Steve



KIDS' CLUB

S'MORES

Night



October Kids' Club
Kick-Off

(Returning and New Kids' Club Members)
Saturday, October 3rd
5:00pm – 6:00pm

S'mores Bonfire
Family Games:
(Pickle-Ball, Beach Ball Volleyball,
Corn Hole Toss, and 3 Legged Race)
Kids' Presentation/Video Re-Cap

S'mores
Drinks

"And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh." Ezekiel 36:26

Thanksgiving Food Baskets!

We are supporting **7 families** in need in our area by providing complete baskets containing all the makings of a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner.

We ask you to support our efforts by donating any of the following:

- ❖ 14 gravy packets/ 2 per basket
- ❖ Seven 5lb bags of potatoes
- ❖ 7 cans of corn
- ❖ 14 cans of green beans
- ❖ 7 packages of butter or margarine sticks
- ❖ 7 cans of cream of mushroom soup
- ❖ 7 cans of original French's Crispy Fried Onions
- ❖ 7 cans of sweet potatoes
- ❖ 7 packages of dinner rolls
- ❖ 7 loaves of bread
- ❖ 7 boxes of Stove-Top stuffing
- ❖ 7 cans of fruit
- ❖ 7 pumpkin pies
- ❖ 7 tubs of Cool-Whip topping
- ❖ 7 packages of cookies

If you wish to donate a turkey or money to purchase any of the above items... please contact the Church Office!

The Evangelism department will be providing 7 (15lb) turkeys and 7 gallons of milk, but we appreciate the donations above (or cash donations for the turkeys).

All donations due Sunday, Nov 15th

There is a sign-up sheet in the church foyer for all donations. We thank you very, very much!



"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Philippians 4:6



— Pastor —
APPRECIATION
MONTH

Pastor Appreciation Month is a special time that congregations set aside each year to honor their pastor for the hard work, sacrificial dedication and multiple blessings provided to the church through this man.

God has entrusted to them one of the most precious of assignments — the spiritual well-being of His flock. That's why God has instructed us to recognize His servants.

"The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching"
(1 Timothy 5:17).



Pastor Appreciation Sunday
is Oct. 11th

A basket for cards or love gifts will be placed at the front door Oct. 11th and presented to Steve and Karen at the end of the worship service.



FELLOWSHIP TOGETHER

Coffee Fellowship



We have a coffee fellowship time before church starting at 10am in the gymnasium every Sunday.

Coffee will be provided, or bring your own, and enjoy a short time of fellowship with one another before the worship service.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." Lamentations 3:22-24

FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHT

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Local Food Pantry

**The Upper Rock Island County Food Pantry***Located at Messiah Lutheran Church in Port Byron****Countryside supports this pantry with monthly donations.******Things which are needed by the pantry include (these lists are not inclusive.):***

- *non-perishable food items as well as cleaning items (dish soap, laundry soap, bar soap)*
- *paper products (paper towels, toilet tissue, facial tissue)*
- *personal hygiene products (toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene products)*
- *and baby items including diapers and baby food.*

The food pantry is for residents of the Riverdale School District and is open 12(noon)-2:00 pm each Wednesday. Due to the Corona Virus, items will be pre-packed and delivered to your vehicle in a drive-through at the church parking lot. The food pantry can be reached at 309-523-2421 if there are questions.

*Countryside items are delivered to the pantry the last week of each month. Food pantry items remain in great need all year round. With the current pandemic the needs within our community are even greater. The pantry also accepts cash donations and then purchases items that are needed. **Please leave the donations in the marked boxes in the foyer.***



*“S*cripture is clear about the need to help those less fortunate. Instead of just having an abstract faith, it’s important to put it into practice in tangible ways, such as feeding and taking care of those who are hungry and cannot do it themselves: homeless, widows, orphans, etc. Anybody in need deserves our compassion, if for no other reason than the Lord being compassionate to us.”

~Michael Krauzer

“Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.”

Proverbs 19:17

WORSHIP TEAM UPDATES

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHT



We have had a new addition to our worship team this past month! Mike Winger has started playing guitar on Sundays with us and doing an awesome job!! Mike can play electric or acoustic guitar. The rhythm guitar has been such a great asset to our team and we look forward to him playing lead in the future as well. Thanks for your willingness and desire to praise Him in this way, Mike! Stepping outside of your comfort zone is not easy but I love seeing the way our worship team has grown and gained confidence and most of all....each of their hearts' desire to praise the Lord. Countless hours of practice and planning occur individually and as a team; and I appreciate each one so much!!

*In Jesus,
Laura*



"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Isaiah 34:19

FINANCE HIGHLIGHT

OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

Our Giving

YTD Offering Budget: \$120,000 YTD Offering Actual: \$100,865 YTD Faith Promises: \$9,031



MISSIONS

Faith Promise

9.13.2020



On Sunday, September 13th, we held our annual Faith Promise/Mission Sunday.

Through your generosity and faith, we were able to pledge

\$32,050

for this next year in support of our missionaries. Will you prayerfully consider also joining in this pledge using the card below? Thank you!!!

MY FAITH PROMISE TO WORLD MISSIONS

After a period of much prayer and discernment, I/WE promise to support the worldwide missionary program of the Countryside Christian Church over the next year. In total dependence upon God for HIS provision, it is our promise that "As God Gives, So Shall We Give." By faith, I/We promise the following amount of money:

\$ _____ Annual Total

Note: This is a faith promise, a covenant between myself and God. It is my voluntary offering for the evangelization of the world.

5 WAYS TO GIVE

- IN PERSON
- MAIL
- ONLINE
- MOBILE APP
- TEXT

Point your smartphone camera at the QR code to the right to be taken to the online giving site. From here you can choose to give online or via text



We sincerely appreciate your generosity in support of our church. Together, we will continue to do God's amazing work!

ANNUAL MEETING 2020



Department Reports due October 11th

October 18, 2020

Another year has flown by already and it's that time for our Annual Meeting.

Join us on Sunday, October 18th after the Worship Service for a lunch provided by the Fellowship Department and our Annual Meeting at 1pm to help plan and prepare for the upcoming year.

SEE YOU THERE!

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11



OCTOBER *events*



10/3

KIDS CLUB S'MORE NIGHT

5:00pm



10/5

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

Evangelism/Missions (6:30pm)
All Departments (7pm)



10/6

BUDGET MEETING

All Departments (7pm)



10/11

ALL DEPARTMENT REPORTS DUE

10:45am



10/15

ELDERS' MEETING

9:00am



10/17

SMALL CHURCH ESSENTIALS WORKSHOP

9am-2pm Des Moines, IA



10/18

MUDDY WATERS SERVICE

8:30am. Sunday morning service at the Muddy Waters Motorcross Track in Port Byron



10/18

ANNUAL MEETING

1pm following the Worship Service and Lunch



10/25

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Items for the month are due this Sunday and will be delivered to the Food Pantry this week



UPCOMING EVENTS

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

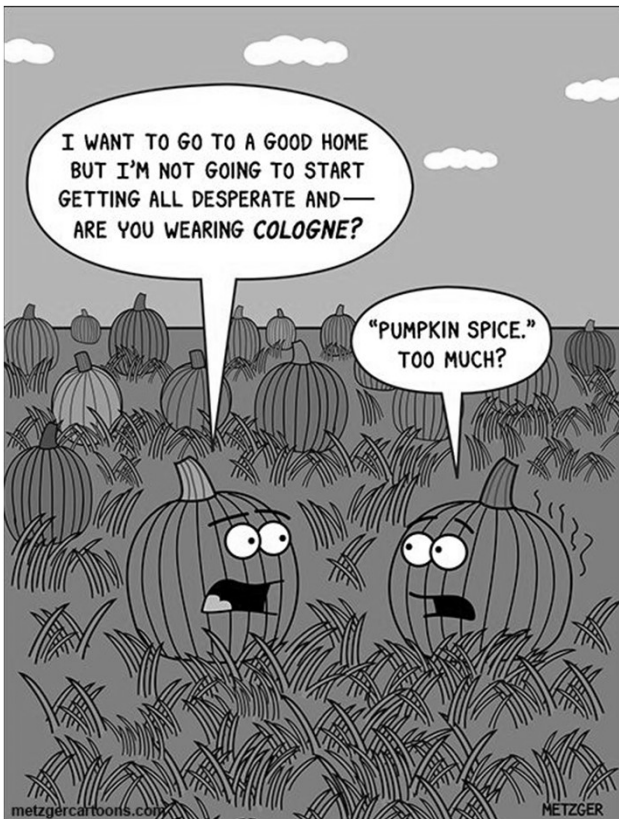
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

 **OCTOBER**
Birthdays

- 4 – Seth Johnson
- 8 – Ethel Knight
- 13 – Sandy Lawrence
- 13 – Alissa Heydeman
- 14 – Josh Larimer
- 17 – Logan Heydeman
- 18 – Larry Griffin
- 28 – Mike Winger

 **OCTOBER**
Anniversaries

- 4 – Donna & Don Vickroy
- 21 – Kathy & Harry Kohrt



 *October*

1. Amos 4-6
2. Amos 7-9
3. Obadiah-Jonah
4. Micah 1-4
5. Micah 5-7
6. Nahum 1-3
7. Habakuk 1-3
8. Zephaniah 1-3
9. Haggai 1-2
10. Zechariah 1-5
11. Zechariah 6-10
12. Zechariah 11-14
13. Malachi 1-4
14. Matthew 1-4
15. Matthew 5-7
16. Matthew 8-11
17. Matthew 12-15
18. Matthew 16-19
19. Matthew 10-22
20. Matthew 23-25
21. Matthew 26-28
22. Mark 1-3
23. Mark 4-6
24. Mark 7-10
25. Mark 11-13
25. Mark 14-16
27. Luke 1-3
28. Luke 4-6
29. Luke 7-9
30. Luke 10-13
31. Luke 14-17



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!



NURSERY

No Nursery at this time. Please utilize the gym during the worship service for a simulcast and child-friendly activities

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

No Children's Church at this time. Please utilize the gym during the worship service for a simulcast and child-friendly activities

Building Cleaners

Jerry & Nancy Dufur
Rock & Sandy Lawrence
Kati Jo Chasek & Teresa Garcia



October 4

Teresa Garcia (Communion Meditation)

October 11

Wayne Lotz (Communion Meditation)

October 18

Steve Allison (Communion Meditation)

October 25

Jim Kaecker (Communion Meditation)

November 1

Ryan Schmidt (Communion Meditation)

November 8

Don Vickroy (Communion Meditation)

November 15

Hannah Herrman (Communion Meditation)

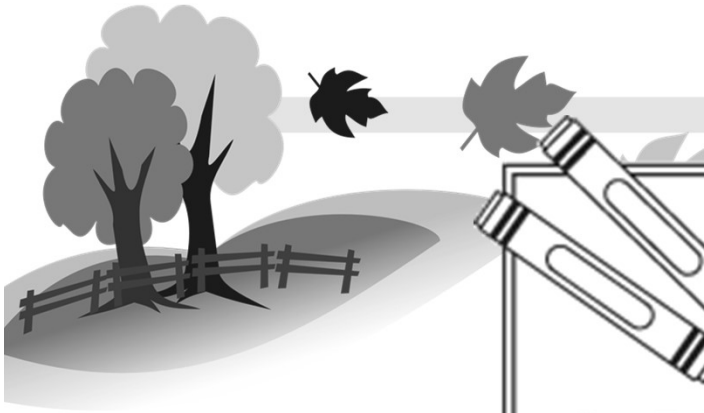
November 22

Wayne Lotz (Communion Meditation)

November 29

Teresa Garcia (Communion Meditation)

*At this time, there will be no offering or communion ushers needed.



KIDS CORNER

SEED
impressions

Create autumn-themed artwork using items from plants.



What you need:

- Seed pods, nuts, pine cones
- Mixing bowl
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup warm water
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Go on a nature walk and collect seeds with interesting textures.
2. In the bowl, mix flour and salt. Gradually add water. On a table, knead the dough. (If too dry, add more water; if too sticky, add more flour.)
3. Flatten a ball of dough and stamp impressions in it with the seeds.
4. If desired, bake for several hours at 150 degrees until dry and hard. Or, to reuse dough, store in an airtight container up to 6 months.

PUZZLE

A PLANTING PARABLE

Jesus had to explain his Parable of the Sower to the confused disciples.

Directions: Use the word bank to answer the clues. Then fill in the correct words below to complete Matthew 13:23, NIV.

WORD BANK: sow, soil, wither, root, thorn, crop, seed, farmer

1. Plant part that absorbs water
2. Contains what's needed to grow a plant
3. To plant
4. Sharp part of a plant
5. What is harvested
6. To dry up and shrivel
7. Person who plants
8. The earth a plant grows in

“But the 2 falling on good 8 refers to someone who hears the word and understands it.

This is the one who produces a 5, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was 3 n.”

MATTHEW 13:23, NIV






Answer: root, seed, sow, thorn, crop, wither, farmer, soil, seed, soil, crop, sow

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” Jeremiah 29:11

2020

October



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				01	02 Stamping Club (Bev Skelton) 9am-12pm	03 Kids Club S'mores Night 5pm
04 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	05 Evangelism/ Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm U of I Home Extension 7-9pm	06 Men's Bible Study 9am Budget Meeting 7pm	07 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	08 Zuma Home Extension 1:00-4:00pm	09	10
11 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM ALL DEPARTMENT REPORTS DUE	12 COLUMBUS DAY 	13 Men's Bible Study 9am	14 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	15 Elder's Meeting 9am	16	17 SMALL CHURCH ESSENTIALS WORKSHOP 9am-2pm 
18 WORSHIP SERVICE 8:30AM (Muddy Waters) 10:45AM  ANNUAL MEETING <i>following the Worship Service</i>	19 Zuma Township Meeting 7pm	20 Men's Bible Study 9am	21 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	22	23	24
25 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM  Food Pantry Needs	26	27 Men's Bible Study 9am Girl Scouts Trunk or Treat 5-7pm	28 Worship Team 4:00pm Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 7pm	29	30	31 HALLOWEEN 

LIVESTREAMING *with*



Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOR735qhzkzpfUjEtP-A>



Facebook: www.facebook.com/countrysidecc.org at 10:45am.



Website. The sermon will be available in video or audio form on the church's website page <http://countrysidecc.org>



If you are not able to access the internet on your computer or mobile device, we will be able to download it to a DVD for you. Just contact the church office to obtain a copy.



Countryside Christian Church

3817 230th St. N

Port Byron, IL 61275