the MESSENGER COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH



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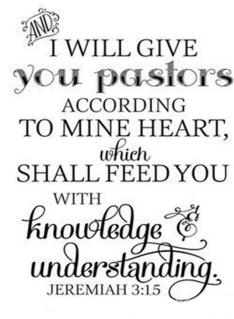


Steve Allison, Minister

"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." 1 Cor. 15:58 This month, our article comes not from our pastor but from our congregation. One year ago exactly was the first time we invited Steve and Karen to come to our church and meet them. We had a meet-n-greet time with refreshments and then Steve brought us a message. It was clear from the beginning that he was the man God had chosen for our church.

The last year should have been one where our new pastor and wife were able to learn names and faces and get a feel for our church and community. Instead, a pandemic took place and right from the start, Steve was thrown into ministering and leading in the midst of a crisis.

We want to thank you, Steve and Karen, for your kind and patient leading of our congregation and for your vision for our church and reaching our community. You started a ministry at the MotoCross track on Sunday mornings, even preaching in pouring rain sometimes! You gave of your time to become a bus driver for the Riverdale School district in an effort to get to know the families who live near Countryside. You started a children's program to help families struggling with remote learning and a very different school year. That ministry grew until we had about 35 different children come through the doors of our church building each week – most for the very first time.



You are not above getting in the trenches and doing the physical work. You lead by example, doing yourself what you have asked others to do. You challenge our congregation to think Biblically about ministry, evangelism, and service. You bring a fresh perspective and vision to our church with your ability to think outside the box in order to meet needs in our church family. You were thrown into learning about e-giving, Facebook live feeds, and virtual worship. And, you consistently brought us a word each Sunday that redeemed, healed, and imparted God's abundant grace in a time of scarcity and uncertainty.

We appreciate you, Steve and Karen, for all you've done for our church in the past year! We look forward to what God has planned for this next year as we continue to serve God together! May God bless you and your family as you lead us so humbly and faithfully into 2021.

YOUTH MINISTRY EVENT

DUCATION HIGHLIGI



"There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off." — Proverbs 23:18

KIDS CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

This month brought a lot of exciting new opportunities in our children's program on Wednesday mornings! We held a Valentine's Dinner on February 13th with the CCC Youth Group. It was great to see so many families participate and attend!

We also added a large sign to the intersection right by Riverdale School and sent home flyers to about 480 kids in grades K-5th grade. This has brought several new families to our Kids Club program.



In February, we did an Art Unit and the kids created everything from picture frame gifts for their parents to tie-dyed Kids Club masks to wear to school. You may have seen some of their art projects on the new bulletin boards in the hall that Steve hung for us!

Wednesdays

v.countrysidecc.org

During March, we are going to be doing a Science unit and conducting experiments each week with the kids. We hope they will find this exciting and also educational.



On March 20, 2021, we will hold our monthly Family Fun event with the Kids Club families and our church with a Spring Break Luau party! We have a lot of fun ideas for this night!

As our Kids Club continues to grow, so does our need for volunteers! If God has placed it on your heart to be a part of this ministry that is reaching our surrounding community, we would LOVE to have you!! There are many opportunities to help – it does not need to necessarily be a weekly commitment. We provide snacks each week to the kids. If you would like to cover one of the weeks, that would be very helpful. If you have a "Life Lesson" (a 20 minute devotional) you would like to teach the kids some week, that would be wonderful! If you have a craft or a special skill you would like to teach the kids, or you want to listen to kids read, or you want to participate in some games or activities, there is a spot for you! Please prayerfully consider if God may be leading you to this. Thank you!

"I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope." — Jeremiah 29:11

NEW KIDS PROGRAM STARTING



ALL NEW program for 4th grade and up students and their parent/guardian that <u>enjoy or want to learn</u> remodeling and light construction.

Our goal for Construction Club is to have kids and parents work and learn together. We hope to remodel the lower entry way/lobby of the church by the gym doors and put down carpet squares in a classroom. In the classroom we will fill and level cracks in the floor, and install **carpet squares.** In the lower lobby, we will be taking out the carpet, putting down new **flooring**, removing and painting hand rails, reinstalling handrails, removing coat rack and relocating an AED device, adding a **pallet wall** from floor to ceiling on the east wall of the lobby, and trimming it all out.

The leadership of Kids Club sincerely believes your 4th grade and up students have this in them. We also believe that a strong bond is made between father and son, or parent and child when a challenging project is completed well together.





"Don't remember the prior things; don't ponder ancient history. Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness." Isaiah 43:18-19

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Norm & Jill Weatherhead

Norm and Jill Weatherhead work with Pioneer Bible Translators in Papua, New Guinea as Bible translators. They have been involved there for over 20+ years. They are from Calgary, Canada. Jill works a portion of the year as a registered nurse in Calgary and joins Norm when she can to work with the translation team in PNG Drawn by a vision to see God's Work changing lives in every language, Norm and his wife, Jill have devoted their lives to translation work.

In 2017 at the Faith/Promise event Norm presented the Countryside congregation a copy of the New Testament in Mborema Kam, one of the many languages of Papua New Guinea. The translation and printing of the New Testament represented 32 years of translation work. Norm and Jill have spent 20+ years of their work with this book and Countryside has been a financial supporter during those 20 years. It was a true pleasure to receive this gift and to learn the part that we at Countryside played in bringing the Bible to people who previously did not have access to the written word of God.

Currently Norm and Jill are in Calgary, Canada due to the Covid virus. With modern technology Norm is able to continue his translation work with the individuals in Papua, New Guinea. When he will be able to actually return in person is not known.

Norm asks for special prayers at this time as his older brother Murray committed suicide in mid-January. Murray had been dealing with the same neuro-muscular disease as Norm and the situation become more than he could handle. Because of this recent tragedy Norm is asking for emotional healing for them and for Donna, Murray's wife. He is so grateful for all the emotional support during this difficult time.

Additional prayer concerns are for Norm who has been experiencing episodes of high blood pressure, some dizziness and vertigo since January 19 due to the stress of everything and that they would draw strength each day from the Lord of Life.

Upcoming ministry, beside his translation work, includes Norm working with two students who needed extensions from last semester's courses at CanIL. Norm has had the opportunity to teach an online Phonology linguistic course at CanIL. This is a foundational course for missionary linguists who desire to serve overseas in Bible translation or literacy ministries. Also pray for the preparation Norm will be doing for the course he will teach in the fall of 2021 on how to plan Bible translation, literacy and Scripture use activities with language groups. In late March/early April Norm will be working remotely via Zoom with the Akukem translation team to go through revisions to the text of Luke to get it



ready for the final consultant check which they would schedule later this year or early next.

Norm and Jill state that they are so grateful for our partnership with them in prayer and financial support. For more information refer to the booklet on the mission table in the foyer.

SEEKING GOD

Norwegian theologian Ole Hallesby described prayer as simply letting God into our lives. God "knocks," he said, "not only in the solemn hours of secret prayer" but "in the midst of your daily work, your daily struggles, your daily grind ... when you need him most."

Prayer, added Hallesby, is as essential to life as air. "As impossible as it is for us to take a breath in the morning large enough to last us until noon, so impossible is it to pray in the morning in such a way as to last us until noon," he said. "Let your prayers ascend to [God] constantly, audibly or silently, as circumstances throughout the day permit."

This past month, many in our congregation participated in a **21 Days of Prayer**

Challenge. Some included fasting as part of this prayer challenge. If you would like to get the 21 days and do it as a family this month, please contact the office.



We are now taking orders for Easter Lilies! They will be \$9 each and can be given in memory or celebration of someone. They will be delivered to the church before Easter and you are welcome to take them home with you after the service on April 4, 2021.

Orders are due by Sunday, March 14th.



"Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks." — Philippians 4:6

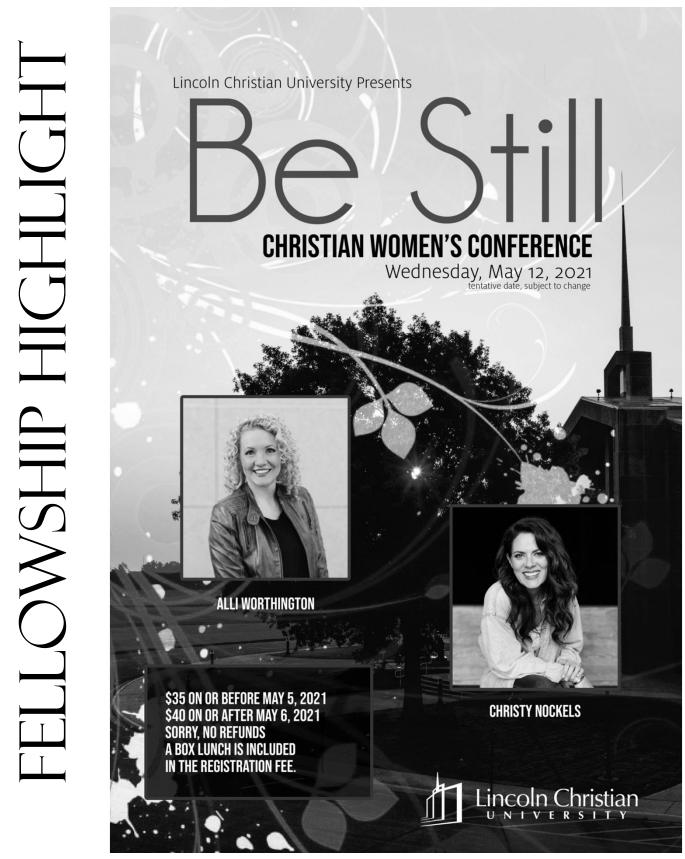
SPENDING TIME TOGETHER



Sign-up Sheet in the Church Lobby or contact Becki Winger

"So then, if anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived!" — 2 Corinthians 5:17

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



"Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all." — James 1:17

MEN'S CONFERENCE



Jerry Boykin



Bryndan Loritts

SHARPENS Saturday, April 10 Davenport, IA **Coram Deo Bible Church** 3800 E. 53rd St. Davenport, IA 52807 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

As Iron Sharpens Iron, So One Man Sharpens Another Proverbs 27:17

Register with the men of your church @ www.FocalPointMinistries.net

This Conference is for Men of All Ages!

Emerging Men (ages 13-19) Full Throttle Men (ages 30-55) Pioneering Men (ages 20-29) Seasoned Men (ages 55+)

Worship ~ 16 Seminars ~ Exhibitors ~ Resources

OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

Our Giving

YTD Offering Budget: \$24,230 YTD Offering Actual: \$28,497 YTD Faith Promises: \$29,946

"But if someone who is supposed to be a Christian has money enough to live well, and sees a brother in need, and won't help him - how can God's love be within him?"

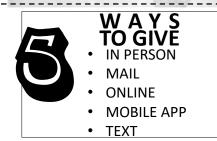
—1 John 3:17

You know that the hardest thing for you to give up is your money. It represents your time, your energy, your talents, your total personality converted into currency. We usually hold on to it tenaciously, yet it is uncertain in value and we cannot take it into the next world. The Scripture teaches that we are stewards for a little while of all we earn. If we misuse it, as did the man who buried his talent, it brings upon us the severest judgment of God. The tithe is the Lord's. If you use it for yourself, you are robbing God. We are to take the tithe as a standard, but to go beyond the tithe is an indication of our gratefulness for God's gifts to us. In the midst of sorrow and trouble, this life has many blessings and enjoyments which have come from the hand of God. Even our capacity for love is a gift from God. We show our gratitude by giving back to Him a part of that which He has given to us.

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.



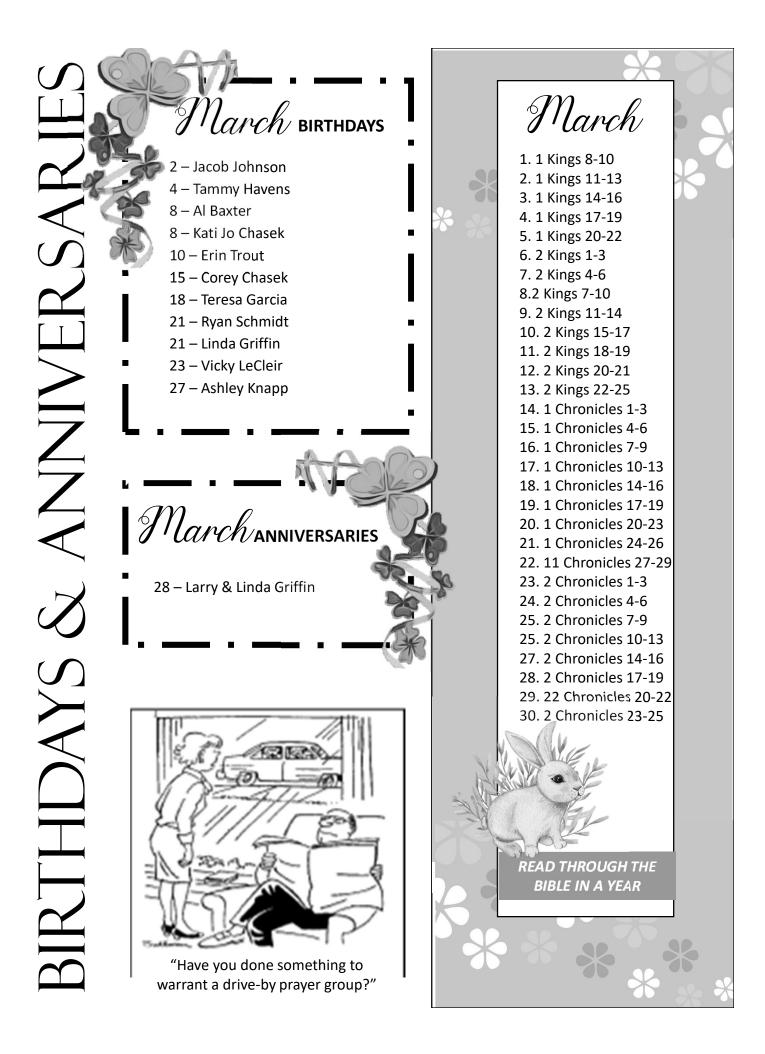
Point your smartphone camera at the QR code to the right to be taken to the online giving site. From here you can choose to give online or via text





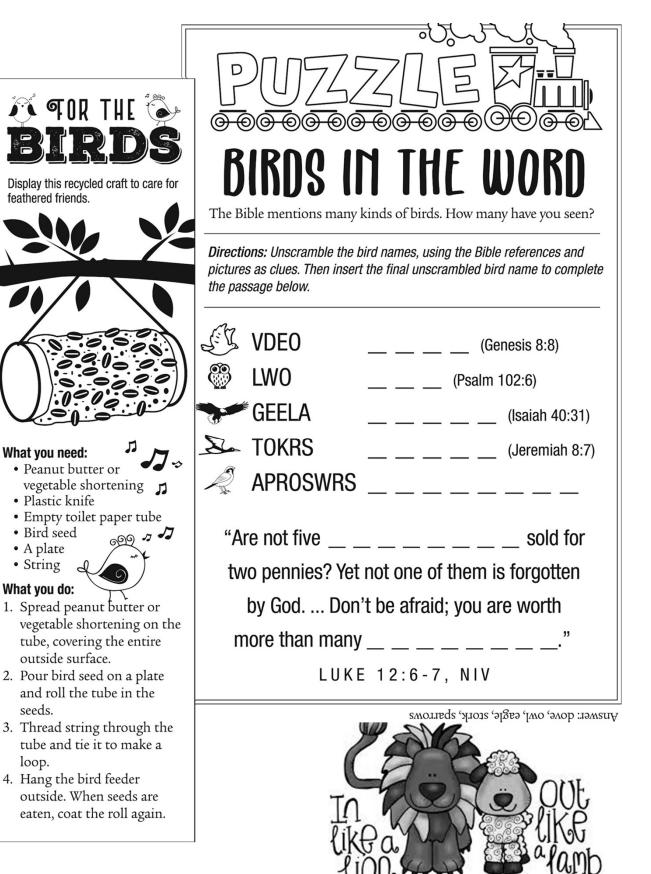


"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1



JUST FOR FUN

KIDS CORNER



"Teach us to number our days so we can have a wise heart." — Psalm 90:12

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH



NURSERY Ages 0-3 years old During the SERMON TIME only!

March 7 Holly Trout March 14 Kathy Kohrt March 21 Georgia Cullison March 28 Mary Green

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

No Children's Church at this time. We are hoping to restart this as well sometime very soon!!





Communion Meditation

March 7 Teresa Garcia

March 14 Steve Allison

March 21 Hannah Herrman

> March 28 Don Vickroy

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



BUILDING CLEANERS

Wayne & Cathy Lotz Kathy Kohrt & Lisa Jones Don & Donna Vickroy and Georgia Cullison

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| | 01 Evangelism/ Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm | 02 Rivers Edge Homeschool Group 3-4:30pm | 03 Small Groups Port Byron – 6pm Geneseo – 6pm | 04 Gym in Use Basketball League 6:00-8:00pm | 05 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Stamping Club (Bev Skelton) 9am-12pm | 06 | |
| 07 COFFEE TIME 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM | 08 Church in use Zuma Township Meeting Cub Scouts 6-7pm | 09 Men's Study 9am Girl Scouts 6-8pm Cub Scouts 6-7pm | 10 Small Groups Port Byron – 6pm Geneseo – 6pm | 11 Elder's Mtg 9am Zuma Home Extension 1:00-4:00pm Basketball League 6:00-8:00pm | 12 | 13 Big Daddy Weave Concert 7pm | |
| 14 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS COFFEE TIME 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM | 15 | 16 Men's Study 9am Girl Scouts 6-8pm | 17 ST PATRICK'S DAY Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm | 18 Gym in Use Basketball League 6:00-8:00pm | 19 | 20 KIDS CLUB LUAU 5:00PM | |
| 21 COFFEE TIME 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM EASTER LILY ORDERS DUE | 22 Cub Scouts 6-7pm | 23 Men's Study 9am Girl Scouts 6-8pm Cub Scouts 6-7pm | 24 Small Groups Port Byron – 6pm Geneseo – 6pm | 25 Gym in Use Basketball League 6:00-8:00pm | 26 | 27 TRIVIA NIGHT 7:00PM | |
| 28 PALM SUNDAY COFFEE TIME 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM Food Pantry Needs | 29 Cub Scouts 6-7pm | 30 Men's Study 9am Girl Scouts 6-8pm | 31 Small Groups Port Byron – 6pm Geneseo – 6pm | out to meet hi "Blessed is he | palm branches and went him, shouting, "Hosanna!" he who comes in the name I!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!" | | |



