

Greetings and peace to God's people!

“How blessed are those who know how good it is to love Jesus and to despise themselves for His sake. Jesus wills to be loved alone above all other things and we must forsake all other loves but His.” (The Imitation of Christ, P.85)

I was thinking the other day about how difficult it is for many of us to love Jesus above all other things. Because to love Jesus above all other things, we have to be willing to lay aside ourselves, our own agendas, and really a way of life that we have grown used to. Now if you don't think that you can admit that we fail at this, then I will be the first to confess. Although I love Jesus and I think about Him and pray to Him many times a day, there are many occasions where I find myself so caught up in the things that are happening around me that I forget to place him first. Sadly, for many of us that becomes a habit if it goes unchecked and before long we are saying that we place Jesus first but in reality are doing just the opposite. The same could be said for the church at times. There are enough distractions in any congregation that if we allow ourselves to get so caught up in the mechanism, so intent on being sure everything is right, that everything is by the book and that everybody is doing what we think they ought to be doing, we run the risk of losing sight of the real reason we are here.

I encourage us to strive to place Jesus above all other things; not only in our personal lives but in the everyday working of the church. Whether it be a meeting, worship, a dinner, personal conversations, choir or bells we cannot stand together if there is not Jesus lifted above everything we try to accomplish.

For, “The love of creatures deceives and fails, but Jesus' love is ever faithful and enduring. Those who cling to creatures will fall with them; but those who always cling to Jesus will stand firm forever.”..... And so will the church. (The Imitation of Christ, P.85)

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Doug.



## FROM OUR CHURCH RECORDS

Attendance for February

	Sunday School	Worship
2/1	58	100
2/8	47	107
2/15	41	95
2/18	Ash Wed.	55
2/22	47	112

### Hospitalized:

Reva VanHoose

Chris Ellis



God is good all the time  
All the time God is good  
Jesus loves me this I know  
And all God's children say AMEN!



Newsletter articles are  
due on **March 15<sup>th</sup>** .

You may:

- bring your articles to the office
- e-mail them to:

[friedenscircuitrider@hotmail.com](mailto:friedenscircuitrider@hotmail.com)

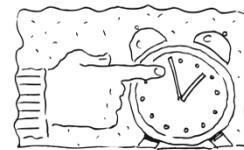


- fax the article:  
667-6006

Items collected for Ministries Unlimited  
in February were:

- 2 boxes cereal
- 2 cans soup
- 48 cans soda
- 24 bottles Tampico
- 3 small cans vegetables
- 2 cans pasta sauce
- 2 boxes cake mix
- 2 boxes clubhouse crackers
- 2 large jars jelly
- 2 boxes pasta
- 1 package duo au jus
- 1 package pork gravy
- 2 cans tomato sauce
- 1 can red salmon
- 2 boxes jiffy mix
- 1 jar pasta sauce

Thank you for your donation! The  
items for **March** are: **shampoo,**  
**toothpaste, pancake mix, pancake**  
**syrup, pork & beans.**



SET YOUR CLOCKS

**Ahead!**

March 8

# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



## Ushers

- March 1** Pat Ruger  
Kenny Grotefendt  
Dennis Williams  
Tom Fischer
- March 4** Dennis & Stephanie  
Williams  
Doug & Deb Brendel
- March 8** Gladys Skeens  
Deb Spears  
Sandy Harbison  
Amy Schroeter
- March 15** 9 a.m.  
Dave & Pat Edgar  
Bill & Marla Brown
- March 22** Ron Harbison  
Doug Brendel  
Rick Smith  
Joe Smith
- March 29** Jim & Claudia Galaske  
Bob & Janis Little
- April 5** 7 a.m. Schwehr family  
10:15 a.m. Ron & Carol  
Klaustermeier,  
Rick & Sherry Smith

**If you cannot be present on your day,  
please call Yvonne, 667-8409**



## Liturgists

- March 1** Marla Brown
- March 8** Kellen King
- March 15** Pastor Doug (9 am)
- March 22** Kayla Molohan
- March 29** Sean & Rayne Smith
- April 5** 7 am *Schwehr Family*  
10:15 am *Ron Harbison*



## Bus Drivers

- March 1** Jim Galaske  
Claudia Galaske
- March 8** Tom Fischer  
Laura Lally
- March 15** Doug Brendel  
Debbie Brendel
- March 22** Mike Byrd  
Debbie Byrd
- March 29** Roy McMillan  
Faye McMillan
- April 5** Jack Van Hoose  
TBD

**If you cannot help on your scheduled day,  
please call one of the others to switch.**



## March

- 1 William Schaubert, Jr.  
David Whittington
- 2 Pat Smith
- 5 Sue Hanks
- 6 Carolyn Klaustermeier
- 7 Adam Jaconis
- 10 Linda Ingersoll
- 11 David Edgar  
Mary Emmons  
Chuck Toennies
- 14 Krista Adelhardt  
Otis Carver
- 15 Bud Adelhardt  
Maureen Heuser  
Doug Seagle  
Brian Weder
- 16 Irene Hall  
Andrew Kassing  
Gloria Mannz
- 21 Dave Friederich  
Irv Kassing
- 23 Mildred Kruckeberg
- 24 Carl Hoenig  
Terry Meyer
- 25 Edwin Whittington
- 28 Kelsey Smith
- 29 Carol Maedge
- 30 Ron Klaustermeier  
Laura Lally



## Are You Able?

April 18, 2015  
Help prepare DuBois Center for  
Summer Camp!

For more information contact DuBois  
Center, 618-787-2202,  
[dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org),  
[www.DuBoisCenter.org](http://www.DuBoisCenter.org)



Dear Friends,

Joe wishes to thank you for the cards  
sent to help celebrate his birthday.  
Each card brought smiles and some  
brought smiles and laughter. He was  
very happy. God bless!!

Sincerely,  
Joe and Jackie Estes



Join us in the theater 9:00 a.m. 3yrs and up.

**NO Sunday School March 15<sup>th</sup>**  
(Sausage Supper)



Thank you Pat Ruger for being an awesome 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School teacher! Pat will be passing on the teaching duties for this class to Stephanie Williams and Doug Brendel for the remainder of the year. Pat's job requires much of his time during the spring and summer month. We look forward to having him back in the classroom this coming fall.



## **SIS: Sisters in Spirit Sunday School**

Class will resume on March 8<sup>th</sup>. This class is open to all women. We meet in the computer room, come join us!



## **Garden Getaway Women's Retreat March 28<sup>th</sup>**

Ladies don't miss out on a day of FUN! Call the church office to reserve your place by March 22<sup>nd</sup>. This promises to be a wonderfully spiritual full day! A Modern women's retreat!

When: March 28<sup>th</sup>

Where: Friedens Fellowship Hall

Fee: \$20.00

Make your reservation by March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**BABYSITTING PROVIDED**



## **Adult Sunday School**

The Adult men & women class meets in the conference room 9:00, open discussion on recent popular subjects. Come have coffee with us!

1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School curriculum for March.

Join in on the fun!



## EASTER EGGS

**March 1<sup>st</sup>- Plastic Eggs** - The Pharisees Plastic Eggs are pretty and eye catching. They hold the promise of something sweet inside. But as sweet as their insides are, they are not real; they are phony, just like the faith of the Pharisees. The Pharisees trusted in laws and rules more than God, and the gospel they preached was as phony as a plastic egg. That's why they missed the Messiah when he came.

**March 8<sup>th</sup>- Rotten Egg** - Judas Have you ever peeled a hardboiled egg, only to discover it was rotten on the inside? In a sense, Judas was a rotten egg. Judas knew a lot about Jesus and spent a lot of time with him but, instead of accepting Jesus as he was, Judas turned against Jesus and made several bad decisions.

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>- Broken Eggs** - The Disciples On the night Jesus was betrayed, the other eleven disciples fled and hid. Peter denied knowing Jesus three times. Seeing their master arrested, tortured, and executed left them broken like shattered Easter eggs. But the disciples would soon learn that the Savior who could heal

the sick could also put their broken pieces back together.

**March 29<sup>nd</sup>- Easter Eggs** – Us At Easter time, we hard boil eggs and dye them, creating colorful new creations to share and enjoy during the season. The dying of Easter eggs parallels not only the death of Jesus, but our own dying of self when we accept Christ. Just as the eggs come out of the dye new and colorful, we can rise from the waters of baptism as a new creation.



## Community Meal

### SOS Sharing Our Supper

March 25<sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 6:30 meal is served. Everyone is welcome, come join us for a great meal and fellowship. Spread the word the dinner is free and open to the community.



## 50 Years of Faith

## and Fun

May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3 – 8 p.m. at the  
Gateway Grizzlies Stadium

Here's the pitch! Join the family and friends of Illinois South Conference and DuBois Center for a day of celebration filled with fun!

Cost: \$5 per person or \$10 per family (Includes games, does not include food and drinks.) For tickets contact Shirley Hoy at 618-281-7375 or [lahsjh21@gmail.com](mailto:lahsjh21@gmail.com) or Carol Faust at 618-281-4891 or [cjfaust@htc.net](mailto:cjfaust@htc.net).

Some of the activities include: homerun derby, kickball tournament, bag toss, horseshoes, gaga pit, washers, bocce ball, 9-square in the air, bounce house, tricycle races, historical revue, music, duck pond, t-shirts. Concession stand food will be available.



Friday, March 6

10:30 a.m. service

Lunch will be served after the service.

Friedens is hosting the World Day of Prayer this year, with the focus on the Bahamas. Other Troy churches will be participating in the program.

We urge our congregation, men and women, to attend this event. People all around the world will be praying at the same time we are. What a wonderful opportunity this is, to perhaps heal the world around us.



11:30 – 5:30

March 15

Worship will be at 9 a.m.



Wednesday, March 4  
Friedens UCC, Troy

Wednesday, March 11  
Grantfork UCC, Grantfork

Wednesday, March 18  
Immanuel UCC, Hamel

Wednesday, March 25  
Marine UCC, Marine

Each service begins at 7 p.m.



The Women's Guild monthly meeting for February was cancelled due to the extreme cold weather. In March, we will have the annual Spring Salad Luncheon on Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup>, at noon. Everyone is invited to enjoy a potluck of salads, bring your favorite one. Drinks and dessert will be provided. Our guest speaker will give a presentation on the Seeds of Blessing organization. We look forward to seeing you next month!

## Change of Plans

Due to the Sausage Supper, worship service will be at **9 a.m.** on **March 15<sup>th</sup>**.

Take a step into realigning your physical, mental, and spiritual self.

The first degree attunement process is being offered locally in a workshop setting by Reiki Masters Richard Casey and Virginia Bailey. Participants will receive attunement to the Sho Den, training in the discipline and practice of Reiki in the Usui System of Natural Healing.

Reiki First Degree training will be available on Saturday, March 7, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Sunday, March 8, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm., at Friedens Church. The fee for this training is \$150. Thirty percent of the total fees will go back to the Friedens Operating fund. Payment plans will be available.