

the MESSENGER

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

MARCH 2022

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From Steve's Desk...

Dear Church Family,

For about eight years I have been a certified Behind-the-Wheel instructor for kids taking Drivers Ed. I have logged hundreds of hours sitting next to people learning how to drive and given them instruction to pass their driving test. As a part of keeping my certifications current, I must take an annual class. A few years back, I attended a class that was taught by the lead driving instructor for the FBI. He drove one main point home repeatedly. He said you must be looking at where you want to end up. If your car begins to slide out of control, you must fix your eyes on the point at which you want to end up and your reflexes will help guide you to where you want to be.

In life, it is so easy to be distracted. We stare at potential problems, worry about difficult relationships, wonder if we have enough money, and fret about our kids.

The Bible tells us to fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. (Hebrews 12:2) When Daniel was in the lion's den and Paul and Silas were in jail, they all fixed their eyes on our all powerful Father who pulled them through the most difficult of times.



Life seems to have a lot of tests. We want to pass the tests. Let me help you pass some of the hardship tests that come: keep your eyes on Jesus.

Steve



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."

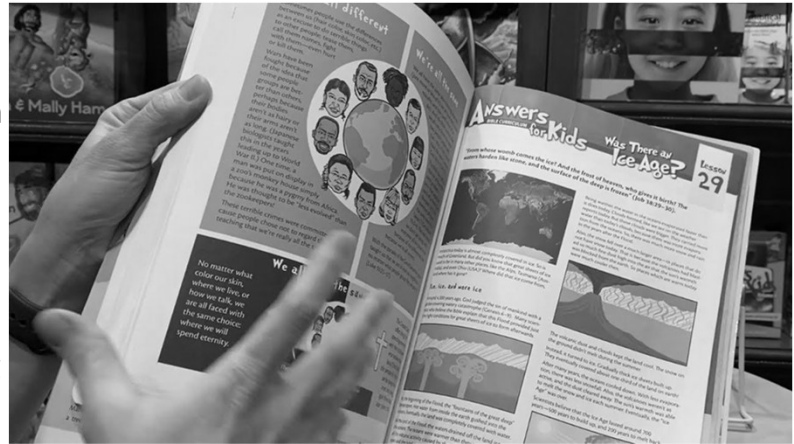
1 Cor. 15:58

NEW CURRICULUM FOR KIDS

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

Hello Everyone,

This month has been busy for the Education Department! We started a new children's church curriculum from Answers in Genesis and it has been really fun! There are a lot of games and songs including a memory verse song that we have been working on. The kids have mastered the New Testament song so we plan on starting the Old Testament song soon.



We also covered how to pray using the acronym ACTS (adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication). We also enjoyed Valentine's Day where the class talked about loving God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength from Mark 12:30 and loving your neighbor as yourself from Mark 12:31.



Next month hopefully we will receive new tables and chairs for the Children's Church room! I enjoy all the interesting conversations and fun times that we have in class. If you want to join in on the fun, please let me know. We would love to have you come help out.

Sarah

Education Dept. Chair

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

KIDS CLUB MARCH NEWS

KIDS CLUB HIGHLIGHT



No Kids Club or Impact on Wed, March 16th

Last month's Valentine's Luncheon was a wonderful opportunity for the kids to give their handmade Valentines to their families and help serve them dinner. Thank you to the families who were able to attend and to such hard-working volunteers!



We are moving into March with Kids Club and that brings with it Spring Break and our Beach Party!!

There will be **NO KIDS CLUB OR IMPACT Wednesday, March 16th** because of Spring Break but join us **THAT SATURDAY** for our annual spring party! This year's theme is "Beach Party"!

The graphic features a sun wearing sunglasses, the text 'KIDS CLUB' in a bubbly font, and a beach scene with palm trees, a beach ball, and a coconut drink. The text reads: 'invites you to a Beach Party 5:00PM MARCH 19TH FAMILY GAMES, FOOD, & PRIZES!'

IMPACT HIGHLIGHT

MOVIE NIGHT



In Impact the last few months, Steve has really been laying a foundation of Biblical truths, how we can know that there is a God, and what does that mean for each of us. Our first movie night was Saturday, February 19th watching God's Not Dead. We had a great turnout and everyone seemed to enjoy the movie. We look forward to more movie nights in the future!

We are also encouraged to see the kids inviting their friends and our group starting to grow. Please pray for this group as it gets started and that the truth and love of God would start to take root in their hearts.



But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

REACHING OUR COMMUNITY

Easter is right around the corner! The Evangelism Department has already been spending hours planning this year's celebration!

The times of the services that Sunday are below. We would appreciate any donations of candy in the coming weeks that we can use to fill the Easter eggs! We typically have about 100 kids that morning so that is a lot of eggs!

Keep an eye on the volunteer table in the lobby for sign up sheets for Easter breakfast or any other way you can get involved. We are excited to reach our community with the good news this Easter!

**CELEBRATE
EASTER**
at **COUNTRYSIDE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**EASTER BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, APRIL 17 – 9:45AM**

**EASTER EGG HUNT
SUNDAY, APRIL 17 – 10:30AM**

**EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE
SUNDAY, APRIL 17 – 10:45AM**

UPCOMING EVENT FOR MEN!

Would you be interested in joining a group of men to do some ax throwing sometime in the next few weeks?

Bring a friend or relative and let's go throw some axes!!

AX THROWING



Date: TBD
 Location: North Park Mall, Davenport
 Cost: \$25/person (or less if more than 10 sign up)

Sign up in the church lobby or by pointing your phone camera at the QR code to the right



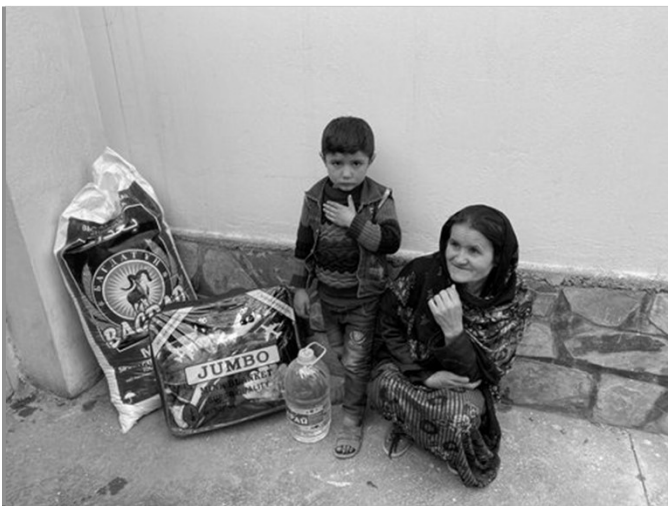
"I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope." — Jeremiah 29:11

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: I.D.E.S.

MISSION HIGHLIGHT

IDES stands for International Disaster Emergency Service. IDES exists to bring glory to God by meeting physical and spiritual needs in our hurting world until Jesus returns. For the past 48 years IDES has served as a channel through which Christian Churches/Churches of Christ and individual Christians could meet the physical and spiritual needs of suffering people throughout the world. The vision statement: "IDES vision is to lead the independent Christian Churches/Churches of Christ in responding to disasters and emergencies in the United States and throughout the world by mobilizing financial and physical resources to and through their missionaries and congregations for the purpose of benevolent evangelism."

IDES has been the one source our churches and missionaries consistently turn to for help. In 2022, IDES celebrates 49 years of meeting physical and spiritual needs of suffering people throughout the world in the name of Jesus Christ. They have distributed millions of dollars over the years to help with disaster relief, development projects, medical needs, evangelism and hunger. Among independent Christian Churches/Churches of Christ, the work of IDES is unique.



IDES is currently working in Afghanistan providing aid to displaced persons. In recent years they have provided over \$750,000 of assistance. Since the Taliban takeover on August 15th, things have been even more difficult and this winter the needs are even greater. IDES is committed to providing at least \$250,000 in winter relief for those suffering in Afghanistan, and for the refugees who have fled to surrounding countries. Additionally they are working to secure opportunities to provide help and hope to Afghan refugees here in the United States.

During this past year IDES has partnered with CMFI in the Turkana Farms in Kenya, a project of creating irrigated farms. Five irrigated farms have been established to provide a sustainable source of food and income for more than 500 people. Five additional farms are in the process of being built.



In Tennessee and Kentucky they are also providing aid for those impacted by the tornadoes. Many sheds have been built and more are on the way. These small buildings provide a place for families to store their belongings while their homes are being reconstructed.



Whenever there is an emergency either man made or by Mother Nature IDES is "the boots on the ground" providing aid and spreading the Gospel message.

As you can see IDES is a very busy, global organization meeting a variety of physical and spiritual needs. For more information about their activities check the mission booklet on the mission table in the foyer.

SEEKING GOD

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHT

As I write this, the media is filled with reports of Russia invading Ukraine. As many people rush to evacuate, many pastors and Christians have chosen to stay. Vasyl Ostryi, a pastor at Irpin Bible Church 18 miles northwest of Kyiv and a KTS professor of youth ministry said “When this is over, the citizens of Kyiv will remember how Christians have responded in their time of need. We will shelter the weak, serve the suffering, and mend the broken. And as we do, we offer the unshakable hope of Christ and his gospel.”



Photos of Ukrainians kneeling to pray in public are moving even to those who do not believe. The Bible App (YouVersion) has noticed an increase in Russians and Ukrainians reading and searching for “peace”. The Ukrainian Bible Society has almost sold out its entire 2022 stock of Bibles in only the second month of the year. The churches are filled with new people – not just on Saturdays and Sundays – but also through the week. They are desperate for a word of hope.

“Please pray about Russian Christians that they would raise their prayers and voice toward Russian government to stop the aggression; [that they] would not keep silent; please pray for the Western governments, of the US and European Union.

Finally, please pray about Ukrainian Christians, that we will serve and live as the community of hope in a full sense of this term; that during these terrible times we would invite more and more people to the relationships with God and His children, to the relationships of love, hope, encouragement, support; that our minds and characters would continue to transform into the character of Jesus Christ.”

(Christianity Today, Feb 2022)

Friday, March 4th is the World Day of Prayer. This day is a day that Christians from over 170 different countries come together in spirit, uniting on a common day to pray for relevant issues. The focus is informed prayer and prayerful action.



Won't you join with Christians around the world praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ, not only in Ukraine, but all around the world who face persecution daily? May God's peace reign in the hearts of his children, may many come to believe as they search for hope, and may God's will be done on earth.

Laura



We are now taking orders for Easter Lilies! They will be \$10 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 17, 2021.

Orders are due by Sunday, March 27th.

"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

FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHT - I

EASTER CRAFT DAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 27TH

Following the church service in the gym
(12pm-2pm)

Walking Tacos provided for lunch
Making Candy-filled Chocolate Eggs

Sign up in the Lobby!

*Please bring a bag of candy
(about 1lb.) to fill the eggs.
Anything left over will be used for
the Easter Egg Hunt next month.*

"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

UPCOMING EVENTS!

FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHT - II



**HILLSONG
WORSHIP
and
CASTING
CROWNS**
with **WE THE
KINGDOM**
April 28, 2022
7:00pm
TaxSlayer Center,
Moline, IL
Tickets: \$26 - \$83
Sign Up in the Lobby!

JOIN OUR EXERCISE CLASS

STARTING MAR 14TH
12:00 – 1:00PM

We will be starting with the beginner
video from Billy Blanks!

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

*Fitness
and
Faith
committed to both*

"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

NEW CLASS STARTING!

DOG TRAINING



FREE WEEKLY PUPPY TRAINING CLASSES

Details about the class:

Your dog will learn basic commands such as sit, down, stay, come, down, place as well as teach you how to walk your dog, have fun with your dog, and stay in control of your dog.

Please bring:

Leash and collar, proof of vaccination, a mat or rug the size of your dog, a bag to clean up any "deposits" outside, and small treats (a bag of their dog food is great!)

**Classes begin Thursday, March 3rd
1:00pm Basic Obedience**

Classes will last 45 min – 1 hour.
Please sign up to reserve your spot!



Countryside Christian Church

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Port Byron, IL 61275
309-523-2834
cccportbyron@gmail.com

WWW.COUNTRYSIDECC.ORG

"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

OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

Our Giving

2022 Offering Budget:

\$50,192

YTD Offering Actual:

\$57,118

2021-2022 Mission Year

(beginning 5/1/21)

Faith Promises: \$25,381

Faith Promises Goal: \$37,176

"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.*

FINANCE HIGHLIGHT



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



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

March BIRTHDAYS

- 2 – Jacob Johnson
- 4 – Tammy Havens
- 6 – Amber Miller
- 7 – Madalyn Simms
- 8 – Kati Jo Chasek
- 10 – Erin Trout
- 15 – Corey Chasek
- 17 – Zoey Heydeman
- 18 – Teresa Garcia
- 21 – Ryan Schmidt
- 21 – Linda Griffin
- 23 – Vicky LeCleir
- 27 – Ashley Knapp
- 31 – Jeff Wierenga

March ANNIVERSARIES

- 28 – Larry & Linda Griffin



March

1. 1 Kings 8-10
2. 1 Kings 11-13
3. 1 Kings 14-16
4. 1 Kings 17-19
5. 1 Kings 20-22
6. 2 Kings 1-3
7. 2 Kings 4-6
8. 2 Kings 7-10
9. 2 Kings 11-14
10. 2 Kings 15-17
11. 2 Kings 18-19
12. 2 Kings 20-21
13. 2 Kings 22-25
14. 1 Chronicles 1-3
15. 1 Chronicles 4-6
16. 1 Chronicles 7-9
17. 1 Chronicles 10-13
18. 1 Chronicles 14-16
19. 1 Chronicles 17-19
20. 1 Chronicles 20-23
21. 1 Chronicles 24-26
22. 11 Chronicles 27-29
23. 2 Chronicles 1-3
24. 2 Chronicles 4-6
25. 2 Chronicles 7-9
25. 2 Chronicles 10-13
27. 2 Chronicles 14-16
28. 2 Chronicles 17-19
29. 22 Chronicles 20-22
30. 2 Chronicles 23-25



READ THROUGH THE
BIBLE IN A YEAR

THANK YOU FOR HELPING!

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH



Nursery Schedule	
Sunday School Time (9:30-10:15)	
Date	Nursery
February	
6	Sarah Denekas
13	Sarah Denekas
20	Becki Winger
27	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			
6	Ruth Coverdill	Donna Vickroy	Sandy Lawrence
13	Ruth Coverdill	Cheryl Gipson	Kathy Kohrt
20	Ruth Coverdill	Criss Evans	Georgia Cullison
27	Ruth Coverdill	Alicia Simms	Mikah Mikles



COMMUNION
MEDITATION

Mar 6 – Ryan Schmidt
Mar 13 – Steve Allison
Mar 20 – Don Vickroy
Mar 27 – Teresa Garcia



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.



Rock & Sandy Lawrence
Kathy Kohrt & Lisa Jones
Don & Donna Vickroy and Georgia Cullison









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

March

2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Men's Study 9am Worship Team 6:30pm Basketball 5-8pm	2 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 6pm Basketball 6-8pm	3 Dog Training-1pm Gym in use Softball 5-9pm	4 Stamping Club (Bev Skelton) 9am-12pm Cub Scouts Lock-In 5-11pm 	5 Gym in use - Denekas
6 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	7 Evangelism/ Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm U of I Home Extension 7-9pm	8 Men's Study 9am Worship Team 6:30pm Basketball 5-8pm	9 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 6pm Basketball 6-8pm	10 Zuma Home Extension 1:00-4:00pm Gym in use Softball 5-9pm	11 Basketball 5-8pm	12 Women's Coffee 9:30am 
 13 Daylight Saving Time Begins SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	14 Exercise Class - 12pm Church in use Zuma Township Meeting Softball 5-9pm	15 Men's Study 9am Worship Team 6:30pm Basketball 5-8pm	16 NO KIDS CLUB OR IMPACT Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 6pm Basketball 6-8pm	17 Dog Training - 1pm Gym in use Softball 5-9pm St. Patrick's Day	18 Basketball 5-8pm	19 Kids Club Beach Party 5pm 
20 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM	21 Exercise Class - 12pm	22 Men's Study 9am Worship Team 6:30pm Basketball 5-8pm	23 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 6pm Basketball 6-8pm	24 Dog Training - 1pm Gym in use Softball 5-9pm	25 Basketball 5-8pm	26
27 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM COFFEE TIME 10:15AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM EASTER LILY ORDERS DUE EASTER CRAFT DAY 12PM	28 Exercise Class - 12pm 	29 Men's Study 9am Worship Team 6:30pm Basketball 5-8pm	30 Kids Club 3-5pm Impact 4-5pm Small Groups Port Byron -6pm Geneseo - 6pm Basketball 6-8pm	31 Dog Training - 1pm Gym in use Softball 5-9pm		

LIVESTREAMING *info*



Youtube. (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOR735qhzkzppFluJtpp-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