

the

# MESSENGER

You are looking for Jesus...

## He has risen!

Mark 16:6



### COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

### APRIL 2022

#### What's Inside:

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Dear Church family,

When reading through the second chapter of Acts, we see that the church came together in fellowship and studying Scripture. They ultimately became a community of people bound together by their love of Christ. That, my friends, is what we hope to do at Countryside.

Last month I enjoyed going to Live Action Sports in Davenport with several men from the church as we threw axes together. They also had a ring toss game, darts, and Corn Hole. Doing those activities together was a lot of fun.



**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*

I'd like to take this time to remind you of some upcoming opportunities for more fellowship:

- I invite everyone to please reach out to me. I would be glad to take you out for **breakfast or lunch** sometime in the future. Several have, so my schedule will be full through April. But don't let that stop you.
- We will be scheduling a **Spring Cleaning Work Day** at church before April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Be sure to invite friends to all the **Easter events** on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Starting **April 20<sup>th</sup> and the following four Wednesdays**, there will be dinner served at 5pm and activities for kids at 5:20pm. An adult class will also begin at 5:20pm.
- There is a **Men's Breakfast** at the church on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

As we get closer to all these events, please be on the lookout for ways to participate. Alone we can do little, together we can do much.

I look forward to working and playing alongside all of you soon.

*Steve*

# CONGRATULATIONS!

*I can't believe it's April already! We have been meeting for Sunday School and Children's Church for a whole year now! Easter of 2021 is when we resumed our Education classes due to Covid-19 the year before. I am glad we will be able to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and learn more about all that He has done for us. Connie Curry will have a fun activity planned for the kids to participate in and experience the love of Jesus this Easter.*

*We have been really focusing on our foundational truths in Children's Church. The kids are learning that the first four books in the New Testament are the Gospels and that they are all about Jesus. And, we have been learning about angels in the Adult Sunday School class. We just started the study, so if you are interested, please feel free to join in this enlightening study taught by Don Vickroy!*

*Hopefully we will be receiving the new tables for the Children's Church room at the beginning of April! We received chairs, so after the tables get here, we can update the room and make it perfect for the children to learn! I also put some updated Nursery rules near the door of the nursery room, so I would appreciate it if you could take a look at them to keep the kids safe!*

*I appreciate all my volunteers for helping cover extra spots while I am out trying to figure out how to care for my new babies! None of this would be possible without you serving and caring for our children and church. Sincerely, thank you!!!*

*Sarah*

**Congratulations  
Randy and Sarah  
Denekas!!!!**

**Braxton and Brayden arrived  
on March 23, 2022!**

**5lbs 15oz 19in and 5lbs  
14.7oz 18.75in.**



# KIDS CLUB BEACH PARTY

Our annual Beach Spring Break party was Saturday, Mar 19th!! We had so much fun with snacks and family games. There are only a few weeks left of Kids Club for this school year and we are hoping to make the most of them! See the following page for activities planned!



KIDS CLUB HIGHLIGHT

You are invited to



# Open House

April 13<sup>th</sup>

from 4:00pm – 5:00pm



Come check out our Kids Club program, experience the fun that it offers, and see how this program is especially designed with your child in mind.

**We will be offering classes the next four weeks after this (April 20, 27, May 4, 11) about the foundational principles of Kids Club with dinner provided for your family.**

April 20 – There is a God – (you are not an accident)

April 27 – The Bible is True – (it teaches us)

May 4 – Jesus is the Son of God

May 11 – God Wants a Relationship with You



*We are asking our church family to sign up for one of these Wednesdays to provide a meal. Thank you for helping in this way!*

**Thank you to our new helpers this month: Shanie Bird and Naomi Jones!! We appreciate you so much!! And, thank you Melissa Meese for teaching the kids sign language!**

*Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live." John 11:25*

EASTER IS COMING!

# Celebrate EASTER

April 17, 2022



at COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3817 – 230<sup>th</sup> St. N, Port Byron, IL 309.523.2834 [www.countrysidecc.org](http://www.countrysidecc.org)

**Breakfast**  
9:30am

**Egg Hunt**  
10:15am

**Worship**  
10:45am

**CANDY DONATIONS (and eggs)  
NEEDED!!**

Please drop candy off in church office the next couple of weeks. We also probably need some more plastic eggs.

The Kids Club kids are going to fill the eggs on Wednesday mornings.



## EASTER *Sunday Brunch*

A sign up sheet has been placed in the lobby for the Easter breakfast. Please see if there is something you might be able to bring. Thank you!



*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Pet. 1:3*

EVANGELISM HIGHLIGHT

## MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Food Pantry &amp; IDES

Countryside supports our local food pantry located at Messiah Lutheran Church 302 11<sup>th</sup> Street Port Byron. The food pantry serves residents located in the Riverdale School district. It is open on Wed. from noon until 2:00 P.M. Families are eligible to obtain food once a month.

With summer coming and the kids being out of school, food needs will start being more of an issue for families. Since Christmas, the number of families being served has increased. Some of the specific needs include all paper products, tooth brushes and toothpaste, soup (not chicken noodle), spaghetti sauce, canned corn, canned pastas, syrup, canned meats, hamburger helper, and of course money.

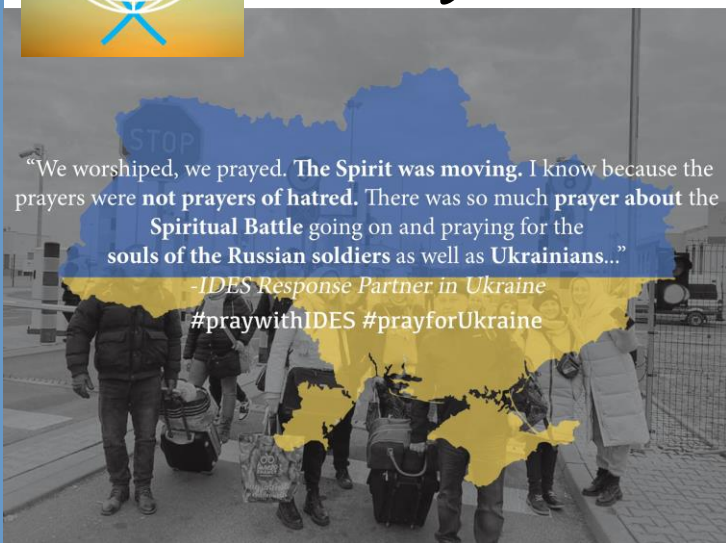
Grocery prices and other living expenses are increasing for families so money for food items is shrinking. The food pantry recently had a large freezer/refrigerator donated so food can be stored longer. Non-perishable food items are stored in the pantry space provided by the church. The food pantry is one way for Countryside to support the needs of our local community.



## IDES *in Ukraine*

"We worshiped, we prayed. The Spirit was moving. I know because the prayers were **not** prayers of hatred. There was so much prayer about the Spiritual Battle going on and praying for the souls of the Russian soldiers as well as Ukrainians..."

-IDES Response Partner in Ukraine  
#praywithIDES #prayforUkraine



International Disaster Emergency Services (IDES) is a ministry supported by Countryside through the Mission Department. At the present time a great humanitarian need exists in Ukraine and the surrounding countries. IDES has a presence in those countries and has begun helping with those needs. At the mission department meeting on March 7 it was decided to send \$1000.00 to IDES in support of that effort.

Because the need is so great individuals are also encouraged to support this effort thru this agency. In addition to financial means this area and situation needs our prayers.

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

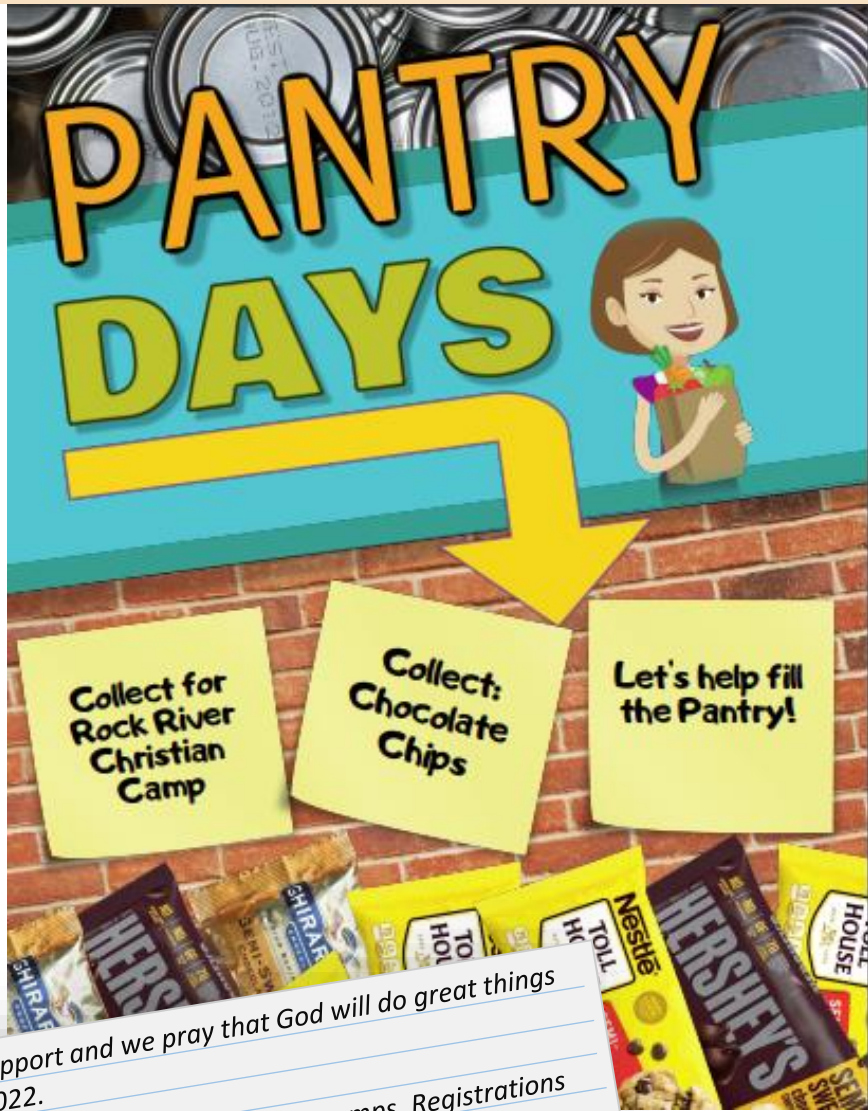
# MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Rock River Christian Camp

Our church supports Rock River Christian Camp and participates in their Pantry Days each year.

Pantry Days is a time when churches help stock the camp with items for the upcoming year. This year they are asking for us to collect chocolate chips. The goal amount is 50 lbs.

A box has been set up in the lobby to collect the donations. Ideally they would like to receive them by June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you in advance for your help with this!



Thank you for your continued support and we pray that God will do great things through you and this camp in 2022.

We will be in touch soon with camp materials for summer camps. Registrations are open online for campers to begin registering for camp! If you have leaders that would like to get involved in camp this summer, we would love to talk to them and get them involved.

Thank you again for all your help! If you have questions about this, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at 815-493-6622 or [rrccoffice@gmail.com](mailto:rrccoffice@gmail.com).

Thank you again for all your help!  
Rock River Christian Camp Staff

*"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them." Hebrews 6:10*

# MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Faith Promise Sunday

What is a

# FAITH Promise?

*The Faith-Promise is different from a tithe. It is not a pledge made to the church; it is a promise made to God. Faith is called for; not faith-to-get, but faith-to-give. You are urged to ask God what you should trust Him for, the amount He will enable you to give during the coming conference year. The basis of the promise is a relationship between you and God. If for any reason you cannot pay your Faith-Promise, the reason should be explained to God. Make your promise, not on the basis of what you HAVE to give, but on the basis of what you believe God will ENABLE you to give.*



Last October, we, as a congregation, promised \$37,176 to go toward the expenses of the seven missions we support. Our missionaries are very grateful to Countryside for sharing God's blessings with them. April 24th will be the beginning of the next "Missions Year." We will be collecting our faith promises for the coming year during the worship service that Sunday.

As you remember, April 24<sup>th</sup> is not just the end of the current Faith Promise year, but it is also our "Mission, Not Impossible" Sunday. We will be sharing an update from each of our missionaries during the worship service that Sunday. Please mark your calendar for this very important day in the life of Countryside and our missionaries. We will look forward to the beginning of the next "Missions Year" with an even larger goal as we bring our Faith Promises forward during the worship service. Remember our missionaries can only continue the important work of sharing the good news of Jesus with the prayerful and monetary support of churches like Countryside!

## FAITH PROMISE RALLY

# **"Mission Not Impossible"**

## APRIL 24, 2022

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free." Luke 4:18*





# THAT'S MY KING!

Easter was and still is my favorite celebration and holiday. My mom would wake up while it was still dark, bake the egg casseroles and cinnamon rolls for the church breakfast, and then cheerfully sing "Christ the Lord is Risen Today!" as she walked into each of our rooms to wake us up. **HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!** Hallelujah!

His resurrection brings hope and the promise of final victory. Even in grief or deep pain, we can still say "You are good" and know that there is something better coming. Christ our Risen King didn't stay dead or defeated, and neither will we if we put our trust in Him!

One of my favorite things to listen to at this time of year is the timeless and well-known sermon from Dr. S.M. Lockridge given in 1976: "That's My King!" If you have never heard it, look it up and rejoice in our powerful and loving Savior. Here's just a little part of it...is He your King also?

*Laura*

*He's the only one able to supply all of our needs simultaneously.*

*He supplies strength for the weak.*

*He's available for the tempted and the tried.*

*He sympathizes and He saves.*

*He's strong God and He guides.*

*He heals the sick.*

*He cleanses the lepers.*

*He forgives sinners.*

*He discharges debtors.*

*He delivers the captives.*

*He defends the feeble.*

*He blesses the young.*

*He serves the unfortunate.*

*He regards the aged.*

*He rewards the diligent and He beautifies the meek.*

*Do you know Him?*

*Well, my King is a King of knowledge.*

*He's the wellspring of wisdom.*

*He's the doorway of deliverance.*

*He's the pathway of peace.*

*He's the roadway of righteousness.*

*He's the highway of holiness.*

*He's the gateway of glory.*

*He's the Master of the mighty.*

*He's the Captain of the conquerors.*

*He's the Head of the heroes.*

*He's the Leader of the legislators.*

*He's the Overseer of the overcomers.*

*He's the Governor of governors.*

*He's the Prince of princes.*

*He's the King of kings and He's the Lord of lords.*

*His office is manifold.*

*His promise is sure.*

*His light is matchless.*

*His goodness is limitless.*

*His mercy is everlasting.*

*His love never changes.*

*His word is enough.*

*His grace is sufficient.*

*His reign is righteous.*

*His yoke is easy and His burden is light.*

*Well, I wish I could describe Him to you, but He's indescribable.*

*He's incomprehensible.*

*He's invincible.*

*He's irresistible.*

*I'm trying to tell you, the heavens of heavens cannot contain Him, let alone a man explain Him.*

*You can't get Him out of your mind.*

*You can't get Him off of your hand.*

*You can't outlive Him and you can't live without Him.*

*Well, Pharisees couldn't stand Him,*

*but they found out they couldn't stop Him.*

*Pilate couldn't find any fault in Him.*

*The witnesses couldn't get their testimonies to agree.*

*Herod couldn't kill Him.*

*Death couldn't handle Him and the grave couldn't hold Him.*

*That's my King. Yeah!*

*He always has been and He always will be.*

*I'm talking about He had no predecessor and He'll have no successor.*

*There was nobody before Him*

*and there'll be nobody after Him.*

*You can't impeach Him and He's not gonna resign.*

*That's my King! That's my King!*

# SPRINGING AHEAD!



The Fellowship Department has been “hopping” already this Spring with fun, new opportunities for fellowship and getting some spring cleaning done in the kitchen!

- Our weekly exercise class started this month on Mondays at 12pm. We have a great group of ladies who meet together and work out to a video for about 45 min. If you would like to join in, bring a pair of comfy shoes, a bottle of water, and come on Mondays!
- Dog training classes also began this month on Thursday afternoons at 1pm. Criss Evans has been teaching the group basic obedience skills and is so kind to share all her expertise for free! If you would like to take part in this fun class with your dog, call the church office for more information: 309-523-2834.



- An Easter Craft Day will be held on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> after church with lunch provided. There was a great response to this and we are looking forward to making chocolate (candy-filled) easter eggs or baskets. Thanks Criss for organizing this!
- The kitchen has been repainted, a larger freezer will be coming, and cabinets have been cleaned out and re-organized. It looks so nice! Lots of hard work!!



*Looking ahead...*

This month we are looking forward to going to the Casting Crowns/Hillsong/We the Kingdom concert on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the TaxSlayer Center! We have a group of 37 people going! Thank you to Jim Kaecker for getting us discounted tickets in a section together!

*“I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth.” Job 19:25*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

# APRIL *events*

4/4

## MONTHLY DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

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

## MONTHLY MEETING

Be Connected Be Heard Be Informed

4/9

## WOMEN'S COFFEE

9:30am



4/10

## PALM SUNDAY



4/13

## KIDS CLUB OPEN HOUSE

4-5pm



4/15

## GOOD FRIDAY



4/17

## EASTER SUNDAY

Breakfast – 9:45am  
Easter Egg Hunt – 10:15am  
Worship Service – 10:45am



4/24

## MISSION NOT IMPOSSIBLE/ FAITH PROMISE SUNDAY

Worship Service – 10:45am



4/30

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

9:00am



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

# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

## APRIL

### Birthdays

- 1 – Morgan Rutledge
- 2 – Dana Larimer-Hergert
- 2 – Jason Collis
- 2 – Joe Heydeman
- 3 – Tim Smith
- 5 - Melissa Gonterman
- 9 - Hannah Herrman
- 10 - Jeri Chasek
- 12 – Donald Bird Jr.
- 14 – Becky Collis
- 20 – Jerry Dufur
- 21 – Paul LaRoy Mikles
- 27 – Roger Curry
- 27 – Levi Olesen
- 29 – Criss Evans

## APRIL

### Anniversaries

- 10 – Connie & Roger Curry
- 14 – Eric & Dawn Ryden
- 19 – Nancy & Jerry Dufur
- 27 – Phil & Melissa Gonterman
- 28 – Callie & Logan Heydeman



## April

- 1. Joshua 7-9
- 2. Joshua 10-12
- 3. Joshua 13-15
- 4. Joshua 16-18
- 5. Joshua 19-21
- 6. Joshua 22-24
- 7. Judges 1-4
- 8. Judges 5-8
- 9. Judges 9-12
- 10. Judges 13-15
- 11. Judges 16-18
- 12. Judges 19-21
- 13. Ruth 1-4
- 14. 1 Samuel 1-3
- 15. 1 Samuel 4-7
- 16. 1 Samuel 8-10
- 17. 1 Samuel 11-13
- 18. 1 Samuel 14-16
- 19. 1 Samuel 17-20
- 20. 1 Samuel 21-24
- 21. 1 Samuel 25-28
- 22. 1 Samuel 29-31
- 23. 2 Samuel 1-4
- 24. 2 Samuel 5-8
- 25. 2 Samuel 9-12
- 25. 2 Samuel 13-15
- 27. 2 Samuel 16-18
- 28. 2 Samuel 19-21
- 29. 2 Samuel 22-24
- 30. 1 Kings 1-7



# THANK YOU FOR HELPING!



COMMUNION  
MEDITATION

April 3 – Don Vickroy  
April 10 – Jim Kaecker  
April 17 – Wayne Lotz  
April 24 – Teresa Garcia

| Nursery Schedule                |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Sunday School Time (9:30-10:15) |              |
| Date                            | Nursery      |
| February                        |              |
| 3                               | Cathy Lotz   |
| 10                              | Becki Winger |
| 17                              | Nancy Dufur  |
| 24                              | Kathy Kohrt  |

| Children's Church and Nursery Schedule        |              |                |                |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Worship Time* (10:45-12:00)                   |              |                |                |
| Date                                          | Teacher      | Helper         | Nursery        |
| *Teacher/helper are dismissed after offering  |              |                |                |
| *Nursery is scheduled for entire worship time |              |                |                |
| February                                      |              |                |                |
| 3                                             | Connie Curry | Kathy Kohrt    | Sandy Lawrence |
| 10                                            | Connie Curry | Cathy Lotz     | Nancy Dufur    |
| 17                                            | Connie Curry | Ruth Coverdill | Becki Winger   |
| 24                                            | Connie Curry | Karen Allison  | Mikah Mikles   |



*New Sign-Up Sheets are in the Lobby. Please sign up for a Sunday that works for your family! Welcome people, direct them to the sanctuary, nursery, or rest rooms if needed, and hand out bulletins.*



Wayne & Cathy Lotz  
Kati Jo Chasek & Teresa Garcia  
Jerry & Nancy Dufur



*New sign-up sheets are in the lobby. Please sign up for a Sunday that works best for you! Provide breakfast treats and help serve coffee and clean-up between Sunday School and Worship.*

*"Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Matthew 9:37-38*

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH

# April

# 2022

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Monday                                                                                                                             | Tuesday                                                                                                            | Wednesday                                                                                                                               | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                         | Friday                                                                                                                    | Saturday                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>DEATH COULD NOT HOLD YOU<br/><i>the veil tore before You</i><br/>YOU SILENCED THE BOAST<br/><i>of sin and grave.</i></p>                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                    | <p>THE HEAVENS ARE ROARING<br/><i>the praise of Your glory</i><br/>FOR YOU ARE RAISED<br/><i>to life again</i></p> |                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>1<br/>Stamping Club<br/>(Bev Skelton)<br/>9am-12pm</p>                                                                 | <p>2</p>                                                                                                                              |
| <p>3<br/><b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b><br/>9:30AM<br/><b>COFFEE TIME</b><br/>10:15AM<br/><b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b><br/>10:45AM</p>                                                                                                        | <p>4<br/>Exercise Class – 12pm<br/><br/><b>Evangelism/ Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm</b><br/><br/>U of I Home Extension 7-9pm</p> | <p>5<br/>Men's Study 9am<br/><br/>Worship Team 6:30pm<br/><br/>Basketball 5-8pm</p>                                | <p>6<br/>Kids Club 3-5pm<br/>Impact 4-5pm<br/><br/><b>Small Groups</b><br/>Port Byron –6pm<br/>Geneseo – 6pm</p>                        | <p>7<br/>Elder Meeting 9am<br/><br/>Dog Training – 1pm<br/><br/>Gym in use<br/>Softball 5-9pm</p>                                                                                | <p>8</p>                                                                                                                  | <p>9<br/>Women's Coffee 9:30am<br/><br/></p>       |
| <p>10<br/><br/><b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b><br/>9:30AM<br/><b>COFFEE TIME</b><br/>10:15AM<br/><b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b><br/>10:45AM</p>                  | <p>11<br/>Exercise Class – 12pm<br/><br/>Church in use<br/>Zuma Township Meeting</p>                                               | <p>12<br/>Men's Study 9am<br/><br/>Worship Team 6:30pm<br/><br/>Basketball 5-8pm</p>                               | <p>13<br/>Kids Club 3-5pm<br/>Impact 4-5pm<br/><b>OPEN HOUSE</b><br/><br/><b>Small Groups</b><br/>Port Byron –6pm<br/>Geneseo – 6pm</p> | <p>14<br/>Dog Training – 12pm<br/><br/>Zuma Home Extension 1:00-4:00pm<br/><br/>Gym in use<br/>Softball 5-9pm</p>                                                                | <p>15<br/><b>GOOD FRIDAY</b><br/></p> | <p>16</p>                                                                                                                             |
| <p>17<br/><br/><b>EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST</b><br/>9:45AM<br/><b>EASTER EGG HUNT</b><br/>10:15AM<br/><b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b><br/>10:45AM</p>   | <p>18<br/>Exercise Class – 12pm</p>                                                                                                | <p>19<br/>Men's Study 9am<br/><br/>Worship Team 6:30pm<br/><br/>Basketball 5-8pm</p>                               | <p>20<br/>Kids Club 3-5pm<br/>Impact 4-5pm<br/><br/><b>Small Groups</b><br/>Port Byron –6pm<br/>Geneseo – 6pm</p>                       | <p>21<br/>Dog Training – 1pm<br/><br/>Gym in use<br/>Softball 5-9pm</p>                                                                                                          | <p>22</p>                                                                                                                 | <p>23</p>                                                                                                                             |
| <p>24<br/><br/><b>Mission Sunday SUNDAY SCHOOL</b><br/>9:30AM<br/><b>COFFEE TIME</b><br/>10:15AM<br/><b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b><br/>10:45AM</p> | <p>25<br/>Exercise Class – 12pm</p>                                                                                                | <p>26<br/>Men's Study 9am<br/><br/>Worship Team 6:30pm<br/><br/>Basketball 5-8pm</p>                               | <p>27<br/><b>Kids Club &amp; Impact 11:30-1:30pm</b><br/><br/><b>Small Groups</b><br/>Port Byron –6pm<br/>Geneseo – 6pm</p>             | <p>28<br/>Dog Training – 1pm<br/>Softball 5-9pm<br/><br/>Casting Crowns Concert 7pm<br/></p> | <p>29<br/></p>                       | <p>30<br/><b>Men's Breakfast 9:00am</b><br/></p> |



# Countryside Christian Church

3817 230<sup>th</sup> St. N  
Port Byron, IL 61275

## LIVESTREAMING *info*



Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOR735qhzkzpFlujtP-A>



Facebook: [www.facebook.com/countrysidecc.org](http://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 \(http://countrysidecc.org\)](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.